



*NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2013*

**YOUNG MUSICIANS TO WOW SHERBORNE IN 2014**

A bold project involving 60 young musicians from 11 EU towns is scheduled to happen in Sherborne in July 2014.

This is the culmination of several years of hard work and discussions between Sherborne Douzelage and Sherborne schools music groups. It should bring a wonderful opportunity for young musicians from across Europe to learn from each other, create a masterly performance and find the best young orchestral musician.

This will be preceded in March 2014 by a local competition to find the best young musicians in woodwind, strings, brass and piano in Sherborne area to represent us in the international event.

The project will explore Europe through its musical heritage and musicians, but with a broad basis of cultural and social elements to broaden the experience, extend learning and help develop the international understanding of young people.

The programme will involve 5 young musicians from each town, aged 13 – 19 years, who are at music grade 6 or



higher; thereby assuring a high quality programme of music and learning.

The international programme will include master classes, solo displays, competitions & a concert. The Young People will discuss music from their different perspectives as well as learning about each other's cultures.

**The Sherborne competition will be on 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> March 2014.**  
**The international programme will be from 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2014.**

The Music Director will be – Jamie Henderson (Sherborne School). Music Advisers – Paul Cosh & Val Mizen.

Funding is a challenge and the programme Cont page 2

## YOUNG MUSICIANS TO WOW SHERBORNE IN 2014

can only proceed if we get EU grant funding, and in addition raise about £16,000 from UK sources. If you know a potential funding source then please contact our chairman, Kevin Waterfall. If sufficient funding can be found then we can proceed.

If you know interested young musicians living within 16 miles of Sherborne, then please ask them to contact their school music head or our secretary, Mary Clothier, to take part.

Michael Morrell

## CELEBRATING THE CARNAVAL IN GRANVILLE

Having been to France on numerous occasions, it has to be said that it was a brilliant experience to represent the town of Sherborne at the Granville Carnaval, 2013.

Our hosts were fabulous and their generosity knew no bounds. Faye and Jean-Claude are wonderful people and a French breakfast each morning really was a treat to wake up to.

The carnival itself was a marvelous display of French culture and celebration and was a brilliant spectacle. To be a part of it was an absolute privilege and we thoroughly enjoyed dancing through the streets of Granville dressed as Incas. The entire town was dressed up in costumes and everywhere you looked was colourful.

When speaking with some of the local college kids, it was clear to see what the Carnaval meant to them and to the town. Their eyes lit up

at the mention of the Carnaval and the prospect of days of celebration- and the Monday off school.

The entire trip was enjoyed thoroughly by all- the ferry crossing at 7am was not so much fun, but everybody got on really well and it was excellent to share the experience with others and meet new people. The beaches at Arromanches were a remarkable sight to behold- an artificial



## CELEBRATING THE CARNAVAL IN GRANVILLE

harbour built rapidly for the Allies to take the Normandy beaches. This place of interest was a brilliant way to end the trip and proved the trip to both be a cultural and educational visit to France.

Overall, the Granville trip was an excellent opportunity to learn more about French tradition and expand our knowledge of other places in Europe. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip and everyone had a brilliant time experiencing the chance to practise their French and embrace new cultural experiences.

Daniel Peace

## JAKE PERROT'S VIEW

On 7<sup>th</sup> February, six Year 12 students went to Granville in France, with the Douzelage, an organisation which promotes friendship between the European member towns. Luckily for us, Sherborne is the UK's representative – so we were fortunate enough to have the chance to go!

After waking us up ridiculously early, Kevin Waterfall (the organiser, on the left in the photo) braved the cold drive down to Portsmouth docks – and when we say cold, we mean COLD! The crossing to Caen was



mercifully smooth, and we arrived there at about 3pm. The next bit was Kevin's fatal mistake – asking Jake and Dan to navigate. Still, we only went round the same roundabout three times...

Among our very busy four days there, we visited Mont St Michel on a beautiful sunny day (yes, sunny days do exist in France!), visited Granville centre for some shopping and, on the way home, saw the beaches where soldiers landed in the Second World War.

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## ADVENTUROUS 13 SAIL THE HIGH SEAS

On 19<sup>th</sup> August seven confident young people from Sherborne together with youngsters from Granville and from Weymouth joined the Tall Ship Pelican. After learning the ropes they sailed to Granville for the “Festival des Voiles”, before the ship returned to its home port with the seven replaced by six others.

