

## The Visit to Pithiviers: 14th - 20th June, 2017

Once again we spent an extra day in France en route to Pithiviers and this



*Reims Cathedral*

time stayed over night in Reims. On Thursday morning we were free to explore. Most visited the cathedral, famous as the site for the coronation of French kings. Then the choice was an open-top bus tour, museums or just a lazy wander around the historic city and its charming cafés. Mid afternoon we set off for Pithiviers to be greeted enthusiastically by our French families.

Friday we were taken to an impressive mushroom farm in the remains of an old limestone quarry by the Loire, where we were able to see the propagation of a



*A Mushroom Farm*

huge number of different varieties and lunch enabled us to taste of some of them before returning to our host families.

Saturday marked the "official" meetings starting with the "Vin d'Honneur" in the morning. Our mayor, Cllr. Jim Hoult and town clerk, Jack Fargher represented the Town Council and gifts were exchanged, as usual. Cllr. Hoult took the opportunity



to announce the inauguration of an annual scheme of awards at schools in both towns for achievements in French or English and the Mayor of Pithiviers made a presentation of an eponymous cake to him.



In the afternoon we went out of town to enjoy the Caribbean-style twinning lunch and, although the extreme hot weather appeared to prevent the planned games taking place afterwards, some members were taken off to visit a local goat farm.

Our Monday visit was not far from Versailles to the theme park "France Miniature". This involved a fascinating



walk effectively around France to see miniature versions of famous or typical buildings from all regions and well-known cities. Lunch was had on site.



We left Pithiviers on Tuesday morning at the remarkably civilised hour of 7:30 and enjoyed a mercifully uneventful trip home, broken only by a pleasant stop-off for lunch at the *Belle Etoile* in Arras, scene of last visit's memorable events!

The weather throughout our stay was superb although some might argue a trifle too hot but it was pleasant to bask in the warm sun. As always we were made very welcome and enjoyed both the visits and hospitality offered to us by our good French friends.

*There is a video of the visit on the Association website.*



Please note provisional dates for next year's visit from Pithiviers will be:-  
**7th - 12th June, 2018.**

# Rosemary Tyldesley

It is with great sadness that we announce the recent death of Rosemary Tyldesley, one of our honorary life members.

Rosemary was a stalwart of the Association for, at least, half its existence and for many years she was secretary and very active in its organisation and operation. She was, in the past, a regular attendee in the exchange visits. Although more recently the passage of years meant that she was unable to continue her detailed involvement in the activities of the Association the present membership and our success owes a great deal to her contribution and that of her generation in ensuring the healthy on-going nature of our enterprise. She will be missed by those of us who knew her over the years and we extend our heart-felt condolences to her family at this sad time.

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>Chairman</b>	Margaret Barnett	Tel: 01283-552636	e-mail: <a href="mailto:mhbarnrtt8@yahoo.co.uk">mhbarnrtt8@yahoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Joan Foster	Tel: 01530-224494	e-mail: <a href="mailto:joan.inchley@talktalk.net">joan.inchley@talktalk.net</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Elaine Shaw	Tel: 01530-564077	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ptva@hotmail.co.uk">ptva@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Briggs	Tel: 01530-414934	e-mail: <a href="mailto:willesley@tiscali.co.uk">willesley@tiscali.co.uk</a>
<b>Membership Sec.</b>	Anne Donegan	Tel: 01283-760348	e-mail: <a href="mailto:amdonegan@btinternet.com">amdonegan@btinternet.com</a>

### Committee Members:

Sandra Adkins Les Aldrich Linda Brown Geoff Cort Pat Cort Wendy Fry David Harris Ann Shilton Peter Wilkinson  
**Town Council Representative:** Cllr. Mary Tuckey



## Bastille Day Pétanque

On Saturday 15th of July we were back at the King's Arms in Coleorton for our annual pétanque competition. This year there were over twenty of us. Starting with an enjoyable lunch four teams set out to win this annual event beneath lowering skies, which fortunately failed to deliver any rain. The winners finally emerged as David Underwood, Peter Wilkinson, Pat and Geoff Cort. Margaret presented them with the customary prize of



wine from Pithiviers before we headed home. Another great afternoon to celebrate our twin town's *fête nationale*. Thanks to Sandra for organising it. *There is a short video on the website.*

## Wally Instrall

We have just learned from Wally's family that he has now moved to a retirement home in Buckinghamshire to be closer to them. He has been a member of the Twinning Association for many a long year and a regular participant in our social events and twinning visits in both directions. Those of us who know him will miss his cheery face and ready wit but wish him well in his new location.

## Tales of the "Titanic"

### Friday, 22nd September at the Congregational Church, Kilwardby Street, Ashby

Jake Billingham is a young man well acquainted with the events surrounding the fateful story of the *Titanic* and well qualified to deliver an interesting lecture on the subject. The venue is the Congregational Church in Ashby at 19.00 for a 19.30 start and the cost: £8.50 to include supper and a glass of wine. There is a booking form on the back page to be returned to Margaret by 18th September.

## A Harvest Hoe Down

### Saturday 28th October at Packington Memorial Hall

Join the fun and frolics with *Double Capers* for a really good evenings entertainment. This is our major fundraising event of the year and tickets are now available from Margaret and committee members at £12.50 (£10.00 for children under 14) to include refreshments. There will be a licensed bar at the hall. Doors open at 19.00 and the fun begins at 19.30.

There is a booking form on the back page to be returned to Margaret by 21st October.

## 2017 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Friday 22nd September:**  
**Saturday 28th October:**  
**Monday 13th November:**  
**Wednesday 6th December:**

Tales of the "Titanic" @ the Congregational Church, Ashby. (*Booking Form on back page.*)  
 Harvest Hoe Down @Packington Memorial Hall. (*Booking Form on back page.*)  
 Annual General Meeting  
 Christmas Walk and Lunch

Please book ☐ places for Tales of the "Titanic" at £8.50 each. I enclose cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: ..... Tel. Number: .....

Address: .....

E-mail: .....

Please cut out and return with cheque made payable to "Ashby/Pithiviers Association"  
 to Margaret Barnett, 8, Grange Road, Newhall, Swadlincote, DE11 0SZ **by 18th September.**

Please book ☐ adult places at £12.50 each ☐ children's places at £10.00 each. for the Harvest Hoe Down

I enclose cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: ..... Tel. Number: .....

Address: .....

E-mail: .....

Please cut out and return with cheque made payable to "Ashby/Pithiviers Association" to Margaret Barnett, 8, Grange Road,  
 Newhall, Swadlincote, DE11 0SZ **by 21st October.**

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal is due from 1st September. We would much appreciate you signing up as soon as possible to aid administration. There is a renewal form below to be sent with appropriate cheque payable to "Ashby/Pithiviers Twinning Association" to Anne Donegan. Thank you.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

I/We enclose membership subscription for the year 1st September, 2017 to 31st August, 2018.

\* Please tick which subscription category applies to you. (See Constitution clause 3).

☐

Individual: £12.00\*

☐

Family: £18.00\*

☐

Group: £18.00\*

☐

Junior: £1.00

Name: ..... Address: .....

Post Code: ..... Telephone Number: .....

E-mail address: .....

Please cut out and return with cheque made payable to "Ashby Pithiviers Association" to  
 Anne Donegan, 41, Park Road, Moira, Swadlincote, Derbys., DE12 6BJ.