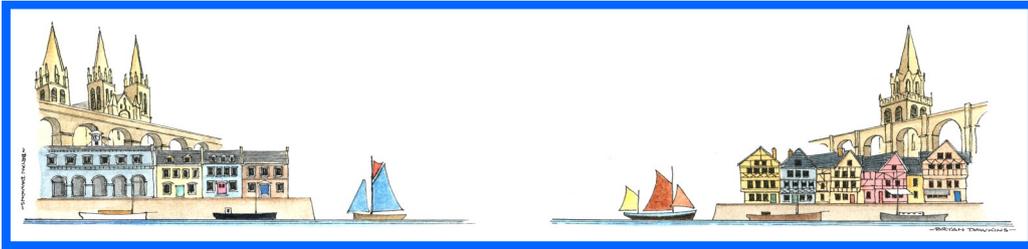


# TWIN LINK FEBRUARY 2011



**Chairman's letter:**

The New Year got off to a brilliant start with our "Christmas/New Year" lunch. The decision to move the lunch to the New Year seems to have been popular and it was wonderful to see so many members there. As always it was a joy to see everyone and catch up with all the news. We were also very pleased to meet new members. We have a busy few months ahead.

At the end of February we welcome 4 members from Morlaix who are bravely coming "on immersion" to improve their linguistic skills. We're hoping to organize a Blue Badge tour of Truro for them and a town quiz.

A provisional booking has been made with Brittany Ferries for our twinning weekend in June and I look forward to receiving your booking forms and cheques shortly.

In March we have our ever popular crêpe evening, thanks to Jean Anderson and her crêpe pan. The following week is the AGM and cheese and wine. Unfortunately we shall be losing Ann Burnett from the committee. We thank her for all her hard work, particularly in her role as membership secretary. Val Flatt will be pleased to receive nominations for this post and for the committee. I look forward to seeing you all soon. I can smell those crêpes already!

Anne Moodie



**New Year Meal**

We decided to try a New Year Meal instead of a Christmas dinner. The general opinion of this change was very favourable, as it was good to anticipate, then appreciate, a nice meal a few weeks after all the Christmas festivities were over. The venue at the Falmouth Hotel proved very good, especially as the weather was just perfect – a cold, crisp, sunny day.



**YOUR COMMITTEE for 2010—2011**

Chairman	Anne Moodie	01872 277854	robert.moodie@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Barrie Anthony	07799 455300	
Secretary	Val Flatt	01872 271593	johnnorval@talktalk.net
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	Alison Cameron	01326 318848	
	Sheridan Brown	01872 870464	
	Bryan Dawkins	01872 571435	



*To "immerse" or not to "immerse"? Mike Cluett, one of our newer members, puts the question to the test!*

### ÊTRE OU NE PAS ÊTRE - that is the question!

Yes, that was the question!! Perhaps to understand my answer, a little background information:  
French qualifications - 1 year at school (some 56 years ago) -1 year adult education (evening classes 24 weeks for 2 hourly sessions) - and at least 6 French holidays over the past 50 years. \*\*\* WELL QUALIFIED\*\*\*\*

The way I look at things, if you join a club, then you support their activities, both fund raising and functions, so IMMERSION - yes, I would like to go please.

**October 3rd**, 7.51 pm, e-mail, yes I can go - the requirements - must speak French, as much as possible - read aloud - write a journal in French - could be French classes - examination of your journal by the French President - no! - Michel Cocheril, I mean.

Take - passport - Euros - health card - insurance - notebook and pen - photos (always do when I remember to take the camera) - and gift for host. OK, thank you Anne for the information.

\*\*OH - ONLY 12 DAYS TO PREPARE AND LEARN FRENCH!!!!

\*\*\* TIME'S UP !! \*\*\*

No more time to try and swat, time to either dip the toe in the water or go for full IMMERSION!!

**October 15<sup>th</sup>** - meet up in Plymouth - arrive at Roscoff. Greeted by our hosts and Michel Cocheril - reminds us of the purpose:- speak French - do journal etc. We disappear with our French hosts. I am so lucky, my host is Madame Prigent Geneviève.

