

## **Annual General Meeting**

There has been no AGM in 2020 due to restrictions on the size of group allowed to meet. We currently plan to have our AGM in June 2021, when we will deal with all business from the two years. Once the date has been agreed, it will be circulated to members.

Subscriptions will be due in Spring 2021 and are unchanged at £20 per annum. We hope you will be able to continue to support twinning.

## **COVID** in Germany and France

The COVID pandemic has not spared any European country and in spring Germany and France went into lockdown several weeks before the UK. Overall Germany has reported 1.1 million confirmed cases, there have been 2.2 million in France and 1.7 million in the UK (WHO COVID dashboard). Of course, the populations differ with Germany having 83 million, and France and the UK 67 million inhabitants. Also the rate of testing differs - in France you can get a test at the pharmacy and the cost is reimbursed by your medical insurance. Germany has the lowest death rate of the three countries

## **Contact information**

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Didcot Meylan Twinning Association



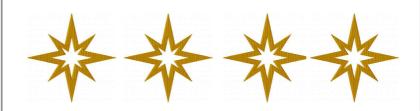
2020

What a year! Sadly the pandemic put paid to all our plans for 2020, even those for local social meetings and fund raising.

With recent encouraging news about vaccine development, improvements in treatment and widespread testing, the committee are hopeful that we will be able to welcome our Friends from Meylan just a year late, in 2021, with a provisional date agreed from 16-19 September.

After the past difficult year, as we approach Christmas, the committee would like to wish all members and friends:

Merry Christmas
Un Joyeux Noël
Fröhliche Weihnachtsfest



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Previous visits to Planegg and Meylan

## How will Brexit affect travel to Germany and France?

As the UK completes the transition period at the end of December there will be some changes to how we travel to visit our twin towns.

- 1) You can buy duty free.
- 2) After 2022 you will need to get a visa waiver to visit some countries. This is an electronic permission to travel which can be applied for on-line. The cost has not yet been announced.
- 3) You must have at least 6 months validity in your passport.
- 4) You will need to allow longer for the transfer from flight to airport bus as you will no longer use the EU citizens entry lines

- 5) You will require a travel insurance which provides medical cover as your EHIC card is no longer valid from o1/o1/21. This is particularly important if you have pre-existing conditions which were covered by the EHIC but are not always covered by travel insurance.
- 6) You will need to be careful about using your phone in France and Germany as it is not clear whether current roaming rules (which allow access to calls and data at the same price as in your home country) will continue. You should check with your provider.
- 7) You will be able to stay for 90 days in any rolling 180 day period.
- 8) If driving you will need additional documents a Green Card insurance document and an International Driving Permit for longer visits.

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