

TWINNING COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Date: **Thursday 9 July 2015**

Time: **16:00**

Venue: **Mancroft room, City Hall**

Committee members:

Councillor Bremner
Councillor Raby
Councillor Henderson
Councillor Jones
Councillor Maxwell
Councillor Sands (M)
Councillors Thomas (Vi)

Ralph Gayton (El Viejo)
Waltraud Jarrold (Koblenz)
Jill Noble (Koblenz)
Sandra Underwood (Novi Sad)
Doug Underwood (Novi Sad)
Mary Corbould (Rouen)

Claire Alban (Chairman, Norfolk
Association of Twin Communities)
Lord Mayor – Ex officio

For further information please contact -

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Information for members of the public

Members of the public and the media have the right to attend meetings of full council, the cabinet and committees except where confidential information or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, and the meeting is therefore held in private.

For information about attending or speaking at meetings, please contact the committee officer above or refer to the council's website.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

7. (d) General reports - Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

(Report of the twinning associations)

Purpose – To receive the report of the Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association.

8. (b) Twinning fund – Annual grants to the twinning associations

(Report of the twinning officer)

Purpose – To grant £200 to each of the twinning associations and ‘in kind’ support to the Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link.

Date of publication: **Monday, 6 July 2015**

L'Amitié

*The Newsletter of the Norfolk & Norwich Rouen
Friendship Association*



Welcome to the May/June 2015 Newsletter.

Visit to Rouen 18th—22nd May 2015

Monday 18th May.

We assembled at Notcutts for our departure to Rouen, 22 members in total, unfortunately the Edwards had to cancel due to illness.

Making good time we stopped at Maidstone services for refreshments. On our way to the Dover Tunnel port the driver was aware of a warning light on his instrument panel, so we made a stop at the services at the Tunnel site for the driver to investigate. It appeared a belt and a pulley had broken. He contacted his depot who advised him a mechanic would be out to us. 2 hours later he appeared and discovered he had parts for a lorry not a coach !

We were assured the parts would be with us asap. 4 hours later the mechanic appeared with the parts and within half an hour we were on our way again. We arrived in Rouen sometime between 10 & 11 pm local time. We were met by our hosts and made our way

to our accommodation by which time we looked a bit like displaced persons.

Tuesday 19th May.

After a well deserved rest and breakfast we boarded the coach for our first days excursion. This would take us into the Haute-Normandie region to the town of Offranville. A small town of farming and light industry, birth place of the portrait artist Jaques-Emile Blanche. We parked outside the Marie and made our way to the eglise St. Ouen. Dating from

16th century with its unique twisted spire.



the

We visited the interior of St. Ouen with its stained glass windows, statue of Jeanne D'Arc and a large painting, a war memorial to the fallen townsfolk many of whom featured in the painting. On leaving St. Ouen we passed the famous 1000 year old yew tree, 23 feet in circumference.



After a short walk we turned into driveway and was greeted by the sight of a Colombier (dovecote) which Offranville is famous for . More like fortified round houses, some 3 storeys high, built of limestone and sandstone with a frieze of decorative masonry which served as a “slippery” barrier to enterprising rats, hoping for a free meal of nesting pigeons, their and the eggs.



Continuing on we saw many half timbered



By then it had started to rain, undaunted we carried on to see more of what Offranville had to offer. Those less intrepid escaped to a café for refreshment and to dry out! We all met up at the Parc du Colombier for lunch. A Buffet Campagnard was laid on for us.



A good lunch of cheeses, pates and pies

Washed down with Vin, Cidre, D'eau and beer!

Followed by a typical apple tart, this completed a very filling lunch.

We boarded the coach once more to make our way a short distance to the Manoir d'Angio at Varangeville. The Manoir was built in the 16th century inspired by the Italian buildings of the Renaissance.

Within the courtyard we encountered another



Colombier, built in the 17th century and was the largest in France at that time. Measuring 11 metres high and 22 metres in circumference, crowned by a “bulb” shaped dome.

It could hold up to 3200 pigeons, the pigeons



meat and eggs were for the aristocrats table, the resulting litter on the floor was used as fertiliser. The peasants suffered because of

the pigeons feeding off their crops ! (no wonder they revolted. Ed) After a good visit taking in the interior of the Colombier and the rooms and Loggia we made our way back to the coach.



