



WHITSTABLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION *Newsletter* Issue 77 ~ JUNE 2011

Partnership Towns: ALBERTSLUND (Denmark), BORKEN (Germany), DAINVILLE (France), GRABOW (Germany), MÖLNDAL (Sweden), ŘÍČANY (Czech Rep)
Link Towns: Sisimiut (Greenland), Bolków (Poland), L'Viv (Ukraine) East Renfrewshire (Scotland)

WTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011 Held 24th March

Partner towns work through the recession

The annual general meeting returned to Whitstable Castle in March but was poorly attended, in part because some members had commitments looking after German students visiting the town.

Chairman Roger Annable reported that the most demanding event WTA had hosted in 2010/11 had undoubtedly been the International Network Conference. It had taken a huge effort but was rewarded with a successful gathering and important discussions on a variety of topics. He said: *"It indicated a real pride in participating in this unique European group of towns and a desire to work together, even through difficult recession times. Towns thought their Peoples' Associations would enable activities to continue. WTA announced that it would prefer to annually invite one large group rather than a few from each town, thereby developing each link in turn"*.

Roger outlined the many events organised by WTA over the year and those abroad that had been attended by members (*all of these have been reported in the Newsletter*). He particularly mentioned that Bernd Kemper had been awarded WTA Honorary Life Membership for his outstanding work in developing the close link with Borken.

He said that the schools exchange visits had continued despite "unhelpful" red tape and new regulations.

Fund raising had proved "variable". The Christmas Market at its new venue (the Castle) had looked suitably "Christmassy" and lots of toys, paintings and glühwein had been sold. However, the Christmas Fair the following weekend was poorly attended. The Coffee Morning and Sale of Goods at St. Alphege and the Charity Car Parking were the only other events to "significantly" add to funds.



The agm concluded with a performance by a section of the Whitstable Recorder Ensemble and some memories add by their members of the visit they made to Borken.

Continued on page 2

Masthead photo: Bowls in the Castle gardens. Whitstable Bowling Club was formed in 1936 and continues to have a large membership of active players, with matches being held every week throughout the summer. Of local interest is the fact that in the 12th century William Fitzstephen, in his biography of Thomas Becket, described a game called jactu lapidum, which was the casting of round stones; perhaps the earliest form of bowls.



*Independent and Self Funding
Fostering International Friendship*

Contacts

Chairman: Roger Annable.

E-mail: rlm@annable.vianw.co.uk

Secretary: Gillian Godley

JOGI102@aol.com (T: 01227 793212)

Treasurer: Carol Tadman

caroltadman@hotmail.com

(T:01227 791912)

Membership secretary: Richard Hubbard

richardhubb@gmail.com

(T: 01227 275036)

Social & Fund Raising Secretary:

Dave Parris dave.sylv@tesco.net

T: 01227 261928)

PARTNERSHIP TOWNS

CO-ORDINATORS

Albertslund David Carter

davidcarter401@hotmail.com

(T: 01227 272903 or 771022)

Borken and Grabow: Sylvia Carter

Contact: as David Carter

Borken Membership Secretary:

John Horstkamp

551102518645-0001@t-online.de

Dainville: Ann Moulton

admoulton8@googlemail.com

T: 01227 773182

Möln dal: Gill and Norman Fox

Co-ordinators (as below)

Řičany Gillian Godley (as above)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Co-ordinator Graham Nicholson

granich@globalnet.co.uk

(T: 01795 420809)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Norman Fox nafox@tinyworld.co.uk

(T:01227 265301) 16 Marine Parade

PRODUCTION : Gill Fox, (as above)

INTERNATIONAL TWINNING

PARTNERSHIP NETWORK:

[www.vuxenutbildning.molndal.se/
twinning/](http://www.vuxenutbildning.molndal.se/twinning/)

Cont. from page 1 The Chairman thanked Andrew Hook, a CCW student, for helping set up the new website.

Corporate membership of the new Castle Trust had been taken up but the meeting room rates had become "unaffordable".

He said Ann Moulton was now leader of the French section because Peter and Janet Young had moved away. Tony Head had stood down from the committee. Sally Dixon had been co-opted. Liz Hubbard, long time WTA Chaplain, had also decided to stand down after "quietly working away in the background in a caring capacity".

He thanked all members of the committee and co-ordinators, especially Secretary Gillian Godley.

