



Banbury and District Twinning Association Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 1

August 2011

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I first joined the Association in the mid 90's, when both my husband and I were asked to host a couple from Ermont, who were coming to play golf. I have to admit that I was very apprehensive, but we had a great time and the following year went to Ermont. This was the start of a long series of visits, both with the twinning association and also privately, which continued after the death of my husband. Sadly Eliane, my French hostess, died early this year and her husband felt unable to come for this year's match. However I was happy to host another couple and I am hopeful that this will be the start of an equally rewarding relationship. This year we had also had some other new 'twinners', both from Ermont and Banbury and so even more twinning relationships have been formed.

Over the years I have also hosted various guests from Hennef and have had the pleasure of visiting there on many occasions and have formed many friendships. As with Ermont we have always been made very welcome and have a wonderful time.

As you will see in the calendar of events, we have two forthcoming trips and I would like to encourage more people to become involved. If you or anyone you know is interested in exchanging visits with either or both our twin towns please encourage them to contact me. ***It is very rewarding.***

Catherine Jenkinson

I am sorry to say that we have lost a great supporter of the Twinning Association. Thelma Jeremy lost her fight with cancer last month and will be greatly missed.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Association's Annual General Meeting was held on 11 March in the Town Hall, with our then President, the Town Mayor of Banbury, Councillor Colin Clarke in the Chair.

The meeting received reports from the Chairman, our Ermont coordinator, Verna Wass, and our Hennef coordinator, Lloyd Taylor, outlining the very successful year that had taken place and looking forward to an equally, if not better, year to come, as well as a report from the Treasurer detailing the Association's income and expenditure over the last financial year.

At the end of the meeting a finger buffet and wine was available, courtesy of the Mayor

Your officers and committee members elected at the meeting for the current year are as follows: We have a vacancy for a committee member and would be pleased to welcome a new face.

Officers:

Chairman:	Catherine Jenkinson (01295 750997)
Vice Chairman:	Verna Wass (01295 758222)
Secretary:	Peter Davis (01295 259671)
Treasurer:	Gareth Jeremy (01295 266404)
Membership Secretary:	Jenny Tustian (01295 254461)

Committee Members:

John Donaldson	(01295 271712)
Philip Aris	(01295 712464)
Martin Green	(01295)
Roger Solesbury	(01295 710316)
Kim Taylor	(01295 252766)
Lloyd Taylor	(01295 252766)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Association Committee Meetings

PLACE: **Town Hall** Time: **6.30 p.m.**
DATE: **1 SEPTEMBER 2011; 3 NOVEMBER 2011;**
12 JANUARY 2012; AGM - 8 MARCH 2012 - 7.30 P.M.

Please contact a committee member or come along to the meeting if there is something you wish to have discussed.

Social Event – DINNER

A date for your diary

PLACE: **The Red Lion, Culworth** Time: **7.30 p.m.**
DATE: **17 SEPTEMBER 2011**

It has been two years since our last social and we are planning a dinner in September and would be pleased to see fellow members and friends of the Twinning Association at this event.

Jumelage in Ermont

PLACE: **Ermont**
DATE: **FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER TO Sunday 3 October 2011**
Event: We've been invited to our twin town of Ermont for their Jummelage celebrations. Please see the enclosed leaflet for all the details.

Invite to Hennef with the Banbury Operatic Society

PLACE: **Hennef**
DATE: **THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER 2011**
The Banbury Operatic Society is taking **Iolanthe** to Hennef in October and we have also been invited to send a small group to celebrate 30 years of Twinning with Banbury. If you are interested in going, either on the coach with the operatic society or making your own travelling arrangements, please contact either Lloyd Taylor (e-mail lloydtaylor2001@yahoo.co.uk tel: 01295 252766), or Catherine Jenkinson (e-mail: c_m@jenkinson3.plus.com tel: 012985 750997

Remembrance Sunday

PLACE: **Banbury**
DATE: **Sunday 13 November 2011**
Event: Guests from Hennef have been invited to join us for the Annual Service of Remembrance.

