

If you would like to know more, then fill in the slip overleaf and return to:

The Membership Secretary.  
Ashby-de-la-Zouch/Pithiviers Association  
187 Nottingham Road,  
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,  
Leicestershire, LE65 1DP  
Web Address: [www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk](http://www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk)

Ashby-de-la-Zouch/  
Pithiviers Twinning



1960 - 2020

# TWINNING and YOU

## Annual Membership Subscription Rates:

**Individual: £12.50    Family: £19.00\***  
**Group: £19.00      Junior: £1.00#**

\*Covering parent(s)/guardian(s) and children under the age of 18 years living at the same address.

#Covering a young person under the age of 18 years, who wishes to join as an individual at a reduced rate.



Name:.....

Address: .....

.....

Tel: .....

e-mail address:.....

Club/Society (if applicable): .....

.....

I wish to join the Association. Please send me an application form.

I would like more information. Please call me.

**ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH**  
and

**PITHIVIERS**



**WHY NOT JOIN US?**

**Q What is Town Twinning about?**

A The idea behind town twinning is that when people get closer together across frontiers there is a much better understanding between them. It is the bringing together of towns of similar size and interest in friendship. Twinning gives international relations a human dimension. It has nothing to do with governments or politics.

**Q Where is Ashby-de-la-Zouch's Twin Town?**



A We have been twinned since 1960 with Pithiviers in the Loiret département of France. The town is about 50 miles south of Paris and 25 miles north of Orléans. It is a picturesque and historic town of similar size to Ashby. In the surrounding country sugar beet and barley are produced. The town is known internationally for a pastry named after it: "Gâteau de Pithiviers".

**Q Who is Town Twinning for?**

A The simple answer is YOU. The Charter signed in 1960 makes it quite clear that it is for the "citizens of our twin towns" and by that we mean you.

**Q What are the benefits of Twinning?**

A You get a lot of enjoyment and interest and the chance

to make some lasting friendships both sides of the Channel.

If you are a member of a club, society, youth group school or other organisation, you may be interested to know that your group can be put in contact with a kindred group in the twin town. See below some of the local groups which have benefited from such an arrangement. These groups all made at least one visit to Pithiviers and also hosted the respective club in Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The visits have been successful and lasting friendships have been formed. Every other year there are adult member visits to France. On alternate years they visit us.

- Ashbeians Rugby Club     Aztecs Basketball Club
- Ivanhoe Youth Choir     Swadlincote Swimming Club
- Donisthorpe Scout Troop     Ivanhoe Football Club
- Ashby Concert Band

You stay as guests of a family, living with them and your main expenses, apart from pocket money, will be travelling.

**Q But isn't this sort of activity mainly for civic dignitaries?**

A Definitely not! The participation of councillors is always welcome but twinning is for everyone in the two towns. The only requirement is an interest in France and its people.

**Q How do you get involved with twinning?**

A First make yourself known to the Twinning Association. (See the return slip on the back of this leaflet). You can read all about us by going to our website at:

[www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk](http://www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk)

This shows our original Charter and Constitution as well as giving details of forthcoming social and fund-raising events.

If requested, a member of the committee can visit you to give further information. For clubs and societies we can also give talks about the twinning possibilities.

**Q What about the language problem?**

A Basically there is no problem. If you have very little or even no French the organisers will try to ensure you are with a family who can speak English. You will find that the French are pleased when you try to speak their language and will give you every help.

Some of our members are also in the local French Circle and would be happy to welcome you to their monthly meetings. Call

David Fill on (01530) 560228 or e-mail to [ptva@talktalk.net](mailto:ptva@talktalk.net).

**Q Is food a problem?**

A No. Most visitors are interested in sampling English food. By the same token, if you visit France you will be offered French food. Food preparation and cooking have been raised to a fine art in France but be prepared for some differences.

**Q How is Town Twinning organised in Ashby-de-la-Zouch?**

A The Town Council, while approving and supporting the Twinning, leaves the day to day administration and running to the Ashby-de-la-Zouch/Pithiviers Town Twinning Association.

At a General Meeting held in November each year members elect officers and a committee.

This leaflet can only give a glimpse of what Twinning has to offer. It can't convey the interest you get from visiting another country and comparing lifestyles, or the pleasure of hosting visitors to this country and introducing them to the English way of life and the attractions of our own area.

**Q Are there other activities besides the annual exchanges?**

A There are a lot of social and fund-raising events. We try to arrange something every month and to appeal to all tastes in the Association. Regular favourites are quiz evenings, barn dances, Burns Night, Croquet Taster Evenings, Bastille day Barbecue, Christmas Walk and Lunch. We are always on the look out for new ideas and events especially to involve young families more in our activities.

If you visit our website at:

[www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk](http://www.ashbydelazouchtwinning.co.uk)

you can see what we have planned for the future as well as viewing photos of events we organised over the last year, including souvenirs of the latest exchange visits..