

# Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

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



## Twinning News 2015/2



### A bientôt, Brunoyens

#### Important Dates for your 2015 Diary

1. Walk – 30 May
2. Summer Lunch, 11 July
3. Visit by Brunoyens – 11-13 September

#### Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

The trip to Brunoy in April went very well – many thanks from me to all who helped in my absence, particularly Monique and Elspeth. There is a report later on page 2.

The next major event is the visit from our French friends here in September. The dates are Friday to Sunday 11-13 September, so get

this in your diary now! We have a couple of ideas for a Saturday outing, (Rochester and Eltham Palace), but please feel free to suggest somewhere you think may be suitable – we are open to more suggestions.

Form 2 is attached with the Newsletter for you to express your ability to host someone from Brunoy. This may seem early but, as you know, France goes on holiday at the beginning of July so we need to have things mainly sewn up by the end of June. Some of our newer members would be especially welcome as hosts and it is an excellent way of getting more involved with Twinning. It is not too onerous as it is mainly two breakfasts and one evening meal - as we are out the rest of the time.

We hope to see some of you during the summer as there are various events being organised, and it is a good way of getting to know everyone.

All the best from

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

## Eschweiler Link

We are all looking forward to the visit to see our Eschweiler friends in a few weeks, to celebrate our twinning link of 30 years.

Thanks are due to the Eschweiler Twinning Committee for doing all the visit organisation with no help from me! We will be joined in Eschweiler by our friends from Wattlelos, with whom Eschweiler has been twinned for 40 years. The Mayors of Eschweiler and Wattlelos will join Cllr Allen Kay, Deputy Leader of Reigate & Banstead Council and Cllr Rachel Turner to lead a civic service of commemoration in Eschweiler Town Hall. Allen Kay was amongst the first people involved with Eschweiler and we are pleased that Diana Bowes, Founder Member, is also able to be with us, amongst others

Over the last few weeks the exchange visits of the Priory School in Reigate with the Barbaraschule in Eschweiler have taken place, here and there. Unfortunately I was elsewhere whilst they were in Reigate but I understand that a good time was had by all. The children were welcomed to Reigate by Crispin Blunt MP as well as Penelope Horsfall. The support given by Twinning to these visits is much appreciated by both schools and next year a special celebration of 10 years of this exchange is planned. Many thanks for their hard work to James Coring and Oliver Moses (with congratulations on his appointment as Head Teacher) as well as to Ute Peter, Barbaraschule, and Hartmut Froehlich. Ute is retiring as Head Teacher soon, but we are pleased that she will come again next year in a Twinning capacity.

You might also like to know that Eschweiler Twinning Association have relaunched their website, which is [www.pav-eschweiler.de](http://www.pav-eschweiler.de). It will link to ours once we get it up and running again, which we are doing as quickly as possible

**Janet Powell**, (Joint Chairman & Eschweiler Link)  
Tel: 01737 761903 [powellspostbox@btinternet.com](mailto:powellspostbox@btinternet.com)

## Recent Events:

### Quiz – 27 February 2015

Again, this event was very popular ! Alternatively, the hall was silent with concentration, or buzzed with discussion! Suppers were served and enjoyed half-way through. The winners were applauded – and we are now looking forward to next year! Book early!

Our warmest thanks to Helier and Ann, and to Anne Miller who organised the event.

### AGM 6 March 2015

The AGM took place on 6 March, with a reasonable attendance. Business was attended to quickly. The Treasurer's report showed that the funds are still very healthy. With the exception of Richard Cawtheray who has resigned, all other members of the Committee were re-elected; it was emphasised that new volunteers (especially for "Publicity") would be very welcome/necessary to come forward and help run events.

After the business was over, a cheese and wine supper was provided.

*Elsbeth Cawtheray, Hon. Secretary*

### Visit to Brunoy – 10-12 April

After an uneventful run, we were welcomed by our French friends and taken to the Town Hall for the formal welcome. An early start the following day enabled the party to arrive at Reims in good time for a visit to the Pommery champagne cellar. A daunting 116 steps down (and back up again later!) with no option of a lift. This was a combination of conical chalk pits, some going back to Roman times, joined together by lengthy tunnels. In addition to the racks of bottles, Pommery had on display sculptures and more modern creations plus projected images which enhanced the experience. The breathless return to ground level was rewarded with a "taste of the product" which led to many purchases in the gift shop on the way out.

The next stop was the old cathedral in which the original king of France was crowned almost 1,000 years ago. Then on to the "new" cathedral, following a brief break for lunch. Noticeable were the shell splinter marks in the North side stones – the First World War was very close here. The city is relatively new, but a drive down the Ave de Champagne in Epernay

revealed the magnificent buildings containing the champagne houses which are household names. In Reims, M. Moussy had joined our party and had become an excellent tour guide. He then guided the coach to his house where his wife and family provided an excellent meal – washed down with his champagne of course! Our driver had to press us to leave as his driving hours were running short, but not before the luggage area was filled with a good supply of our host's creation, especially the 2010 vintage! We made it back to Brunoy in time – just.

Most hosts and guests enjoyed informal walks in the locality and buffet lunch before the traditional group photo and departure for Calais. A trouble free run saw us in the port in time for the earlier boat, but this appeared to be very full. Our driver kept us on the coach as we waited and we were able to get the last place while other drivers were trying to round up their passengers – a good tip for the future.

