

# Launceston & Plestin Packet



Occasional newsletter of Launceston and  
District Twinning Association

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

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N° 142 - April 2016

## Plestin visit - special

# Twinning weekend breaks records!



*A big cheer on Sunday evening from the two tables filled with families*

**WITH** more than 40 children taking part, a double-decker coach was needed to bring all our Plestin guests and the Town Hall was absolutely packed to capacity for the Sunday evening party, it was a memorable – and record-breaking – twinning weekend.

The record-breaking French group totalled nearly 80, with more than half of them children. That meant that for the first time they had to hire a double-decker coach to make the trip to Launceston and it also meant that for the first time we had to limit the number we could accommodate for the Sunday evening supper-dance.

To cater for the huge group and the wide age-range, planned activities on Saturday saw the French coach take a large contingent to Paignton Zoo while a packed Tilley's coach took another group to Dartmouth to catch the ferry to Greenway.



**Modes of transport: Above, by land train at the zoo and, right, by ferry to Greenway**

Sunday was a free day and hosts arranged activities ranging from bracing walks along the coast to visits to Cornish towns or gardens.

Everyone came together in the evening for the traditional supper-dance, starting with a delicious buffet provided by Judith Scott and her team.



When it came to swapping notes the next day, it turned out that both groups had thoroughly enjoyed the day and found lots to interest and amuse them.

There was plenty of sunshine and only a couple of showers – so many of the group heading up the Dart for Greenway opted to travel in the open on the upper deck to enjoy the views.



Our chairman, Jill Whitechurch, said that the demand from families in Plestin has been fantastic and that making the exchanges every two years was working well, although the bonds of twinning were now so strong that many families were still making visits both ways every year.

Jill thanked Jenny Worth and everyone who had worked so hard to make the weekend a success, and she also sent the best wishes of the assembly to those who had been unable to take part in the exchange.

Plestin president, Bruno Philipé, spoke of his pleasure at being part of such a major gathering on his first visit as president and of the efforts in both countries to find new families.

As Plestin is currently between Mayors, councillor Christian Jeffroy spoke on behalf of Plestin Council. He said it was the first time he had been to Launceston. Through interpreter Carolyn Burch, he said: "I have been told that Launceston offers a wonderful welcome – and it has proved true."

He added that the only problem he could foresee for the future of the twinning exchanges was how they would fit everyone in. "Perhaps we will have to have two coaches...."



The Cornish band Choughed to Bits - back by popular demand - soon had twinnors aged from three to over 70 on their feet dancing the night away with traditional Cornish dances and Breton dances.



And then, early next morning, it was time to say goodbye to the big French coach along with our very dear French friends....



## **And finally...**

### **FEEDBACK FROM THE WEEKEND**

#### **From Facebook:**

*On 10 April at 23:07, Tamsin Worth wrote -*

*What a great weekend. Many thanks to all who made it so fantastic: Jenny Worth, Lucy de Glanville, Jason Thorns, Claire Ellacott Fry, Robert Fry, Kevin Worth, Rozenn Derriennic, Rebecca Brewer and everyone else, thank you xx*

*On 13 April at 18:34, Cherry Warne wrote:*

*Very many thanks for a splendid weekend to all the organisers - even the weather co-operated!*

#### **From The Packet emails:**

*Rachael Dewis wrote:*

*I am sending my thanks to you and all those involved in running the Twinning Association.*

*Lizzie Browning asked me, a while ago, if I would be interested in hosting Fabienne Henry. I had enjoyed a couple of your fundraising events so knew a little about the Association, and was happy to agree to hosting Fabienne. Little did I realise just what a wonderful weekend it would be! I know that great effort is put into organising such a weekend and the efforts really paid off - the trip to Greenway was marvellous and the event on Sunday evening was far better than Fabienne and I could have imagined.*

*From the arrival of the coach late on Friday night to its departure on Monday morning, everything had been so well organised and the choices of the day trips and Sunday evening entertainment and buffet were great.*

*I found it heart-warming to meet Twinners who had been visiting each other for many years and also Twinners who, like me, were hosting guests they had met for the first time. To see everyone come together and enjoy Sunday evening showed just how special the Twinning Association is. I am most grateful that I could host and become a part of the Association and look forward to future events.*

*With my thanks and best wishes to all those involved.*

*Merci bien*

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And from a Mum who shall remain anonymous to save her boy's blushes:

*"My son cried when he came home from school and realised they were all gone back to France!"*

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**Lots more photos from the weekend on our website at:**

**<http://launcestontrinningassociation.weebly.com/2016---visit-by-plestin.html>**

**and don't forget that you can join the Facebook group by logging on to Facebook and calling up Launceston Twinning Association**