

The *LITA* Newsletter



Lymington



Mosbach



Vitré



Almansa

Lymington & District International Twinning Association

Website: lymingtontwinning.weebly.com

Affiliated with Lymington Community Association

March 2018

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Forthcoming Events:

LITA Diary Dates

Visit from: Mosbach 30th Aug-3rd Sept '18
Visit to: Vitré 21st-24th April '18
Trip to: Almansa 10th-14th October '18

LITA Skittles Evening 23rd March '18
LITA Summer Social TBA

Details on later pages

Conversation Groups



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

The next dates are: **6th April**, **4th May** and **1st June**. 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: **20th March**, **17th April** and **15th May**: 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: **8th March**, **12th April** and **10th May**: 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

Spring is beginning to make an appearance as I write this column. *[except in this edition's chair for our Chairman, especially selected for the last snow-bound week: Ed]*



In 2018, LITA members can look forward to an April visit to Vitre, a late August visit by a party from Mosbach and an October trip to Almansa. Further details of all these visits are given elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Our Social Sub-Committee is providing an

interesting and varied programme of events, and again more details of upcoming events will be found in the Newsletter (and/or have been notified to members by email or post).

We still have a vacancy for an Accounts Examiner and I also remain hopeful that someone will be willing and able to take over as LITA's Chairman after this year's AGM; please feel free to contact either Simon Hacking or me if you would like some further details.

Finally, may I thank all members of the Committee for their tireless efforts in support of LITA.

David Beech **LITA Chairman**

Social News

*To broaden the support network and ensure a team is engaged with LITA's social programme, a new sub-committee was formed at the AGM. **Lesley Pappini** continues in her role as Social Secretary and heads this team which comprises: **Jean Paddy, Christine Gillett, Ann Hacking & Val Brace.***



LITA's forthcoming social events...

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: Lesley Pappini
yelsel33@hotmail.co.uk or 01590 672587
(unless listed otherwise)



Friday 23rd March - LITA Skittles Evening

(Members should have been notified by email or post with a booking form: please let us know if you didn't receive the message.)

Join us for Skittles with a **Fish & Chip Supper** at Pennington Sport's & Social Club, Lodge Road, Pennington on Friday, 23rd March starting at 7.15 pm. *(Alternatives to Fish & Chips are available).* Just a few places remain. Please book by 15th March at the latest, using the form sent to members (indicating food choices) **directly to the Treasurer**, Mike Gillett: mikegillett2@btinternet.com or ☎ 01590 610788

A report on LYMINGTON PLAYERS presentation of 'DARK LUCY' (5th February)



LITA members got together with Brockenhurst and Hordle Twinning Associations for an evening in the Lymington Centre's Malt Hall, watching the Lymington Players perform their latest production, 'Dark Lucy'.

The play is a mystery thriller drama with humour built in. 'Dark Lucy' written by Philip King and Parnell Bradbury, was directed by local professional actor Robin Greenfield. No spoilers, but many were truly surprised by the plot's revelations in the final act. Altogether a fine 'am-dram' production.

After the show, we retired to the Fuller-McClellan Hall and enjoyed the buffet and a glass of wine, joined by the actors and behind-the-scenes crew. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

(Revised from an online text by Gerry Rickman)



Almansa News

*Dilys MacKinnon-Rich
Vice-Chair, Almansa*

Almansa — next trip

Wed 10th to Sun 14th October

(Members should all have recently received details - either by email or post - of our forthcoming trip. Please let Dilys know if those messages didn't reach you.)

We have been invited to visit Almansa from 10 to 14 October 2018. The Friday is a Public holiday in Spain which gives our hosts, most of whom work, an extra long weekend. It is Hispanic (Columbus) Day, so no doubt we will be celebrating late into the night!

Please would you let me know whether you are interested in taking part. We plan to use the following flights from Southampton Airport to Alicante, *but please contact me before you book* so that we can keep tabs on numbers.