Another well organised event - with particular thanks to Elspeth who filled in when Monique was unable to get back from France due to a strike!

*Bryan Reynolds*

## **Forthcoming Events:**

### **Visit to Eschweiler – 14-17 May 2015**

See Janet's DE Link report.

**NB:** The visit to Eschweiler has now taken place and a report will appear in the next issue.

### **Walk and Pub lunch – Saturday 30 May**

This event will be taking place, but the destination has not yet been decided upon! Suggestions will be welcomed – by 24 May, please. If you do not want to join the walk, we shall be happy if you can join us for a pub lunch afterwards. Whether or not you have a suggestion, please let us know if you would like to join us – either on the walk or pub, or both - then we shall contact you with the final decision on where we shall meet.

Do contact me (01737 221073, or [mpottage@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mpottage@hotmail.co.uk)) if you want more details.

## **Summer Lunch, 11 July 2015**

This year we are doing something slightly different and we will be holding our annual Summer Lunch at the Dog and Duck pub, Prince of Wales Road, Outwood, RH15QU. We have exclusive use of their dining room overlooking the garden and it will be a substantial buffet lunch with salads etc and desserts. Price will be £12 per person - **buy** your own drinks. The pub has had very good recent reviews

The venue isn't difficult to find but if you want to share a lift, let me know and I will try to fix you up. Please let me know by 30 June latest with your cheque if you want to come - and why not bring a friend who might be interested in joining us? I will acknowledge all mails, but shall be away on holiday in the middle of June. If you are paying direct into our bank, please let Robert and myself know.

*Janet Powell, Tel: 01737 761903 - [powellspostbox@btinternet.com](mailto:powellspostbox@btinternet.com)*

## **Visit by Brunoy – 11-13 September**

See the Brunoy Link report and Form B attached.

*Anne Miller (Joint Chair and Brunoy Link)  
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## **School Exchange**

As already mentioned by Janet in her DE link report, the annual exchanges between Priory School, Reigate and Barbaraschule, Eschweiler took place in April. Since the exchanges started 9 years ago, Twinning has supplied suppers for the German group on their arrival. This year, with Janet on holiday, Richard and I volunteered to carry on the tradition. By the time we got to the Old Pheasantry, everyone was settling in after a very long day, and the chicken suppers were very welcome!

On Thursday, late afternoon, we also attended the farewell BBQ. The children had spent the day in London, but were still wide awake! (Hartmut remarked that he had never seen the Thames so high – they had to duck as they sailed under the bridges!)

Congratulations to all the teachers from both schools on making these exchanges so successful.

*Elspeth Cawtheray*

## Other News

### Boules Competition

Sadly, the Boules Competition will not take place this year. However, it is hoped that one of the local organisations, e.g. Rotary, will be able to resurrect it next year.

### Reigate and Redhill Choral Society

The Summer Classics concert will take place on 4 July, see attached flyer. Book online: [www.rrcs.org.uk](http://www.rrcs.org.uk), or call/text 07588 730246.

### Charlemagne Award of Aachen (Karlspreis zu Aachen)

The International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen is the oldest and best known prize awarded for work done in the service of European unification. The prize is named for Charlemagne, the Franconian king revered by his contemporaries as the “Father of Europe”.

At a ceremony in Aachen last week, Dr. h.c. Martin Schulz, President of the EU, and a resident of Eschweiler, became the 57<sup>th</sup> winner of the prize as “an outstanding mentor of a united Europe who has earned important and lasting merits for his efforts towards a strengthening of parliament, parliamentarianism, and democratic legitimisation in the EU ..”.

The ceremony in Aachen was a grand affair, attended by many dignitaries including the Kings of Spain and Belgium, as well as King Abdullah II. There is also a Charlemagne Youth Prize.

The award has previously been won by Winston Churchill, Edward Heath and Roy Jenkins.

You can read more on the subject on [www.karlspreis.de](http://www.karlspreis.de)

**Sally Baker/Elspeth Cawtheray**

## Interesting/Useful websites

[www.london.diplo.de](http://www.london.diplo.de) – Germany embassy  
[www.pav-eschweiler.de](http://www.pav-eschweiler.de) – Twinning website  
[www.ville-brunoy.fr](http://www.ville-brunoy.fr) – Brunoy town  
[www.jumelage-brunoy.com](http://www.jumelage-brunoy.com) – Twinning website

## Karneval/Carnival News

### Eschweiler Karneval, 13-17 February

The highlight parades of the Karneval period took place on 15 and 16 February in Duerwiss and Eschweiler respectively. Thankfully, the weather was dry – but cold! As always, the crowds were out in force – they contribute so much to the great atmosphere of Karneval.

The Redhill Corps of Drums played at the Town Hall celebration on Saturday morning, when the Mayor hands the town over to the Karneval Prince until the end of Rosenmontag. Together with a few of the regular Karneval Twinners, they also took part in both parades and are very much applauded by the crowds.

Of course, the Twinners had a very enjoyable time too!

The Eschweiler Karneval is considered to be the third largest in Germany.

More information about the Band can be obtained by visiting [www.rcd.org.ok](http://www.rcd.org.ok).

*Janet Powell*

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The Wattlelos Carnival was cancelled this year due to a clash of dates between elections and Easter.

**This Newsletter is compiled on behalf of the Twinning Association. Articles, comments etc., please to:**

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