

Reigate & Banstead Twinning Association

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



Twinning News 2017/1



Important Dates for your 2017 Diary

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| ✚ Twinning Quiz | 24 February in URC hall |
| ✚ AGM | 10 March in URC hall : The papers for the AGM will be distributed shortly |
| ✚ Visit to Brunoy | 24 – 26 March |
| ✚ Spring Walk | 6 May |

Message from our President

Greetings to all our readers.

Reflecting on 2016 I can see many pluses with our friendships within Eschweiler and Brunoy, which, happily, continue unabated. Other aspects of the past year I leave you to ponder!

Arrangements for our meetings in 2017 are already in the "twinning-pipeline". Something for everyone to look forward to during this year.

My best wishes to all our friends in our twinning family. I hope to see you soon.

Penelope (Horsfall)

Brunoy Link

Dear Friends,

Many good wishes to you all for a good New Year. We hope that 2017 will bring you all you need in the way of new experiences, travel and fellowship with like-minded people. This leads neatly on to our forthcoming trip to Brunoy in March. Our French friends have prepared a superb weekend of visits and socialising so I hope many of you will be able to come. There was a form to express your interest in the last Newsletter but as always a quick email to Monique or myself will suffice. Some of you may already have visited Monet's Garden and Museum in Giverny but I, for one, would love to see it again and I am sure it merits multiple visits. As is our custom, we shall need a non-refundable deposit of £50 per person by January 27th. As this is the date of our Dinner at the Reigate and Redhill Golf Club you can kill two birds with one stone by coming to the Dinner and bringing your cheque deposit!

Monique and I look forward to seeing you at many of our events this year.

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

Dear Friends

I hope you all had a good Christmas and, as our German friends say, a “smooth slide into the New Year”! Let’s hope for a better year ahead and as events unfold, I am sure that our Twinning friendships will be more important than ever .

Graham and I will be going to Proklamation in a couple of weeks when the Karneval Prinz of Eschweiler – Prinz Ralf this year – is “proclaimed” to lead the Karneval in February. We have known Ralf for many years and look forward to the forthcoming season. We will be joined by the ever-supportive Redhill Corps of Drums, as usual, whose young people will be playing in the Karneval parades and for a couple of the gatherings afterwards. Their input is always much appreciated by the people of Eschweiler.

There is still (just) time for you to join our group when we return to Eschweiler for the Karneval itself (24 – 27 Feb). We have a standing invitation from them each year as you know and you can either join us in the processions or just watch if you prefer. It is spectacular and the third largest in Germany so well worth it. The Redhill Corps of Drums are travelling by coach and have a few spare spaces if you don’t wish to drive. If you are interested, please do let me know immediately.

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you at the various social events planned throughout the year – and please feel free to bring any like-minded people along with you. We do need to keep up our membership numbers and I’m sure you will agree that coming with a friend is the best way to sample an event. Some people seem to think that you have to be a language expert to join but as many will testify, this is certainly not the case. Try to do a bit of PR on behalf of Twinning and get the word around!

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

Recent Events:

▪ Walk – 5 November

Whenever I see a horse in a field on its own, I feel it looks lonely and in need of company. Now I am sure of it - read on. On a cool dry November morning, we – 14 people and 3 dogs – set off on our walk. We passed Burys Court School, formerly the home of the Charringtons of Brewery fame, then through the churchyard nearby. We turned up a slight gradient, and had very good views of the North Downs, and Leith Hill in the distance, and could make out the church on Ranmore Common.

We continued on our way – then we came to the field that had been mentioned – the field with the alpacas! We climbed over the stile into the field, and the alpacas seemed both amused and pleased to see us. The goats kept a disdainful distance. Then “Dobbin” appeared, trotting down the field! He was clearly very happy to see us and got in among the group, walking along with us. We then got to the stile to leave the field, he was tugging at bag straps, bags, scarves, and even the hem of an anorak. Most of us got across OK, into the next field where a herd of cattle stood staring at us. In the meantime, Dobbin had pushed in front of Tammy – and barred her access to the stile. We townies were not sure what to do next, but thankfully David (Wylie) managed to convince him he had to stay behind! I did feel a little sad when we left him behind.

I have already mentioned the three dogs – one small, one medium and one large – a handsome Golden Retriever called Rufus. Further excitement resulted at some of the stiles we encountered, as some had been constructed so that animals could not pass underneath. Therefore, the dogs had to be helped over. This was not too much of a problem for the smaller two, but Rufus found the manhandling over the stiles somewhat undignified.

Yes, a really enjoyable walk! We then made our way to the Three Horseshoes where the chat continued. Many thanks to Sue and David Wylie for guiding us.

Elsbeth Cawtheray