

# Newtown Twinning Association Newsletter

## 20th September 2018

Dear Friends,

As you are probably aware we have had an excellent Twinning year so far! We started the year in January with our first French Film evening, **UNTOUCHABLE!** A successful first film evening for us and soon to be followed by our second French Film evening, **Les Femmes du 6<sup>e</sup> étage**, showing at the same venue on Friday 2nd of November. We look forward to seeing you there!

February brought us our next two events, our **Annual St David's Twinning Dinner** held in the Elephant and Castle. We were joined by our visiting Erasmus students from La Louisière, Les Herbiers and we were highly entertained by Barrie Thomson of The High Street Deli who kindly agreed to be our guest speaker for the evening.

It was also our first year to offer the **Erasmus program** for vocational students from Les Herbiers. 6 students spent two weeks on work placement with local town centre businesses and experienced some unexpected Welsh weather, with snow falls extending their visit by two days! We had a great deal of fun hosting and advising our students and it was such a great success that we are repeating the program in 2019. We are currently working with NPTC Newtown to set up similar experiences for students in Newtown visiting Les Herbiers.

In April we had a surprise call up to take part in a BBC Radio Wales interview: '**Newtown Town of The Week**' with Wynne Evans of Go Compare fame! Helen Owen of Maldwyn Harriers joined us in praise of Newtown.

At the end of April we organised one of our biggest ever events, a **Grand Music Exchange** between Montgomeryshire Youth Music, Maldwyn Strings, Ffonc and Ecole de Musique Les Herbiers. It was a fantastic success with over 100 musicians playing in a joint orchestra! We were very pleased that we were able to meet our target of hosting 110 French visitors, all with local Families. Some achievement in itself!!

Just as our French Musician visitors were leaving we were inundated with requests for interviews about Les Herbiers amazing football success in winning through to the Final of the **Coupe de France** on the 8th May against Paris St Germain. Our French friends and our committee members were interviewed by Craig Duggan the local BBC correspondent who conducted a very impressive trilingual interview for the **BBC Radio Cymru Post Cyntaf** programme. We were also later interviewed on the breakfast program, '**Good Morning Wales**' on the day of the game!

In June we made our usual appearance at the **Newtown Carnival** which was a great success and a chance to meet different people and explain what we do!

On the 22nd of July we held our 4th **Annual social event** with a different venue this year at Penstrowed Parish Hall. The event was a great success as was the weather and we were treated to some typically French accordion music kindly provided by Geoff Beilby of Ffonic.

Our last event so far this year was the very successful **Newtown Food Festival**. Our friends from Les Herbiers returned for their fifth time this year, providing food and wine tastings of produce from the Vendee region. Their wines and produce always prove very popular and more so this year! Our **FRENCH VILLAGE** was bigger and we like to think better this year and Newtown Twinning Association also sold £400.00 of local Products on behalf of our local producers. We were also promoting our last few events of the year!

## **We have three more events left this Year!!**

**1.** Our next event this year is the **Chrono cycle Race and Fair** on the 12th to 15th of October in Les Herbiers. We are very pleased that cyclists from Hafren Cycle Club are visiting the Chrono again this year. We wish Emma Serjeant and Rebecca Richardson the very best of luck in the women's elite race and best wishes to Alun Roberts and Steve Taylor in the Randonnee du Chrono! Representatives from Newtown Twinning will also be attending and

supporting our riders! We are pleased to be able to arrange accommodation for our cyclists through our Twinning Associations. We are a little disappointed that we were unable to get enough people interested and as a result we had to cancel our coach, however there is always next year!!

**2.** Earlier we mentioned our **Second French Film evening,**

**Les Femmes du 6<sup>e</sup> étage** this is our next event, held at the Christian Centre, Milford Road, Newtown, Friday November 2nd. 7.00pm for 7.30 pm start.

Tickets: £7 to include a glass of wine and nibbles. We hope to see you there.

**For full details and trailer please visit:**

[www.newtowntwinning.co.uk/news-events](http://www.newtowntwinning.co.uk/news-events)

**3.** Our last event of the year which is far from our least is a visit to Les

Herbiers for the **International Jum Regal Christmas Market!**

We are very excited about this event which is a short but very sweet visit. We visit Mont St. Michel; Experience a French Gala Dinner; Enjoy the International Christmas Market; A day visiting beautiful La Rochelle and a visit to a French Hypermarket for your Christmas shopping. We are taking lots of local products to sell for producers and we are hoping that many producers will join us on our visit!

**For full details of this great visit and for your booking form please visit:**

[www.newtowntwinning.co.uk/news-events](http://www.newtowntwinning.co.uk/news-events)

Any questions regarding any of our events please contact us at:  
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