

Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association Newsletter



**Newsletter -
Spring 2023**

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter!

This is the first of an occasional series of newsletters to give an update on the activities of the Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association and to provide information about forthcoming events.

The association was originally established in 1982 as a Community Twinning Association with support from Llantwit Major Town Council. Llantwit Major is twinned with Le Pouliguen in Pays de la Loire-Atlantique, which is a seaside town on a beautiful stretch of the Atlantic coast on the Guérande peninsula.

We welcome applications for membership of the association from any residents of Llantwit Major and the surrounding area.



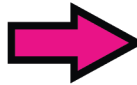
Mr. Les Beckwith cutting the celebratory cake in Le Pouliguen with M. Jacques d'Estève de Pradel.

In summary, our aims are:

- To encourage Llantwit Major (and district) residents to develop friendships and understanding with the people of Le Pouliguen, Loire-Atlantique.
- To learn more about the history, life-style, and culture of this part of France.
- To host a twinning visit by Le Pouliguen every two years and organise a return visit in the other year.

A bit of history

The Association was inactive for several years due to the sudden resignation in 2012 of its chairman. But the efforts of a few dedicated individuals in Llantwit led to its resurgence, and in September 2022 we were able to visit our friends in Le Pouliguen for the first time in several years. We are now planning to receive our guests from Le Pouliguen in September this year, again for the first time in several years – and we are pleased and excited to be able to do so!



In this edition:

- Our aims
- A bit of history
- Other Initiatives
- Committee
- A New Programme for 2023
- Closing Thoughts

Other Initiatives

The Committee are keen to see more exchanges between our respective towns by families with school-age children, and we are exploring ways of bringing this about, including encouraging contacts between schools in Llantwit and Le Pouliguen.

If you happen to know anyone with teenage children who would like to visit France, then the Twinning Association will see how it can assist. Please get in touch with any of the Committee Members, who will be pleased to help.



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Committee

The committee of the twinning association is made up of people from different walks of life and with varied skill-sets! Traditionally, the honorary President of the Association is the current Mayor of Llantwit Major.

President:

Cllr Gerwyn Thomas

Chairman:

John Lewis

Secretary:

John Deakin

Treasurer:

David Foster

Committee Members

Gaynor Ace, Les Beckwith,

Elizabeth Davies, Cllr David Ellis,

Robert Gant, Etta Gray,

Cllr Gillian Hughes, Andy Montgomery, Cllr David

Powell, Phil Tandy, Clive Tombs.

Committee members can be contacted by e-mail via the website.

Closing Thoughts.

This has been a short explanation of the endeavours of the Llantwit Major Town Twinning Association.

If you would be interested in joining us, please look at our website (see the links below).

Thank you for reading to the end, and please look out for the next edition!

A New Programme for 2023

Two major events have already taken place in 2023, both of which have helped the Association towards its fund-raising goal for the year. The first was an evening social on 6th January to explore and celebrate the French tradition of Galette des Rois, hosted by Phil and Shelley Tandy. Several Galettes were baked (and consumed!) for this event, which celebrates the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem following Jesus' birth. We finished the evening with a French-themed quiz.

Cheese and Wine evening – February 25th. This was a hugely successful event held in Llantonian Hall, again culminating in a very competitive quiz!

Future events are to include a Barn Dance with a band on June 23rd, a Petanque competition in August, and many others yet to be arranged. As always, full details will appear on the website, see the address below.



<https://llantwit-major-twinning.wales>