

# Didcot-Meylan Twinning Association

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2007

ISSUE 22

It has been some time since the last newsletter but the committee has not been idle in the interim. In addition to a successful social evening we are now in a position to report on the AGM and to give details of the next visit to Meylan.

Progress is also being made with respect to a possible link with the town of Planegg in Southern Germany and a small group has been identified to carry forward to initial contacts.

Since Meylan is already twinned with Planegg the committee can see benefits arising for Didcot and surrounding villages from extending this into a fully three-way link.

Finally, we ask that those of you who are planning to join the trip to Meylan in September let us know as soon as possible.

[www.didcotwinning.org.uk](http://www.didcotwinning.org.uk)



## Meylan news

from the Meylan web site.....

- Before the end of the year a new facility for the older residents of Meylan will be opening. With 80 beds, including a specialist psycho-geriatric ward of 14 beds each, 5 beds for short stay and 5 day care places, this will form part of a new multi-service facility situated in a large public park which provides a high quality environment for all.
- Next September the Town Hall will start producing at least a part of its own electricity thanks to the installation of 80 m2 of solar panels. An indicator will show how much energy is being generated at any time and its CO2 equivalent.
- Meylan also has a new town web site and in the near future it should be possible to pay various school charges (meals, transport, after-school care) on line.
- Water meters in the town will soon be readable remotely. Also offered free of charge is an e-mail alert if water use rate increases suddenly as this may indicate a leak that could cost you a lot of money

## NEXT TRIP TO MEYLAN

Thursday 27th - Sunday 30th September

See over for details of travel options



## TWINNING AGM

The 2007 AGM of the Didcot-Meylan twinning association was held on Thursday 21st June at Didcot Girls School by kind permission of the head teacher. The association was pleased to welcome the Mayor of Didcot, Bernard Cooper, to chair the meeting and delighted to learn that Bernard and his wife have joined the association. In keeping with previous AGMs, business was kept short, simplified by the re-election, as a group, of the existing committee. Terry Joslin, Chair of the Association, provided an excellent overview of the past year's activities and Erin Goff, Treasurer, reported on the Association's financial state, with secretary Janet Cockburn providing the minutes. Refreshments were provided after the meeting.



## ANNE-MARIE AND JULIA

Songs for a Winter's eve

The Twinning Association held a very successful social event in February. Returning by popular demand, Anne-Marie Hislop delighted the audience with a series of songs, some familiar and some new. A new feature this time was the contribution by Anne-Marie's daughter, Julia, whose music provided a highly enjoyable contrast to the programme. A 'bring and share' supper and raffle completed the evening's entertainment. Our thanks to all those who came along and supported the association, to those who brought raffle prizes and bought tickets but especially to Sheralyn for her organisation of the venue and the entertainment.

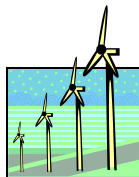


## SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Traditionally the annual membership subscription falls due at the AGM. Our thanks to all those members who have paid their subscription for 2007/2008. The rate remains at £5 per household. Cheques or cash to the secretary or treasurer.



|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Chair          | Terry Joslin   |
| Vice Chair     | Jerry Goff   |
| Secretary      | Janet Cockburn   |
| Treasurer      | Erin Goff  |
| Web Editor     | Jerry Goff   |
| Communications | Sue Totterdell<br>(01235 850080)   |
|                | <a href="mailto:susantotterdell@yahoo.com">susantotterdell@yahoo.com</a> |
| Other Members  | Nick Hards,<br>Sheralyn Hares  |



ABOUT OUR ORGANISATION

# Didcot-Meylan Twinning Association

## TRAVEL DETAILS

### British Airways

Heathrow – Lyon, Thursday 27 Sept.

Depart Heathrow: 10.00h. Arrive Lyon: 18.35h. £75

Lyon – Heathrow, Sunday 30 Sept.

Depart Lyon: 19.20h. Arrive Heathrow: 19.55h £105

**Overall return fare; £179.60, including taxes.**

### EastJet.

Stansted – Lyon, Thursday 27 Sept.

Depart Stansted: 13.35 h. Arrive Lyon: 16.20h. £35.99

Lyon – Stansted, Sunday 30 Sept.

Depart Lyon: 16.45h. Arrive Stansted: 17.30h. £98.02

**Overall return fare: £160.01, including taxes, charges + 1 free item of hold baggage.**

### Air France

Birmingham – Lyon, Thursday 27 Sept.

Depart Birmingham: 11.30. Arrive Lyon: 14.15. £69

Lyon – Birmingham, Sunday 30 Sept.

Depart Lyon: 15.25. Arrive Birmingham: 16.10 £90

**Overall return fare; £159, including taxes.**

### Ryanair.

No flights on Thursday, 27 Sept.

Flights available on Wed. 26<sup>th</sup> or Fri. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Can return Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>.

Fares = £9.99 each way.

Handling charges increase this to £62.43.

Unfortunately there are no suitable flights with

Flybe or BMI

### Train travel:

Eurostar + TGV.

London – Grenoble, Thursday 27 Sept.

Depart Waterloo: 10.40h. Arrive Grenoble: 19.07h. £83.50

Grenoble – London, Sunday 30 Sept.

Depart Grenoble: 14.14h. Arrive Waterloo: 20.54h £114.00

**Overall return fare: £197.50.**

**PRICES CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS  
THESE MAY ALTER ACCORDING TO DEMAND**

If you intend to join the group travelling from Didcot, or to join us in Meylan, please let Janet Cockburn know as soon as possible. One of the planned visits is to a new nuclear establishment and all names must be supplied before the visit.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Photo: Nick, when Mayor of Didcot, with the Meylan Mayor, Mme Marie-Christine Tardy

We are delighted that Nick Hards, long standing committee member, has now recovered from his illness and was re-elected to the committee for 2007-8.



## MUSICAL LINKS

The South Chiltern Choral Society recently joined with the Ensemble Vocal de Meylan in a successful concert in the Hexagone in Meylan. The concert, which included works by Poulenc, Rutter and Bizet, was the brain child of Richard Harrison and formed the climax of a three day visit at the beginning of June.

The two choirs will be together again in 2008, to present Verdi's Requiem in Reading Town Hall. It is hoped that a large party of Twinning Association members and friends will be able to support this future event.



## POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEYLAN BY YOUNG MUSICIANS

Following on from this successful choral exchange, discussions are in progress for a possible visit to Meylan next year from a group of about 60 young people from Oxfordshire, as part of the region's Youth Orchestra.

## WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THIS YEAR'S VISIT

Although the travel costs this year are somewhat higher than for previous visits, once in Meylan you can be assured of a warm welcome.

This year's programme will undoubtedly provide



further opportunities to visit this stunningly beautiful region and our French hosts, many of whom speak English, will provide friendly, family accommodation.



Still available: Tea-Towels with local scenes around Didcot. These make excellent presents. On sale at £4.50