

Spotlight on Brittany

Pontivy Twinning

Elaine So I'm in Pontivy today to talk to Mickael Le Botlan about the latest news on the twinning between Pontivy and Tavistock, a market town in Devon, England. Bonjour, hello Mikhail.

Mickael Bonjour.

Elaine Thank you very much for agreeing to talk to us again. What developments have there been on the twinning between the two towns?

Mickael Aah, we have some exchange between one school, one Primary School, this is called 'Marcel Collé' and the Tavistock Primary School in Tavistock. And we had also a teacher, a young lady, Morwen le Boeuf who went in Tavistock to try to create new exchanges, new proposition for association in Tavistock. She met some responsible football clubs and uh, of different school to try to create some exchanges.

Elaine I believe the connection between Pontivy and Tavistock gave you the idea of setting up a language website. Can you tell us something more about this because I believe the actual name of it has changed?

Mickael We have a website which address in French is *comitédejumelage.eu* which has tag on Google ' comité de jumelage' and this website can give some information about Tavistock, about reason, about association and we have also an extra website which is called *tavistockpontivy.eu* which is purely a website between the two towns and we have extra informations also there.

Elaine So what would you say about this particular similarity between Pontivy and Tavistock, what, perhaps draws them together?

Mickael It's um, the similar approach, maybe it's the dimension of the town. We have fourteen thousand inhabitants and Tavistock has around ten or eleven thousand inhabitants. We have also the same situation, we are in the countryside, we are in a valley, we have also a river, the Tavy or le Blavet in Pontivy and that's the main similar points about the two towns.

Elaine Have you visited Tavistock a number of times?

Mickael Oh I can't count any more. Maybe around twelve or fourteen, I don't count them.

Elaine And are you familiar with the area around there?

Mickael Yeah, of course, of course. There's so many beautiful spot to visit around Tavistock and the most famous will be Dartmoor Park. Also you have a lot of em, beautiful uh, monuments to, to visit there. It's quite, quite beautiful.

Elaine So when is your next visit planned?

Mickael Ah, for the moment we don't have plans to visit Tavistock. The next exchange would be, should be some footballers from Tavistock Football Club who are invited to participate to an international football tournament in Pontivy and Mûr de Bretagne who is called Tournoi de Guerlédan.

Elaine Fantastic. Well that'll be fun to watch that because, uh, it could be that there's somebody I might know or somebody's son that I might know there.

Mickael Maybe, maybe.

Elaine Em, so, thank you very much Mikhail, for your time which was very informative and also very interesting. Ah, just to remind listeners, to find out more go to www.comitedejumelage.eu .

Mickael Thank you.

Elaine Merci, au revoir.