

# Coalville & District Town Twinning Association

CHAIRMAN : Ms. Paula Purver  
Tel. 01530 451861

COALVILLE - ROMANS-SUR-ISERE  
[www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk](http://www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk)

SECRETARY : Mrs. L. Storer  
Tel. 01530 262361

## NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

### OVER 50 YEARS OF TOWN TWINNING

#### DINNER

The annual dinner was held at the Hermitage Park Hotel at the end of January. The main course was a carvery, with guests choosing their starters and desserts when we met up at the hotel.

It was a very pleasant evening. Jennifer Chapman thanked everyone for their hard work in the year and she also thanked staff at the hotel for looking after us well.



#### THIS YEAR'S EXCHANGE IN COALVILLE



We will have a small group coming over this year and they are proposing to come in July rather than in August.

They will leave Romans on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> July and will return home on Monday, 25 July.

They will spend a day in London on the way here. We will let you know the details of the programme now that we have the date settled.

#### CYRIL UPTON

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Cyril Upton in January. He was in at the start of twinning and he and his wife, Beryl, were very active members for many years, holding many of the positions in their time. They went on many visits to Romans and knew a lot of people there. Even when Cyril was no longer active in the association, he was always happy to talk about the earlier exchanges and to discuss current plans.

#### BILL PRATT

Bill Pratt also died earlier this year. Bill and Nita joined Coalville Town Twinning some years ago and often stayed with M and Mme Lagut. The Laguts had a farm and used to bake pognes- the local speciality. Bill and Nita used to watch the process and tell us all about it (and show us some photos, of course!)

They were not new to twinning when they joined us – they had belonged to Ashby Town Twinning for a long time. Bill was made honorary president of their association when he no longer carried out any of the other roles. Bill was always ready to contribute to discussions and supported us on the exchanges and in the social events which we put on.

He will be missed by us all. We send our sincere condolences to Nita.



#### AGM 2016

This year's AGM was held on the 11th February. The positions held in the Association are now as follows:

Chairman	Paula Purver
Vice Chairman	Jennifer Chapman
Secretary	Lesley Storer
Treasurer	Janet Christopher
Minute Sec.	Hazel Lilley

The committee chairmen are:

Membership	Keith Pare
Social	Lyn Jordan
Adult Exchange	Lesley Storer
Publicity	Delphine North
Webmaster	Chris North

#### THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Game of petanque

Meals out

Film nights

Dates to be announced.



### SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Subscriptions are now due for this year. The cost remains the same - £4 per family.

We hope that you will all continue your membership of Town Twinning. We know that not everyone wishes to visit or go on an exchange every year, but we do appreciate your support. You also get to find out what is happening on the twinning front, and we have

social events as well. That way you can keep in touch.

*There is a slip attached to this newsletter for payment. Please send it with your payment to*

**Keith Pare,**  
Membership Secretary  
103 Tressall Road, Whitwick.  
LE67 5QE

#### QUARTERLY MEETING THURSDAY

**5th. MAY & 4th AUGUST**  
**6.15pm**

Council Offices, Coalville

**Open to all Members**

Come along and find out what goes on to make the Exchanges happen and give us your ideas

## FOCUS ON FRANCE

### PANCAKE DAY FAUX PAS

How do you like your pancakes? Rolled? Stacked? What if they are crepes rather than pancakes?

A London office decided to celebrate pancake day with crepes all round. They arrived stacked on a plate – and one worker duly sliced the stack into the relevant number of portions. This, apparently, nearly caused an international incident. Crepes – sliced! 'Non, non, non, non, non!' An outraged French member of staff was appalled.



BBC FOOD : Crepe Suzette

It has emerged that since it was a multi-cultural office, it may have been a non-Brit who committed the atrocity. The incident has led other nationalities to say how badly we, here, treat their national dishes – making our own anglicised versions of them, but still giving them their original names. In Spain – chorizo is not used in paella. In Italy – chicken in pasta or on pizza is unheard of. A 'balti' in India, just means a bucket.

Footnote: The cause of the furore – the sliced crepes – were all eaten anyway!

If you would like to have a go at cooking traditional crêpe suzette, have a look at the BBC Food website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/food/crepe>

### TURNING THE TABLES ON FRANCE

We sell a lot of cheese to the French – and have more varieties than they do.



Cheese & Chutney Selection from M&S : £25

### And

France is importing more and more English wine.... but we still favour the Cotès du Rhône produced not far from Romans.

### BURGERS

Two years ago Burger King returned to France which it had abandoned in 1997, a time when burgers were being held up as a symbol of bad food. Many French people regarded it as an insult to French cuisine.



Burger King Croissant Burger

However, now that it has reopened at a venue next to St. Lazare station, Parisians queued for 3 hours on the first day to get a taste of their burgers, and are still often willing to queue for 30 minutes.

In fact, such is the passion for burgers in France that the chef, Eric Frechan produced a 'foie gras burger'.

### WHAT IS ON THE MENU TODAY?

Brillat-Savarin, who wrote one of the most famous books about food, had studied medicine and chemistry and he proposed a low carbohydrate diet.



Pixabay.com

The phrase he is most remembered for is: 'Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are.' Probably not best to think about this as we eat our fish and chips!

### MORE ON BRITISH FOOD

**"One cannot trust people whose cuisine is so bad!"**

This comment on the British and their food came from President Chirac of France in 2005.

### PUBLICITY

Please contact Delphine North 01530 836700 if you have any enquiries or articles for the Newsletter.

[www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk](http://www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk)

### INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR SHOES

No, not in Romans, but for someone from Shephed.

Amanda Weise has a business called Lace and Love, creating shoes basically for weddings. The shoes have a lace design on them.



She has won an award for the Most Popular Shoe Designer Worldwide at the Wedding Industry Experts Awards. It was a business that started by accident. When Amanda got married herself, she could not find the shoes she wanted, and so finally she painted lace designs onto her shoes to match her dress.

She did the same for her sister's wedding, and the idea for the business took off. It started in a small way and now has customers around the world, although it is still basically a one-woman business.

<http://www.laceandlove.co.uk>

### EU REFERENDUM

**There may be a referendum in June on whether or not Great Britain wishes to remain in the EU. It does not affect Town Twinning.**

We are here, outside politics, to enable people to get to know one another and their culture. It is about friendship and understanding how another culture works. Make no mistake - we are only separated by the Channel (La Manche) but the things that affect our everyday lives can be very different. Staying with a family and making friends makes you appreciate these differences.

You really do have to go to Romans to experience these differences in our cultures - but there are also other opportunities for groups and organizations here to link up with similar ones in Romans to see how they work and to exchange ideas. They have many clubs in Romans covering music, dance, sport, photo/video, history, cycling and walking to link up with.

*Variety is the Spice of Life.*