

Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association



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Newsletter - Oct 2024

Welcome to our autumn newsletter! This is the fourth of an occasional series of newsletters giving an update on the activities of the Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association.

The association was originally established in 1982 as a Community Twinning Association with support from Llantwit Major Town Council. Llantwit Major is twinned with Le Pouliguen in Pays de la Loire-Atlantique, which is a seaside town on a stunning stretch of the Atlantic coast on the Guérande peninsula. We welcome applications for membership of the association from any residents of Llantwit Major and the surrounding area. You do not have to agree to host visitors from France or learn French in order to be a member – although we will be delighted if you do!

Visit to Le Pouliguen

We had a very successful trip to Le Pouliguen in early September, and as always, enjoyed fantastic hospitality from our French hosts. Some of us had the privilege of meeting students in one of their local schools, Collège Jules Verne together with their teacher, where we had to answer some of their questions about Welsh food (!).

Other highlights were a trip to the salt marshes in Saillé and a barge trip in the tranquil Brière nature reserve. We also enjoyed a guided cycle tour round the Guérande peninsula, visiting Le Croisic and Batz-sur-Mer (on mercifully flat terrain!). The visit culminated in a highly competitive boules tournament on our last day followed by a lovely farewell dinner in a local restaurant.

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The twinning group on bicycles



Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association



Members Comments

We were blessed with better weather than most of us expected. This always helps to make good memories.

So when we think back to the great times we had in Le Pouliguen, we picture the sunshine and warmth that always seem to exist there.

Members who came to Le Pouliguen also had great things to say.

When asked for comments the following comments were received.

"We got to know our hosts very quickly even with the language barrier"

"It was a great experience to be immersed in French culture. This just cannot be achieved on a normal holiday".

"Even though we are no longer in France, we are keeping in touch with our wonderful hosts"



The telephone Box gifted in 1994

Regular events

Monthly bi-lingual coffee afternoon (£2.50 to cover costs)

To be held in Members houses, these are totally informal events with all welcome.

Starting Wednesday 16th October in Boverton.

Please call ahead so we can judge the catering requirements!

Contact 01446 795524 for further details.



French conversation in Llantwit library, every Monday 12-1pm. (All levels, donations to library welcome to cover refreshments).

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Upcoming Events

—Following the great success of our fashion show last year, we are delighted that Sam B is back with us to present her latest winter collection in Llantonian Hall on 17th October.

Last year's event was a sell-out, so be sure to book your tickets as soon as possible. Tickets are available from committee members, and are also on sale in Bardic Vintage Books and Sam B's shop in Ewenny. Cost is £10 per head to include a drink.

We start at 7.30pm. Raffle, licensed bar and music during the interval – all in aid of the Twinning association.

—Our AGM will take place on Monday 4 November in Llantwit Bowls Club and will be followed (from 7pm) by an Open Evening with refreshments.. Non- members are very welcome to attend the Open Evening, at which there will be a short presentation on the trip to Pouliguen and an opportunity to ask any questions about the twinning.

Other initiatives

We continue to build contacts locally with schools and sporting associations, in order to develop further links at all levels between our twinned towns. We are very glad that strong links have now been established between schools in Llantwit and Le Pouliguen.

We would love to help families who would like to visit this beautiful part of France. Therefore, the Twinning Association will see how it can assist such families. Please get in touch via the Twinning website with any of the committee members, who will be pleased to help.

President
Cllr Peter Dickson

Secretary
Coleen Tombs

Chairman
John Lewis

Treasurer
David Foster

Future events

Monday 4 November - AGM and open evening in Llantwit Major Bowls Club.

Wednesday 4 December – coach trip to Bath Christmas market.

Saturday 7 December – come and celebrate St Nicolas Day with Stollen...., carols, hot chocolate, and Glühwein (10am-12pm at 23 Tyle House Close, Llanmaes).

Saturday 11 January 2025 – Galette des Rois. Celebration of arrival of 3 Kings with special cake and sparkling wine. Venue: Llantonian Hall 6.30-8.30pm.

Saturday 15 February – quiz. More details to follow.

1st March – St David's Day – French wine and Welsh cheese – blind matching. More details to follow.

Committee Members

Gaynor Ace, Elizabeth Davies, Cllr John Deakin,
Cllr David Ellis, Cllr Gillian Hughes, Andy
Montgomery, Phil Tandy, Clive Tombs

Committee members can be contacted by e-mail via the website.