

## **Fire has destroyed one of the oldest buildings in the medieval French city of Dinan.**

It broke out overnight on Saturday (22<sup>nd</sup> June) at the popular Chez la Mere Pourcel restaurant in Place des Merciers.

The iconic building dates back to the fifteenth century and is listed as a historical monument.



### **Email from Tim Dumber to Exmouth Journal in response to a notification from them:**

Hallo Daniel

I will give a quick quote on this, as the Town Council's representative on Exmouth Twinning Association. I will copy into other key Committee members, who I am sure may wish to add their own thoughts:

"I was shocked to see the pictures and video of a devastating fire in our Twin Town in Brittany. The fire broke out over Saturday night / Sunday morning (23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> June) in a restaurant "Chez la Mere Pourcel" close to the heart of the medieval town. Most of the buildings in that area date from the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries, and this will be a major blow to the owners, and to Dinan's heritage. I have not yet heard directly from our twinning partners in the town, but it will be a great shock to all. All of us in Exmouth who have travelled to Dinan will know and love the central square where the restaurant is located, and I am sure we will all be sending our sympathies to our friends there. I have alerted the Mayor of Exmouth, our Town Clerk and the Town Crier (Roger, the Town Crier, in particular is a keen supporter of Twinning)."

Tim Dumper

(13 years a twinner with Dinan families, and the Council's representative on Exmouth Twinning Association)

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### **Email from Sue Moreton to Exmouth twidders and Exmouth Journal**

Dear twidders and Daniel

I was really saddened by the pictures of the horrible fire in the heart of Dinan. This beautiful building is one of many such old timber houses that make the heart of Dinan so special. It is tragic in it's right but specially as a building just a little further down from here was also devastated by fire a couple of years ago and is still under repairs. We are all very familiar with this very lovely part of Dinan having visited it many times.

I have sent a message of sympathy to my opposite number in Dinan and at our next committee meeting we shall discuss if there is any way we may be of assistance.

Many thanks to all of you for your concern.

Best wishes

Sue, Chair of the Exmouth Twinning Association