

# Launceston & Plestin Packet



Occasional newsletter of Launceston and  
District Twinning Association

web-link: [launcestontwinningassociation.weebly.com](http://launcestontwinningassociation.weebly.com)

Editors – George and Patty Taylor

Higher and Over, East Panson, St Giles on the Heath, Launceston, PL15 9SQ

Tel: 01409 211182 email: [murraytaylor@waitrose.com](mailto:murraytaylor@waitrose.com)

Nº 136 - November 2015

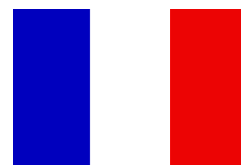
## AGM Special issue!

### Remembering



**Sharon** – the AGM started with a minute’s silence to remember our enthusiastic and much-missed committee member, Sharon Thorns, who died in August.

**Paris** – a minute’s silence was also observed for the victims of the mass shootings in Paris on 13 November.



## Looking back over a busy year

CHAIRMAN Jill Whitechurch highlighted the delightful weekend that Launceston twidders enjoyed in Plestin as part of her review of the year’s activities. “Fifty-five adults and 14 children had a lovely weekend over the early May bank holiday with the usual delightful hospitality,” she said.

On this side of the Channel local twidders kept in touch with a series of social events to suit most interests. They included the regular French film-and-meal evenings, a wine and wisdom quiz night, Call My Bluff evening and a murder mystery. The association had also been involved in community events including a stall at the Victorian Market, a coffee morning at the Central Methodist Hall and the Remembrance Sunday service when Issie Thorns had laid the wreath on behalf of the association.

Jill said that although the official twinning exchanges were now alternate years, several twidders had kept up the tradition of annual exchanges and had hosted visits from their French twins as usual this year. She invited those who had done so to send photos and information to The Packet to show that those who wanted to keep up the annual exchanges were enthusiastically maintaining the momentum.



**Top table applause – and flowers – for treasurer Jean**

Treasurer Jean Mansell said the association had a larger-than-usual bank balance of £3,970 which reflected the fact that we did not entertain our Plestin twins in 2015. All the social events had made a surplus which stood us in good stead for hosting Plestin in 2016.

The most successful fund raising activities were the murder mystery and wine and wisdom evenings, but even the Victorian Market coffee and croissant stall had raised £37. Jean was presented with a pot plant as a thank-you for her hard work.



There was also a presentation for George and Patty Taylor who produce The Packet newsletter and are responsible for the association's website.

Secretary Jenny Birkett said that use of the website was steadily increasing. Over the year it had averaged about 90 visits a month (individuals logging on to the site) with an average of about 300 page views a month (the number of pages looked at). The record month was May – after the Plestin trip – when there were 114 visits and 470 page views. Sixteen issues of The Packet had been published so far in 2015.

**In front of the camera for a change – George and Patty, photographed by Jason Thorns**

## Hosts needed to accommodate new Plestin twinnings

NINE new families hope to visit Launceston with the Plestin exchange in April. Jenny Worth has been busy seeking hosts but still needs to find 'homes' for two families, three couples and one single lady – all of whom speak at least some English.

### Families

- Couple (40) + 2 children (8 & 12), hobbies: football and running practice, the kitchen, crafts, card games, evenings with friends
- Couple (45) + 1 girl (12), hobbies: walking, nature and garden; daughter: video games, reading and writing
- Couple (50) interests: renovating farmhouse, have sheep, make cider, pommeau and eau de vie, like walking by the sea, reading, playing cards, have a collie and a cat, and own little motor boat
- Couple (60) no indication of interests
- Couple (45-50), hobbies: hiking, the sea, nature, garden, music and meeting people (Speak perfect English)
- Single lady (40) would like host of similar age. Enjoys good living, partying, music, sport, walking (Speaks English perfectly)

Anyone interested should contact Jenny at [jaw53@hotmail.com](mailto:jaw53@hotmail.com)

### Committee changes

**THERE was a big thank-you to former chairman Mike Macoun who stepped down from the committee after many years of dedicated work, Tracey Carmichael was elected as a new member and the officers and other committee members were re-elected en bloc.**

## 2016 – all set for fun-filled activities

**THERE were plenty of suggestions for interesting and fun events next year – both for entertaining our Plestin twins and for our own social events and all will be considered by the committee.**

**For our French visitors  
Dingles Steam Heritage Site  
Paignton Zoo  
Kent's Cavern  
Honey Farm, South Molton  
Day out in Padstow  
Prideau Place  
Round trip by steam train and boat to Dartmouth**

**For social events  
Crepes evening  
More walks and picnics  
Geo-caching  
Our usual popular events**