



Dear Fellow Old Dowegians,

1st Douai Bykathon – Sunday 25th September 2016

With just 1 week to the 1st Douai Bykathon on Sunday 25th September , we thought you would be interested in progress to date , so far we are right on target in respect of anticipated acknowledgements; and due to this overwhelming response, the committee have decided to release early details of the 2nd Douai Bykathon which will be taking place from the 19-23 July 2017 – Please see the next attachment.

As know this is in aid of the rebuilding of the beloved Douai Cricket Pavilion. It will continue to be a WW1 memorial and will have an upstairs “Douai Room” with a history of the school, memorabilia and Honours Boards. The construction of the new pavilion is well under away and is due to be completed around Spring 2017 with an official Douai Opening in July 2017.

Just to let you know, there’s still time to sign up for the Bykathon and either participate just purely on a social level or even to go looking for that old bike pump. We have an organised Barbeque so will need to confirm final numbers to the caterers by Wednesday 21st September. Please don’t feel inhibited – This is primarily a social event, but if you are really unable to make it, then perhaps you would consider making a donation however small or large) .

Send Cheque made out to “Douai Park Recreation Association” & send to Chris Vale, Douai Society Treasurer, 1 Cranford Avenue, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9NG. Thank you for your kind consideration.

The Douai Society are committed to raising £100,000 to the Douai Park Recreation Association payable by end November and so far have raised from ODs over £80,000 - so this is close to the final reminder and opportunity to help.

We have had some very generous offers of old memorabilia and items for the auction and raffle, so if you would like to pledge a prize or a bottle or the use of an otherwise vacated holiday home etc then we would be very pleased to put this towards this worthy cause.

If you need another Registration form then please contact Chris Vale -
cvale8616@gmail.com

Your Bykathon Committee (Brian Stack and Chris Vale)

*In Remembrance
who gave their lives
This Realm in the*



*& Honour of the 56
in the Defence of
First World War*

THE 2nd DOUAI BYKATHON

In Aid of The Douai Pavilion Appeal

Wednesday 19th – Sunday 23rd July, 2017

LONDON – PARIS via The War Memorials & Douai in N.France



The London to Paris Bike Ride is an awesome cycling challenge and is by far one of the best fundraising events in Europe attracting hundreds of riders each year and raising thousands for charities nationwide. Whether you're a regular cyclist or new to cycling, looking to participate as part of a group– this is the perfect charity cycle event for you.

So, Join us for our London to Paris Bike Ride for a truly inspirational experience, which represents a wonderful opportunity to see parts of the English and French countryside and culture that may otherwise not reveal themselves to you. You'll make friends for life, push yourself beyond your limits but most of all make memories you'll cherish for a lifetime.

We'll spend 4 days in the saddle, cycling 299 miles from capital to capital. Our journey begins in London with the route taking us through glorious English countryside as we cycle from Kent to Dover, before crossing the Channel to Dunkirk. Once across the water we start cycling 'French style', remembering to keep to the right!, we push on cycling along quiet French country lanes, through traditional market towns with views of the rolling green hills of northern France, passing the war memorials and cemeteries of the Somme – particularly poignant, when you think of the reason the pavilion was built originally. As we will be residing, one evening, a very short distance from Douai in France, we plan to make a pilgrimage there once the day's cycling is concluded.

For the piece de resistance, a spectacular finish awaits us as we reach the home stretch up the Champs Elysees to the Arc de Triomphe, before reaching the Eiffel Tower, which marks our finish line. The days in the saddle may be long but the sense of achievement we'll feel crossing the finish line and the euphoric atmosphere as we celebrate our achievements in this magnificent capital will see that the saddle soreness soon wears off!

And, if that wasn't all, then after a night of celebrating our journey, we will be able to join the rank and file and be in A1 position to witness the spectacular conclusion to the Tour de France, as the Pros come whizzing into town.

Once the event is over, we will make our way to Gard du Nord, where we will catch the Eurostar back to London, where we will be reunited with our bicycles.

The cost of the excursion is keenly priced at £125.00 all in, provided that you are able to raise a minimum of £1500 in sponsorship for the charity of your choice, where we would hope you would consider Douai Park Recreation Association as your intended recipient.

For £125, you will get to cycle an average of 75 miles each day for 4 days. The initial fee covers 4 overnight accommodation with all meals provided. In addition to this, we will have a support crew who will ferry our luggage from accommodation to accommodation, and will act as our point of reference with regard to all aspects of this adventure. The cost of the return journey to London is included

There are very limited places available for this event, so you will need to book as soon as possible - Booking can be made on <http://www.globaladventurechallenges.com/uk/london-to-paris-bike-ride/> You will need to register under: **London to Paris Bike Ride 19-23 July 2017 TOUR DE FRANCE ROUTE ONE**

If you would like further details, then please contact Brian Stack at b.stack1@btinternet.com

Dominus mihi adjutor - *Liberté, égalité, fraternité*