
The *LITA* Newsletter



Lymington



Mosbach



Vitré



Almansa

Lymington & District International Twinning Association

Website: lymingtontwinning.weebly.com

Affiliated with Lymington Community Association

February 2017

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Forthcoming Social events:

LITA Diary Dates

Trip to: Mosbach	31 st Aug-4 th Sept 2017
Visit from: Vitré	3 rd - 5 th June 2017
Trip to: Almansa	to be arranged 2018
Lymington Players Preview	6 th February
LITA QUIZ	Friday 3 rd March
Brockenhurst College Lunch	28 th March

Details on later pages

Conversation Groups



French breakfasts (French conversation group) are held **on the first Friday of the month.**

The next dates are: **3rd February, 3rd March and 2nd April.** 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 on the **third Tuesday** of the month at **The Mayflower**, King's Saltern Road, Lymington from 7.30pm. The next **Stammtisch** dates are: **21st February, 21th March and 18th April.** For details, contact **Dave Miller** (01590-645823 or DMille9226@aol.com)



Tertulia meetings (Spanish conversation group). These take place on the **second Thursday** of the month. The next **Tertulia** dates are: **9th February, 9th March and 13th April.** Contact Diana Hastie [see above] for further details. Meetings are held at **The White Hart**, 17 Milford Road, Lymington from 7.45pm for those who wish to practise their Spanish conversation.



From the Chairman

Since our last *Newsletter*, we hosted a group of visitors from Mosbach in August 2016, and celebrated our 20 Years of Twinning in fine style (see pp3-4). This was followed, in November, by a ceremonial tree planting in Grove Gardens undertaken by the Mayor. A commemorative plaque, presented by Mosbach, has been installed by the tree, so please have a look if you are passing through that part of town (see p4). The plans for our 2017 visit to Mosbach and our hosting of a party from Vitre are well advanced and are covered in more detail elsewhere in the *Newsletter*.

Our social events continue to provide an opportunity to meet with fellow members in a convivial atmosphere and provide a source of funds that enable us to avoid increasing membership subscriptions.

Our Social Secretary, Lesley Pappini, will be standing down at our AGM in June, so we will be seeking a volunteer or two to cover this position. If anyone wishes to learn more about what this post entails, please feel free to contact Lesley or me for a preliminary chat.

I am delighted to announce that Councillor Andrew Sutherland has agreed to join LITA's Committee. This will help facilitate LITA and the Town Council working together in the continued development of Lymington's relationship with its twin towns.

Finally, my thanks go to all Committee members whose hard work means that LITA continue to function and thrive.

Kind regards.

David Beech *LITA Chairman*

Social News

LITA's forthcoming social events...

Monday 6th February
LYMINGTON PLAYERS Preview
"The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew" by Robert Bolt.

The play is a medieval comedy adventure, which charts the struggle between the forces of good and evil, performed just for us.

The Lymington Centre 7.15 for 7.30pm start. Tickets £12, includes complimentary drink and buffet after the show.

For late tickets, please contact Diana Hastie by Sunday afternoon (5th February) at dianahastie@btinternet.com as she has kindly offered to sell tickets for both LITA and Brockenhurst Twinning.



Friday 3rd March

LITA QUIZ

The next quiz evening will be held in the Robert Hole Room at the Lymington Community Centre for a prompt 7.30pm start. Teams of **no more than six** please. But if you are not already in a team please come anyway and we will sort it out on the night! In a break from our usual Fish n' Chips tradition, we will be serving a light Ploughman's Supper. **PLEASE NOTE** Bring your own plate, cutlery, drinks and glasses. The cost is £10 each. Please let me know asap if you intend to come.

Tuesday 28th March

BROCKENHURST COLLEGE LUNCH

Tickets cost £17.50 for members and £18.50 for guests. I have already sent menus out to all Lymington Twinners. As this is a very popular event, please let me have your menu choice and cheque asap if you want to come.

Please contact me about either of the above two events on yelsel33@hotmail.co.uk

We hope to see lots of you at all or some of these events to raise much-needed funds for LITA.

Lesley Pappini
Social Secretary

For details of social events and bookings, please contact: Lesley Pappini, Social Secretary
yelsel33@hotmail.co.uk or 01590 672587



Almansa News

LITA and Almansa — last visit

Easter 2016 (Fri 25th to Mon 28th March)

Dilys MacKinnon
Vice-Chair, Almansa

Our next visit to Almansa will be in 2018. After two unusually timed visits triggered by the 20th anniversary timings, we have now reverted to the standard biennial exchange visits. We will keep members informed as we hear more.



