



Tunbridge Wells Twinning & Friendship Association

Newsletter

October 2008

Dear Member,

Although you have only recently received our last Newsletter, I'm writing to you again today to update you on various upcoming events .

Our last Newsletter gave you a provisional date for our **Annual Dinner** and promised that further details would follow. We have now finalised the plans and I have pleasure in enclosing an invitation to all our members and friends to attend this very popular social event. Please note that we have had to alter the date by two weeks, so the dinner will now take place on **Saturday 31 January** (instead of 17 January as originally proposed). As the choice of venue for our 2008 dinner appeared to be popular, we have decided once again to book the Bell Room at The High Rocks. We have also selected a set menu (with a vegetarian option). However, in today's inflationary climate, we have been forced to raise the price of the dinner this year. We hope this won't deter any of our members from coming, and we are sure you will agree that the evening still represents value for money. We are very pleased to be able to welcome as our guest at the dinner a long-standing friend of the Association from Wiesbaden, Dr Friedrich Schrecker from the Gymnasium am Mosbacher Berg, who will be visiting Tunbridge Wells in January with a group of work placement students (as he does every year at that time). I am sure you will enjoy meeting him. We intend to have a raffle to add to the fun of the evening and we would be very grateful for any contributions to the prizes. So if you would like to join us for what is always a very relaxed and friendly evening, please complete the attached form and return it with your cheque to Ann Hughes as soon as possible or by 10.01.2009 at the very latest to book your place.

I should also like to remind you about an event that was advertised in our recent Newsletter. On Tuesday 18 November we shall be welcoming journalist and broadcaster Richard Milton who will talk to us about his book "**Britain and Germany: Truth and Lies in Two World Wars**", in which he gives a fresh perspective on the 100-year love-hate relationship between the two countries and a fascinating study of the black arts of propaganda. This will be at 19.30 at St John's Church Centre, Amherst Road, Tunbridge Wells. Admission will be free and tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

Another event that has taken shape since I last wrote to you is a talk to be given by **Jonathan Balcon**, son of the well-known film producer Sir Michael Balcon. He will share with us his recollections of his father's work at the Ealing Studios where many of Hitchcock's films (including "The 39 Steps") were made and of course the inimitable Ealing comedies. This should be a fascinating evening, so make a note in your diary of **Tuesday 17 March 2009**, 19.30 at St John's Church Centre, Amherst Road, Tunbridge Wells. There will be a small admission charge, tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

I should also like to draw your attention to two events being organised by other organisations that you may find interesting:

On **Saturday 29 November** the Friends of Tunbridge Wells Museum, Library and Art Gallery are arranging an outing by coach to **Rochester**. This will include a guided tour of the Cathedral and of the new library. The price is £12.50, further details can be obtained from David Wakefield (Tel. 01892 523983).

On **Friday 14 November** the Heusenstamm Friendship Circle will hold their annual Christmas party or **Nikolausabend** at 19.30 in St John's Church, Hildenborough. Tickets at £7.50 are available from Eileen Best, Tel. 01732 353937. A small group of TWTFAs members intend to go to this event, so lifts could probably be arranged for any members who would like to go but have no transport.

Looking further ahead to next year, we have been advised by Wiesbaden Town Hall that in late April a group of about 20 people from Wiesbaden's Adult Education Centre will be on a 7-day excursion to the South of England and will be in Tunbridge Wells on **28 April**. We plan to show them around the town and hope that the Mayor will host a small reception for them, perhaps with traditional English tea and cakes. If anyone would like to come and meet our visitors, or even better, would like to offer their services as guides, they would be most welcome.

Also a local samba band called **Bloco Fogo** is hoping to pay a whistle-stop visit to Wiesbaden next July to play at the **Schierstein Harbour Festival** which takes place from **11 - 13 July**. At the moment, this is no more than an idea, but if it should come about, we may consider organising a group visit for TWTFAs members to Wiesbaden over that weekend. So watch this space!

Finally, just a reminder that our **AGM** will be on **Saturday 21 March 2009** at St John's Church Centre, Amherst Road, Tunbridge Wells at 12.00, to be followed by lunch. Further details will be sent nearer the time.

I do hope that there may be something in this varied programme to tempt you and I look forward to seeing you either at one of our talks or at the Annual Dinner.

With best wishes,

Christine Phillip

TWTFAs Secretary

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