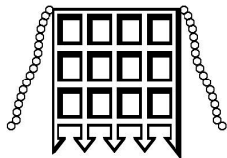


Romsey Twinning Newsletter



December 2010

Battenberg

Owing partly to illness and family bereavement a disappointingly small party from Battenberg visited Romsey in mid-September, flying from Frankfurt to Southampton. The main events organised for the Saturday were a reception in King John's House, attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Romsey, Cllr Mike Curtis and his wife Rita, who were also guests at the evening dinner at Carole's Carvery in Timsbury, a deliberate choice for a traditional pub atmosphere. The main event for Sunday was a very enjoyable visit to Breamore House near Fordingbridge where the Countryside Museum brought back universal memories for guests and hosts alike. The scrumptious cream tea afterwards was another traditional bonus. Grateful thanks, once more, to Jeff Watkin, Debbie Evenhand and Jane Bull for their efforts in helping to organise the weekend.

Treviglio

Sixteen members flew from Gatwick to Milan at the beginning of October to re-establish the link with friends in Treviglio. Reciprocal visits had first been made in 2005/6 but a change of Mayor in Treviglio brought a halt to the link as overtures to a developing country were preferred by the new Town Hall regime.



Thanks to the continued enthusiasm of our local contact in Treviglio, Gian Battista Scrivanti, an unofficial group has been established – the 'Amici di Romsey' – and we were welcomed and entertained by them with real warmth and generosity. Visits to nearby Bergamo and Milan were made by local train. The former boasts a fascinating old walled upper city while the latter's castle, cathedral, galleria and haute couture shops provided one marvel after another.

As an added point of interest, the political party of Silvio Berlusconi was holding a rally in Milan's castle and the whole area was bristling with police as the man himself was due to attend that afternoon. A concert of choral music, both classical (by a choir from Treviglio) and, most surprisingly, gospel (by a choir from Bergamo) provided a great source of enjoyment on the Saturday evening as did the dinner of traditional local fare organised for our final evening.

Wine Tasting/Quiz

In excess of 50 members and guests enjoyed an educational and quizzical evening on 20 November sampling 3 white and 3 red wines from the current selection of Waitrose 'offers'. Howard Nelson, from the local Waitrose drinks department first reminded us how to 'taste' a wine and then challenged us to identify the country of origin, grape variety, alcohol content and approximate price for each of the 3 white wines before imparting the experts' description.

After a sumptuous ploughman's supper prepared by Judy Phillips and Debbie Evenhand with their team of helpers, Mike Bull launched his general Drinks Quiz while Howard introduced the 3 red wines and some brains began to get a little befuddled!

When all expenses have been paid we hope to have swelled our coffers by over £300. Waitrose very generously donated the 3 white wines and the in-between-drinks nibbles and members were again very generous with their donations of prizes for the grand raffle.

Wreath-Laying on Remembrance Sunday – 14th November

Following agreement by members at the AGM in September, Mike Bull laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Romsey on behalf of Romsey Twinning.

Plaque for Mountbatten Tree in Paimpol

Your committee has approved the manufacture of a plaque in Welsh slate by Lewis Masonry of Southampton which will mark the 50th anniversary of the planting of the young chestnut tree in the grounds of the Mairie in Paimpol by Lord Louis Mountbatten. The inscription (in English) will read:

*‘Presented to the town of Paimpol, on behalf of the people of Romsey,
by Lord Louis Mountbatten – 13 July 1961’*

We hope that Lady Brabourne will be able to present this plaque to the Paimpol twinned when they next visit Romsey, possibly in early May 2011.

New Members – A warm welcome to our new member: Diane Kington

Forthcoming Events in 2011

Members’ Dinner – Wednesday 19th January. 19:30 Silks Hotel, The Hundred, Romsey

The next members’ dinner differs somewhat from the last one in that we will have a plated starter, a choice of 3 main courses and 2 desserts. If you would like to come, please fill in the slip on the next page and return it to Denise together with a cheque for £17 per person by the 31st December.

Visit by Treviglio – 5th-8th March

Beetle Drive/Games – Saturday 26th March 19:30 Age Concern Hall, Linden Road, Romsey

Small Ad.

Italian and French Tutor

Native Italian speaker, PGCE qualified, fully registered teacher,
available for private tuition of Italian and French - beginner to advanced.

Please contact Federica Robertson 07753 460477

Recommended by Janet Compton

Your Committee

Chairman	Mike Bull	01794 514880	mjwbull@tiscali.co.uk
Vice Chair	Denise Amery		chrisamery@ntlworld.com
Secretary	Jane Bull	01794 514880	jane.bull@tiscali.co.uk
Treasurer	John Parker	01794 515257	parkerjsxx@aol.com
Publicity	Marian Speakman		
	Mavis Chapman		
	Debbie Evenhand		
	Joanna Morgan		
	Judy Phillips		

Members' Dinner

Wednesday 19th January 2011, 7pm for 7:30, Silks Hotel, The Hundred, Romsey
£17.00 per person

Please book me members spaces – the full amount should be paid to secure a booking

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to 'Romsey Twinning'

Name

Address

Tel. Email

Please send to Denise Amery, 5 The Harrage, Romsey SO51 8AE by 31st December 2010
