



# Le Bulletin



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Nailsworth & District Twinning Association

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## Town trip to Lèves 2017 - weekend of 29-30 April

- Travel over on Friday 28 April and back on Monday 1 May (bank holiday)
- *The more people on the coach, the cheaper it will be for everyone.*
- Please let Rachael know asap if you would like to come along.



Nailsworth Town Council has arranged for tutor Andy from Ruskin Mill College to **repair the damaged mural** in the bus station (It was originally designed and painted in 2012 by students at the College, but we later discovered, they had painted over wet plaster, which meant the whole thing started disintegrating with the first frosts)

Lots of lovely cake served up on Paul Carter's memorial picnic table



Molly and Jemima keep a close eye on Rachael's technique



Marie, Daphne and Winnie take a break, exhausted from all that boules playing.



The sun shone and cakes piled up as Nailsworth Twinning members hosted another **boules match on Saturday 9 July** against local rivals, formerly the Stroud Twinning Association. Sadly the Stroud Association ceased to exist earlier this year, but several members were keen to meet again at the King George V playing fields for a re-match.

Despite stiff competition, both the men's and women's matches were won this time by Nailsworth! A big improvement on last year. It was lovely to welcome new young players Molly and Jemima (Sue Smith's granddaughters over from Dubai) and a host of supporters, including Winnie the dog!

Thanks to everyone who supplied a tasty treat. Stroud thanked us for the hospitality saying how much the afternoon was enjoyed by all.

With our wedding getting close, Anthony and I decided to take a **trip to Lèves** with the intention of finding some suitable wine for the reception. The Fruchards were happy to help out and, after an evening tasting various offerings in their barn, the next day we headed south to Vouvray, on the recommendation of Jean Jacques.

We located the cave of Monsieur Auffret and after sampling a bottle of his "bubbly" decided to make a purchase. We literally did fill our boot! What a great experience and one I'd definitely recommend.

Mr Auffret had a hand dug cave full of wine and was happy to show us round. He explained that last year's harvest was poor so production is halved for this year. Luckily there was enough left to bring home for our party on 3 September!! *Rachael*



**Marie and Michel came over from Lèves for the wedding. Marie writes . . .**

It is always a pleasure to go for a trip in England and see your magnificent landscapes !

We boarded in Le Havre on Thursday evening. After a night on the ferry, we discovered the New Forest, so beautiful with its heathers and its ferns and all the animals roaming free, then the town of Salisbury (with the stained glass windows in the cathedral made by Gabriel Loire from Lèves).

Upon our arrival in Nailsworth it was a pleasure to visit (without warning !) June and Laurie Smith before being welcomed by Fern Bratby who had prepared us a drink in her lovely garden.

The forecast did not announce a fine weather for Saturday, the day of Rachael and Anthony's wedding... and it was not wrong : rain and wind were there ! This did not prevent us enjoying this magnificent day ! We joined the place of the ceremony in Stroud in a superb yellow bus which used to belong to Birmingham Football Club. We knew only Rachael, Anthony and their children, but everybody was very kind to us.

The bridesmaids and the best men were seated next to the bride and groom. 2 friends read poems. It was a very beautiful ceremony. When we went out, the couple were welcomed with heart-shaped confettis.

Then,



en route towards the Commons where a little van was waiting to give us delicious ice cream cornets. Several youngsters tried to shelter us from the rain with big umbrellas !

At Rachael and Anthony's home, 3 young musicians played music while we enjoyed a delicious buffet with tea, scones, cakes, Vouvray... in front of a splendid garden.

In the evening, the party went on at Chavenage House where an excellent orchestra and a good meal allowed us to spend a wonderful time. Judith and Les Haines had reserved us seats next to them.

The following day, it was a pleasure to have a cup of coffee at Les and Judith's before going to the Ram with Fern for lunch. Then, tea with Carole and Fern at Sue Smith's.

On Monday, before leaving, Allan and Daphne took us to the Olive Tree for a nice coffee. Then visit of Malmesbury, Marlborough and Winchester on our way back.

Thanks to all our friends of the Twinning ! Especially to the Lockes and to Fern Bratby who, in spite of a bad bronchitis, received us so well for the last time (in this house, as she is moving very soon). She was a very good taxi driver too !

*Marie*

*Ed. Rachael and Anthony have gone on adventure to Japan for their honeymoon.*

