

# Raglan welcomes twinning link-up



VILLAGERS will be bringing out their French dictionaries and polishing their 'franglais' as Raglan prepares to welcome the first group visit from its twin village of Parcé-sur-Sarthe in the Loire region of France.

More than 50 individuals representing all aspects of village life in Parcé will be arriving including the mayor and deputy mayor, heads of sports clubs, village festivals, local history, amateur dramatics and farming societies.

A full agenda has been prepared by Raglan Twinning Association including a visit to a local farm, and the planting of a 'friendship tree' by the Mayor of Parcé, the chairman of Raglan Community Council and representatives of Raglan School's eco committee.

There will also be a welcome lunch at Raglan Parc Golf club, a guided tour of the village and a trip to see a male voice choir at Raglan Castle.

Charles Fountain, the chairman of Raglan Twinning Association, said: "All of Raglan are thoroughly looking forward to meeting our visitors from Parcé and we see this as a great opportunity for creating strong bonds between individuals, sports and social clubs, businesses and local government.

"We are particularly looking forward to seeing a group of top musicians from Parcé, who will be performing on the Saturday as part of Raglan Music Festival with the aim of establishing closer links between musicians in the Loire region and Monmouthshire."

Raglan Twinning Association are grateful to all the families who are hosting our visitors as well as to Raglan Community Council, Raglan Golf Club, Raglan Music Festival and the New

Grove Trust for their support for the visit.

Plans are already in place for a return visit from Raglan to Parcé at the end of August.

Anyone from Raglan interested in visiting the stunning village of Parcé (picture below) is encouraged to email raglantwinning@google-mail.com or call 01291690420.



# Home-Start



Real Radio presenter Jason Harold helped by manager Pam Lloyd, you

A SCHEME set up to help families in Monmouthshire was launched at Bridges Community Centre last Friday (3rd June).

Home-Start Monmouthshire was launched by Real Radio presenter Jason Harold with the help of some of the children who will be using the service.

The DJ told onlookers: "It is lovely to be here for the launch of something that is really special. I wish Home-Start and all the people here the very best."

Manager Pam Lloyd had earlier welcomed guests, thanking all those who had helped to get the project up and running.

"I am really looking forward to working with families in Monmouthshire," she said.

John Waters, chair of the Monmouthshire Home-Start trustees, said it had been a long journey for those involved right at the start.

"Two years ago we felt a bit despondent thanks to the persistence of certain people here, and we have raised £250,000 from the Big Lottery Fund to run the scheme over three years," he said.

"There are eight vol-

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