

Wednesday
8
until
Sunday 12
May

2024
Exchange

Featuring:

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Ludlow French Twinning

Number 56

May 2024

2024 visit from La Ferté-Macé

This year the visit from the Wednesday till Sunday coincided with **Ludlow Spring Festival** from the Friday to the Sunday. Nearly fifty French visitors were involved in this, the thirty-eighth year of visits to and from France.



A youthful party of Ludlow hosts welcome guests from La Ferté Macé at their arrival **reception** at Ludlow Brewery on Wednesday evening (above) and a **river trip** (below) on the Sabrina at Shrewsbury.



The Mount

(Top)

This is where Charles Darwin was born in 1809 and spent his formative years. He wrote the *Origin of Species by Natural Selection* in 1859.



Quarry Park

(Centre)

The Quarry is Shrewsbury's beautiful, 29-acre parkland, encircled by the majestic loop of the river Severn. At the heart of the Quarry lies the Dingle, a floral masterpiece cultivated by world-renowned gardener Percy Thrower. It's a delightful sunken garden landscaped with alpine borders, brilliant bedding plants, shrubbery and charming water features.



Sabrina Cruise

(Below)

A highlight of the visit was the 45 minute private cruise on the River Severn in the double decker *Sabrina* which provided a wonderful sight of the many delightful architectural and riverside features between the Welsh and English Bridges.



Hereford

Visitors to Hereford spent a morning in the cathedral to see an informative practical demonstration by the Cathedral's resident stonemason, Simon Hudson. A visit to the Bishop's Palace and the private cloisters was followed by the two items of national importance, namely the Mappa Mundi and the Chained Library, along with their interpretive exhibition.

A further, optional, visit was offered to Hereford town hall's Mayor's Chamber to see the Hereford City charter signed by Richard the Lionheart

The **Mappa Mundi** is the cathedral's late 13th century map of the world and one of the most important medieval works of art still in existence. It shows the passion of the time for arranging knowledge comprehensively from Creation to Doomsday. It is a type of pictorial encyclopaedia, or a map of the medieval mind; perhaps a forerunner to Wikipedia.

The **Chained Library**, in the Lady Chapel, dates from the early 17th century, but the 1500 rare books and 200 medieval manuscripts are from the 8th to the 19th century and are still chained to the original 17th century bookcases. The Hereford Gospels is the earliest book containing the plain text of the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. It is still used for research. The other major subject in the library is Church and Civil law, both of which were added to the Library up to the Reformation. Most books, including those printed are in Latin, are found in six double and two single book cases.

*Credit is due to member **Andrew Pike** for arranging this visit.*



A row of books in the chained Library (Left) and the Mappa Mundi (above)



Ann Mulford's blue white and red table decoration in the south aisle represented the tricolore. Some diners climbed the 136 steps up the spiral staircase and listened to the bellringing before enjoying an Andrew Francis hog roast and a full finger buffet, along with wine or soft drinks.



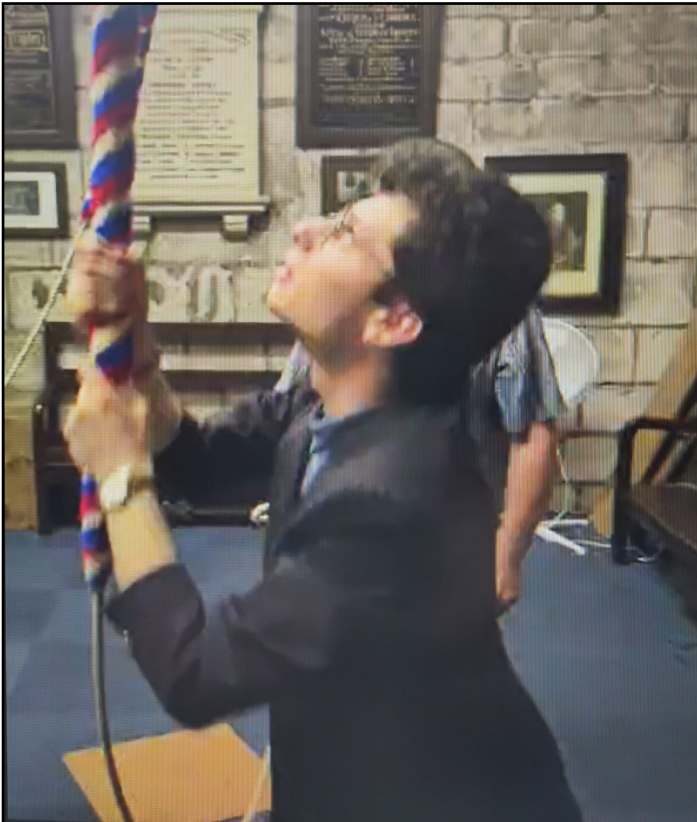
The Mayor of Ludlow, Councillor Beverley Waite (left) and Deputy Mayor Tim Gill welcomed the Fertois officially to Ludlow to set off the evening's proceedings.



After the meal, many of the 100 plus in attendance enjoyed the barn dance in St Laurence's large nave. With the Bandedemonium group of 15 members and caller giving it all, many participants young and old stayed on the floor until exhaustion set in or the 10pm closure arrived!



The hot weather during the visit persuaded host Jane Taylor(R) and guest Martine Jules to cool off with an ice- cream



No Hippolyte! You abseil on the **outside** of the tower



Other visits

During the free time in the programme some hosts took their guests far and wide to experience various activities. Among these were swimming on Borth beach, (below, left) a visit to Montgomery Castle (bottom) and a walk along the Montgomery Canal to see the locks and wildlife (below, right).



Montgomery (left) is one of those castles that, even in ruin, retain a powerful atmosphere and presence that transcend its state of preservation. Perhaps it's something to do with its location, on a steep crag above a pretty Georgian town with all-seeing views across the Welsh border.

(CADW)

Chester visit

On Saturday 6 April Members and friends made a day trip to Chester. On this free-to-roam day many walked the Roman walls and visited the Roman amphitheatre with its ongoing excavations. Others simply shopped in the Rows, the shopping district with two-level covered arcades and Tudor-style half-timber buildings. A further attraction was the Cathedral which contained a scale Lego model of itself (top) and the sculptures in the cloisters (below).



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@imadethis.co.uk

You may also wish to post information on our FACEBOOK pages

For the newsletter to:

philipadams@uwclub.net

THANK YOU

Each film is screened on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm

www.ludlowfrenchtwinning.co.uk



Your 2024 committee

Chair	Grace Wilkins	Tel: 01584 318163
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Shrewsbury's quaint cobbled streets like Fish Street and Grope Lane, with their half timbered Tudor buildings such as the *Three Fishes Inn* (Great for cask ales) and *St Alkmunds Church* beyond were quite an attraction for the Fertois during the Shrewsbury visit.



Blue Boar Film programme 2024

Date	Film title
	Film titles are unlikely to change, but should it be necessary, everyone will be notified in time.
Jun 5	3 colours- RED
Jul 3	Le Havre
Aug 7	Le Petit monde de Don Camillo
Sept 4	Madame Bovary
Oct 2	La môme
Nov 6	A Journey through French Cinema 1
Dec 4	A Journey through French Cinema 2

Members and friends are invited to take advantage of the Blue Boar's offering of food and drink. A full menu is available before the film and hot and cold drinks are also available for consumption during the film. Menus can be seen online at:

<http://www.blueboarludlow.co.uk/>