SUCCESS

Annual inter-town golf match 2nd to 5th June

It was our turn to host the annual golf match between Ermont and Banbury

Our guests from Ermont arrived Thursday evening and were welcomed at the Town Hall by their hosts, both long standing and some new acquaintances. The welcome reception was hosted by the current Town Mayor, Councillor Alistair Milne-Home.

This year our match was held at Kirtlington golf club. We met early on a sunny Friday morning for an 8.30 tee-off time from both the 1st and 10th tees. There were 44 golfers, of which 28 were men and 16 ladies. The course was in excellent condition, with some tricky greens.

After playing we were reunited with the non-golfers (who had visited Waterperry Gardens) for a two course lunch in the Clubhouse. The remainder of the day was spent with the hosts, many of whom met up in the evening to socialise either at restaurants or at various homes

Saturday was a "free" day with some hosts taking their guests out and about to Oxford, the Cotswolds and several were seen at the Medieval enactment at Broughton Castle, whilst the more energetic played golf.

The prize giving dinner was held at Middleton Cheney Village Hall, catering being provided by Carol from The New Inn. 1st men's prize – Tim Jeremy, Banbury; 2nd men's prize – Pierre Cordelais, Ermont; 3rd men's prize – John Donaldson, Banbury. 1st ladies prize – Claudine Vaquier; 2nd ladies prize – Christianne Pouch; 3rd ladies prize - Betty Andre, all from Ermont. Longest drive: men – Malcolm Nutt, Banbury; ladies- Margaret English, Banbury. Nearest the pin: men – David Goodwin, Banbury; ladies – Christiane Soares, Ermont.

This year we managed to win the overall competition so the challenge cup will stay in Banbury for the forthcoming year.

The prize giving was followed by some enthusiastic and amusing country dancing, Sue and Bob Blair did a great job of trying to teach us.

After an early breakfast we all met up on Sunday morning at Banbury Cross to say farewell to our guests and for the traditional singing of Auld Lang Syne before our visitors departed for Ermont.

Once again it was a very enjoyable visit and judging by the amount of chatter everybody had a good time, and we look forward to the return match in Ermont next year.

I cannot stress enough the enjoyment that we have and would encourage both golfers and non-golfers to join us for the return match.

Fetes des Jumelages - Ermont

Many of you will remember attending this six yearly event in the past, and will know what a fantastic job our friends in Ermont do when throwing a party. **Well it is that time again !**

All six towns with which Ermont is twinned are invited to join in the spectacular Fêtes des Vendanges, a grand célébration of the first grape pressing traditional in the ancient wine growing region around Ermont.

The centrepiece of the weekend is a grand evening parade through the town culminating in a firework display as only the French can do.

The hospitality will be generous as ever, and Ermont's proximity to Paris, Versailles, Auvers sur Oise and Chantilly, means that guests are assured of some interesting visits with their host families.

Please find the programme for the weekend attached. There are places for 10 to 20 people, so please contact Verna Wass verna.wass@btinternet.com or 01295 758222 **asap** if you are interested in coming.

30th September/1st & 2nd October 2011

Friday 30 September

Travel out arriving at Ermont Hôtel de Ville around **5pm** to meet hosts.

7.30pm Théâtre Pierre Fresnay Official Reception with buffet supper and dancing.

Saturday 1st October

Morning free with host families.

Lunch with host families.

Afternoon free with host families **or** optional exhibitions and public discussions on topical european issues.

Evening from **7pm** grape pressing in the Place Anita Conti, music and dance entertainment, followed by the procession through Ermont culminating in a firework display at Pierre Fresnay Theatre.

Dinner with host families.

Sunday 2nd October

Optional Church service at **11am**

Grand BBQ (and I mean Grand) lunch at the Gaston Rebuffat sports centre **12.30pm**

Depart for return home **3pm**