

Chipping Norton & District Twinning Association (twinned with Magny-en-Vexin, France)

CHIPPING NORTON & DISTRICT Twinning Association have just returned from their biannual visit to their twin town of Magny-en-Vexin in Northern France.

A group of members travelled together by mini-bus via the Channel Tunnel and others travelled in their own vehicles via various ferry crossings.

The weekend in France was a wonderful time, partly because the weather was glorious, but mainly because of the extremely warm welcome and generous hospitality of the host families.

The one official function during the weekend was a dinner dance on Saturday evening at the Salle des Fêtes in Magny. The Twinning Association was welcomed by the Conseil General for Val d'Oise, the President and Committee of the Amicale Magnytoise and an exchange of token gifts took place. Thereafter the evening was given over to enjoying a wonderful buffet and the music provided by a local duo.

All other activities were arranged by the French hosts on an individual basis and ranged from wonderful walks in local bluebell woods, visiting the chateau at Chantilly with its magnificent museum and school of horses, walking around local beauty-spots such as Roche-Guyon which is by the Seine, visiting Claude Monet's house and garden at Giverny, taking a walk around the picturesque Montmartre, attending the saloon car racing at Magny Cour and, as always, relaxing meals with families and friends.

A large proportion of Chipping Norton & District Twinning Association's members have links with Magny going back for a number of years and have got to know many people in and around Magny so it is almost a "home-from-home". Our new members are also bowled over by the benefits and enjoyment that can be gained by friendship across nationalities, and that no matter how little French or English is spoken on either side, communication is not a problem.

Next year the link celebrates its 25th anniversary and we would like to make it a very special occasion as the Amicale Magnytoise will be visiting Chipping Norton.

If you think that you would enjoy getting to know a new family and find a "home-from-home" in France then get in touch with Stuart Golding on 01295 810487.

We would welcome new members who have a spirit of adventure and would love to take a family into their home.

We are hoping to encourage more people to become members of the Association, and for your information

We are self-funding.

Membership is £10 per year per adult. We visit Magny en Vexin once every two years for a long weekend (Friday-Monday).

We stay with families in their own homes and live as they would live.

You do not have to be able to speak French, although it helps if you can. Our membership is from Chipping Norton and District, not solely from Chipping Norton.