

Newsletter

May 2019

Guest Editor: John Smith

*O, the month of May, the merry month of May,
So frolic, so gay, and so green, so green, so green!
O, and then did I unto my true love say,
Sweet Peg, thou shalt be my Summer's Queen.*



Forthcoming Events

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Thursday 9 May | Europe Day Meal |
| Thursday 23 May | Léger |
| Thursday 20 June | Evening Drinks Party |
| 16 to 20 May | Colmar Twinning Weekend |
| 27 June to 1 July | Canoe Camping |
| 13 to 20 July | Schongau Language Course |
| 5 to 9 September | Sint Niklaas Twinning Weekend |
| 23 to 24 November | Trip to Sint-Niklaas |

Evening meetings are held at Preston Road Community Centre – 7:30pm for 7:45pm

Thursday 23rd May

A talk about Fernand Leger by Anne Dodd

At Preston Road Community Centre, 7.45 start

Fernand Leger -1881 - 1955 - painter, sculptor, filmmaker - is the most famous person to have been born in Argentan, Abingdon`s twin town in Normandy. He was considered the equal of Pablo Picasso by many. This summer a museum in the centre of Argentan is to be opened in the house he was born in. A recent exhibition at Tate Liverpool of 50 of his works was a must-see event in the Art World. He reflected the changing social and artistic world of his time and has become increasingly popular of late. One of his paintings was recently sold for almost £55 million.

So a talk not to be missed.

(NB – this is also the scheduled date for the European elections so please watch this space for more information)

Sint Niklaas Twinning Weekend – 5-9 September

De Verzustering, the twinning committee of Sint-Niklaas, is holding its annual twinning weekend from Thursday the fifth of September to Monday the ninth of September.

As usual they are inviting 4 people of each twin town.

The theme this year is the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Sint-Niklaas.

The outline programme is:

- Thursday the 5th : arrival of the guests
- Friday the 6th : visit of the Atlantic wall at the coast
- Saturday the 7th : official welcome by the mayor. We join the official programme of the town celebration
- Sunday the 8th : thematic walk in the city.“ Games without borders”. Farewell dinner
- Monday the 9th: leaving of the guests

Sint-Niklaas wish to know names by 9th June. So, if you are interested in going, or need more information, please contact John Smith, secretary@adtts.eu , asap.

Weekend trip to Sint-Niklaas 23rd-24th November 2019

ADTTS is organising a 2-day weekend coach trip to Sint-Niklaas on Saturday 23rd-Sunday 24th November.

The highlights of the trip include a visit to a chocolatier, and the House of St Nicolas (Huis van De Sint) in Sint-Niklaas, as well the famous Christmas Market in Bruges.

Each year, during the lead-up to St Nicolas Day, the town of Sint-Niklaas celebrates this by transforming their museum to “The House of The Saint”, which is dedicated to the story of St Nicolas and is a huge attraction for children in Belgium, who come from all over the country to visit it, and the St Nicolas in residence.

We are taking a coach over there, leaving Abingdon early Saturday morning, and will be staying at the 4 star Hotel Serwir, and will arrive back at about 8 pm on the Sunday evening.

The initial itinerary is as follows:

Saturday 23rd November, 2019

05:30 Depart Abingdon for Euroshuttle, Folkestone
09:50 Shuttle crossing
11:15 Depart Calais (timings are local, 1 hour ahead of UK time)
13:15 Arrive Sint Niklaas, Hotel Serwir
14:30 Visit to Chocolatier in Sint-Niklaas, watch a master chocolatier at work
16:00 Opportunity to visit to The House of St Nicolas
19:00 Reception for the visitors at Town Hall by the leaders of Sint-Niklaas.

Sunday 24th November

09:15 Depart hotel for Bruges
10:15 Arrive Bruges, visit Christmas market, opportunity for horse and carriage tour
15:15 Depart Bruges for Calais and Shuttle (supermarket stop for Xmas shopping) 17:30 Arrive Folkestone, depart for Abingdon
20:30 Arrive Abingdon

All timings are approximate at moment and are subject to fine-tuning

Accommodation:

Bed and breakfast in the 4 star Hotel Serwir, Sint Niklaas, in twin/double/familyrooms.

Cost:

We envisage the cost to be approx £95 per person, and for children sharing a room with parents approx £85. (Entrance tickets for the house of the saint approx €12). The cost is not yet finalised, and may fluctuate slightly depending on exchange rates.

The trip will be offered to Abingdon twinnings, and in the first instance we would like to give priority to pupils of St. Nicolas School and their parents (although there is a limit on the number of places available).

We anticipate that the places may well be taken up very quickly, **so if you are interested please let Nick Marsh know as soon as possible (nick.marsh@comstar.fi) tel 07745 440047.**

Past Events

Film Show - "In the Fade"

Thursday 4 April 2019

This was our annual joint meeting with [ABCD](#), the local film society.

A very enjoyable social evening, attended by many of our members, and with an interesting, and thought provoking, film (IN THE FADE (*Aus dem Nichts*), the latest film to arrive in the UK from German director, Fatih Akin, is a very contemporary story - racism, neo-Nazis in Germany, courtroom drama, revenge),

A very good evening, and a very intriguing and interesting film.

Abingdon Passion Play

6 April 2019

A new, and modern, arrangement of the play performed in the Abbey grounds.



Church Twinning hosted guests from Argentan and Sint-Niklaas for the weekend.

Other events over that weekend included a Barn Dance in Trinity Church Hall on the Friday evening and a cheese and drinks social on the Saturday evening

Evening Meeting - Recycling

Thursday 18 April 2019

Anne Smart gave a very interesting talk about the problems of pollution, including the plastics problem (eg single use plastic bags) about which we hear so much, and discussed ways in which the local community can do things to help alleviate the situation. Cling film being, most definitely a no-no! And the washing of fleece garments, and I am sure that virtually all of us have at least one fleece, releases tiny plastic particles into the environment and drains. Not good.

And, of course, recycling was discussed. What we can or cannot recycle. Anne gave out some recycling wheels to help us decide.

A VERY thought-provoking meeting.

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