

# NEWSLETTER

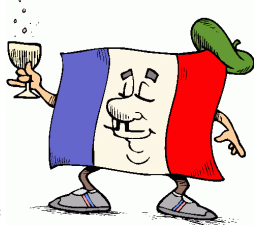


September 2016

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

## In This Month's Issue

1. **Your Newsletter**
2. **Word from the Chair**
3. **Letter from Rennes**
4. **DTC Skittles Competition**
5. **New Members**
6. **Dates for Your Diary**
7. **ETC Twinning Groups Contacts**



\*\*\*\*\*

### 1. Your Newsletter

Food for Thought:

*In the end, it's not going to matter how many breaths you took, but how many moments took your breath away.*

*Shing Xiong*

In a few days some of our ETC members will be on the other side of the Channel making the most of every moment, living for the experience that they will remember forever. Let's wish them a safe trip and unforgettable days with their French friends.

The celebrations are going on!!!

Joël Sénéschal made a nice film about their twinning visit to Exeter in June. If you would like to see a short version of the DVD please follow this link:

<https://youtu.be/KWwpO7VrEpI>



In July we had a very successful boat trip down the Exe estuary and along Exmouth sea front. The weather being very English, tested us whether we are up to its standards. Well, armed with brollies and anoraks, wrapped in throws, off we went! A

fresh sea breeze, occasional drizzle and spectacular views added excitement to the day. Icing on the cake was Molly Walker's birthday, our long-standing member, who is ninety-six years young!

Also, it was nice to see so many new faces who came along to experience our twinning trip and let's hope that our numbers will grow.



\*\*\*\*\*

This year's **ETC Autumn Event** is an 'Antiques Road Show and Evaluation Evening' on Friday, **October 21, 2016** at **Victoria Park Tennis Club**, Lyndhurst Road, Exeter EX2 4NX.

This will be a social gathering with 'Fish and Chips' supper followed by tea/coffee and cake and a charge of **£8.00 p.p** has been agreed to cover our costs. All members and friends are welcome!

**Please make a note in your diary that the evening will start at 18:30 (which is earlier than previously announced) and the 'Fish and Chips' supper will be served at 18:45.**

Please fill in your 'Reply Slip' and send it by Friday, **October 7, 2016** to **Josie Mardon, Heimat, 35 Woodwater Lane, Exeter, EX2 5JY; Tel: 01392 253469.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The ETC Committee is looking for volunteers who will take on selling ETC raffle tickets. For the last eight years, the Rotary Club of Sid Valley has teamed up with the Rotary Clubs of Otter Valley, Axminster, Dawlish Water, Teignmouth, Crediton Boniface and Chudleigh & Bovey Tracey to organise the **South East Devon**

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

**Community Raffle.** They are running it again this year from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. Their aim is to help community organisations, such as ETC, to raise money for their funds in a simple and risk-free way.

ETC will be provided with raffle tickets, in multiples of 100. Each ticket will be printed with the name of our organisation and ETC will sell the tickets and return the counterfoils to the organizers, together with just 10% of the revenue. We keep 90p for our funds for every £1 ticket that we sell.

Sid Valley Rotary Club gets the licence for the raffle. They print and distribute the tickets to us. They provide the prizes and organise the draw. They cover the costs and provide the prizes from contributions from the Rotary Clubs, sponsorship and the 10% of each ticket price. The first prize is £1000, with other smaller cash prizes. This is a Rotary community service project and Rotary makes no profit. The prize draw will be held in November 2016.

This is a fund raising activity and if you are happy to help the ETC Committee please contact **Josie Mardon** by email: [mandj@heimat.plus.com](mailto:mandj@heimat.plus.com) or telephone: 01392 253469.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2. Word from the Chair

Summer seems to have gone by in a flash. We were lucky to have some sunny interludes, even if the temperatures only rarely got above the mid-20s. The rain did however keep away most of the time from our Exmouth/River Exe cruise on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We had a flurry of last minute takers which meant we made a modest profit. Luckily our cruise did not clash with the local naturalists who had their own cruise a week later! There is more about the event on page 1.

