

2023
visit
up and
running

Including:

Book launch p1-2

Tombola p2

France 2023 p3

Films 2023 p4

Narberth trip p4-5

Other 2023 events p6



Ludlow French Twinning News

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Bonjour!

That's the name of a new book about twinning which is now available. It's all about our twinning with La Ferté-Macé over the years and above all, about the people who have made twinning possible and those who have enjoyed its unique experience. Best of all, it comes from the very mouths of the many people who have been so involved over the last thirty years and more. And that's mainly **YOU!**



Bonjour explains the reasons for the success of Ludlow French Twinning over five decades. The enthusiasm, organisation and participation that goes into so many twinning activities like Ludlow's food and drink, sporting musical and other cultural events are very evident in this book. It is a **MUST** read for members and friends past and present!

A bit more about *Bonjour*



The 168-page paperback book has 130 illustrations which explain so graphically why Normandy was chosen as a partner and why twinning is so important today. It looks at key factors in getting there and back, hosting and accommodating, financing and other matters that make for successful twinning. Reminiscences are plentiful from the many Ludlovian members and others who have engaged in twinning, both here and in France, whether in sports, education, music or food, from 1985 till the present

day. This is supported by means of a comprehensive year by year memory-jogging account of so many momentous events.

A historic reference section lists the key players from both Ludlow and La Ferté Macé whose involvement in twinning in so many ways has made it so successful. The work also looks at how twinning and local government work together in a different way in the two countries. Other twinning groups, too, will find much useful advice

and information in the book. Above all, the book shows so clearly that twinning is healthy and alive and kicking in the modern age, especially in Wales and the Marches.

Copies of *Bonjour* are obtainable from:

Castle Bookshop,
5 Castle Street
Ludlow SY8 1AS
Tel: 01584 872562

Price £16

Or online at:

www.britonferrybooks.uk

Price £16 plus postage



The sculpture of thoroughbred horses, which was presented to us by La Ferté in 1988.



Tombola stall 2022

Thanks to members donations, good weather and attendances at Ludlow's September Food Festival, our tombola venture was again rewarding for all concerned. We are most grateful to those members who contributed prizes. And to the committee members on the stall— Grace Wilkins, Garry Oram and Ann and Andy Mulford. The pictures show you how much interest the prizes on our stall at the Bull Ring generated for a wide array of visitors.

France 2023

We will leave Ludlow in the afternoon of Friday 26th May to catch the 23.00 hours DFDS ferries' sailing to Dieppe
On return we will take the 12.00 from Dieppe on Tuesday 30th May.
The crossing will be five hours, shorter than with Brittany Ferries and there will be reclining seats for all.
We will let you know the cost as soon as decided but, as always, children (up to 18) go free.
It would be helpful if you could let us know as soon as possible whether you plan to take part.



Films 2023

Our fête du cinema will continue during 2023 with a monthly showing at the Blue Boar for members and friends. Each film starts at 7.30.
As usual the Blue Boar will offer its pre-film menu and its fine range of hot and cold and alcoholic drinks.
Don't forget the last film of 2022 will be screened on December 7th.
It's Le Chignon d'Olga.



Month	Day of film	Title	Duration (Minutes)
January	Wednesday 4	L'Armée des ombres	145
February	Wednesday 1	5 x 2	90
March	Wednesday 1	Rust and Bone	118
April	Wednesday 5	Beloved	138
May	Wednesday 3	La séparation	84
June	Wednesday 7	The vanishing fiancée	90
July	Wednesday 5	Paris 13	101
August	Wednesday 2	Petite Maman	70
September	Wednesday 6	An impossible love	129
October	Wednesday 4	Riffi	113
November	Wednesday 1	Le mouton a 5 pattes	89
December	Wednesday 6	Tell no one	126

A goodwill visit to Narberth



Over thirty Ludlow twinning members and guests made the Autumn trip to Narberth. Here they are saying 'goodbye and thank you' by displaying the Welsh flag before leaving town.



The delightful café in the Malthouse (Left) and a floor in the main Antiques Centre (Right)

Narberth-‘The loveliest town in Wales?’

Narberth’s population is just 2150 and a third of its inhabitants speak Welsh. The settlement was founded around a Welsh Court which became a Norman stronghold on the Landsker line from the 13th century when the castle was built. The Normans settled south of the line and the area became English speaking, whereas to the north the use of Welsh predominated. One could say Narberth’s first connection with Ludlow really occurred then.

(continued below)



Narberth Castle ‘s outline remains are on a prominent spot but no upper storeys remain.

In 2005, the castle and its grounds were taken over by the council. To commemorate this the official twinning documents were signed by the Mayors of Ludlow and Narberth.

A special production of the Mabinogion was performed to commemorate these significant events.

(The Mabinogion were the earliest British prose stories compiled in the 12th and 13th centuries)



Until recent times, Narberth’s Book shop and Museum was a bonded store for many, many years belonging to wine merchant and brewer James Williams. The business was taken over in 2002 by the Cardiff Brewer, Brains who closed the warehouse, enabling local volunteers to create a museum, Today it contains objects from the bonded store, along with a model railway, an exhibition of significant Pembrokeshire women and much else of interest about the Pembrokeshire area.



LUDLOW FRENCH TWINNING

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Photographs

Thanks to members who kindly submitted information and images for this newsletter and for the website.

For the website please send to:

Shirley.davies@orange.fr

You may also wish to post information yourself on

our FACEBOOK

Or, for the newsletter to:

philipadams@uwclub.net

THANK YOU

www.ludlowfrenchtwinning.co.uk



Your committee

Chair	Grace Wilkins	Tel: 01584 318163
Secretary	Philip Horsfall	Tel: 01584 876161
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Social	Ann and Andy Mulford	Tel: 01584 879383
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'Other' events 2023

Whilst many members are focused on the 2023 trip to France It certainly will not be the only event during 2023.

Other events will be:

Our annual dinner.

This normally takes place in January. Once the date and venue is set members will be invited.

Weekend day trips

Following the success of the Narberth visit, members and friends have requested further trips. We use the same coaches as on the French trips. Why not send your suggestions for places to visit to the committee?



Boulton's coaches (above L) have taken us to France and to Narberth

Bill's Kitchen (above R) was the venue for our 2021 dinner dinner