



WHITSTABLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION *Newsletter* Issue 95 ~ MARCH 2016



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

New Year visit to Borken

Over the last week end in January, a group from WTA attended the New Year's reception in Borken. The timing allowed us to arrive on Thursday in time to join with the Partnerschaftsverein on an interesting evening. This started at Borken's observatory, which is based at Hoxfeld, the highest point, and is far away from most buildings, which avoids light pollution. We were lucky enough to have a really clear (and chilly) night. As well as the main telescope, other smaller ones were set up so that the seventy plus people who attended had a chance to see something. Satellites were seen as were the constellations of Orion and the Pleiades.



Then, for something completely different, the group moved to the nearby airfield. A really warm welcome awaited in the clubhouse. We were offered a choice of soups and food plus liquid refreshment. It was explained how the club operated and a number of our group considered lying about their age in order to take gliding lessons at €10 per hour. Conversation filled the room and many thanks to the Partnerschaftsverein for a really different, interesting and enjoyable evening.

The next day was more or less at leisure. In the evening was the formal part of the visit with a reception at the Vennehof hosted by the new Burgermeisterin, Frau Schulze Hessing. This occasion allowed for a report of the events of the past year. As Chairman of the WTA, I delivered a short message (see p. 3). A major part of the evening was a presentation to former Burgermeister Rolf Lührmann to thank him for all his work over the previous fifteen years (see p. 3) Interspersed between the reports and presentations were some very good entertainers. The rest of the evening was spent in meeting and chatting to friends old and new.



The following day we were all taken by coach to Dortmund. Unfortunately the weather was not very co-operative, being wet and chilly. The first point of interest was the new interactive German football museum. This was extremely interesting even for the non sports fans. Yes, that goal from 1966 was included, although despite discreetly pressing the 'yes' button frequently, I could not get the percentage figure to rise from 43% . The museum covered all aspects of football in Germany from its beginnings right through to the present day.

As the weather was still bad, we had a guided coach tour of Dortmund. This was really interesting, **Cont: p 3**

Masthead: The twinned town crests - Dainville, Grabow, Ríčany, Mölnådal, Albertslund, and Borken.



*Independent and Self Funding
Fostering International Friendship*

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IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL MEMBERS

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 17th March

at Tankerton Evangelical Church Hall

Northwood Road

7pm for start at 7.40pm

**Following the AGM
refreshments will be served.**

N.B. Further information :-

Students from Borken will be visiting Whitstable and using the hall adjoining the AGM meeting room for an evening with local Guides and Scouts. WTA has arranged for a local dance group to entertain them between 7pm and 7.30pm.

If members wish to watch the performance before attending the AGM please arrive at 6.50pm

New Committee members needed

Most of the current committee members have served for a very long time and several have recently stepped down, so new blood is needed. Please let Gillian Michael know if you would consider joining the committee, which meets once a month.

THE GRAND EASTER RAFFLE

will be drawn at the AGM,

**so please make sure you return all counterfoils
money, and unsold tickets to :-**

**Gillian Michael, 51 Goodwin Avenue, Swalecliffe,
CT5 2QZ**

BY 10TH MARCH.

Cont from p 1 reflecting the many changes that have taken place in the city. We stopped for refreshment at a restaurant by a lake. The lake was the site of a former steel works, which had been sold as a complete entity to China. Having been left with a large hole, it was decided to allow it to fill with water and now the houses around it are some of the more expensive in Dortmund. We then made our way back to Borken. The next day it was time to return to Whitstable.

A very big thank you to all who helped to organise a really enjoyable time, particularly Markus Lask at Stadt Borken and the Partnerschaftsverein Borken.

Graham Nicholson

Graham's speech :- Dear Burgermeisterin Schulze Hessing, ladies and gentlemen; in the name of the Whitstable Twinning Association I would like to thank everyone who has helped to organise such an interesting week end. As we start a New Year, the Janos fountain in the Market square reminds us that it is a time to look backwards as well as forwards. Last year saw Burgermeister Rolf Lührmann take his well-deserved retirement. With his interest and involvement, the Town Partnership between Borken and Whitstable grew and prospered.

This year we welcome the new Burgermeisterin Frau Schulze Hessing and we wish her every success in her new, demanding job. We hope that the friendship between our two towns will continue to grow. We look forward to welcoming the members of the Partnerschaftsverein to Whitstable in August this year. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

And in German:- Liebe Frau Bürgermeisterin Schulze Hessing, sehr geehrte Damen und Herren; In Namen der Whitstable Twinning Association möchte ich mich bei all denen bedanken, die zu solch einem interessantem Besuch beigetragen haben. Zu Beginn eines neuen Jahres ist es üblich - der Janusbrunnen auf dem Marktplatz erinnert uns immer daran – zurückzublicken und auch nach vorne zu schauen. Letztes Jahr haben wir Bürgermeister Rolf Lührmann in den wohlverdienten Ruhestand verabschiedet. Mit seinem Engagement hat er die Städtepartnerschaft zwischen Borken und Whitstable stark unterstützt und zu etwas ganz Besonderen gemacht.

