

## **Norfolk and Norwich Koblenz Friendship Association**

### **Report to Twinning Committee 2 July 2009.**

I am writing this report just after attending the Civic Service in Norwich Cathedral and on behalf of our association we do express our very best wishes to our First Citizen, the Lord Mayor, Councillor Evelyn Collishaw and the new Sheriff, Professor Tim O'Riordan.

We have had a fairly busy time since the last Twinning Report.

22 – 26 April: As mentioned in my previous report about 45 Members and 15 Friends of the Norwich Philharmonic Choir joined the Musik Institut Choir to sing Rossini's Stabat Mater and Verdi's Stabat Mater and Te Deum to a capacity audience in the Rhein-Mosel Halle in Koblenz.

A memorable performance enhanced again by hospitality from our hosts and a programme, which included a boat trip from Koblenz to Kobern on the Mosel, climbing up to the Oberburg and Matthiaskapelle before returning by boat to Winingen for a wine tasting and farewell dinner in a Weinstube.

1 - 4 May: Norwich Rotary Club, with a party of 22 visited their twin Rotary Club Koblenz Ehrenbreitstein, many renewing friendships which go back 20 years to the first exchange, and others going for the first time. A splendid programme had been arranged, which included a presentation about the Bundes Gartenschau (BUGA), German National Garden Show, which is to be held in Koblenz in 2011. This will be a very big national and international tourist draw to the city and includes much work on infrastructure, which will benefit the city into the future. The Garden Show will be on three sites, two near the Rhine in the city, and one on the high ground the other side of the river next to the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, which will be connected by a cable car across the Rhine to the top of the hillside.

An important feature in a central part of the Garden Show, close to the junction of the Rhine and Mosel, will be a 'Twin City Garden' where it is hoped that there will be small gardens designed by each of the twin cities, on a modern theme to reflect their own area. The costs of building the gardens will be covered by BUGA, but the costs of design, planting and furnishings will be the responsibility of the participating cities.

Details about participation have been sent to George Ishmael at Norwich City Council, and we very much hope that Norwich will be able to be a part of this garden show.

17May - 17 July in Koblenz. Following the 'Twin Lens' exhibitions in Norwich and Koblenz the idea of a further exhibition was born 'Immer wieder Rhein' (Again and Again the Rhine). This is being held in the Landesmuseum at the Festung Ehrenbreitstein, and shows views of the Rhein through the eyes of English artists and photographers, particularly contemporary photos by members of the NDPS including our member Alan Taylor. The exhibition received good coverage in the Koblenz Press. It would be good if we could show this exhibition in Norwich, may be at St. Peter Hungate Church Museum.

2 – 14 June The annual joint Photographic Exhibition of the Norwich and District Photographic Association and Fotoclub Koblenz took place in Norwich Cathedral. This is

always of a very high standard. Our NNKFA trophy was won by Klaus Brost from Winningen, and I will present this to him.

4 – 7 June: Members of the NKFK eV, our twin association in Koblenz, visited us two weeks earlier than originally planned and we had to look at an alternative programme, which included lunch at the Butcher's Arms at East Ruston followed by a visit to East Ruston Vicarage Gardens, which as always were at their splendid best. We went with them to a performance of 'Teechers' at the Sewell Barn (which was where the founding meeting of our Association took place). They were able to spend time looking round and shopping in Norwich and to look at some of the work achieved through Spatial Metro in which Norwich and Koblenz were two of the partners and which received considerable EU funding, and also to visit the North Norfolk Coast.

11 – 14 June: A group from Koblenz Central Churches visited Norwich as guests of the Norwich Diocesan European Group. All 17 guests were hosted privately. The programme included study time in the Emmaus House in The Close, where our visitors were told about and discussed some of the work, particularly social work, which is being done in the diocese. We attended with them the Corpus Christi Service in Norwich Cathedral on Thursday evening, and the morning service at Holy Trinity on the Sunday where Ralph Stayman, one of the visitors preached, and where they were entertained to lunch. They visited the church centre at South Walsham and Ranworth Church. Some of them went to the concert in the Cathedral in aid of the Cathedral Girls Choir, while others went to a Gilbert and Sullivan concert at Thorpe St. Andrew parish church. (In Germany at Bad Schwalbach, about 30 miles from Koblenz, a Gilbert and Sullivan Association for Germany was founded on 6 June. They had contacted me and I was able to give them the name of the Chair of the G.S. Society in Norwich who put them in touch with National association in this country).

