

# POTTERS BAR TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Twinned with Viernheim & Franconville

## NEWSLETTER - March/April 2009

Please note that membership subscriptions were due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Single membership is £6.00 per person and for families is £10.00. Please forward your cheques made payable to *Potters Bar Town Twinning Association* to the Treasurer, **Elaine Marsh, 112 Park Avenue, Potters Bar, EN6 5EL**

### Diary Dates

19 <sup>th</sup> April 2009	Sunday Lunch
30 <sup>th</sup> April – 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Badminton Match in Potters Bar
8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2009	Twinning in Franconville - 20 Adults + 5 Youths
5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Petanque Match In Potters Bar
12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Carnival Weekend - Invited 6 Franconville 6 Viernheim
17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	Barbecue Weekend in Viernheim – 5 Invited
26 <sup>th</sup> - July 2009	Summer Lunch Details to be Advised
4 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> September 2009	Innenstadtfest – 15 Invited
26 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2009	Hever Castle – Invited 6 Franconville & 6 Viernheim
16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2009	Trip to Pfalz – 10 Invited
26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> November 2009	Conference in Viernheim 10-12 Invited
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2009	Christmas Warm Up

### Sunday Lunch

#### 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009

We have organised a Sunday lunch on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at the Cock O' The North pub at Bell Bar, Hatfield meeting at 12:30pm. If you are interested please contact Elaine on 01707 659871 as soon as possible to book your place.

### Twinning Weekend Franconville

#### 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Franconville has invited 20 members and 5 youths to attend their Twinning weekend. We have hired a small minibus for the journey and at present there is one seat vacant. If anyone is interested in travelling please contact David on 0208 482 2534.

### 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009

#### Carnival Weekend

We have invited 6 members from Viernheim and Franconville to join us for the Carnival Weekend. We are still firming up our plans and anyone who would like to help us please contact David on 020 8482 2534.

### 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009

#### Barbecue Weekend in Viernheim

5 Members from Potters Bar have been invited to join the Englischer club for their annual Barbecue weekend. Anyone interested in the weekend please contact David on 0208 482 2534 so that arrangements can be made with Viernheim and for travel.

**26<sup>th</sup> July 2009.**  
**Summer Lunch**

We have a new venue for the Summer Lunch which will be at the home of Lynda Armsby, 9 Trewenna Drive, Potters Bar from 12:30 to 3:30pm. (Bring your own drinks and garden table and chairs). Please contact Elaine (01707 659871) to secure your place for this very popular event. Cost £7.00 per person.

**Innenstadtfest**  
**4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

We now have five members who have expressed interest in taking part in this weekend, but ideally would like a larger team. Please contact John and Marcia Munday (Tel: 01707 658887) a.s.a.p. if you would like to add your name.

**Members wishing to attend any event must book and pay beforehand.**

## **Reports on Recent Events**

### **Garden Party - 10 July 2008**

On a very blustery damp day, about thirty friends of the Potters Bar Town Twinning met as usual at Chris and Theresa Dawes for the annual garden party to enjoy renewed friendships, good food and noisy chatter.

For the first time, an outside caterer Mark, provided the main course which, considering the weather, was very welcome – succulent meat pie, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas in a delicious gravy. Theresa and Chris served this at the table. However, the desserts were made and served up by Kate and Renee, and as usual, just as delicious.

After a hilarious raffle, where the same people held all the winning tickets, presentations were made to Mary Pierce and Iris Ford who both reach the age of eighty years within the next week. “Happy birthday to you” was sung for both ladies much to their surprise!

Thanks go to Elaine and David for organising the event, Theresa and Chris Dawes for their hospitality and to Kate and Renee for providing the desserts – enough for second and in some cases third helpings!

June Procter

### **Club Lunch at One O Two - 8th February 2009**

11 members met at the One O Two restaurant in Potters Bar for Sunday Lunch. We ate well, and drank well with congenial conversation and company.

### **Annual General Meeting 16th March 2009**

The meeting was attended by approx 40 members of the association and it was held at the Lower Floor, The Wyllyotts Centre. Potters Bar at 8.00 pm. The Mayor of Hertsmere Cllr. Sandra Parnell chaired the meeting. It was a very good meeting and please find listed the Officers and Committee members elected at the meeting:-

Chairman	David Collins
Vice Chairman/Treasurer	Elaine Marsh
Secretary	Lynda Armsby
Deputy Social	Kate Ringham
Press/Publicity	Honey Lockwood
Accommodation Officer	Iris Ford
Committee Members	Keith Dyall, Renee & John Gallop, Chris Morgan-Gray & Cllr. Martin Heywood (Hertsmere Borough Council's representative)

The committee gave thanks to all who attended the meeting which ended with a social gathering.

Below is my report for 2008 which should have been given at the meeting.

*POTTERS BAR TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION*  
**CHAIRMANS SPEECH - YEAR ENDING 31.12.2008**  
 Given verbally at the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009

I would like to give a warm welcome to Cllr. Sandra Parnell Mayor of Borough Hertsmere, and also to thank you all for being here tonight.

It is two years ago when I made my maiden speech as Chairman of the association. Another year has gone by and I would like to report on the activities of the association over that year.

I would like to start by thanking all my committee for all their help, hard work and support over the last year and look forward to their continued support for this coming year. I would now like to give a brief resume of our activities during 2008.

Unfortunately in the early part of the year we had to cancel The Themed Party and the European Picnic due to the lack interest and support from our members.