In diesem Jahr begrüßen wir die neue Bürgermeisterin Frau Schulze Hessing. Unsere guten Wünsche begleiten Sie in ihrer neuen Aufgabe. Wir hoffen dass die Beziehungen zwischen unseren beiden Städten weiter wachsen werden. Schon jetzt freuen wir uns auf den Besuch von Mitgliedern des Partnerschaftsverein Borken in Whitstable. Ihr danke Ihnen für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit.



An Honour well deserved

One of the major highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Ehren Ring to Rolf Lührmann.

This is an Honour presented to a very limited number of people who have given outstanding service to the town.

He was Burgermeister of Borken from 1999 to 2015 after first serving as Stadt Director, and has always fully supported twinning.

A good friend to us here in Whitstable, he has visited our town many times. Borken has won international recognition for its work in this field.

He received a standing ovation in the hall and this is an Honour truly deserved.

David and Sylvia Carter

CZECH FOOD AND DRINK EVENING IN WHITSTABLE

Gillian Michael writes:- It was with some trepidation that I approached the Czech evening to be held at the Tankerton Evangelical Church in January, as I was unsure as to where I could find the foods needed for the evening.

Well a trip to the Eastern European supermarkets in Cliftonville meant I did not have to worry too much. I already had a supply of Becherovka (herbal liqueur) in the cupboard and I knew I could get beer in the supermarkets. But Czech wines, not a chance.

Having already asked Petra, from Říčany, what she thought we should do for the menu, and a lovely chat with Mr and Mrs Bunes confirmed that I was heading in the right direction, although when discussing the desert he mentioned apple strudel and custard, which surprised me.

I called upon our Říčany committee, plus one or two other volunteers, to help and we had a selection of cold meats to start, beef goulash with dumplings ("as good as my mother makes" said the two young Czech visitors, Kateřina and Petra) and a Nutty Prague Cake, coffee and petit fours.

Kateřina and her sister had put together a presentation using their photographs to show members their town.

Thank you to all the helpers who put the show on the road. (*...and special thanks to you Gillian for the effort you put in to make this evening so enjoyable and the food so good. Well done. Ed.*)

Graham Nicholson adds - During the course of the evening presentations were made to two young photographers. Kateřina Tlustá won the Říčany competition and as part of her prize came to visit Whitstable. Her photo was of the ruined castle that overlooks Říčany and was part of a series that she entered.

Erin Cutts, a Year 9 student at the Community College Whitstable, took the photo that won the most votes in November at the Network Conference. They were both presented with framed copies of their winning photos. Thanks to Whitstable Photographic Society, Erin will also be taking part in a day in which she will be able to pick up some more tips and advice from their members.

Our congratulations to them both.



Kateřina Tlustá kindly sent us a report complete with a translation:-

My adventure to Whitstable in England

V loňském školním roce, v roce 2015/ 2016, město Říčany vyhlásilo fotografickou soutěž, s názvem „jak vidím své město“. Na to, že to byl první ročník, zúčastnilo se poměrně dost žáků říčanských škol. Štěstí mi přálo a vyhrála jsem první cenu, což v tomto případě byl zájezd do Anglie pro dvě osoby. Letěla jsem se svou sestrou.

In the last school year, in 2015/2016 the city of Říčany announced a photo contest, called "I see my city." Interestingly enough it was the first year and quite a lot of pupils from Říčanský schools had applied. I was wished good luck and I won the first prize, which in this case was a trip to England for two people. I flew with my sister.

