

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

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



Twinning News 2016/4



Important Dates for your 2016/2017 Diary

- ✚ Walk ----- 5 November
- ✚ Reigate & Redhill Choral Society----- 13 November (see previous newsletter)
- ✚ Pre-Christmas soiree ----- 2 December
- ✚ Annual Dinner----- 27 January
- ✚ Twinning Quiz----- 24 February in URC hall
- ✚ AGM ----- 10 March in URC hall
- ✚ Visit to Brunoy ----- 24 – 26 March

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

Autumn is suddenly heralding a change in the temperature but fortunately we have plenty of Twinning things to do to keep us busy.

The visit of our French friends in September went very well with all concerned happy with the visits and the Saturday Dinner. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor David Powell, gave us a superb Reception on the Friday evening and also came to the Saturday Dinner. The four French who took part in the Reigate Run survived and seemed to be happy with the outcome.

There are several events coming up, such as the Walk (p.2) and the (early) Christmas Party (p.2) so we look forward to seeing you all at some time

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

We have just said goodbye to our group of 45 Eschweiler friends who visited us to celebrate the 30 years' anniversary of our twinning. Despite a delay in the Channel Tunnel, the group managed to arrive in time to meet Twinners at a Reception kindly given by the Mayor at the Town Hall. Guests sat down to an English tea with home-made scones and a celebration cake while the Mayor presented a beautiful anniversary certificate to Manfred Esser, former Mayor and co-founder of the Eschweiler Partnerstadtsverein. The group were then taken to dinner in small groups in Twinners' homes, where they appreciated various British specialities.



The following day several of us led groups to visit London. Some guests covered the traditional sights, whilst our group visited the Docklands, cablecar and museum for something new. The Redhill Corps of Drums, who visit Eschweiler every year with the Karneval group, entertained us that evening and the Karneval songs they played were much enjoyed.

The sun shone on Sunday as we visited Hampton Court by coach - everyone really appreciated the mix of historic buildings and beautiful gardens. We then enjoyed an excellent dinner at Reigate College and presented our Eschweiler friends with an anniversary glass plaque.

I have had lots of thanks for the weekend which I want to pass on to all our Twinners who helped.. Our guests really appreciated the friendliness shown to them.

Our next visit to Eschweiler will be to Karneval on Friday 24 to Tuesday 28 February - as always everyone is welcome whether as a participant in the processions or as a spectator. You may already know that Eschweiler's Karneval is one of the largest in Germany and their major event of the year. The Redhill Corps of Drums will accompany us as usual. If you are considering coming, please give me a call so that we can start arranging transport, accommodation etc. and answer any questions you may have.

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

Recent Events:

▪ Brunoy Visit 16 -18 September

On arrival, we collected our guests and proceeded into the Town Hall, where we were all very warmly welcomed by the Mayor, Cllr David Powell, and the Mayoress, Caroline. On Saturday, most of our visitors, accompanied by hosts, went to London – on various routes, to different places of interest, etc. A few others went to nearby places of interest, e.g. Petworth House and Standen.

On Saturday evening, we met at Reigate College – for dinner – and are happy that the Mayor and Mayoress were able to attend. There was a good representation of local and French students; the food was very good; and the evening was very vibrant and enjoyable.

Obituaries

Franz-Josef Franken

We were very sad to learn of the death of Franz-Josef Franken from Eschweiler who had been a PAV Committee member, a great supporter of Twinning and specially helpful to us with Karneval preparations. Janet and Graham attended his funeral service and presented a wreath on behalf of Twinning.

Janet

Councillor Joan Spiers

The association is sad to record the death of Councillor Joan Spiers at the end of August. During the Mayoral year of her late husband, Norman Spiers, our link with Brunoy was established. Then, five years ago, we celebrated 25 years of twinning with Eschweiler. Joan gave a celebration in the Town Hall on the Sunday morning before they left for home. She gave each of our German visitors a small hamper for their journey. Most kind.

Last year, as our Mayor, Joan gave our French visitors a lovely reception for the beginning of their weekend visit. Very much a tradition from many Mayors who always become the Association's Patron. A most valued tradition.

Penelope

Honorary Alderman Eddie Waller.

Recently we heard that Eddie Waller had died just two days short of his 102nd Birthday. He and his wife Mary, also a former Mayor and Honorary Alderman, were very involved in Town Twinning in the early days. They visited both Brunoy and Eschweiler and were very supportive at all times. They were always willing to help the Association as much as Town Hall finances allowed – not much has changed there!. But often it is the verbal support that can make such a difference without spending any money. Those who, like me, remember both Mary and Eddie from then will remember them with great fondness.

Anne

Joy Prevett

We are sad to record the death of Joy Prevett who has died on the 3rd October. She had been unwell for some time.

Both she and her late husband, John, were long time members and did visit Brunoy several times, though not Eschweiler. I remember when John was Mayor and Tim and I went to Brunoy with him and Joy to celebrate the 14th July with our Brunoy twinnings. It was the weekend France won the European Football Cup. I have never seen more flowing champagne than during that evening and night! We shared that memory quite often with the Prevett's. Lovely occasion.

We send our deepest sympathy to Joy's family.

Penelope