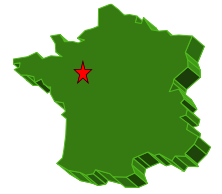




Le Bulletin



www.nailsworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/town-links/twinning/

www.communes.com/ville-leves

Nailsworth & District Twinning Association



December 2021- Issue 125

REMEMBRANCE DAY 11.11.2021 IN LÈVES

The day began with everyone gathered in front of the Mairie where Keith and I were greeted by Joël Houvet (member of the Jumelage Committee as well as town councillor) before we adjourned to the church for Mass.

Photo : Keith Mansell, Jannick Moreau, Odile Vanneau, Philippe Vanneau and Joël Houvet. Note the flags on the Mairie – the Union flag is there too! You can see the cornflowers on lapels and the odd poppy.



After Mass, where we were greeted warmly by Father Christophe Besnier, we followed the band to the cemetery and the war memorial.

Photo : The standard bearers



The speeches were as moving as ever but were complemented this year by some readings by the Lèves primary school children, showing that they were committed to carrying on the tradition of remembering those who had died

for their country in the Great War as well as other conflicts.

Each name read out by the ancien combattant was followed by the phrase 'mort pour la France'. A powerful ritual. Wreaths were laid and Keith did the honours for Nailsworth, laying the traditional British

Legion poppy wreath at the foot of the monument aux morts.

Photo : Keith and the Mayor



Photo : Keith laying the wreath



After the band's rendition of God Save the Queen followed by the Marseillaise, the parade followed the band to the school where Rémi Martial, Lèves' mayor, started his speech in classic style but we noticed the group of school children standing patiently beside him, some of them with their sashes denoting that they had been elected by their class mates to be their representatives. In fact, Rémi Martial soon directed his attention to the children and asked them lots of questions about the purpose of remembering and what it meant to them. He also talked to them about the Twinning with Nailsworth and encouraged them (and the adults listening) to be aware of the benefits of friendships between nations and exchanges of this sort and to take advantage of them. We felt like honoured guests indeed!

Photo : Le vin d'honneur and the Mayor's speech.



After sparkling wine and nibbles, the grand banquet awaited us at the Espace Soutine. It was quite a feast! After another apéro, there was a starter, followed by fish, followed by meat, then cheese, then a dessert, all accompanied

by different wines. Coffee rounded off the meal. M. Dauvillier, presiding, made a speech in which we

were welcomed in very warm terms. We were seated opposite the Mayor and Father Christophe so we felt doubly honoured. Keith sat next to his hosts, Odile and Philippe, and I next to mine, Roger and Jannick. We were highly amused as well as charmed when Monsieur Dauvillier broke into song – Jean Ferrat’s “La montagne”!

Photo : The feast



As we left, Philippe took a picture of us by the Nailsworth tree, presented in 2015, the 20th anniversary of the Twinning Association.

Photo : The tree



We were treated yet again to a wonderful meal at the Vanneau the evening before we left, together with the Moreau, the Cosson and the Noulin. Both Friday and Saturday were spent being taken out and about by our hosts. We were totally spoilt by the kindness shown to us throughout our stay.

Photo : Dinner at the Vanneau



Photo : Leaving at 6.30am from Saint Prest station.



Au revoir Odile and Philippe, au revoir Jannick. A la prochaine, hopefully in May 2022!

Isobel Hié

*An apology:
Françoise's very
sad death was of
course in 2001,
not 2011 as
incorrectly stated
in the last Bulletin.
CdeL*



RETROSPECTIVE PART 3 : 2006-2010

2006 visit to Giverny on the way to Lèves



2006 Christ Church Choir comes along too



and sings with le Cluster Choir of Lèves



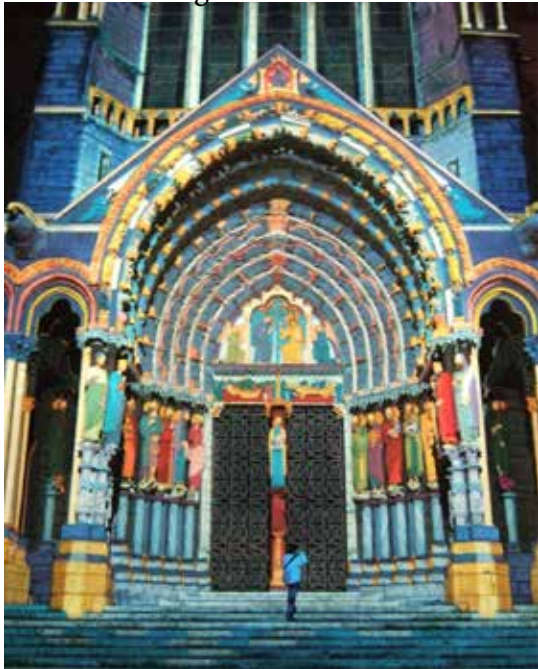
2007 unveiling the stone plaque which had been set into the side of the Mortimer Room



dinner and ceilidh at
Forest Green Rovers



2008 amazing illuminations at Chartres



Cathedral

Big Dave, our regular coach driver, keeps busy



lunch stop at somewhere very picturesque on the way home, of which the name escapes me!



2009 very large visit including Lèves Music School



Twinning theme tune 'Pirates of the Caribbean' is inaugurated with NW Silver Band



François Cornu plays for us in



Christ Church

2010 taking cricket to Lèves



Bring & share summer social and boules at the Targett's 14.08.2010

