

SWANLEY & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

[Inaugurated 1985]

President: The Mayor of Swanley

NEWSLETTER



JULY 2017

Chairman's Introduction

Another early Newsletter! What's occurring, you might ask? It's issued now to remind you of the date of our AGM and to circulate the Agenda in time; plus, of course, all sorts of other good news and information.

The 32nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of Swanley & District Twinning Association

will be held in the Clocktower Pavilion

on **Monday, 12th June 2017**

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE

doors open at 7.30 for an 8 pm start to proceedings.

Everyone is welcome to attend, to have your say and to put yourself forward (or nominate another member) for the committee. Be brave, we need you - and there is a variety of roles from which to choose!

The AGM Agenda is attached enclosed with this Newsletter.

New Members - We warmly welcome our recently joined new members. For some of you this will be your first Newsletter of many! Seriously, four issues per year is the plan with occasionally urgent interim sheets.

We hope you will enjoy your membership to the full and feel free to join in as much as possible. Articles and photos for the Newsletter and fresh ideas for things to do are always encouraged.

We have two events planned for June - the AGM (see panel above) and the Summer BBQ (see panel below). Come along to find out more about what we have planned and to meet fellow members in a friendly, social setting.

EHIC and 'BREXIT' - Following the results of the EU referendum last year, no changes have been announced to the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) service. The NHS Business Services Authority is continuing to provide the EHIC service as usual, and you can apply for and use your card as before.

You can apply for or renew an EHIC using the official EHIC online application form. This is free of charge. Beware of unofficial websites, which may charge if you apply through them.

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The **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** was held in the Clocktower Pavilion at the end of March. Chrissy Hudson and I prepared a Twinning display stand and I was invited to say a few words about the history of Twinning, the origins of Swanley Twinning, an outline of what we do and some of our future plans. We were well received, however, the meeting was not very well attended!

"DISCOVER FRANCE WITH US", our special Twinning showcase event that was held in the Clocktower Pavilion on 22nd April was rather disappointing due to another low turnout. Unfortunately, there was a delay in the publication of the Town Crier that meant little topical publicity for the event. We were full of anticipation but the "rush" didn't happen.

Nevertheless, I wish to thank the Town Councillors who joined us and the Committee members and other Twinning members who helped to put on a very interesting and colourful display.

The **ANNUAL EXCHANGE WEEKEND** took place as planned during the weekend of 29th April – 1st May. I must say that, in my opinion and, according to the views expressed by others, everything went extremely well. More information will be included in the Annual Report – please send your contributions to me **before the 4th June deadline**.

The **SUMMER BARBECUE 2017**

Please note that the date and venue for this year's Social and Fundraising event have changed to

SATURDAY, 24th JUNE

It will now be held at the

Crockenhill Scout Headquarters in Stones Cross Road, Crockenhill BR8 8LT

Doors open at 5 pm ready to dine from 6 pm.

Tickets, costing just £10 per person

are available now (with your payment, please) from

Roger Bryan, 10 Greenside, Swanley BR8 7ER

(Pre-order your tickets by text to or phone 07470 201703
or email: roger.bryan@me.com)

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND GLASSES

and as many RAFFLE PRIZES as you can carry

Saturday, 9th September – Le Forum des Associations, Verrières-le-Buisson

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RAMBLES PAST:

March

This walk, along the **High Elms Country Park Trail**, was postponed to the first Sunday in April. Afterwards, lunch was enjoyed at the Blacksmith's Arms in Cudham.



April



The annual **Bluebell Walk** at Linton was postponed to the first Sunday in May. The meeting point was St Nicholas Church car park on Linton Hill. It's a gentle walk mostly level along the ridge way for an hour or so and back again. Lunch afterwards was at The Stile Bridge, in nearby Staplehurst.

May

Having met for the walk at the Chequers in the village, Audrey led the walkers on the **Crockenhill Circular Walk**.

It was a fairly flat walk with a few slopes and lunch was enjoyed at the pub afterwards.



RAMBLES AHEAD:

Normally on the last Sunday each month - all start at 10:30 (unless otherwise stated). Lunches (optional) are available afterwards at (approx.) 13:00, bookable in advance by contacting Jim Dunn on 01474 709610.

Sunday, 25th June - Shoreham.

Start at 10:30 from **The Olde George Inn TN14 7RY**. This is a fairly flat partly circular walk with some slopes of approx. 1.5 hours with a short cut if required. Lunch at the pub afterwards (optional) at approx. 13:00 hours. Please contact Jim Dunn to book.



Sunday, 30th July - Farningham.

Start 10:30 from **The Pied Bull, High Street DA4 0DG**. This is a fairly flat partly circular walk with some slopes of approx. 1.5 hours with a short cut if required. Lunch at the pub afterwards (optional) at approx. 13:00 hours. Please contact Jim Dunn to book.



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Sunday, 27th August - Cobham.

Start at 10:30 from the **Darnley Arms DA12 3BZ**.
This is a circular walk of approx. 1.5 hours - it's a bit hilly with a short cut if required.
Lunch at the pub afterwards (optional) at approx. 13:00 hours. Please contact Jim Dunn to book.



Sunday, 24th September - Reculver.

Start at 10:30 from the **public car park in Reculver** opposite the pub.
Lunch afterwards (optional) at the **King Ethelbert Arms CT6 6SU** at approx. 13:00.
Please contact Jim Dunn to book.



Sunday, 29th October - New Ash Green.

Start at 10:30 from the **North Square car park in New Ash Green**.
Lunch afterwards (optional) at **The Badger DA2 3BZ** at approx. 13:00.
Please contact Jim Dunn to book.



Sunday, 26th November - Hampstead Hill.

Meet 10:30 at **Hampstead Underground station** for this walk of approx. 2 miles mainly hard pathways. A little hilly with a panoramic view from Parliament Hill.
The venue for Lunch has yet to be decided . . .



Tuesday, 26th December - The Boxing Day Walk.

Meet at 10:30 on the bridge in front of **The Lion, High Street, Farningham DA4 0DP**.
The Ramble along the Darent Valley Path is optional!
View the assembled motorbikes and perhaps a seasonal snifter in the pub!



Saturday, 9th September - Le Forum des Associations, Verrières-le-Buisson

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS – It's time to renew your membership of Swanley & District Twinning Association, if you haven't already done so. Your Card shows your Membership expiry date; so if it says 'valid to 31st March 2017', please renew now by sending your payment to me as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to **Swanley & District Twinning Association**. By the way, it's slightly cheaper to renew for three years - only £25 for a couple/family instead of £30!

New members are always welcome <http://www.swanleytwinning.org.uk>

The website of Verrières-le-Buisson is: www.mairie-verrieres-91.fr

Follow 'Swanley & District Twinning Association' on Facebook



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