

Devon Twinning Circle



Home to Home

Spring 2015

Officers and Committee

Chairman Mr. Dennis Knowles, 43, Greenway Gardens, Tiverton, EX 16 5JL

Tel: 01884 254775. dennisknowles123@btinternet.com

Vice Chairman/Secretary . Mrs Pat Sherwood, Littleover Dean Street, Crediton, EX17 3EN

Tel: 01363 772103 sherwoodpa@hotmail.co.uk

Imm.past chairman Mrs. Josie Mardon, 35, Woodwater Lane, Exeter, EX2 5JY.

Tel:01392 253469 mandj@heimat.plus.com

Treasurer Mr. James Stewart, St. Mary's, Forches Cross, Bovey Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 6PU Tel:

01626 361808 james@jsacc.co.uk

Insurance officer. Mrs. Pauline Knowles, 43, Greenway Gardens, Tiverton, EX16 5JL

Tel: 01884 254775 dennisknowles123@btinternet.com

Committee Members.

Mr Philip Worsfold, 8B, Whitnage Road, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton EX16 7BU

Tel:01884 821805. wors@8bwhi.eclipse.co.uk

Mr. Maurice Mardon, Heimat, 35, Woodwater Lane, Exeter, EX2 5JY

Tel:01392 253469 mandj@heimat.plus.com

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Jean Aplin, 13, Crowden Crescent, Tiverton, Devon. EX16 4ET

Tel: 01884 254260 jeanaplin@live.co.uk

Mr. Anthony Barlow, 43, Church Street, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1BT.

Tel: 01548 714004 Anthony.barlow2@aol.co.uk

Mr Michael Mansfield, 16, Burnham Road, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3JH

Tel: 01278 792570 michaelmansfield1@btinternet.co.uk

Rob Hooper, County Hall, Exeter Tel: 01392 382300 rob.hooper@devon.gov.uk

Mr.Bob Bradshaw, The Old Post Office, West Hill, Ottery St. Mary, Devon, EX11 1TR

Tel: 01404 812402 bradshaw@cdmservices.org.uk

Lindsay Hyslop, 30, Woodmans Crescent, Honiton, EX14 2DY. Tel: 01404 42230

Lhyslop24@gmail.com



• **A Report from Tiverton Town Twinning Association on their visit to Hofheim, Germany**

David Chivers in Hofheim

What am I doing" I said to myself as at half past four in the morning I found myself caught up in the hustle and bustle of Bristol Airport. However having had my birth rights checked my luggage taken away, half of my clothes removed and my body x-rayed I gradually returned to normal. After a while my beady eye caught sight of another member among the many travellers and I soon joined my fellow Twinners for our flight to Frankfurt. For most of the flight we were above the clouds but soon after take-off, in the early morning light, I did catch sight of a very tiny Severn bridge down below me.

On arrival at Frankfurt we boarded an airport bus and drove for what seemed like miles, then we walked for what seemed like more miles, collected our cases and then searched for our hosts to make the final phase of our journey to Hofheim in the good company of our friends.

Having all arrived by different means and times we first gathered together on Friday morning at the Rathaus where much handshakes and greetings took place before we boarded the bus awaiting us. It was good to see the familiar face of Mr. Samstag, or Mr. Saturday as we know him, who always drives the coach when the Hofheimers come to England.

When the organisers were happy that we were all there we set off for Bad Kreuznach, a spa town dating back to roman times who used the town in much the same way as they used Bath here in Somerset. (Those Romans got everywhere). In order to see as much as possible we boarded "The Blue Hanns" (A train like you see on sea fronts here in England). This weaved its way through the narrow cobbled streets as we were given a running commentary. We learnt that Karl Marks was married at the church in this town! In church? Yes, because his Mother in Law said "you will marry in church or you do not have my Daughter or the money". (Well said that lady)

Not only were the minerals in the water good for health, the water also contained salt, we were able to see the unique way in which they extracted the salt by filtering the water through tightly packed branches of black thorns. This was in a huge frame some 12 metres high 2mts wide and some 40 metres long. As we stood watching this spectacle we could taste the salt on our lips from the spray. This process has now had to stop because of new regulations by guess who? Yes of course THE EU.

After relaxing in the park we enjoyed an interesting lunch. Some brave ones amongst us trying three little pots of various delights! I settled for chicken salad.

