

# The St Andrews – Loches Alliance

September Newsletter 2019

Our next event.....

## Fun Quiz Night

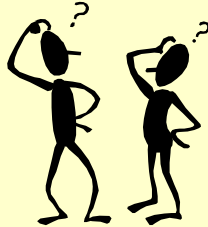
Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 7pm

St Andrews Bowling Club, Kinnessburn Rd.

Teams of six

Get some friends together and come and join us!

Details at the end of this newsletter



Welcome to our September newsletter. Quite a lot has happened over the past few months and once again our members have been most supportive. However, the major challenge remains, how to increase our membership. At the AGM in April I suggested that if every existing member introduced a friend, we would increase our membership by 100% Simple maths but as yet it's not happening. In November we are holding our Quiz Evening. Why not invite some friends to join your table, and who knows, maybe they will be persuaded to become more involved? If the twinning is to be at all meaningful, we have to reach a wider public.

### ❖ Craigtoun Charity Fair

It was with exactly this in mind that we were present at the Craigtoun Charity Fair last weekend. This was a major attempt to raise the profile of the Alliance and as such I think it was very successful. Our stand was eye catching as you can see and the ingenious games for the children attracted lots of participants who left with a 'Loches' pencil or French sticker and ...a frog! Many thanks to everyone who made this such a great occasion.



*Charity Fair – L'Equipe*

### ❖ Craigtoun Café français

Earlier in the summer we teamed up with Craigtoun to transform their café into a Café français. The Craigtoun staff entered into the spirit of the day with great enthusiasm, produced a French menu and helped decorate the café à la française with flags and bunting. On this occasion we were targeting the Primary schools and families with competitions and prizes as well as the opportunity to try out basic café French. Unfortunately, our café coincided with a Fun Run on the West Sands so there were not as many families at Craigtoun as we would have liked. However, we hope to run this café again next year and will certainly pick our date more carefully.

### ❖ Le 14 juillet

We were less successful in selling tickets for our BBQ and Jazz on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July and sadly had to cancel as we could not cover our overheads. We decided instead to hold a lunch for those who had signed up. About 25 members came along to our garden, the sun shone, we were able to eat outside and linger long into the afternoon with a glass or two. The Fête Nationale was duly celebrated!



*Members enjoying lunch in the sunshine*

### ❖ Mémorial d'un grognard

In May we welcomed an old friend. Pascal Dubrisay was in town. Pascal, for newer members, was one of the founding fathers of the St Andrews – Loches Alliance over twenty years ago and was for many years President on the Loches side.



*Pascal. Raconteur extraordinaire*

During his visit he gave an illustrated lecture based on his latest book, 'Mémorial d'un grognard', the extraordinary story of a soldier of Napoleon's army who fought, was captured, imprisoned and endured unbelievable hardships in a prison camp before escaping and making his way back to Loches. Pascal's material for this came from simple exercise books which he discovered in the attic of his house. A fascinating tale told by a master storyteller! The lecture was well attended, both by members and the wider francophone community and was followed by a reception at the Byre Theatre.

### ❖ French exchange

Also in May Madras College visited their exchange school, Collège Georges Besse in Loches. We were able to give a substantial grant to Madras thanks to our fundraising efforts throughout the year. This reduced the overall cost to the pupils and enabled them to visit more of the area and its attractions.

### ❖ AGM

We held our AGM at the St Rule Club in April and that too was followed by a drinks reception. In January we held our new Year Drinks Party there too. Wine seems to be a common thread – perhaps it's time for another tasting?

### ❖ Visite à Loches

There is a good sized group visiting Loches in October. Travel is organised but we don't have details of the programme yet, that will have to wait for the next newsletter.

### ❖ Le Quizz

Finally, to the Quiz and a final plea from me to help to sell tickets, please don't leave it to 'someone else'. This will be our third quiz evening and I think I can say that the previous events have been very successful and much enjoyed so ..... what are you waiting for?

*Tickets £12.50 each can be obtained from Izzy Murdoch, 124 Hepburn Gardens, St Andrews KY16 9LT*

*Please send a stamped addressed envelope and a cheque for the appropriate amount.*

*Alternatively, you may wish to pay by bank transfer: (please email Izzy and let her know you have paid this way: [murdoch.mail@sky.com](mailto:murdoch.mail@sky.com))*

*St Andrews Loches Alliance*

*Royal Bank of Scotland, South Street, St Andrews*

*Sort code: 83-26-28 A/c no: 00246214*

A très bientôt

*Joyce*

