

Launceston & Plestin Packet



Occasional newsletter of Launceston and
District Twinning Association

<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

N° 175 - March 2018

Which destination for you - Buckland or Powderham?

THERE will be another bumper contingent from Plestin joining us for our twinning exchange at the end of April, and that means we need to make arrangements early for our Sunday celebration dinner and Monday outings.

This year we break with custom – because our numbers are now too great to hold our dinner at the Town Hall – and will hold our dinner at Trethorne Leisure Centre. And this year we will also have a seating plan for the meal, to ensure that families and groups can sit together. For the Monday outings we have a choice of activities – either a visit to Powderham Castle, home of the Earls of Devon, or to Buckland Abbey, the National Trust property.

Attached with this issue of The Packet is a booking form with three pages: one for the Sunday dinner, one for the visit to Powderham and one for the visit to Buckland.

We need you to fill in the forms for whichever activities you want to take part in and **return them to Jean Mansell by Thursday, 29 March.** (Jean's details can be found on the forms.)

This deadline is to ensure that our organisers are able to firm up all the booking arrangements (and ensure we qualify for any group discounts) immediately after Easter.

Even if you will be using your own transport for the Monday activities, please fill in the appropriate form (again, for group discount purposes). There is car parking both at Powderham and Buckland.

National Trust members, of course, will have free entry to Buckland Abbey but the Trust would like us to let them know numbers, so please fill in the form. (Adult Trust members will also need to pay for coach seats.)

Sunday evening dinner and entertainment

Even though we have extra capacity at Trethorne (200 as opposed to 180) we expect demand to be heavy. Priority will be given to our French visitors and their hosts, so while non-hosting twinningers will be welcome, places will be allocated on a first-come, first served basis.

Music will be provided by The Countrymen and all amusement facilities – bowling, dodgems and arcade – will be available during the evening. To avoid disappointment, please complete the attached booking form(s) as soon as possible!

Monday outings

Powderham Castle lies in a beautiful deer park on the banks of the River Exe, not far from Exeter, and boasts more than 600 years of history and heritage. A Castle tour takes in the majestic rooms and offers fascinating stories about the Courtenay family.

There is a shop, restaurant offering a range of light lunches, refreshments, cream teas and children's lunchboxes. (You can book a meal, ring the Castle on 01626890243.) There are also two designated picnic areas. The Estate comprises 3,500 acres of land with farms, woodland, and approximately 3 miles of foreshore. More information on www.powderham.co.uk/home-devon

Buckland Abbey is part museum, part house, and is filled with treasures. Beyond there are meadows, orchards and woodlands and way-marked trails with an unmissable carpet of bluebells in Spring. Visitors who find walking a bit tricky, can ask about hiring an off-road mobility scooter which can be taken around the gardens and the yellow estate walk.

There is a children's quiz/trail and family activities available for indoors and outdoors and a restaurant serving hot meals between 12pm and 2.30pm (light snacks and hot drinks available all day) and plenty of spots for picnics. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/buckland-abbey>

Full details of timings, pick-up and meeting points, etc., will be given in the next issue of The Packet (mid-April), but **fill in your booking forms now to avoid disappointment.**



French Film Night, Tuesday March 27

A pre-Easter romantic comedy

'*MOLIERE*' is an essential piece of cinema for romantics everywhere. Rotting away in prison and in a mountain of debt, Molière's only hope of freedom is to help the buffoonish Mr Jourdain seduce a beautiful young widow behind his wife's back. Disguised as a priest, he moves in with the Jourdain family to begin a calamitous, hilarious and ultimately romantic set of adventures.

What the critics said: "Shakespeare in Love ... French style" *EVE*

"A delightful romantic comedy ... amusing and sumptuous"

SUNDAY MIRROR

The meal choices will be:

- Chicken saut (chicken casserole with carrots and leeks in a white wine mustard cream sauce)
- Beef with port and apricots (slow cooked casserole with garlic, shallots, red wine, port, apricots and parsley)
- Butternut squash curry with chick peas (creamy Thai curry with mango chutney, naan breads and rice)

To book your meal and film deal, please contact Jean Mansell jeanmansell2@gmail.com with your meal choice **by Wednesday, 21 March**. Cheques (£16 per person) should be sent to Jean at Nighthoak, 2 Stourcombe Wood, Launceston PL15 9JP, and please note on the back of the cheque that the payment is for the French film night and for the number of people.



SOLD OUT

It's a Murder Mystery Bake-Off

SATURDAY evening's Murder Mystery PLUS the twinners' version of The Great British Bake Off is a sell-out!

Seven teams have entered our first-ever Great Cornish Bake Off and will provide a starter, a main and a dessert which, after judging by a panel of experts, will be consumed by the audience!

The evening will be chaired by the indomitable Madame Dubonnet (Jenny Worth) hosting one of the regular reunions of former students from her school French group. As usual, guests are promised some rather unusual goings-on from a bunch of characters with murder on their minds...

Crockery, cutlery and glasses will be provided but guests are reminded to take their own soft drinks and extra wine. (As this is our last major fund-raising activity before the exchange visit, raffle prizes will also be most welcome.)

And finally...

... WANTED - small cakes, buns, pasties and individual savouries to sell at our fund-raising coffee morning in Launceston Central Methodist Hall on Tuesday, April 10. Over the years, experience has shown that customers prefer to buy a few smaller cakes or savouries rather than whole cakes.

The committee will also be delighted to hear from any members who can spare a few hours on the morning to help with serving, clearing up and washing up. Cakes can be dropped off at the Hall from 9.30am (or at Jenny Worth's house the day before) and the coffee morning will be over by midday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 17	Murder Mystery and Bake-Off evening, Launceston Cricket Club.
March 27	French Film Night, Jericho's, Launceston, 7pm
April 10	Twinners host Coffee Morning at Central Methodist Hall, 9.30am
April 19	French Film Night, Jericho's, Launceston, 7pm
April 28-May 1	We host visit from Plestin (10pm arrive; 10am depart)
May 22	French Film Night, Jericho's, Launceston, 7pm