

Abingdon and District Twin Towns Society



Newsletter

December 2021

Guest Editor: Brian Read

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Chairman's Christmas Message

What were you doing last Christmas? I have been trawling through my Christmas photos and found this one. This was breakfast time on Christmas Day 2020. Our daughter Dominique, Buck's Fizz on the side, hands a present to our grandson Jack. It's a simple gesture carried out the world over on this special day. But not usually in the garden!

Do you remember we were not allowed to have people in the house if we didn't form a bubble? We weren't a bubble, as that honour went, quite rightly, to the in-laws. So, we hung some velvet curtains up to stop the worst of the wind, brought out the Christmas tree, complete with lights, and the presents. Then we donned coats, scarves and gloves as you can see and celebrated and felt very lucky to be able to do so.

We 'zoomed' into 2021 and enjoyed spending time with our friends from our twin towns very much. Gradually things opened up and in September we decided we would be able to hold our AGM live. Since then, we have enjoyed several Thursday evenings together and probably appreciate each other's company more.

As I write this 'omicron' is rearing its ugly head threatening to disrupt Christmas again. This year though we know we can cope and there will be brighter days in the future. We hope that our Twinning Christmas dinner can go ahead and we thank those people in the US working for Moderna who gave up their Thanksgiving dinners to start work on a new vaccine.

Exactly two years ago many of us from Abingdon were privileged to have an audience with the great man himself, Sint Niklaas. We also, with our fingers crossed behind our backs, told him that we had been good. If we really are good this year and with some Santa magic, we will be able to celebrate Christmas as we would like. If things change though remember we are only a phone call or an e-mail away and if anyone needs help do, please get in touch, and we will do all we can.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and a healthy Christmas and a brighter 2022. Oh, and as I write this, it is snowing in Abingdon!

Stella Carter
Chairman ADTTS



Membership Subscriptions 2021/2022

There are a few subscriptions still payable for the year starting 1st September.

The amount is £7.50 per person or £15.00 for a couple.

Payment can be made by Banker's Order, cheque or by BACS to
ADTTS bank a/c: National Westminster Bank plc, Market Place, Abingdon
Sort Code: 60-01-01 **A/c No:** 08616752 **Ref:** Mem + your last name

Many of you have standing order arrangements. If you do, it would be helpful if you could check that you have uprated the amount to the current rate.

Rosemary & Ian Jardine
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ian@ianjardine.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 19 th Dec 2021	12.30pm Christmas Lunch at Hilton Garden Inn
Thursday 20 th Jan 2022	7.30 for 8pm at PRCC: Evening Meeting - Quiz

Sunday 19 December 2021: Christmas Lunch

Our next evening meeting is on Thursday 21st October at 7.30 for 8pm at Preston Road Community Centre. This will be our national anthems evening, which had to be postponed due to Covid.

After last year's disappointment, we expect that this year we shall be able hold our popular Christmas lunch. As two years ago, the venue is the Hilton Garden Inn on the Marcham Road near Tesco. After a welcome drink, a three-course meal will be served, followed by tea/coffee and mince pies. Members will have received an email with details and a booking form from Peter Dodd (peteranne@aol.com). The deadline for applications was 20th November.

Thursday 20 January 2022: Quiz Evening

The New Year will bring a series of regular monthly meetings at Preston Road Community Centre. In January, our popular quiz evening offers eccentric fun like no other! Let both your mental and physical dexterity be challenged. Test your local knowledge. Expect some questions with a European flavour. Enjoy interesting refreshments.

Evening meetings at PRCC will continue on the third Thursday of the month until May.

Recent Events - Evening Meeting - Women of Oxford

Thursday 18 November 2021 - at Preston Road Community Centre



Our November meeting was another little taste of normality after a long time of restrictions. Twenty-six people arrived at the hall to hear from **Jane Dickinson** a lecture entitled "Women of Oxford". Our speaker gave us an interesting and informative talk about the contribution to society made by some notable women from Oxford.

