



# L'Amitié

Newsletter of the Norfolk & Norwich Rouen Friendship Association



*Chateau Gaillard, Petit Andelys, castle of Richard the Lion Heart*

## May 2025

As usual, we are using this Amitié to list some future events, even to 2027, so please make sure you **read to the end** and get any dates into your diary!

### **What a wonderful visit to Rouen we had!**

**8–12 May 2025: Visit to Rouen.** There will be a separate post about this on the website, and emailed to you all, with pictures, plus separate stories related to the visit. Sarah Patey, as she did in 2023, has written a report (<https://eastangliabylines.co.uk/norwich-in-rouen-2025-art-music-and-memories/>)

### **Future Events – *please note in your diaries***

## June 2025

- **Wednesday 25th**, 10.30–12.00: pétanque session at The Cottage in Thorpe. Open to all and very informal. Help will be available, and boules provided. The Cottage serves lunch from 12.00 onwards but booking ahead is advisable if you want to eat there. Koblenz are interested in making it a joint Rouen Koblenz event. There are no minimum/maximum numbers.
- **Sunday 29th: Garden Party** for all and a chance for the Rouen 8-12 people to get together again.

## July 2025 - a busy month!

The **Tour de France 2025** has three stages in Normandy: will members be popping over? If you do, please write a report with pictures!

- **Tuesday 8th: Stage 4:** ends in Rouen
- **Wednesday 9th: Stage 5:** time trial in Caen
- **Thursday 10th: Stage 6** starts in Bayeux

### **Norwich Rouen Twinning special 1: Norwich Cathedral choir perform in Normandy and Paris**

- **Friday July 11th, 12 noon in Saint Maclou, Rouen** – lunchtime recital.
- **Monday 7th–Thursday 10th:** performances in Paris
- **Friday 11th:** Evensong in Caen
- **Saturday 12th:** at the British Normandy Memorial in Ver-sur-Mer during the day, and closing concert in Lisieux that evening.

## **Norwich Rouen Twinning special 2: Triorca youth orchestra (Norwich/Novi Sad/Koblez/Rouen)**

**Friday 11th:** concert in Rouen cathedral

**Programme:** *(subject to change, depending on instruments available)*

**FARRENC:** Symphony no. 3

**FAURÉ:** Pavane

**WEEKS:** New work written [for](#) Triorca

**KOSHINSKI:** *Get It!*

Contact: [triorcainfo@gmail.com](mailto:triorcainfo@gmail.com)

- **Monday 14th Bastille Day:** Dinner organised by Alliance Française – 6.30 till late, at The Assembly Rooms. Tickets £55 – The invitation has already been sent to you!

### **August 2025**

- **Saturday–Sunday 2nd & 3rd:** Cringleford International Junior Football Tournament. 60 youngsters and their coaches are coming from Rouen this year – 50% increase! Can you help?
- **Monday 4th – morning:** reception for 60 youngsters and their coaches at City Hall, before they head back to Rouen
- **Sunday 17th (TBC):** The Christine Wilson *Pétanque & Picnic in the Park*: in Eaton Park – 10am to 12 noon.

### **September 2025**

- **Friday 12th: Walk with Verena** – Spring walk and pub was brilliant!

### **October 2025**

- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> TBC:** 6.30pm for 7.00pm French Film night - Bob's theme - "Post War Crime 1945 to present day". St Anne's Church Hall, The Avenues / Colman Rd

### **November 2025**

- **Date TBC:** Annual Dinner – venue to be confirmed.
- **November – for information** - Film Festival in Rouen - "This is England" – November 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025. This festival is organised by members of our twin club RNC and shows many short films in the English language, and some members have been over to join in. Should you be interested to attend this amazing festival, please look on <https://en.thisisengland-festival.com/> and please tell us about your visit and send us photos. Lots of information here - <https://filmfreeway.com/TIEfestival>

### **2026 advance notice**

Les Galettes des Rois (Jan) / AGM (March) / Walks / French visitors / Pétanque & Picnic in the Park

### **2027 very advance notice!**

**2027 – THE YEAR OF THE NORMANS**, marks the millennium of William the Conqueror's birth

There will be massive international celebrations and the planning has started. We are trying to make sure Norwich is involved in a big way.

As well as Zoom and face to face meetings in Norwich we have had meetings at the British Council in Stratford, London and at the Institut Français in South Kensington, London. Attending the meeting in Stratford were people from Triorca, The Forum, Norwich City Hall, Chris Austin and Marion Catlin.

We also had Prof Trevor Davies for the Climate Change and Art projects which has come from the French visit in 2024 when Gennadij and Trevor explained it all in front of the Norwich Mural for us and our French visitors – Twinning works!

Sadly, Norfolk Museums weren't there or the Cathedral, but people there talked to all about the fabulous possibilities they offer, and we are keeping in contact and encouraging them. At the Institut Français meeting we met the President of the Normandy Regional Council, M. Hervé Morin, and Ms Catherine Morin-Desailly, French Senator and Chair of the Normandy Regional Council's Culture, Tourism and Heritage Committee. The Triorca team made an excellent impression, and, of course, this should result in a long term sustainable connection which is what we want.

Now we have been tasked to get connections with Norwich junior football, Normandy, Rouen City Hall and clubs in Rouen and Normandy to see if we can have an international tournament in Normandy, for greater numbers of Norwich junior footballers to go to! Places mentioned so far are Norway, Sweden, Ireland, Sicily, and other places where the Normans came from and where they went!

Also being suggested are Folk dancing, choirs, orchestras, pétanque! We need partners in Rouen and Normandy to propose these and organise them!

### **How can you be involved? All ideas welcome!**

Do you have suggestions of things we could organise, and are YOU willing to organise an event? Do you have any organisations, clubs, etc that you think we should encourage to Twin with a similar organisation in Rouen?

Can you get us new members?

Can we get younger members?

### **Membership**

Membership fee for this year (to Dec. 2025): Single £7 / 2 adults £12 / Student £3 / Group £25

**Lloyd's Bank** / Sort code: **30-96-17** / Account no. **01693528**

Account name: Norfolk & Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

Please include your name as reference.

**NEW SUBSCRIPTION CHARGES JANUARY 2026 ONWARD**

At the March AGM it was unanimously agreed to raise the membership fees, mainly because Lloyds are charging us for handling cheques and other items.

Annual Fees from January 2026: Single £10 / 2 adults £18 / Student £3 / Group £25

Please change your standing orders, for January 2026 and if you haven't started one – why not do it now ready for January 2026

James "Bert" Bremner – Chair – on behalf of the Committee

#### **Norfolk & Norwich Rouen Friendship Association**

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**<https://www.nnrfa.co.uk>** [in Rouen - **<http://www.rouen-norwich-club.com/>**]

Committee: Lorna, Beryl, Tricia, Margaret, Maggie, Mary, Drummond, Merlin & Bert

### **FRENCH SPEAKING TV and Films**

We posted these last time. Did anyone go see them? We also asked - Have you any that you can recommend? But we got no replies!

Here some French speaking TV series suggested by members.

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/astrid-murder-in-paris> - The English language version of this is called Patience but this seems better.

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/judge-marianne> This is really funny, and she has a blue 2CV – what's not to like!

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-wagner-method>

We understand that there are others on pay to stream sites like Netflix, with examples Call my Agent – Dix Pour Cent, & Lupin. Another we heard about that is supposedly really funny is called Capitaine Marleau, but where can we see it in the UK? Apple TV?