

Report to Twinning Committee from Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

AGM

Once again the City Hall allowed us to use the Council Chamber for our AGM which was quite well attended, and chaired by our President, The Lord Mayor of Norwich, Councillor Evelyn Collishall. A committee was elected and Mary Corbould was re-elected unopposed for a second year as Chairman, with June Perkins willing to stand again as Vice-Chairman. Ann Rowe had been acting Secretary and was confirmed in post, as was Chris Rowe who acts as meetings Minutes Secretary. Lyn Holt was re-elected to the Committee and Bob Gledhill joined us as well. Ron Scarborough did not wish to stand again, and he was thanked for his contribution over the past year. It was agreed to canvass members in order to find a Treasurer. .

2010 Visit of the Rouennais

Our friends from the Norwich Club in Rouen came over on 2 June, bringing with them a settled spell of good fine weather. This made our visits to Burnham Thorpe and Burnham Norton very pleasant as we discovered various things about Nelson and medieval churches, particularly noting the distribution of round towered churches throughout Norfolk and how unique they are to this part of the country. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Lord Nelson, with the added bonus that the landlord, having spent some time in France, was able to explain the Nelson association to Burnham Thorpe in French, a point well appreciated by our friends.

We are lucky enough to have registered City Guides among our members, and on Friday two groups were shown various aspects of the City, one in French led by Huguette Andries-Smith, and one in English led by Bob Barnard. The rest of the day was free to explore different places, with some going on an afternoon boat trip from the station. We were privileged to have both the newly installed Lord Mayor and Sheriff at the reception held at City Hall on Friday evening when a good time was had by all.

Saturday saw the group on a visit to Cambridge which was much enjoyed. We were invited to lunch at the University Centre which looks directly over the river, and our visitors thought this was wonderful. Sunday, the day of departure, came around all too soon, and so another successful visit ended.

During the visit contacts were made with the idea of rugby teams exchanging games. And recently we have been approached by a group of hand bell ringers in Rouen who would like to come to Norwich. Their counterparts in Norwich have responded and we hope this will result in visits to each city.

Mary Corbould: Chairman NNRFA

7 June 2010