After arriving at her house she explains what arrangements she has put in place for my Immersion, we chat, we dine, we relax, we have a few glasses "de vin rouge" - good start I think, I hope - it's going to be ok!

**October 16<sup>th</sup>** - early morning - I'd managed to write my journal. I was taken for a tour along the "River of Morlaix", to visit Île Lounet, see le Château Du Taureau", then on to Carantec and walk along the beach at Île Callot.

**October 17<sup>th</sup>** - After breakfast to the 24<sup>th</sup> "Festival de Lanvellec" - village transformed, streets strewn with straw, stalls, artisan crafts, music, dancing, street performers dressed in period Breton costumes, then to the concert in the village church for "Festival de Musique Ancienne". Geneviève held a soirée in the evening for 6 - this was not an easy evening for me - 4 French, our "Chair", and yours truly, "le débutant" - the learner - 5 conversations in French - too fast for me -however, pity was shown by all and I was kept abreast of the subject matter - so not so bad.

**October 18<sup>th</sup>** - a fast drive for my lesson with Michel - the examination - had I done my "devoirs" - I was a bit nervous - I'd had better times at the dentist! He was kind and encouraging.

So, to celebrate, Geneviève took me back to her house. My next lesson - Crêpe making - then to Morlaix - do the churches - viaduct - the town. Arrive a little late at Michel's for the "Awards" party - I got my Diploma!!

Back to Geneviève's. Do Journal.

**October 19<sup>th</sup>**. Time to go home. Where has it gone - too short. Go to tour Roscoff - visit St. Pol de Leon Cathedral on way. Emotional goodbyes to our kind hosts - and away home.

The Immersion - well, if you have not guessed, it was GOOD, VERY GOOD, for me. I was lucky to be twinned with a like-minded person, who likes to joke, have fun, work hard, play hard. My Mum told me, and still does, you only get as much out of life as you are prepared to put in. If you do not get pleasure, fun and a laugh out of what you are doing.....don't do it!!! My Immersion was a definite ÊTRE, notwithstanding my lack of ability in speaking, writing and spelling the language. I set out to be a "good boy", give it my all, spend hours converting my journal from English to French, in the early hours of the morn. Generosity, fun, laughter, help, lessons in French and cooking all made my immersion memorable.

Everyone whom I met was generous in their attitude to me - my host, the French twinned, my fellow twinned. Did I enjoy it? Oh, Yes. Would I do it again? Oh, Yes. Would I recommend it? Oh, Yes. I have got a lot out of Twinning, and especially a lot from the Immersion. I now have a wonderful French e-mail pal (remember when they were called pen-pals), who e-mails me in English, I correct, and I to her in French, she corrects - great fun learning. I think too, that I now have the start of a better understanding of the neighbours across the water (not meaning Devon), I can also appreciate that "wrong pairing" could be a bad experience, or as my mum would say, horses for courses. Four months ago, I would not have thought that the relationship and experiences that I have gained with Twinning and Immersion would see me, at my time of life, trying to learn a foreign language.

#### **TOP TIPS for IMMERSION**

**\*TAKE COAT WITH LARGE POCKETS (so you don't look as daft as I did taking the Dictionary around with you)**

**\*LEARN SOME OF THE LANGUAGE AND TRY IT (get out of jail free card - Je suis ANGLAIS - they look, they laugh - it's fun)**

**\*ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE - GIVE IT YOUR ALL ( put in really does equal gets out)**

So finally to answer my first question ÊTRE OU NE PAS ÊTRE,  
When is the next trip? Can you put my name down for it, PLEASE?

LE DÉBUTANT---- *Mike*

## TCC BURSARY

The Twinning Committee for Cornwall has a Bursary available for young people wishing to do work experience etc in France. There is information on this bursary on the TCC website, which is:

[www.twinningcommitteeforcornwall.weebly.com](http://www.twinningcommitteeforcornwall.weebly.com).

Most of you will be aware of our web-site, which is:

[www.truomorlaixtwinning.weebly.com](http://www.truomorlaixtwinning.weebly.com)

Now our Morlaix friends have a new web-site of their own. It is:

[www.jumelagemorlaix.canalblog.com](http://www.jumelagemorlaix.canalblog.com)

Do have a look at it.

