



# ASHBY-PITHIVIERS TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Newsletter No. 2, 2019 [website: www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk](http://www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk)



MARCH

## Mollie Starr

Older members both here and in Pithiviers will be saddened to hear of the sudden death, early this month, of Mollie Starr. She and husband Ken, who passed away some years ago, were once very active participants in the Twinning, taking part in visits in both directions as well as the social and fund-raising side of the Association. In recent years Mollie's reduced mobility had caused her to stand down but she continued to show a lively interest in our activities and was still very much involved in the French Circle, the meetings of which she usually hosted in fine style, including the February meeting shortly before her death. It is particularly hard that she was in process of selling her house locally and about to move down to Bath to be closer to her family when she passed away. Our thoughts and condolences go to her extensive family at this sad time.



## THE BALLOON DEBATE

The Balloon Debate was a "star-studded" evening with an assortment of celebrities who were gathered together in an imaginary hot-air balloon. Each "celebrity" had to give an account of why they should not be tipped out of the balloon-basket from a great height and at the end we voted which person should remain in the basket.

**Marilyn Monroe** (*aka Wendy*) had a headache with all those pills and had her dark glasses on;

**Helen Mirren** (*Margaret*) was elegant and borrowed the Queen's tiara without asking the corgi;

**James Bond** (*Peter*) was neither shaken nor stirred by his glamorous

assistants - after all he is the only "celeb" not "real";

**Donald Trump** (*David Harris*) was on usual controversial form;

**Donna Summer** (*Linda*) had a sore throat and did not sing a note;

**Shirley Bassey** (*Cynthia*) however was on pink sparkling form, and sang "diamonds are for ever" but had trouble with the mike;

**Elvis Presley** (*Bruce*) was also having trouble with his quiff and his blue-suede shoes, and THE WINNER was **Andy Murray** (*Keith*) although not "fighting fit" soon will be! With the top prize of a bottle of Pithiviers wine!

However, we kept our feet on the ground with Cottage Pie, red wine and a cake! It was a fun evening.

## PANEL GAMES EVENING

Saturday 23rd March saw us, once more, indulging in an evening of panel games straight off the television. It has now become a very popular annual event and was again well-attended this year with around 40 participants. The venue was St. Helen's Heritage Centre and we gathered in three teams of around 12 each: Red, White and (of course) Blue.

The evening kicked off with several teasers in the *Pointless* vein and was followed by three of our number, Alan Briggs, Sandra Adkin and Tom Redfern, testing their veracity in a round of *Would I Lie to You?* We then progressed forward via *Countdown*, *Connections* and *A Question of Sport* judiciously accumulating points towards the end of the evening when the Blue team were pronounced winners. At the half-way mark we broke off for a welcome supper of chilli with crisp, fresh bread and a variety of tasty desserts produced and served by Margaret and her team. Jane then called the raffle prizes.

The evening was a great success, no doubt ensuring its continuation into future years and we are, of course, very grateful to everyone who took part and attended - most especially to Elaine with the assistance of Kay, who took so much trouble to duplicate and adapt these popular TV quizzes.



The three teams in action! Bottom left: Red bottom right: Blue top right: White

## 2019 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, 27th April:**  
**Saturday, 25th May:**  
**5th - 11th June, 2019:**

Skittles Evening, The Odd House, Snarestone (**Booking: Back page** ).  
Biennial Dinner, Willesley Park Golf Club, Ashby (**Booking: Back page** ).  
Visit to Pithiviers.

## 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>Membership Sec.}</b>			
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Briggs	Tel: 01530-414934	e-mail: <a href="mailto:willesley@tiscali.co.uk">willesley@tiscali.co.uk</a>

### Committee Members:

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

**There are still two vacancies on the Executive Committee.**  
**If you would like to become a member, please contact Margaret or Elaine, above.**



*February at the Alpaca Farm*

### Social Lunch Programme

For the future programme Ann Shilton has arranged the following venue at 12:30:

***Friday, 12th April: Prezzo, Wraggs Pipework Retail Park, Coppice Side, Swadlincote DE11 9FQ***

If you would like to come, **please let Ann know** so she can give them the numbers: [annshilton16a@gmail.com](mailto:annshilton16a@gmail.com) or call: 01283 225066 (leave a message if she isn't there).

