

# Exmouth Twinning Association

## Keeping you in the picture – Autumn 2019

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR, SUE MORETON

Dear Twinners

The dust has settled and we are all at home having had a very enjoyable visit to Germany. The coach trip to Langerwehe is long but it also nice to relax and chat or doze.

We had new twinners on both our Twinning events this year which was heartening. We need a small trickle of new members in each year in all three of the twinning towns to remain viable. The best way to recruit is by word of mouth to anyone who shows any interest. Lots of people are not aware of the Twinning process and the enjoyment it brings, so spread the word.

The dates for next year's visit and trip have been discussed with the French and Germans and the provisional dates are –

Visit to Dinan - Friday 19th June to Tuesday June 23<sup>rd</sup>

German visit to Exmouth - Wednesday 15th July to Monday 20th July

These will be confirmed after our next committee meeting early in September.

The dates are quite close together as we are keen to arrange visits when there is the best chance of good weather without the crowds and extra expense of our main school holiday times and at times to suit our French and German friends.

We have a social event coming up so do come if you can and book early as numbers will be limited due to space. Also please make a note of our Annual Dinner date.

Sue Moreton

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Your committee members are -

Sue Moreton - Chair and Dinan sub-committee chair

Barry McHugh – Treasurer

Maggie Gingell – Secretary

Tim Dumper – Langerwehe sub-committee chair

April Marjoram

Sandra Dunn

Dot Taylor

Linda Bolt (who is also our minute taker)

If you want your committee to consider any particular matter at one of its meetings please contact the secretary Maggie Gingell on [maggiengingell@aol.com](mailto:maggiengingell@aol.com) or 01395 278448 or speak to one of the committee members.

## DINAN

### Dinannais visit June 2019

This very enjoyable visit to us had some highlights and some things we would do differently next time.

The arrival of the French was very late due to the horrible weather conditions of the crossing. We collected them late at night, in the pitch black and almost horizontal rain but everyone eventually had a warm bed for the night, thank goodness.

The reception on Saturday morning was a much nicer affair and we were able to welcome new French visitors and new Exmouth hosts at the Sailing Club. Our new Mayor, Steve Gazzard, gave a warm welcome on behalf of the Council and we are grateful for the Council's contribution to a very pleasant buffet lunch. Judging from the level of noise and chatting this went down very well.

The cash gift from the French was presented to the local Hospiscare.

Cricket was played with gusto on the beach later on in the afternoon. It was windy but sunny. Many thanks to Paul Berman for organising this and introducing many of the twinnings to the finer points of our national game.



Saturday evening and Sunday were free until Sunday evening when we held our formal meal in the Manor Hotel. The meal was good and the music had a lot of folk up and dancing. We were crowded and this led to the necessity of a top table, something we try to avoid, but we were delighted that so many twinnings wanted to join us for the evening.

The next day was an outing to Honiton when the weather was variable but the lace exhibition, visit around St Paul's church and shopping helped to offset the dampening effect. An afternoon tea was tasty and enjoyed once we were all seated and had a cup of tea in front of us.

The new twinnings seem to have worked well and we are delighted to welcome some youngsters who have been introduced to Twinning and we hope that they will continue to enjoy the friendships it inspires.

The dates for the Exmouth visit to France next year were discussed with June 19<sup>th</sup> being the provisional date. This will be confirmed in due course.

We said goodbye to our visitors that evening and the ferry crossing going back was a big improvement on the first trip.

My thanks to all who helped to make this visit so enjoyable including Eileen Beech, Sandra Dunn, Anne Bentham, Barry McHugh, Maggie Gingell and Geoff Beech.

My thanks also to all who paid up promptly and helped us with background support. The cost of the visit was within the budget agreed with the main committee.

Sue Moreton, Chair, Dinan Sub Committee.

The book '**The English Colony of Dinan**' was given to our association during a recent visit and, in order to make it available to members, a loan system is in place. Any member wanting to read the book should contact the secretary to arrange to borrow it for up to one month.

## LANGERWEHE

### Visit to Langerwehe, August 2019

Our visit this year has been as friendly and relaxing as in previous years, with mixed weather this time – lovely and sunny on our big day out, but some rain on other days.

Most of us were glad it didn't hit the highs of 40 degrees seen in our twin town in July, however!