Přípravy na cestu byly velice hektické, ale rozhodně to stálo za to. Když jsme dorazily na letiště Gatwick, vyzvedl nás velice milý pán Graham. Odvezl nás do domu, který pro nás měl být na čtyři dny domovem, a také že byl. Bydlely jsme u úžasného, postaršího páru,

u Toma a Judy. Mají kočku, jménem Kitty, která mi domov připomínala asi nejvíce, sama mám doma čtyři kočky. **Preparations for the trip were very hectic, but it was definitely worth it. When we arrived at Gatwick airport, a very nice gentleman called Graham picked us up. He took us to a house that was going to be our home for the next four days. We lived in Tom and Judy's incredible home. They have a cat named Kitty that reminded me of my home because I have four cats.**

Každý den jsme měli na programu něco jiného. V pátek nám počasí moc nepřálo. Pršelo a byl silný vítr. Ale i tak jsme se ráno vypravili do přístavu, kde jsme měly přednášku o historii města Whistable. Tom a Judy nás odpoledne odvezli do nedalekého městečka Canterbury. Kde jsme si prohlédly památky a prošly si obchody, co město nabízí. Večer nás čekalo chutné pohoštění u Gillian a Johna. V sobotu nás v domu vyzvedla Charlot, odvezla nás do Obrovského nákupního centra Sainbury's. Prošly jsme si obchody a vyrazily k moři. Celé odpoledne jsme strávily u moře. Večer byl ve jménu prezentace České Republiky a Říčan. Připravila jsem si prezentaci města a doprovodila ji svými fotografiemi. Poznaly jsme spoustu příjemných lidí a ochutnali česká jídla v anglickém podání. V neděli jsme odlétaly domů. Ráno nás Judy vzala k moři, abychom si ho ještě dostatečně užily. Okolo oběda nás vyzvedla Gillian s Johnem. Cestou na letiště, jsme se zastavily v opravdu starém městě, v Chilhamu. Natáčel se zde H. Poirot či Mrs. Marplová. Bylo to krásně strávené odpoledne.

Every day on the program we had something different planned. On Friday, the weather wasn't nice. It was raining and the wind was strong. But even so, we went in the morning to the port, where we had a lecture about the history of Whitstable. In the afternoon Tom and Judy drove us to the nearby city of Canterbury, where we visited the monuments and shops that the city had to offer. In the evening we had a delicious meal at Gillian and John's home. On Saturday we got picked up by Charlotte. She took us to a huge shopping centre, Westwood Cross. We walked around the shops and headed out to sea. We spent the whole afternoon at the seaside. In the evening we gave a presentation on behalf of the Czech Republic and Řičany. I prepared a presentation of the city, together with the photographs. We met a lot of nice people and tasted Czech cuisine in the English way. On Sunday morning Judy took us to the sea. Around lunchtime we got picked up by Gillian and John and on the way to the airport, we stopped in a really old city, Chilham, where H. Poirot and Mrs. Marple was filmed. It was beautiful afternoon.

Na rozdíl od České republiky, jsem v Anglii nenarazila na zlého, ba ani nepříjemného člověka. Je to tam naprosto odlišné, v dobrém slova smyslu.

Unlike the Czech Republic, in England I did not encounter anything bad, not even a disagreeable person. There, it's completely different, in a good sense.

WTA ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING **and CAKE STALL**

at St Alphege Church, SATURDAY 23rd APRIL, 9am-12.00

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAKE CAKES

The cake stall is always popular and this year we want to make a special effort to sell even more.

So please put your apron on and find your inner baker and do your bit to help fill the cake stall (and WTA coffers)! Scones and savoury items such as sausage rolls also welcome.

There will also be items of jewellery on sale.

NEEDED :~ jigsaws (please check they are complete)

Please deliver cakes and jigsaws to St Alphege at 8.15

PLEASE CONTACT:

Dave Parris Tel: 01227 261928, Sylvia Carter Tel: 01227 771022 or Judy Sutton Tel: 01227 276659

If you can't help, COME ALONG. WTA will be delighted if MEMBERS call in to have a coffee and cake in support of this event to raise essential funds.

Richard & Lizzie Hubbard leave Whitstable

Richard and Lizzie Hubbard's long association with WTA came to an end in February when they left Whitstable to live in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire. The occasion was marked by a get-together with members at which Chairman Graham Nicholson presented them with Honorary Life Memberships in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the association and the spirit of town twinning.

WTA President Roger Annable sent apologies for being unable to attend and forwarded the following message:-

"Long-serving supporters of Whitstable Twinning Association, Richard and Lizzie Hubbard have played a significant role in the development of International Relations in Whitstable. Richard served on the committee for over twenty-seven years since March 1989, taking responsibility, among many things, for much of the technical computer recordings, creating and sending official Christmas cards, membership and liaison with Dainville.

Lizzie served as Chaplain and featured in many functions including participating in the memorable ecumenical Church Thanksgiving Service in St Remigius, Borken as part of the tenth anniversary celebrations in 1997 – quite groundbreaking at the time (a woman in a leading role in an official German Catholic church). More recently Richard and Lizzie took on responsibility for the Dainville Section of WTA.

