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# The LITA Newsletter



Lymington



Mosbach



Vitré



Almansa

Lymington & District International Twinning Association

Website: [lymingtontwinning.weebly.com](http://lymingtontwinning.weebly.com)

Affiliated with Lymington Community Association

February 2014

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## LITA Diary Dates

**Visit from:** Mosbach 28 May-1 Jun 2014

**Trip to:** Vitré 11-15 Jul 2014

**Trip to:** Almansa 28-1 Sept 2014

## Forthcoming Social events:

**Fish & Chip Quiz** Saturday 1 March

**Brockenhurst College Lunch**  
Thursday 3 April

**Lymington Players & Party**  
Monday 28 April

**Summer Social** Sunday 10 August

See inside for details

## Conversation Groups



**French breakfasts** are held **on the first Friday of the month**. The next dates are: ... **7<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7<sup>th</sup> Mar, 4<sup>th</sup> Apr & 2<sup>nd</sup> May**. 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 £3.75 For details, contact **Diana** ([dianahastie@btinternet.com](mailto:dianahastie@btinternet.com) or 01590-622578)

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

7.30pm: The next **Stammtisch** dates are: **18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 18<sup>th</sup> Mar, 15<sup>th</sup> Apr**. For details, contact **Joan Wray** (01590-682385 or [daysoutwithadifference@hotmail.com](mailto:daysoutwithadifference@hotmail.com))



**Tertulia** meetings (the Spanish conversation group). These now take place on the **second Thursday** of the month. The next dates are

**13<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 10<sup>th</sup> April**. Meetings are now held at **The White Hart**, 17 Milford Road, Lymington from 8pm for those who wish to practise their Spanish conversation.



For details, contact **Diana** ([dianahastie@btinternet.com](mailto:dianahastie@btinternet.com) or 01590-622578)

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## Chairman's Remarks

Writing this article with the wind howling and the rain lashing down outside makes me thankful that we have a mid-July trip to Vitré and an end-of-August trip to Almansa to look forward to. If you have reserved a place, I hope you also are looking forward to the trips. If you have not booked your place yet, more information is in this *Newsletter* and on the LITA website. We are hopeful that the wet weather will be a distant memory when we host guests from Mosbach at the end of May, but whatever the weather there are interesting programmes planned.

Interspersed with these Twin Town exchanges is a busy social programme; again full details are in this *Newsletter* and on the LITA website. Extending our cultural links, a Vitré choir will visit and perform with the Lymington Chorale Society over 9-11 May.

Since the last *Newsletter*, while visiting Vitré, I was able to hand over to Michel Godet a donation (part of the proceeds from showing the interesting and moving DVD *Jamais je ne t'oublierai*) for the Historical Association of St Christophe-des-Bois, near Vitré.

Reports (see right) of a very successful Christmas Party on 7<sup>th</sup> December are no exaggeration. I add my thanks to Diana Hastie and her team for great organisation of this major social and fundraising event.

My thanks to Jenny Barnes, Lesley Pappini and Shelagh Richardson for their contributions to decorate our "Strictly Friendship" tree at the Lymington Christmas Tree Festival. We covered our expenses while contributing to the overall fundraising for local charities and gaining some publicity in the community. I was pleased to attend the Lymington and Pennington Town Council meeting in December and accept a grant cheque for £250 towards hosting our Mosbach guests in May.

We are assisting the Town Council and St Barbe's Museum with translations to French, German and Spanish of the Lymington Trails and the St Barbe's information leaflets.

Regrettably, after nearly 5 years in the position, Carolyn Miller has decided to resign as Membership Secretary. On behalf of the membership, I sincerely thank Carolyn for the role she has diligently carried out since 2009. Simon Hacking has kindly agreed to take on the



task of Membership Secretary, in addition to remaining Honorary Secretary (also see P5).

Contributions and continued support to the activities of LITA from the membership and the Management Committee are much appreciated. I look forward to another busy year of social gatherings, including our **AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> June** and encourage you to participate whenever you can. Please look out for opportunities to publicise LITA, helping us to grow and to thrive.

Last, can you help find a photo of the 'lost' Almansa Twining Charter of 1993? (see page 5)

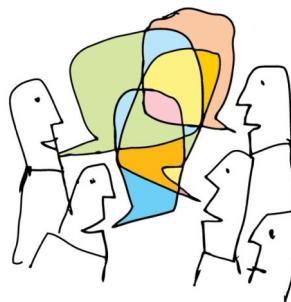
May 2014 be a year of strengthening friendships. With best wishes.

