



Le Bulletin



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100th edition!

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Nailsworth & District Twinning Association

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Water, water everywhere, but fortunately not from the sky, for Lèves Twinning visit to Nailsworth, 5-8 May 2016

This year's annual town meeting took place in Nailsworth with a distinctly watery theme. Hosts took their French guests to all sorts of interesting places, but water seemed to be particularly high profile on this occasion, maybe because we were blessed with a warm and sunny weekend. The visitors stopped off in Bath on their way to Nailsworth. Here, outings included a barge trip on the canal, rowing demonstration in Woodchester Park, the Wye river, and more.

Jean Jacques takes the helm, while Lorraine & Annie enjoy the sun



Philippe & Odile met up with the de Ritters (former



twinners) at Egypt Mill

Ron crossing the Wye Bridge



There are always interesting discussions over French v English vocabulary. One of this year's high spots was discovering that woodlouse is cloporte in French and they don't have as many of them as we do. We had no difficulty finding a few for them to examine, with the help of Sue's handy pocket torch.



JEU DE BOULES



May the fourth be with you!



Hervé Pelletier knew - even if his companions didn't - that they left Lèves on International Star Wars Day: May the 4th (= May The Force...be with you). Simultaneously Coleford town centre was alive with hundreds of Star Wars look-a-likes also marking the event. Why? Because the latest SW film was shot at nearby Puzzlewood - less than a mile from Hervé's destination. Hervé - a committed fan since as long as he can remember - spent a busy time there delightedly snapping away.

The peregrine falcons weren't flying at Symonds Yat unfortunately but the view from Yat Rock was as breathtaking as ever and the Yat valley was gorgeous for walking in the sunshine. Then we canoed the Wye for a heavenly afternoon. Driving further down the Wye we relived the French monks establishing a foothold in the area by founding Tintern Abbey, at almost exactly the same time that Chartres Cathedral was started. The Tintern cricket pitch was being mown but unfortunately the match was not played until the Sunday.

The final flavour to Hervé's stay was a walk to the corner shop in the next village. We took a circular route all along footpaths through the forest which was probably at its very prettiest. We were disappointed not to sight any wild boar but were partly compensated by meeting plenty of sheep.

Jennifer and I again felt privileged to have been able to host our dear French friend. **Ron**

A walk in glorious Woodchester Park. By the boathouse, Guy shows Anne Marie the rowing action and then she has a go. **Sue** is just there for the ride!



Very enjoyable - lovely people, great activities and excellent organisation. Well done, Rachael and team. **Isobel**

I second Isobel's comment, and add how fortunate we were that the weather was fine and sunny. **Henrietta**

Josette at Painswick Quaker House before we got soaked. Thunder and heavy rain. **Sue B**



Yes, excellent organisation leading to a very enjoyable week-end. Just one comment; could we be told if people have dietary problems? Our lady couldn't eat fish or seafood which required some adjustment. Thanks to all concerned. **Joyce**

Ed: Sorry about that Joyce, we had asked the question, but were told everyone was OK.



The boules match was good fun on a lovely sunny afternoon. We did not excell ourselves though and the French won both men's and ladies' matches!

Of course, it would not have been the same without Claude and his tape measure, which was put to good use.



The Newmarket, Shortwood, Rockness walk was quite strenuous but most enjoyable. The weather was a bit overcast, so it wasn't too hot. Les led the group with Carole and Basil sort of bringing up the rear.



very welcome break at eco Wheelbarrow Farm



There were quite a lot of stiles, but fortunately Les was on hand to help the ladies across.



One or two were of a somewhat challenging design for those of us with rather too much flesh on our bones, but no one got stuck!



The visit rounded off with a **hog roast and morris dancing** under a beautiful sunset at Shortwood FC, with an impromptu scene from **Shakespeare's Henry V** (in which Henry tries to persuade the French princess to marry him) performed by Graham and Pauline.

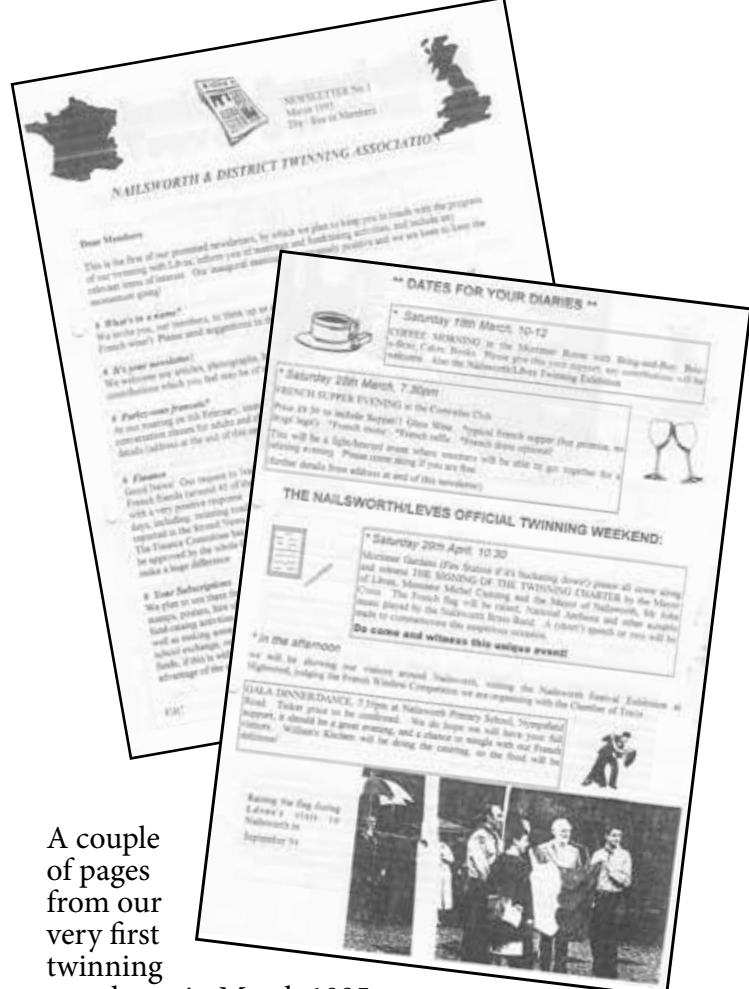




I think everyone really enjoyed the weekend, Jean-Jacques was delighted to have the opportunity to go to the rugby, please thank Anthony, it

was very kind of him to take the visitors, a real treat. Thank you to the committee for all the hard they put in year after year. **Linda**

Rachael adds: Claude, Philippe and Jean Jacques experienced an afternoon of rugby at The Rec in Bath. Bath successfully defeated rivals Leicester Tigers 38-27 and gained 3 new French fans!



A couple of pages from our very first twinning newsletter in March 1995, produced in a much more basic fashion, French accents added by hand, actual photos pasted onto the pages, then photocopied and hand delivered or posted to members.



Welcome to new members Sue and Chris Harrison. And we are hopeful, that after hosting the last two visits, Pauline will also become a member!



Our new town council representative is Angela Norman, so a big welcome to her too.

Rachael reminds members to look on facebook at other photos and you can send in your photos for her to upload – we have a number of friends in Leves so it's a good way to share things. One post got 850 views ... I'm not sure why. Generally we are getting between 50 and 80 views per post and its slowly growing.



save the date

Summer Boules match at the KGV playing field. Further details to follow. **Saturday 9 July at 4pm**

Pétanque

