

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

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



Twinning News 2017/4



Important Dates for your 2017/2018 Diary

- ✚ Brunoy Visit to Reigate ----- 15 -17 September
- ✚ Twinning Walk ----- 21 October (see details below)
- ✚ Skittle /Pre-Christmas evening ----- 18 November
- ✚ 25th anniversary of Twinning festivities in Brunoy ----- 13 -15 April 2018

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the weather this summer, although I must admit it has got a bit mixed just lately. We hope there is more good weather to come when we entertain our French friends in September. It is also the week of the Run Reigate and four French runners are coming to take part. If you haven't got anything pressing to do on the Sunday morning you can support them anywhere round the course.

About 40 of our French friends will arrive from Brunoy on Friday afternoon, September 15th and will eat at home with their hosts after a Mayoral Reception at the Town Hall.

On the Saturday we are all going to Canterbury where there are so many things to do that I'm sure they will be spoilt for choice. There may be a few places in the coach but if a lot of members want to come it may be necessary for some to drive. We shall be visiting the Cathedral in the morning, leaving the rest of the day for lunch and a trip on the river or other attractions.

On the Saturday evening there is a Dinner at Redhill and Reigate Golf Club to which everyone is invited, whether you are hosting or not. (See Page 2).

On the Sunday there will be time for shopping (or the Run) before they leave around 1.00.

We are looking forward to an excellent weekend and hope as many of you as possible will be around at one time or another.

All the best from

Anne and Monique

Anne Miller (Joint Chairman & Brunoy Link) (01293 823483) anne.miller@lineone.net
and **Monique Pottage** (01737 221073) mpottage@hotmail.co.uk

Recent Events:

▪ Afternoon Tea – 2 July

On Sunday 2nd July, members of the Twinning Association were invited to a Tea Party in Penelope Horsfall's garden. Our President had done us proud by providing seating at three large round tables for 26 people, all under an awning cover to protect us from the elements. On this beautiful summer's day we were grateful for the shade.

Our guest of honour was Frank Kelly, Deputy Mayor, wearing his chain of office and standing in for the Mayor who is Patron.

All participants contributed to the excellent array of food, starting with delicate sandwiches, followed by scones with cream and jam and a variety of home made cakes and biscuits.

This enjoyable event started with a glass of Bubbly followed by numerous cups of refreshing tea. It was all delicious.

The afternoon finished with the usual raffle to raise funds for the Association and happily Deputy Mayor Kelly was one of the first to win. A good time was had by all.

Ros Borkowski

Forthcoming Events:

❖ Twinning meal - 16 September

As usual, to celebrate the visit of our friends from Brunoy, we have organised a meal on Saturday evening. Unfortunately, this year we cannot have it in the relaxed atmosphere of Reigate College as the college is becoming an academy and doing some reorganisation, therefore not available for us to book now. However, thanks to our secretary Elspeth and her husband Richard, we have been able to reserve a meal at the R&R golf club at a reasonable price. The French party will provide some of their local cheese and you will have to decide whether you follow the French tradition of having cheese before pudding or the British one, cheese after pudding.

Please come and join us all to meet our French friends even if you are not hosting this time. It is always a convivial evening. See the form attached.

Monique

❖ Twinning Walk - 21 October

Meet at the Plough public house, Church Road in Leigh at 10.30am.



Finish at the Plough pub about 1.00pm for lunch.



Approx. 4 miles - Fields and Farms of Leigh with mostly level pasture walking.

Please let me know by 15 October if you are coming.

Look forward to seeing you all there.

Graham Powell
powellspostbox@btinternet.com or 01737 761903

AGM Follow-up - Eschweiler

Following a meeting in June, the Eschweiler Committee has confirmed that from 2018, our Twinning link will continue on an alternate year basis. After their next meeting in the Autumn, we will have 2 or 3 dates to choose from for next year.

Elspeth Cawtheray, Hon. Secretary.

New Members:

Peter and Jean Mason

“La Fête Nationale” – “Le 14 Juillet”

This year, Richard and I visited our twinning hosts, Eric and Laurence, to celebrate their national day. The first thing we realised was that we – in the English-speaking world – call it “Bastille Day”. However, in France it is always referred to as either of the above.

Then, we heard about the “Bals des Pompiers” – held usually between 13 and 15 July. Fire stations all over France turn their garages or forecourts into “night clubs” – with music, dancing, and lots of fun – most often finishing in the early morning. Entry to the event is free, but food and drinks can be purchased. Of course, we spent an hour or so at the large fire station in Epinay (which also serves Brunoy and Yerres).

Another great event is, of course, the firework display! We went to the displays at Yerres on the 13 and Brunoy on the 14 – both excellent – with Brunoy just a little bit better! On the 14 in Brunoy, there was an afternoon event in the local park for children, followed by music and drinks in the early evening – supplied by the Council.

As well as the 14 Juillet celebrations, Laurence and Eric took us on sight-seeing trips to Fontainebleau, and Barbizon – and more. We also got our bearings on the nearby local towns – Yerres, Epinay and Montgeron where we were shown the spot where the first ever Tour de France started from in 1903. Flags were out everywhere, as the final stage of this year’s race was starting from the same point. (No need to mention the winner of this year’s Tour!)

It was great to visit Brunoy “at a different time of the year”. Thanks again to Eric and Laurence as excellent guides.

Elspeth Cawtheray

Obituaries

We are sad to report the deaths of the following members of our Twinning Association.

George Ford - was one of our founder members as he taught in Redstone School. At the time the school, now the Warwick school, had a regular exchange with the Gymnasium in Eschweiler. More recently he took a very active part in our quizzes and was even on the winning team a couple of times.

Betty Le Bihan - had not been a member for very long, when she fell ill. She went to Brunoy and hosted our friend Dominique, the secretary of the Brunoy Twinning Association.

Roger Stamp - Roger was a Councillor when Twinning started – and he and his wife, Audrey, were members of our Association until a few years ago.

All will be sadly missed and we send our condolences to their families.