They were in Borken in 1987 for the signing and have been regularly visiting Whitstable's partner towns as well as playing a full part in fundraising. In the difficult years they visited the Czech Republic to try to maintain WTA's links with Říčany. Over the years they have welcomed numerous guests of all nationalities into their home. They have friends throughout the European Network and a particular affection for Grabow and Dainville.

We congratulate them as the newest Honorary Life Members of WTA for their exceptional contribution to the Spirit of Town Twinning. We wish them well for their future and they, no doubt, will follow the association's progress and take opportunities to participate in some future visits and functions."



Glynis Morgan, Dainville section co-ordinator, gave them a farewell gift of a picture of three Whitstable landmarks as thanks for their support and practical help towards Dainville group events.

She said they will be greatly missed, but wished them every happiness in their new home.



Dainville Group, Spring Social 2016

Date: Friday 18th March **Time:** 7 p.m.

Place: The Parish Social Centre, 15a Castle Road, Whitstable. CT5 2DY

The cost of the evening is a very reasonable £15.00 per person.

As usual, we will provide water and glasses, but we ask you to bring your own choice of drinks.

You may pay in advance or pay at the door, but please contact Glynis by 11th March to reserve your place.

Friends and family most welcome.

Menu

*Melon et Jambon de Parma
Navarin d'agneau printanier
Syllabub au citron
Café*

Cheques should be made payable to “WTA Dainville group”

Send to: Glynis Morgan, 23 Millstrood Road, Whitstable, CT5 1QG

Email: glymor@gmail.com **Telephone** 01227 771238 or 07739517854

FROM: Glynis Morgan glymor@gmail.com Tel. 01227 771238

TO: All WTA Members

RE: The visit to Whitstable by a group from Dainville
on Friday 13th May to Sunday 15th

I have now received the numbers for May. There will be 27 people including a family of three who are bringing a seven year old.

If you can help in hosting I would be most grateful for your support. Please contact me and let me know as soon as possible.



As you can see from the poster, this year the Dainville Portefaix will be held on Saturday 21st May.

As usual members are invited to dress up and join in the parade – this year with the theme “Film and cinema”.

It is a good fun day out even if you don't dress up.

Please let Glynis know (glymor@gmail.com Tel. 01227 771238) if you want to go this year, as she needs to send numbers through to Dainville soon.

Whitstable Twinning Association, EVENTS

March

- 16-20 Remigius Hauptschule visiting Whitstable
- 17 AGM (Tankerton Evangelical Church) See page 2
- 18 Dainville Group Bistro (Parish Social Centre) details see page 7

April

- 7 WTA fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School
- 16 Quiz night (Parish Social Centre) See the Advance Notice box.
- 23 Fundraising Coffee Morning (St Alphege Church)

May

- 1 Fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School
- 2 Canterbury Harriers 10k (Whitstable)
- 15-17 Dainville visit to Whitstable - Glynis Morgan (see p.7)
- 21-22 Visit to Portefaix (Dainville) - Glynis Morgan (see p.7)
Tankerton Youth Football Club to Dainville (date tbc)

June

- Scavenger Hunt (tbc)
- 23 -27 Champagne Wine Tour.(see below)
Joy Lane School exchange with Dainville (tbc)
Swalecliffe School Exchange (tbc)

July

- 9 Dainville Group Summer Lunch—Glynis Morgan (See p.7)
- 25 Fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School

August

- 6 Borken visit to Whitstable (Carnival and Regatta weekend) - see below
- 18 Fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School
- 20 Fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School

September

- 24 Dainville cake stall—contact Glynis Morgan

October

- 8 Fundraising Car Parking at Whitstable Junior School
- 14 Dainville Autumn Social (Whitstable)- contact Glynis Morgan

November

- 4-6 Network meeting (Řičany)
- 11 Armistice Day (Dainville)

- December 11th Christmas Social (to be confirmed)

Advance Notice
QUIZ NIGHT
April 16th at
Parish Social Centre,
Church Road.
Full details to follow

VISITORS from BORKEN to WHITABLE ~

Thursday August 4th until Sunday August 7th. They will be taking part in the Carnival Parade. There will be some familiar faces and some to whom everything will be a new experience. Janet and Stephen Lloyd (Borken co-ordinators) would be delighted if you can offer to host some of the visitors.

If you are able to help please contact them for more information at
stephen.john.lloyd@gmail.com

Following the success of last year's Wine tour in Germany it is planned to arrange a

Champagne Tour

Taking place **23-27 June**

Please contact Graham -

granich@globalnet.co.uk T: 01795 420809
as soon as possible if you are interested in joining this coach holiday.



FOR SALE

1 x size S WTA Poloshirt—navy

£5 each

Contact Gillian Michael
as on page 2.



3 x size M WTA T-shirts—white