20 June; The NNKFA had its annual summer outing, very much enjoyed 35 members, to Burghley House, near Stamford. The 5 hours that we had there was hardly enough to see this magnificent house, sculpture garden, modern Garden of Surprises with many water features and to walk round the park.

To come

26 – 29 June: Norwich Kemps Men are representing Great Britain at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Folklore Festival in Winningen. The publicity posters and fliers are from a sketch made by Canon Philip McFadyan from Norwich at the 2003 festival.

22 – 27 September: NNKFA visit to Koblenz. We have booked a 49 Seat Coach with Spratt's to ensure extra comfort, and still have a few spare seats for anyone who may be interested in coming to Koblenz. Our programme will include a full day in Winningen, by popular request.

We continue to get many requests by email from Students and young people wanting study links, work experience, family contacts, exchanges and language courses. There is a strong wish for all these people to improve their English. Unfortunately it is becoming more difficult to encourage schools to do exchanges as languages are given less importance at the secondary stage by government policies.

At our May committee meeting we agreed to respond to requests for Associate Membership from linked organisations, such as Radio Hams, Photographic Societies, choirs, bands etc, which would entitle up to two people to attend any of our events or be casual visitors to our weekly German discussion group DUaM, which is still very popular.

Brigitte Radtke the twinning contact in Koblenz City Hall married on 22 May. Her new name is Brigitte Finkemeier. [brigite.finkemeier@stadt.koblenz.de](mailto:brigite.finkemeier@stadt.koblenz.de)

Our membership now stands at 163 including 13 honorary or ex officio.

In connection with the Diocesan Link, Norfolk Association of Twin Committees has been encouraged to let us know of any involvement of churches within individual places twinning links, so that these can be added to the Diocesan register.

Dragon Hall Twinning Centre is still waiting for more information to make it more complete in publicising the wider twinning links within Norfolk.

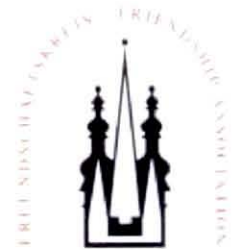
Dragon Hall also needs more volunteers to help keep it staffed during the day.

Waltraud Jarrold

22 June 2009

# KONTAKT NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009



## NORFOLK & NORWICH / KOBLENZ FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION



This is going to be more of a NEWSFLASH and update of events rather than a newsletter, but we do hope that you find the Information useful.

### NNKFA EVENTS

#### The group of NNKFA visitors from Koblenz has just amended their Norwich visit dates to:

**4th to 7th June 2009** There will be eight or nine people in the party, led by Barbara Theis. They are going to stay at the Holiday Inn Express at Norwich Sport Village. They are travelling by minibus via Dover and plan to visit a stately home in Kent. They are scheduled to arrive in Norwich during the afternoon of 4th June 2009.

#### The NNKFA hosting plans are as follows:

**4th June 2009** Invitation for Group to arrive at 'Mosel' by late afternoon for tea and light music, ideally in the garden

**5th June 2009** Depart at 11.00 a.m. from hotel for Lunch at Butlers Arms within a mile of East Ruston Gardens which are open from 2.00 p.m. Suggestion to visit Sewell Barn Theatre for a performance of *Teachers* by John Godber at 7.15 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. NNKFA Members are welcome to join.

**6th June 2009** There is a FREE Costume and Textile Association exhibition at the Assembly House and an evening concert by the Mozart Orchestra at Christ Church, Eaton. It was suggested to may be meet at the Red Lion Pub in Eaton for a meal.

#### A 49-seater Coach has now been booked for:

**20th June 2009** Summer Outing to Burghley House. A few spaces are still available. More details can be found in the February Newsletter. The coach will leave Notcutts at 9:00 sharp.



#### NNKFA visit to Koblenz 22nd to 27th September 2009:

A very comfortable 49-seater coach has been booked for this event to avoid the cramped conditions we had last time. So far 19 people have booked and there are still four Double and two Single rooms available at the Hotel Haus Morjan.

Coach travel is £135.00 p.p, Double Room Euros 90.00, Single Room Euros 60.00.

#### Outline Programme

**22nd September 2009** Travel to Koblenz by coach

**23rd September 2009** visit Winingen for walk, lunch, boat trip and wine tasting (Euros 30.00), or may be a Planwagen Fahrt through the vineyards. (Euros TBA)

**24th September 2009** probable visits to Butterfly Museum, Schloss Sayn and Burg Eltz

**25th September 2009** possible reception by the Oberbürgermeister of Koblenz in the Schöffenstübchen or a presentation of a film about the BUGA 2011 near the Deutsches Eck—or both.



