



NEWSLETTER

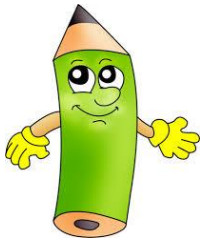


Summer 2018

Website: <http://exetertwinningcircle.wordpress.com>

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1. Your Newsletter

Food for Thought:

Life is a grindstone. Whether it grinds us down or polishes us up depends on us.

L. Thomas Holdcroft

All ETC members are welcome to attend the **DTC Meeting** which will be held on Saturday, **July 21, 2018** in **Cullompton**. If you would like to come for the lunch and then stay for the meeting or just to attend the meeting, please contact **Josie Mardon** by email: mandj@heimat.plus.com or telephone: 01392 253469.

The date of the next **ETC AGM** has been fixed for Monday, **February 11, 2019** at the Devon Hotel. The ETC Committee has agreed that this will be a lunchtime function.

May I ask all members and friends to let us have articles, comments or experiences that you wish to share with other members so that they can be included in future issues of the newsletter.



2. Word from the Chair

Well the longest day has come and gone as indeed have our dear friends from Rennes who were with us for an action packed 4 days from June 8th – 12th. Our twinning guardian angel was smiling and gave us good weather throughout the visit.



Please send items for inclusion in the next newsletter to Julie Parsons, preferably by email on etc.newsletter@yahoo.co.uk or alternatively tel: 01392 278764



I think all of us will remember that wonderful “round robin” trip on the Sunday by steam train and boat taking in Paignton, Kingswear, Dartmouth and Totnes and finishing off with a tasty supper at the Court Farm Inn just to show our French guests (if they needed any convincing) that you can eat well on this side of the Channel.



We also had our traditional Lord Mayor’s reception in the Guildhall, a demonstration of the new Vista AR project in the Cathedral, a splendid dinner at the University in Reed Hall and on the final day a trip to the lovely Kia Ora Gardens near Cullompton which were a real discovery for me, complete with a buffet lunch and cream tea. There was no danger of

anybody fainting from hunger at any time! I would like to thank all those who helped in all the preparation, including Josie, Maurice, David, Julie and Jane.



Our spring event with its memorable title: “A Munch with Memories, Memorabilia and Mental Dexterity” was held at Clyst St George Village Hall on April 20th and was thoroughly enjoyed by one and all. Basically it was a walk down memory lane with Steve Morris and John Sparks treating us to a lively slide show of various historic trips involving our three twin cities. As the title suggests there was also a quiz and buffet and so my thanks again to all involved in “putting the show on the road”.

As has become a tradition the ETC was present along with representatives of EYTA and the European Movement at the hoisting of the European flag at the Guildhall on Friday May 4th. Brexit or no Brexit this ceremony is an affirmation of Exeter’s European links and I hope it will be possible to continue this symbolic event – after all the 12 stars are also the emblem of the Council of Europe (an international organisation founded in 1949 and quite distinct from the EU) of which the UK will continue to be a member. I hope all of you enjoy the rest of the summer whether staying at home, or maybe travelling to some exotic destination. Your Chairman is off to Denmark for a week in July where they call Danish pastries Viennese!

John Whitton



3. 'Thank You' from Rennes

RENNES, le lundi 25 juin 2108

Dear John and all our hosts and friends from the Twinning Circle,

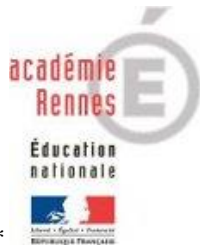
On behalf of our visiting members and in my personal name I am writing to express our appreciation once again for a very enjoyable and memorable visit.

The programme was a superb mixture of visits, new expeditions, experiences on land and water, excellent food, free time to pick up the conversations where we left them from last time and dare I say the 'specially ordered' weather conditions. We came back to a waterlogged, mud covered and desolate Brittany! The day of our arrival the conditions changed and now we bake in full sunshine. Special twinning effect??

Special thanks also to Josie and her sub-committee. I well know how much effort you have put into arranging everything.

Once again many thanks to you all, dear friends, for your contributions to make this such a great visit

With Kind Regards,
Thérèse KILNER



4. Rosa Parks College, Rennes

A few months ago one of the teachers contacted me about the possibility of their

students visiting Exeter and the possibility of them staying near St. Austell.

