



Le Bulletin



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Nailsworth & District Twinning Association



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LÈVES VISIT TO NAILSWORTH 26-29 MAY

Town Crier Tony welcomes the visitors off the coach



Judith hands out the Jubilee welcome bags containing mini bottles of Bottle Green cordial, Cotswold meringues, the latest Nailsworth News, Jubilee bits, postcards and leaflets from the TIC.



a cool glass of elderflower pressé and a warm welcome from the mayor



Tony organised a special hanging system so the UK and French flags could fly together from the flagpole in Mortimer Gardens



coffee & croissant to start



On Saturday morning, after coffee and a lovely warm croissant, 30 of us had a wonderful tour of the **Ruskin Mill** estate with Aonghus Gordon and Chiara. A really well thought-out visit with several members of the Ruskin Mill team having given up time on their day off to come and talk to us about the many different aspects of the Trust and its operations, along with the opportunity to view their gardens, fish farm, greenwood & metal outdoor workshops, canteens and kitchens. All followed by a delicious buffet lunch at the Field Centre near Tippits Inn and a final presentation from their head of staff training. A great opportunity to learn all about this amazing organisation of which Nailsworth is rightly very proud.



the students based their bridge design on Mone's bridge at Giverny



learning all about the fish farm



greenwood workshop



Boris poses for the cameras



steep climb up through beautiful woods with a welcome sit down half way up in Festival Field



Boris the pig is a lot bigger than he looks in this photo. He's HUGE!

Sue & Colin took David & Thomas(10) with their grandchildren to Sudeley Castle and there was just time to look in on NW Fire Station Open Day before leaving on Sunday



Méline and Elea with Richard Ist in Stratford



Lunch & amazing cheeseboard chez Rachael & Anthony



We went to Stratford Upon Avon on Saturday as Elea is mad about Harry Potter so we went to the House of Spells shop, where she spent a fortune! While we were there Lorraine phoned to ask me if I could find a platinum jubilee mug for the bus driver to take home for his wife as Lorraine couldn't find one in Nailsworth. I found one. Laurent was delighted. **Linda**

Lunch at Egypt Mill



Elevenes at The Kitchen, Minchinhampton

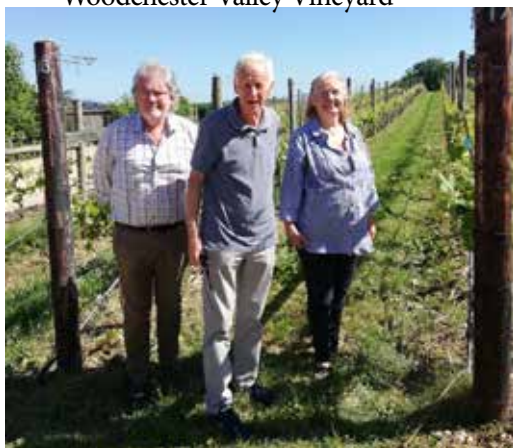


Panic Alert! The English were stocking up on loo paper during lockdown. It appears the French were hoarding mustard which is now in short supply. If like me, you're used to buying some large pots of mustard when in France, there may be a problem this year!

Nicole, Eliot & Judith at Saul Junction



Woodchester Valley Vineyard



Brigitte found Piglet at Nailsworth Market and has taken him off to a new life in France





How Friday 27th May was spent by the Chair

10 o'clock saw me at the Sub Rooms in the newly-refurbished café (and very bright and cheerful it is too) where Judith provided coffee, tea and biscuits to the French and British committee members. The meeting was mainly to discuss organisation and dates now that COVID has thrown alternating between Remembrance Day and May visit out of synch. It was decided that we would put off alternating for the time being. So, a small contingent of Lévois will be coming for Remembrance Sunday, probably arriving on the Saturday and leaving on the Monday. It will be Nailsworth's turn to visit Lèves in 2023 and the provisional dates are 26 or 27/05 for 3 or 4 nights. This means that we might also go to Lèves on 11th November, making two visits the same year.

