

Coalville & District Town Twinning Association

CHAIRMAN : Ms. Paula Purver
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COALVILLE - ROMANS-SUR-ISERE
www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk

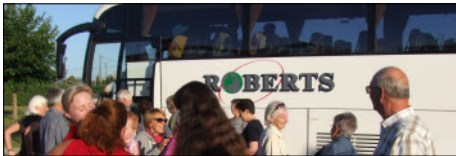
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NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

OVER 55 YEARS OF TOWN TWINNING

COACH TRIP TO ROMANS 4-10th JULY 2019.

We have been discussing with Roberts Coaches the possibility of running a coach trip to Romans and the nearby town of Valence in 2019. When they learned how attractive the area is, with the historic town of Romans sitting on the banks of the beautiful River Iserre at the foot of the Vercors mountains, they were keen to take this forward. The week is intended to coincide with the International Festival of Folklore, which provides free performances in the various town squares and culminates in a spectacular procession through the town on the



last day. **We need to know NOW if you think you may be interested.**

Unfortunately the main hotel in Romans could not accommodate a coach party for the whole period we intend to stay, because they have the International Petanque competition after the final Folklorique weekend, so Roberts would have to book a hotel a few miles away in Valence. However there would be visits to Romans for the Folklore Festival - including the finale with all the participating countries performing on a big stage in the garden of the old monastery on the final Sunday evening. The cost is likely to be about £800pp double room, and would include all travel, hotel with breakfast (6 nights in total) and evening meals in local restaurants, plus a ticket to the Folklore finale.

The coach would stop overnight on the way there and back at a place of interest - probably near Paris or Reims. Dates proposed 4-10th July 2019. The trip will be open to anyone, not just town twinning members.

Tell your friends and if interested let us know by 28 November.

COMMUNITY ROADSHOW FOLLOW-UP EVENT

A follow-up event to the Community Roadshow held at the Coalville Library in June took place on 20 October and we were again represented by Delphine and Chris North.

Our main interest was to see how more people could be made aware of the benefits of Town Twinning and to see how we could involve and encourage other groups, clubs and organisations to get involved and make links with similar groups in Romans. One of the participants was also involved with a Petanque club so we have asked them if they are interested in linking up with a Petanque group in Romans.

One of the problems we all face is making people aware of what we do and how people can join in and benefit. We suggested that there should be a big annual event in the town (similar to the Forum des



Associations in Romans) to which all organisations could be invited to have a stall to set out what they do. Someone suggested that this could be combined with another attraction event, such as Coalville by the Sea, which brings a lot of people into the town centre.

The District Council representative thought that this would be an excellent thing to do in the refurbished Marlborough Square, once the works have been carried out. So that is now being taken forward as a potential project with support from the Community Roadshow group. Fingers crossed !

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Our Chairman, Paula Purver laid a wreath from the Town Twinning Association at the Remembrance Service on Sunday, 11th November.



This year even more people than usual attended the event and laid wreaths because it was 100 years since the end of the First World War.

The Memorial Tower was all ready for the occasion, the scaffolding having been taken down and the clock faces much brighter after the repair work. The new memorial sculpture also played its part in the setting.

TWINNING TEA

In August, Paula Purver organised a tea party at her house. We were in luck as the weather was fine and the tables were set outside.

Thanks go to Paula for the very good choice we had of sandwiches, savouries and cakes. The occasion was well attended, and both the chairman of the Council, Cllr John Clarke, and our MP, Andrew Bridgen, were able to join us as well. It was a very pleasant afternoon - lots of chat, tea and sunshine. **As well as all that, the raffle raised £151 for funds.**



Andrew Bridgen MP, Cllr J Clarke (Chairman of the District Council), Cllr M Specht and Cllr J Cotterill supporting our fundraising Tea Party

OUR LOCAL NEWS

HISTORY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL CLOCK TOWER

The Friday before Remembrance Sunday, there had been a talk at the Century Theatre about the renovation and the history of the Memorial Tower.



First of all the history of the tower and raising the money in 1920 to pay for it (originally priced at £1,500, but finally costing just over £2,000). Then the committee who commissioned it and oversaw the details, the architect and the builders. If you go back into their family history, you find that they all had close connections with people who had died in the war.

The clock tower is a fitting memorial. Its restoration by the Council for the 100 years anniversary is an apt tribute. Parts you particularly notice from the street level are the clock faces which have been repaired and reglazed, while the cast iron clock hands have been restored to their original shape.

The talk preceded the film, 'Journey's End', which is all about one doomed regiment in the trench warfare near Amiens in 1918, what they had to endure and how they coped.

FAMOUS FIFTY MARCH



The march of the first 50 local men to volunteer for the first World War was re-enacted in Coalville, in memory of those who served and died in the conflict. The procession was headed by ladies in tribute to those who had volunteered to nurse the wounded.

FRENCH THEMED EVENING

We had a very good French-themed evening in Ravenstone on 10 October with a splendid buffet consisting of typical French-style dishes provided by the landlady, Christine. This included Mussels Mariniere, a large pate loaf, hot Camembert au Four with French bread dips and celery, a selection of French cheeses, quiches, salads etc. with traditional open Tarte-aux-Pommes and Tarte-au-Citron for dessert - all for £8. Far too much for



us to finish! The landlady had decorated the room with French flag bunting and strings of onions - and the bar-maid dressed for the evening with a striped French top, beret, short skirt and bright red lipstick! The atmosphere was completed with a rolling slide show on the back wall so we really felt that we were in Romans for the evening. We were pleased that the Chairman of the District Council, Cllr. Clarke, was able to join us, complete with French beret! Cllr. Michael Specht ran a reverse bingo



session which was great fun - Delphine called the numbers in French but Michael repeated them in English so no one would be disadvantaged. The session, which raised £16, was won by Elaine Howorth who was awarded a bottle of French wine for being the last one standing. Thanks to all who supported the event, particularly the new faces and Ashby Town Twinning members, Sandra and David Adkin.

FOCUS ON FRANCE

DELACROIX EXHIBITION

A temporary exhibition at the Louvre in Paris has just attracted its most visitors ever. The exhibition was showing works by Eugene Delacroix, the 19th century French painter.

It had attracted a total of 537,782 people by the time it closed at the end of July. That averages 5,156 visitors a day.

Until then the highest figure had been back in 2002, which was a quite different attraction. It had looked at the Egyptian village of Deir-el-Medina whose artists had worked on the pharaohs' tombs. That exhibition attracted 426,452 visitors.



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It is thought that the success of the Delacroix exhibition was partly down to his best known work which features Marianne (the symbol of Republican France) as 'Liberty Leading the People'. Plus, the painting has also become the emblem of rebels across the world.

'EAR, 'EAR

A burglar at the residences at the university in Lyons was caught in the act of breaking into a room. But when the police investigated further, they found that an ear print left on the doors of 80 more rooms belonged to the burglar. Before breaking in, he would listen at the door, not realising that ear prints are as unique as fingerprints.

AGM & QUARTERLY MEETING

THURSDAY 14 FEB 2019
6.00pm

Council Offices, Coalville

Open to all Members

Come along and find out what goes on to make the Exchanges happen and give us your ideas