The Castillo in cenrtal Almansa



The Mosbachers and Hosts at Passford House (see p4)



Mosbach News

*Shirley Hewitt & Lesley Willsteed
Vice-Chairs Mosbach*

Next LITA trip to Mosbach 31st Aug-4th Sept

**20TH ANNIVERSARY - Tree Planting
Ceremony, 16th November 2016**



To mark the 20th Anniversary of Lymington's twinning with Mosbach, a Rowan tree was planted in Grove Gardens, just behind the High Street. A simultaneous tree-planting took place in Mosbach. We have had good press coverage in the *Lymington Times* and elsewhere. Articles were prepared by the Mayor's office, and photographs of the group taken by Dave Miller.

We were fortunate with the weather, which was very sunny, though cold. Many of the founding members of the Mosbach Twinning attended including Uli Welker who, together with his wife Jenny, is the proprietor of Elliott's. Uli was raised in Mosbach and was instrumental in forging the twinning connection at the very beginning. Also attending were John and Joan Wray, Philip and Flo Wiseman together with Peter and Shelagh Richardson, John and Sheila Ward, Keith and Jenny Pritchard. The current Committee was represented by David Beech and Lesley Willsteed. Richard Willsteed was 'Keeper of the Spade', which was suitably decorated with ribbons in the colours of Germany. Brief speeches were made by Barry Dunning, the Mayor, and David Beech. The Parks Department has now enclosed the tree and the plaque in a mesh cage to deter vandalism. The tree also sits under the watchful eye of a CCTV camera, so we hope it is there to last, like our link with Mosbach.



Mayor Barry Dunning and Chairman David Beech

We have had strong support from the Mayor, Barry Dunning and the Town Council and also the Parks Dept who nurtured the tree and

prepared the planting hole. To all of them we have expressed our thanks.

Photographs, copies of speeches and a copy of the *Lymington Times* article have been sent to Mosbach.

Details for next LITA trip to Mosbach 31st Aug-4th Sept

Trip information and an Application Form have already been emailed, posted or hand delivered to all LITA members. New members received personal emails with a welcoming note from the Mosbach Vice Chairs. To remind you all, the Mosbach trip is planned from Thursday 31st August to Monday 4th September 2017. Anyone interested who hasn't yet booked, and needs the details again, please contact Lesley Willstead/Shirley Hewitt soonest. Many in the group will fly (from Heathrow) whilst others will travel independently to extend their time in Germany.

Mosbachers Visit to Lymington - August 2016



Twinnings beach party at Hengistbury Head

The last visit from Mosbach took place from Thursday 4th to Monday 8th August last summer (...remember last summer!?). The coach collecting the Mosbachers from Heathrow duly delivered them to Elmers Court Hotel to meet up with their hosts.

Friday morning saw a number of our guests enjoy coffee, cake and the fine views from the balcony of Lymington Town Sailing Club. Many then joined a tour of the nearby Lifeboat Station where the volunteer lifeboatmen gave us the chance to clamber into their nearly-new inshore lifeboat and to see their changing rooms, replete with specialist clothing and gear.



Trying the Lymington Lifeboat for size ...

Our visitors were especially fascinated that the crewmen and women are entirely voluntary, as well as in the charitably-funded status of the RNLI. The group spent generously in the RNLI gift shop to show their approval and support. Just as our visit ended, the lifeboat was called out and many were still there to witness the launch procedure. (Our coastal location remains a source of great fascination to visitors from all three of our land-locked twin-towns).

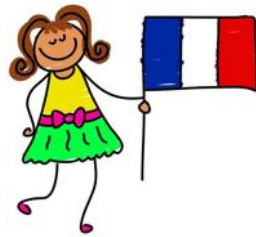
On Saturday, the group had an all-day outing to Arundel Castle in glorious weather. The castle grounds and delightful small town were a great hit.

Sunday was spent with host families and many took the chance to visit one or other of our many nearby tourist venues. Once again, the fine weather made for a perfect Sunday for outdoor locations.

