



# Friends of Triel

[www.friendsoftriel.com](http://www.friendsoftriel.com)

Newsletter of the Leatherhead & District Twinning Association

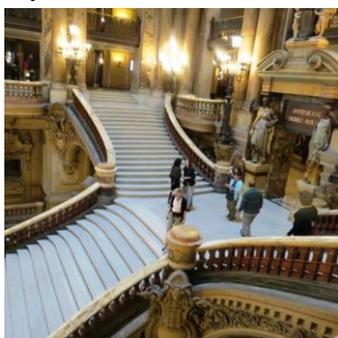
April 2016

## Four weeks to go!

Thirty Trielloises will arrive in Leatherhead at 6pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May for our 12<sup>th</sup> official exchange visit. We have an exciting programme of events. On Saturday we visit the UNESCO heritage site at Greenwich. Let's hope for gentle May sunshine, but even if we are faced with inclement weather there is so much to see and do in Greenwich. On Sunday morning we hold the civic reception at which we will enjoy music performed by students from the Yehudi Menuhin School. Sunday evening is the dinner dance at Tyrell's Wood Golf Club with dancing to the music of Atlantis. At the time of writing we still need a couple of hosts. Even if you cannot host please let us know whether you can join us for the evening at Tyrell's Wood. We will also be asking for home made cakes for the civic reception nearer the date. Our French friends were very impressed by our cake contributions at the 2014 reception and I know we can excel ourselves again.

As a country we are at a crossroads about our relationship with Europe. Twinning such as ours celebrate the best form of union – genuine cultural interchange and deepening friendships. Please show forbearance for that somewhat pompous addendum!

## Spring Social Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April



**Palais Garnier: the Grand Staircase – the place to show off your assets**

Hatchlands Park on an early spring day is a great place to get legs stretched, lungs full of fresh air and to enjoy a delicious cream tea. Twelve members walked round the Park noticing primroses on the tree floor, violets around tree roots, and the verdancy of swelling tree buds. There were bluish hints of the spectacular bluebell carpet for which the Park is renowned. However, there was not much doubt that the favourite

point on the walk was the newly erected tree house and willow framed maze and arches, where we enjoyed some regression to childhood, some more than others! Several extra members joined us for tea which was welcome indeed. Thanks to all for a lovely afternoon.

## Language Teasers



Unravel these anagrams to find the French words for these spring plants.

1. EECRP-EIEGN
2. CAITJENH
3. QUEILLNOJ
4. RÈVREIPEM
5. MÉSMHALI
6. GEMUTU

## Idioms

Guess the meaning of these idioms (answers overleaf in a different order)

- A. Poser un lapin à quelqu'un.
- B. Donner sa langue au chat.
- C. Couper la poire en deux.
- D. Garder la tête froide.
- E. Pleuvoir des cordes.

## Useful colloquialisms

1. *La téléloche* is a term for television
2. *Frite* usually means a chip but when used in the phrase "*j'ai la frite*" it means you're on top form.
3. *Patate* means potato but when used in the phrase "*j'ai la patate*" it means you're in a really good mood.
4. *Chèvre* is the word for goat, but when used in the phrase "*devenir chèvre*" it means someone is going crazy or up the wall.
5. *Cafard* is the word for cockroach but if you say "*j'ai le cafard*" it means you're feeling down.

## AGM

17<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Thirtyfour members gathered at Leatherhead Parish hall for our AGM, which was an excellent turnout. The meeting commenced with a minute's silence to remember the murderous events at the Théâtre Bataclan. We then received a report from our Chairwoman, Paula Hancock, about the diverse activities of the twinning association over the previous year, including our trip to Triel in May with the visit to the Palais Garnier. Our Treasurer, David Crutchley, told members that the finances are in a healthy state. Other areas covered were the newly adopted web site, and we asked for suggestions for the newsletters. Christine Hearn distinguished herself by winning the brain straining quiz set by David. The evening was rounded off with excellent cheese and wine and lots of good conversations et bonhomie.

The committee was re-elected as follows:

Paula Hancock	Chairwoman
Johanna Hancock	Membership
Navin Mehta	Secretary
David Crutchley	Treasurer
Elaine Crutchley	Newsletter

Bridget Carr  
Julia Baker

Philippa Shimmin is our council representative.

## Members' News

We were all saddened to hear of the untimely death of Mike Ward, a long standing and valued member of the Twinning Association. Mike will always be remembered for his quiet sense of humour, the twinkle in his eye and the shy smile. He contributed to our previous newsletter as recently as November 2015. He and Heather over the years have hosted many people from Triel and always joined us on our visits to France. We send our condolences to Heather for her great loss.



Rosie Featherstone is moving to be closer to Bookham centre.

Clara ? has moved to Epsom

Jo has moved to Morden

?

## News from Triel

At the AGM we decided it would be good to include news from our twinning town so that we can know about what is going on. Christine Hearn has become our roving reporter and to test our French has sent us this article from the town's web site. Thanks Christine – not difficult to guess what this is about, but good to pull out the dictionary and check out the details.

