

# Le Bulletin

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Nailsworth & District Twinning Association

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Saturday **7 SEPTEMBER**, the one day **BRIC A BRAC SALE** in the former Bosom Buddies shop at the top of Fountain Street brought in a welcome addition to Twinning funds. A great selection of goodies had been donated by members, friends and neighbours and there was a steady stream of visitors throughout the lovely sunny day.



Leftover goods were shared out amongst Nailsworth charity shops. Well done to Rachael and her helpers for running this event. **CAROLE**



Our 20th anniversary tree seems to be doing OK (photo 16 Sept)

We are very grateful to the **NAILSWORTH SILVER BAND** whose **CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT CHRIST CHURCH ON SATURDAY 7**



**DECEMBER AT 7PM** will be in aid of the Twinning Assoc and we are providing the refreshments.

We would very much appreciate it if our members could publicise the event. Tickets £5 (children free) will be on sale at the Town Info Centre from Monday 18 November.

We also need people to bake cakes, prepare savoury finger food and help with serving and front of house. Please contact Isobel if you can help: 07946 315179 / 01453 833290

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In July, the Mayor of Lèves, Remi Martial, invited our Mayor and his wife, together with a Twinning Association representative, to be part of the **75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LIBERATION OF LÈVES.**



Jonathan was unable to attend, so Steve and Liz Robinson went as his representatives and I attended for the Twinning Association over the weekend of **13TH – 15TH SEPTEMBER.**

Many of you will know the story of how Chartres cathedral was saved from destruction by the Allies, but very simply, the American commander, Colonel Griffiths, entered the cathedral by himself to check if there were still German snipers inside. When he confirmed there were none, he raised the Stars and Stripes and rescinded the order to shell the cathedral that had been given previously by his superiors. If you have never seen it – it is a medieval masterpiece and probably the finest cathedral in France.

Sadly – two hours later he was killed by snipers in the centre of Lèves. However, his aide de camp, Sergeant Schulz, was recently awarded The Legion d'Honneur, the highest honour France can give, for his part in the liberation. The presentation on Friday 13th September was part of the celebrations and Eugene Schulz, now 96, attended with his wife and extended family, together with Colonel Griffiths' grandson. Steve, Liz and I attended the investiture in the Préfecture.

On Saturday 14th September a small parade of WW2 vehicles took the Griffiths and Schulz families to the spot where Colonel Griffiths was killed. Flowers were placed, followed by a walk to the town square where wreaths were laid, including one by Steve Robinson. Moving speeches followed: one by an elderly man, a boy at the time, who witnessed the Colonel's death. National anthems of UK, US and France ended the ceremony. A meal was shared by guests under the trees and the day ended with the Schulz and Griffiths families' departure in old army vehicles.

On Sunday 15th September we enjoyed the annual French Twinning Association BBQ and boules match in glorious sunshine.

Overall – it was a very moving weekend with 75 year old memories shared, but also lots of fun and as usual we were treated with enormous generosity and friendship by our French hosts. I am so glad I was able to be part of it. KEITH



## The **TWINNING WINE QUIZ**, 28 SEPTEMBER.



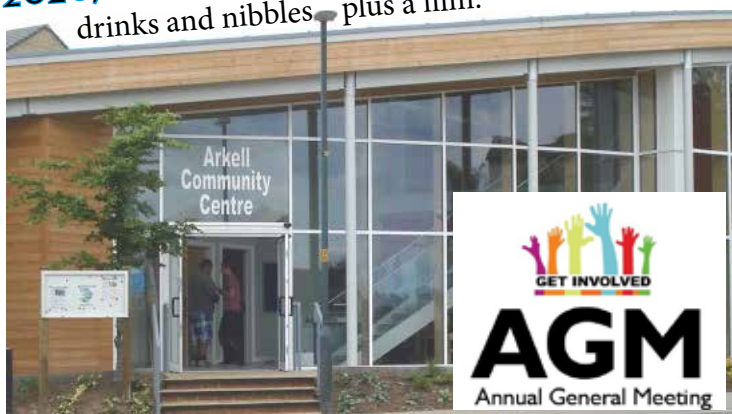
The St George's Parish Rooms were festooned with bunting, buzzing with conversation as guests seated themselves and long tables were groaning under the weight of quiches, cakes salés, cheese, crudités with dips, sliced ham, savoury profiteroles, baguettes – in other words, enough food to feed a starving regiment. Keith, the “animateur” and organiser, together with his helpmeet, Sharon, presented us with our questions and the order of proceedings. In front of us lay maps of France with a list of wine growing regions to match with the numbers. Is that Roussillon or Languedoc? Bourgogne or Jura? Our heads were already in a spin. Then came the tasting: two whites, two reds (or was it three?), then a rosé – by which time it could have been anything! Sniff, swill the wine round to check the legs, sniff again, take a sip, let it lie on the tongue .... Mmm, they were all delicious but guessing the variety, provenance and alcohol content, well, that really required concentration. Luckily, we were able,

