

## **Chipping Norton & District Twinning Association**

**Honorary Life President: Mr Basil New**

The Association is now in its 22nd year of existence and is looking forward to many more years of happy links with our friends in France. As with any organisation that has been in existence for some considerable time it is not always obvious what the organisation does (although in our case, the name makes it obvious) or, more importantly, how it conducts itself. Below is a short guide to our Association.

We have a Twinning link with Magny-en-Vexin which is approximately half way between Paris and Rouen and is a town which is similar to Chipping Norton in many ways.

Every other year we visit France for a long weekend and reciprocate by hosting our French friends in the intervening year. We stay with individual families and part of the weekend is covered by a set programme and part is left free for you and your host family to do as you please

Our membership encompasses all ages and all walks of life, literally from those in their early school years to those who are well into a full and active retirement.

If you are able to speak French it will obviously enhance your enjoyment of your family link but it is not a necessity. Wherever possible we will try to place families so that language is not a problem.

Our membership cost is currently £20 for family membership and £10 for single membership. (Children qualify for family membership up to the age of 18).

We are a self-funding organisation. Everyone pays their own costs for travelling to France, and we fund-raise in order to cover the costs in the U.K. of the visit of the French Amicale to Chipping Norton.

Social functions are held about once a quarter, although this obviously can vary depending on the desire of the members and the Committee for such functions. This year we have begun a series of successful "French Regional Meals" at Morel's Restaurant in Chipping Norton which have been excellent and very popular. Newsletters are published throughout the year to keep members in touch with events.

If you have a desire to get to know another country and its people in much greater depth than is possible during holiday periods, then perhaps you would like to consider joining Chipping Norton & District Twinning Association.

For further details please contact Stuart Golding on 01295 810487.

Unfortunately the announcement of our AGM could not be included here, as it took place on the 18th November, before the issue of this magazine, but it is hoped to publicise next year's meeting in plenty of time, when all are welcome.