Jane gave us a whistle stop tour of well-known names, some of who came from privileged backgrounds and a few who didn't. She began with our two female prime ministers, Margaret Thatcher who studied chemistry at Somerville and Teresa May who studied geography at St. Hugh's, followed by Yvette Cooper and Shirley Williams both studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics. Jane was really well informed about the subject and made us think about looking for the Blue Plaques around Oxford buildings that identify both the person and their contribution to society.

The list of women covered were too numerous to mention but three of my favourites from the talk were, Olive Gibbs, Lord Mayor of Oxford, Ethel Florey who was involved in the discovery of penicillin and Jane Burden the pre-Raphaelite muse of William Morris.

It was a really excellent evening, followed by Oxford Landing Wine and lovely Oxford cheeses bought from the covered market. Our thanks to the food and drink committee members for organising suitable refreshments.

Norma Queralt

Recent Events - Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 14 November 2021 - at The Square



The Twinning movement in Europe was established in the aftermath of the Second World War to promote peace through encouraging friendship and cooperation. Remembrance Sunday has therefore been an important event in ADTTS's year.

Before the pandemic, each Remembrance Sunday in Abingdon saw a major commemoration of those who lost their lives in war. Following a packed service in St Helen's Church, a sizeable detachment from Dalton Barracks led by a military band would march to the War Memorial. They would be followed by uniformed voluntary groups, the Town Band, the Mayor, Freeman, councillors and the wreaths layers. They would be met around the War Memorial by crowds of townsfolk for the two minute's silence, the sounding of the last post and a short service. The parade would then march to Town Hall for a civic salute. The Twinning Society would participate by inviting one of the Twin Towns, in turn, to send two representatives to participate in the parade and lay a wreath on behalf of the all the twin towns and the Chairman of ADTTS would lay a wreath on behalf of the Society.

Last year, because of the pandemic, the commemorations were limited to individual wreath laying by local organisations and people. This year there were still restrictions. There was no civic church service and the uniformed voluntary groups marched to the War Memorial after gathering in the Market Place. The Town Band were seated by the War Memorial where they played for the Service. Flags were lowered before the two minute's silence remembering those who fell in the wars, followed by a short Act of Remembrance led by The Reverend Canon Charles Mashedor.

We were unable to invite two representatives from Lucca, the twin town whose turn it was to lay a wreath on behalf of all our twin towns so this had to be done on their behalf.

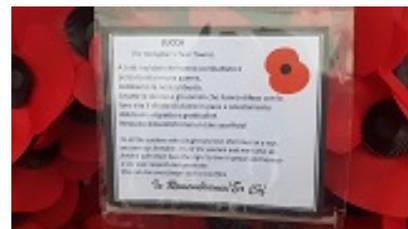
This service was followed by the laying of poppy wreaths. Stella Carter laid one from the Society and Ian Jardine laid the wreath on behalf of all our twin towns, with a message from Lucca written in Italian, with an English translation. (See below.)

So, this year, saw a partial return to normal. Let's hope that next year we will be able to resume the traditional commemorations.

Rosemary Jardine

A tutti i soldati che hanno combattuto e
perso la vita in una guerra,
dobbiamo la nostra libertà.
A tutte le donne e gli uomini che hanno difeso
con la
loro vita il diritto di vivere in pace e
onestamente
dobbiamo rispetto e gratitudine.
Nessuno dimentichi mai un tale sacrificio!

*To all the soldiers who fought and lost their
lives in a war,
we owe our freedom. To all the women and
men who de-
fended with their lives the right to live in
peace and honest-
ly we owe respect and gratitude.
May no one ever forget such a sacrifice*



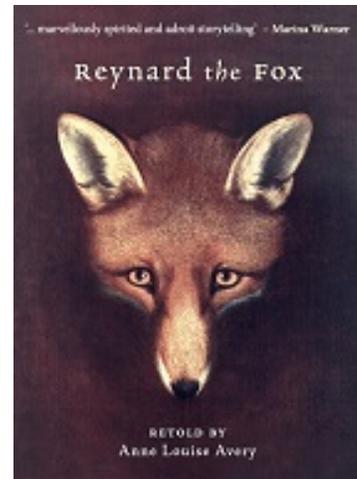
(Go to the web site www.adtts.eu for larger versions of the pictures.)