The Mayors of Sherborne, Cllr Dominic Elliott and Weymouth & Portland, Cllr Ray Banham, were there to bid them a safe journey. Our Mayor said how wonderful it was to speak with such motivated and enthusiastic young people. The ship made a stopover at Sark for youngsters to explore the island before sailing on to Granville. Their French host made them very welcome at a family BBQ and they explored the town well into the night, though I doubt if anyone made a profit at the casino. Sea watches of 4 hours work and 8 hours off resulted in some significant loss of sleep for some of them and they found that a seaman’s life on a tall ship involved working with some heavy ropes, climbing the masts and rigging, which also proved tiring.

On 28<sup>th</sup> August the ship returned to its home port to be welcomed by the Deputy Mayor of Weymouth and representatives of Sherborne Douzelage, Magna Housing and Sherborne Rotary. The ship was given a 3 gun salute as it passed the Nothe Fort and rousing cheers from the gunners. As William Dores of Sherborne said, “It was awesome, an adventure not to be missed.” The youngsters were all



extremely pleased that they had had this experience and many said that they would to go back again, as volunteers or in some other capacity.

The Douzelage supports young people in this way, because of the value gained by the youngsters from these experiences. They can develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals. The young people all paid a contribution towards the trip, but Sherborne Douzelage also sponsored the trip with £2,000.

The Pelican, operated by the Adventure under Sail organisation, gives many people excellent sailing experiences. Sherborne Douzelage is particularly grateful to Sherborne Girls School for the use of their minibus to collect their students and others from Granville.

Kevin Waterfall

## BELLAGIO 38TH GENERAL MEETING

### EVERYTHING WE COULD HAVE HOPED FOR

When I was offered the opportunity to travel to Italy for the 38th General Meeting and participate in the Douzelage “Europe sings its history” workshop I jumped at the chance. To be able to sample the Italian culture was not something I have the chance to do often so I wasn't going to turn down the experience.

It proved to be everything I could have hoped for. I've gained so much in so many different ways through this Douzelage experience. I have found friends across Europe, musical lessons, social confidence and so much more.



Joe and Rich

My trip started out by meeting Rich, England's culinary workshop candidate, It didn't take us long to become 'amici', throughout the journey to Stansted we bonded over football and the miracle that was little old Yeovil Town reaching the League One playoff final.

We spent our first night in a hotel in Stansted, but we didn't sleep as we were two excited about the journey we were soon to be embarking on. Instead we learnt as many Italian words as we could using the iPad.

The flight offered us the most incredible views as we cruised over the snow tipped Alps. With anticipation mounting we touched down at Milan airport, and as we stepped out of the plane we felt hot air for the first time in a while.

Waiting for us was a taxi to take us to our final destination, the whole way I was in a trance whilst looking at the beauty of Lake Como, surrounded by rolling mountains and idyllic towns.



Going Aloft on the Pelican

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## EVERYTHING WE COULD HAVE HOPED FOR

We arrived at the Hotel du Lac at the heart of Bellagio overlooking the Lake; our room was ideal with a balcony directly above a bustling back street. After freshening up Rich and I were lucky enough to be taken to a traditional Italian pizza restaurant. There was a genuine taste to that pizza that I don't think could be recreated anywhere outside 'Italia'. Already feeling immersed in the Italian culture



Opening of the New Playground



Gardens of the Villa Malzi

Rich and I spent the rest of the afternoon in bars.

That evening we met the rest of the delegates, ate beautiful food, drank great beer and gained good friends from all over Europe whilst we sat in front of Lake Como. It couldn't have got any better. The next two days proved to be the same. Our bonds were strengthened and we made the very most of our time in Bellagio. On top of this I was lucky enough to learn all about music from so many different cultures and perform on numerous occasions.

I cannot stress enough how great this Douzelage experience was for me and I sincerely advise anyone who gets the chance to attend in future to grasp the opportunity.

Joe Ferdinand and Rich Townsend



Joe, Rich and the singers

## TREASURES WE CAN FIND

When a dear friend of mine asked me to write a piece about my impressions of the Douzelage General Meeting in Bellagio, I was sitting on an absolutely marvellous terrace of a restaurant on the lake shore of Bellagio. From here we had a fantastic view of the Alps embracing the sunlit waters of the beautiful Lake Como. Carried away by the scene I could not refuse.