Gillian Godley, Secretary, reported that Canterbury City Council was no longer sponsoring the printing of the Newsletter which meant that WTA had incurred an additional cost of approximately £200 a year. However, by sending the Newsletter by email, costs were being reduced.

She continued by appealing for more volunteers to help with the fund-raising car parking at Whitstable Junior School and outlined other plans for the coming year (see the back page of the Newsletter or click on Events on the website).

Albertslund Twinning Association will be visiting during the Oyster Festival (July 21-24), with Rene Nielsen bringing his jazz band to take part.

Gillian said there was a drive from all the twin towns to encourage young families to get involved with exchange visits because they resulted in lifetime friendships "that we all know and cherish".

Treasurer's Report: Income for the year ended December 31, 2010 amounted to £5630.86 while outgoings were £7876.68.

The Committee stood down and Roger Annable, David Carter, Gillian Godley, Richard Hubbard, Dave Parris, Carol Tadman and Graham Nicholson were re-elected unopposed. Sally Dixon was formally elected to the committee.

Continued from page 3

Reinhard and Karin Elsing paid the following tribute:-
"In Germany they say 'Some people enter our life and go along with us for a while. But some stay forever because they left traces in our heart'. Peter will stay forever.

The colours of life faded to grey when we had to realise that we would not see his smile again. His open heart will always stay in our minds and we will never forget the smile in his eyes whenever we met. Together with Janet, he made us love England and the Twinning idea. We know he truly made a difference for many people".

Their daughter, **Laura**, said: "I think we all knew Peter as a very lovely person and I am happy that I came to know him as that kind of person a few years ago. I can remember a lot of funny situations with Peter and I'm sad that there will not be more of them. I was looking forward to seeing him and, of course, Janet again. Both of them became part of our family and they were like grandparents for me."



Obituary Peter Edward Young

– died May 13, 2011 age 69

Whitstable Twinning Association will be much the poorer for the loss of a lovely, charming, cheerful, well-respected member and friend.

Roger Annable (Chairman) writes: Together with Janet, Peter played an important part in the development of the Association, strengthening the Dainville link during his years as Chairman of the Dainville group and becoming well liked by members of the whole Association.

I know he felt very much at home in Dainville and he was proud to represent Whitstable and Great Britain there on many occasions. He was an excellent ambassador and richly deserved La Medaille de la Ville de Dainville in recognition of his work and service for the twinning with Dainville, also Honorary Life Membership of Whitstable Twinning Association. Everyone liked Peter

and he struck up friendships easily, having a good command of the French language (and a little German) with many people in Dainville, Borken and throughout the International Network. There was even a special relationship with the Mayor, Bernard Quandalle, and, of course, Françoise Rossignol. He made deep friendships with Xavier and Dominique (who came to the Service in Christchurch representing the Mayor and Town of Dainville) and Reinhard and Karin Elsing from Borken. He always enjoyed having fun at Twinning events.

Whitstable Twinning Association will not be able to replace Peter. He played a unique part in its history by seeing through smoothly the potentially difficult incorporation of the Whitstable/ Dainville link into the whole Association. Importantly, he agreed with the general philosophy of developing International Friendship and what People in Partnership is all about. He listened to critics but would always stand up to them in a nice way and offer an alternative viewpoint.

I always appreciated Peter's friendship, initially through WTA but also in the Castle Centre Association where, as Castle Co-ordinator, I worked closely with Peter who was Treasurer. He made a really significant contribution to the Community and the Town of Whitstable for which we are very thankful.

At the woodland funeral service for Peter, many friends and former colleagues paid their tributes.

Ann Moulton spoke for WTA, and more specifically about Peter's devotion to the link with Dainville. She said: "Peter, Janet and I first met through Twinning where he soon became Chairman of the Dainville group. He had all the right qualities for this role; a love of everything French, the ability to speak the language; his own charm, diplomacy and *joie de vivre*. Luckily, he also had Janet, and together they maintained and extended the links between Whitstable and Dainville.

Peter somehow managed to make everything seem easy and fun. His own optimistic and light-hearted approach to life persuaded us all to cook, travel, host and fund-raise far more than we had planned, only to find that we were enjoying it too.

Every member of the Twinning club is diminished by Peter's untimely death. We will miss him but we were so pleased that we knew him. He was delighted that his role in life was to be Peter Young, and we were too".