Reynard Rules Over Sint-Niklaas and The Waasland

In a recent mail to the ADTTS announcing the forthcoming winter exhibition (°) at the Bodleian in Oxford 'North Sea Crossings: Anglo-Dutch Books and the Adventures of Reynard the Fox'. I stressed the links between the literary fox and the Waasland area around Sint-Niklaas. A couple of days later, I got a reply from Rosemary and Ian Jardine. Their question was as extremely clear as it was urgent: 'Would you have the time to write a short article and give some background for our Newsletter? We would need to have it by November 28th.' Oh, good God, they gave me ten days!

Years and years with Reynard

Of course, I had no time! I already had a lot of pans on the fire, among which promoting my recently published book (°) *Pelgrim met een knipoog* about the travels of an 18th century monk to the Holy Land. In translation the title may sound *Pilgrim with a wink, a blink, a twinkle*. Or something of that kind. (I hope with all my heart to cross the Channel in March 2022 and tell you more. With a visum, without corona.) But then I thought: 'Their wish is my command.' And I started a quick brain dig.



In the sixties, my teacher of Dutch literature at the secondary school Marcel Ryssen -recently deceased at the age of 92- made us read and perform (!) *Reinaert de Vos* in the translation Jan Frans Willems made of the poem *Van Den Vos Reynaerde*, considered a major work of our Middle Dutch literature dating back to the thirteenth century. Who could have thought that more than two decades later I would meet Marcel as the (co-)founder in 1988 of the 'Reynaertgenootschap'? (°)

Already more than thirty years the members of this very active society aim at explaining and promoting the remarkable tale of a freely roaming red fox in the area between the Dutch walled city of Hulst -hardly 15 km away from Sint-Niklaas- and our provincial capital Gent. They do so by means of meetings, readings, walks and talks. You want to have names of some important 'fox hunters' of today? Hilde Reyniers, Yvan de Maesschalck and -last but not least- Rik van Daele, head of the Cultural Sector of the City of Sint-Niklaas. Their great pride is 'Tiecelijn', a wealthy year book comprising everything you always wanted to know about Reynard, but were afraid..... Go to their website and unravel every page of it.



Among the various Reynard-activities, I want to mention the creation in 1996 by the Flemish towns Lokeren, Sint-Niklaas, Kruibeke, Beveren, Moerbeke, Sint-Gillis-Waas, Stekene, Temse, Waasmunster, Lochristi and Destelbergen of an intracommunal cultural cross border project 'IGP Het Land van Reynaert'; Hulst and Axel were the Dutch partners in this cooperation. Their aim was - and still is- to promote by means of all kinds of initiatives both the story of *Van Den Vos Reynaerde* and the area in which the fox lived his adventures. The one-year presidency of this project was held by the town of Sint-Niklaas in 1999 and in 2010-2011.

Having fun with Reynard

When in 2010 the presidency was handed over from Temse to Sint-Niklaas, as a student in one of the folk song classes in the local Academy for Music, Spoken Word and Dance, I sang together with other lads *Reynard the Fox*, but not as good as the members of the Irish traditional band *Sweeney's Men* (°) did in 1968! Also in 2010, the pupils of the Nieuwkerken branch of the local Academy of Fine Arts and their teachers Viola Vandomme and Mia Steel covered an old bus shed with images from the *Reynaert* stories. That painted fox and his companions are still in good shape! In a joint effort with the

Venetian company 'Teatroimmagine', we tried in those years to launch 21st United Fox, a European theatre project between Flanders, Italy, Croatia and Slovakia based on Reynard. (Saint Martin's Cathedral in Bratislava has wonderful Reynard-sculptures to offer.) But alas we did not succeed.

When on a wintery day in 2013 the presidency was passed from Kruike to Beveren, I remember how -dressed like a monk- I performed my Dutch translation of the song What does the fox say? by the Norwegian brothers Vegard and Bård Ylvisåker. Don't miss the original version of Ylvis (°) and get on your feet.

