

The LITA Newsletter



Lymington



Mosbach



Vitré



Almansa

Lymington & District International Twinning Association

Website: lymingtontwinning.weebly.com

Affiliated with Lymington Community Association

August 2019

Conversation Groups

What's where?

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Conversation groups | 1 |
| Chairman's Remarks | 2 |
| Social News & Events | 2 |
| Mosbach News | 3 |
| Vitré's 40 th Anniversary report | 3 |
| Vitré News | 4 |
| Almansa News | 5 |
| Who's Who on the Committee? | 6 |
| ... and more | |



French breakfasts (French conversation group) are held **on the first Friday of the month**. The next dates are: **6 September, 4 October, 1 November**. These take place

at **Le Blaireau** in Brockenhurst from 10.30am for those who wish to practise their French conversation in a suitably French atmosphere. Coffee & croissant £4. For details, contact **Diana** (dianahastie@btinternet.com or 01590-622578)

Stammtisch meetings (German conversation group) are generally on the **third Tuesday** of the month at **The Mayflower**, King's Saltern Road, Lymington from 7.30pm: The next

Stammtisch dates are: **17 September, 15 October, 19 November**: For details, contact **Dave Miller** (01590-645823 or DMille9226@aol.com)



Tertulia (Spanish Conversation group) takes place on the **fourth Wednesday** of the month.

Anyone wishing to practise will be welcome at 2.30 pm at **The Fisherman's Rest**, All Saints Road, Lymington SO41 8FD. The next dates are: **28th August, 25 September 23**

October, 27 November. Would regulars and new faces please let **Delia** (Delia.ponter@gmail.com) know if they plan to attend.



Forthcoming Events:

LITA Diary Dates

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Skittles and Fish&Chips | 27 th Sept 2019 |
| Trip to Mosbach | 29 th Aug to 2 nd Sept 2019 |
| Winter Festive Dinner | 6 th Dec 2019 |
| Trip to Vitré | near 10 th May 2020 <i>tbc</i> |
| Visit from Almansa | near 28 th May 2020 <i>tbc</i> |

Details on later pages

From the Chairman

Well there is so much to say since our last *Newsletter* in December last year that I'll try to keep it brief. We started the year with a lunch at **Brockenhurst College** where we took over the whole restaurant, in May we had a wine tasting hosted by **Majestic Wines** and at the end of May our friends from **Vitré** came to visit. In July a small delegation of LITA members went to Vitré to help them celebrate their fortieth anniversary of twinning (report below p5). At the end of August, a large group will



be visiting **Mosbach** (details below p3). An ever popular **skittles evening** has been arranged for September (see right). And once again we will be invading the **South Lawns Hotel in Milford** for our Christmas dinner (6th December). And there goes another year!!



While we still face much uncertainty and worry over Brexit there is no doubt that our relationships with France, Germany and Spain remain as strong as ever.

We have several new members this year to whom I give a warm welcome and look forward to meeting you. Our publicity drive is certainly working and I would urge all members to keep spreading the word.

My heartfelt thanks go to the LITA Committee, all the Vice-Chairs and the Social Committee without whose invaluable support and hard work none of this would be possible.

Vanessa Ainsworth LITA Chairman

Social News

The Social Events Team comprises:
**Jean Paddy, Christine Gillett,
Ann Hacking & Val Brace.**

We hope to see lots of you at our events, to meet friends and to raise much-needed funds for LITA.

For details of social events and bookings, please contact:

Jean Paddy

01590 672164 or paddy@starpad.plus.com
(unless listed otherwise)

Wine tasting report

On the 17th May in the Robert Hole Room, Lymington Community Centre. We had a very successful evening with forty attendees. Majestic Wines took us through six pairs of wine for tasting and then gave us descriptions of the wine and we

had to choose the correct description. It was good fun and everyone enjoyed the event. Orders were placed. Members also enjoyed a Ploughman's supper and more wine!

Photo Jean Paddy



Wine tasting ... under instruction

LITA's forthcoming social events ...

Skittles Evening - 27 September from 7.15pm

Skittles with a Fish & Chip Supper



'Due to popular demand' we have another Skittles evening at Pennington Sport's & Social Club, Lodge Road, Pennington SO41 8HH. Members have received details to book and chose their food, or else contact **Jean Paddy** (01590 672164 or paddy@starpad.plus.com)

Winter Festive Dinner

**South Lawns Hotel in Milford
6th December - save the date.**

More details out to members soon



Mosbach News

Shirley Hewitt & Lesley Willstead
Vice-Chairs Mosbach

Next Trip to Mosbach
29th Aug - 2nd September 2019

When many of you are first reading this Newsletter, the Mosbach group will be *unter wegs* or already in Mosbach. We can look forward to another fascinating visit. On our programme will be a visit to the BUGA (*Bundesgartenschau* - National Garden Show) in the lovely city of Heilbronn.

Shirley H & Lesley W
Vice-Chairs Mosbach



Judy Uren, Jackie Mann
& Lesley Pappini
Vice-Chairs for Vitré

Vitré News

Vitré 40th anniversary of Twinning

Report by **Ness Ainsworth**

Vitré celebrated the 40th anniversary of its earliest Town Twinning links. A small group from the Committee and membership attended (at their own expense) to represent LITA.

Their first twinned town was Helmstedt in Germany 40 years ago and the second was Lymington, 38 years ago. Vitré run a very full twinning programme with no less than eight participating countries. All their twinned countries were represented: as well as Germany and us there were Twin Town representatives from Spain, Canada, the USA, Romania, Poland and even Mali.