Xavier, Dominique, Jerome and Lydia, with whom Peter and Janet regularly stayed in Dainville over a period of fifteen years, said:-

De la part de Janet, sa famille et ses amis, nous sommes heureux et reconnaissants de vous recevoir aujourd'hui. Il ne suffit pas de dire que vous êtes amis, vous êtes sa deuxième famille, sa famille française, et il en était fier.

Continued on previous page



Car park fund raising is great ~ £234.23 and never a cross word



Norman Fox writes: I was walking into town for my first experience of WTA fund raising car-park duty at the Junior School. At the Gorrell Tank car park a couple of drivers were squaring up to each other, each believing he had been first to probably Whitstable's last remaining parking space on a gloriously sunny May Bank Holiday Monday.

My immediate thought was that the afternoon could prove to be thoroughly unpleasant, dealing with aggressive, frustrated drivers desperate to experience Islington-on-Sea but suffering worse traffic problems than Friday night on the M25. Wrong. Gillian had said this was the easiest and most pleasant way to raise money. Believe me, she was right. The most aggressive comment I heard all afternoon was from the guy who told his wife that a pound in the box was "pretty mean".

The biggest challenge is to stop people parking in stupid places. It ought to be commonsense but "Hawkeye" Dave Parris quickly put a stop to double parking or the blocking of exits.

I acted as traffic officer at the entrance, indicating when the park was full and trying to stop people coming in when there were already cars coming out. The thought occurred that if anyone had a "shunt" they might blame me and take WTA for every penny Carol Tadman has in the account. But car parking days at the Junior School are just not like that. Everyone seems so happy to find a space and so appreciative when you answer their questions about the town.

My only worrying moment was when a lady asked me to look after her dog while she went to the Co-op. Now I've heard of con-tricks like this before. You end up by inheriting some unwanted mut. In the event the owner returned.....and the dog looked quite disappointed! Obviously, like me, he was won over by all the smiling faces.

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Gill and Norman Fox invite members of WTA To
Lunch ~ three courses with a Swedish theme

On Sunday 21st August

At

16 Marine Parade,

1pm for 1.30pm

Tickets £12. Please bring your choice of drink.

Glasses and water provided.

Please reply as below by August 1st.



RSVP: Lunch ~ with a Swedish theme

Please clip this form and return to 16 Marine Parade, Whitstable, CT5 2BG.

by August 1st.

Please reserve.....tickets @ £12.

I enclose cheque made out to WTA in the sum of.....

Name:.....

Or: Tel. 01227 265301 or email gillfox@tinyworld.co.uk



*With a garden and a library,
you will be in want of nothing. CICERO*

Dear Committee, Dear Members of WTA,



Two months since the Retirement Ceremonies of myself and Christof Schmiechen, former headteacher of the Remigius-Hauptschule, and after the clearing-up of my study and music room upstairs, Magdalene and I have now started with activities off from work: visiting our children with their families longer than just a weekend; flying to Malta outside the school holidays; driving to Munich to see my mother's cousins (97+94 years old) to get further information for a family tree; sitting on our patio enjoying the bright weather and reading a book, and so on and so on. We must admit we really love doing things off from work.

But I don't want to forget to thank you all for your permanent support over the years when coming to Whitstable with different groups: students, music groups, sports groups and, of course, privately. You always helped to make my visits successful and unforgettable.



Christof and I appreciate very much your presents – the paintings from John Cann who I personally have got to know – a good remembrance of all our meetings and activities. And we felt honoured very much by Roger and Linda – unfortunately Graham was in hospital at that time – taking part in the meeting of the Partnership Association the night before and the ceremony the following day, passing over your presents to “Captain” Christof and me, his “Helmsman” and pedagogical co-ordinator. Roger looked back to the roots and the start of our partner- and friendship and found touching words of thanks that I will never forget.

Thanks Roger! *For me “Going to Whitstable” is a bit like “Coming home”.*

Many thanks to all of you.

Best wishes and love from your friend *Siegbert*

and also news of another retirement ~ that of William Pettit



William, who worked for Canterbury City Council for twenty eight years, was the Officer responsible for the International Section of CCC. His role was combined with Printing and Publishing and as such he was able to help Whitstable Twinning Association over many years, particularly regarding the printing of our Newsletter.