The presidency of the IGP returns to Sint-Niklaas in 2023, exactly fifty years after a magnificent open-air play 'Reynaertspel' was held on the market square in May 1973. Michael Matthews will surely remember what a feast it was. Would he also have pictures? That same year saw the creation by our local bakers of a cake called 'Reynaertgebak', with loads of Grand Marnier in it. A new version of the 'Reynaertspel' is not to be excluded for 2023. (Mind, in 2024 we will have local elections!)

Reynard ... here, there and everywhere



There is more, so much more, to be told about 'Reynard the Fox'. In 2009 the monument Free Foxes of Caroline Coolen was unveiled in the open polders of Sint-Gillis-Waas. In March 2017 more than five hundred school children invaded the market square of Sint-Niklaas and drew a giant chalk fox. (°) In summer 2018 the 'Phoebus Foundation' -having strong ties with the port of Antwerp- launched Vossen, a cycling project through the Waasland on the tracks of the fox. (°) In 2020 the award of 'Best Hiking Trail of the Year' was given to the 175 km long GR Waas- en Reynaertland.(°) (Along the trail one may find a

number of 'Reynaertbanken' -Reynard benches; they introduce quotes from the Reynard tale and date back to 1955, when a real revival of interest for the medieval tale started.) In the meantime, Reynard also invaded our walls: Dzia painted a fox at the crossing of Plezantstraat and Guido Gezellelaan. Eelco came all the way from Rotterdam to unveil in March 2021 his mural in the Nieuwstraat. And also, Sint-Gillis-Waas -IGP presidency 2020-2021- has foxy street art to offer. (By the way, the row of apartments my youngest sister lives in is called 'Reinaertpark'. And did you ever enter the shopping mall on the market square, called 'Reinaertgalerij'?)

Time for a Reynard rest when in Sint-Niklaas? Go to the town park, sit and relax close to the statue of the red fox sculpted in 1958. (°) Sit in the sun, read and enjoy the book. Why not in Anne Louise Avery's 480 pages long version: '[...] Reynard - a subversive, dashing, anarchic, aristocratic, witty fox from the watery lowlands of medieval East Flanders - is in trouble. He has been summoned to the court of King Noble the Lion' [...]. (°)

Some useful links: (°)

<https://dezaakvansinterklaas.eu/KNIPOOG.html> (Pilgrim)

www.reynaertgenootschap.be

https://youtu.be/Y2L_Wfpd0M (Sweeney)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=jofNR_WkoCE (Ylvis)

www.tvooost.be/programmas/sint-niklaas-tv-sint-niklaas-tv-800-krijtvossen-42357 (Chalk fox)

<https://youtu.be/h1LOj5e3ZfU> (Cycling route)

www.groteroutepaden.be/nl/streek-gr-waas-en-reynaertland (GR Walking trail)

www.ontdeksintniklaas.be/nl/zien-en-doen/bezienswaardigheden/reynaertstandbeeld

(Reynard statue)

<https://youtu.be/QBCWNjwl5zk> (Avery)

Herman Cole

Twin Travel: LUCCA

The recent online broadcasts from Lucca of a guided tour through the streets on a sunny afternoon were both enjoyable and frustrating! How long will it be before we visit our beloved twin town again? In March 2020, a group of us were all set to travel out for a garden festival themed long weekend when the virus struck. Perhaps we can try again next year?

Lucca is much further away than the other twin towns, so flying is the obvious and usual means of travel. Indeed, it's relatively convenient. There are frequent flights from Heathrow and Gatwick to Pisa. The airport is only 35 km from Lucca. The bus takes almost an hour; the train can be a little quicker, though it means changing at Pisa Centrale. However, our kind hosts in Lucca often meet us at the airport.



Thus, to travel to or from Lucca other than by flying must be for the pleasure of the journey and interest in places visited on the way. The journey by train means at least one night spent en route. There is an attractive range of possible routes and places to stay. A compromise option is to fly one way and take the train the other.