## Ashby Community Road Show

On Thursday 6 June 2019, between 12.00pm and 6.00pm the local Town, District and County Councils have organised an event, at Hood Park Leisure Centre, aimed at bringing together as many local groups as possible to publicise what activities are available in our area. This, of course, provides an excellent opportunity for the Twinning Association to advertise its presence and activities in line with our "Project 60" initiative and to recruit new members, particularly as the event is thrown open to the public from 3.00pm. Unfortunately, of course, this date clashes with our visit to Pithiviers so many of our active members will be away at the time but our Secretary, Elaine will be available and will be co-ordinating our effort. However she will need help if we are to mount a successful presentation and boost our membership so please would anyone who is able and willing to assist on that day kindly contact Elaine as soon as possible on 01530 564077 or [ptva@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ptva@hotmail.co.uk).

## This Year's Trip to Pithiviers

We are still awaiting details from Pithiviers but below is an over-view of plans for the main party so far:

**Wednesday June 5th:** Early morning departure from Robert's Depot Hugglescote. Lunchtime ferry crossing from Dover to Calais. Onward journey to Beauvais Campanile Hotel for evening meal. Overnight stay and breakfast on Thursday morning.

**Thursday 6th June:** Travel to Giverny to visit Monet's Gardens and House. Leave Giverny for early evening arrival in Pithiviers.

**Friday June 7th - Monday June 10th:** Guests of our twinning hosts.

**Tuesday June 11th:** Early morning departure from Pithiviers. Lunch time call at La Belle Etoile, Arras. Onward journey to Calais for afternoon crossing to Dover. Evening arrival back in Hugglescote.

All travellers will be notified of more precise timings etc., when they are known to us, along with the cost.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLERS GOING TO PITHIVIERS:**

In line with current travel practise please ensure that you have at least 6 months on your passport before expiry and that you have your own travel insurance which covers all your health needs.

## Skittles Evening - Saturday, 27th April

The Odd House Snarestone DE 12 7DQ 7 for 7.30pm

£10 per person for a friendly super-competitive evening with good food in great company!

Menu choice - All served with hand cut chips and garden peas:

Chef's Steak & Ale Pie - Breaded Scampi - Ham & Eggs - Faggots in Gravy - Pasta with Mushroom, Spinach & Pesto (v)

**Please return booking form below with choice of meal and number required to Margaret by Monday 22nd April.**

## Skittles Evening Booking Form

Please book  places for the Skittles Evening at £10.00 each. I enclose cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_.

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

Address: ..... E-mail address: .....

Steak & Ale Pie  Breaded Scampi  Ham & Eggs  Faggots in Gravy  Pasta with  
Mushroom

*Please return with cheque payable to Ashby Pithiviers Association to Margaret Barnett, 8, Grange Road, Newhall,  
Swadlincote, DE11 0SZ by Monday 22nd April.*

## 2019 BIENNIAL DINNER (Saturday 25th May: 7.00 for 7.30pm.)

At The Willesley Park Golf Club, Ashby-de-la-Zouch

This year our biennial dinner will be held at the above venue. We ask all members who wish to attend to book as early as possible and, as usual, payment must be made up front to reserve places.

The cost is £23.00 for a three course meal plus tea or coffee and booking forms should be returned to Elaine **not later than Friday 17th May**. When returning this booking form and your cheque, please also ensure that you fill in the menu requirements, to facilitate a smooth and prompt service for all on the night. We look forward to seeing you there.

## BIENNIAL DINNER BOOKING FORM

Please book  places for the Biennial Dinner at £23.00 each. I enclose cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_.

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

Address: .....

E-mail: .....

**Please indicate, below, your choice of meal with number required:**  
*(Selection must be made at the time of booking. Starters to be ordered on the evening.)*

### Mains:

Belly of pork, Caramelised Onion Mash, Apple  **Or**

Organic Salmon, Basil Mash, Crayfish Bisque  **Or**

Vegetarian Option  (V)

### Desserts:

Warm Bakewell Tart with Clotted Cream or Vanilla Ice Cream  **Or** Belgian Chocolate Mousse

Followed by Tea or Coffee.

*Please return with cheque payable to Ashby Pithiviers Association to Elaine Shaw, 187 Nottingham Road,  
Ashby, LE65 1DP by Friday 17th May.*