In the early years CCC had little in the way of International connections or policy outside the Civic link with Rheims. However, William worked with Colin Carmichael and Members to develop a series of links which would significantly benefit the administration and officers of the Council. Amongst these was a Canterbury City link with Möln dal, Sweden, one of Whitstable's Partner Towns.

Gill and Norman Fox represented WTA at a reception at Tower House in honour of William and thanked him for all his efforts and particularly for his support of Whitstable Twinning Association.

We wish him happiness in his retirement. **Roger Annable**

William Pettit with Bengt Odlöw at a reception in Möln dal for all the twinned towns, in September 2006.

Möln dal students appreciate their visit



In May a group of students from Möln dal visited Whitstable. Once again Graham Nicholson, of the Community College, did a fine job of organising everything and it was clearly appreciated. This was an email later sent from one of the students:

“My class has been to Whitstable for four days in the beginning of May.

The first day we spent in London visiting Madame Tussauds and The London Eye. The second day we went to the museum in Whitstable. We also went to the lifeboat station. It was interesting. One evening we played beetle. It was fun to play beetle. WTA organised the beetle night.



On Wednesday we visited the Community College of Whitstable. We climbed on the climbing walls. It was fun and a bit difficult. We talked to students about Möln dal and Whitstable.

Our last day we went to Canterbury and visited the Lord Mayor and his wife. It was interesting to listen to him. Afterwards we did a lot of shopping.

We had a really good time in England. A big thank you to all our hosts and to Mr Nicholson who organised everything so well for us.

Elin Skoglund (Class 6 Brattås school in Möln dal)

TANKERTON YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB FUN DAY **SUNDAY 26TH JUNE 2011**



Young footballers from Dainville will be coming to Tankerton Football Club's Fun Day at Seaview Holiday Park, St. John's Road, Swalecliffe.

The teams, aged ten and eleven, and their parents will be making their first visit following Tankerton F.C.'s trip to Dainville earlier in the month. The new Mayor and Mayoress of Canterbury will be attending what Tankerton FC officials hope will strengthen the link with Dainville and WTA.



Please come along to cheer them on and join us under the twinning banner.

Seeing the real France from the inside

Members weekend in Dainville 13-15 May 2011

Standing in the library after we arrived in Dainville for this year's visit, I became aware of how different the experience was going to be for the various members of the group. I've known 'my family' for fifteen years, and some members have been visiting for much longer. Some have changed families as circumstances have changed, and this time, for one apprehensive lady, this was a first visit. However, the apprehension did not last long.

On the day after arrival we strolled round Dainville, old and new. Outside the Mairie we bumped into Bernard Quandalle, champagne glass in hand, and we were invited into the 50th wedding anniversary he was attending in the Salle des Fêtes. We were treated as locals, just because we were there.

Our visit to the centre of Lille was fun, with the lasting impression of cannonballs embedded in the walls of beautiful old buildings and huge banners supporting the local football team (it was their cup final day) and draped on the town hall and other important buildings. Happily, that evening Lille won the cup.

The other outing of the weekend was to the Wellington Quarry in Arras. This is a well-presented and deeply moving tour of life underneath Arras in the First World War when the Battle of Arras was a demonstration of just how awful war can be. Two thousand soldiers died each day of the two month struggle.



Planted April 2010doing well, May 2011

Our Sunday lunch, which rounded off the weekend, was a barbeque at Ferme St. Jean, Dainville's community centre which is used by many clubs and associations. The beekeepers use part of the large garden and Kentish hops, planted the previous year during the Portefaix, were flourishing in the vegetable plot.

The mixture of old and new had worked its magic again and we set off home with fresh memories, knowing how lucky we are to see the real France in this little town.

Ann Moulton

The flavour of France in Whitstable

This year's Dainville Group annual Bistro again returned to the Parish Social Centre and proved to be another enjoyable, convivial occasion with a fine French-themed meal, provided by the members, that was much appreciated by everyone, not least the new members who were attending their first social occasion.

Sadly, this was also the last time that many of us had the opportunity to chat with Peter Young, who died in May. Peter and Janet always treated these occasions rather like the gatherings of an extended family and they made a big effort to attend even after moving away.