In the afternoon we drove on to Badmunster am Stein where we enjoyed a walk (with lots of chatter) along the river Nahe. Some ventured on a boat trip while others enjoyed ice cream or coffee in the town. Moving on again we drove to Ingelheim and climbed in the buses up to Bismarkturm. This was a large tower which some of our more energetic members climbed, others of us visited an enclosure of tigers.

Nearby was a restaurant where we all enjoyed an evening meal in the open air with plenty of good liquid in glasses! Laughter and chatter abounded before we made the final journey back to Hofheim.

On Saturday morning in bright sunshine we gathered at the Rathaus for the official Reception.

Wolfgang Exner the Deputy Burgermeister made us very welcome as we enjoyed light refreshments. Wolfgang expressed his delight and that of other Town Officials that the good relationship between our two towns continued to grow so successfully. Dennis Knowles our Deputy Mayor responded with similar sentiments.

The rest of the day and on Sunday were free for us to spend with our hosts families, often these days are the highlights of our visit.



Noël Anglais in Calvados

Photo taken in Chateau de Benouville

A letter from Christa Henninger of the Comité Départementale des Jumelages in Caen came to our notice last summer. She organises events each year in which people from other European countries give an idea of how they celebrate Christmas. She was looking for a small number of amateur musicians to go to France and give an idea of English Christmas music and talk about English Christmas traditions. She added that it was nine years since a group from England had been to perform in one of these European events! No knowing quite what was expected, four members of Axminster Twinning saw the chance of a musical weekend in France, and Christa was thrilled to get our telephone call asking whether she was still looking for anyone.

The plan was for three performances in different venues, each for an audience of about 100 people. Axminster is twinned with Douvres-la-Délicrande, and the musicians had already performed there on two occasions with members of the local music school, who have also been to play in Axminster. The three venues for this trip were new: Saturday afternoon in the Town Hall in Falaise, Saturday evening in a church in Fontenay-le-Marmion, and Sunday afternoon in the Château de Bénouville. All three attracted a large (and very appreciative!) audience.

It was a busy schedule, but there was time to enjoy the autumn sunshine in Caen – and, importantly, the hospitality offered by members of the local twinning associations. The four players – Jeremy White (flute), Jane Godbeer (oboe), Sally Kirby (clarinet) and Peter Dawson (bassoon) are members of Woodbury Wind and the Axe Vale Orchestra. They played English Christmas carols, French Christmas music (e.g. by Marc-Antoine Charpentier), and other pieces by English composers not so well known in France (e.g. Gordon Jacob).

To add to the event (and to give the players a break between pieces!) there were short talks about preparations – decorations, Christmas trees, Christmas card writing – the celebrations on Christmas Day – not forgetting presents, stockings and the turkey. It would not have been complete without a mention of the Queen's broadcast, a demonstration of how to pull crackers, and, of course, refreshments; the Saturday audience were given a cream tea, and the Sunday audience were treated to mince pies from Axminster, which disappeared in no time!



Barn Dance Groups

Collated by Bruce Benton (Bampton Twinning) January 2015



Thanks to all the Association's that replied to his request for help in finding a Barn Dance Group, Bruce now has a list available which he feels he would like to share with you. To obtain this list please contact him Email: babenton52@gmail.com



OTTERY ST. MARY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

www.otterytwinners.org.uk

Our new Twinning Information brochure is now available from Ottery Tourist Office, please also take a copy to pass on to your friends and neighbours. (Maybe an idea for other Associations to copy.)

Exeter Yaroslavl Twinning Association sponsors an annual competition for English language students and teachers in Yaroslavl. Each year there is a grand prize-giving ceremony in Yaroslavl with prizes presented by a representative of Exeter Yaroslavl Twinning Association. This article was written by Gulnar Bekirova, a teenager who participated in the competition.

Make Friends and Learn English



On behalf of all pupils of Yaroslavl School # 3 who learn English we would like to thank the Yaroslavl Exeter Friendship Society and the Exeter Yaroslavl Twinning Association for their practical help in studying English.