Probably the simplest choice is to return from Lucca by train with an overnight stop in Turin. Leave Lucca station at 09:30 on the local train to Viareggio. There, catch the 10:12 all the way to Turin (Torino Porta Nuova), arriving 13:40 early afternoon. This scenic route follows the coast, offering glimpses of the sea and the picturesque Cinque Terre villages. Turin as a destination can be overlooked, but has much to interest the visitor. (The picture shows part



of an ADTTS group relaxing in Turin.) Enjoy the afternoon and evening in the city and an unhurried breakfast before crossing to the modern Porta Susa station to catch the 10:06 TGV. This initially trundles through the scenic French alps before accelerating to Paris, reaching the Gare de Lyon at 16:15. It's two stops on the Metro (RER) to the Gare de Nord with plenty of time to catch the Eurostar to St Pancras. (Or, perhaps linger a day or two in Paris.)

There are other possible ways home from Lucca. For example, instead of taking the train all the way to Turin, change at Genoa to continue along the coast following the Italian and French Rivieras as far as Nice, arriving 17:49. Note that there is now at the border (Ventimiglia) an easy change of train rather than just a change of locomotive. In Nice, take a stroll along the *Promenade des Anglais* before finding a restaurant for dinner in the old town. Next morning, again no rush, the 09:53 TGV continues along the Riviera to Marseille, then it gets you to Paris Gare de Lyon by 16:03.

For a more adventurous route from Lucca across the Swiss Alps, experience the famous Bernina Express. After an afternoon and evening in Milan, take a leisurely train along the shore of Lake Como to the village of Tirano, from where the narrow-gauge Bernina Express departs for Chur. Swap platforms in Chur and spend the night in Zurich. Next day a TGV takes you to Paris.



What about travelling to Lucca? There used to be a convenient, though rather dated, overnight sleeper train from Paris to Florence. That gave a whole day to see the city before needing to take the local train to Lucca. More recently, Covid led to the suspension, now permanent, of the sleeper services from Paris to Milan, Verona and Venice.

An overnight stay in Turin or Milan means an early Eurostar from St Pancras.

(Travel via Paris and Florence.) Another possibility is to stay in Zurich, travelling via Paris, Milan and Florence.

But why not make the most of getting to Lucca by spending time in two or three places on the way? There are new sleeper services to Vienna. Thus, go by Eurostar to Brussels and travel overnight to Vienna. Alternatively, starting next month is a sleeper from Paris to Vienna. Another new option is the Eurostar direct to Amsterdam, then the sleeper service from there to Vienna.

In Vienna, there is then time to spend the whole day enjoying the city, not forgetting the coffee and *Sachertorte*! In the evening, board the Nightjet sleeper for Rome, which stops in Florence at 06:32 next morning. This fairly relaxed route gets you to Lucca with two overnights.

More adventurously, after a short stay in Vienna, instead of the sleeper, take a train via the famous Semmerling Pass through the Alps to reach Venice. Apart from the obvious attraction of this fabulous city, arriving by train is quite an experience. After crossing to the island via the long causeway, alight at Venice Santa Lucia station and walk out to find immediately in front the Grand Canal with boats waiting to take you to your hotel. (See picture.) After sampling Venice, there are hourly trains direct to Florence that take just over two hours, from where take a local train to Lucca.



Thus, it's possible to get to Lucca comfortably within 48 hours, including a whole day in Vienna. However, with such interesting cities on the way, it's tempting to spend a week on the journey!

This brief article is far from comprehensive. There are many other possibilities. For more ideas and details, consult the "Man in Seat 61" (www.seat61.com). As the Swedes advocate: "Avoid *flygskam*, embrace *tagskryt*!"

If you have any comments or further thoughts to offer about travelling to or from Lucca, then do send them to the editor of the Newsletter (newsletter@adtts.eu).

Brian Read

Pour Les Amis Du Foot Anglais (!)

Many of our Town Twinning friends in Colmar and, particularly Argentan know Richard Smart, one of our committee members. Richard is well-known on both sides of the Channel not only as the animateur of Midnight Kayaking and Canoe Camping, and marathon cycle rides to Twin Towns, but also as an amusing raconteur with an endless source of funny jokes in English and in French.

