

# POTTERS BAR TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Twinned with Viernheim & Franconville

## NEWSLETTER - May 2009

Please note that membership subscriptions were due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Single membership is £6.00 and for a family £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

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
28 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	Operation: X Marks-The-Spot
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
25 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2009	Churchill's War Rooms – 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

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

#### Carnival Weekend

8 members from Franconville are joining us for this weekend. On the Sunday morning we will take them to the Dutch Nursery for an early lunch and then on to watch the Carnival at approx 1.00p.m. Anyone wishing to meet up with us at the Carnival before our guests return home will be welcome. For more details of where to meet please contact David on 020 8482 2534.

### 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009

#### OPERATION: X-marks-the-spot

1<sup>st</sup> Cuffley Scouts are holding a car based Treasure Hunt and will donate part of the profits to the funds of Potters Bar Town Twinning Association. We would like to see this event well supported by members of our Association. The leaflet and application forms are attached for you to enter. Any other queries contact David 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 we can make arrangements 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, garden table and chairs). Please contact Elaine (01707 659871) to secure your place as this is a popular event. Cost £7.00 per person.

**Innenstadtfest-Viernheim  
4th -7th September 2009**

We now have five members who have expressed an interest in taking part 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.

**25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Churchill's War Rooms**

We have invited 6 members from Viernheim and Franconville to join us for a visit to Churchill's War Rooms. We are still firming up our plans and anyone who would like to join us together with our friends from Viernheim & Franconville please contact David on 020 8482 2534.

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

**Reports on Recent Events**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
German Evening**

4 Members of the PBTТА attended the Borehamwood & Elstree Town Twinning Association German Evening. We were surprised by how many friends and families supported the evening, the hall was full to capacity. We were able to sample German wines and foods. We would like to congratulate the BETТА for putting on a very successful event.

David Collins

**Twinning Weekend  
8<sup>th</sup> Mar-11<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> May ten of us set off for the Twinning weekend in Franconville, eight by minibus and two by Eurostar. On the way the minibus stopped and we had a leisurely lunch arriving in Franconville for a welcome cocktail party in the Town Hall at 6.00 pm. We enjoyed champagne and canapés and greeted our friends from Viernheim. We were introduced to our host families who then took us to their homes. Later in the evening I was taken out to eat at a local restaurant.

On Saturday morning we met at the Town Hall then three full coaches went into Paris for a visit to The French National Assembly. Before going into the Parliament, my hosts and I visited the



Place de la Concorde, the Tuileries Gardens which stretch along the River Seine. The French National Assembly as started on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1789 by King Louis XVI representatives on Tiers-Etat inspired by the ideas of the Enlightenment and decided to call them The National Assembly. In a room called "Salle du Jeu de Paume" in Versailles they swore to stay together until they gave a constitution to the kingdom, the philosophy of a Democratic Assembly which permanently represents the people and decides for them was born. The Palais Bourbon is a very beautiful building consisting of 1) The Hall of the Four Columns, 2) The Salon Delacroix, 3) The Main Courtyard, 4)The Salon Pujol, 5)The Gallery Ceremonies, 6) The library and 7) The Hemicycle built between 1829 and 1832 by Jules de Joly. The Actual Hemicycle replaces the first one designed for The Council of the Five Hundred. The President's Chair was decorated by Lemor and Michallon. At the beginning of the tour Claude Bodin a Member of Parliament presented commemorative medals to Franconville, Potters Bar and Viernheim as mementos of our visit. After a most enjoyable visit we returned back to Franconville for a buffet lunch.

After lunch we went off with our hosts to get ready for a dinner dance on the River Seine



on board the Onyx which cruised up and down the Seine. It was a lovely evening and we saw the Eiffel Tower lit up and it sparkled and glittered on the hour with coloured laser beams. It was interesting to see all the famous sights at night. We danced the night away and were sorry when it was time to leave the boat to go back to the coach.

Sunday morning at 10 o'clock we went to Mass at St Madelaine Church where the church was full and the choir and music

were excellent. The 1<sup>st</sup> lesson was read by Kate Ringham and the 2<sup>nd</sup> lesson was read by Rudolf Haas from the Council in Viernheim. After the service we went to the Town Hall to see the raising of the flags and the National Anthems were performed by the Harmonie Big Band of Franconville. This was followed by the Twinning Ceremony where speeches were delivered by the Mayor of Franconville, The Mayor of Viernheim, and in the absence of the Mayor of Hertsmere or their representative the Mayors speech was delivered by David Collins. A short cocktail party followed and lunch was served. Following lunch we went back to our host's home for the evening. Kate and her hosts came for the evening and we had a barbeque.

Monday morning we left Franconville at 10.00 am to return to Potters Bar. I can say that I had a fantastic weekend meeting old friends and making new ones. They were so welcoming and made me feel at home. Until you actually go on a Twinning Weekend you do not know what you are missing and also the reason for Town Twinning.

I discovered that a scout master and scouts from Cuffley had also made their way to Franconville for the Twinning. This is a new connection the committee have made to try and encourage people and their families into Twinning. Congratulations to Franconville Council for organising a grand Twinning Weekend.

Marilyn Grosse.

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

# Potters Bar Town Twinning Association

## **HOT NEWS**

### **August 2009**

We are trying to arrange a boat trip in August on the Lea Valley Canal; this will include either Lunch or Tea on the boat. Anyone interested in the weekend please contact Elaine 01707 659871.

### **Weekend 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October**

Franconville have invited up to 10 members from Potters Bar to join them for this weekend. They will be visiting the medieval town of Provins in the Seine-et-Marne region. Anyone interested in the weekend please contact David 020 8482 2534.