

Coalville & District Town Twinning Association

CHAIRMAN : Mrs. Jennifer Chapman
Tel. 01530 451861

COALVILLE - ROMANS-SUR-ISERE
www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk

SECRETARY : Mrs. L. Storer
Tel. 01530 262361

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2017

55 YEARS OF TOWN TWINNING

EXCHANGE

FRENCH EXCHANGE VISIT

Although there has not been an exchange visit to Romans this year we are hoping to arrange an exchange visit to Coalville next year and we have contacted the Town Hall in Romans to see how this can be publicised there.

The role of the paid staff at Romans International has been limited by the town in its budget cuts, to dealing with projects involving young people, particularly finding placements with the Erasmus scheme. In order for our exchange to work at its best we need more people in Romans willing to help to organise and promote the exchange. This is the direction in which we are trying to move at the moment. We have started work on a project theme for the 2018 exchange to Coalville based on Health and Wellbeing, since this affects everyone. It will be interesting to see how the Councils here and in Romans are approaching this.



Health & Well-Being is the Theme for 2018

AGM & QUARTERLY MEETING

15 FEBRUARY 2018
6.00pm

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

RECENT EVENTS

LIBRARY LINKS

A new link between the two towns has just been established. This is between the two libraries - the Mediatheque in Romans and the library here in Coalville. Each year the libraries will exchange a selection of books, so gradually the collection will grow.

The library here has chosen a corner for the books and has made a very nice display. Do go and have a look - and borrow any books, of course. We hope that this small beginning will establish itself over the years and also help to make people in both towns aware of the opportunities for developing links between people and organisations here and in Romans.



FILM NIGHT

We had another successful Film Night on Monday, 23rd October at Thringstone Community Centre. The film this time was an amusing story about a naive young girl who spends all her time sorting out other people - and then she falls in love herself. We did not have to worry about following all the French - there were subtitles. Admission was free but we sold raffle tickets for £2 on people's arrival to cover the costs of the room. Prizes were donated by a number of Town Twinning Members. Thanks to Keith Pare for arranging and also to Paula Purver for providing the refreshments and snacks which contributed to a most enjoyable evening.

FORUM DES ASSOCIATIONS

This is a day for all the Associations and groups in Romans to have a stall and show people just what they do.



We had been thinking of taking part this year on the international stall, but in the end we were unable to go. This was probably just as well, since the date had to be changed at the last minute due to the weather. It was held a fortnight later! We hope to promote our Town Twinning links at a future event in Romans and we are looking at producing a leaflet in French to explain the benefits to people and organizations in Romans.

COMING UP

NEW YEAR'S DINNER AT DA VINCI

Look out for the details of our New Year's dinner. It will be held on Saturday, 27th January and it will be at Da Vinci's in Coalville. Details will be posted on the website - otherwise please get in touch with any committee member or ring Paula to book your places. Friends and guests welcome.



INTERNATIONAL

FOLKLORIQUE 2017

The annual traditional international dance festival in Romans took place over several days at the beginning of July.



There was the usual outdoor entertainment and parades and dancing in the streets - but there were many more police patrols in evidence and the town squares and event areas were protected with stone filled gabions.



It did not, however, affect the atmosphere at all - everywhere there was colour, music and people enjoying themselves.



There were groups from six countries taking part, including another group from a different area of France, as well as the local Empi et Riaume who organise the event. If you are interested in sampling this wonderful experience then get in touch with us and we'll supply details. Delphine and Chris North were there and also had meetings with Frederic Deshayes from the Town Hall and with members of Romans International to discuss future Town Twinning arrangements.

FOCUS ON FRANCE

HEARING THE FRENCH LANGUAGE IN ENGLAND

Where do you hear French spoken as much as English in England?

Well, it is London. There are an estimated 300,000 French residents in London - and that is about equivalent to the population of Nice. (Which is why Boris Johnson was once able to joke that he was the mayor of the 6th biggest French city in the world!)

In South Kensington, in particular, you are just as likely to hear French as English spoken in the streets and in the cafes. There is a French bookshop 'Librairie La Page' and a French-run cheese shop 'La Cave a Fromages' among other businesses catering for French as well as English tastes.

PICNIC IN THE PARK 2017

Town Twinning had a stall at Picnic in the Park this summer. There were pictures of the exchanges showing the sort of visits we make and activities we do while the French are over here. And there were pictures of



Romans so that people got an idea of our twin town. We also had a game which Di and Jim Lackenby discovered in France. It is great fun for all ages - and noisy! The NWLDC Chairman, Virge Richichi came along to find out more about Romans.



People often ask what it is like living with a French family if you do not speak much French. The answer is that twinning is about making friends - and that you can do that with a small amount of a foreign language and a lot of smiles. So give it a go.

ARE THE FRENCH A PAIN IN THE 'DERRIERE'?

You had definitely better not say that!! But a stand-up comedian from Kent, Paul Taylor, has been saying such things on French TV - and they love him for it.

His weekly 3-minute primetime show is mainly in English - with French subtitles. But he does drop in some French words here and there to show that he *can* speak the language. In fact he spent five years in French speaking schools while his father was working in Switzerland.



<https://www.facebook.com/ptcomedy/>

Although some people hate his act, the main reaction is: 'You are making fun of us, but in an endearing way.' His success all began in January 2016 when he posted a sketch on the internet about all the difficulties you encounter with the French habit of greeting people by kissing them on the cheek - how many kisses? Which cheek do you start with? Do men kiss each other? The posting went viral - he got a comedy chat show - and then a few months later, he was on television.

It all goes to show that it's true - it's not what you say, it's how you tell them!

Books for the Mediatheque Library in Romans



PUBLICITY

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

www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk