

Launceston & Plestin Packet



Occasional newsletter of Launceston and District Twinning Association

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Join us for coffee (and help to raise funds)

TWINNERS and friends are cordially invited to support the association's fund-raising at our coffee morning on Tuesday, 15 April, in the Central Hall, Launceston, from 10:30 until noon.

You can help by:

- **providing cakes, buns, biscuits, jams, or plants for sale on the morning which will be gratefully received by the team manning the stall from 10am**
- **joining us for a coffee and biscuits (there will be a small charge for these refreshments).**

Looking forward to a busy bank holiday weekend

PREPARATIONS are well in hand for the visit of our French friends over the weekend of 2-5 May. We will entertain a group of about 60 this year (including more than a dozen children) and formal activities start on Saturday morning with a reception to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our twinning partnership with Plestin-les-Grèves.

Full programme details attached with 'Twinning booking form'. All twinnings are welcome to join in the events – just fill in the attached form so organisers know how many to expect and cater for.

Saturday Mayor's reception at Lawrence House Museum:

Launceston Mayor, Councillor Dave Gordon, will host a sherry reception at Lawrence House Museum at 11am. It will be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and news from both sides of The Channel and to look at the exciting new exhibits in the Museum. (The toad's skin lady's evening bag - in the costumes section - sounds revolting.)

The remainder of the day will be free - with an optional picnic in Launceston Castle grounds for families with children after the Lawrence House reception. Those interested should take along picnic food and blankets for their group and afterwards the kids can have a run around.

Sunday visit to the Green Man Festival at Mount Edgcumbe:

Join us at Mount Edgcumbe Country Park on the final day of a two-day festival to celebrate the 'rebirth' of the year.

There will be falconry displays, archery, willow weaving, wood turning and fun around the village stocks. The festival will include a craft fair and food market all woven around the huge central figure of a Green Man - the spirit of renewal.

A limited number of places will be available on the French coach (£2 per head payable on the coach) – first come, first served – which will leave Martins Cash and Carry at 9.30am. Entry to the festival is free. For those making their own way by car, all day parking is £5 per vehicle. The best way to reach Mount Edgcumbe by car is to cross from Plymouth on the Torpoint Ferry and then follow the brown signs to the country park.

As well as the festival, visitors will also be able to enjoy the park and most of the gardens freely, although there will be a charge to visit the house and formal gardens. Edgcumbe House is set in Grade I Cornish Gardens within an 865 acres Country Park on the Rame Peninsula and more information is at <http://www.mountedgcumbe.gov.uk/>

Sunday - dinner at the Town Hall:

The celebrations will start at 7.00pm and don't be late because the buffet will be served promptly at 7.30. The cost of the buffet meal (with a mouth-watering choice of items) will be £15 per head, children £8, and our French guests will be free – all the same as last year. Music for the evening will be provided by the lively ceilidh band Choughed to Bits (left), who were such a big hit last year. They will provide a sound backdrop to the meal and provide a variety of music later for dancing later in the evening.



Monday – a farewell Cornish cream tea:

There are no group activities planned for the morning or early afternoon on Monday, but there will be a chance for a final gathering and goodbyes at a cream tea at Breckenreid, Tavistock Road, Launceston, from 4.30pm. Gill Grigg and Chris Skipp have kindly made their garden available for the tea and, where possible, guests are asked to take picnic blankets or folding chairs. Breckenreid is about a five-minute walk from Launceston College where we can leave our cars, and is on the right-hand side about 200 yards beyond Pendruccombe House.

The French coach will leave from Launceston College at 6.30pm.

Let us know – so we get the numbers right:

Coach places for Mount Edgcumbe visit – Please use the form attached to let us know how many require seats on the coach to Mount Edgcumbe on Sunday. *Reply asap to be sure of getting a seat on the bus - remember first come first served!*

Town Hall party – Please use the form attached to let us know how many will be going to the evening dinner in the Town Hall on Sunday evening. **Reply by April 17 at the latest.**

Cornish cream tea – Please let us know how many will be going to the cream tea.

We've got a website!

TO CELEBRATE our 30th anniversary year, we now have our very own website and you can be among the first to see it by following this link launcestontwinningassociation.weebly.com

As well as providing information for people interested in learning more about our association, the site should provide a useful reference site for members because it contains photographs, a list of coming events, and back issues of The Packet.

The site is so new that it cannot yet be accessed through search engines like Google, so for a couple of weeks the link above will be the only way to view it.

"We've tried to make our site as easy-to-use as possible, keeping the information on each page brief and using a few photographs to lighten it up," said Patty Taylor, who has created the site. "I would really appreciate comments from members before it's generally available through search engines – especially if there are any mistakes!"

"We can add information (and pages) as necessary and we intend to update the site regularly to keep it fresh. I've also got some more photos to upload from previous years – but that will have to wait until I can get into the library because our broadband speed at home is so slow! There is no charge to the association for the site because we are using a free one hosted by Weebly (which hosts the Twinning Committee for Cornwall website), but it does mean that there are some limitations on what we can do."



There's going to be a murder

on 6 June and we're looking for volunteers to help us commit the dastardly crime!

THE location is decided, the plot is having its final tweaks and all that's needed now is a few volunteers to take on the roles of suspects and victim.

Once again the event will feature a reunion of a Launceston school's French set with its queen bee, the irrepressible Madame Dubonnet – or Madame Poirot as she's becoming known. All the other characters will be new (although some of the 'actors' may be the same).

Anyone interested in being part of the cast should contact Jenny Worth on 01566 772615 or by email at jaw53@hotmail.com Details of venue and how to book will be in the next issue of The Packet.

Book your places now for our visit to Plestin (19-22 September)

ARRANGEMENTS have been finalised with Brittany Ferries for our visit to Plestin in September and the good news is that Jenny Worth has managed to keep the costs for the coach, ferry (with overnight berth on the outward journey) at last year's level, or slightly less!

We will take the overnight ferry on Friday, 19 September, and return on the morning ferry (arriving in Plymouth at 15:00) on Monday, 22 September.

To ensure we keep the favourable rates, it will be helpful if members return the attached booking form as soon as possible, please.

FILM FOCUS – with the longer days bringing more evening activities, our popular French film and supper evenings will take a break until the autumn.

Our secretary's got a new email address

HACKED off with having her emails hacked; Jenny Birkett now has a new email address. She can be reached at jennybirkett2@gmail.com

Dates for your diary

15 April	Coffee morning and cake stall Central Hall, Launceston
2-5 May	Launceston hosts the Plestin visit
6 June	Murder Mystery Evening, Launceston Cricket Club
19-22 September	Plestin hosts the Launceston visit