

Twinning Newsletter



**Association
April 2019**

General

Your committee thought it would be useful to tell you what has happened in the first three months of the year and what our plans are for the future.

Our first event of the year was the “Winter Warmer Lunch” held at the Stade Court Hotel which was attended by 42 members and friends. This was a new venue for us, brought to our attention by their very helpful response to the needs of the Poperinge band last year.

Our second event was a BYO food and drink to a French themed evening but this received such a poor response that the main attendees would have been the Committee- and we see each other on a regular basis! So it was cancelled and the only conclusion we could come to is not to assume that a format which works with one group will work with another. We live and learn!

Our next event is the St. George’s Day dinner at the Masonic Hall and, after our experience with the previous event, I am pleased to say that support is increasing slowly but it would be nice to get to a similar number to the January event.

In March, Hilary and I attended the AGM in Berck where we obtained more detailed information about the Twinning Art Festival in June and met the new representatives from Bad Honef (who are also twinned with Berck). It was interesting to note that we have 114 members, Berck has 49 members and Bad Honef has 300 members. Following the AGM we went to Arras to visit the proposed hotel for the projected three day visit in September. It’s location was good being only 10minutes walk from the town

centre where there are many bars and restaurants and the food in the hotel restaurant was good.

On our final day we went to Poperinge to see some friends and attend a meeting with members of their Twinning organisation and the mayor for a discussion about a potential exchange between schools in both places. This latter item is ongoing which I hope we can bring to a successful conclusion.

Support for the 3 day visit in September is building slowly but we are not yet at our minimum numbers so please come forward for an event which has received a favourable response from both Berck and Poperinge.

Future Events

May 8th Ploughman's Supper with Speaker talking about "Ten Famous Belgians" – bet you can't name them!

June 14-16 Twinning Art Festival at Berck

July 20th Wine Tasting Evening with Kevin Howell at the Masonic Hall

August 21st Venetian Fete- launch of our float which will be the culmination of work started in February by dedicated members- your support please.

September 13-16th Visit to both twinned towns whilst based at Arras

I hope you find the above useful and interesting. Please visit our website where you can find additional information from time to time.

Fred Kirkby, Chairman