Due to unforeseen circumstances we had to re-arrange at short notice the venue for the Sunday lunch on the 6<sup>th</sup> April to the Builders Arms. 13 members attended and we all enjoyed an excellent meal in good company.

On the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April 9 members travelled by Eurostar and Car to Franconville for their spring weekend. As usual we were very warmly welcomed by our friends and hosts and were treated to a boat trip along the Canal – Saint – Martin with an excellent lunch followed by a guided tour of the Opera House.

30<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Elaine and I travelled by car to Viernheim and we visited the town of Wurzburg, where we had a guided tour through the town in an old tram.

The weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June was our Twinning weekend where we hosted 15 members from both Viernheim and Franconville. On the Saturday we visited the Tower of London and in the evening we held a Dinner Dance at the Northaw Village Hall. On Sunday we held the Twinning Ceremony and celebrations in St. Mary's Church where the flags of the three countries were presented, plus the European Flag. The representatives of each town delivered speeches on their commitment towards Town Twinning

Unfortunately in July the proposed visit to the open air concert in Hatfield House was cancelled again due to lack of support.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> August we held the very popular Summer Lunch at the home of Theresa and Chris Dawes. I would like to thank Theresa and Chris for all their help in making this event a great success each year that they have been kind enough to let us use their garden.

In September 7 members of the Association travelled by different methods of transport to Viernheim for their Annual Innenstadtfest to man the Potters Bar stand which was organized once again by Marcia and John Munday. Your support would be gratefully received for this year.

At the end of September we had originally invited guest from Viernheim and Franconville for a day in Cambridge. This was then changed to a visit to Churchill's War Rooms. But due to problems with Eurostar the weekend was cancelled by Franconville.

Weekend 3-5<sup>th</sup> October 4 members travelled to Franconville for a visit to the towns of Cergy and Pontoise.

10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> October Hal & Sheila Armitz travelled to Viernheim to sample the new wine in the Pfalz.

October also brought Gilbert & Sullivan to Potters Bar with a very interesting appreciation talk and some sample recordings given by Chris Morgan-Gray at the Lower Floor. Wyllyotts Centre.

November 2008 the annual conference was held in Franconville. 2 members of the committee together with 2 teachers from Wroxham School attended plus a teacher from Cuffley School who also represented Potters Bar Scouts. They met with representatives from our twin towns to discuss the programs for 2009.

December 14<sup>th</sup> we held our annual Christmas Warm Up where 30 members enjoyed one another's company, had a light lunch and exchanged greetings.

I would like to inform you that more detailed reports of the events I have told you about have been printed in our newsletters over the year and for those with internet access can find them on our website together with any pictures taken.

May I remind you that this year the Twinning is being held in Franconville and to date there has been very little interest shown. We have to notify Franconville of the numbers and names of those who will be attending. Also it is very difficult to make travel arrangements without definite names. We have now ruled out the hire of a coach as the cost per head with so few travelling would be exorbitant, also we have missed the opportunity for any cheap deals for travel by Eurostar. If you are interested please come forward at the end of this meeting so we can have some ideas of who will travel. I would also remind you that memberships are now due £6.00 single and £10.00 family. Please see the Treasurer after the meeting tonight if you wish to pay your subs.

I now have the sad duty to report on the deaths of the following members of our Association:-

Eileen Hernshaw

Norman Johnson

Crystal Hall

Myra Robinson

They will all be missed by members of the association and also their close friends within the association.

To sum up may I thank you all coming here this evening.

David Collins

Chairman

## **PETANQUE CLUB'S MAGIC EVENING.**

The Petanque Club held a Magic Evening on the 19th March 2009 in Little Heath Village Hall. It was a joint venture with the Petanque Club and the Magic Circle to which Michael Penn is a member. Three people from the Town Twinning Committee ventured along for the evening. It was well supported by people from the Magic Circle. It was an entertaining evening and light refreshments were served.

## **Obituary for Myra Robinson**

It was a great shock to those who knew Myra to hear of her death on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009. She was a great friend of mine and I will miss her a lot.

Myra was a very determined lady, she had her own views and nobody would change them, she made her presence felt and seen.

She belonged to many organizations in the Town, not least the Town Twinning Association, which is where I first came to know her. She held various posts on the committee and was always ready to help in any way she could.

Myra was also a keen member of the Potters Bar in Focus Group and again got involved in their many interests. U.3.A was another of her interests. Over the years Myra had a myriad of jobs from the health service to schools and was a member of the meals on wheels team (how she did in the rain and snow I'll never know!). She did come to me for lunch sometimes when she finished.

Myra also worked at Donaldson Lodge, sleeping in two nights a week to give security to the residents. She really was a caring person.

I became very fond of Myra. We went on holiday many times. No ordinary places for Myra, Iceland, Norway and Croatia to name a few. We went many times to Scotland and latterly to France.

She was a person I could laugh with and at. We really did have some good times. She liked the good things in life, the theatre and good restaurants. She certainly was a good friend, she enriched my life. I will miss her a lot.

**Ann Daniell**

**Don't forget to visit our web site for up-to-date news and photographs of latest trips [www.twinninginpottersbar.co.uk](http://www.twinninginpottersbar.co.uk)**

***If any member has any articles relating to Town Twinning please send them to Elaine or David ([david@davidcollins.co.uk](mailto:david@davidcollins.co.uk)) so that they can be included either on our web site or in future newsletters.***

**Also if you can receive our Newsletters by e-mail please send your e-mail address to ([david@davidcollins.co.uk](mailto:david@davidcollins.co.uk))**

**All reports from members are entered on our newsletters as reported in their own words.**

*E.O&E*