

LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

June 2020 Newsletter

Major Changes to the Twinning Committee

At the Annual General Meeting on 16 March 2020 major changes to your committee took place. Jon Marshall, Chairman of the Association for the last 20 years, stood down, but no-one came forward to take his place. Jon received praise from committee members for the sterling service rendered over this long period of time and an elegant pot plant was presented. Through all those years Jon has been supported tirelessly by wife Diana, and son Jonathan, who have always been present on the forty or so outgoing and incoming visits, and on the events like the very popular Burgundy Evening, Bavarian evenings, quiz evenings, etc. A copy of the original twinning charter is being framed for later presentation to Jon.



This leaves the position of Chairman vacant, Mike Stilges as Treasurer, Suzanne Cartledge as Minutes Secretary, John Gregory as Contact with Wissen, and Ann Kirby as Contact with Chagny, although Ann has decided to remain off the Committee. Pauline Stilges will deal with the Quiz in the Autumn. At present there is nobody to organise the annual Burgundy Evening. Amendments to the Constitution of LGCTA will be needed, following the AGM.

The Rest of 2020 and the Virus

Unfortunately, as with most of the rest of the world, the virus Covid-19 has dealt a major blow to our plans for 2020.

Our German friends from Wissen were due to visit Letchworth in May but that had to be cancelled. Lockdown was declared a couple of weeks earlier in Germany than in UK.

And now the trip from Letchworth to Chagny, our partner in France, due to take place in August this year, has, reluctantly, been cancelled. There are restrictions on meetings of more than ten people in a room throughout June in France and it is not clear what the situation in July and August will be—not a good basis for arranging a busload of visitors from Britain—as well as uncertainties about quarantining on return to the UK.

Chagny has had to cancel their planned visit to Wissen later in June.

We're hoping that maybe the whole 2020 programme can be shifted to next year.

Burgundy Evening 2020 on Saturday

7 March was again a great success—a wonderful evening of dining in the French style, on Paté de Canard à l'orange, Rôti de Porc Dijonais, salads in between, St Agur, Comté, Pié d'Angloys cheeses, Tarte aux Fruites, accompanied by matching wines: Macon Lugny, Chablis, Brouilly, Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Crémant de Bourgogne. All with lots of conversation with old friends, the whole lasting from 7.30 to 11.00 pm. There's a tremendous amount of work entailed in setting up tables and in cooking preparation in the well-equipped school kitchen and many thanks are due, as every year, to Diana & Jonathan Marshall and Julia Pollard for master-minding the gastro-nomic side, to most of the Twinning committee and also to non-committee friends Pat and Bern Bailey, John Baskerville, Alan Byrne, William Cartledge, Alan Gower, Peter Jackson, Ann Kirby, Tilly Leitano, Brian Noble, Julia and Alastair Pollard, Anne Sparrowhawk, Carolyn and Mike Thomasson, These worthy volunteers turned up to help prepare vegetables, lay tables, wash dishes and pack away place settings for our hundred or so guests.



Newsletter to go online

Printing and posting costs continue to rise so LGCTA would like to move over to completely distributing our news electronically. For the moment the format would remain the same—two sides of A4—but in PDF. No need to print it at home, except perhaps for the odd occasion when we use the newsletter to feature an application form for one of our events. We already have a large number of friends receiving the letter online rather than in its printed form and we think that the vast majority of our contacts now have laptop, tablet, or phone, on which they receive most of their communications.

Please therefore, if you currently get the newsletter through your door and wish to continue staying in touch by receiving future issues, send an email to johngregory2@ntlworld.com and I'll add you to the mailing list.

For many years a loyal band of 'distributors' - friends of the Association, who deliver individual copies around their local area, - have toiled, three or four times a year, to get the newsletter spread to its readers. Some of you I know, from the Twinning or other activities, but a couple of you I've rarely even met. I'm just very, very grateful for all that effort over all that time.

From John Gregory, Newsletter Editor.

LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY

is twinned with Kristiansand in Norway, Chagny in France and Wissen in Germany. The Newsletter appears about every three months, is free and there is an email version. Membership is free, and is open to all who are in sympathy with the aims of the Association. We're currently waiting to appoint a new Chairman. Newsletter Editor is John Gregory (01462 674639). johngregory2@ntlworld.com

LETCHWORTH EVENTS 2020

Letchworth visit to Chagny scheduled for August 2020 has unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus.

Quiz at St Michaels Church Hall 17 Oct

NEIGHBOUR EVENTS 2020

Our neighbouring twinning organisations have of course also been affected by the virus emergency.

LGCTA QUIZ 2020



Don't forget to put the date of our famous annual QUIZ in your diaries now; it's usually a sell-out. The date is Saturday 17 Oct. and the place will be St Michael's Church Hall on Broadway (just across from the fountains). Pauline and Mike Stilges will be organising it in their

impeccable way as with our previous highly successful quizzes.

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020-21

<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>NHDC</i>
Not appointed	Michael Stilges	Cllr. Ian Mantle

Minutes Secretary
Suzanne Cartledge

Members

Roger Comley	Pauline Stilges	John Booth
John Gregory (<i>Contact for Wissen and Newsletter</i>)	*****	

Ann Kirby (*Contact for Chagny*) Non-committee member

Honorary Vice-presidents Malcolm Lee, Harry Shipley, Cliff Marshall
Honorary President Chairman NHDC