

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

Covering the areas of Reigate, Redhill, Banstead and Horley



Twinning News 2020/1



Important Dates for your 2020/21 Diary

AGM-----	20 March
Spring walk -----	26 April
Croquet Afternoon -----	20 May
Visit to Brunoy-----	12 – 14 June
Summer Lunch-----	4 July
Invitation to join Eschweiler Twinning in Wattrelos-----	25 - 27 September
Anniversary Visit to Eschweiler-----	3 - 6 June 2021

Message from our President

This welcome is rather late for our first newsletter of 2020. With the steady spreading of coronavirus among us all my main wish is that we all remain safe.

A rather sad farewell had to be made at the end of December to our only French restaurant in Reigate, La Barbe. It has closed after nearly forty years of feeding us superbly - with dauphinoise and other great French dishes! Serge has retired back to France. Over time Serge supported the boules competition as well as donations to good causes such as ourselves. We wish him and his family a happy retirement but, oh dear, he will be missed.

With an imaginary glass in hand I raise it with the toast “continued friendship”.

With best wishes and hope.

Penelope

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, a few changes have occurred in the Brunoy Twinning Committee. Dominique and Michel are now busier than ever organising our visit in June.

Unfortunately, they have not yet surveyed their membership about the possibility of extending the visit to 4 days instead of the present 3. On that subject, I want to thank all of you who have given me your opinion, it is not too late for the others! We may also discuss this at the AGM on the 20th of this month.

About our trip to Brunoy in June you will notice, in the relevant attachments, that we are going back to Paris on the Saturday as there are so many things to see and do there. Dare I say that the visit to the Chocolate museum is the cherry on the cake! On Sunday morning we will also have the opportunity to visit Brunoy Photographic Exhibition and admire some works from Reigate photographers as well as more local exhibits. Paris and Brunoy in June, a treat not to be missed!

Our successful Twinning Quiz has replenished our coffers so we now have two non fundraising events, the AGM and the Twinning walk where we hope to see many of you.

Monique and Anne

Monique and Anne

Monique Pottage (Joint Chairman & Brunoy Link)
and **Anne Miller**

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Dear Friends

We are just back from our annual visit with the Redhill Corps of Drums to Eschweiler Karneval. In spite of the weather, as usual a great time was had by all! Although the Sunday Karneval Procession in Duerwiss had to be cancelled because of gales and driving rain, all the participants got together in the Festhalle and it was full to bursting when the RCD and their "twin" local band Brass te Huur took to the stage just before Karneval Prinz Simon and his Master of Ceremonies arrived to rapturous applause.

Luckily the weather was better the following day for the Rosenmontag procession, and this year our group were amongst the first to set off on the round trip of approximately three hours. Again the music of both bands was much appreciated by the crowds as well as ourselves. This year we were honoured to feature on the Narrengarde carnival medal and everyone in our group was given one



It is impossible to adequately describe the sights and sounds of karneval in words here, but it is worth looking online where there are lots of videos if you search, for example on YouTube for Rosenmontagzug in Eschweiler or on website www.prinz-simon.de

Rudi Bertram, Mayor of Eschweiler, will be standing down after over twenty years' service, and in recognition of his help we presented him with a Friendship Rosebush when we attended his last Karneval Reception on the Sunday.

Next year will be anniversary celebrations for Eschweiler Twinning and we have been invited there for 3-6 June 2021 - so save the date! In view of that, we shall not be going to Eschweiler this summer but instead have been invited to join them in Wattrelos, their twin town in France, on 25-27 September. Wattrelos is near Lille, about an hour's drive from Calais or accessible via Eurostar. The visit will probably follow the usual pattern with a local visit on the Saturday although I don't have details yet. All are welcome and if you are interested please let me know so that we can discuss transport options.

Janet Powell

Joint Chairman & Eschweiler Link

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Recent Events:

▪ January Dinner

As a relatively new member I went along to the evening meal social event in January for the first time. It was held at The Home Cottage, Redhill, where I found a warm welcome awaited me by acquaintances and friends.

