

Tiverton Town Twinning Association Newsletter



Spring 2024

* Round Devon *

As reported in the Autumn 2023 Newsletter the Devon Circle is alive and well, representing 57 groups in Devon and Somerset. It produces a quarterly online newsletter which contains accounts of the varied activities and fund-raising events across the region. Its website is: www.devontwinningcircle.com and the link to recent newsletters is at the top of the page.

Featuring this time round, an amusing account of how, in September last year, Andrew Winter & Ken Priest (72) from the Crewkerne Twinning Association set off on their bikes for the Paris environs. The idea was to e-pedal 350 miles to meet up with fellow twinningers who had travelled there by luxury coach.

Another twinner, John Witton, submits an account of their group's trip to Bad Homburg, a town to the north of Frankfurt, which included a river cruise, visits to the Schloss, the casino, the Kurpark and the observatory. Oh, and his sampling of wild boar pâté made from an animal hunted by his German host!

Finally, a spirited rhyming couplet from a poem "Not So Bad Homburg" by David Cliffe, who describes himself as a 'renewed twinner':

*"Mostly we have all made great new twinning friends,
Clearly, despite Brexit the twinning spirit has no ends!"*

A Devon Circle date for your diary:

On Sunday August 11th from midday at Uplowman Village Hall, a repeat of last year's successful and enjoyable BBQ and games. Only £5 per person.



The French Quarter



The Twinning Committee is currently hard at work planning for the visit of our friends from Chinon, which will be from 6th -10th June this year.

Some re-thinking over travel arrangements has resulted in the French party of 19 using private cars and their town's minibus for the journey, via Roscoff and Plymouth. It looks like a late arrival in Tiverton as the ferry is due to dock at 8pm.

John Smith, TTTA's Chinon Co-ordinator, has put together a provisional timetable of outings and entertainment. It includes a fish & chip lunch, a visit to Powderham Castle and farm shop, the Mayor's reception, museum visit, a Ceilidh band and distillery tour. A farewell dinner has been arranged for the Sunday evening.

Hosts have been contacted and the programme will be finalised and circulated in due course.

As the return ferry does not depart till 10pm on Monday, there's no need to set an early alarm this time! It also gives the chance to have a full day together before the Chinonais leave.

It looks like a huge effort on John's part will result in a thoroughly enjoyable and stamina-testing time together. Fingers crossed for good weather





Hofheim Visit 2024



Plans are ongoing for the visit to our German partners from 5th – 10th September, flying from Heathrow. About 27 Tivertonians will make up the party, and details of our activities are yet to come. Rest assured they will feature trips out with views of the beautiful Hesse countryside, and the excellent food and drink we have come to appreciate over the years.



🌸 Lunch Dates for 2024 🌸

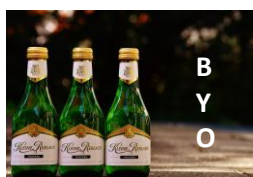
Following some well-received, delicious lunches so far this year to celebrate Burns' Night, National Pie Day (which was actually a month late!), and St Patrick's Day, there is even more Sunday scrumptiousness to look forward to:

- 28th April - St. George's Day Lunch
- 19th May - Chicken meal Lunch
- ? July - BBQ - to be arranged
- 22nd Sept - Harvest Meal Lunch
- 20th Oct - Lasagna Lunch
- 17th Nov - Cassoulet Lunch
- 13th Dec - Christmas Meal at TTFC

Halberton Village Hall has been booked for Sunday lunches, with the exception of the BBQ and Christmas meal.

The cost is still only £12.50 per head for 3 courses + tea/coffee. And, of course, the famous raffle!

More than ever we thank the dedicated crew that organises these events – setting out tables, filling our bellies, and tidying up after us!



🌸 TTTA Review 🌸

The past 12 months has been a successful year for the Twinning Association. We **hosted our German friends** for a marvellous few days, with an interesting and varied programme, and lashings of bad weather – which our guests didn't seem to mind, thankfully.

We enjoyed a superb **Ukrainian buffet** in May, and some of the most successful Sunday meals on record.



January's issue of the glossy monthly magazine "Devon Life" featured a five-page report on the history and activities of TTTA. It charted our partnerships with Chinon and Hofheim across the last 50 years, extolling the virtues of forging new friendships, staying in each others' homes, and learning about different traditions in different lands. This well-crafted and persuasive report also reflected on the problem of engaging younger people in twinning. A matter that is hopefully being addressed both here and in Germany.

The **Twinning page** on the Tiverton Town Council's website was also brought up to date and current contact details amended. The link is www.tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk and a further direct link to <Twin Towns> is near the bottom of the page.

An exciting development for the future could be the establishment of a stand-alone TTTA website. Drawing on the help of an accomplished member, the Committee is exploring the cost and viability of providing up-to-date information to new and potential members via this digital route. Watch this space