We took advantage of each minute of our last day in this marvellously cute town filled with smiling people and friendly crooked narrow streets, which would suit perfectly in Harry Potter scenery. I realised how much I wish Donatella, our Italian guardian angel, to retain the smile on her face for the weeks that followed. We hope that she may get the chance to rest with reflecting only the best memories of past days, keeping in mind all the thank yous she did hear, all the happy faces of the Douzelage family present at the 38th Douzelage meeting, which from a great part ran thanks to her.

You may think here how much relaxed and happy I must have felt, knowing well from last year in Zvolen how extremely hard it was to organize everything for the best, yet having the pleasure going through it all myself as a part of the organisation team. And yes you are partly right. I was delighted it was a great event in Zvolen for everybody; on the other hand I was sort of sorry it is over and in Bellagio I am only an observer.

Believe me, I really liked to be one of



Crooked streets of Bellagio

those who make it work, take decisions and achieve success. Here we have another feature of the Douzelage spirit. It will make you a better person. It will grab out of you more than you have ever thought you can do and serve it to your best friends with a smile of relief.

So thank you Bellagio, thank you Donatella, thank you Douzelage for all the treasures we can find in ourselves that we are willing to share. Looking forward to see you again soon.

Zuzana Laszlova



## A DOOR TO AN UNEXPECTED WORLD

In May I attended my first Douzelage General Meeting in Bellagio and my memories are still nice and quite fresh. The meeting was a great experience for me, nice things happened and I met so many wonderful people.

But when I received the invitation from Skofja Loka Municipality, I did not know what to expect from the General Meeting. To be honest previously I was not concerned about the purpose of the Douzelage Organization. So I was just wondering and hoping to get some answers to my questions "What represents the Organization in general, what is its purpose and why Skofja Loka was selected for this Organization among all Slovene towns?"

Of course I had a brief look over the internet site, but my expectations



Andreja Elsa and Miha the Mayor

still exceeded my comprehension. I was pleasantly surprised. At the beginning I thought it would be just a nice weekend off with lots of free time, but it turned out quite the opposite.

The schedule was filled with many interesting and important events and activities. When we gathered on Friday morning and officially started our first meeting, I was just listening and trying to absorb as many important facts as I could.

And the meeting was the place to find almost all answers to my questions. I found out a lot about past projects, achieved with cooperation among many towns.

We were also told about providing funds for new activities, as the money is almost always the main problem at starting new projects and ideas. It was also interesting to hear about new projects





## A DOOR TO AN UNEXPECTED WORLD

in the future and opportunities to participate in those projects.

People were very nice and even though we did not know each other, they were ready to share positive things with a newcomer.

It was impossible to speak to everyone, but among people I met, despite seeing them for the first time, I made some great contacts for the future. I can say the same thing for the other three delegates from Skofja Loka.

I believe the towns belonging to the Douzelage Organization should realise the privilege of being selected for this organization.

We all have a special advantage or a chance to participate in common projects. We can all learn so much from each other about many possible opportunities and together we can make things better.

Andreja Strekelj

## CELEBRATING THE CARNAVAL IN GRANVILLE

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The object of the trip was to take part in the local Carnaval; and what a Carnaval it was! It lasted five days, with children's processions, street performers and of course the floats themselves.

These monoliths take up to nine months to build and attract 120,000 visitors. It was truly awe-inspiring, except, of course, for the steady rain, with which the words 'les Anglais' were frequently associated. Wonder why...?

We had an amazing time, and would like to say a huge "MERCI!" to everyone else who made this trip possible. Oh, and Kevin, "les enfants say gracias!".

Jake Perrot



Mont St Michel

## FOCUS ON QUALITY

### *Youth in Action 4.3 Training Course Chojna (Poland) 8<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> July 2013*

There were 26 participants in the Project, 1/3rd. adults, 2/3rds. young people, all with experience working with young people on a voluntary basis. They came from five towns – Chojna (Poland), Marsaskala (Malta), Siret (Romania), Köszeg (Hungary) and Sherborne (UK).

The main theme of the course was training in methods of voluntary work with young people from rural areas, in particular those facing social exclusive for geographic and economic reasons.