Flights Southampton Airport to Alicante:

10 October: **Flybe flight no. BE1715** dep. 15.15 arr. Alicante 18.40.

14 October: **Flybe flight no. BE1716** dep. 12.40 arr. Southampton 14.10

Transport from Alicante to Almansa will be arranged by the Almansa team.

Dilys

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dilysmackinnonrich@gmail.com

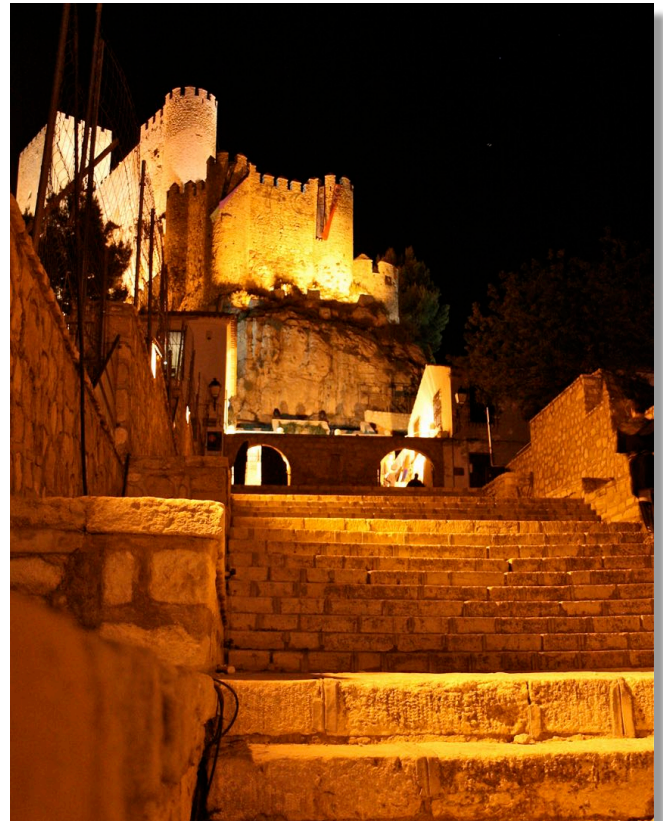
For those who haven't yet visited our lovely and historic Spanish twin-town, here are some 'tasters' from previous visits.



The late Cherry Hayter and others walking near Almansa's Town Hall and Castillo (2012)



Almansa's 'Christians & Moors' festival parade



Almansa's Castillo by night



Mosbach News

Shirley Hewitt & Lesley Willstead
Vice-Chairs Mosbach

Next LITA visit from Mosbach
30th Aug-3rd Sept 2018



A White Cliffs Welcome [Google Images]

Following on from our wonderful exchange trip to Mosbach in 2017, a group from Mosbach will be visiting us in late August. They are coming by coach this time – a long journey for them but with the promise of seeing the white cliffs of Dover (...apparently!?). They have also expressed the desire to have a day out in Oxford.



Tom Tower, Christ Church College Oxford

One consequence of the coach journey is a very (... very) early start on their departure morning. Hosts will receive more information once final plans are settled.

Our Mosbach guests will stay with LITA members who will be welcoming back old friends as well as new visitors. The finale of the visit will be a dinner for all the hosts and their guests,

with folk dancing to provide fun and entertainment.

We will also be delighted to show off the Rowan tree planted as a symbol of the friendship between the two towns and which is surviving the winds and rain of our winter.

We are looking forward to welcoming our Mosbach friends and to another warm exchange between our two towns.

Shirley H and Lesley W
Vice-Chairs Mosbach



Judy Uren, Sinead Joyce &
Vanessa Ainsworth
Vice-Chairs for Vitré
Vitré News

Visit to Vitré - April 2018

Our next visit to Vitré will be **21st to 24th April**. For logistical and cost reasons, it has been decided to fly to Rennes (which is very convenient for Vitré). As usual, some will choose to travel independently. The Vitré trips and visits can be oversubscribed but everyone taking part is already registered with Judy and her colleagues.