It all started in 1998. The students of our school learned about the competition “A Tale of Two Cities, a Tale of Two Rivers” announced by the Yaroslavl Exeter Friendship Society and decided to take part in it. The pupils were the second in that competition. And since that time we have participated in the contests of creative work every year. We find it interesting to collect information and to explore different aspects of Russian and British culture, and then to present our project work in English. No doubt, the most exciting moment is when we have an opportunity to meet the members of Exeter delegation at the awarding ceremony. Sometimes we are winners, but interestingly enough, we never feel we have lost since we are really happy to take part in this creative process and meet the guests from Exeter. We are always glad to prepare something unusual for them and are happy to see them at our school. More than that, each meeting becomes like an examination for us because we can check up our knowledge of English while talking to our English guests. Of course, we feel nervous at first, but gradually when we begin to put our knowledge into practice we become more confident. All of us dream of going to Exeter one day. We think its ancient cathedral, clean streets and beautiful gardens make it one of the loveliest places in the world.

While working on the project “Exeter Yaroslavl Friendly Ties” we interviewed the members of the two twinning organizations and learnt a lot of unique facts from the history of these public organizations, we met real people who helped us understand how important friendship is.

To sum it up it takes a lot of time and energy to learn to understand and trust each other and to get rid of cultural stereotypes but it makes our life more exciting and meaningful. **Gulnar Bekirova**

All Welcome Forth coming meeting April 18th 2015 Totnes

Devon Twinning General Meeting on Saturday April 18th, 2015. It will be held at **Totnes Boating Association Club House, Totnes TQ9 5AL at 2pm.**

Parking at Steamer Quay Car Park, just past Boating Association on the right.

Parking costs £3 for 3 hours - £4 for 4 hours - £6.50 all day

Speaker Rev: Julian Auld 'Life as a Parish Priest on the Scilly Isles'

Lunch will be served at 12:30pm at **£6.50** a head.

The menu will be

Starters: Prawn Cocktail

Main Course: Roast Chicken Dinner (Vegetarian Option available on request)

Sweet: Selection of desserts.

~Tea or Coffee

Payment by cheque payable to: Totnes Vire Twin Town Association and sent to: Mike Boyle, 'Milovan' 26 Copland Meadows, Totnes. TQ9 6ER by Saturday 4th April. Tel: 07762336613

Details on how to find the venue: *As most of you will now receive this information by email and you come from various directions I am leaving it to you to find your own instructions on how to find Totnes Boating Association Clubhouse. Suggest you use Google.*

Monica Sanders Trophy – Awards to date

The new rules are now in force and at the last Devon Twin Circle Meeting held at Tiverton the following awards were made:

Spring	Exeter Twinning Circle	Summer	Ottery St. Mary
Autumn	Bampton	Winter	Cullompton

Overall winner will be announced at the AGM when a further £50 will be awarded along with the Monica Sanders Trophy.



'Food Allergens':

Information for all Devon Twinning Associations

Exeter Twinning Circle found out that from December 2014 all food prepared for groups and guests should be labelled with information about the 14 allergens that could be found in the food served. We decided to compose a disclaimer to cover ourselves and inform all members and guests about our food preparation and production. The poster that accompanies this paragraph is what we decided on. Please feel free to copy it and display it with your own identifications on it when you have your twinning events. (Should you want to copy and paste the disclaimer please email me Jeanaplin@live.co.uk and I will send you a copy to allow you to do so). The government website gives you greater detail about the allergens but we think this informs our group as much as it is necessary to fulfil the criteria. Good luck with all your 'Twinning Events' this year.

Josie Mardon (ETC Secretary)

Exeter Twinning Circle Disclaimer Notice

Allergen Information from 2015 onwards:

The Food Standards Agency advise us that all food prepared and served by any group or business should be clearly labelled with information about the 14 possible allergens that could be present in it.

Exeter Twinning Circle would like to inform all their members and guests that:

All food served at their events will have been made in individual homes under the hygienic conditions followed by those members.

We invite our members and guests to partake of the food offered, but must stress that they do so at their own risk, as we are unable to verify the presence or non-presence of any or all of the 14 known allergens.

A copy of the Allergen information advice leaflet is available for members to consult if they wish.

Further information may be obtained at:

<http://food.gov.uk/science/allergy-intolerance/label/>

Josie Mardon ETC Secretary

On behalf of Exeter Twinning Circle Committee

January 2015



Travel Insurance



No price increase

for those up to age 85

Area 1 – Great Britain, Northern Island, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. Europe, Madeira, Canary Islands and those parts of countries bordering the Mediterranean -

Area 2 – Elsewhere in the World.

