

NEWSLETTER

Issue 59 Updates |Comments

2016 AGM

The AGM took place on Tuesday 21 June at the Civic Hall. The meeting, chaired by Mayor of Didcot, Steve Connel, heard the report from Twinning Chair, Axel MacDonald. The Treasurer's report showed a relatively health balance, including a £500 grant from Didcot Town Council. The meeting voted to increase membership fees to £20 per two adult household but left the subscription for single-adult households at £10 per year.

PLANT SALE

After a few false starts, the Plant Sale finally took place on Saturday 28th May. The fine weather and great location, the Orchard Centre, meant an excellent footfall and sales were brisk. Overall, the sum raised was in excess of £150, the best result ever. It was agreed that we should aim for a stall in the same venue next year.

Thanks to all the people who contributed to the success of this venture, but especially the watering skills of Axel and Denise. Thanks also to all members and friends who came along to support us.



Plant sale preparations

Party from Meylan arriving in September

Plans are being finalised for the forthcoming visit from Meylan. The majority of the visitors will arrive in Southampton airport on Thursday 22 September and will be brought by minibus to Chilton Village Hall for a buffet lunch. They will then disperse to their host families, coming together for a welcome drink in Harwell Village Hall that evening. On Friday, most of the party will visit the Diamond Light Source in the morning and the Railway Centre in the afternoon. In addition, a small group will spend time at local schools, and the Meylan councillors will meet local representatives to learn about how planning and development are managed in this region. After spending free time with their hosts, the group will come together on Saturday evening for a gala dinner at Drayton Golf Club. Anyone interested in getting involved with this visit should contact Sue Totterdell on 01235850080. For more information about joining in the various events, see page 2.



The gala dinner, Meylan 2013

Next visit from Planegg

Our next visit from Planegg should take place in 2017 and we hope to confirm a date in the next few months.

Watch this space for more information.

Contact information

com@didcottwinning.org.uk
tel: 01235850080



Cloudy Belledonne, Isère



Benedictine Abbey, Bavaria



Thames lock, Oxfordshire

OKTOBERFEST DIDCOT 2016

After the positive response to the staging of Didcot's own Oktoberfest in 2015, there will be another event this autumn.

Put Sat October 15th in your diaries.



Arrangements for sharing in the Meylan visit

There will be a number of opportunities to interact with our visitors during the weekend of 22-25 September.

- Thurs 18h00 - 19h00: Reception in Harwell Village Hall. Free
- Fri 09h30: Visit to Diamond Light Source
13h00: buffet lunch at Didcot Railway Centre.
Cost to local residents £10 per head
14h00: Guided visit of Railway centre
- Sat 19h00 Drinks reception and gala dinner at Drayton Golf Club. Cost to local residents £35 per head to include welcome drink and 3-course dinner with wine or soft drinks

If you plan to come along to any of these events, please let Sue Totterdell know so we can make sure we cater for you.

Payment for Friday's lunch and/or Saturday's dinner must be made by Friday 16th September.

Payments in cash or by cheque (payable to Didcot Twinning Association) to be made to Diane Jenkins.

com@didcottwinning.org.uk or

01235850080 for further information

Costs for our French visitors are covered by the Twinning Association

DIDCOT



TWINNING
ASSOCIATION



Twinning and EU membership

The town twinning movement started soon after WWII ended, with the aim that Europe should never again be torn apart by war. Most of the links were between towns from countries that had, until recently, been divided by war. Twinning is not, however, limited to EU countries: Switzerland and Norway have always been actively engaged.

Twinning in the UK is carried out by community volunteers and should be largely unaffected by the UK leaving the EU. Didcot Twinning Association will continue to host visits from our partner towns of Meylan and Planegg, and such personal links will still be important for the communities concerned. It is possible that there will no longer be access to EU grants to fund some trips, but as we have only made one successful bid in the past, this will not have a serious financial impact.

Despite political changes, we remain committed to our friends in France and Germany and such friendships are even more important following the recent outrages in Nice, Munich and