

# Lymington & District International Twinning Association Bulletin – January 2012



*Mosbach trip – outing at Veitshöchheim*

## From the Chairman

Dear LITA members

Greetings and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year with lots of successful twinning exchanges, building on old friendships and making new friends through LITA's activities in 2012.

At the start of a New Year it is traditional to look back over the previous one. It is appropriate for me to say 'thank you' for the excellent way in which Cheryl Blamey has chaired LITA, especially during our very successful 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. I have been very fortunate to take over chairmanship of such a thriving organisation and with such a hard-working and enthusiastic Committee, together with the many volunteers for the social activities that we have enjoyed interspersed between our twinning visits. The success of LITA is only as strong as the support of you, the members!

In 2012 we have invitations to visit Almansa (2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> May) and Vitre (25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May). We still expect to receive our Mosbach friends in late September/early October [details below in this *Bulletin*].

The Committee has been carefully assessing the costs for future visits and considering how we fund hosting and our other activities. Our partners enjoy generous funding from their respective towns whilst we have to raise our own income to meet transport, communal meals and other costs when our guests are here. Your

strong support of LITA's social activities provides a vital part of our funding, as well as being enjoyable, but cannot contribute much more to income. Nevertheless, all costs are rising. We could increase LITA's annual subscription, but your Committee judges this inappropriate presently, although something to be kept under review. An alternative is to increase the charge for trips to our twin towns. The Committee have agreed this is fairest and set the figure at £25 per person for the 2012 visits. In effect this is a 'reciprocal travel charge' ('rtc') – those who enjoy the benefit of the trip are supporting the cost for our guests when they come to Lymington. The costs for the forthcoming Almansa trip that were recently advised to members by Dilys Mackinnon included this charge.

The visit to Vitre in May raises specific challenges to cover the cost of the coach fairly since several members are travelling independently out to, or back from, Vitre. The ethos of LITA remains that we visit as a group and our programme is based on communal activities organised for us by our hosts. A charge of £65 will be made for all participants, which includes the £25 rtc plus £40 for outings organised by the Vitre hosts where we use our coach. There is an additional charge of £67.50 for those using the coach and ferry to travel to and from Lymington and Vitre. These figures are specific for the forthcoming Vitre visit and will be reviewed in future years.

LITA: affiliated with the Lymington Community Association  
Honorary President: Mayor Anna Rostand  
Chairman: Peter Richardson ([litachair@googlemail.com](mailto:litachair@googlemail.com))  
<http://lymingtontwinning.weebly.com>

Further details about the Vitre trip from Sheila Collyer appear elsewhere in this *Bulletin* and you will also find information about our social programme. Finally, I look forward to meeting and getting to know more of you this year.

Kind regards

**Peter Richardson** (*LITA Chairman*)

### **Mosbach – they’re coming ...**

You can still read the *excellent* report of our *excellent* visit to Mosbach at the LITA website:

(<http://lymingtontwinning.weebly.com/previous-mosbach-exchange-visits.html>).

There’s a good selection of *excellent* photos there too – scroll to the bottom of the webpage. The next LITA Newsletter will have other memories of the trip.

Dates are still to be set for the Mosbachers visit to us. It seems likely that they will come *sometime* between **Thursday 27th September** and **Monday 8th October**. So if you plan to host your friends or would like to host for the first time, please try to keep these dates free. (3 October ‘*Tag der Deutschen Einheit*’ - is German Unity Day and a national holiday). We will keep you informed once the dates are confirmed.

### **Almansa – we’re going ...**

As you know, we have been invited to visit

Almansa from 2 to 6 May this year. We still have a few places left, but seats on the Flybe Southampton flights to Alicante and back are now limited so, if you are interested, please contact Dilys MacKinnon as soon as

possible: [dilysmackinnon@talktalk.net](mailto:dilysmackinnon@talktalk.net)  
tel: 01590 671188.



### **Vitre Trip – we’re going ...**

The Vitre trip runs from 25<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> May. Full details, including the itinerary and booking form for the trip are attached to this *Bulletin* (separate file in the email).

### **Social New & forthcoming events**

(Contact [dianahastie@btinternet.com](mailto:dianahastie@btinternet.com) or 01590 622578 for details of these events)

#### **Social news**

Many thanks to our excellent chefs and helpers who made the *Hoedown Showdown Murder Mystery* in November such a successful evening. Everyone got into the spirit of the event, Cloak & Dagger gave us a super show and we made over £400 for funds.

This was swiftly followed by our Christmas Social with our Spanish visitors who all enjoyed themselves, pulling crackers, eating, drinking and some even dancing to the superb music provided by the trio Dr Finlay’s Bass Cooks.

### **Forthcoming events....**

**Wednesday 25th January. French cookery course at Brockenhurst College.** This event is full, but do contact Diana if you’d like to be on the waiting list.

**Saturday 25th February** is our popular **Fish & Chip Quiz**. It’s **7 for 7.30 pm** in the Robert Hole room at **Lymington Community Centre**. There will be a food selection of Fish & Chips, Chicken & Chips or a veggie option. Please bring your own drinks and glasses; cutlery will be provided. This is always an entertaining evening, so **book in early with Diana** *letting her know your food selection*. The cost is £8 for twinners, £10 for guests. Payment in advance is helpful: send cheques (payable to ‘LITA’) to Diana (5 Armstrong Close, Brockenhurst, SO42 7SZ). We’re very grateful to Sheila Ward who will be reprising her quiz-mistress role.

**Saturday 24th March. Finger buffet reception to view Artwork from our three twin towns.** This is followed by a concert from **ladyZING!** A three-part ladies choir which was formed in March 2010 by Tara Roberts, a professional singing teacher, choir conductor and LITA member. **ladyZING!** perform a wide repertoire of entertaining songs from musicals, to pop, to classics, from old to new and from serious to not-so-serious. All this for £10 at **Lymington Community Centre: 6.30 for 7 p.m.** *Complete attached flyer to reserve your seats.*

And later ... don't forget our evening for **Lymington Players** production of James Roos-Evans’ play **84 Charing Cross Road** and the post-show party on **Monday 23rd April**.

### **Conversation groups - next dates**

*Come along to practise and improve your conversational language skills*



**French Conversation** at Le Blaireau, Brockenhurst (Contact [dianahastie@btinternet.com](mailto:dianahastie@btinternet.com) or 01590 622578 for details).

### **Spanish tertulia:**

(Contact Cheryl 01590 681746 [cblamey@lineone.net](mailto:cblamey@lineone.net) for details.)



**German** Stammtisch the third Tuesday every month at *The Mayflower* King’s Saltern Road, Lymington from 7.30pm. Contact Joan Wray (01590 682305) for details.



### **Membership Details**

If you’ve changed any contact details please be sure to keep me informed so that LITA records are up to date. Carolyn Miller (01590 645823 or [CarolynStBedes@aol.com](mailto:CarolynStBedes@aol.com))

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