



Malmesbury



Diebüll



Gien



MALMESBURY
CAPE PROVINCE

**Malmesbury
and District
Twinning
Association**

President: The Mayor of Malmesbury

Chair: Mrs Julia Bowen

(Contact the Secretary at glynandlinda.davies@btinternet.com or 01666 823874)

Newsletter July 2019

Horseless Badminton 29 September –

Gien Visit 27 June to 2 July –

Treasure Hunt Winners –

Membership and Subs –

Thanks to Committee members –

Festival 2020 –

A Date for your Diaries – Horseless Badminton

Once again, we have been invited by the Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds to provide stewards at Badminton Park for the Horseless Badminton Team Event (5 & 10K runs) on Sunday 29 September. This is always a great day out both seeing the park and the myriad runners, walkers and other fun lovers tackle the famous Badminton course. Stewards need to be there from 8.30am until about 12 noon and are allocated a staging point in pairs where they guide the contestants around the course. It is great fun, refreshments are provided, and it also helps raise funds for the Twinning Association. If you are interested, and we hope you are, will you contact either Julia Bowen or Glyn Davies, preferably before 1 August and at the latest 15 August.

Gien Visit

We had 26 visitors from Gien this year, and overall it seemed to go extremely well.

We are especially indebted to the Warden and Freeman (and especially Warden Mike Westmacott who joined us at the Civic Reception) who gave us a generous donation towards some of the costs; to the Malmesbury Community Choir who performed

wonderfully and joyfully at the Civic Reception; and to the Town Council, and especially the new Town Clerk, Richard Spencer-Williams, who put on a relaxed and welcoming Civic Reception.

Our guests arrived on the Thursday and were met at St Pancras station after travelling by Eurostar. This was a novel way of making the journey from Gien, and they seemed to find it very agreeable. They were welcomed, as on each morning of our coach trips, by the beautiful swans and signets of Malmesbury.



Welcome to Malmesbury!!



The Community Choir in the Town Hall

The Friday was a quiet morning, with a tour of Sherston in the afternoon led by the very informative Richard Langley. In the evening we had the civic reception, some wonderful refreshments, and were entertained by the Community Choir.



Mayors and Twining Chairs made delightfully short speeches



The lake and gardens at Stourhead

The Saturday and Sunday were taken up by trips to Stourhead House and Gardens (see opposite) and Salisbury Cathedral. We had such great weather that these were an astounding success. The tour of Salisbury Cathedral was especially fascinating and hilarious for the Malmesbury group as we had the most informative and hilarious guide in Wendy English. We hope the Giennois has as a good a guide. We now know why the Russians are so keen on the Cathedral, and why the British tax year starts on 5 April.

The Saturday and Sunday evenings were spent with some informal get-togethers in various households, which our Giennois friends particularly appreciated. We

rounded off the trip on the Monday with a visit to Devizes, both the Caen Hill flight and the Brewery, and had a farewell dinner at the Horse Guards, Brokenborough, who excelled themselves not only by coping with all 66 of us, but also providing the most wonderful meal which everyone enjoyed so much.

A great thank you to all our hosts, members and the many others who supported this really wonderful visit. And to the man upstairs for the perfect weather.

Treasure Hunt, 16 June

 <p>Start of the Treasure Hunt at the Cross Hayes</p>	<p>The weather in the preceding week was a bit of a deterrent for this new venture to reach out to younger families. But nevertheless, it was great fun for those who participated, provided some nice publicity, and it was good to see the few families who joined the hunt. And wow! Can't our members bake some great cakes.</p>	 <p>Father and son amongst the winners</p>
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Membership Matters

With the start of our new organisational year it is great to report that over 80% of members have had their subscriptions paid by standing order, and others pay at other times in the year. We know a few prefer to pay by cheque, or have not yet made standing orders, and we will contact you probably in September. Meanwhile if you could check whether you have a standing order, or set one up, that would be great.

We have also had some small changes in the committee at the AGM. Our great thanks go out to John Harbour, Lottie Miskin and Carole Woodfield for all their fantastic service over the years. John will still be keeping his hand in, and Carole will be continuing on the Social & Fundraising and Gien groups. But a really great thank you for all you have done.

Meanwhile Zoë Stacey has joined the committee, which brings the age profile down a bit, and will help our promotion activities. Welcome Zoë.

Festival 2020

Our great new venture, which we have been talking about since 2017, is now taking off. During next year we plan to hold a good many events and exhibitions in Malmesbury, Niebüll and Gien to celebrate our cultural links, 66 years of contact with Niebüll, and 20 years of Twinning with Gien. Julia Bowen has taken the lead, and now has good joint organisers in Diana Klüger in Niebüll, and Annie Mas in Gien.

Events are being planned to include Community Choir / Pourquoi Pas performances in Gien in April or May, Joint Arts and Crafts exhibitions in all three towns, a musical

collaboration between young musicians in the three towns hopefully to be available on the internet, recording of Malmesbury Bellringers for performance elsewhere including the internet, a joint embroidery project, and many other things.

In Malmesbury this will culminate in the last week of September, alongside the Flying Monk Arts Trail. It will involve, so we plan, an arts and craft exhibition in the Town Hall, including items from Weavers and Ceramicists from Niebüll; a performance in the Abbey by The Meerklang Saxophone Quartet from Niebüll; a photographic exhibition; and a selection of those musical collaborations which will have been recorded. There will also be art and craft workshops for young people, celebrating the cultures of our three towns and countries.

This is so exciting. We hope you will be interested to get involved. If you are, please do contact Julia.

So, have a good summer everyone. In September we have a group of 20 going to visit Niebüll, and we will report on that in the next Newsletter.

With very best wishes,

T'Committee.