



## **Autumn Newsletter 2022 (no 63)**

### **Message from the Chairman**

Dear Twinning Friends,

It is a pleasure to be able to introduce our latest Newsletter. Covid disrupted our planned events significantly, resulting in the production of bulletins rather than our usual newsletters.

It has been my privilege to be your Chair from last October, when the former chair, Cllr Clive Woodbridge resigned in preparation for his mayoral year. The Committee expressed their appreciation to Clive for his decade of service.

The main event in the last year was the visit of the French Association in July of this year to coincide with the Jubilee weekend.

The visit was to celebrate the delayed 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Twinning charter between Epsom and Chantilly.

My sincere thanks are due to the Committee and the hosts who all worked extremely hard to make the visit so successful.

Your committee is working hard on next year's programme of events and it is hoped that these will be announced early in 2023. Some exciting prospects are under active consideration.

By popular demand, we will be holding another Quiz night on 25 November. Since numbers are limited, early reservation is recommended.

Finally, our long serving Treasurer, Brian Vandervilt, a founder member, retired at this year's AGM. We are fortunate in the appointment of Mrs Donna Williams to replace Brian whom we wish to thank for his service for more than 25 years.

Thank you for your support, with my Best Wishes for 2023.

Cllr Nigel Collin, Chairman

## **COMING UP SOON**

### **Twinning Quiz night – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

This will be held at the Epsom Club. Numbers will be limited as the Club has space restrictions, but on the positive side the food will be provided by Anita the in-house chef, so it will be scrumptious!

... to book your place or for more info, please contact [donna@epsomtwinning.com](mailto:donna@epsomtwinning.com) or phone her mobile no. 07708 268797.

## Chantilly Christmas Market – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December



We will be back at the Chantilly Christmas Market for the first time since 2019 with a strong team from Epsom. We will be talking about our town and trying to persuade Chantilly residents to come and visit. We will have information about Epsom plus a list of key events here which may be of interest to them. Sadly we won't be taking Christmas puddings and mince pies this year, due to Brexit complications, though we are lucky to have some excellent cards by Caroline Baldock, and beer from Neil Dallen in place, with a lucky dip for the children. To join us contact [anne@epsomtwinning.com](mailto:anne@epsomtwinning.com) or contact: Diana Deavin at [diana.deavin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:diana.deavin@yahoo.co.uk)

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER

#### Visit of Chantilly Twinning Group to Epsom – 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

A large group from the Twinning Association in Chantilly including the Deputy Mayor came to visit Epsom and Ewell during Jubilee weekend to celebrate 25 years of Twinning.

They arrived on Saturday afternoon and were met by the Chair and Vice-Chair of Epsom Twinning and taken to the Epsom Club where they met their house hosts. There was a welcome drink for all, they watched the Derby on television, and then everyone enjoyed dinner together.



On Sunday morning some went to Judo at Horton Country Park.

The main Stables the old



party went on the coach tour, first to the and then to the Durdans riding centre in Riding School.



They walked up to the graves of horses in the grounds of the Durdans with Caroline Baldock, thence to the “Inn on the Green” in Tadworth for a sandwich lunch.

The group then met Cllr Clive Woodbridge, the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell in Rosebery Park, and celebrated the planting of an oak tree by the Chantilly Deputy Mayor and Epsom Mayor to cement our friendship.



The group then walked to Epsom Marketplace to look at the brass roundels commemorating Derby winners, one of the French horse "Sea Bird" ridden by Pat Glennon, winner of the Derby in 1965.

The group then re-joined the coach for the visit to Horton Chapel.



There was an evening barbeque for all visitors and guests back at the Epsom Club including a presentation of gifts.

Hosts took their Chantilly guests to the station on Monday morning for the journey home.

### Bastille Day Garden Party – 14th July 2022

It was a great pleasure to see so many at the Bastille Day celebrations at Ros and Richard's house. Many thanks are due to our hosts who made us feel very much at home, and plied us with drink and tasty food. Thanks also to everyone who came, who brought a contribution of food and drink, and for Peter Prowse who entertained us with many French songs. **Vive La France!**



## OTHER RECENT EVENTS

### Members' Dinner – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Over 30 members enjoyed a Members' dinner held at the Grumpy Mole in Chalk Lane on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Anne had circulated the menus so members were able to order beforehand. It was a great success, Nigel said a few words of welcome, and we all enjoyed getting together again. The meal and the service were excellent, and our sincere thanks to Anne for organising the evening for us. It was a wonderful occasion, full of laughter, and we look forward to the next one!