NF



Successful first visit to Dainville running event for Harriers

Five runners from Canterbury Harriers ventured across to Dainville in April to take part in the 24th edition of the Foulées Dainilloises which is an important community running event in the local calendar and comprises a multitude of different running races and walks for distances from 100 metres to 21 kilometres and for all ages from five years to veterans born before 1941. The Harriers fell somewhere within that broad range, but exactly where is a state secret! All in all, 862 *courers* (runners) took part. This was our first trip to Dainville as part of the Whitstable Twinning Association, so we all opted to do the 10km event.

After a stop at Wimereaux for lunch on the Saturday before the race, we were quickly on the A26 and, consulting Ann Moulton's detailed maps of how to circumnavigate Arras to get to Dainville, we found the Office de Mairie without any problem. We were greeted by the Mayor of Dainville, Françoise Rossignol, and shown around the town hall.

Françoise introduced us to the families who were hosting us and after quickly dropping off our bags we were off for a visit to Arras. We managed to get into the Hotel de Ville before it closed and saw the giant-sized husband, wife and son – the latter resplendent with his giant lollipop. We had a pleasant drink while the sun slowly disappeared over the *Grand Place*. Françoise then showed us around the centre of town before we headed back to Dainville, dropping the Harriers off at their host families as we went. It transpired that all of the hosts, except Françoise, were teachers, although Françoise used to be a teacher!

The host family Tony and myself stayed with, Phillipe and Caroline and their three boys, laid on a sumptuous evening meal. An education for us was that people in the north of France have a taste for whiskey, and beer in these parts is as important as wine. It was a fantastic evening with great hospitality.

We all met up at the Leisure Centre on Sunday morning just as the 21km race was starting. We all enjoyed the 10km event which was over a two lap course around the edge of town and off road onto some trails. There was great support from the people of the town who were out in force despite it being rather overcast and cool – ideal conditions for the runners though. Our finishing positions and times are shown here. There were 261 finishers in the 10km event.

Tony McParland	38:14	11 th
Phil Wyard	41:09	30 th
Colin Kent	42:51	44 th
Marco Keir	47:56	106 th
Bob Pullen	50:06	142 nd

After the race, we all got up on the stage to receive a trophy from Françoise for our participation and this takes pride of place in the Harriers trophy cabinet at King's School Recreation Centre. After the presentations, we adjourned to a nearby building which was hosting a drinks and sumptuous buffet reception for all of the people who had helped organise the event and we were made most welcome. It really gave us the opportunity to practice our varying abilities of French, with one of our more advanced French speakers learning about the local Ch'it Picardy dialect and even capturing some of this on a mobile phone voice recorder!

The Harriers chairman, Marco Keir, made a short speech in French to those present at the reception to thank everyone for their kind hospitality and inviting them to take part in the Mount Ephraim 10k on Sunday 10 July.



Panic over...just in time for tea

A tea party is something I enjoy. So to be able to host another one in May to help raise funds for the association was an easy decision. But when I set the date I had not reckoned on having roof works done, scaffolding everywhere and guests staying from Grabow.

Having Ingrid and Peter staying in itself was not a problem. The fact that on the day before their arrival they would not have been able to get into the bedroom was. But after much panicking, we were able to put everything back in the attic so that they had a bed to sleep in. Quote from Bernd Kemper “we are not here for fun”!

There seems to be a trend that when I set the date for the tea party there are German guests staying in the town and they are able to come along and join in.

Given the run of excellent weather we had since March, you could expect your luck to run out at some point. On May 22 the rain and the wind came (thank goodness we have the marquee). But at 3 o'clock the sun shone...just in time. Thirty guests arrived for a traditional afternoon tea, consisting of sandwiches, scones, jam and cream, homemade cakes and tea. A tea quiz was held and Tom and Dave sold raffle tickets for tea related items including a bag of Tetley tea and Tetley tea towel donated by Tetley. An auction of two Channel crossings donated by Norfolk Line and Eurotunnel also helped to swell the funds. In all we raised just over £200.



I would like to thank all who helped on the day, especially Ingrid and Peter who, bless them, cleaned the chairs and tables and put them up; my Auntie Barbara, who helped, and Dave for the helping with the marquee. Also thanks to the cake makers and special thanks must go to John for making sure everything was ready for the whole weekend of events.

Gillian Godley

Cont. from page 8 We also had the chance to meet and thank Daniel Capel, the President of the Foulées Dainvilloises organising Committee.

