

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

(covering the areas of Reigate, Redhill, Banstead and Horley)



Twinning News 2017/3



Important Dates for your 2017/2018 Diary

- ✚ Afternoon Tea-----2 July (see below for details)
- ✚ Brunoy Visit to Reigate -----15 -17 September
- ✚ Skittle /Pre-Christmas evening -----18 November
- ✚ 25th anniversary of Twinning festivities in Brunoy-----13 -15 April 2018

Message from Penelope

I and my family have been overwhelmed by the letters, cards and messages of love and support from our friends in twinning since Tim's death. Our twin town friends in Eschweiler and Brunoy, and also those friends in Wattrelos too must be included in our deep appreciation.

As you will know I am hosting a cream tea for members in July. I do hope to see many members there. I like to think Tim would approve of this continuing hosting link as he much enjoyed his membership of our association and the friendship that resulted.

Warmest thanks from Penelope.

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

We are now preparing for the return visit of our friends from Brunoy in September. They expressed the wish to visit Canterbury. It may surprise many of you that we have never visited such a famous place with them in the last 25 years. We do not know yet if we will be welcoming some runners for the Run Reigate marathon as we did last year, and perhaps some French bridge players keen to play with (or is it against?) the Reigate bridge players who went to Brunoy in April.

On a more serious note, we wish to mention that after each terrorist attack, in Manchester and in London, we have received messages of sympathy from Brunoy "Just a few words to say how much we are shocked and terribly sad... thinking of you all, amitiés." We have also had some bad news from France: we were really grieved to hear that our friend Genevieve lost her son, Eric, to cancer. He was in his 40s and leaves a wife and 3 sons. We have been very saddened by the shocking death of someone so young and sent our condolences to Genevieve and her family.

With the near future in mind, let us hope that the warm weather we are enjoying at the moment will continue at least till our special Twinning Afternoon Tea, on July 2nd. By then we may be able to give you more details about the Twinning visit in September.

All the best from

Anne and Monique

Anne Miller (Joint Chairman & Brunoy Link) (01293 823483) anne.miller@lineone.net
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It has been a busy couple of months for us, starting with the annual visit from the Barbaraschule Eschweiler to Priory School Reigate last month. These reciprocal visits started after Ute Peter was looking for a Reigate school host placement to help her with her English teaching. I asked around local schools; Sally Baker from the Priory School kindly volunteered and the rest is history, as they say. We are very grateful to Ollie Moses, Priory School's Head Teacher and his staff as well as Ute Peter, Hartmut Froehlich and the Barbaraschule team for all their support. Our exchange programme has now been going for 11 years and we are proud that this is the youngest German/British school exchange in the UK.

The group were met on arrival at the Old Pheasantry centre by Janet and Graham, with a welcome meal. This year several adult members of the Eschweiler Twinning Association also travelled on the coach and followed an independent visit programme with their hosts. The children went to Priory School each day to join the children they had met previously this year. The then-Mayor, Cllr David Powell, came to welcome the children and they were very interested in his tale of his sky-diving exploits! There is a joint school project to follow and this year it was about Historic Buildings. Daily activities organised by the Priory School teachers included art, craft, music and sports as well as a visit to study Preston Manor near Brighton, followed by the seaside!

In the last few days, we have had a visit from the Narrengarde Youth Group, led by Gregor Wings and his team. The Narrengarde are one of the largest of the 22 Karneval groups in Eschweiler, each with its own musicians, dancers and social groups. They were the first Karneval group that we had contact with and so many members are longstanding friends. We have an annual invitation to participate in their own Karneval procession on the Sunday, as well as the bigger one on Rosenmontag the following day. The young people were between 10-16 and stayed at the Youth Hostel at Abinger Hammer because of the size of the group. Although I was rather nervous about the coach access up narrow approach lanes, Uwe the coach driver was unconcerned and they were rewarded by a friendly welcome and good food on arrival.

The Narrengarde Youth Group were keen to visit to meet some young people here in our Borough and in partnership with the YMCA, a welcome activity afternoon and barbecue was organised as an opportunity for meeting up and socialising to exchange contacts. The YMCA provided a wide range of activities including youth musicians, arts and crafts where you could design your own bag, make your own smoothie on the YMCA bike generator, trampoline activities, and "green screen" photography. There is a lovely photo where Penelope appears to be telling off a leaping tiger! The newly appointed Mayor, Cllr Roger Newstead was urged into some baseball shots before welcoming everyone and the evening concluded with a barbecue in the sun. This was a really good event which I hope will lead to ongoing contacts and I have written to thank the YMCA team.

