



Newsletter No. 1, 2018

website: www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk

JANUARY

Denis Hankins

It is with much sadness that we report the death of Denis Hankins, after a long period of bad health. Joyce and Denis were very active in all aspects of our Association during the 80s, 90s and early 2000s with Denis creating a range of customised Association polo and sweat shirts - and Joyce being a leading light both on the general committee and, specifically, on the Social Sub-Committee. They were both a permanent fixture of exchange visits (both travelling and hosting) for a couple of decades. Our sincere condolences to Joyce and family.

The funeral is to take place on Friday 2nd February at 1130 hrs at Bretby Crematorium, and afterwards at the Lyric Rooms.

The January Quiz

The annual quiz took place this year on Saturday 13th January at the Ashby Congregational Church. There was an excellent turn out of just under 40 participants and, as usual, the competition was fierce. There were eight teams answering six rounds of ten questions each with a mid time break for a variety of soups, crusty bread and cake and the well-supported raffle was also drawn then. At the end of the evening the scores showed just how close the competition had been but the victory went to "The Flags", who were awarded the traditional prize of wine from Pithiviers. Many thanks to everyone who took part in the organisation of this successful event and, indeed to all who participated. It was an excellent fund-raiser as well as being a lot of fun!



The Beetle Drive

Friday 23rd February - 19.00 for 19.30 at the Charles Booth Community Centre, Thringstone .

Lots of fun assembling the insect in this fine old traditional English game! Friendly competition with an accompanying equally fine old English award-winning fish & chip supper. There is a bar at the centre. Just fill in the form on the back page and send it off to Margaret together with the £8.50 per head charge to arrive **no later than Monday 19th February**, as numbers are limited. Hope to see you there!

Panel Games Evening

Saturday 24th March - 19.00 for 19.30 at St. Helen's Heritage Centre (The Cottage), Ashby

This event is now becoming a regular feature in our annual programme. Whether you're an extrovert who loves the lime-light, an introvert who hates it, or somewhere between, you can contribute to your team's success! It's the battle of "reds v blues" with all attendees joining one or the other team. Inspired by a variety of panel games on TV and radio, each round is based on a different show for an evening of light-hearted quizzing and laughter! Bring your sense of humour and your own drinks and glasses - we'll provide the chilli supper and motive for merriment! Price £10.00 per person. Please book with Elaine **by Wednesday, 21st March.**

Can you accommodate a young lady from Pithiviers?

Can you offer, or know someone who can offer, accommodation to a young lady from Pithiviers this summer? Aimee Hannequin, President of the Pithiviers branch of our organisation for around 2 decades, is looking for help in finding accommodation for her 17 year old grand-daughter this summer. Emma, a student of English, is wanting to improve her English and, in that aim, she is willing to look after children, help anyone with their French, or do other work in exchange for accommodation. Although she will be here for 6 weeks, it is likely that she may gain significant benefit in splitting that time between different hosts so an offer for any period of time would be appreciated. If you can offer her any accommodation, or work (paid or voluntary), for any length of time in July or August, please contact Elaine Shaw on 01530 564077 or ptva@hotmail.co.uk.

THE 2018 VISIT FROM PITHIVIERS - (Thursday 7th to Tuesday 12th June)

We are busy making preparations for the visit in June.

Thursday June 7th	Early evening arrival Royal Hotel Ashby
Friday June 8th	Visit: Industrial Heritage Birmingham
Saturday June 9th	Civic Reception: Ashby venue to be confirmed
Saturday evening	Twinning Dinner: Queen's Head Belton
Sunday June 10th	Family Day
Monday June 11th	Agricultural Heritage: Vale of Belvoir
Tuesday June 12th	French guests begin their return journey

We will be welcoming a large group this year with quite a few new French members who are anxious to practise their English.

Social Lunch Programme

These impromptu social lunches for members to meet up at various pubs/restaurants in and around the Ashby area are proving quite popular and well-attended. At each one a donation of £1.50 towards the Association is given when you first arrive, and you then select what you would like to eat/drink and enjoy a sociable and convivial lunch and at the end pay for what you have had.

*I have arranged the following venues and if you would like to come, **please let me know** just so I can let them know the numbers: ann.shilton@tesco.net or telephone: 01283 225066 (leave a message if I am not around).*

I hope you can come, and also if you have any venues you would like to visit in the future please let me know.

12.30 Wednesday, 28 February 2018 at The Vine, Bath Street, Ashby

12.30 Thursday, 29 March 2018 at The Beeches, Burton Road, Ashby

12.30 Tuesday, 17 April 2018 at The Bull & Lion, Packington

I look forward to seeing you.

Ann Shilton

Christmas Walk and Lunch

Regrettably we had to cancel this event through lack of support as the venue only opens at lunch time especially for us and obviously needs reasonable numbers to justify it. Next year we will seek to arrange it at a weekend, which gives us more flexibility.

2018 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 23rd February:	Beetle Drive @ Thringstone Community Hall (Booking Form on back page).
Saturday, 24th March:	Panel Games @ St. Helen's Heritage Centre (Booking Form on back page).
Friday, 27th April:	"Bits & Bobs" @ Ashby Congregational Church
Sunday, 20th May:	Walk in the National Forest followed by lunch @ Waterside.
Thurs 7th-Tues 12th June:	Visit from Pithiviers. (Hosting Form on back page).
Saturday, 14th July:	Bastille Day Pétanque @ Kings Arms, Coleorton.
Sunday, 19th August:	Lunchtime BBQ @ Osgathorpe.
Saturday, 8th September:	"Last Night of the Proms" @ Linton.
Friday, 19th October:	Oompah Band @ Moira Village Hall.
Monday, 26th November:	Annual General Meeting.
Sunday, 9th(?) December:	Christmas Walk and Lunch. <i>To be arranged.</i>



Beetle Drive

Please book ☐ places for the Beetle Drive at £8.50 each. I enclose cheque for £ _____.

Name: Tel. Number:

E-mail address:

Please return with cheque payable to *Ashby/Pithiviers Association* to Margaret Barnett, 8, Grange Road, Newhall, Swadlincote, DE11 0SZ by 19th February.

Panel Games Evening

Please book ☐ places for the Panel Games Evening at £10.00 each. I enclose cheque for £ _____.

Name: Tel. Number:

E-mail address:

Please return with cheque for *Ashby/Pithiviers Association* to Elaine Shaw, 187 Nottingham Road, Ashby LE65 1DP by 21st March



HOSTING FOR OUR PITHIVIERS VISITORS

Name: Address:

Telephone: e-mail address:

(a) I/We have already made arrangements to host (visitors' name):

(b) I/We would like to host **YES/NO*** I/We would prefer a **Single/Couple/Neither***
How would you rate your French? **Good/Adequate/Basic/None***

(c) I/We are not able to host but would like to offer a meal to visitors on:

Friday Evening/Saturday Lunch/Sunday Lunch/Sunday Evening/Monday Evening*

NB Availability of guests will depend on any programme their hosts may have arranged. * delete as applicable

Please return by end February to: Margaret Barnett, 8, Grange Road, Newhall, Swadlincote, DE11 0SZ.