between tastings, to lead an assault on the buffet table and believe it or not, only crumbs remained. Wine tasting certainly gives you an appetite. More wines, more questions. We thought we'd be lucky to get a single answer right. Help was at hand through more succour – the tables were now laden with puddings and desserts. What a spread: tarts and crumbles, sweet profiteroles, cakes, lashings of cream – it all disappeared in a flash! Our host, Keith, now decided it was time to check the answers. More groans were heard than whoops, I'm afraid, but the winners were, incredibly, by only two points over our rival team – myself, Sue, Elisabeth and James. A bottle of Sauvignon blanc was presented to us and Les & Judith's team got the red. A third team was presented with some chocolates.

We all agreed we'd had a wonderful time, an official thank you was made to Keith and Sharon as rousing cheers and applause rang out for them, and the Committee was able to pat itself on the back on another successful, profitable and enjoyable fundraising event.  
ISOBEL



The **AGM** will take place on **FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2020, 7PM** at the **ARKELL CENTRE**. There will be drinks and nibbles, plus a film.



Philippe & Odile with new baby grandson, Luca, born last weekend to daughter Anne-Laure who is married to an Englishman and lives in London.



Louanne (11yrs) is looking for a friend to exchange visits with during the 2020 summer holidays; the girls would spend 2 weeks in France and 2 weeks in England. If you know of a likely match, please let Isobel know and she'll put you/them in touch.



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, 10 NOVEMBER

We were very proud to welcome Joël Houvet, Martine and Michel Pineau and Monique Gallois, our guests from Lèves, arriving on a cold and windy evening after braving multiple traffic jams and diluvian rain all the way from Dover.

Sunday morning was bright and sunny, however, and the parade, service and wreath laying as moving as ever. Joël Houvet, representing the Mairie, looked impressive in his "bleu blanc rouge" sash standing next to our Mayor, Jonathan Duckworth, and Michel Pineau, representing the Lévois veterans, carried the "guidon" with pride and dignity.

Two very beautiful flower wreaths were laid by Joël and Martine. After the service, we enjoyed tea and coffee in the Mortimer Room and our guests were welcomed by Tim Godden of the British Legion and by the Rev'd Caroline Bland, who was very interested to find out all about our Twinning Associations.

Then to a very fine lunch at the Black Horse in Amberley. Our four guests, their hosts and other members of the Twinning Association, sat in the conservatory with its beautiful panoramic view in bright sunshine.

One of our new members, Sandra Harris, said how much she had appreciated and enjoyed her first meeting with us.

A huge thank you to our hosts, Daphne and Allan Beale, Elisabeth and Richard Targett and Julian Dennis. ISOBEL

(thanks to Martine Pineau for the photos)



*Si la mission de porte drapeau, m'a posé un petit souci de légitimité au départ..... Je t'assure que je suis heureux de l'avoir fait. En quelque sorte, j'ai repris pour un instant le drapeau que mon grand père et mon père ..... avaient servi en leurs temps ..... en bien plus grand péril que moi. Drapeau, qui couvrait leurs cercueils..... avant le grand voyage..... que j'espère, pour eux, sous des cieux plus paisibles.*

*J'ai été très ému et porté par la ferveur des Anglais ..... hommes, femmes et enfants sages, unis dans un même esprit d'appartenance à la nation. Ce « God save the Queen » puissant, jaillissant des poitrines des petits et des grands.....*

*Pendant un instant, j'ai vécu avec bonheur cette « communion » ..... que je souhaite et qui manque, à mon sens ..... à notre pauvre France.*

*Une petite larme a mouillé le coin de mon oeil..... et c'était beau et c'était bien.....*

*Nous avons été choyés par Elisabeth et Richard..... Merci, Thank you. MICHEL*