We now have a supply of polo shirts with our TMTA logo on, in various sizes.

Please contact Sandra Anthony for details and prices.

## New Members

We are delighted to have welcomed several new members over the recent weeks. Welcome to you all! We look forward to meeting you at whatever events you are able to attend. You should receive Twinlinks on a regular basis (four a year), but if there is a problem please let us know.

## Curry Evening

This was a very enjoyable event, taking place at Kea Church Hall. The committee provided curries, casseroles and desserts which all went down well.



Our Chairman and Treasurer look happy at the Curry evening



It's great to have children involved in our Association—they are the future!



## 100 Club Winners

**October** 1. Alan Ranson, 2. Barbara Woodhall  
3. Bryan Dawkins

**November:** 1. Lilian Polkinghorne, 2. Linda Gibbons,  
3. Roland and Joan Goddard

**December:** 1. Carriad Cockcroft, 2. Katy Fletcher-Peters,  
3. Margaret George

**January:** 1. Patsy Newton, 2. Roland and Joan Goddard,  
3. David Hoskin

## The 100 Club

The 'TMTA Super 100 Club' is like a club lotto, for all over 18. At only £12 /year / ticket there is a monthly draw. The more who join, the larger the prize fund, as there is more in the pot to share out. and the more we can then undertake to do for the association and for our guests from Morlaix. Pay by cash, cheque or standing order. Contact Robert Moodie 01872 277854

# EVENTS DIARY AND WHAT'S ON

Everyone is invited to all events. Need transport? Contact one of the committee. We try to notify everyone promptly particularly when numbers are required in advance. Help us to help you by giving us your e-mail address. This can also save the association money by avoiding unnecessary postage.

**February 25th to March 1st. French here for their Immersion.**

**March 8th. Crêpe Evening at the home of Jean and Bill Anderson. (Names to Val Flatt please)**

**March 17th. Our AGM at the City Hall. 6.30 pm for 7pm meeting.**

**April 25th (Easter Monday) First Boules of the season in Boscawen Park.**

**May St Mewan Sinfonia go to Morlaix.**

**June 1st to 5th. Our visit to Morlaix. (Please return forms to Anne Moodie)**

**June 10th to 12th. Orchestre du Patio to Truro.**

**June 25th. Cream Tea at the home of Linda and Mark Vanstone. (Glebe House, Vicarage Hill, St Day) (Names to Val Flatt please)**

## Immersion

Six of us took part in the Immersion in October. We were all rather nervous on the way out, not knowing quite what to expect. However, we all had a great time and came back with renewed enthusiasm for learning the language, even if somewhat tired from all the (perhaps unaccustomed!) brain activity. As usual our hosts were most welcoming and generous with their time. We all enjoyed the experience thoroughly and would certainly recommend it. Mike has written a 'blog' which is included in this newsletter.



Mike, Barrie, Anne and Sheridan looking nervous waiting for the ferry at Plymouth!



In cheerful mood in Roscoff, having enjoyed our Immersion, saying goodbyes and waiting for the ferry home. We all hope to be back in Morlaix before long.

Lots of conversation at the final evening at Michel Cocheril's

**Subscriptions for 2011—2012 will soon be due, and can be paid at the AGM on March 17th. Annual subscriptions are : Single £10. Family £15. Corporate £20.**

**We always need good quality Raffle Prizes. Unwanted gifts, home-made fare and/or craft, job (e.g. an hour's gardening, baking a cake etc.) Please contact Sandra Anthony 07800 867163 or 01872 520288 Thanks.**

Keep up to date by logging on to our web-site created by Andrew Moodie. You can see all the latest photos, and read past editions of Twinlink etc. At :- [www.truromorlaixwinning.weebly.com](http://www.truromorlaixwinning.weebly.com)

This edition (in pdf format) can be sent to those with known e-mail addresses - I print on a colour laser printer. If your printer isn't up to it or you would prefer a paper version, just let me know and I will check you are on the postal list. Val