### Deuxième Fête de la Soupe in Chantilly – Saturday 8th October



This was a wonderful Saturday, where the people of Chantilly could taste many soups celebrating the cuisine of their twin towns and cooked by local restaurants. One favourite was Guinness, Potato and Cheddar cooked by le Paddock. Others included Cauliflower, Endive, Squash and Miso! We send many thanks for the warm welcome from the Twinning Association of Chantilly extended to Clive and Anne Richardson to this event.

### Members' Coffee Morning – Wednesday 21st September

A group of Twinning members met on the morning of Wednesday 21st September at All Things Nice Cafe in Ewell Village for coffee and cake. This was much enjoyed, especially by those members who are reluctant to go out in the evenings.

### Twinning Association Annual General Meeting 2022

The Association's AGM was held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 at Epsom Town Hall. The Mayor, Cllr Clive Woodbridge, paid tribute to the former Honorary Vice President, Councillor Clive Smitheram, who had sadly died during the year and who had been a Founder Member of the Twinning Association. Twinning had been important to Clive who had been a staunch supporter since the inaugural meetings.

The Committee were very sorry to lose Brian Vandervilt who had resigned. He had been Treasurer since the beginning over 27 years, and the committee Chair Nigel Collin will present him with a leaving gift. We were happy to welcome Donna Williams to the Committee as our new Treasurer.

The Mayor said it was encouraging that we were able to meet for the AGM again in the Town Hall, after the restrictions of the COVID pandemic. Despite these restrictions it had been a very successful year for the Association, culminating in a visit from a delegation from Chantilly on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June to coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate two milestones, 25 years of Twinning and the Queen's Jubilee.

It had also been a very beneficial year for many other Associations in the town, and the Twinning Association has played a positive role in promoting links with similar organisations in Chantilly. The Mayor concluded by expressing thanks to the Chairman and all the committee for their work during the year.

## French Public-Speaking Competitions for Schools 2022

Junior and Intermediate Classes were held Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at Blenheim High School



The winners were Annabelle Du Plessis (Blenheim) and Emma Wright (Epsom College) for Junior and Intermediate respectively. Certificates and prizes were presented by the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell Cllr Peter O'Donovan. Thanks due to Epsom and Ewell Town-Twinning, Rotary Club of Epsom, and Blenheim High School.

and the Senior French-speaking Competition was held on 8<sup>th</sup> March at Epsom College.

Matilda Serre-Simpson from Rosebery and Ellie Jordan from Epsom College were the joint winners and Rania Ismail from Rosebery School was highly commended. The Mayor of Epsom and Ewell Cllr Peter O'Donovan was present with the Mayoress, and gave a speech praising the skills of all six contestants. Christine Rippon, Catherine Legouas, and Diana Deavin were excellent Judges. Hard work from Richard Deavin and Diana Deavin in conjunction with teachers from the schools ensured that the events were well organised and a great success.



## NEWS FROM CHANTILLY

Marie-Claude of the Comité de Jumelage de Chantilly reports:

*Following a successful day at a Forum des Associations held in Chantilly on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, the following organisations are seeking or following up on links with clubs in Epsom and Ewell :*

- American Football club : les Fox de Chantilly feel very motivated and gave us all their contacts if you can find a counterpart in Epsom or nearby.
- Fencing : Dominique Pelt said a few emails had been exchanged, A visit could be possible during the holidays but I don't think they discussed the dates. He suggested to ask for lodgings at the dormitory of the horse-riding school AFASEC.
- Chantilly Tennis Club : the new president is Luc Lallier (elected early this month) and the deputy secretary Laurent Artigas whom I had met a few years ago about the Scouts. Laurent has replied this morning that they are going to send an email to the club in Epsom. He hopes the exchange with Epsom will be able to fit in the Club's busy schedule but they seem ready to give it a try.
- Karate shotokan : Sylvain sends you his warmest thanks and greatly enjoyed last June's experience. The club would be eager to welcome Colin Parker and karateka when a delegation from Epsom comes to visit Chantilly - to consider on the occasion of a Christmas market or the Mayoral visit?
- I didn't meet Daniel Grozdanic from the Vintage automobile club, but I know he hasn't recruited a new volunteer secretary yet. Maybe reaching another member of the automobile club via Rotary could offer an opening.