Celebrations started on the Friday evening with a welcome from the Mayor and speeches from all eight countries. The weather was amazing and comfortable seating was provided in the beautiful setting of the courtyard in the town chateau (that houses the *Mairie* or Town Hall). Apéros followed



Vitré's eight Twin Towns

then we all repaired to our hosts to carry on wining and dining into the hot summer night.

The Saturday morning saw us taking a stall in the Vitré market to showcase our idea of Lymington and England – it caused a lot of interest and much cheese and cake was consumed, thanks to our Social Committee!



Saturday evening was the highlight of the visit. Around 450 of us congregated *au parc expo* for a wonderful dinner – more speeches of course – and entertainment, fireworks and dancing. Vitré must be deservedly proud of themselves.



The whole weekend was punctuated with singing, dancing and music and it was rounded off with a visit to Mont St Michel which, although known to many of us, is always awe inspiring.

Thank you Vitré and see you soon!



Outing to Mont St Michel

(Photos Ness Ainsworth)

Vitré visit to Lyminster: May 30th-June 2nd

The Vitré visit this time provided a difficult challenge to find hosts. The French originally wanted to fill the coach with 57 visitors. We



explained that we would not be able to accommodate that number of visitors and we compromised on 53. We still had problems with some hosts unfortunately unable to go ahead due to medical and care problems so we were very grateful to the members who stepped in at short notice, with some taking on additional visitors. Our guests arrived on a Thursday afternoon to spend an evening with their hosts before setting off the next day for a day out in Oxford. This was a 'repeat' of the highly successful visit with the Mosbachers last year and the Vitréans were keen for this outing.

We had successful day with a city tour and visit to Christ Church College and Cathedral. The groups enjoyed the presentations by French-speaking guides. We had found an excellent private members club (Vincent's Bar, whose most famous member was Sir Roger Bannister), where we could all relax, eat our picnic lunches together and enjoy an hour's free time.

Saturday was spent with hosts. We held an evening do at Boldre Memorial Hall -always an successful venue. Excellent food provided by Sarah Richardson and her team and great fun was had dancing to Murphy's Lore.



(Photos John Clandillon)

All in all a successful trip and we were sorry to see our friends leave.

Anne Rupin, whom many of you will know, has now stepped down after many successful and busy years as a principal organiser in Vitré and Valérie Souvestre has taken on this role. Our thanks to you, Anne, for all you have done to make our exchanges always so successful.

Judy Uren, Jackie Mann & Lesley Pappini
Vitré Vice-Chairs

Next Vitré trip

The French have invited us for our **trip to Vitré** again next year with likely dates near **10th May 2020**

The Vitré group and LITA team at Christ Church College



Photo Jackie Mann

The French Conversation group at a recent session at Le Blaireau, Brockenhurst



Almansa News

*Dilys MacKinnon-Rich
Vice-Chair, Almansa*

As you know, we only have exchange visits with Almansa every two years, so this year has been very quiet. However, there will be a visit from them **the last weekend in May 2020**. We are waiting for confirmation of exact dates, but they will *probably* arrive on the **28th or 29th May** and leave on the **31st May or the 1st June**. As soon as we have more details on numbers we will let you know and hope that as many of you as possible will be able to host and/or take part in the programme for the weekend.

Dilys

dilysmackinnonrich@gmail.com



Keep up to date via LITA's website

New information, booking forms *etc.* are often available *first* on the website - check it.

lymingtonwinning.weebly.com

Website content can be suggested via:

Dave Miller, LITA webmaster at:

litatwin@gmail.com

LITA events & payments



Please make our lives simpler by paying in advance, wherever possible, **by cheque** payable to 'LITA' - **or, when offered, by bank transfer**

Merci, Danke, Gracias!



Membership

Our membership numbers are well sustained, currently standing at just over 100. Do encourage friends whom you think might enjoy LITA membership. There are leaflets available at both Lymington and at Milford Community Centres, St Barbe's Museum, as well as via the website (lymingtonwinning.weebly.com)

Who's Who on LITA's Committee?



Chairman: **Vanessa Ainsworth**
litachair@gmail.com
or... johnandness@icloud.com

Deputy Chairperson: **Vacant**

Hon Secretary & Membership Secretary: Simon Hacking
oakenbrow@uwclub.net or 01590 683218

Hon Treasurer: Mike Gillett
mikegillett2@btinternet.com or 01590 610788

Vice-Chairs, Vitré:

Judy Uren judyuren@hotmail.com
Lesley Pappini yelsel33@hotmail.co.uk
& Jackie Mann lajacqui@yahoo.com

Vice-Chairs, Mosbach:

Lesley Willstead rwillstead@aol.com
Shirley Hewitt s.hewitt52@btinternet.com

Vice-Chair, Almansa:

Dilys MacKinnon-Rich
dilysmackinnonrich@gmail.com

Social Committee:

Jean Paddy paddy@starpad.plus.com
Christine Gillett, Ann Hacking & Val Brace

Newsletter Editor, Publicity:

Dave Miller dmille9226@aol.com

Website Editor:

Dave Miller litatwin@gmail.com

Lymington Town Council Representative

Clr Andrew Sutherland
legalese8@hotmail.co.uk

A description of Committee members' roles and other details of the Committee's work were included in the Newsletter for June 2012 – still available to download from the LITA website (as are all previous Newsletters)

Feedback about the Newsletter and suggested news items or photos from members always welcome:

(Excuse any remaining typos – I'm packing for Mosbach! Ed)

Dave Miller at dmille9226@aol.com

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