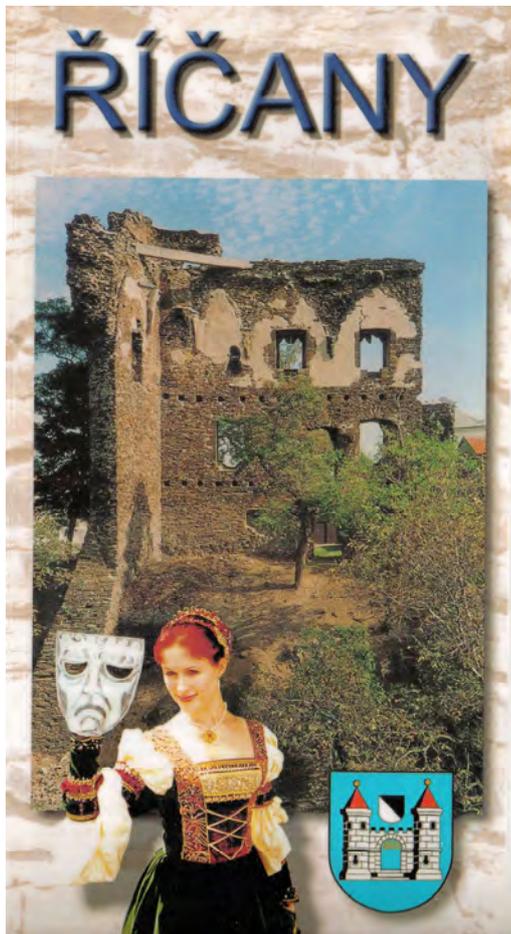
We thanked all our hosts, Philippe, Caroline and family, Alain and Monique, Bruno and Sylvie, and of course Françoise, for all of their kind hospitality and for giving us such a great introduction to Dainville and Arras.

I also want to make special mention and give thanks to Virginie at the Mayor's office for dealing so efficiently with all my frequent enquiries and mangled French! Thanks to her efforts, all the arrangements went off like clockwork and we had a brilliant weekend. And many thanks to Ann Moulton for the maps and advice.

All of the Harriers were of the opinion that this weekend was the start of a long and fruitful relationship between runners in Dainville/Arras and Whitstable/Canterbury. As well as the Mount Ephraim 10k, we are already hatching plans to all take part in an event near Calais in September.

Bob Pullen

P.S. From Ann Moulton: It is confirmed that Dainville runners will make the return visit to enter the Mount Ephraim 10Kms on Sunday 10th July at 11am. Please come to cheer them all on. We will be taking our twinning banner, and hope this is the first of many visits.



Hopes for a revival of the Říčany link

Roger and I are very much looking forward to visiting Říčany this month in the hope that we may be able to start to develop meaningful relations with the people in the town.

When we first made the partnership agreement eleven years ago, there was much excitement but with a change of Mayor it came to an abrupt end, with only a little input here and there. Not only were they twinned with us but also with Albertslund and Möln-dal.

In November last year there were elections and a change of political party in control, led by the new Mayor, Mr. Vladimír Koren, of the Quiet Town party. On learning this, I asked if it might be possible for Roger and I to go and meet with him and see if it would be possible to re-ignite the relationship. We had a positive response and booked our tickets.

The link first started with a visit by then secretary Arthur Pearce and his wife Ethne who took themselves off to Říčany back in 1999 and we made the signing in Whitstable in 2000. Sadly Arthur died before WTA members made a return visit in 2001, although Ethne did come with us.

Since then we have had limited dialogue with Říčany but I have maintained a contact at the town hall and when able, the town has taken part in teachers' conferences. Adriana Mrazova, a former Mayor, and a colleague, Jiri Skoodopol, attended the 25th

Anniversary dinner in Whitstable in 2008.

Having spoken to Ethne recently, I know that she is hoping that something positive will come out of our forthcoming visit.

I look forward to telling you about the trip and hope that in the near future we can take a group of members to Říčany.

Gillian Godley, Říčany Co-ordinator.

Continued from page 11 We then visited the Nature Centre at Herstedhøje which is used both by schools and adult groups to increase awareness of the natural environment. Given that Denmark is not a very hilly country, it was interesting to climb the 100 metre or so hill behind the centre which is entirely man-made.

My next stop was Aase's house where she and her husband Ivan were waiting to take me to Bent and Gerda Christensen's house. After a glass of wine – home brewed by his neighbour – I was treated to a visit to Bent's garden and a tour of some of his art work.