After many phone calls and emails their visit was arranged. Our Lord Mayor invited the group to an official reception in the Guildhall. On Monday morning the students arrived, a group of over 40 young people from Rennes aged between 11 and 14 years (equivalent to our year 7 and 8 in English schools).

Their group leaders were Anna O'Hora-Bimbot and Caroline Tizon who were assisted by two more members of staff.

The students were from the International Department of the College which has over 600 pupils in total. All of them receive 10 hours of English lessons a week. The students were from all over the world and they now live in France with their parents.

The students were amazing, they all spoke English, listened to the very detailed history of the Guildhall and asked questions. That is, intelligent questions which showed their depth of understanding and competence in a foreign language. They were polite and well-mannered in the formal setting. It was a privilege to be present.

I am sure that our Lord Mayor has never been asked such detailed questions by our local students. The staff at Rosa Parks College should be very proud of their pupils.

Unfortunately, they were only in Exeter for the morning. Their programme includes a day in school in St. Austell to experience English education, a trip to a tin mine, a treasure trail in Torquay and a whole day on Dartmoor. Then a journey home via Portsmouth to Caen and back to Rennes.

Their journey here was quite eventful, a fifteen year old refugee hid under their coach and was apprehended by the French authorities, causing some concerns and delays before the crossing. Perhaps he would have benefitted from an education at this wonderful college!

Josie Mardon



5. The Lord Mayor's Charity 2018/2019



The Lord Mayor's chosen Charity for 2018/2019 is **SSAFA Devon** – Relieving the suffering and distress amongst the Armed Forces, Veterans and their families.

All ETC members and their friends are welcome to come for the Lord Mayor's Charity Coffee Morning at Exeter Guildhall from **10:00 to 14:00** on:

- Saturday, **July 14, 2018**
- Saturday, **August 11, 2018**
- Saturday, **September 8, 2018**
- Saturday, **October 13, 2018**
- Saturday, **November 17, 2018**
- Saturday, **December 15, 2018**



6. Sad News

ROBIN HOOPER - 'ROB'

Rob Hooper was the Devon County Council Manager in charge of Twinning for the whole county.

He was a hard working diligent man, who supported Devon Twinning throughout his career. It is thanks to him that we receive our Devon 'Home to Home' newsletter.

We send our condolences to his family
Josie Mardon

Persis Stewart (wife of James, DTC Treasurer) passed away on Thursday 25th May 2018

She had only been ill for four weeks with a very aggressive and untreatable cancer.

Persis was secretary of Newton Abbot and regularly came to DTC meetings. We send our condolence to James.

DTC



7. Dates for Your Diary

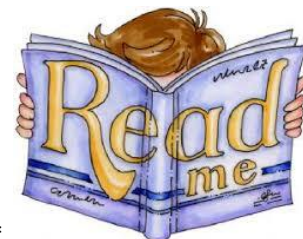
- Every Third Thursday of Each Month - 'Coffee Meet' at Ferns Cafe – from 11:00**
- Saturday, July 21, 2018 – DTC Meeting, Cullompton**
- Saturday, October 13, 2018 – ETC Autumn Event, Clyst St. George**
- November 2 – 7, 2018 – Inbound Visit from Bad Homburg**
- Saturday, December 8, 2018 – ETC Christmas Party, Cardinal Newman Centre**
- Monday, February 11, 2019 – ETC AGM**

8. ETC Twinning Groups Contacts

Your contact for Bad Homburg
- **Alison Sykes**
alisonsykes14@gmail.com

Your contact for Rennes
- **John Whitton**
johnbwhitton@yahoo.co.uk

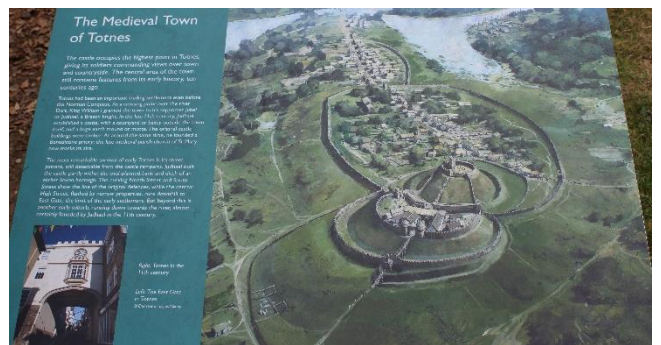
Your contact for Terracina
- **Beryl Whidden**
thewhiddens@gmail.com



RENNES VISIT – PHOTO REPORT



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