4 o'clock and I was at the KGV playing fields with two bags of 8 boules but luckily I had picked up Laurent "le chauffeur du car" from the Bartholomews to help carry them (the boules not the Bartholomews)! The afternoon was gloriously sunny and quite a crowd of boulistes had gathered to play. We played two teams at a time but decided not to have a play-off between the winning teams so as to allow as many people a go as possible. Our new members, Julia and Nick Holyoake, proved to be rather expert and Wendy Godden playing for the first time was so enchanted by the game that she willingly accepted Rose's offer of a set of boules – so get practising, Wendy! I don't think there was much difference in skill level between the men, women, French, British and the teams seemed evenly matched to me. Young Thomas made a lot of progress thanks to his dad David's gentle tuition. The other young'uns enjoyed the exercise machines and table tennis.

Isobel (thanks to Monique for the photos)

Saturday Evening at Nailsworth School

Pimms to kick off with



went down a treat!



Members of the original 1995 twinning committees





Dinner prepared by William's Kitchen and Elisabeth



Music from Patsy Gamble and friends



A big thank you to Elisabeth for coordinating the meal and cooking/preparing half of it!

Embroidery tutor Jayne, with some of the embroiderers, explains the motifs on the anniversary banner



Judith presents Allan with a retirement gift



It was Philippe and Odile's 40th wedding anniversary on the day of departure, which in France is celebrated with emeralds rather than rubies

I was waiting for this trip for so long that it has been a dream becoming a reality !
 I did enjoy this stay by Allan and Daphne who are now close friends. I did appreciate their warm welcome, the good food Daphne prepared, their nice and cosy house..so pleased to listen to Allan's stories about the twinning history or his various trips to France on his sunny terrasse in the morning!

I had the pleasure to attend my first twinning committee in Nailsworth at the Subscription Rooms. A very nice time with a friendly welcome and nice projects.

I got the opportunity to meet Mike Kelly, the new mayor of Nailsworth as he is blind and I am involved in an association linked to blind pupils in Africa. He was interested in having news about this. Allan gave him also a lot of information about the twinning, two very pleasant hours. I was also very happy to meet June and Laurie again during a party at their home. I am always in touch with these good friends as they were my first hosts at Nailsworth some years ago.



During this stay, Allan and Daphne drove me to Coaley Peak Nature reserve (large wonderful views on the Cotswolds) and to Prinknash Abbey - a beautiful old building where 6 monks are still living - and its butterfly garden - all hidden in the bottom of a valley covered with plenty of different trees and flowering meadows, as many places in this area. Each time we were very lucky to have a very nice and sunny weather and were able to have pleasant walks often with Winnie, Allan and Daphne's faithful companion.

On Sunday morning Daphne was very kind to drive me to Ruskin Mill enabling me to enjoy the beautiful gardens and to

learn more about the pedagogical work done in this establishment.

Don't forget the wonderful time spent all together on Saturday evening at Nailsworth School : very good menu and plenty of friendly chats. English people offered us a very nice banner, completely hand made which was ready for the 25th anniversary (twice postponed because of Covid). It was a very emotional moment too when Judith paid tribute to Allan for all he did for the twinning during 27 ans. Many thanks Allan ! even retired we need your experience and stories !

Anyway for me a very good English training.. as I had to remain very concentrated to understand all the conversations when everybody is speaking « at regular speed » !

Congratulations to the English twinning committee for this nice program : all was a complete success..

Long time to the twinning ! **Monique**



"They arrive
as strangers
and they
leave as
friends"
Diana



Another au revoir after another lovely twinning weekend



With grateful thanks to Nailsworth Town Council, Ruskin Mill, Bottle Green Drinks Co and Cotswold Meringues for their invaluable contribution to the success of this twinning weekend.