Policy details are available on our website Devontwinningscircle.co.

Rating Per Person for Area 1.

	1-3 Days	4-5 Days	6-9 Days	10 - 14 Days	15 - 21 Days	22 - 31 Days
Adult	£7.00	£10.27	£11.43	£12.60	£14.69	£18.78
Child	£5.25	£7.35	£7.58	£7.93	£10.22	£13.48

* Please note that Child rates apply to anyone under the age of 16 years

* All the above prices are inclusive of Insurance Premium Tax at 6%

~If using holiday insurance under your bank or credit card please check that you really are covered, read the small print because some say that you must have paid for at least part of your holiday using the card, also children are not covered unless travelling with their parents.

Reminder to All Associations: Publicity Insurance MUST be paid by 31st March 2015

Contact: Mrs Pauline Knowles (Insurance Officer)

43 Greenaway Gardens, Tiverton. EX16 5JL

Tel: 01884 254775

Email: DennisKnowles123@btinternet.com

Question ‘How to encourage new members’

This question has been put to our Chairman Dennis Knowles;

I am writing to you with something of a twinning problem. I am on the committees of two Devon twinning associations where we have met with great difficulties in having to comply with current government legislation on families taking time out of school for visits during term time.

It is especially hard to agree twinning dates where more than two communities are involved as here in the UK we have to aim for the school holidays if families are to be involved. Unless we seek to include them the future of twinning looks very fragile. Some older members are no longer able to take part so we need renewal/recruitment programmes.

Would it be possible to run a survey of all our Devon associations through the Home to Home magazine to ascertain if this is a widespread problem and, if not, gain insight into how the legislation is being dealt with?

Many thanks,

Julie Gibbs (Secretary of Kenton Twinning association) Tel.01626890083

Here are two Association's ideas:-

Tiverton



Photo Project for the youth organized in Hofheim twin town for Tiverton, Chinon, and Buccino & Pruszcz Gdanski.

Earlier this year (2014) I was asked to circulate to schools in Tiverton a photographic project for students 14-17 years of age. Tiverton High School took up the challenge, students were asked to photograph views around the town as they see it today. Students took some 60 photos, sent to Hofheim in August. A panel of judges chose 20 photos to be on display with the other towns involved in the project at the Chinon shopping centre in Hofheim during the month of October. On the 16th October 2014 myself, 9 students age 14 and a member of staff, flew to Frankfurt airport, arranged taxis collected us for the drive to Hofheim. We were met by the organisers and the students hosts who had agreed to open their homes to them for their stay. The 4 day project itinerary we were given.

Day 1 All met at the arranged place of learning in the town, in the class room introduce to all students and adults from the other towns. A fun couple of hours getting to know and pronounce their names of all in Polish, French German & Italian. Fun over; create ideas for the photo leaflet for each town on paper. Later that afternoon we travelled to Hatteersheim, shown around a community village for the mental & physical disabilities where they work within the community to suit their needs. Return to school to prepare a full course meal from each participating country set up and serve host families twinning members. An impressive display of food from everyone.

Day 2 class room again producing the leaflet with discussions and a work shop with youth politicians.

Day 3 In classroom visited by European parliament members theme on the future of the young.

The afternoon everyone had to attend the market stall and talk in German to the local people encouraging tourism of Tiverton. Hofheim at this time of year have the Gallusmarkt market, with fairground rides etc. All students were allowed some free time to visit the stalls and fair ground.

Day 4 Finalise all the leaflets ready to go to the printers, Europe day for young people with a visit from Mr. Thomas Mann European Minister from Strassburg with the theme on how does European politics work.

We enjoyed lovely warm sunshine so students we allowed some free time to go shopping sightseeing etc. for the afternoon. Disco for the evening, the winning photograph for each country was announced St Peters Church photo was Tiverton's winner. The student received a prize for her efforts as did the other towns.

Day 5 early start for our return journey home, farewell to everyone in Hofheim with thanks to everyone concerned for the wonderful experience and the change of meeting students and staff from other countries.

Ann Bullen.

During **2014** the **Ottery Twinning group** visit to Ilsfeld, our German twin town in Baden Wurttemberg , we were discussing how best to encourage younger members to join our respective groups.