Finally, I was taken to a local restaurant for dinner with Aase and Ivan, Bent and Gerda together with Helge and Gerda Høiberg.

What can I say! I was treated in a wonderfully friendly manner, saw everything I wanted to see and more, spoke lots of Danish and even sampled a local wine which was excellent. To be able to experience Denmark, as it were, 'from the inside' is a privilege for which I am most grateful. My thanks go to all who looked after me so well. Hopefully, when the Twinning group from Albertslund comes to East Renfrewshire in September, I may be able to repay their kindness by offering my services as a guide.

Julian Ward



TWIN & LINKED TOWNS' BULLETIN BOARD

Whitstable

In the recent local election, the Conservative party retained control of Canterbury City Council and also increased their number of seats to thirty seven out of a total of fifty.

The new Lord Mayor of Canterbury for May 2011-May 2012 is Councillor Ian Thomas, who represents Chestfield and Swalecliffe. The new Sheriff is Councillor Hazel McCabe.

Whitstable Harbour has revamped its website (www.whitstableharbour.org) The site is a comprehensive

guide to everything that goes on at the harbour as well as offering information about its history and plans for the future. There is also a daily tide table and the latest weather information. Teachers can find out about educational visits and tours and there is information about local accommodation.

After much discussion, Canterbury City Council has given its approval for two bridges to be built over the main railway line and the nearby road so that in future walkers and cyclists will be able to use the

old railway line between Whitstable and Canterbury (the Crab and Winkle) without confusing diversions.

Möln dal

Opus 2, a choir from Möln dal, paid an independent short visit to Whitstable and Canterbury in May. They sang at various places including outside the Cathedral, on the terrace of Whitstable Castle, at the harbour and a local nursing home. Lena Lidmalm later sent thanks to WTA Chairman Roger Annable for a sightseeing tour in Whitstable. "We sang a lot and had a good time" she said.

Albertslund

'Hej!', as they say in Danish, my name is *Julian Ward* and I work as a tourist guide in Scotland. Because I work with groups from Denmark, I am trying to improve my Danish and, to this end, recently spent a week in Copenhagen, where Danish guiding colleagues did their best to help me.

I am a Glaswegian and, because I was aware of the Twinning between Albertslund and East Renfrewshire, I contacted John Queen who put me in touch with his Twinning counterpart Aase Møller. She kindly said she would be happy to do anything she could.

My wish list was to cross the fantastic Øresund Bridge, spend time in Albertslund looking at modern approaches to housing, visit examples of nature conservation, go to a local garden and speak as much Danish as possible.

Aase first took me to a huge antiques showroom where she had worked for thirty years. It was like an Aladdin's Cave where everything had been beautifully restored.

We then made our way to the beautiful Øresund Bridge. The drive was all I could have hoped for and more. Astonishingly, the day before, the bridge had been closed because icicles on the cables posed a threat to the vehicles far below.

Knowing that I am a keen golfer, Aase tried to take me to a golf course for lunch. The golf course was easy to find, but lunch was not on offer, so we went to a little café instead.

We then visited some impressive examples of modern housing where access to water has a part to play in creating a very pleasant environment in which to live.

