

# Haslemere & District Twinning Association



Bernay 1985



Haslemere



Horb 1991

## NEWSLETTER, June 2016

Dear Friend of the Association,

### HASLEMERE GOES TO BERNAY

Since the last newsletter, about thirty of our number have been to Bernay and back on the visit planned for this year. It was a wonderful trip but a little on the short side; we could frankly have done with an extra day. The weather wasn't great but any misgivings on that front were more than amply made up by the warmth of the reception waiting for us in Bernay.

After an all-night crossing from Portsmouth to Ouistreham the coach arrived at the customary drop-off point around 09.00 where our French hosts were waiting to meet us all. While the majority were getting themselves settled into their accommodation for the next two or three days Michael, Shirley and Nieves (Montes) visited a primary school in Bernay (Ecole Jean Moulin) to talk to the children there. We spent a whole hour with them; we were trying our French and they were trying their Engleeseh! It was a very worthwhile occasion and one that we want to repeat in a couple of years to increase the awareness amongst young people of the relation that exists between our two towns.

### PETANQUE



In the afternoon of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June we assembled to play the return match of pétanque that we had so convincingly won the year before, 9 games to 6! Although there were some moments of brilliance on the part of the British, we were no match for the French that day.

Whatever the outcome, it was a most enjoyable occasion rounded off with a picnic of patisseries provided by Jean-Claude and Gilles François.

Note first the 'jack' (or 'cochonnet') then the two shining silver boules either side of the jack; these boules were thrown by Haslemere!



**The SHOEBOX Trophy** (so called because the Shoebox in West Street donated the cup in 2015), now bears the name of the winners of this year's match – Bernay!



There is not a little debate as to whether we should play the (inevitable?) third match next year (le match décisif) or, when Bernay comes to Haslemere, whether we should play something more 'British'. If we do move away from Pétanque then it has to be a game that is easy to learn, with uncomplicated rules and which has a huge element of fun about it. The word 'croquet' has been mentioned, but, as yet, nothing has been decided. Your thoughts are always welcome.

### **The GALA DINNER**

At 19.00 on Friday evening we assembled at the La Pommeraie, Saint-Quentin-des-Isles, just south of Bernay for our Gala Dinner. Our hosts put on a wonderful evening, making us all feel very much 'at home'. Bouquets of flowers were presented from both towns as a gesture of thanks and appreciation for all the work that people do 'behind the scenes' to make these things happen.

## The Museums of PIERRE CORNEILLE (1606-1684) and VICTOR HUGO (1802-1885)

Saturday was a day out in the vicinity of North West Rouen. This is the region where the Seine meanders from Le Havre right down to Paris, and where large cruise liners travel as far as Rouen.



*Outside the home of Pierre Corneille*

We visited the home of Pierre Corneille in the morning and the home of Victor Hugo in the afternoon. Between the two musées we had a most enjoyable lunch at Caudebec-en-Caux on the banks of the Seine.





**SUMMER SOCIAL, Bastille Day**

Sylvia and Christopher McCallum have very generously offered to host a Summer Social at their place (Penwith Drive, Haslemere - opposite the pond at Camelsdale) which will take place on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July** at 12noon. This is yet another occasion to get together to relax, chat, share food and play a leisurely game of croquet (or something) if you wish, or simply to spectate! We are assured of ample parking and beautiful surroundings in which to enjoy a summer lunchtime

together. Sylvia will be laying on/organising a BBQ and we shall be asking for contributions of salads and puddings. We will also be inviting all those coming to bring their own drinks though glasses will be provided.

This is definitely an occasion to which we strongly invite you to bring a friend (or two) who may be interested in the activities of the Twinning Association. Sylvia has indicated that she has entertained large numbers before and is ready to do so again! So please get thinking of any you could bring with whom to share the occasion. There will be the customary raffle and a very good number of prizes to be won. As this is a fund-raising event tickets will be priced at £12.50 an adult and £7.50 a child (at school or college). For purposes of catering, tickets will not be on sale 'at the door' but available beforehand. In this way, we can be sure of getting the numbers right. Please tear this slip off and send it in promptly.

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**SUMMER SOCIAL: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2016**



chez  
Sylvia et Chris



Please put me down for ..... tickets at £12.50 and ..... tickets at £7.50 (school or college).

Name: (please PRINT) .....

My cheque for the total of £ ..... is enclosed.

Cheques should be payable to: **Haslemere & District Twinning Association**

Send this slip and cheque (or cash) to Ann Fitchett at 23 Priors Wood, Haslemere, GU27 1NF

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### **HORB comes to HASLEMERE, 2016**

Everything is going ahead for **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September**. Our German friends will be landing at London HEATHROW and on the way home to Haslemere we shall be entertaining them to an English Tea at Watts Gallery before heading on down to Haslemere where we aim to arrive at 6pm in front of Haslemere Hall.

To mark **the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our being twinned with Horb (1991)** we will be planning a tree at a suitable moment in the program and in a place agreed with the Town Hall. Christopher Ashton-Jones (Sheen Botanical Labels) is kindly providing the 'plaque' that will be positioned at the foot of the tree.

### **AUTUMN DINNER PARTIES**

Many of you have enjoyed and shown appreciation for the dinner parties that have been held at 15 Pine View Close, Haslemere, in the past. This year's dinners have now been arranged for **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of October** and are another opportunity to kill two birds with one stone, namely, have a good evening out with some friends and good food, knowing that you are helping to raise a little more for the Association's funds. Please contact us (07955 704545 or 01428 644344 or email [Michael.bawtree916@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.bawtree916@gmail.com)) to reserve your place. Thanks again for supporting the Association in this way.

### **QUIZ NIGHT, 2016**

Finally, last November's Quiz Night was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by around 85 people! For those who have not yet experienced one of our Quiz Nights and would like to you'll need to put **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November** in your diaries. We promise you a lot of light-hearted fun, excellent food and more besides! Preparations are well under way.

### **LATE NEWS**

Finally, in case you don't know, Robin Jones (who has supported the Twinning Association for so long) had an accident while out in Bernay during the last trip and this meant that he had to be taken to hospital in France (Rouen). He has since been repatriated, and following treatment in the UK he was able to join us at the Leaders' party. (*ed - Seb Welford*)

### **THANKS**

Once again, thanks to all of you who receive this newsletter. It goes out to all those that have shown interest in and supported the activities of the Twinning Association in one way or another. We look forward to seeing and welcoming as many of you as possible at one or more of the events outlined above.

Yours most sincerely,

*Michael Bawtree*

(on behalf of your committee)