A blue poster for a 'STAGE BABY SITTING' program. At the top, there is an illustration of five diverse children sitting on the floor. The title 'STAGE BABY SITTING' is written in large, white, bold letters. Below the title, there are three bullet points in French: 'Mises en situation', 'Appréhender les gestes du quotidien', and 'Comprendre le développement de l'enfant'. A fourth bullet point, 'Legislation et droit du travail', is partially visible. At the bottom, the dates 'Mardi 23 et mercredi 24 février à partir de 14 ans' are listed. In the bottom left corner, there is small text: 'Organisé par les Services Jeunesse et Petite Enfance. PLACES LIMITEES - lescriptions et renseignements : Maison des Jeunes : 01 39 27 13 02 Service Petite Enfance : 01 39 70 22 13'. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for 'Triel Yvelines'.

La Ville organise un stage d'initiation au baby babysitting à l'attention des jeunes triellois. Au programme : mises en situation, appréhender les gestes du quotidien, comprendre le développement de l'enfant, et législation et droit

## ADVANCE NOTICE

The dates for the autumn walk "The Herbst Wanderung" organised by Seligenstadt twinning association are 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> September. It will be in the Aix-la-Chapelle area. Please see the website for more details or let one of the committee know your interest.

## Did you know?

Half of the world's top ten restaurants are run by Frenchmen, according to a new "totally scientific" Gallic ranking devised to counter what France claims is an Anglo-Saxon plot to dethrone its cuisine. While its creators deny any "gastro-nationalism", the top slot in its list of the world's best 1,000 restaurants goes to French chef Benoît Violier, whose Restaurant de l'Hotel de Ville is in Crissier, Switzerland. Restaurants run by French cooks come fourth, eighth, ninth and 10th, while more than a quarter of the new ranking's top 100 restaurants are in France.

Should we add « Gardez nos têtes froides et coupez la poire en deux » ?

Thanks Christine for that insight into Anglo-French rivalry.

## Match these Answers to the Idioms overleaf

- To give up trying to guess.
- To rain cats and dogs.
- To keep one's cool.
- To stand someone up.
- To reach a compromise.

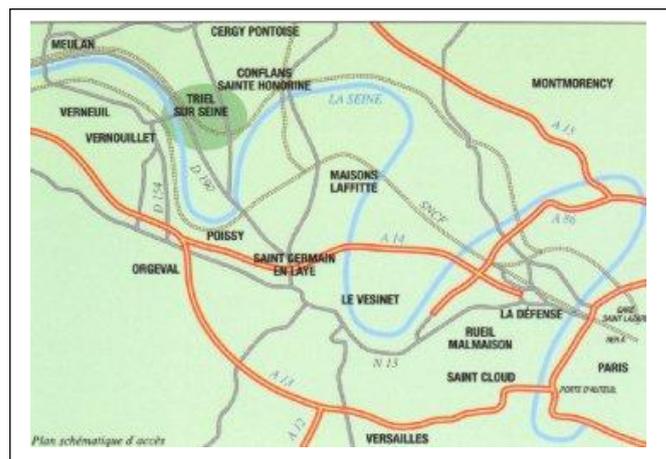
## About Triel

Triel-sur-Seine is a small town of 11000 inhabitants situated approximately 30 kilometres north-west of Paris on the banks of the River Seine.



Located on an old trade route which ran from the coastal towns of the north-west to Poissy and Paris, Triel was proclaimed a free town in 1221. The ancient church of St Martin in Triel, which dates back to 1240, is renowned for its impressive stained glass windows. Triel also has a small theatre in a recently-restored 18<sup>th</sup> century building.

The wooded hills behind the town are known as the Bois de L'Hautail and are a popular place for walking. On the crest of these hills is the Château de la Tour which was built in 1890 and now houses the Triel Observatory. Opened in 1991 and known as the "Parc aux Etoiles", the observatory affords an unparalleled view of the universe and is a stargazer's paradise!



The people of Triel-sur-Seine are known as "les Triellois" and are not only proud of their town, but also extremely hospitable. We hope that you will take advantage of their hospitality and discover Triel for yourself.

Don't forget to visit our web site  
<http://www.friendsoftriel.com>

## Joining the Friends of Triel



*There is great enthusiasm in Triel to link up with local organisations over here - representatives from French churches, choral societies, football clubs, schools and a host of other organisations in Triel are keen to*

*foster links with similar organisations in the Leatherhead area. The twinning committee would be delighted to hear from any local groups who would like to join the 'Friends of Triel'.*

*On a more personal level, the welcome and hospitality encountered by the various groups who have visited Triel over the years is always warm and generous. The committee are keen to expand the membership of the 'Friends of Triel' and would welcome any individuals or families who would like to join as new members. If you are interested in joining or finding out more, please contact Paula Hancock on 07767 833427 or by email [paula303@outlook.com](mailto:paula303@outlook.com)*