Sunday evening featured a dinner for the entire group and their hosts at Passford House Hotel (photo previous page). The charming grounds and tranquil forest location were much appreciated. Brief speeches to mark the 20th anniversary of our twinning link included remarks from Mosbach's Oberbürgermeister Michael Jahn, from Hans Happes who has long been a leading light in Mosbach's organising group, from Uli Welker as well as from our Chairman, David Beech. The visit took place just weeks after June's Referendum. The sentiment to sustain our twinning relationship undiminished by the Brexit vote was emphasised by all. A special pleasure was to see Walter Spohn at the dinner together with his 17-year old grandson, Fabian Lunzer. Walter is one of the 1996 group of Mosbach twinnings. (For German speakers, a detailed, illustrated article on the visit appeared in the *Rhein-Neckar Zeitung*, the main regional newspaper, and is reproduced at Mosbach's website):

www.mosbach.de/Aktuelles/Pressearchive/Archiv+2016/20_jaehrige+Freundschaft-p-14130.html?highlight=partnerstadt

For photos of LITA's summer 2015 visit to Mosbach, check the website



Sinead Joyce and Vanessa Ainsworth have now joined Judy Uren as Vice-Chairs for Vitré

Vitré News

A large group of some 59 from Vitré will be visiting us from June 3rd to 5th. For various logistical reasons the visit is rather more brief than usual. The programme planning is well advanced and is expected to include a visit to Arundel (in the hope that the weather will be as good as it was for the Mosbachers last summer!). As is customary, we will have a meal with the visitors and their hosts together. It is regretted that, with the group from Vitré in particular being so large, there is no opportunity for LITA members to take part in that event, other than those who are hosting. However, non-hosting members can often meet some of the visitors informally through friends who are hosting.



Polish Can-Can dancers (from the 2014 Vitré trip)



Keep up to date via LITA's website

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

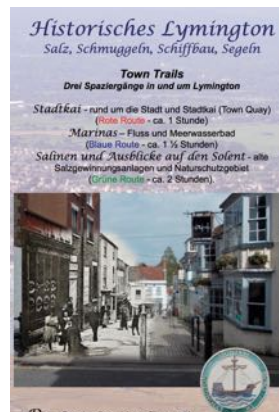
lymingtontwinning.weebly.com

Website content can be suggested via:

Dave Miller, LITA webmaster at:

litatwin@gmail.com

Town Trails Translated



After the great success of the 'Town Trails' leaflet describing walks round historic Lymington, written by Ray Mayes and beautifully illustrated by Alan Rowe of *Potting Shed Cartoons*, LITA member and former councillor Paul Hickman encouraged the Town Council to sponsor the 'Trails' being translated into French, Spanish and German. 'Trails' would thus be accessible for the town's many tourists as well as twin-town visitors. Paul Hickman initiated the French translation while Diana Hastie and Helen Yeulet plus David Miller contributed with their Spanish and German translations, respectively. Councillor Andrew Sutherland oversaw the printing, funded by the Council. Free copies are now available in the 'St Barbe' room at the Community Centre. The staff there report high, near-equal, demand for French and German versions. Our Mosbach visitors each received copies in German when they arrived last August.

The photograph below (taken near the 'Lymington Shores' development and Almansa Way) shows Dave Miller, Ray Mayes, Cllr Andrew Sutherland & Diana Hastie. The inset photos are of Paul Hickman and Helen Yeulet.



New LITA Brochure

An attractive new leaflet, or brochure, giving information about LITA has been printed (front page shown below). Copies are freely available at the temporary 'St Barbe's' room in Lymington Community Centre and also at Milford Community Centre. Application forms to join LITA are included. If you have friends or neighbours who might be interested in joining us, please do encourage them. They can look at our website or pick up a leaflet for themselves.

LYMINGTON & DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL TWINNING ASSOCIATION (LITA')

ALMANSA in SPAIN



MOSBACH in GERMANY



VITRÉ in FRANCE



LITA events



Please make our lives simpler by paying in advance for social events and, wherever possible, **by cheque.**

Merci, Danke, Gracias!

Who's Who on LITA's Committee?



Chairman: **David Beech**
*litachair@gmail.com or
davidbeech.bigstone@btinternet.com*

Deputy Chairperson: **Vacant**

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

Hon Treasurer: Malcolm Eggleton
malcolm.eggleton@aol.com

Vice-Chairs, Vitré:
Judy Uren *judyuren@hotmail.com*
Sinead Joyce *sineadjoyce47@gmail.com*
& Vanessa Ainsworth *johnandness@icloud.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 Secretary: Lesley Pappini
yelsel33@hotmail.co.uk or 01590 672587

Newsletter Editor, Publicity: Dave Miller
dmille9226@aol.com

Website Editor: Dave Miller
litatwin@gmail.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*

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