A possibility of student work experience exchanges, particularly with the 17+ age group might succeed where planned schools exchanges had failed due to UK organisational problems and red tape. To this end it was agreed that we would seek such a group and facilitate a pilot project. After fairly straightforward but detailed planning five students and one teacher from Bicton College were selected and went to Ilsfeld in November 2014.

On their return they wrote a short report for the College Newsletter reproduced below and plans are being formulated for a matching return visit.

Planning was helped by the common rural industries in Devon and this part of Baden Wurttemberg and with Bicton College having an agricultural leaning. The 17+ age group benefits from being considered sufficiently adult to minimise the preparation and exchange of paperwork .

We, in Ottery Twinning, are hopeful that this will be the start of an alternate year exchange, fulfilling our aim to promote international friendship and understanding and to encourage young people to broaden their experience of the world around them

We are looking forward to the return visit from Ilsfeld at the end of March which coincides with Lambing Sunday, a popular event at Bicton College. The enthusiastic support from the College gives us hope that some of the students and their parents may have been bitten by the twinning bug and encouraged to take an active role in our ongoing twinning plans.

Twinnings plan a work experience exchange - Carole L Brown

At the beginning November I was privileged enough to accompany five Bicton College students on a visit to Ilsfeld in South West Germany. We were invited by the mayor and town council of Ilsfeld to spend a week in the town, staying with local families and visiting different businesses in the area.



The area around Ilsfeld relies predominately on agriculture, and we spent time visiting local farms, including a very modern dairy facility and an arable farm specialising in growing sugar beet, a massive industry in the region. As it is also a wine growing area, we were also able to visit a vineyard and a technical college which trains students from all over the world in the many different

aspects of making wine. For the animal care students in the group, time at a newly opened animal sanctuary was arranged.

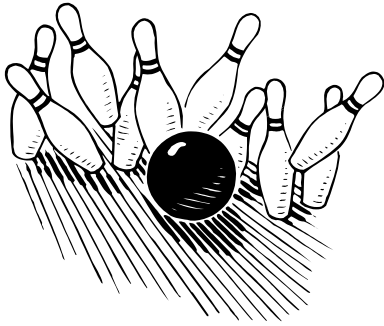
Included in our busy programme was also plenty of time to experience culture, food and leisure activities. We were treated to meals in local restaurants, tickets to a basketball game in nearby Ludwigsburg, and even a local pumpkin festival in the grounds of a baroque castle – pictures attached!

The German students from Ilsfeld will

be coming to Devon at the end of March.



Skittles Competition
Teams of 5 players – Inter Association event
Saturday 27th June 2014
Start 1 pm
Waie Inn, Zeal Monachorum EX17 6DF
Near Crediton, Devon.



The DTC committee are again holding a SKITTLES COMPETITION on Saturday June 27th.2015 at the WAIE INN, Zeal Monachorum . This will be an inter association event. There will be a cup for the winning team. It will start at 1pm. A COLD FINGER BUFFET will be provided. Each team to be made up of 5 players at the cost £5 per team. There will also be a Losers competition with trophy. As with last year there will a Quiz and Draw. We hope you will be able to take part.

. This is being organised as a social event. Please join us.
The Waie Inn is easy to get to, it has a large car park, swimming pool, indoor play area and a large outdoor play area, ideal for families. There is a charge for use of the swimming pool and indoor play area.

Booking Slip:

Please reply to Mrs Pat Sherwood by June 1st 2015. Littleover, Dean Street, Crediton, Devon. EX17 3EN Tel: 01363 772103 Email: sherwoodpuk@yahoo.co.uk

We would like to enter a team ----- Twinning Association.

Number of people for the BUFFET ----- Please advise if any dietary restrictions

Team entry fee £5. Cheques made payable to Devon Twinning Circle.



Thank you to those that have sent articles in, I hope you have enjoyed reading this Newsletter. Please keep the articles coming ~

Ideas being shared, how you have entertained your twinning guests, raised funds etc.and remember you will be entered into the Monica Sanders Competition.

Please send articles, reports, photographs by Email to:Jeanaplin@live.co.uk

by post to Mrs J.Aplin, 13 Crowden Crescent, Tiverton, Devon. EX16 4ET