**26th September 2009** free time for shopping/sightseeing in Koblenz or train trip e.g. to Trier on Rheinland Pfalz Ticket (up to 5 people on 1 ticket).

**27th September 2009** return journey

**Please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.**



NNKFA EVENTS *continued*

Sunday, 13th September 2009      Anniversary Lunch at Park Farm Hotel Hethersett

Monday, 30th November 2009      Advent Evening at Birkbeck Hall, Great Hospital

**PLEASE NOTE:** The 2010 AGM date has been deliberately deferred until Friday, 19th March 2010

We would like to mention a recent successful visit of the Norwich Philharmonic Choir to the Koblenz Musik Institut, culminating in their joint concert on 24th April 2009 and followed by a celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Rotary Link Koblenz Ehrenbreitstein.

## ADDITIONAL NNKFA-LINKED EVENTS

- Wednesday, 20th May 2009      to September **Costume and Textile Association** Exhibition at the **Assembly House**.  
Open daily from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Friday 29th May 2009      7.30 p.m. Concert by **Hellesdon and Sprowston Brass** at Hethersett Church
- 11th to 14th June 2009      17 members of the **EUROPEAN DIOCESAN CHURCHES COMMITTEE GROUP** from Koblenz are expected. They will all be staying privately. There will be a **Church Service at Holy Trinity Church** (off Unthank Road) at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday, 14th June..  
**Organiser: Canon David Sharpe**
- Sunday 14th June 2009      3.00 p.m. Bandstand Concert by **Hellesdon and Sprowston Brass** at Waterloo Park, Norwich
- 21st June 2009      The annual **CIVIC SERVICE at the Cathedral** will be held at 10:45 a.m. for 11.00 a.m..  
Members should advise Waltraud Jarrold before 1st June 2009 if wishing to attend in an NNKFA Group.
- 26th to 29th June 2009      An **International Folklore Festival** will be held in **Winnigen**.  
The 'Kemps Men' from Norwich, who are representing the UK, will be attending.
- 17th May to 12th July 2009      A joint clubs **Photographic Exhibition 'Immer wieder Rhein'** will begin in **Koblenz** and remain open until 12th July. Alan Taylor of the Norwich and District Photographic Society will travel to Koblenz for the opening ceremonies.
- 30th July to 2nd August 2009      **Hanseatic League Festival** event in Kings Lynn, which will see a **Maritime Extravaganza** including the arrival of a Replica Ship from Lübeck Germany



'Feed the Minds Book Fair' will be held from 8th to 11th July 2009.

We are **urgently** looking for volunteers. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Waltraud Jarrold on Tel: 01603 454799.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BOOK ALL EVENTS**

**AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

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### NNKFA Summer Outing to Burghley House, Saturday 20th June 2009

I/We would like .....places for the outing to Burghley House

NNKFA Members Coach (33-seater) £ 14.50 per person (non NNKFA £ 19.50)

NNKFA Members Entry to Burghley House £ 9.50 per person

**Total cost £ 24.00 per person (non NNKFA £ 29.00)**

If you are a member of the Historic Houses Association, entry to the house is £0.00. *(Don't forget to bring your Membership card)*

Please make **cheques payable to NNKFA** and send to: **Mrs Christa Wood, 43 Eaton Street, Norwich NR4 7LD** as soon as possible please

Name(s).....Date.....

Telephone Number.....Signature(s).....

### NNKFA Visit to KOBLENZ , Tuesday 22nd to Sunday 27th September 2009

I/We would like to book.....places for the trip to Koblenz.

NNKFA Members Coach (49-seater) **£ 135.00 per person (non NNKFA £155.00)**

**Deposit(s) of £ 25.00 per person enclosed (non refundable)**

Please make **cheque(s) payable to NNKFA** and send to: **Mrs Christa Wood, 43 Eaton Street, Norwich NR4 7LD** to arrive as soon as possible please.

Name(s).....Date.....

Telephone Number.....Signature(s).....

*And, for those of you who haven't yet renewed , here is another membership application form.*

### NNKFA Annual Membership Subscription Renewal Form

I/We wish to apply for membership / renewal.

**The subscription is currently £ 5.00 per adult member and is/was due on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009.**

**Associate Membership currently £ 10.00 for any two members representing the organisation.**

Name(s): .....Date.....

Address: .....

Telephone: .....Signature(s).....

Please make **cheque(s) payable to NNKFA** and send to:

**Miss Mavis Wesley, 68 The Cedars, Albemarle Road, Norwich NR2 2EF** to arrive as soon as possible please