



Friends of Triel

Newsletter of the Leatherhead & District Twinning Association

Issue 6 – June 2006

Another Successful Triel Exchange Visit

We were delighted to welcome a group of visitors from Triel-sur-Seine over the May Bank Holiday weekend. The packed programme of events began with Councillor Maltby, Chairman of Mole Valley District Council hosting a reception at the council offices in Pippbrook. After the speeches Triel Councillor Jacqueline Essex was presented with a painting entitled "Leatherhead Bridge in the Mist" by Eddie Nowak that was generously donated by the Leatherhead Town Centre Forum.



Councillor Maltby and Jacqueline Essex



"Leatherhead Bridge in the Mist"

Yee Hah!



Barn Dance at Fetcham Village Hall

On Saturday evening our visitors and their host families were joined by members of local organisations for a Barn Dance in Fetcham Village Hall. The dance hall was decked with bunting and English and French flags. Over a hundred people with an age range of 8 to 80 enjoyed a lively, energetic evening of dancing.

Although the dance caller's instructions were in English, our French visitors were amongst the enthusiastic dancers, proving language is no barrier to having a good time.

Everyone enjoyed a hot supper and delicious pudding which was danced off by the time the night ended with rousing finale of Auld Lang Syne.

Clandon House Visit

On Sunday the French visitors and their host families visited Clandon House which had been brought to life by re-enactors in period costume.



Clandon House Visit

Moving Ceremony

On Sunday evening there was a Commemoration ceremony at the Leatherhead War Memorial held by Canon David Eaton which was attended by members of veterans' organisations from both countries.



Ceremony at Leatherhead War Memorial

Roger Prevost of Triel UNC presented a metal palm to Frank Haslam, who is closely involved with the British Legion and it is planned that it will be fixed to the war memorial. The ceremony was made more poignant by Simon Baker's playing of the Last Post.



Simon Baker plays the Last Post

After the ceremony, we attended a special welcome service at Leatherhead Parish Church. Canon David Eaton led the service and our visitors were made to feel part of the service, with a bilingual order of service complemented by a French translator. A highlight of service was the beautiful singing by the choir who were accompanied M. Bourelly the organist from Triel.

Afterwards there was a reception in the parish hall, where our visitors were reunited with parishioners who had visited Triel as part of a pilgrimage in October. The evening was rounded off with our visitors being taken on an impromptu tour of the church bell tower by Leatherhead Church bell ringer, Peter Ford who very kindly let people try their hand at ringing the bells.



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 Suer Brader on 01372 275862 or email friends_of_triel@hotmail.com

About Triel

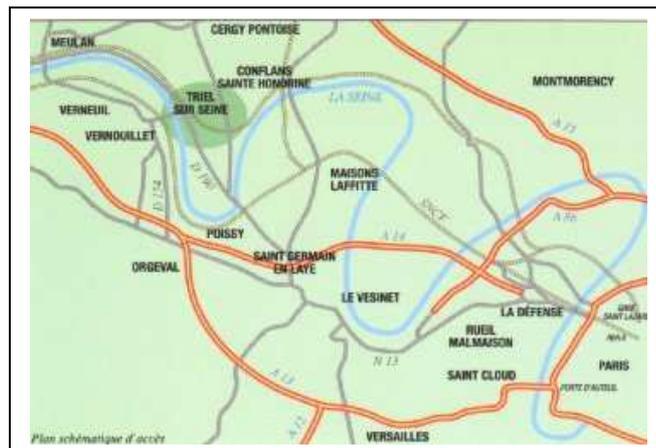
Triel-sur-Seine is a small town of 11000 inhabitants situated approximately 30 kilometres north-west of Paris on the banks of the River Seine.



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 18th century building.

The wooded hills behind the town are known as the Bois de L'Hautil and are a popular place for walking. On the crest of these hills is the Chateau 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.

For more information see the web-site <http://www.mairie-triel78.fr/> ■

Friends of Triel

Annual Membership Application

(£5 for Family or Organisation membership)

Name

Please tick the boxes below to indicate your interests:

Address

Host a French Visitor

Telephone

Take part in an exchange visits

Email

Help organise an outing

Signed

Please enclose a cheque for £5 made payable to "Leatherhead & District Twinning Association".

Send to: Sue Brader, 29 Agates Lane, Ashted SURREY KT21 2ND

