



HENLEY & FALAISE

TWINNING ASSOCIATION

SUPPORTED BY HENLEY-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

Report to Town Meeting 2020.

The Association had an enjoyable year, with members being offered a regular programme of activities throughout. These included French conversation sessions twice monthly in our local cafe/bistro, over a glass of wine or cup of coffee – and a programme of French films (with sub-titles) in the Margaret Day Room at the Barn.

But the highlight of the year was the visit by 48 friends from Falaise at the end of May. This was a larger group than on some occasions (but not so large as the 54 in our group going to Falaise this year). The party included nine children, a good omen for the health of the Association on the French side.

The visitors took themselves to London on the day of their arrival, and were taken for a day in the Cotswolds on the Friday of their visit, accompanied by many of the host families. Bourton-on-the-Water was the starting point, then Burford where the local tourist office conducted a tour of the town for us. Lunch in The Lamb Inn seemed to meet French expectations of what *le pub* in England is like.



On Saturday the Town Council graciously entertained the visitors and local hosts to a reception in The Barn, before groups dispersed in various directions for lunch and shopping. A barn dance in the Christ Church Centre completed the day, and our visitors left the next morning to take a daytime crossing home.

Our own members had a garden party together with members of the Leichlingen Twinning Association on a day blessed with good weather, with 44 sitting down, a better turn-out than in some previous years. The same encouraging state of affairs prevailed at the joint Autumn Party.

Then our traditional sporting event – a *petanque* tournament - was once again organised at the “*boulodrome*” of the club which plays at the Sports Park in Hithercroft Road, Wallingford, in September. About 25 members and their guests picnicked in splendid autumn weather before brisk competition in the afternoon.

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