

Gardening

'Les Floralties', a major international flower show will take place in Nantes in May 2009. This would be a good opportunity for gardening enthusiasts from Presteigne. On a more modest scale, some Presteigne gardens will be open on Sunday June 15th to raise funds for Community Support.

Andrew



President: Colin Kirkby
Contact Details for Officers below

Chairman	John Kendall	01544 260550
Vice-Chairman	Elwyn Powell	01544 267717
Secretary	Bryan Gale	01544 260779
Treasurer	Stephen Wilson	01544 267428
Membership Secretary	Patricia Wilson	01544 267428
Newsletter Editor & Website Manager	Andrew Duguid	01544 260563
Accommodation Officers	Hugh Pope	01544 260087
	Llinos Griffin	01544 267437

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER 19 January 2008



Winter in Radnorshire

Dear Members and Friends

Welcome to a rather brief Newsletter 19. Thanks are due to John Kendall for several contributions. Best Wishes to all for the New Year.

Membership Renewal

Please complete and return the enclosed form.

AGM

The AGM of the Twinning Association will take place on Tuesday January 22nd at the Radnorshire Arms in Presteigne at 8.00 pm. If you wish to propose an item for the agenda, please get in touch with Brian Gale, the secretary—see back cover—as soon as possible.

Sadly, Stephen and Patricia Wilson are leaving the area and will be standing down from their respective roles of treasurer and membership secretary. We are very grateful to them both for doing these jobs for the past seven years. Marion Cox has kindly agreed to become membership secretary, but we are still looking for a new treasurer. Stephen tells us that being treasurer does not involve a great deal of work. But it is important, so please do think hard about whether you could help the PNTA by taking this on.

Soirée Française at Emily's Thursday 28th February 2008 7.30pm

Please make a note of this date in your diary so we can have a full house at Emily's for this fundraising event: three course French dinner, quiz and raffle. Tickets at £15 will be available from Emily's nearer the time, or you can apply to Colin and Ruth Kirkby now.

Ligné's visit to Presteigne 5th-6th July 2008

Ligné plan to visit us for the weekend of 5th-6th July 2008. This will be a combined party of primary schoolchildren with their parents and adults interested in gardens; up to 40 visitors in all. Please make a note of this date in your diary and also consider whether you could provide accommodation for our guests. There will be no visit by the walking group, Ligné Rando, this year.

Brittany's links with Wales

Readers may recall that John Kendall went to a very interesting weekend in Nantes in September where he met a large number of representatives of twinning associations from both Brittany and Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government had been unable to send a representative. We wrote to Rhodri Morgan to express our concern at this and to hope that WAG would have more to do with this important link in the future. We received a friendly reply from the First Minister, although with no specific promises. The letter also suggested we look for help from the European Union, which, of course, both Ligné and PNTA have been doing, usually successfully, for the last six years.

38th Festival Interceltique, Lorient, Brittany

This event will be centred on Wales in 2008: 1st to 10th August. Would you like to go this festival? There may be some involvement from Ligné, and it's very close by. Here is some information from an article in "Cambria": <http://www.cambriamagazine.com/content/view/32/9/>.

In 2007, the 37th Festival Interceltique in Lorient was centred on Scotland and attracted more than 800,000 visitors. It is Europe's largest celebration of Celtic culture. The huge Scottish pavilion featured the best of Scotland's cuisine and produce, music and fashion. Speaking at an economic forum as the special guest of the festival, Wales's Professor Brian Morgan, of the Welsh Whisky Company, looked forward to the opportunities for Wales offered by the 2008 festival and spoke passionately about the importance of wealth-creation and economic regeneration in Celtic countries. Cambria's correspondent wrote that the Welsh response to the initiative was seen as being less than enthusiastic, and that it was to be hoped that there might be a greater degree of cultural exchange and economic co-operation.

Twinning Ceremony Anniversaries

October 18th 2008 is the fifth anniversary of the twinning ceremony held in Ligné, and May 1st 2009 is the fifth anniversary of the twinning ceremony held in Presteigne. Both the Comité de Jumelage de Ligné and PNTA think this should be celebrated. Our friends in Ligné would like to celebrate the event just once and suggest this be done in Presteigne on May 1st 2009. This would fit in with French school holidays that year which might enable schoolchildren to attend the Fun Day. In October 2013, the French say they will be more than happy to have a party from Presteigne come to Ligné to celebrate the tenth anniversary!