

PORTHCAWL - ST. SÉBASTIEN TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER No. 3 JANUARY 2001

Editorial

This newsletter has had to be put together in a matter of hours, so please forgive us once again for its brevity. There's a host of interesting information that has to be squeezed in, so I will leave the editorial comments to another plea for contributions - a few lines about your contacts with friends in France, an article about something French - whatever you can. As I have said before, it really is up to you to make this newsletter yours. *Welcome to 2001!*

French Quiz Night

The next social gathering will be a **French Quiz** organised by Elizabeth Bisatt (question-mistress) and Neil Sumner (working behind the scenes). George and Donna Goddard have once again agreed to the mayhem taking place at Silures Gallery, so make a date for Friday 26th January 2001, at 7.30pm.

Question: what is a French quiz? A lot of incomprehensible questions in French? A test of your knowledge of French irregular verbs? Of course

not! The idea is that we imbibe sensible quantities of French wine, French cheese and perhaps "grande rustique" bread from your favourite supermarket, and, to help the evening along, we have a quiz on the theme of France, the French, and French things. Teams need to be formed of any reasonable number between 3 and 5, and there will be modest entry fee to help PSSTTA funds. We are planning 5 or 6 rounds of questions, including a picture round or 2, and possibly a music round. (No Maralyn, you can't phone a friend.) For the winning team there will be a magnificent prize.

So- please come along and bring a bottle and/ or some cheese if you can, and a pencil. **It would be helpful if you would let Liz / Neil know in advance that you are coming** (tel: 772314 or e-mail: neiljsumner@yahoo.co.uk).

Letter

Hi everybody! How are you? Danielle told me you wanted a report about my Welsh holidays. I would have done it but sorry, I know I am late to answer you because I come back to school and it's long days (8.00am – 5.30pm).....tiring, and probably I am a little lazy.

I would like you know I spent wonderful times with you, the Welsh families. I visited a lot of castles, I would say it" normal because it's your "speciality". Some are very beautiful like Cardiff's castle, Castell Coch, Margam Castle..... Maybe it would be interesting for us to go to see a few in April?

My holidays were become enriched with the music when I went to the Brecon Beacon's Jazz festival also to the Big Weekend in Cardiff. This permitted me to know Wales, but I discovered too this United Kingdom's region by sheep in the valley with the walls composed of stones (typically Irish, no?), by ports with Cardiff Bay: nice city near the sea and the boats like Porthcawl. I learnt to like your town, it wasn't very hard. Now I love it..... very attractive. And you, my families of adoption, you drove me sometimes to other cities Swansea, Bridgend, Cardiff and London. Generally you said me: "I don't like London.... It's English", but because of her traditional environment (buses, buildings) I am in love with her, I like Cardiff with modern architecture.

I knew to be well adapted about your food. I tried vegetarian food the two first weeks (I didn't know so I was surprised, pleasantly), the third it was very good and copious meals, and to finish the fourth week, there were good meals too with English breakfasts. I ate fish'n ship and appreciated a lot because in France we haven't that.

I went to Wales to improve my English. Even I am sure I made mistakes in this letter, I suppose I managed. I have a lot of works to do but I understand easier English now. In school, I had an exam..... most people find it very difficult, me I felt it , not easy, but quite easy. I will see my mark.

In Porthcawl, I met people, that was very important to me, to school, in the family, in the library, in the shops, in the pubs, in the nightclubs.... Everywhere and everybody (young and old).

So I would like to thank you, to thank the families and the committee of twining about these holidays. I know, I didn't written all my activities over there in my letter, but I won't forget. It was great.

Simon

Reports of Events

French Club

The French Club met up again on the evening of 8th December, and enjoyed a game of French Bingo, ably hosted by Janet Batters. It was great fun, and (almost) everyone brought a contribution of wine, cheese and bread. The chat almost drowned out the music, and we also enjoyed a video, which showed the hidden history of the Committee hob-nobbing with their counterparts during the last visit to France! Richard Rowe has also produced a report on French wine, following his gallant launching of the French Club in October. Ask him if you would like a copy. Our sincere thanks again to George and Donna for continuing to host us at the *Silures Art Gallery* on South Road, Porthcawl.

The Return Match

It's the same message as last time, although the dates remain unconfirmed - probably arrival 8th or 9th April and departure 15th - which is Easter Sunday.... We continue to prepare for their visit, and if you are able to host a family, please contact Alana Davies as soon as possible.

Morceaux de choix

- The Full Meeting on 10th January agreed to go ahead with a specially-designed PSSTTA tee-shirt, which we will use to promote the Association at home or abroad, and help to raise funds.
- Genevieve and Joel spent New Year's Eve with Maralyn and Dave, and entered Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club's *fancy dress competition* - the theme was "musicals", so the four dressed up as for the musical "Hair" - and won first prize! [*I would have loved to have heard their rendition of "Aquarius"! Ed.*]

Coach trip to Paris

Porthcawl Comprehensive School's Parent Teachers Association is running a coach trip to Paris at the start of the February half-term holiday.

Departure is on the morning of Sunday 18th February and returning to Porthcawl on the evening of Tuesday 20th February. Accommodation is 2 nights' bed and breakfast at a hotel in the Montmartre area. As well as the first Sunday evening in Paris, there will be a coach trip to major sights on Monday morning and a boat trip along the Seine on Monday evening. Monday afternoon is flexible. Departure from Paris will be on Tuesday morning, with a stop at a Calais hypermarket on the way. Price is £80 and there are some seats still available.

You don't need to have any connection with the comprehensive school, merely a wish to have fun in Paris. Please ring Elizabeth Bisatt (tel: 772314) for more information or to make a booking. Don't delay!



The AGM will be held at the Hi-Tide, Mackworth Road, on Thursday February 15th 2001, and will be followed by a disco. Tickets for the disco @ £5 are available from Committee members.

The next full meeting of PSSTTA is on Wednesday 28th February 2001, so please mark your diaries!

The editorial board of the Porthcawl and Saint Sébastien-sur-Loire Twinning Association newsletter is composed of

Steve Moon (643170 & 786571), *Neil Sumner* (643159 & 772314), *Janet Hanbury* 786936) and *Ken Miller* (786903). Please send contributions for the next newsletter to Steve Moon (see address and e-mail address in membership list).

The secretary of PSSTTA is Alana Davies (771594).