It was nice to see about 32 attending and chatting away before we sat down to our pre ordered three course meal, which was good. There was a choice of two alternatives for each course. It's hard to ascertain which was the most popular choice of menu, for instance, turkey or fish for main course. However, the cheerful staff were very helpful and coped brilliantly in serving the dishes promptly in the minimum of space.

Everyone continued to chat throughout the evening and enjoy each other's company signalling a good time was had by all.

No official speeches but it was nice that Monique gave thanks to Janet and Graham Powell for organising the event! She also gave a reminder of the quiz on the 28 February at Shaws Corner as well as an update with date 12 - 14 June for Brunoy trip.

Janet Rimmer

▪ Quiz

This was my first quiz evening with Reigate and Banstead Twinning. I arrived a little later than I would have liked, to very friendly welcome. It was nice to see the hall was packed, with a jovial atmosphere, everyone enjoying each other's company and ready for the quiz to begin. I understand about 100 people attended, both members and guests.

The quiz started promptly by the quizmaster Helier Dreux whilst Anne Dreux did the marking. There was a mixture of questions under different themes, some easy and some not so easy! It gave me a feeling I could contribute whilst having an opportunity to learn something new.

At half time there was a fish and chip supper which everyone enjoyed before getting to grips with the final selection of questions in the second half.

When all the marking was completed, there were two tables with the same score for the winning position, so a set of tie-break questions were asked. Table No1 was the winner. The raffle with a lovely selection of prizes finished off the evening, with thanks being given by Janet Powell to everyone.

Fully appreciative it's a lot of hard work to put such an evening on, so a big thank you to all involved for organising such an enjoyable evening.

Janet Rimmer

Forthcoming Events

◆ AGM, 20 March 2020

This year again our AGM will take place in the URC hall at Shaw's Corner in Redhill. We would like you all to come and share ideas about our association. Janet and I will provide a simple cold buffet so please let me know by the 18 March if you intend to come. There will be a glass of wine included and further glasses for a donation

Please bring your own plates, cutlery, glass etc.

You will have already received the agenda and last year's minutes.

Monique

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◆ Spring walk 26 April

At the moment this is the informaton I have from Natasha Allan, who will lead the walk

I am going to propose Chaldon and farthing Downs. 4 miles. Meet in the car park near Cross Ditches lane. Stop at The Fox for lunch.

Meet at 10 to walk. I'll book the pub for 12 (the pub will not be the end of the walk- there will be another 800 m back to the car park.)

◆ Croquet Afternoon Wednesday 20 May @ 2 pm

Come along to Reigate Priory Croquet Club (Park Lane Reigate RH2 8JX) for an introduction to this game by Frank Burch or a more competitive game if you already know how to play. Bring a drink and teatime snack with you for a chat with everyone afterwards.



As this event depends on the weather, let me know with your phone number beforehand if you would like to come. There will be a small charge to cover venue costs. **Please wear flat shoes only.**

Janet Powell
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◆ Summer Lunch 4 July

To be hosted by Ros and John Borkowski. Details to follow.

Treasurer and Membership

• Treasurer

The 2019 accounts were approved by the auditor without amendment. There was a substantial deficit for the year which was expected because of visits by both Twin Associations however the balance sheet still showed good reserves at the end of the year.

In the current year, subscription receipts for the year are lower than last year due to 8 members not renewing and 7 members who have not yet paid their dues. As it is so early in the Association year there has been little activity other than subscription receipts and the Reigate quiz in February which was a very successful fund raising evening although the hall hire charge is still to come.

• Membership

We have 79 Memberships of whom 58 are subscription paying – the rest are Honorary Members and members of our twinned clubs. The 79 memberships represents 98 individual members/organisations.

Eight members have decided to leave the Association and seven members have not yet paid their subscriptions. If this is the case at 31st March their details will be removed from the database.

Robert Bogin

New Members:

A warm welcome to:

😊 Angela and Geoff Smith