Darley Dale & District Twinning Association

Our friends in Onzain have accepted the invitation to come over for the May Day bank holiday weekend of 4th/5th May. The main group will be arriving on the Saturday and leaving the following Tuesday morning. The theme for their stay will be "Out and About", as we take them on some local and Peak District walks.

During these visits we usually have a gathering of all the hosts and their guests with food and entertainment. This year we are trying to get a better balance of activities and free time with families; to lessen the rushing around from activity to activity. Whilst not expecting a whole coach load of visitors, we are always looking for host families, to provide a bed and meals for each of our visitors. We try and match people of the same age and, if children are involved, then families with children of similar ages. If any families are interested in finding out more about what it means to host, please contact us via

our website www.darleydaletwinning.org.uk, where you can also get details of our events and activities and arrange to join the Twinning Association.

Quite recently we had meetings with the Twinning Association in Matlock and Wirksworth. We hold these meetings to share ideas and help each other with any issues of concern.

Chair of the Association, Kevin Senior, attended the January Town Council meeting to give the annual report. It may not be well known that the Twinning Agreement is a formal document between Town Councils and signed by the Mayor of each town involved. The Twinning Committee, whilst acting independently, was set up to run the activities on behalf of the Council and receives its support as appropriate. Twinning Association meetings are open to everybody and dates, etc. can be found on the calendar page of our website – previously given.

National Lottery Awards for All support Derbyshire Dales based First Taste Charity

Darley Dale based Charity, First Taste, is delighted to announce a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Awards for All Programme.

The award has been given to help support the production costs of a reminiscence DVD "Food, Glorious Food". This film is a follow-up to the very successful "Where'er You Walk" reminiscence film which First Taste produced last year to support the stimulative care of frail older people with dementia in care / nursing homes or attending day care centres and to help with care staff training.

The film will embrace a wide range of aspects relating to food, how it's produced, prepared and facets around the enjoyment of food and the part it has played in people's lives such as birthdays, weddings, Christmas etc to support reminiscence work with the older people.

Whilst a further £350 has been given by the Ernest Bailey Trust and a private donation, First Taste needs a further £8,500 to meet the balance of the production costs. Funding applications are currently under consideration by a number of other funding foundations but the Charity would welcome any donations to help with this project – cheques made payable to First Taste can be sent to the Charity at The First Taste Office, c/o Ladygrove Mill, Two Dales, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 2FH. All donations will be acknowledged.