My only problem with this is that I can never REMEMBER jokes I have been told, whether by Richard (there are so many) or anyone else.

Not long ago I even arranged to buy Richard a coffee on Abingdon Piazza so that he could provide me with some jokes I could use to amuse the groups of visiting French schoolchildren for whom I do guided walking tours in Oxford (or Abingdon). Needless to say, the many, many jokes he recounted to me that morning were of variable quality (ha, ha, had to get that one in!) but the jokes either wouldn't really work with French children with very limited knowledge of England, or the jokes were too "mature" for me to tell them (especially in the presence of their teachers).

Curiously, there is only ONE funny story of Richard's that I ever retained and this one is forever in my mind. As a person with a penchant for words and an ear for accents, in my mind I can hear and see Richard telling this one which I have heard from him on more than one occasion (obviously).

It happens that Richard was in Argentan in the week of France's World Cup win, and was watching with French friends the England v Croatia soccer semi-final. There is an England player called Eric Dier, and Richard's very quick-witted French friend Guy Frenehard says "Ah Dier,il n'est pas d'ici." This is a smart play on the sound "Dier" which is the same sound as in French "ailleurs" (elsewhere). So d'ailleurs (pronounced "dier" in French) means "from elsewhere." Hence Richard's friend's quip: "il n'est pas d'ici" (he is not from here)!

Just a quick digression to say that Eric Dier's ancestors were presumably "dyers", not diers. Dyers was a job done by many, many people before the Industrial Revolution. The job was particularly prevalent in sheep farming areas for dyeing the wool (and skinning the sheep). Cleaning and dyeing the sheepskins involved using urine and so this was a particularly smelly activity. Shakespeare's notoriously up-and-down father (he was Mayor of Stratford-on-Avon at one time) was a dyer and can be traced in records of legal cases from the number of fines he suffered for polluting the street at the front of his house and garden with foul smells. So, a more accurate translation of Eric Dier's name into French might be "teinturier" (a dyer). You can detect in the French word the association with the English word "tinctures".

This game of trying to Frenchify the England football team's names led me to find the following promising back line of defenders:

Kyle WALKER: Kyle Randonneur----il aime se promener;

John STONES: Jean La Pierre---il est très dur;

and (with a bit of poetic licence in the spelling of his English name):

Luke SHAW: Luke Sur----il est très certain.

And I always think, very appropriately for a football defender:

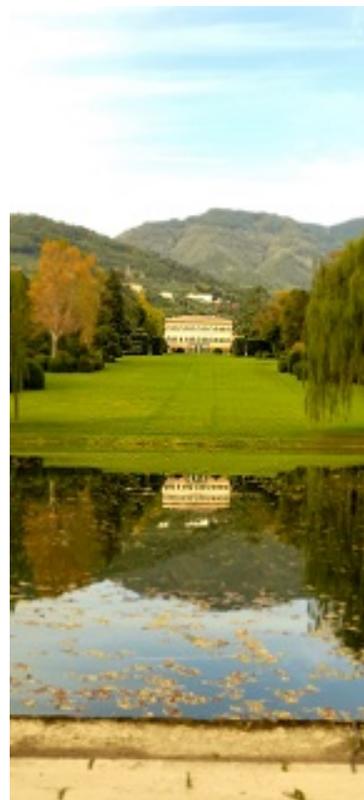
Kieran TRIPPIER, (Kieran Le Trebucheur!).

Or a bizarre French name for our eccentric goalkeeper, Jordan PICKFORD: (Choisir-gue)? Though, with reference to "gue", in explaining the name OXFORD (Bouef-gue) to my French schoolchildren, they always say they have never heard the word "gue" (in the context of a river-crossing).

I have drawn something of a blank with the names of the rest of our current team (apart from "Arri la Canne") but any fresh contributions of footballers' names from Guy Frenehard or other resourceful and quick-witted friends in our Twin Towns submitted by email to the editor of the Newsletter would be very welcome.