What do Twinning Hosts share with their Guests?

One member has given this delightful 'match report' of a meal and ensuing discussion between four LITA hosts and their four Vitré guests. It shows so well the rich and varied interaction we all enjoy with our Twinning visitors.

'Twas an evening in June and eight people met for dinner - four from Vitré and four from Lymington. The diverse topics discussed kept us all entertained.. Sadly, because of the news that day, we started with terrorism and on to secular education. Somehow Eleanor of Aquitaine got through and we had a potted history from the French. This then led on to Brits who live in various parts of France and the odd jobs they have to help out the local ex pats.

One diner had been on a trip to Germany and, at a stop, accidentally became involved in a tour of a potato farm. So, we learned how many varieties of potato there are, from some very unusual places too! Then on to 'vines in France' and how, because of a plague of insects (unspecified - or untranslatable), now many French vines are American rooting-stock with French grafted on – the USA ones being bug resistant - as you might expect!

Good job the Channel is between our countries, they said, so we might not get the enormous bee-eating wasps that are plaguing them at present. This morphed into Colorado beetles which we have also managed to escape, but sadly not so in Ireland.

Next, jokes about Brexit and then on to the Suez crisis in 1956, listing the French battleships there. Also, one diner was aboard one of ours. Much muttering about Nasser.

We all found out (via Google) what it is that colours Red Leicester cheese (it's Annatto from the seeds of the achiote tree). Then followed a list of all the berries the French knew in English, complaints that there was no unsalted butter on the ferry, then somehow on to 'Kiss me Not' hats which the French designed to stop the English kissing their girls - not sure when. We said we preferred our 'Kiss me Quicks' !! Lots of references to William the Conqueror interspersed the evening and a brilliant time was had by all.

An anonymous LITA member



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

LITA events

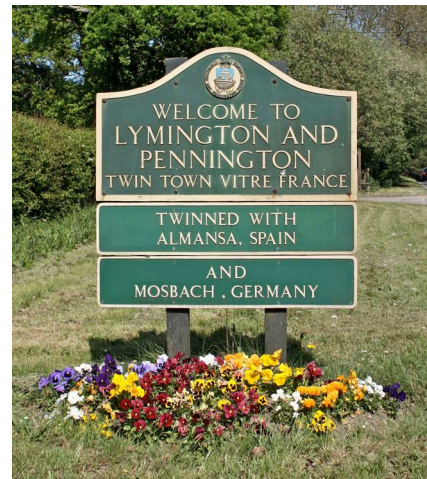


Please make our lives simpler by paying in advance for social events and, wherever possible, **by cheque** payable to 'LITA'

Merci, Danke, Gracias!

Road Signs

Out with the old ...



Milford Road at Efford (in 2011)

In with the new ...



Bridge Road (the railway crossing) [photo John Ward]

Observant LITA members will have spotted the new 'Town' signs at the various entrance roads into Lymington. Regrettably, as with their (literally) long-standing predecessors, the e-aigu (e-acute) accent is missing from the name of our twin-town of Vitre. *Domage!*

The Town Council's signmaker seems—not unreasonably perhaps—to have used the existing wording. LITA was not explicitly consulted or we could have picked up this point. The old sign, or at least its uppermost section which is the oldest part, is being given to the Jumelage group in Vitre. The problem with signage extends to 'Vitre [sic] Gardens' in the town. However, the convention hearabouts is for no accents, apostrophes and the like on streetname signs. As your Editor lives in Shepherds Way, a missing apostrophe here is a daily annoyance (...the fate of pedants everywhere). And would that be *Shepherd's*... or *Shepherds*' ...? Hmmm.

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: Mike Gillett
mikegillett2@btinternet.com or 01590 610788

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
 assisted by: Jean Paddy 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

Cllr 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 from members always welcome:

Dave Miller at DMille9226@aol.com