The course aimed at allowing its participants to acquire the knowledge, skills and competences needed in motivating and organising activities with young people from the countryside who rarely participate in international youth exchanges and to make known the possibilities of achieving this through a Youth in Action Programme.

To these ends, the leaders, Cezary Salamencyk and Mark Causon from Chojna and Marsaskala respectively, devised a full programme of workshops with the fullest possible active participation of those attending, exploring the needs of the young in rural areas, how to recruit and motivate volunteers and youth leaders and how to organise events to meets the needs of the geographically and economically disadvantaged.

It proved to be a well balanced programme, with plenty of ice-breakers which, despite the marked diversity of language, nationality, background and age, yet created a completely cohesive and integrated group of people, well able to co-operate wholeheartedly in fulfilling the aims of the course. Visits to institutions for the disadvantaged (some extremely so) in Chojna and Moryń added point and purpose to all we did.

All the participants felt a deep sense of gratitude to the two organisers of the course, but also to the Youth in Action Programme which allowed us quite simply to experience the benefit of meeting fellow citizens from elsewhere in the European Union.

Jeremy Barker



## COLOURS OF SIRET

There are so many historic facts about Siret that I could easily fill a page. But the problem with the historic facts is that are all about past, are boring and there few traces left. If you really want to see Siret how it is, how it feels and how it smells there are some tips.

On summer week-ends you can experience one of the most beautiful sunsets as the sun sets down almost in the middle of the river and the sky and water are turning into a hot purple orange. If you are curious and a little voyeuristic you can discreetly look over the bushes on the shores of the river and will notice lots of lovers exchanging kisses and sweet talk over the purple sky. For decades – as far as I know – river shores remain the favorite place for lovers to meet, walk, talk and kiss. If you feel fit you can walk up on the top of the tallest hill in Siret. There is said that was a Teutonic castle but this is not the reason. From there you can have the most beautiful view over Siret and you can also see the first Ukrainian villages that are just over the border looking north.

Being raised with that view we realized from our fresh childhood that borders are decided by politicians and by wars and are just some scars on the land. The real scary borders are the one on the head and on the heart of the people.

But the day you can really feel Siret is on Tuesdays. For 3 centuries Tuesday is a Market day in Siret. Even if the market place changed for 3 times in the last 3 decades, the Market Day



remained the same. On Tuesdays Siret is filled with people coming from all the surrounding villages, they are here to sell and buy things, to eat fresh and hot “mici” (something like Turkish koftas, but with pork) and to listen to Romanian and Ukrainian language, at least, in the same time. Siret is most colorful and most vivid and very loud on Tuesdays.

So these are my tips in order to get the right Siret colors.

Tibi Rotaru



## OUR COMMITTEE IN 2013



President: The Mayor of Sherborne  
 Chair: Kevin Waterfall Vice Chair: Moira Western  
 Secretary: Mary Clothier Treasurer: Clifton Jelbert  
 Education Chair: Nicki Edwards  
 Newsletter Editor: Michael Morrell  
 Town Council Representative: Cllr Peter Rhodes  
 Twinning Representative: Scilla Copper  
 Other Members: Marcus Ainley, Lin Ashby, Mike Balfour, Jeremy Barker,  
 Lin Bygrave, Chris Campbell, Jane Smith, Sarah Whittick, Jeremy Wilton

## FUTURE EVENTS IN 2013 AND 2014

2013

October 3rd - 18.00 Gryphon School  
 An Evening with Paddy Ashdown

2014

March 14 to 16 - **Sherborne Young Musician Selection**

March 19 to 23 - Granville France Disabled Youth Sports Programme

April 24 to 27 - Sigulda Latvia 39th General Meeting and Workshops

June 28 to 2 July - Susice Czech Republic Across Cultures Project

July 3 to 6 - Preveza Greece 32nd International Choral Festival

July 4 to 13 - Preveza Greece Safe sports for the young

July 13 to 20 - **Music for You 60 young musicians from 11 countries**

September 3 to 5 - Workshop Families in Crisis

For full details contact Mary Clothier on 01963 251255 or see our website

[www.sherbornetown.com/directory/Sherborne-douzelage.aspx](http://www.sherbornetown.com/directory/Sherborne-douzelage.aspx)