Philip Addison

An Autumn Gallery from Lucca – by Maria Curto



Autumn foliage at Villa Reale di Marlia (near Lucca)



Christmas themed and other shop displays this autumn

The List

I knew it the moment I opened our letterbox. It stood out by looking so anonymous, plain and white. Our address on it and a machine printed stamp depicting a woman's head. Clearly a Marianne, giving away its origin: France. I had a strong suspicion what the letter inside would read. The only way to find out for sure was by opening it.

I carefully unfolded the letter and read the black printed words that stood out strong against the bleached A4 size paper.

I was informed, in immaculate Dutch, that, in place such and so, at such time, I was driving 76km/h instead of 70km/h as was the required speed limit. With a margin of 1km/h, I had speeded 5km/h. For this, I was rewarded with a fine of 45€. A late souvenir, so to speak, with conversed benefits.

Ah, those souvenirs dragged to the home turf from vacations abroad. Not to mention the infamous holiday postcards. Nowadays you take selfies with some amazing backgrounds and put them on social media and you're done. One snapshot, one click and everybody knows what corner of the world you are hanging out at.

This was not the case back in the day. Whenever you went on a holiday, the first thing to pack along with your toothbrush and underwear was the address list.

It was similar to the Christmas list, but upgraded. If you weren't a close family member, it was considered a great honour to be included in the holiday list.

At your destination, you immediately started the hunt. Wandering, casually, in and out of the souvenir shops, scanning for the postcard holders.

These merry-go-rounds of "greetings from" were thoroughly inspected. The mind-blowing sunrises and-sets along with the breath-taking mountain views were immediately discarded. Although those came in handy to send to an aunt or an uncle who were on the compulsory part of the list.

The finds, the discussions about to whom which original postcard should be sent, the boredom painted on our children's faces making it perfectly clear how they thought about this pastime and finally the repeated countdown of names to make sure everybody was rewarded with their very own exclusive postcard.

The aim was to create a mystery, to raise anticipation and curiosity in the minds of the receivers, who, undoubtedly, were wondering: "Where on earth have they landed this year?"

Postcards of course needed stamps. Without a stamp it would get nowhere further than the hands of a very confused cleric at the local post office. Our nearest and dearest wouldn't get anything and consequently, they would never know if they were still on the list of the chosen ones.

Sometimes stamps were offered at the souvenir shop, but mostly you had to find a local post office. When it was your turn at the post office, you were questioned thoroughly. To which country? How many words? By airmail or not?

Yes, there was a difference whether you wrote a very dry "greetings from", a lightly longer message or the start of the first chapter of your next novel. This made every word count. Naturally, a silly, boring greetings would never have crossed our minds. We were too sophisticated for that. The sentences had to be original, bubbly, spontaneous, tickling the receivers interest.

It was hard labour, really, but rewarding because, back home, we were the talking point at parties for a while.

Beaming, we would float on the surf of local interest until it crashed on the pebbled beach of faded news. Out of the disintegrating foam then emerged the first sparks of ideas for the next journey to another unknown end of Europe.

Siegfried Waterschoot
Sint-Niklaas

Autumn Colours

Despite all the concerns about the pandemic this autumn has brought some compensations, not least in the colours we have enjoyed on our walks. Here are two more pictures.



Abingdon Wharf

Thanks to Abingdon Blog for this photo
<https://abingdonblog.co.uk/?p=26214>



Autumn Leaf (Sint-Niklaas)

Siegfried Waterschoot

Reynard the Fox in Oxford

Along with his article this month on Reynard the Fox, Herman Cole mentions a new exhibition at the Bodleian Library. Entitled "North Sea Crossings: Anglo-Dutch Books and the Adventures of Reynard the Fox", this free exhibition is in the Weston Library ("New Bod") and runs from 3 December 2021 until 18 April 2022. For details, go to <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/north-sea-crossings>. The shop has Reynard books.

To mark the opening of the exhibition, on 2nd December at 5pm there will be a free livestream panel discussion about it to watch. Details may be found at <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/north-sea-crossings-exhibition-opening> and it will also be available on YouTube.

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The deadline for copy for the next newsletter is two days before the end of the month. Please send contributions to newsletter@adtts.eu.

Keep right up to date by going to www.adtts.eu.
