

WIRKSWORTH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2018



CO-CHAIRS
Judie Taylor and Suzanne Clark



www.wirksworthtwinning.org.uk

Season's Greetings Twinners!

You may remember that around this time last year we told you about the annual *Ecologie au Quotidien* festival, which explores sustainable and inclusive living and takes place in Die at the end of January. Several people from Wirksworth attended the event earlier this year. We have received an invitation to pass on to anyone in the town wishing to go for some or the entire event, 25 January to 3 February 2019.

Although this is not an official twinning activity, we can offer advice on travel and accommodation to anyone wishing to go. If you would like further information please contact Alastair Clark at alastair@aclark.eu.

Varallo: We're aware that many of you are interested in our developing links with our new Italian friends and, although we are not yet at a stage where we can arrange formal visits, we thought you would like to know what's going on in the beautiful Varallo Sesia area over the coming year, in case you would like to make an independent visit. We are seeking recommendations from the Varallo group as to accommodation options in the area. Please see the Appendix to this Newsletter and get in touch with Sue (contact details also below) if you would like more information.

And closer to home...

St Mary's "Christmas Tree Festival"

Come along and see trees decorated by Wirksworth community groups, which are on display until 3 January. Decorations will be taken down on 4 January.

Monday 21 January

French conversation class at 7.30pm

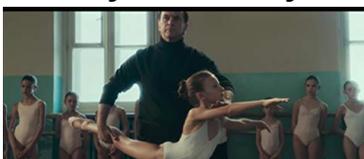
Please contact Rae Lewis on 01629 824549 for further details.

Foreign Film Evenings

Tickets (£10) are now on sale on the Northern Light Cinema website for our next two evenings...

Monday 28 January

Polina, danser sa vie (Polina) (French, with English subtitles)



Rigorously trained from an early age by a perfectionist instructor, Polina is a promising classical ballet dancer. She is about to join the prestigious Bolshoi Ballet when she discovers contemporary dance, a revelation that

throws everything into question on a profound level.

Monday 25 February

Un Amour Impossible (An Impossible Love)
(French, with English subtitles)



It's 1958 in Châteauroux, a small town in France and a couple takes to the dancefloor to dance to a song by Dalida, whose premonitory words will haunt the forty years that follow this love at first sight.

Doors open at **6.30pm** and the films will be shown at 7.30pm.

And we have the following dates for the films to be show in March and April:

Monday 25 March

German language Austrian art house drama

Monday 29 April

Italian comedy

Full details will follow in due course.

20 to 24 June

Visit to Frankenau

Our friends in Frankenau have now confirmed the dates for our visit in June and you may have seen posters around town or on Facebook advertising the trip. Although visitors joining the formal trips to our twin towns need to be members of WTA, we want to ensure the wider community is aware of the trip so that anyone interested has the chance to join WTA. I will be writing to all members early in January and asking those who are interested to get in touch so that we can start a list of prospective visitors.

Saturday 6 July

Twinning at the Farmers' Market

Friday 15 or Friday 22 November 2019 - AGM 2019

If you can, please keep both these dates free for next year's AGM. We will confirm in due course.

And finally, on behalf of the Committee, I'd like to thank you all for your support over the year and wish you...

Joyeux Noël, Frohe Weihnachten, Buon Natale...

and all the best for 2019!

easyfundraising
.org.uk

Please help us raise funds for free when you shop online.
Look for **Wirksworth Twinning Association** on the homepage:
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

easyfundraising is a simple way to raise money for WTA when shopping online with **over 2,700 retailers**. If you join, they'll give a donation every time you buy something, at no extra cost.

Appendix: Events in Varallo, 2019



- From 6 January to 6 March **Carnival** - Series of events related to the carnival period
 - 20 January- Carnevalà 'ntla strà -The Carnival parades through the streets, events with interregional and local masks, attractions and activities of all kinds.
 - 3 March -Paniccìa dei Dughi -La Paniccìa is a traditional humble dish, a vegetable soup cooked according to an ancient recipe in large pots over a wood fire and served to the town. This takes place in “dughi”, the oldest part of Varallo.
 - 4 March – giornata della legna- Wood Day- Another carnival event: children collect wood and take it through a masked parade accompanied by the music of the town band to the collection point in the main square of Varallo, where the Paniccìa will be cooked the following day.
 - 4 March - Bal dla Lùm. Traditional evening of masked dance with live music.
 - 5 March - Paniccìa – in the centre of Varallo, is the most traditional day, where you can see traditional masks and masked children. This delicious traditional dish is served to everyone who wishes to partake.
 - 6 March - Theatre " il processo di Marcantonio " - Marcantonio is our popular mask. The carnival season ends on the first day of Lent with a farcical popular theatre. The “Marcantonio” is burned on the bank of the Mastallone River. During the performance the actors stage a series of entertaining sketches addressing various citizens of Varallo who have been in the news during the year. All in a humorous way.
- End of April - Trail Monte Tre Croci- A family-friendly walk along this characteristic and panoramic mountain route above Varallo and the high Valsesia. On the same route there will also be a mountain race. A challenging competition only for trained athletes who will dart along the path to the applause of families who are walking along. The event ends with a picnic lunch for everyone and the presentation of awards to the athletes.
- June 29 – Traditional Music festival- Musicians, throughout the city of Varallo, play and sing in different genres and musical styles. Performances are free of charge to all. Every year this event brings together dozens of artists both musical groups and soloists who transform Varallo into a truly musical city for the evening.
- 6 July - “Chairs at the table” - A typical dinner for the districts of Varallo. The group of guests, equipped with a chair that will bring along and a mark of recognition, will follow a pre-established path taking in various refreshment points that will serve from the aperitif to dessert, high quality dishes, traditional and non-traditional. The same goes for the wine, always high quality wine. In some stages there is also musical entertainment.
- From 12 to 21 July - L'Alpàa market. Perhaps the greatest attraction of the area, although it was first held only 40 years ago, is of interest to the entire region of Valsesia with a fair market of considerable proportions. It was created to offer local gastronomic and economic craft products but today the event has expanded to include all kinds of products and attracts tens of thousands of visitors throughout the week. Free musical concerts are also offered with major Italian and international artists performing in the main square of Varallo, in front

of up to 10,000 spectators in a single concert.

- From 25 July to 27 July - "Games in the square"- Over three days the youngest of Varallo's best sportspeople form teams, usually by district, and compete in the squares of Varallo in multiple games of strength, all in healthy competition!
- 3 August -The white night - As the name says, a night to do relatively in white, in a city with all the shops open, music and entertainment of all kinds for a night different from all others.
- From 7 to 8 September -Chocolate Festival. A triumph of products prepared by Italian artisans with the sole common denominator "chocolate". Pure delight for all lovers of this precious gastronomic product.
- 31 October -Varalloween A whole evening in the streets of Varallo dedicated to the night of wizards and witches. Children appear in their most bizarre disguises. Along the streets are small shows, make-up artists (for children or adults!), music and hot drinks for everyone.
- 16 November - Murder Mystery - A crime is committed. Then, during the course of the evening, over dinner, actors present sketches providing useful clues to solve the case. Each table will gather the clues and try to identify the murderer. A competition of cunning and intuition in an evening of entertaining theatre and gastronomic pleasure.

