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# Le Bulletin



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Nailsworth & District Twinning Association

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The **AGM** will take place on **FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2020, 7PM** at the **ARKELL CENTRE**. There will be drinks and nibbles plus the (sub-titled) film "Ce qui nous lie" (which translates rather oddly as "Back to Burgundy" rather than the direct translation which would be "What ties us together" !?)



Official invitation, Minutes of the last meeting, 2019 Accounts and Agenda to follow.

**2020 SUBS NOW DUE** - Unchanged at £8 per person and £16 per family.

Payment can be made by cheque payable to Nailsworth and District Twinning Association - bring to the AGM or post to Isobel, or pay online to sort code 30-94-28 Acc n° 58825360, ref your name.

Some members may be asked to complete a statutory privacy form if they've not already done so.

A tremendous thank you to all those members and non-members who have agreed to host our many visitors. Judith and Sue have been doing a sterling job placing them but we are still in need of beds. **So if you feel you could help, or know of anyone who can, please get in touch with Judith :**  
[family.haines@btinternet.com](mailto:family.haines@btinternet.com)



To commemorate 25 years of an amazing friendship between our towns, the Nailsworth Creative Textile Group is preparing a painted silk panel to present to our Lèves partners during the Saturday evening dinner.



## ALLAN, WHO STARTED IT ALL, COMMENTS ON HIS TWINNING EXPERIENCE:

As a founder member of the Twinning Association, I would say that it's taken up a large part of my life, but I would not have missed it for the world.

I have met so many wonderful people and enjoyed so many experiences, including two weddings and a funeral !!

I have lost count of my visits to Lèves but with each visit, it is always exciting when approaching from the direction of Dreux, to strain to see the spires of Chartres Cathedral.

Daphne and I have been fortunate in being twinned with the Dauvillier family. We have made friends with their children, grandchildren and lately with Timothée, a great grand child.

Therefore the foundations have been laid and may another 25 years commence.





## 25TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND Programme outline (further details to come):

**Thursday 21st May** about 6pm: Two coaches, carrying nearly 100 twinnings and musicians from Lèves will be arriving at the bus station in Nailsworth. Refreshments will be served in Mortimer Gardens. Instruments can be taken to the Parish Rooms at St George's. Evening meal and night chez hosts.

**Friday 22nd May:** An outing to Ruskin Mill is being organised mainly for guests staying with working families but other participants can sign up. More about this later.

The Lèves musicians will be able to make their way to St George's Church at about 2.00pm to prepare the space for the evening concert and rehearse, joined later by the Silver Band. Meal to be provided by the host families at the church.

Evening concert begins at 7.30. Tickets £5 per person but two free tickets can be claimed per host family. No charge for French guests. Refreshments available during the interval. **Please contact Rachael Locke asap if you are able to help with marshalling/ bar/front of house/preparation/tidying up etc.: [rachaellocke68@gmail.com](mailto:rachaellocke68@gmail.com)**



**Saturday 23rd May.** The Lèves coach will take the musicians to Stroud in the morning where they will perform on the forecourt for an hour. Rest of the day with families (please speak to Isobel if you are unable to take charge) until 6.30 – evening meal at Nailsworth Primary School. Cost £25 per person (hosts only; No charge for French guests). Complimentary pre-dinner drinks and wine during the meal for everyone. The Lèves musicians will entertain us.

**Sunday 24th May:** early departure from the bus station.



### A BIT OF HISTORY

Allan put together the original twinning committee in 1990 and, following some five years of investigation and research to find the right twinning partner for Nailsworth, finally, through the intermediary of the Government International Bureau in London (a sort of dating agency for twin towns!) we were introduced to Lèves, which was a town of similar size and composition to Nailsworth, just north of the famous cathedral city of Chartres.

The Nailsworth & District Twinning Association was formed in February 1995 and following initial visits from both sides to see if we were suited, on 15 April 1995 in Lèves and on 29 April 1995 in Nailsworth, official twinning charters were signed by Michel Castaing, Mayor of Lèves and John Cross, Mayor of Nailsworth; this made official the link between the



two towns.

Nailsworth's town crier Tony Evans was made honorary town crier of Lèves.

An exchange programme was set up fairly early on between our primary schools; parties of children came over from Lèves with a return visit of Nailsworth children. Although health & safety rules have stopped this now, communications continue by letter between the classes. The Nailsworth Silver Band went to Lèves for the official twinning weekend, the 10th Anniversary

visit in 2005, again in 2019 and takes part in twinning visits to Nailsworth. During most annual visits, boules games are played. In 2000 a group of French cyclists joined the annual visit to Nailsworth and took part in an expedition with the Stonehouse Wheelers. In 2011, we introduced our French friends to the game of cricket. We have had visits from the Lèves dramatic society, choirs and orchestras, and have taken the Stuart Singers, Christ Church Choir, Nailsworth Community Choir, members of Nailsworth Tennis Club, Clog dancers and Morris dancers over to France.

One of the Twinning Association's aims is to bring together the many different groups and associations within our two communities with a view to setting up independent exchange visits and encouraging new friendships across the Channel.