*Peter Richardson*  
**Chairman LITA**

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## LITA Social News

*From Diana Hastie*



We were well entertained at our Christmas party in December by **Ocean Harmony**, a barbershop chorus whose name inspired the 'boarding cards' on each table, with images of grand liners. After mingling over a glass or two of mulled wine, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal, crackers were pulled and glasses raised to get Christmas off to a good start. Ocean Harmony performed two sets and really made the evening swing. There were some good old Christmas favourites, great songs from the 50s and 60s, including a super 'Bye bye love' and a rousing 'Do you hear the people sing?' from 'Les Misérables'. There was even the chance for a bit of audience participation.



*Our Chairman with Ocean Harmony*

The songs were introduced by the compère Colin Hobbs. He gave some insight into the background of barbershop singing and the songs, as well as making everyone laugh. With many of our 'regulars' away, numbers were a little down, but we still made a good profit of £384. Our thanks go to all who came along and made it a good evening and especially of course to chefs, servers and helpers, too many to name, who all made the event run smoothly. (We managed to get an item in the A&T reporting this event. The Committee always tries to put our news out to the local community).



*Ocean Harmony - in fine voice*

We're looking forward now to our next event, our ever-popular Fish and Chip Quiz on **Saturday 1st March**. It's 7 for 7.30pm in the **Robert Hole Room, Lymington Community Centre**. There will be a selection on offer of Fish & Chips, Chicken & Chips or a Veggie option and fiendish questions from quiz-mistress Sheila Ward. Please bring your own drinks and glasses; cutlery will be provided. Cost is £8 for twinners, £10 for guests. This is always an entertaining evening, so book in early with Diana, letting her know your food selection. Payment in advance is helpful, so if attending conversation groups **pay Diana or Malcolm**, or pop a cheque in the post to: *Diana Hastie, 5 Armstrong Close, Brockenhurst SO42 7SZ*.

Knowing that LITA members do enjoy a meal at MJ's restaurant at Brockenhurst College, who were all booked up for this academic year, Diana requested a cancellation date and we were lucky enough to get **Thursday 3rd April**. The cost for a good three-course meal, followed by coffee and *petits fours* will be £17 for members (£18 for guests). This is always an enjoyable social occasion and places do fill up fast, so contact Diana if you'd like to reserve a place.

Keep **Monday 28th April** free for our Lymington Players evening, a performance of **'Allo, 'Allo** followed by our usual post-show finger buffet and drinks. Tickets are on sale now (£12 per person) and going well. Contact Diana to reserve your place.

**For details of social event and bookings, please contact: Diana Hastie, Social Secretary**  
*dianahastie@btinternet.com or 01590-622578*

**Paying for LITA events**



A polite reminder from the Social Secretary and the Treasurer – please make our lives simpler by paying in advance for social events and, wherever possible, **by cheque**.

*Merci, Danke, Gracias!*



**Almansa News**

**LITA Visit to Almansa — 28 August to 1 September**

When the Twinning link was set up with Almansa, 20 years ago, the Charter was signed in Lymington in 1993 and in Almansa in 1994. Having celebrated here last year, we have now been invited to Almansa to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing there. The visit will be during their 'fiesta barroca' (Baroque festival) and will, as usual, require a certain amount of stamina for the night-time revels, but is bound to be great fun!

Our flight will be BE1715 departing from Southampton Airport at 06.45 on 28 August, arriving in Alicante at 10.10, where we will be met by our hosts. The return flight will be on 1 September, flight BE1716 departing from Alicante at 10.50 arriving in Southampton at 12.20.



At the moment the cost of the outbound flight starts at £69.05 and the return flight at £132.87. The return flight is expensive and will probably get booked up quite quickly as it coincides with the start of the school term here in the UK. From 3 September onwards the cost is £79.89 and goes down over the following few days. It has been suggested that, if several people would like to stay on for a few days, we could look at arranging to stay in a hotel in Alicante as a group if there was enough support for such an arrangement. There will of course be the RTC (reciprocal travel cost) of £35 per person in addition.

Please let me know if you wish to take part in the visit, and if so please book your own flights and let me know by email as soon as you have done so.

*Photos of the Almansese visit here last May are still available on the LITA website*

**Dilys MacKinnon**  
Vice-Chair, Almansa



### Mosbach News

#### **Visit from Mosbach — 28th May to 1st June**

Our friends from Mosbach are visiting from Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June, arriving early on the Wednesday evening. Thirty-six guests are coming, three of them being teenage boys coming with Dad or Grandad.

At their request, we are taking our guests on a day out in Dorset by coach on the Thursday. There will be room on the coach for a few hosts to come too, if they wish.

On the Friday morning, a volunteer Ranger with the Forestry Commission will lead a short walk for guests and hosts from Bolderwood Car Park. The afternoon will be free. In the evening, an arrangement may be made for any hosts who want an evening off cooking and who wish to get together to take their guests for a meal (at their expense) at the Walhampton Arms.