At the moment we (that is 24 of us) are preparing for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip to Rennes from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September. We will be accompanied by a civic delegation with Lord Mayor Cynthia Thompson (and her husband David) Councillors Leadbetter and Pearson and Emara Roth from the Civic Centre. We look forward to a full programme on this special occasion when we hope to cement the Entente Cordial - especially in view of the result of the referendum. One of the

special features of this visit will be handing over a collection of English children's books to a primary school in Rennes as a special gift, just as we did last year in Bad Homburg. Of course, the Referendum and its fallout was the event of the summer, even if politics was for a moment relegated to the background by the Olympic Games. In view of the pro-leave EU result I decided to write the following letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> June:

*Dear Members and Friends of ETC,*

*On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> last there was a majority vote in the referendum for the UK to leave the European Union. It is interesting to note in passing that Exeter was one of only two areas in the region south west of Bristol that voted to remain. However, sometime later this year the legal process for withdrawal will begin and the UK could be outside the EU as early as the end of 2018.*

*Whatever your views on this issue I would like to underline that this decision in no way threatens Exeter's twinning links with Rennes, Bad Homburg and Terracina. Indeed, since twinning is based on friendship and mutual exchanges not only between individuals but also between various organisations and clubs it is all the more important that these links continue as they have done for 60 years in the case of Rennes, 51 years in the case of Bad Homburg, and 28 years in the case of Terracina.*

*I am copying this letter to our City Council and to our friends in Exeter's twin cities.*

In responding our French, German and Italian friends agreed, of course, with my sentiments, even if tinged with a certain sadness. I subsequently wrote to the Express and Echo in a similar vein and also took the opportunity to remark that the most Brexit town in the UK (Boston, Lincs at around 75% of the vote) manages to flag up its twinning links on its entry signs! It would be good if our city council would do the same when they come to renew our entry signs. I shouldn't however be too critical of our Council since we do enjoy their support and encouragement AND an annual grant.

I am very much looking forward to the trip to Rennes to renew old friendships and my acquaintance with that fine city. The visit will be fully covered in the next edition of the

Newsletter. Indeed, we are aiming to produce a brochure illustrated with photos from the Exeter and Rennes Camera clubs later in the year. If you're not coming to Rennes, I'm sure I'll see many of you at our Antiques Roadshow and Evaluation evening on October 21<sup>st</sup> (see the booking form).

*John Whitton*



\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **3. Letter from Rennes**

Rennes, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear John,

On behalf of the Comité de Jumelage I have great pleasure in sending this thank you letter to you and your dear members who hosted us in this special year of Celebrations, which not only renewed long lasting friendship for many of us but forged new ones for some of us. And of course "officialising" it with the presence of the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lieutenant – as a representative of the Queen – never fails to impress "republicans"!

I did hear several people's comment "The best ever"-

Thank you again John, Josie and her sub-committee and all your members for organising a memorable visit. A lot of hard work is done behind the scene – as we all know!

All that is left for me now is to say à très bientôt à Rennes in September.

Amitiés sincères,  
Thérèse

P.S. Thank you for the wonderful hot weather you reserved for us. We came here to wet weather and I believe that same in the UK (as seen on TV – Her majesty's Official Birthday Celebrations yesterday)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **4. DTC Skittles Competition**

We had a fun day with excellent food. Our team of Kathy, Steve, Pam, Miriam and David did their best, but were a little reminiscent of the England team at Euro 16. Mind you Maurice, who was

seconded to play for Tiverton, didn't have much success either. But being very British we think it was the taking part that was important not the winning.

*Josie Mardon*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **5. New Members**

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following new members:  
Noel and Jacqueline Sudbury

and a welcome back to:  
Mrs Gay Harris  
Keith and Zena Worters

\*\*\*\*\*

### **6. Dates for Your Diary**

Every Third Thursday of Each Month -  
'Coffee Meet' at Ferns Cafe - from 11:00

September 23 - 27, 2016 - Outbound Visit to Rennes

September 24, 2016 - Lord Mayor's Charity Coffee Morning; Exeter Guildhall

Friday, October 21, 2016 - ETC Antiques Road Show and Evaluation Evening

Saturday, October 22, 2016 - DTC Meeting, Crediton

Saturday, November 19, 2016 - Lord Mayor's Charity Coffee Morning; Exeter Guildhall

Friday, December 2, 2016 - ETC Christmas Party

Monday, February 13, 2017 - Annual General Meeting

\*\*\*\*\*

### **7. ETC Twinning Groups Contacts**

Your contact for Bad Homburg

- Alison Sykes [alisonSykes14@gmail.com](mailto:alisonSykes14@gmail.com)

Your contact for Rennes

- John Whitton [johnbwhitton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnbwhitton@yahoo.co.uk)

Your contact for Terracina

- Mara Attwater [mara.attwater@gmail.com](mailto:mara.attwater@gmail.com)



\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*