



COOKHAM TWINNING NEWSLETTER

June 2013

Letter from the Chairman

Plans are now being made for our biennial trip to France, which is taking place from Saturday 26th October to Tuesday 29th October. We have done this so that it fits in with half term and hope that families will take the opportunity of visiting our French twin in St Benoit. We do hope that as many people as possible will come. We shall be holding a pre visit get together at 12.00pm at the King's Arms in Cookham High Street on Saturday 21 September, so people can meet up.

In this Newsletter we have also done some reminiscences of the various activities that have happened since we were twinned in 1995.

PLANNED PROGRAMME FOR FRENCH VISIT

Saturday 26 October 2013

Around 6pm. Welcome from our hosts at the Mairie over a drink.

Sunday 27 October 2013

Morning—Visit to castle at Chenonceau

Lunch at a restaurant in Amboise on the banks of the Loire

Afternoon — Visit to the Clos Lucé home of Leonardo da Vinci

Monday 28 October 2013

Morning—Visit to the Futuroscope, Park of the moving image

Tuesday 29 October 2013

Morning—Return to Cookham

NB If you do not wish to be involved on all the activities that is no problem

For those who have not been to St Benoit before you can travel by car, train via Lille or Paris or plane to Poitiers.



BY TRAIN - Eurostar to Lille and then change for Poitiers, of course you may prefer to go to Paris and take the opportunity of stopping off there. The disadvantage with Paris is that Eurostar arrives at the Gare du Nord and the train to Poitiers is from Montparnasse Station. So you need to get across Paris.



BY CAR - You can go on the Dover to Calais boat crossing, take Eurotunnel or go Portsmouth to Caen, depending how much you like the sea. St Benoit is about three miles from Poitiers and can be reached via motorway virtually all the way. Poitiers is around fifty miles south of the Loire and is in the Vienne region of France



BY PLANE - You can fly to Paris, Charles de Gaulle airport and take a train to Poitiers or alternatively you can fly direct to Poitiers from Stansted. The only problem is that the planes go on Friday and not Saturday and return Wednesday. The carrier is RyanAir.France.

In St Benoit everything is paid for although you may wish to take a small present for your host. People usually try and choose something very English such as biscuits made by Prince Charles! All transport is also organised as they own two coaches.

If you know anyone who would like to join in with Twinning activities and would like to visit France or would even like to join the Committee they would be very welcome. The more the merrier. Twinning is for everyone and is a great opportunity for children and young people to get to know how the French really live.

If want to find out more call Liz on 01628 525130 or e-mail liz@cookham.com.

TWINNING GET TOGETHER

On 21 September 2013 at 12.00pm there will be a Twinning get-together at the King's Arms in the High Street, Cookham Village. so people can get to know each other before our trip to France. Even if you are not going to France you are very welcome to join in.

COOKHAM TWINNING 1995-2013



1995 Cookham twins with St Benoit France

1996 St Benoit and Cookham compete in the Cookham Regatta

1997 Musical visit to St Benoit with Cookham musicians and singers

1998 Fifty children from St Benoit ages 10-11 visit Cookham and join in classes in the Cookham Primary schools.

1998 a Qunitet from St Benoit have a concert at St John the Baptist during the Flower Festival and make a CD of the concert



1999 Cookham Under 16 Football Team visit St Benoit. The French won!

2000—Cookham Youth Club visit St Benoit and take part in archery, white water rafting and abseiling. The French won again, perhaps we should have practised beforehand.

2001 French teenagers visit Cookham for a sports challenge including hand ball at the Maidenhead Leisure Centre.

2001 St Benoit Junior Tennis Club visit Cookham and compete in the Cookham Dean Tennis Tournament



2001 A visit to Green Venice (Verte Venice) at Coulon. A water fight in flat bottomed barges.



2002 Halloween Party with the French



2004 The French play Silly Games at the Jolly Farmer



2005 A visit to the Replica of the Hermione at Rochefort



2006 Lunch at Harleyfood Gold Club with the French followed by shooting at Marlow Rifle Club.



2008 Cookham Twinning's International Evening at the Pinder Hall with performances from the French and the English. Also Rolf Harris played his didgeridoo.



2009 Timmy Mallett organises an Art Exhibition in St Benoit



2010 Halloween and Beer and Skittles at the Stag and Hounds at Pinkneys Green.



2011 Genevieve Usher from Cookham organises a concert for the French in the church at St Benoit



2012 Country Dancing at the Cookham Dean Village Club after a Treasure Hunt around the Chilterns in the afternoon