

Annual Report of the Weymouth & Portland Louviers Society

2009-2010

It has been a more relaxed year for members after the preparations and hectic fund raising which preceded the 50th Anniversary of twinning with Louviers. Of course, fund raising never ceases and the usual amount of coffee mornings, “bring and buy” events etc..have been carried out during the year.

The annual visit in May of our French friends was as successful as always. Members welcoming 37 guests into their homes and enjoying a day, free to do as they wished, before the official welcome and dinner on the Saturday evening.

Sunday was a whole day tour, taking in some of the lovely Dorset villages and lunching at Briantspuddle, followed by a visit to the Drax estate.

The return visit to Louviers took place at the end of August with 35 members enjoying the hospitality of our French friends.

During the official reception at the Hotel de Ville, a Weymouth Scouts’ scarf and specially made wooden toggle, engraved with the twin town names, was presented to the Mayor of Louviers, M. Franck Martin, by the Mayor of Weymouth and Portland, Councillor Paul Kimber.

An excursion to the villages of Port Audemer, with its half-timbered buildings, and Routot, once the centre of the linen industry, was very much enjoyed. This included a lunch of local pork “with all the wine we could drink”, this is a quote from our Chairman, Ted Nicklin, and probably added to the enjoyment!

The return journey was not quite as expected! Thanks to an imminent strike by French port workers, the coach was forced to divert from Ouistreham to Le Havre in order to board the ferry to Portsmouth.

An up-dated entry and fuller account of the weekend can be viewed on <http://beehive.thisisdorset.co.uk>

E. Nicklin,
Chairman