Saturday will be free during the day for visits to Lymington Market or further afield. There will be a group meal at Boldre War Memorial Hall in the evening, with horse racing competitions between food courses. We should be very grateful if any members who are not hosting would be willing to help to set up the hall and lay tables, act as wine

monitors and generally help out, and of course to stay on and enjoy the evening.

Please contact Sheila and John Ward at: [sheilaward@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilaward@talktalk.net)

Again at the request of our guests, they will return to Heathrow on the Sunday via Hampton Court Palace.

We shall be sending out event booking forms soon to those members who are hosting guests from Mosbach. If you have any queries about the Mosbach visit please contact us by phone: 01590 671205 or e-mail: [sheilaward@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilaward@talktalk.net)

**Sheila & John Ward**  
Vice-Chairs, Mosbach

*For more photos from LITA's trip to Mosbach last May, visit the website*



### Vitré News

#### **Forthcoming Trip to Vitré — 11th to 15th July**

Good news! We have been invited to Vitré this summer to celebrate Bastille weekend in style. Travel will be by coach and ferry, leaving Lymington bright and early on Friday 11 July. We will make our way to Portsmouth for the crossing to Caen and then on to Vitré. The return date is 15 July, arriving back in Lymington at around 11pm.

A full programme of interesting events is being organised for our stay. A group from Sroda in Poland will also be visiting at this time on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of their twinning with Vitré. We are joining them for their celebrations, which, we can be sure, will be most enjoyable.

Thirty-nine people have already signed up for the trip, but we still have room for a few more. The approximate cost will be £130 per person, dependent on numbers, to include the £35 reciprocal travel charge. The final cost will then be confirmed and booking forms sent out to everyone.

If you would like to come, please let us know as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Jackie Mann** ([lajacqui@yahoo.com](mailto:lajacqui@yahoo.com)) &  
**Val Wright**,  
Vice-Chairs. Vitré

## Summer 2014

Henley, Ascot, Wimbledon, Cowes, the  
World Cup and ...

**LITA's Summer Party  
Sunday 10 August**

For all LITA members, their families and friends. This will be the summer BBQ, not to be missed, so please put this date into your diaries. More information will be available in the next *Newsletter*.

**Organisers:** Lesley Willsted & Shirley Hewitt

## LITA Membership Secretary

As noted elsewhere, after nearly five years with LITA's membership paperwork, Carolyn has decided to resign her post as Membership Secretary. The Committee take this opportunity to express their thanks for all her work in this role.

To ensure a smooth transition into the coming LITA 'year', Simon is combining this post with his role as Hon. Secretary. Any changes to your contact details—address, email, 'phone—should be communicated to him at:

*Simon Hacking, Membership Secretary*  
[oakenbrow@uwclub.net](mailto:oakenbrow@uwclub.net)  
01590 683218

## Have you seen ...? Do you have ...?

... a photo of our **Twinning Charter with Almansa**? The Town Hall have had to admit that they have lost the original (from 1993). Nobody on the current LITA Committee has, or is certain to have seen, a photo of the original. We would be delighted if any members can offer help or advice. However, at least photos of our *other* twinning Charters, as well as of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary document for Almansa, *can* be seen on our website (under the 'Home' tab).

<http://lymingtontwinning.weebly.com/twin-town-charters.html>

Watch this space ...

## Who is Who on LITA's Committee?



## The LITA Website



*Keep up to date via  
LITA's website*

New information, travel dates, photos, booking forms etc. are often available **first** on the website – check it when you can.

<http://lymingtontwinning.weebly.com/>

Website content can be suggested via:

John Ward, the LITA webmaster at:

[litatwin@gmail.com](mailto:litatwin@gmail.com)

**Chairman:** Peter Richardson  
[litachair@gmail.com](mailto:litachair@gmail.com)

**Deputy Chairperson:** Judy Uren

**Hon Secretary & Membership Secretary:**  
Simon Hacking  
[oakenbrow@uwclub.net](mailto:oakenbrow@uwclub.net) or 01590 683218

**Hon Treasurer:** Malcolm Eggleton

**Vice-Chairs, Vitré:** Jackie Mann & Val Wright  
[lajacqui@yahoo.com](mailto:lajacqui@yahoo.com)

**Vice-Chairs, Mosbach:** John & Sheila Ward

**Vice-Chair, Almansa:** Dilys MacKinnon

**Social Secretary:** Diana Hastie  
[dianahastie@btinternet.com](mailto:dianahastie@btinternet.com) or 01590-622578

**Newsletter Editor & Publicity:** Dave Miller  
[DMille9226@aol.com](mailto:DMille9226@aol.com)

*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*

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

Dave Miller at [DMille9226@aol.com](mailto:DMille9226@aol.com)