



[www.keynshamtwinning.org](http://www.keynshamtwinning.org)

### **Message from Carole Duckett, President of Keynsham & District Twinning Association**

I would like to wish all Keynsham & District Twinning members a Happy and Healthy 2015. This year members have the opportunity of visiting Libourne France, where our hosts will make us feel very welcome.

As you read Sue has been busy, as always, with collating information you require to enable you to make your decision to travel to Libourne.

I would like to thank Sue for all her work as newsletter editor and keeping our web page in order. Our new Secretary/newsletter editor - Wendy – I feel certain will also excel in the post. I also thank all committee members both past and present for the time and effort they have given our Twinning – without these we would have no Twinning!

Our Christmas get together, arranged by Lisa, our Treasurer, was a nice idea and one I hope can be organised for the coming Christmas – as of 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 – just 353 days to go!

Please email me or Sue if you are contemplating the visit to Libourne. We will then co-ordinate travel arrangements as soon as numbers for the visit can be finalised.

Best wishes, Carole.

### **Newsletter January 2015**

Last year was a busy year, starting with a Dinner in February and ending with a December get-together at the new Bonzo Lounge in Keynsham. In between, we held other events and hosted a group from Libourne. A lot of planning & preparation goes into organising these events – maybe why there was unfortunately no Newsletter during the year.

To summarise, here is what we did in 2014:

**January.** Carole Duckett, President, presented a framed poster of Libourne at the Council Meeting, for display in the Council Offices

**February.** Dinner at Grasmere Hotel for Members and friends.

**March.** Quiz held at St Dunstan's Church Hall. £129 was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

**April.** 'Strictly Different'. A dance event, inspired by Julie Stiddard, with demonstrations and the chance to 'have a go'. Ploughman's Suppers were served and visiting Americans were very enthusiastic about Somerset Morris dancers.

**July.** Flower arrangement entered for Keynsham in Bloom Festival. We didn't win any prizes but had fun creating a red, white & blue pedestal arrangement.

**September 11-16 Visit from Libourne friends.**

Guests and hosts enjoyed coach outings on two days. We visited Castle Combe and paused to look at the White Horse of Cherhill and Silbury Hill en route to Avebury. Having been marshalled by National Trust staff, people wandered off in all directions, finding lunch, hugging standing stones, playing billiards in the Manor and enjoying the colourful gardens.

A second sunny day saw us at Berkeley Castle, where the guides spoke so clearly that our standby translators were almost redundant. After lunch – a picnic or group lunch in the Yurt - there was plenty to see with the Butterfly House, colourful gardens and surroundings.

On the Saturday evening, we had an excellent 'Welcome Meal' (if a little late in the visit) with a buffet provided by Michelle Tarrant and singing from KLOGS and the newly formed Phoenix Keynsham Youth Theatre Choir. The evening ended with hosts and visitors wrapping up the few leftovers and washing dishes in the kitchen while Michel Vigier played the piano – surely this is what Twinning is all about.

Two 'free days' allowed people to make their own entertainment: visits to Bath, Clevedon, Wells, the Chew Valley, garden centres...

Official guests from Libourne visited Wellsway School, toured the new civic centre and met representatives of local organisations who plan to link up with like-minded groups in Libourne and possibly arrange visits there for their members: the Scouts, Keynsham Orchestra, KLOGs and Avon County Rowing Club. This is a way in which we hope to facilitate further exchanges and open up twinning to a wider public.

A 'Farewell Meal' was enjoyed at Stockwood Vale Golf Club.

**October. AGM.** The main change is that Wendy Tyrrell is taking over as Secretary. This is my last Newsletter but I shall wear a 'PR hat' to raise the profile of twinning. Keeping our website up-to-date is a vital part of this. If you have ideas about how it can be revitalised or have photos of recent events, please let me know.

Your new Committee reviewed the year at their first meeting in November. We discussed 'Social Events'. Although we have been successful at organising these and raising funds for local charities, they haven't resulted in new members! So, during the coming year, you may see some 'new ideas' in an effort to provide social get-togethers for members and attract new members. We would love to have some ideas from existing members and urge you to encourage friends and neighbours to join us.

## News for 2015!

### Visit to Libourne Tuesday 16 June – Tuesday 23 June.

This is a full week as requested by some members. The timing will allow for two day trips before the weekend of the Music Festival which will be attended by Libourne's other twin towns: Schwandorf in Germany and Logroño in Spain.

Carole Duckett & Sue Hopkins will co-ordinate the visit.

If you wish to join us, please telephone or email one of us **by February 7** with the following information:

- Your name(s) & number travelling
- Whether you want us to book EasyJet flights or make your own travel arrangements
- The name/s of people you have hosted/recently stayed with.

Carole email: [carole.duckett@caduce.plus.com](mailto:carole.duckett@caduce.plus.com)

Sue email: [suemhop@hotmail.com](mailto:suemhop@hotmail.com)

### Keynsham Orchestra. Hosts needed! Saturday 18 – Thursday 23 April 2015

The orchestra will be hosting members of Libourne Chorale.

They will hold a joint concert at St John's Church on 22 April.

If you're able to provide accommodation please contact Steve: [szdrew@hotmail.com](mailto:szdrew@hotmail.com)



Keynsham & District Twinning Association

**\*FUN QUIZ\***  
 Friday 21 March  
 7.30 for 7.45 start

St Dunstan's Church Hall,  
 Bristol Rd, Keynsham, BS31 2BQ

- > £5 per person, incl nibbles & hot dog or filled roll
- > Teams of up to 6

\*\*\*6 FOR PRICE of 5  
 IF BOOKED & PAID FOR NOW!\*\*\*

- > Raffle & quiz prizes!
- > BYO drinks & glasses

