

# Twinning Newsletter July 2019

## Letter From The Chair

Well – where has the first six months of the year gone to? I am pleased to say that our association continues to thrive with a few new members joining each year, bringing the number up to around 70 members.

We kicked off the new year with our annual new year meal – again at Callendars, which was well attended and very much enjoyed. Katy does an excellent job of organising this meal.

Our visit to Gournay for the bi-annual Euro Market went very well and we took over a minibus of members to help out again. New contacts via the Tinker's Park Site (vintage tractor contacts) joined us on the visit and met with french enthusiasts too. This started off with us waving off the English Vintage Tractor drivers one cold evening.

Our usual quiz and supper event was well attended with around 80 members present. The event, culminating with a meal arranged by Paula and her helpers, was as always a great success. What would we do without them?

Music festival in France – the Twinning band “The Trial” played 4 gigs over 4 days around the Gournay area in June.

In October, some French friends intend to visit Hailsham for Hailsham's Bonfire weekend.

Other events planned are our annual car treasure hunt and BBQ, a walking treasure hunt followed by a cream tea, another quiz and supper evening, and the eat & meet AGM in November.

In recent news, Hailsham Town Council have agreed to a Twinning with Remshalden in Germany and work continues towards this. Plans are at initial stages and we will be working on the advantages of the Twinning. It is hoped that our new Hailsham mayor, Paul Holbrook (who is also a Twinning member) will be visiting Gournay in October to be part of their celebration of 30 years of Twinning with Remshalden.



**Keith Townsend**

## AGM 2018

Our AGM was once again straight forward, not much changed, but afterwards was a rather pleasant get together with wine and a delicious array of buffet food provided by the committee and members. We have a great team of members and committee alike! Smiles all round with a relaxed atmosphere Cheers and hope to see you all at the 2019 AGM.

**Nicola Stone**



## New Year Meal at Callendars

The annual tradition of a delayed New Year meal took place at Callendars Restaurant in Hailsham on January 19th. This date was far enough away from the festive season for the Twinning Association members to have recovered from their revelries and return to eating and drinking. The restaurant again did us proud and we enjoyed good food and whatever drink took our fancy.

Being sociable with our friends is one of the main strengths of the Association and this camaraderie was on full display. It was agreed that this New Year 'do' had kicked off the year in great style and that (thanks to our great committee) we were all looking forward to a varied and successful 2019 both locally and in Gournay-en-Bray.



Everyone wished everybody else a Happy New Year or Bonne Année if their French was good enough!!!



**Robert Drysdale**

## Cockney Soirée

The Soirée was, as ever, very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. This year, entertainment was provided by our twinning band 'The Trial,' which makes the event a bit closer to home! Many members dressed up with the Cockney theme, which is always great to see. Lots of singing and dancing filled the night,



along with wonderful food served by Paula, with support from her team. I recall at one point (towards the end I believe!) a human train parading round the room, gathering more people as it went! A fun and joyous evening for everyone. A bonus that it's free to members!



## Spring Quiz

Several teams converged on the Charles Hunt Centre for the latest Twinning Quiz. The usual suspects were all there, along with a few new teams. 8 rounds of varying question and an excellent meal of beef hotpot (with a veggie option), prepared by Paula and her team, later and 2 teams couldn't be separated. It took 3 tie-breaker

questions before the winners were announced and presented with their prizes of bottles of wine.

**John Puttick**





## Euro Market and Tractor Event in Gournay-en-Bray

“Let’s take some tractors to Gournay en Bray to the tractor rally” another idea beginning in the New Inn Pub at Hadlow Down. I did think this to be a mad idea, but it happened thanks to Adrian Vaughan and Howard Venters.

We as twinneders were busy with the Euro Market selling English cheese, beer and marmalade. But in pride of place at the Passion de Tracteurs Collection, our friends in France did us proud once again, putting the English Contingent at the “Place de Liberation;” the towns’ war memorial. Our tractor friends had a great weekend and were made so welcome by the French twinning and Passion Tracteurs et Collection. A great time was had by all, and new friends made.



Five friends from the French tractor club came to Tinkers Park traction engine Rally which took place on the first weekend in June and spent an enjoyable weekend playing with our tractors, traction engines and steam rollers. They were also shown behind the scenes, and took part in the show. I can see this will grow into more exchanges in the future. For the full story see the July 2019 edition of Old Glory magazine.

**Alan Stone**

Nine members travelled over to Gournay en Bray by minibus which was driven by our Twinning Committee Members Alan and Keith. This was for the biannual Euromarket event which takes place on Saturday and Sunday and consists of various market stalls and also a stall organised by us, Germany and Portuguese Twinning Associations too. This year the event coincided with the first visit by the Vintage Tractor Twinning Group. We were pleased that we had three members who had not previously visited Gournay with us. Our products – English Cheddar cheese, crumpets,



marmalade, lemon curd and English beers etc. sold over the two days and we sold out. In fact we could probably have sold more! An enjoyable time was had by all which included a combination of meals with hosts and also together as a group and visit to local sites for those who had not visited the area before.

**Pauline Townsend**

**Have you joined our  
Facebook group? Don't miss out  
on any upcoming events!**



**Upcoming Events with dates to be confirmed!**

**July**

Weekend visit to Gournay-en-Bray, co-insiding with the St Clair event.

**August**

Walking Treasure Hunt followed by a Cream Tea at Alan & Nicola's.

**September**

Quiz & Supper evening.

**September**

French friends visit to Hailsham with a possible concert to happen!

**October**

Possible trip to Gournay to join celebrations for 30 years of twinning between Gournay and Remshalden!

**Hailsham Twinning Committee**

Keith Townsend	Chair	01323 846539
Alan Stone	Vice Chair	01323 842660
Pauline Townsend	Secretary	01323 846539
Nicola Stone	Treasurer	01323 842660
Pam Smith	Membership Secretary	01323 442151
Paula Rose	Social Secretary	01323 841373
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