



COOKHAM TWINNING NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014/15

French Visitors had a great trip

Our friends from St Benoit enjoyed a great visit to Cookham in October.

Their two village minibuses arrived two hours early due to the lighter than expected traffic, so there was opportunity to renew some previous friendships as the Cookham hosts gradually arrived.

On Sunday, we all explored Cookham together, with a tour of Stanley Spencer locations in the afternoon. The evening dinner was at Winter Hill Golf Club, where the Chairman of Cookham Parish Council, Fiona Hewer, presented Queen's Jubilee mugs to the visitors.

Monday morning was sunny and warm, and we had a walk along the riverside at Windsor before moving on to the Guildhall. We watched the changing of the guard, before listening to an informative talk about the Guildhall, and the various monarchs whose portraits hang on the walls. The French visitors were interested to know that the English had beheaded one of their monarchs before the French managed this. The Mayor of Windsor and Maidenhead, Richard Kellaway, put on full ceremonial dress to welcome everyone.



Mayor meets Vice-Mayor



Dressed to impress

The final event at the Cricket Club on Monday evening included petanque, a jazz quartet and Indian food, a real cultural combination. The St Benoit petanque skills seemed generally to be of a higher level than those of their Cookham hosts!

On Tuesday morning it was time for farewells, and the visitors set off in their minibuses for the drive back to St Benoit.

On behalf of the French visitors, the Vice-Mayor of St Benoit, Mr Bernard Peterlongo said, 'We thank our Cookham hosts for an excellent week-end and look forward to returning the hospitality in France at the same time next year'.

Thanks are due to all those in Cookham who hosted visitors or who assisted the visit in any way.



Serious Petanque at the Cricket Club



Ready to roll

Social Gathering. Anyone interested in Twinning , the 2015 visit to St Benoit, or with any mementos of the 2014 visit to Cookham will be warmly welcomed at a lunchtime get-together at the Jolly Farmer, Cookham Dean from 12.30 on Saturday 17th January.

Twinning Request. A French girl of 12 years old from near St Benoit is looking for an English girl of about the same age for an exchange, first by mail and then for summer holiday visits. If you're interested, please contact keith_le_page@hotmail.com.

French Classes. Pat Cairney holds intermediate French classes for those wishing to improve their language skills. Classes are usually held monthly on a Tuesday evening, cost £3 per session, including light refreshments. Contact Penny Bysshe (penny@school-guidance.co.uk) to go on the mailing list for future dates.

Twinning contacts: twinning@cookham.com or phone 01628 532279