

# Wortham and Burgate Twinning



Young members of Wortham and Hédé Twinning

## NEWSLETTER WINTER 2013

### CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

All members will shortly be receiving an invitation to the Christmas Social which this year will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm and will once again be held at Oakwood House with the kind permission of Jane and Simon Durrant.

We will be joined by Solange Duclos and Marie-Therese Bougault from Hédé who will be visiting us to be at the Christmas Market in Wortham (see below).

### CHRISTMAS MARKETS

At the time of going to press six members – Nick and Frances Beasley, Judith and Andy Phillip and Andy and Linda Simpson – are preparing to go to Hédé for their Christmas Market.

There will be a 'packing party' at Pond House at 7pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November to label and pack items for sale in Hédé. Anyone wishing to give a hand with this or if you still have items to be taken to be sold in Hédé please let Chris Grocott know ( 01379 898338 ).

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It is hoped that the preserves crackers and gifts will sell well and raise some funds for our organization. As in previous years we will be bringing back mistletoe , kindly donated by Guy Sarlat, to sell at the Wortham Victorian Christmas Market on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

This year Solange and Marie-Therese from Hédé will also be at the Wortham Market and will be selling crepes so please do come and try them. These were very popular on the last occasion they were on offer.

Please do support these events in any way you can. In particular any help with the stall at the Wortham Market would be welcomed.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

The Committee felt it would be good to produce a calendar to sell both in Wortham and Hédé with photographs taken around the village in the coming year. To this end we invite members to start taking photos which they may like to enter into a competition to choose the best photo for each month of the year.

We will notify every one of final details, closing date for entries etc. but we anticipate that we will be producing a 2015 calendar from the winning entries.

So dig out your old photos and / or get snapping as the seasons progress.

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

### **WINE CALL MY BLUFF EVENING FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 7.30pm**

Come and test your wine skills and your nose for bluffing at a Wine Call My Bluff evening presented by Adnams Brewery.

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Experts from Adnams will be describing a wine which you then taste. You decide which of the experts is describing the wine you are tasting.

This will be an opportunity to taste some different wines and have some fun doing so.

The cost for the Call My Bluff evening will be £10 and is open to anyone regardless as to whether they are members of Twinning. So do encourage all your friends to come. Tickets will be on sale in the New Year. The price of the tickets will also include cheese tasting and some sweet/ pudding treats

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

This will be held at 7.30 pm in Wortham Village Hall . To celebrate Pancake Day we will serving crepes and cider after the business part of the meeting.

### **VISIT FROM HÉDÉ FAMILIES 4<sup>th</sup> TO 7<sup>th</sup> JULY 2014**

We have now had confirmation that the annual exchange visit, this time from Hédé to Wortham, will take place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July. Ideas and arrangements for the weekend are already being discussed.

We will in due course be looking for families to host our visitors. It is not necessary to be able to speak French since we try and match as far as possible visiting English speakers with anyone who does not speak French . We also if possible try to put young people with families that also have young family members. If you know families with younger members who may be interested in welcoming a French visitor, even if they are not members of Twinning, please encourage them to get involved.

We will of course be in contact with all members nearer the time but if in the meantime you have any ideas for that weekend you might like to share please do contact us via our e mail address or Facebook (addresses at bottom of page).

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## **NEWS**

### **OBITUARY**

As I am sure you all know, Nick Smith, one of the earliest member of Wortham and Burgate Twinning , sadly died a short while ago. Our thoughts continue to be with Caroline and her family in the coming weeks and months.

Founder member , Alan, has written the following:

#### **Nick Smith**

We got to know Nick well following the formation of the Wortham and Burgate Twinning Association some 23 years ago. He and Caroline became founder members, as indeed were Melva and I. We were all active members, taking part regularly in visits to Hédé and hosting our French friends.

The experience was new to us and Nick fully embraced the spirit of the twinning, coming up with good ideas for social activities when it was our turn to host. Nick and Caroline were important members in those early days when the association was becoming established and helped build the foundations for what is now a thriving 'jumelage'.

Nick's contribution will always be remembered not only to the twinning but also Wortham village life.

Alan Matthew

## JAZZ FESTIVAL HÉDÉ SAT /SUN 21/22ND SEPTEMBER 2013 JAZZ AUX ECLUSES.

Nick Beasley recently visited the Jazz festival at Hédé and has written the following:



The sun shone for the entire weekend at Hédé for the festival of Jazz beside the locks on the canal that passes just below Hédé. I stayed with friends who live very close to the canal and apart from enjoying the variety of jazz on offer around the festival site, not to mention the food outlets and bars, I managed to fit in a trip to Dinard on the Sunday morning, taking the air along the delightful coast path with views of St Malo. I met up with twinning friends at the festival and had dinner with some other twinning association members in the evening. A splendid weekend which I would recommend to members who like a bit of jazz in relaxed and friendly surroundings. If you are interested in a short break next year, a host family could put you up for the weekend or you can take advantage of the B&B accommodation in the area, which we could supply for you. Finally, if you want more information, I suggest you go to' <http://www.jazzauxecluses.fr/> where you can see this year's programme.

### BARBEQUE SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> October

Item contributed by Isobel Hunter  
Photos by Simon Durant

Why were 38 people in a tent in Simon and Jane Durant's garden on 13 October? Well, if we're counting, it was 37 because Nick (the 38<sup>th</sup>) was under a separate gazebo cooking a barbecue. That's the clue - it was the Twinning Autumn barbecue! One of the great things about our Twinning Group is a) we are an intrepid bunch and b) we don't always do things at the expected time. This all adds to the fun! So, while a barbecue in October might not be what everyone would have planned, we went ahead and had a great time. We had hoped our Autumn day would be beautiful and sunny, as lots of Autumn days can be, but it turned

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out to be a bit greyer and chillier than we would have liked. Fortunately, everyone came prepared and wrapped up warm. It was brilliant to see so many people – long standing members, new members, old, young - a really good mix which truly reflected the current membership of the Twinning group. Lots of chat, lots of buzz. And, while some sat in the (relative) comfort of the tent, others (notably Billy Hughes) were outside playing football!



We know there were others who really wanted to be there on the day but had other

commitments – sorry we missed you. What seemed like huge amounts of food were consumed – sausages, chicken, kebabs, burgers, salads, pavlovas and cheese and we won't even comment on the amount of wine! A really fun day.



Thank you to everyone who contributed food and organisational skills and particularly to Simon for hosting yet another Twinning event.

## **ESSEX AND SUFFOLK JOINT TWINNING CONGRESS**

Wortham and Burgate Twinning are now members of the above which is an organisation aimed at bringing together Twinning Groups across these counties to share ideas and if at all possible to tap into any funds that might become available.

Nick Beasley attended a meeting in October and has made useful contacts with other Twinning groups. We will from time to time be keeping you informed about social/ fund raising events they may be holding and we will also be sending them information about similar events which we may hold.

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## **And finally .....**

If any members would like to contribute to our next newsletter in the Spring please send contributions to us via our e mail address.

Best wishes

**Worham and Burgate Twinning Committee**

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