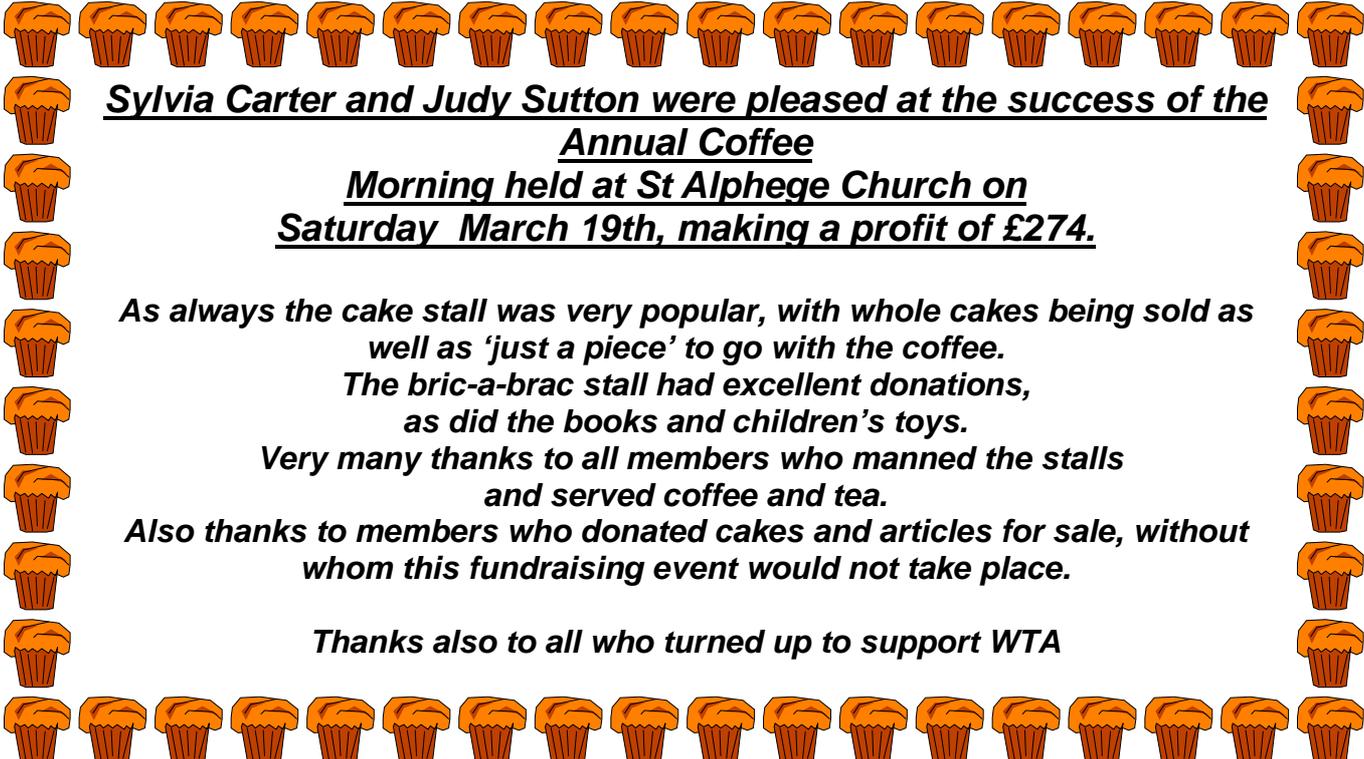
In the afternoon, Aase took me to the house of Flemming Jørgensen, a local Social Democrat Councillor. He and his wife Britta – knowing of my interest in the Vikings - took me to a reconstructed Viking village which is used as a resource centre by local school children.

Continued on page 10



Whitstable Twinning Association, EVENTS

June	11	Fund-raising car parking, Whitstable Junior School
	11-12	Tankerton Youth Football Club visit to Dainville F.C.
	16-19	Whitstable Firefighters visit Borken
	20-26	International Youth Summit (Canterbury)
	22-26	Volkschochshule (adult students) visit Whitstable
	26	Dainville F.C. return visit to Tankerton Youth F. C. (see page 6)
July	9	Dainville Section Summer Lunch
	10	Mount Ephrain 10K—Dainville runners taking part. (see p.9).
	21-24	Albertslund Partnership Association to visit Whitstable
	23	Oyster Festival
	30	Harbour Day
August	6	Carnival - (Dainville Stilt-walkers taking part)
	13-14	Regatta
	21	Swedish Lunch - Gill and Norman to host.(see page 4)
September	24	Dainville Braderie - Tea and cake stall
October	21	Dainville Section Autumn Social at Parish Social Centre, Castle Road.
	24-28	DLRG visit to Whitstable
	29	Möln dal Youth Rock Festival
November	11	Armistice Day visit to Dainville
	10-11	International Network Partnership Meeting in Grabow
	19	Whitstable Castle Christmas Fair
December	4	Christmas Market



Sylvia Carter and Judy Sutton were pleased at the success of the Annual Coffee Morning held at St Alphege Church on Saturday March 19th, making a profit of £274.

***As always the cake stall was very popular, with whole cakes being sold as well as 'just a piece' to go with the coffee.
The bric-a-brac stall had excellent donations, as did the books and children's toys.
Very many thanks to all members who manned the stalls and served coffee and tea.
Also thanks to members who donated cakes and articles for sale, without whom this fundraising event would not take place.
Thanks also to all who turned up to support WTA***