

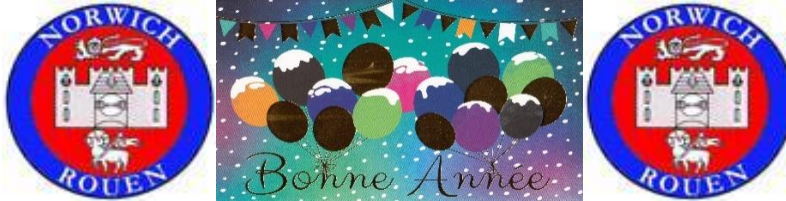


L'Amitié

Newsletter of the Norfolk & Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

December 2023

Nous vous souhaitons une Joyeuse Noel et une Bonne Année



Dear friends,

It is not too late to wish all of you **“une Joyeuse Noel et une Bonne Année”!**

On behalf of the association, I would like to welcome our new members and I hope you will be enjoying taking part in our activities and making links with our friends in Rouen, and that applies to all members!

We had some great activities in 2023, thanks to the committee members, especially those in the Events Team, and they have activities planned for this coming year, the first of which will be very soon!

We will celebrate the Epiphany the French way with our famous Galette des Rois on 6th January, and the AGM in the City Hall Council Chamber, 7.00 for 7.30pm start 20th March 2024.

Furthermore, it is our turn to have the people from Rouen here July 5th to 9th, and we will need you all to join in welcoming them, having them to stay etc – So get the date in your diaries! We hope that you will be able to join us as often as you can. All details are in the Newsletter go and read below **and get the dates in your diary!**

Rouen and the European Capital of Culture 2028

Sadly, as you probably know, Rouen won't be the European Capital of Culture 2028 as they chose the city of Bourges. Many people have been working with Rouen and they remain undeterred and will continue as they have made some great relationships. In Rouen the team have had many months of intense work but the communication continues unbroken and the Norwich team is ready to keep the contacts and have plans to invite a group to visit Norwich in the spring. An excellent way to demonstrate our commitment to European exchange and international cooperation. Let's hope that the people, councils, and businesses see the value of Norwich being actively linked with Rouen. And let's all thank Marion Caplin for all her work with this.

NNRFA Membership Renewal

Membership needs to be renewed **EVERY JANUARY** so we are looking forward to **every member** renewing straight away. Remember that it's a great help to Lorna the Treasurer and Drummond, Membership secretary, if you do...

New Members! Our association now has over 70 members and but as it goes “the more the merrier” and so it would be nice if we could expand even more. We suggested last year that each member

tries to invite at least one friend, and / or family to join the NNRFA, and many brought friends and family to the Galette des Rois, and the French Film evening and other events, and many have joined because of that. Can you help add to our membership?

We would also like to encourage our members to set up individual links with our friends from Rouen, some of whom would be keen to practice speaking in English for instance. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are interested.

Monthly Zoom meetings with RNC members. The zoom meetings with our friends in Rouen take place on 1st **Wednesday of every month from 5.00 pm.** Do try to join in. It is a wonderful opportunity to keep in touch. We speak French and English. A theme or a quiz is proposed. A link is sent to all members prior to the meeting. So why don't you sign in and just listen?

Galette des Rois (Epiphany) Saturday 6 January at St Anne's Church Road Hall, Colman Road NR4 7HD from 2.30 – 4.30. (Car park entrance is on The Avenues)



To cover the costs, we are asking at least £3 per person payable at the door, with children under 12 free. It is still time to register for the event if you have not done so already. nnrfa.bureau@gmail.com and Norwich.rouen@gmail.com. There will be the famous *galettes des rois* to eat, a quiz, and families and friends will be welcome. It was a great

success last year, and we look forward to seeing a good crowd!

AGM - Wednesday 20th March 2024 - City Hall Council Chamber from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm (*The AGM to start at 7.30 pm*) The AGM is particularly important this year as some of the Committee members will be stepping down, including our Vice-Chair Isabelle, and new members will need to be elected. If you are keen and able to support us in any way, and/or would like to know what the role entails, please let get in contact. The meeting is preceded by a small buffet, and usually lasts 1 hour and it is chaired by the Lord Mayor.

The Rouen Visit to Norwich Friday 5th July to Tuesday 9th July 2024

We will need people to welcome them, to welcome them into your homes to stay, to come on the visits, to help with all the events planned. It is such a positive experience so do get as fully involved as you possibly can!

Rouen youth football here 3rd & 4th August.

There will be youth football teams from Rouen and events related to that the weekend of 3rd & 4th August, playing in a tournament organised by the Cringleford Football club, and I know we will want to be involved with that! We have been heavily involved with getting suitable contacts, and with funding ideas.

More events? There will be more events I am certain, from Petanque & Picnic, possibly Bastille Day, and of course the annual dinner. Have you more ideas?

More Twinning ideas needed.

Are you in a group, club, organisation that could find a suitable "Twin" in the Rouen area? Maybe we can find more and more suitable connections!

Bert Bremner

Do you connect with Rouen Tourism? Well here is the link to the December message from Rouen Tourism - [Les vacances de Noël à Rouen \(social-sb.com\)](https://www.rouen-tourism.com/en/les-vacances-de-noel-a-rouen)

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