Despite the tragic events at London Bridge, it was decided to go ahead with the visit to London the following day. We travelled by train from Dorking to Waterloo and everyone really enjoyed the London Eye experience which was enhanced by the lovely weather so the visibility was good. As the London Bridge area was still closed, we took a Thames cruise to the Tower and back, so the group could see and photograph it. We were lucky that the Mall was closed to traffic because of the Trooping of the Colour rehearsal, so we were able to walk up to Buckingham Palace with wonderful views and the group were able to see quite a few of the main tourist sights before returning by train in time for a game of football and a hearty meal.

The following day we visited Brighton in the German coach and luckily the weather allowed us a good spell on the pier before walking along the beach to see the Lanes and some of Brighton's other attractions. Many of the girls were very keen on going shopping, and so we spent some time in the Churchill Centre where the favourite attractions were Victoria's Secrets lingerie for the girls and jelly beans for the boys (neither apparently available in Germany!) Just as well they came with a coach with lots of luggage space for the shopping. Another successful day over, our return was just in time before the storm arrived.

The Narrengarde team were very pleased with the way the visit went. All the young people were very well behaved and appreciative of the opportunity to come to Reigate to practise their English a bit. It took quite a lot of planning on both sides but Gregor and I both thought it well worth it.

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Recent Events:

▪ Spring Walk “Overcoming Obstacles” – 6 May

The first obstacle was provided by the Gas Board who had decided to do emergency repairs outside The Red Cross, thus turning the High Street into a one lane road. However, by 10.00 we were assembled outside The Dolphin in Betchworth. Our leader, Judy Bromley, had optimistically booked a table for 20 for lunch and we were not far off this number. Rufus, Judy’s dog, was the only canine member of the group as the other twinning dogs’ owners were sadly unavailable.

We strolled to Brockham and then took the Old Coach Road across the golf course, coming out by the garden centre on the A25. Fortunately, there is an island at this point so we all crossed safely. Then we had a slight incline up the lane to the Pilgrims Way. The Belted Galloway cows which could have proved an obstacle, had been penned in behind a new electric fence as they have calves at the moment. The old Betchworth lime works proved an interesting feature and they were new to several of the group. A fallen tree had recently been cleared so no obstacle there.

After a bit we turned right down to the A25. This proved more of a challenge but eventually a gap in the traffic appeared and we all scuttled across and made our way back to The Dolphin where Penelope joined us for lunch.

There were certainly no obstacles to conversation and we all enjoyed catching up with people’s news. Walking is ideal for conversation and we would encourage other twinningers to join in next year. Many thanks to Judy and Rufus for a delightful walk.

Jo Lloyd



Forthcoming Events:

❖ Afternoon Tea - 2 July

This year we are organising an afternoon cream tea, instead of the twinning summer lunch. Penelope Horsfall, our president has kindly offered to host the cream tea in her garden in Fengates Road. Please, if any of your friends are considering joining the Twinning Association, invite them to come and meet us in the relaxed atmosphere of a convivial afternoon tea. Shelter will be available in case of rain.

We wish to serve delicate sandwiches as well as a variety of delicious cakes and scones. Of course we will drink tea but also a glass of sparkling wine to get the party going.

As this is also a fundraising event, we will ask you to contribute £7.50 and a small plate of delicate sandwiches or a plate of small cakes/scones. To ensure a variety of goodies, I will ask you to contact me. Please see all the details on the form attached with this newsletter. I hope to see many of you.

Monique

New Members

- ✚ Ann and Peter Hildebrand
- ✚ Ian Thiele
- ✚ Natasha Allen
- ✚ Olive Joannou

Renate's Bean Salad Recipe

I usually make quite a lot of the sauce and keep it in a bottle in the fridge. It lasts a long time. Once you got that ready, the salad takes no time at all!

I write down the original recipe but I cannot guarantee its quite like I do it. You have to add stuff when you taste it. Especially the vinegar and oil .

Here we go:



For 500 gr of French beans (not frozen) I like the thin ones best! I use the liquidiser!

- ◆ 1 teaspoon salad herbs or fresh basil and thyme
- ◆ 1 table spoon mild mustard (I have my own from Switzerland! Tommy.)
- ◆ A few drops of Maggi seasoning (comes in a little bottle in various supermarkets)
- ◆ 1/2 teaspoon Knorr Aromat also from the supermarket You can google both products!!
- ◆ 1/2 onion
- ◆ 1 clove garlic
- ◆ 4 tbsp white wine vinegar
- ◆ 6 " sunflower oil

Mix well in liquidiser and taste. Add more of the ingredients if necessary.

Now cook the beans but don't over cook. Add the sauce while hot and mix.

Good luck, you will need it!!!