



Friends of Triel

Newsletter of the Leatherhead & District Twinning Association

Issue 8 – Jul 2007

Visit to Triel-sur-Seine

As part of the official twinning between Triel-sur-Seine and Leatherhead & District, a group of 39 local residents from the Leatherhead area recently travelled to France by coach for a long weekend. Triel is a small town on the banks of the River Seine 35 km NW of Paris which has been twinned with Leatherhead for 3 years.

Hosted by French families, the party enjoyed the generous hospitality of the locals and were given, as always, a very warm and generous welcome.

On Saturday morning Cllr Jean Pearson, Chairman of Mole Valley Council was welcomed at a formal Civic Reception hosted by the Mayor of Triel, M. Jean-Pierre Houlemare. The Chairman presented a framed print of Leatherhead to the Mayor of Triel, who greeted his visitors with great pleasure and enthusiasm



Both Cllr Jean Pearson and the Mayor expressed their wish that links between the two communities are strengthened and extended by further exchanges between local organisations and schools.

After a guided walking tour of Triel, the group enjoyed the spectacular sight of 3 water-skiers on the River Seine sporting the French flag and the Union Jack with an EU flag in the middle. At the gala dinner on Saturday evening, the 90 guests were enthralled by a magician who performed many truly amazing tricks at the tables.



Sunday morning saw the group enjoying several glasses of wine at a local wine tasting and, after an indoor picnic, the afternoon was spent taking in the delights of Monet's beautiful garden at Giverny, albeit under umbrellas!

En route to Calais on Monday, the party had a guided tour of the stunning Chateau de Chantilly and the weekend was rounded off by a shopping trip at Cite Europe for the inevitable cheese and wine purchases!



The Twinning Committee, the 'Friends of Triel', would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the organisation or finding out more about the activities of the group. Please phone Paula Hancock on 01372 277070 for further information or come and join us at our next event ...

...a Friends of Triel Picnic

This social event will be a Bring Your Own picnic on Saturday 18 August in Beverley and Navin Mehta's garden garden at 12 Elm Drive, Leatherhead KT22 8EX. Please bring your own food and drink and any garden chairs, rugs, cutlery and glasses that you will need. Puds will be provided! It is a **Bring Your Own** picnic and a salad to share so please bring your own food and drink and any other equipment such as chairs, rugs, cutlery, glasses that you will need. You will be able to use the car park behind the Leatherhead Parish Church Hall.

We are already making plans for the return visit of our Friends from Triel in May 2008 and this would be a good time to discuss some of the ideas we are considering such as a Sixties Jive night, a boat trip with afternoon cream tea. Don't forget to bring your photos of our recent trip to Triel!

Autumn Fair

We are planning to have a stall at the Autumn Fair at the Leatherhead Parish Church on Saturday 13

October to raise awareness of the activities of the Friends of Triel. We look forward to seeing you there and if you want to help on the day please contact us.

Friends of Triel AGM

You are all cordially invited to the Friends AGM / Cheese and Wine which will be held on Thursday 15 November 2007 at 8pm in the Reeves room at Leatherhead Parish Church.

The agenda will be

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of last AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of Officers
7. Any other business – May visit to Leatherhead from Triel

The committee hope as many members and friends as possible will join us for cheese and wine (all French of course!) after the meeting.

STOP PRESS!!! Road signs

We are delighted to announce that good progress has been made towards getting twinning road signs. Many thanks to Councillor Bridget Lewis-Carr for all her unstinting efforts in commissioning them

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 Sue Brader on 01372 275862 or email sue_brader@hotmail.com

About Triel

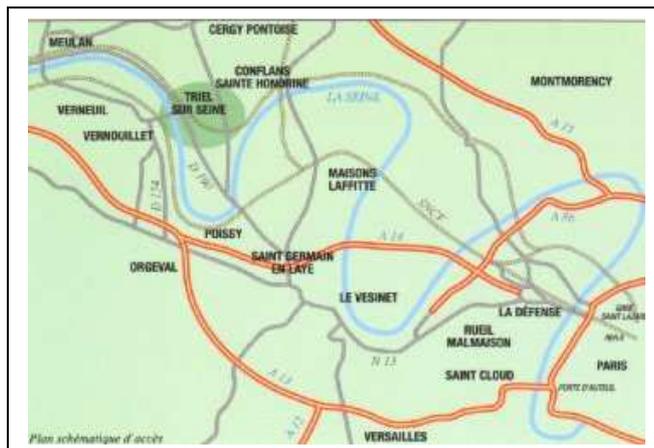
Triel-sur-Seine is a small town of 11000 inhabitants situated approximately 30 kilometres north-west of Paris on the banks of the River Seine.



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 (Leatherhead and District Twinning Association)

Annual Membership Application 2008

(£5 for Family or Organisation membership)

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Signed

Please tick the boxes below to indicate your interests:

- Host a French Visitor
- Take part in an exchange visits
- Help organise an outing

Please enclose a cheque for £5 made payable to "Leatherhead and District Twinning Association" and send to Sue Brader, Membership Secretary, 29 Agates Lane, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2ND