We had a small group this year, of only 25, partly because of sickness and unavailability of hosts in Germany. The positive side was that those of us on the coach had a very comfortable ride.

Both outward and return journeys went very smoothly, in large part due to the excellent driving by Doug, of Blake's Coaches. He has found himself taking a number of Twinning parties from around Devon and has expressed his willingness to drive us again if the opportunity arises.

Festivities began for the 34<sup>th</sup> year of our twinning with Langerwehe with the Civic Reception, in the Pottery Museum as usual, and the Committee had laid on an excellent buffet. Welcome and greetings were exchanged between the Burgermeister, Heinrich Goebbels, and Exmouth's Mayor, Steve Gazzard, and the respective Chairs of Twinning, Herbert Fahnrich and Sue Moreton, being rounded off by the presentation of Exmouth's gift to Bläservereinigung, a local brass band and community organisation. The two associations promised to maintain our friendship through the current political changes.



All the British and German twinning members in Ahrweiler

Our "big day out" was to the Ahr Valley wine growing area, which we visited last in 2006. We had a guided walk around the pretty medieval town of Ahrweiler, followed for many of us, by a walk through the vineyards, where we saw some of the damage wreaked by the recent fierce heat on the grapes. A most informative wine tasting followed, sampling the area's white, sparkling and red wines – several bottles and cases have made their way back to Exmouth! Our evening was spent dining at the Culinarium restaurant above the wine cellar in the town of Dernau.



On the Ahr Valley walk

On the Saturday afternoon about half of us went on an optional tour around the Energeticon museum in the former deep coal mining town of Alsdorf. This took people through a mock-up of mine workings, followed by demonstrations of all types of energy sources. I think we would have benefitted from an English translation of the displays, models, and games, but it was a fascinating and fun visit.

We had masses of free time, and our hosts treated us to all sorts of visits, social events, meals etc, as always! Thanks to everyone, both the Langerwehe hosts, and those from Exmouth who have made this trip a great success.

Next year's 35<sup>th</sup> year visit in Exmouth will probably be between July 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 and it would be great to have as full a group of hosts and guests as we can!  
Looking forward to it already!

Tim Dumper, Chair, Langerwehe Sub Committee

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

Sue will be hosting an event on October 4<sup>th</sup> in celebration of German Unity Day – see the booking form below, replies by Oct 1<sup>st</sup> please.

### **Re-unification Day Celebration**

To celebrate the anniversary of the re-unification between East and West Germany you are invited to a lunchtime event on **Friday 4th October** from 12.30 at 32 Belle Vue Road, Exmouth. Numbers will be limited by space to 23. Lederhosen may be worn!

### **Menu**

Red or white wine or glass of beer

A starter

Sausages - German and Devonian and vegetarian  
Sauerkraut and red cabbage  
Potatoes

Apple strudel and custard or Black Forest gateau

### **Cost £9 per head**

**Cheques, to be made payable to Exmouth Twinning Association, or cash with application form (print Page 4 of this newsletter) to be delivered to Sue Moreton, 32 Belle Vue Road, Exmouth, EX8 3DN by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

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Name/s .....

Number of lunches @ £9 ..... Total to be paid £ .....

Any dietary needs ....

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## **Annual Dinner**

Our Annual Dinner (and the raffle for the French picture) will be on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> at The Manor Hotel. Watch out for an email giving booking details soon.

## **Christmas event – save the day**

Geoff and Eileen Beech have kindly offered to host a Christmas social evening on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> – details to come in due course.

## **AGM**

Our AGM is booked at the Church Hall in Raddenstile Lane for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March next year. We hope to have a social event afterwards as we did this year – further details nearer the time.

## **DEVON TWINNING CIRCLE**

We are invited to send representatives to the quarterly DTC committee meetings which are hosted by the various associations in turn. Maggie Gingell is our nominated DTC representative, but other members may attend the meetings as well. Sue Moreton and Alan Taylor accompanied her to the meeting at Stokeinteignhead on July 20<sup>th</sup> where they were able to share twinning ideas and experiences with other associations from around Devon. Thanks to Alan for being the chauffeur!

The Autumn meeting, which is the AGM, will be on October 19<sup>th</sup> at Halberton. Let Maggie know if you would like to go.

## **WEBSITE**

Tony Jackson continues to maintain our website Have a look – [www.exmouth-twinning.org.uk](http://www.exmouth-twinning.org.uk)