



## **PSSTTA Newsletter 54 -March 2015**

### **Silent Auction 28 March 2015.**

### **FUND RAISING EVENING - YOUR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!**

The forthcoming visit by a record number of visitors from St. Sébastien - 51 at the last count! - means that well over £2,000 will leave the Association's coffers. With this in mind, as most of you should know, a fund-raising evening is planned at All Saints Church Hall on Saturday 28th March at 7pm.

The response so far has been very disappointing. Perhaps it is because members are unsure of what is involved. It is an evening embracing a Silent Auction and Promises. This involves members bringing to the function articles for sale or a written 'promise' for example an hour's French lesson or a meal for two. Of course, there's no limit to articles or promises! Fellow members then leave written, folded offers and at the end of the evening the highest offer is accepted. Should be great fun.

Tickets cost £6 that entitles the purchaser to cheese and the first glass of wine. The cost of hiring the hall and possible entertainment means that a minimum number of attenders are needed.

Your support for this enterprise is urgently requested so please come along and bring a friend. Ring Mary Emmet-Lewis on 01656 772238 without delay so the evening can be planned with confidence. As food and wine have to be bought in advance, once ordered a commitment is made and even if unable to attend the £6 will have to be paid.

Amities,

PSSTTA Committee

### **Membership Report**

All safely gathered in! The last two subs for 2014 -15 were finally collected in February, the latest ever.

There have been a small number of resignations, a death and a moving away but pleasingly some new members also. This means that the number of memberships - not members – still hovers just above 80. Shall we ever reach the magical 100? It has been some time since we welcomed via our newsletters new members and the association was delighted that all those non members who travelled to France last August joined the PSSTTA. Those joining in recent months include. Elizabeth Jean Hughes of Nottage, Suzanne Jeffries of Sker Walk, Susan Levine of Bryncethin, Jenny and Lily Emmet of North Cornelly, the Carrington family of Nottage, Tom Phillips of North Cornelly and Tom and Joy Trinder of Pyle. Apologies to anyone missed; let me know and I will acknowledge you next time.

We are always looking out for new blood so if you know of any prospective members do bring them along to one of our meetings; they will be made most welcome.

DB

## Schools Awards.

Each year the PSSTTA presents a handed- on shield and a cheque for £25 to an outstanding linguist at St. Clare's and Porthcawl Comprehensive Schools. No longer at St John's, I'm afraid, since its closure ... and they paid a year's subs in advance.

At St Clare's the winner is Caroline Norman. Caroline gained an A\* in Italian in Year 12 and is currently studying French and Spanish A Level. She is to be presented with her award by PSSTTA member and former teacher at St. Clare's, Janet Hanbury. At 'The Comp.' the prize is shared between Madeline Williamson-Sarl and Anna Bonet. Fittingly the former is the granddaughter of former member Peggy Sarl and the latter that of your membership secretary! As Anna is away at Exeter University he will be presenting the shield to himself.

DB

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## VISIT 15 TO 19 APRIL 2015

### Hosts still required.

We still require a host for a mature lady.

If you can help or know of anyone who might help please get in touch with Ann Lee 01656 788027 or Rob Chick 01656 782292

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### Meeting for all members and hosts.

This will be held on 24 March, 7:30 pm at the Rugby Club.

This will be an opportunity to discuss the final programme and hopefully confirm the hosting arrangements. If you are hosting a copy of the current draft list is attached to this newsletter. If you intend being participating in events during the visit it is advisable to come along or contact Mary Emmet –Lewis 01656 772238 or other committee member, as all tickets need to be pre ordered.

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### Draft - Itinerary and costs.

Briefly the Itinerary is as follows:

**Wednesday 15 April** – arrival reception at Nottage Primary school. Anticipate around 6pm. There is no charge.

**Thursday 16 April** – Tour of Penderyn Whiskey Distillery, morning coffee and buffet lunch at Ty Newydd Country Hotel and sightseeing around Brecon Beacons.

Tickets for members will be £11.95 for the refreshments/buffet and £6.50 for the tour of the distillery. It is likely that all hosts will need to provide their own transport.

In the evening around 7:30 we have a live music event with musicians from both St Sébastien and Porthcawl. Venue still to be arranged.

No charge except for any drinks you may require.

**Friday 17 April** - In the evening will be the Soiree at the Hi Tide with a 3-course meal with a glass of wine, disco and live music from the St Sébastien Jazz band who are playing at the jazz festival on the Saturday. The cost to members will be £20.

**Saturday 18 April**– At 9:15am there is a meeting of the joint committees at the council offices.( this meeting may take place on Friday). In the afternoon between 3 and 4pm the St Sébastien Jazz band are playing in The Pavilion. There is no charge.

Afterwards there will a barbecue at 28 West Drive- Bobby and Mary's house. All hosts **must** bring a bottle of wine for each of their guests. Last time we suffered a serious wine drought not something our French

friends are used to! Reasonable wines can be purchased around £5, you do not need to raid your cellar for the best Bordeaux!

In the evening there is Jazz at the Pavilion but hosts/guests need to preorder their tickets through Rob Lee 788027 or John Bunker 782067 to obtain a 20% discount. This is not being funded as part of our itinerary. Alternatively you may wish make your own arrangements for the evening.

**Sunday 19 April** – sometime before midday the departure of guests.

**Note.**

Costs and catering etc. details have been provided at the request of and for the benefit of all existing and new members.

Further details will be published on the website. Itineraries and final host lists will be delivered to all hosts. It is usual to exchange small gifts often biscuits, chocolates, tea towels, possibly something with a Welsh flavour – not cawl as it doesn't travel too well!

RC

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**Porthcawl Comprehensive School - French/Welsh student exchange 2015.**

This year, at Porthcawl Comprehensive School, we have decided to take on a big project never done before. For the first time ever, 24 of our students are involved in a French student exchange with a big school in Saint-Sébastien-sur-Loire called La Joliverie. The two schools have worked closely in the last few months to make sure this project becomes a reality. We are all now awaiting the imminent arrival of the French students in Porthcawl on March 19th. They will be staying for 6 days so watch out for any new faces in town!

As well as finding out what it is like to be a pupil in a comprehensive school in Wales, finding out about the Welsh culture and Welsh food, the French students will also have the opportunity to visit St. Fagan's Folk Museum and Big Pit, not to mention the social evening at the Hi-Tide on Saturday night! Members of the Porthcawl-Saint-Sébastien Town Twinning Association (PSSTTA) will be joining us to celebrate the many successful years of friendship and partnership between the two towns. The Twinning Association has indeed been extremely supportive of this project and has helped finding hosting families.

This exchange will cement the wonderful links that already exist between Porthcawl and Saint-Sébastien-sur-Loire and who knows, for the students, it may well lead to overseas friendships that could last a life time!

A très bientôt!

Mrs G.Morgan (teacher of French at PCS)

During the above visit there will be a social evening at the Hi-tide **on Saturday 21 March** to meet with those involved. All members are welcome and food is available.

***MENU.***

Lasagne, Peas & Chips

Chicken curry, rice & chips

Battered cod, Peas, Chips

Chilli, Peas & chips

Smoked Haddock & spring onion fishcakes with sweet chilli sauce, peas & chips

Sweet & sour Chicken, Rice, Peas & Chips

**All priced at £7.95. best to pre order through Melanie 788520 or email [melands@hotmail.com](mailto:melands@hotmail.com)**

Please see **[www.porthcawl-town-twinning.com](http://www.porthcawl-town-twinning.com)** webpage for final details.