

Coalville & District Town Twinning Association

CHAIRMAN : Mrs Jennifer Chapman
Tel. 01530 451861

COALVILLE - ROMANS-sur-ISERE

www.coalvilletowntwinning.org.uk

SECRETARY : Mrs. L. Storer
Tel. 01530 262361

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020

OVER 55 YEARS OF TOWN TWINNING



of twinning to chat to whoever is there from the mairie. Then, after a short break, it is off to the big evening spectacular. Normally this takes place in the museum gardens where they build a big stage. But not this year! - there had been storms around Romans a few weeks before. Not normal storms, but



ROMANS FOLKLORIQUE

Every year there is a big festival of traditional music and dance held in Romans organised by the local French dance group, *Empi et Riaume*.



Groups from around the world come to perform traditional dances of their country.



This year's event was as varied as ever, with dancers from Colombia, Armenia, South Korea and Tanzania as well as the Marquesas Isles in the Pacific and from Provence and from Romans. There are events organised over four days. Stages are set up for free events in the town squares and there are also large spectacular evening shows - usually in the grounds of the shoe museum in Romans and in Bourg-de-Peage across



the river.

There is also a grand parade through the streets of the town on the Sunday morning, with halts along the way where each group performs a short



dance. There are plenty of opportunities for the spectators to get a good view! After the parade there is a reception for the dancers where there is usually an exchange of gifts. This is also a good moment for any representatives



hailstorms. It had been freak weather. Some parts of Romans caught the storm, others missed it altogether. But one of the buildings caught by the storm was the museum. It had broken a lot of tiles on the roof and because of the danger of them crashing to the ground, the building and its grounds were closed to the public. The whole evening was moved across the river to Bourg where there was already a stage in the park which had been used for a smaller show during the week.



If you are interested in going to the festival please get in touch with us. 01530 836700

**AGM
& QUARTERLY MEETING
6.00pm
Thursday 13th February
Council Of ces
Coalville
All Members welcome**

THE STORM IN ROMANS

The storm had affected a large area all around Romans. In the countryside vines had been destroyed in some places, in others walnut trees had been uprooted. The first obvious signs of the effects of the storm were the number of people working on roofs.



Everywhere you looked there were ladders and scaffolding - again in patches since the storm was patchy. The other very noticeable result was the number of cars with dents in the



bodywork. If there was a row of parked cars, half would probably be affected. Some also had cracked windows. Presumably the garages were full to the brim with all the repair work and it would take a while to get through all the damage.

Some houses and flats had been

affected very badly - again it could be the roof or a number of electrical failures. In these cases families had often had to move out to live with relatives or even to stop in a hotel. If they could live in the house but not cook, they had to eat out all the time.



All these effects from a hailstorm that only lasted about half an hour. But - the hailstones were apparently huge. Many were as big as a stone that you could cup in your hand ! No wonder so much damage had been caused.



Folklorique in Close-Up

PHOTOGRAPHS by Chris North 2019 ©



International Festival of Folk Lore 3-7 July 2019.

For more information see www.empi-et-riaume.com/programme.php