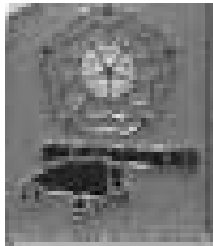


WATA BOUTIT

— The newsletter of the Waterlooville Area Twinning Association. —

No 20 December 2007



WATERLOOVILLE



2008 TWINNING

Since writing the last newsletter we have heard from Maurepas that they are unable to visit us at Easter. The new date has been agreed as the weekend of 10th and 11th May. Your Committee are now working to organise the weekend. If you have any suggestions please send them to a Committee member.

2008 AGM

The 2008 AGM will be held at 8.15pm on Monday 11th February 2008 in St. George's Church Hall, Waterlooville. Items for the agenda and nominations for the Committee (on the attached form) should be sent to Colin Monk by 31st January 2008. Please try and attend as this is your main opportunity to have your say—we will provide a glass of wine as an incentive to attend!

2008 BURNS NIGHT

See last page for details.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Those of us that attended on 5th November once again received a wonderful reception at Helen's. Fortunately the evening remained dry and we were treated to good food and a magnificent firework display. Many thanks to Helen and the others that assisted.

Helen has already issued the invitation for 5th November 2008—put the date

Your Committee

Chairman	Glynnis Simcox	02392 254533
Secretary	Colin Monk	02392 258938
Treasurer	John Aspel	02392 251953
Members	Lorraine Boyes	02392 570774
	Helen Wright	02392 615346
	Bob Simcox	02392 254553

Please e-mail any items to colin.monk2@ntlworld.com or post to 77 Durley Avenue, Cowplain, PO8 8TZ

EXCHANGES WITH HENSTEDT-ULZBURG

Since Summer 2006, with the encouragement of our twinning friends in Maurepas, we have been exploring the possibility of a three-way twinning with Maurepas' twin – Henstedt-Ulzburg – near Hamburg. A party of eight from Henstedt-Ulzburg visited Waterlooville, 11 – 14 October, and six of us undertook the return visit, 1 - 4 November.



Crookhorn and Staunton schools, while we visited (and participated in lessons at some) four secondary schools. There is much interest - and excitement - between the schools on developing links, especially at the family level, and there is a good opportunity over time to draw in some new members to WATA.

Our German friends certainly enjoyed the sights of Waterlooville and Portsmouth, met the Mayor at the Civic Offices, and a good time was had by all at Lesley's and Robin's on the Friday night, and at Glynnis' and Bob's on the Saturday.

On the return visit we found Henstedt-Ulzburg to be remarkably like Maurepas, both new towns from about 30 years ago, and of about the same population, set in pleasant countryside near a major city. We enjoyed wonderful food, and even breakfast at a local farm. Our trip to Hamburg was fascinating, seeing the remarkable 19th century town hall which is the seat of the parliament of the self-governing state of Hamburg.



The exchange was partly focused on building links between local schools, and went well with much new interest in twinning. We hosted two head teachers from Germany, and we were accompanied by Sue Cornell – International Development Leader at Cowplain. Our German friends visited Cowplain,



Afterwards we walked round the Hafencity regeneration project for the Hamburg Docklands, which must be one of the largest building projects in Europe and which includes an opera house project to rival that in Sydney.

Next steps include reflecting on the way forward. Undoubtedly Henstedt-Ulzburg is keen to twin with us, and they bring a dimension that could help us build on school links. We met many friendly people who want to share experiences and cultures with us, and who know our friends in Maurepas well.

Lesley and Robin



SPANISH EVENING

The 6th October saw a large group of us gathering at Dick and Lesley's for our first Spanish Evening. We were treated to Tapas starters followed by a choice of main course and pudding. This was accompanied by Spanish red and white wine.

We were entertained with a quiz and only had minor dissent over some of the answers. We also had a raffle with enough raffle prizes for everyone to have one.

Our thanks go to Dick and Lesley for hosting the evening and for undertaking some of the cooking. We must also thank Glynnis, Rosemary and Lorraine for their contributions to the meal.

We now look forward to the 2008 delights –where shall we go next, Greece, Turkey or Germany? Let us have your thoughts—perhaps you are a great cook and could assist with the dishes?