

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

Covering the areas of Reigate, Redhill, Banstead and Horley



Twinning News 2021/1



Important Date for your 2021 Diary

Zoom Meeting Call ----- 18 March at 7.30 pm

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

Our friends in Brunoy, just like us, are living a more restricted life. Though there is no strict lockdown, the restaurants and cinemas are closed and a curfew is in place from 6pm. Schools are open but masks are worn even by young children. The theatre in Brunoy is being used as a vaccination centre since mid January but progress is very slow indeed. Instead of postponing their AGM to the Autumn, as we are doing, their Twinning Association is going for an online version of it. Their committee meets monthly on Zoom and, inspired by us (!!!) they are considering a quiz on line too. Of course, no visit can be planned now but let's keep optimistic and support each other across the borders.

Monique and Anne

Monique and Anne

Monique Pottage (Joint Chairman & Brunoy Link) (01737 221073) mpottage@hotmail.co.uk
and **Anne Miller** (01737 913542) anne.miller@mail.com

Eschweiler Link

Dear Friends

Normally, 15 February 2021 would be the date for the Monday of the Roses Parade of the Eschweiler Karneval. Like many other events, Karneval has had to be cancelled this year, one of only a very, very few times it has not been able to go ahead and we will really miss celebrating with all our friends. However the organising committee and several of the groups have been inventive in devising ways to participate virtually and to keep the spirit of Karneval alive this year. There have been quite a lot of events on social media, and our friends in KG Ulk and the Narrengarde groups were kind enough to include us by sending us their badge this year, Karneval music CDs and group-personalised facemask! Eschweiler town centre in winter has been brightened up with colourful banners from the different Karneval groups and people have been encouraged to decorate their houses in their group's colours as usual. I'm sure that next year's celebrations will be absolutely wild to make up for this year - we're looking forward to it already!



Janet Powell

Joint Chairman & Eschweiler Link

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Dear Friends,

A belated Happy New Year and let's all wish for a big improvement on 2020! With the vaccination programme now rolling out, the situation is beginning to look more hopeful and we are daring to start planning for the months ahead, as far as possible. We will hold face to face events as soon as we are allowed, but in the meantime, why not catch up with other members for a chat on a Zoom meeting call?

This will be on THURSDAY 18 MARCH at 7.30 pm. If you are familiar with Zoom and would like to join us, please e-mail Robert Bogin on robertbogin@btinternet.com who will send you an invitation link to click on.

If you have not used Zoom before, the app is free and easy to download on any device; pc, tablet or phone. Should you need a little extra help with setting it up, please contact Robert Bogin on 01737 248018 who has kindly agreed to help with the process.

At our last Zoom Committee Meeting, we discussed arrangements for the Twinning AGM. normally held in March. It was felt that it would be preferable to hold this when we can all meet again in person, so we have decided to postpone it for the time being.

Both Monique and I have been in close contact with our friends in France and Germany, as I expect many members have, and despite all the uncertainties it's good to know that everyone is working to strengthen our friendships in these difficult times.

In the meantime, keep safe and well everyone and we look forward to meeting up before too long.

Best wishes from

Janet and Monique

Quiz

A big thank you to Jo Chantler for compiling the "fiendish" quiz in our last newsletter. It certainly proved a challenge but congratulations to the joint winners who were Phil/Rosemary Jones and Mike/Mary Scoltock

Treasurer and Membership

- **Accounts and Membership**

The accounts ending 31-12-2020 have been approved by the auditor. There was little movement in the year due to pandemic restrictions although the Quiz held in February showed a good profit. A deposit for the coach to Brunoy was paid up front and this is being held against a future trip.

A number of subscription renewals have been received for year 2021 and we thank those members. There are still 18 unpaid subscriptions and with no certain income from events this year, we do urge members to pay their subscriptions as we have some fixed costs such as PL insurance, website etc.

Robert Bogin
Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Anne Miller

Anne has moved to a new home. . So

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Her e-mail obviously remains the same