On our journey back to Rouen we took the scenic route travelling up to the coast and making a stop.

Those who wanted to take in the view of the Atlantic Ocean and being quite windy made a good spectacle.

We then took tea or whatever was on offer in a nearby Café.

Once more onto the coach for our return journey to Rouen, arriving at rush hour, our driver Tony was more than a match for the French drivers!

Wednesday 20th May.

Today was a free day for us to take things at a leisurely pace. The planned walking tour of hidden Rouen was cancelled. We all gathered at the Hotel de Ville for the official reception, where there was more meet and greet, with Champagne, soft drinks and Canapes.

Thursday 21st May.

We boarded the coach once more for a visit to the Chateau du Champ de Bataille in the Department of the Eure. The Chateau was built in the 17th century. But its story begins in year 935ad, a huge battle took place on the grounds of the Chateau, between two noble families, the Epee's and the de Danois. The former being the victors and thanks to that victory Normandy gained its independence.



Like many Chateaus, Champ de Bataille fell victim to the Revolution and up to the 19th and 20th centuries the Chateau fell into disrepair. In 1992 the Chateau was acquired by its present owner Jaques Garcia, who undertook the task of restoring the Chateau's décor and furnishings to its past glory. With the help of his Head Gardener Patrick Pottier the 40+ hectares of grounds are also restored to formal gardens.

Our guide to the Chateau was a stunning French woman exuding all the panache one would expect.



Some of the interesting views.

Lunch was taken at the Golf club adjacent to the Chateau. After which we had a short time to visit and explore the formal gardens

Friday 22nd May.

Home today! We made an early start and driving towards Le Haute-Somme to the town of Peronne which was in the centre of the battle of the Somme area. For those who wanted a visit to the local Hyper-Marche was offered whilst the remainder of us explored Peronne. In the Castle is the Historial of the Great War museum. A modern building, light and airy and the displays sympathetically presented and easily viewed. After lunch we once more boarded the coach for the journey to Calais and the Tunnel terminal. A thankfully uneventful drive back to Norwich.

Thanks must go to Bob Barnard for arranging the coach and his patience relaying information when we were stuck in Dover.

To Mary Corbould (our Akela) in sorting out accommodation and rounding us up when necessary.

The driver of the Richard's coach Tony for his good humour despite the unforced stop.

with the Christmas lights switch on and will ease parking.

Menus and times will be sent out to members nearer the time.

Committee Members

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FUTURE EVENTS

Garden Party:

This years garden party will be held at Mary Corboulds house. On Saturday 25th of July. Please bring a savory or a sweet plate, chairs as well would help. From 12 noon.

Mary's address 6 Elmdon Court off St Leonards Road. There is parking at the Church on Telegraph Lane West.

November Dinner

This popular event is to be held on Thursday 25th November 2015, at the St Benedicts Restaurant. A later date so as not to clash

		Item
Report to:	Twinning committee 9 July 2015	8(b)
Report of the:	Twinning officer	
Subject:	Annual grant to the twinning associations	

Purpose

To consider a grant of £200 each to the twinning associations for Koblenz, Novi Sad and Rouen and to provide 'in kind' support to the Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link.

Recommendations

To:

- (a) grant £200 each to the twinning associations for Koblenz, Novi Sad and Rouen; and,
- (b) provide 'in kind' support to the Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link.

Financial consequences

Following the annual grant from the city council, there are sufficient monies in the twinning fund to pay for these grants.

Corporate and service plan priorities

Through their work, the twinning associations contribute to the corporate priority of city of character and culture and the service plan priority of promoting and fostering links and exchanges of all kinds between people of Norwich and those in the twin cities.

Contact Officers

Andy Emms, democratic services manager/twinning officer 01603 212459

Report

1. The committee has made an annual contribution, over a number of years, of £200 to the Koblenz, Novi Sad and Rouen twinning associations to help support their activities.
2. None of the associations has requested a higher annual contribution for civic year 2015-16, but it is recognised that rising costs might justify a higher annual grant.
3. The El Viejo Link has preferred to retain support in kind i.e. photocopying and use of committee rooms, etc.
4. It is proposed to grant £200 to the Koblenz, Novi Sad and Rouen twinning associations.