- As for Collège des Bourgognes, Julie Jacquelin the teacher of English in charge of the new European class wrote that she contacted Luke Baker at Epsom College in June and is planning to send him a possible schedule of activities next week.

*Last but not least : excellent news concerning the Epsom Colts Football Club. Nicola Brown replied very positively to our offer. My colleague Arnaud, PE teacher, would like to organise a trip to Epsom and London at the end of May provided that we can find enough funding. We are currently asking for quotations from transport companies and I agreed to deal with Youth Hostels. We remain well aware that travel costs have increased a lot but we try. His team of 16 girls would meet their counterparts playing a few matches and share fun moments. We would also spend some time in London. In the meantime, we are going to set up a pen-pal exchange by email so that they get to know each other.*

*Amicalement  
Marie-Claude*

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Epsom Rotary / Twinning Association French Public-Speaking Competitions for Schools 2023

The dates and venues for the next round of this competition are now fixed: **Save the dates!**  
**Junior and Intermediate Classes to be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at Blenheim High School**  
**Senior French-speaking Competition to be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Epsom College.**



Rotary Club of  
**Epsom**

## STOP PRESS!

### **French Conversation at Bourne Hall Library**

In 2019 I met Ana, a charming French lady who works at Epsom Library. She told me that she hoped to establish French conversation meetings in the Library. Sadly the Covid pandemic intervened and the conversation group has only recently started.

The group meets monthly at Bourne Hall Library, Ewell, for one hour from 2:30, to speak French. Although the actual day differs it has generally been the first Tuesday or Wednesday of each month. It is a very informal group, for example no complicated grammar, there is no homework, and currently no preparation before the meetings. Those with less confidence are encouraged to speak and we all improve our French from listening.

The sessions are led by a Library Volunteer, Allyson Jones, who speaks excellent French. It is a very relaxing, informal way to spend an afternoon.

To join the group all participants have to be registered, booking through [Ana.Chareyre@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Ana.Chareyre@surreycc.gov.uk)

Alternatively call into Epsom Library and ask for Ana who will register you.

Peter Hardy

## Our Twinning Facebook Page

Are you on Facebook? Did you know that Epsom and Ewell Town-Twinning Association has a Facebook page? To find it type into the Facebook search bar “Epsom and Ewell Twinning” and then select and click on the Association from the drop-down list.

This link will take you through to our page, and from there if you want the page to automatically pop up on your Facebook page you can just click follow (just under the picture at the top of the page). This means you will be informed about the Association’s activities and events as they are published online.

If you want you can also contact us by sending a message through that page. If you haven’t already signed up please do so, and I’m sure you will find it a useful source of information.

Martin Lewis

<b>Calendar of Future Events</b>	
<b>2022</b>	
Tuesday 18th October 7.00pm	Epsom and Ewell French Club, Bourne Hall contact Colette <a href="mailto:coletteburch@yahoo.com">coletteburch@yahoo.com</a>
Tuesday 8th November 7:30pm	Soirée française at Anne’s contact Anne <a href="mailto:anne@epsomtwinning.co">anne@epsomtwinning.co</a>
Friday 25 November	Quiz night at the Epsom Club contact Donna <a href="mailto:donna@epsomtwinning.com">donna@epsomtwinning.com</a>
Friday 9 to Sunday 11 December	Christmas Market in Chantilly
<b>2023</b>	
Tuesday 21 February	Junior /Intermediate Schools French-speaking competition at Blenheim High School
Tuesday 7 March	Senior Schools French-speaking competition at Epsom College

### Twinning Committee for 2022/23

Cllr Nigel Collin – Chairman  
Mrs Diana Deavin – Vice-Chair/Liaison Officer  
Mrs Donna Williams - Treasurer  
Mrs Anne Richardson – Membership Secretary  
Mr Peter Hardy – Minutes Secretary  
Mrs Margaret Nightingale – Newsletter Editor  
Mr Martin Lewis  
Mrs Barbara Lewis  
Cllr Neil Dallen  
Cllr Barry Nash  
Mrs Christine Rippon  
Mrs Caroline Baldock  
Cllr Clive Woodbridge

### Representatives of Local Groups supporting Twinning

Mr Richard Deavin – Epsom Rotary  
Ms Janee Foxon – Sponsalia Chamber Choir  
Mr Brian Hill – Barisons Chamber Choir  
Mrs Jill Preiss – Epsom Choral Society  
Mr Paul Walker – Epsom Male Voice Choir