Association Reports: September 2022

**Callington**

Twinning activities are slowly coming back to life. In April we put on a “live” evening in the Town Hall, entitled “April in Paris”, when a three-course, French-themed meal was offered offered, together with a variety of entertainment centred on the French capital. This included a reminder of what a tourist visit to Paris might contain with a slide-show and commentary, an intriguing view of key sites taken from a drone, a quiz on Parisian historical events, and a “Name That Film” session from clips from the movies which were set in Paris or where Paris was mentioned. The grand finale was a competition to find the best can-can dancer on the night! Fun was certainly had by one and all!

2022 marks our 40th anniversary of twinning with Guipavas and we were delighted that a small delegation managed to join us to celebrate the event over the Platinum Jubilee weekend. There was obviously lots of community events which supplied tremendous entertainment alongside the evening meal and celebration funded by the Town Council. Amongst the busy schedule we also managed to fit in guided visits to the Tamar Bridge exhibition and to Plymouth Hoe and the Barbican.

A return visit to Guipavas is in the pipeline of the Whit weekend in 2023 and we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be joined there by a delegation from our German twin town.

Links with our Friendship Link town in Estonia continue to slowly grow and invitations have been received for delegates to attend their “Keila Days” in 2023 where the Wreckers Morris team will also hopefully appear.

Callington entered a certain Boules competition in Truro in June and were surprised and delighted to come away with first place, as the friendly rivalry displayed by all competitors was certainly a challenge.

Two other events have taken place over the summer: a “Smite & Strawberries” afternoon was held at Sue and Rick’s and an afternoon tea was held in a garden of two of our members. Both sunny events were well attended and have helped re-establish some of our previous *bonhomie*.

A safari supper for the autumn is in the planning stages and there is every possibility that we will hold our annual quiz before Christmas. We are now planning for our annual dinner in November which, this year for the first time, we are hoping to hold in a local hostelry so that committee members can enjoy the occasion without any of the stress prior to and during the event.

**Helston-Plougasnou**

We are in the final stages of organising the visit from Plougasnou guests from April 20th to 24th and a return visit in May, funded by the British Embassy in Paris. It has been interesting …plague, war, galloping inflation to name the main hurdles!!

**Lostwithiel**

Lostwithiel's twinning is back on track.  This time last year we were concerned about our future.  Our membership was ageing and numbers were reducing.  A do-or-die strategy was adopted.  We advertised widely and held our AGM in the pub.  It was a bit chaotic, but it was fun.  With help from a professional who was a friend of one of our members, we produced a video.  We secured a presence in the town museum's window and showed off our video (you can watch it at <http://www.lostwithieltwinning.co.uk/>).  We gave a presentation at our school's assembly.  Our numbers started to increase and new members joined our committee.  We made *crepes* here in the Church Rooms and our coffers began to swell.  We have a presence on Facebook and our website is being looked at.  After our "success" at the TCC boules competition in Truro, we made a *boulodrome* on the Parade and people are using it regularly.  We are off to France later this month and we have more *crepes* planned for October.  Twinning is starting to look good in Lostwithiel!

**Newquay**

Since our report to the last TCC Meeting in April, we successfully held our first Social Event following the formation of our current committee in the form of a Cheese and Wine evening, with a great French Quiz to follow, covering many aspects of French Life and History.

Following this we held a Garden Party in glorious weather with delightful cream tea and lucrative Bring and Buy Stall.

We have now received a firm invitation to visit Dinard in Spring 2023 and to fund-raise are planning a Race Night in October and Festive Christmas Buffet.

**Penzance**

This year, a delegation of eight, including their mayor, arrived from Concarneau in June for

Golowan. We had some productive meetings, particularly focussing on restarting activities with

students. They were hoping that we could receive students into families but we explained that

that was really no longer possible. They toured our youth hostel and were pleased with what

they saw. So, they may send a group over next Easter. Another idea is to have a mixed group of

students meeting together for a long weekend in a hostel, perhaps in Santec near Roscoff or

somewhere in East Cornwall not too far from Plymouth. Penwith College, Mounts Bay Academy

and Humphry Davy School are going to make links via the internet. The library exchange

continues with Morrab Library, books now being donated by each side rather than lent and

returned.

In August, an official delegation of four (including our mayor) plus five others went to

Concarneau for their *Filets Bleus* festival. Again, working meetings concentrated on possible

future student activities. We had a rendezvous at their *médiathèque* to donate books and

receive some. We talked to their *bagad* about the possibility of them coming for Golowan next

year. We hope to send our Golowan Band and Kernow Pipes and Drums to Concarneau next

August.

Next year it is hoped to have bigger groups going in both directions, partly to celebrate

belatedly our 40th anniversary (1982-2022).

We continue with social events, including fund-raising quizzes and raffles. Next week, weather-

permitting, we will play *pétanque* in St Anthony Gardens. In future we hope to have a proper

boules piste there. Our photography group continues.

Other associations/groups that we are trying to twin include rugby, walkers, photographers,

artists, archery, choirs … A lot of work ahead!

In Concarneau in August, we met up with Lamorna Reid who was doing a month’s au pair job. She

was getting along fine and enjoying it. We also met with Mme Grolleau from the family and she

was very happy with things from her side. Lamorna was very grateful for this opportunity,

afforded by the bursary grant from TCC. In spite of lockdowns, online teaching etc. Lamorna

achieved a first from Cambridge. If she is available for the AGM, she would be very happy to

come and give a report. Otherwise, she’ll write one for me to present.

**Porthleven**

Charlene Ramsey has reported to Porthleven twinners the following message:

“Amazing news, we have an event upcoming as well as a date for next year's visit to Guisseny!

The first item on this email is an upcoming event on ***Saturday 8th October***. There is going to be a ***ceilidh dance with The Other Band at Porthleven public hall from 19:00 til 22:30***. The band will play from 19:15 until 22:00. The cost of this event will be ***£10 per adult and £5 per child***. We will be ordering pasties in advance so if you would like a pasty please let me know no later than September 30th in order to get the order in for the evening. It will be a cocktail pasty and the price is £3.50 which also includes a slice of cake and a drink. Please pass this information onto any friends/family as the more the merrier!

The second major news is that we have a ***finalised date for Guisseny 2023***, the dates will be ***12th-15th May 2023***. The plan will be that we take the night ferry to Roscoff on Thursday 11th May and return on the afternoon ferry of Monday 15th May. Please let me know asap if you would like to come and again let any friends and family know as well, it would be great if we could get a good group of us across next year after ***not having been across to Guisseny in 5 years***!

Finally, it is with great pride that I can announce that Porthleven-Sithney-Guisseny Twinning will be one of 3 ***Tesco in store community grant votes within the Falmouth and Helston Branches from the 1st week of October until Mid January 2023***. The project with the highest number of votes receives £1500, 2nd place receives £1000 and the 3rd place receives £500. Either way it is a great way to raise awareness of the twinning so don't forget to pick up a little blue counter and vote for us in store!

**St Germans**

We intend to resurrect our Twinning Association by having our long-awaited AGM at the end of May.

**Truro-Boppard**

The Truro Boppard association are planning a trip to Boppard in September.

We have been in contact with the German committee and they are planning to return to Truro in 2023.

We will be having a meeting of our members after Easter.

We are therefore continuing as an association and will be looking to recruit new members once we have agreed a programme of exchanges.

**Saltash**

Very successful meeting. Champagne reception at station. Social club meeting. Hog roast 500.

Wine input from France! Fowey by Fr coach

Photo book in progress. Thinking about boules piste

Younger members who seem willing to contribute time and energy.

AGM booked at Sailing Club.