

Twinning Newsletter

August 2018

Special

Another summer nearly over – with plenty of sun and warmth – make the most of it.

MINDELHEIM July 6th – 9th, Frundsberg Fest 2018



10 members took part in celebrations over the weekend, 9 staying at the Stern Hotel, and Roz with a family. A visit to the Fire Station on Friday resulted in 3 members flying high on the turntable ladder. A bit scary! After the official welcome dinner in the evening the next stop was to see the dancers (Alexandra, the Mayor's [P.A. took part), then a walk about the old town to see the different camps, where the beer flowed like water. Saturday was the Farmers' Market with all the old tools, ducks and pigs, farmers all in costume. In the evening a meal at the Lager Fahn there was a Concert in Jesuitenkirche Church – a magnificent performance acoustics wonderful. Out into the night with the sound of drumming everywhere.

On Sunday – Church was on the menu, a very full house. Rex, our Town Mayor, gave a short reading. Lunch was held at the Forum, and this was accompanied by drummers and singers, and then Mindelheim signed a declaration of Friendship with another Italian town, Sansepolcro, their famous flag wavers taking part. The day of the parade - a very long procession with over 600 participants, lots of horses, floats, drummers, and children. The costumes were magnificent but must have felt very, very hot in the extreme heat. The Mayor, Stephan, and his wife, Gabbi, and daughter, Victoria, took part. The final meal was at the Poste with the Bourg-de-Peage delegation, together with the Mayor, Stephan, Gabbi and daughter Veronika.

On Monday we took the train from Mindelheim to Munich, for all the many tourist attractions, but the clock in the Square was not working. We took a long walk to the Englishcher Garten for lunch, and then the short route back to the centre, with finally a stop at the famous Hof Brau Haus for a final Bavarian meal. The worst part of the weekend was the waiting on the Munich Airport runway for an hour, arriving at Gatwick North for a very long queue at the passport control, and home at about 2 a.m.

An excellent weekend meeting with old friends and making new ones.



Some members can certainly put the beer away!

TRAMIN – YOUTH WEEKEND 19th – 23rd July. WE WON!!! Well done team.

Arriving in Tramin late morning we delivered the team and leaders into the massive Gymnasium – their sleeping quarters. We, the four delegates, were taken to the Hotel Erica. We then all went for lunch at a small restaurant where our team enjoyed the Italian food. In the evening all the teams and delegations were served dinner in the Community Centre, followed by a welcome speech and exchange of gifts and speeches.

Friday, the team went off to the sports field whilst the delegation went on a hike up to the old St. Jakob's Church on the hill; what a hot climb! In the afternoon the delegation visited a Winery in the centre of the town, housing huge stainless steel vats plus new concrete ones (cheaper), and then, of course, we were forced to stay and sample the products!

Friday evening both teams and delegations visited a large warehouse called Moosfete (Party in the orchards) with cooking facilities, a museum on the first floor displaying the Wuddele carnival masks, plus a disco. for all to enjoy.

Saturday morning started at the Community Centre with a talk from a member of the European Parliament, Dr. Herbert Dorfmann. Although his native tongue is German he spoke only in English, speaking about Europe and then answering questions from the floor.

Then to the sports field where we had lunch and drinks, and an occasional spot of rain
Lots of photos were taken with the teams getting into the spirit of the event.



The teams were ready for the OFF!

It was good to have the granddaughter of a past Treasurer, Steven Harms in the team; the fair head young lady in the centre of the photograph.

On the field each team had a tent and were supplied with bottled water. And then the rains came, of course, but in the true spirit of twinning, the Games carried on.

Every game involved the whole team keeping them all on their toes. The 1st game involved filling a wine vessel from a bucket with holes, pouring into a funnel attached to a long, long, plastic pipe that had to be lifted to empty the contents to fill the vessel.

Games 2 – 6 will be described at the AGM in November.

The final game was a quiz about Europe.

After the presentation (no cup or shield) it was on to the open air swimming pool; some swam and others waited for the very splendid buffet that we all enjoyed.

On the Sunday there was a youth church service when all the teams entered in procession with the Priest and choir. There was a small youth group playing music and songs, mostly in English, in front of the first row of pews; very nice.

Everybody then went to the Community Centre for lunch, pasta, salad, main course followed by a sweet.

Farewells then took some time, lots of hugs and the swapping of e mail addresses. Everyone left, except East Grinstead and Schwaz. For the afternoon we were ferried to a nearby lake, very nice, very commercialised and with hundreds of bodies.

The last evening we were taken to the hotel of a former Mayor, much higher up into the mountains, for pizzas, beer or wine. Then the Schwaz group left for Austria, and this took some time as our team had got to know them well and were sorry to see them go. But they finally departed.

On the Monday we all visited the Tramin Museum covering three or four floors of a very old building, modernised somewhat in recent years. A most interesting collection illustrating the history of the town, an experience enjoyed by all our party.

Our last lunch was in the Tramin Hotel Gerda (and we were lucky for it to be open on a Monday), and the last of our pasta. Then the coach to Verona Station where we left our luggage to visit the centre of Verona before heading for the airport and home.

Margaret and Alex Dale were privileged to be delegates at the recent Games in Tramin, and enjoyed the whole experience.

“We were treated extremely well by all the people in Tramin and made to feel part of Town Twinning in Europe.

It was indeed a pleasure to meet again old friends from some of the other towns, and we enjoyed the rivalry between the other teams during the Games, but they were also so friendly. The students from Imberhorne School were exemplary in everything they did and were a credit to the School and East Grinstead.

And the best of the weekend was that the team WON THE GAMES”.