

Worcester Twinning Association

CONNECTIONS



SPRING 2011

Editor- Contact Derek Furby



Photo by Clive Haynes

2010 Christmas Fayre

They say as you get older time passes more quickly and it certainly did not seem a year since the last Christmas fayre.

We welcomed our friends from Kleve, Le Vesinet and Ukmerge to an extremely cold and snowy Worcester. Stalls were set up outside the Guildhall.

Thursday evening was as usual busy and full of atmosphere, but the remaining days were quiet mainly due to the fact coaches visiting the Fayre from all over the UK cancelled, because of the adverse weather conditions. We also felt very isolated as the Twinning stalls were a long way from the rest of the Fayre. Hopefully this will be resolved this year.

Even though our friends from Le Vesinet had problems through customs, everyone enjoyed themselves.

Thanks to Rosemary for arranging the dinner on Saturday evening and to her and her team for the lovely lunches, also thanks to the members who supported me and helped on the stall, it was very much appreciated.

We have already started to plan this year's stall !!!!

Jane Wood

www.worcester-international-link.org.uk

The 60th Wedding Anniversary of Helmi and Charlie Box

Congratulations to Charlie and Helmi, who on the 6th January celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary. The couple met in Germany, where Charlie was chief clerk at the German Rhine Army Headquarters, and Helmi was the secretary. The couple were married in 1951 at Frooms Hill Church at 11 o'clock. A busy day for Charlie as he had a football match, with his brothers, booked for the same day, oops! After leaving the army, Charlie worked at Worcestershire Farmers, before the couple set up shop together in Hollymount, Worcester. Business was very successful mainly selling Paraffin (very popular in England before central heating) throughout the Worcester region.



Recent Photo by George Milton



INTERESTING STUFF !! Compiled by Mike Donovan

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand

And "lollipop" is the longest word typed with your right hand.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, **but** our nose and ears never stop growing.

The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain. (I know some people like that also)

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

There are more chickens than people in the world

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Bonus!! All the ants in Africa weigh more than ALL the Elephants!!

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Now you know (a little) more than you did before!!

Dates for your diary :

Help wanted at Worcester City Library on Wednesday, March 23rd

We are holding a stall to promote our Twinning Association, so any time you can give between 9.30 am. and 8.00 pm. would be much appreciated.

Nicky Neville-Lee

Kleve visit 22nd – 28th August 2011

Social Evening at St Georges Catholic Hall Friday 26th August, details later.

Host families needed, contact Les (A very enjoyable experience)

Next year is the 25th Anniversary with Kleve, the dates of our visit will be around the 12th May 2012 (this is the date booked for the social evening)

Exact dates nearer the time.

We will also be holding our Annual Cheese and Wine Evening sometime in June this year in the Neville-Lees garden, dates to be announced soon.

Les and Rosemary

Match the twinned towns - answers

TWIN TOWN and COUNTRY	LOCAL TOWN	TWIN TOWN and COUNTRY	LOCAL TOWN
Bad Ems, Germany	Droitwich Spa	Pont du Casse, France	Tenbury Wells
St Sauveur Lendelin, France	Bromsgrove	Gujar Khan, Pakistan	Redditch
Husum, Germany	Kidderminster	Gronau, Germany	Bromsgrove
Vernon, France	Worcester	Mtwara, Tanzania	Redditch
Gruchet-le-Valasse, France	Redditch	Le Vesinet, France	Worcester
Vellmar, Germany	Bewdley	Park Ridge, USA	Kinver
Voiron, France	Droitwich Spa	Clarksville, USA	Bewdley
St Elizabeth, Jamaica	Redditch	Auxerre, France	Redditch
Villeneuve-le-Roi, France	Stourport-upon-Severn	Worcester, USA	Worcester
Mer, France	Kinver	Fort-Mahon-Plage, France	Bewdley
Kleve, Germany	Worcester		



Lithuanians return to the Christmas Fayre

We invited a group from Ukmergė to return to this winter's Christmas Fayre, but the Lithuanian economy is even worse than ours, and things did not look good. Then two young ladies (from Ukmergė) said that they would like to run a stall, but one of them did not speak any English, the Council could not help them financially and they could only spend 2 days in Worcester because Ryanair had cancelled its operation between Kaunas and Birmingham. So it seemed even less likely that any Lithuanians would be able to decorate our streets for the Christmas Fayre.

However, the early snow, lack of English and inconvenient flights did not deter Indrė and Daiva from making the trip, so our newest twin town did have a stall at the Christmas Fayre. They brought with them their hand-made soaps, socks, gloves and tablecloths which helped to brighten up the international section of the Fayre outside the Guildhall. The set was completed with their rather special national costumes, and their Lithuanian smiles!

Their smiles earned them lots of friends: lots of local people were happy to stop and talk to them, the Germans gave them Glühwein and the French fed them crêpes! They enjoyed the musical entertainment laid on outside the Guildhall, since they had to spend rather more time on the stall than other groups as there were only two of them. Being in the High Street, Worcester's shops (rather larger than Ukmergė's) proved a very big temptation, so they



did manage to slip away for some retail therapy from time to time! Indrė even managed an impromptu speech in English at the Twinning Christmas dinner – something that she did not think that she could do, but the English flowed better than she had thought!

Their time here was far too short for any sightseeing, so we hope that they can spend longer with us next year, to see a bit more of our city and its surroundings.

