

The NNKFA February KONTAKT Newsletter was distributed at the Twinning Committee on March 14 to those present with a special focus on our Autumn and winter 2018 Events.

NNKFA AGM was held at Norfolk County Hall on Friday March 16, the day after the last Twinning Committee meeting, in the presence of Councillor Margaret Stone and her husband Councillor Barry Stone and Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Roger Ryan, as well as my sister Siglinde Krumme, who was also our speaker, and had come to Norwich with the choir of the Musik Institut, Koblenz. After the AGM we had a social evening with a chance to talk together.

Joint Concert with Norwich Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra, and Musik Institut Chor

On Saturday 17 March, the two choirs sang the “Verdi Requiem” in the St. Andrews Hall, in an uplifting and memorable performance, especially at this “uncertain times”. The friendship between the members of the two choirs was obvious at the refreshments afterwards in the Blackfriars Hall, even with an early departure the next morning.

The Twinning Garden.

At the AGM of Norwich in Bloom on 20 March there was a special focus on the “Twinning Garden” by Beryl Blower as coordinator and myself as re-elected President. The garden is now progressing well in the churchyard of All Saints Church, Westlegate, with the main structure nearly complete. There will be a typical plant to represent each of the twin cities, representing Koblenz and region, will be a cornflower’

We were very sad to hear of the death of Roy Blower, past Lord Mayor and long term, regular supporter of NNKFA, but are pleased and grateful that he will be remembered by a garden bench presented by him and Beryl to the Twinning Garden. Roy will be missed by us as well as many other Norwich people.

Rotary Clubs of Norwich and Koblenz Ehrenbreitstein celebrated 30 years of twinning at the end of April, with a weekend in Koblenz and 20 members from Norwich taking part in a full programme, and many staying with Rotary member hosts. A donation was made to a project supported by the host club in Koblenz to make provision for children after school, who would otherwise be going to an empty home.

Future Programme

Saturday 15 June. NNKFA Summer Outing, will include travelling on the Bure Valley Railway from Aylsham to Wroxham, a boat trip from Wroxham on the Broads, and on return, tea at Aylsham Station.

10 to 13 July 50th Feed the Minds Book Fair at St. Andrews Church, which is supported by helpers from NNKFA, and this year will be supporting a project in Tanzania.

4 to 11 September NNKFA visit to Koblenz travelling by coach via Harwich – Hook of Holland. Included will be a welcome by the new Oberbürgermeister, a visit to the Wine Festival in Winningen and to the historic city of Trier with its Roman remains. At present we have 24 members travelling and would welcome more.

Sunday 15 September NNKFA 39th Anniversary Lunch at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett (actual anniversary Monday 16 September).

DUaM German Conversation continues on Wednesdays from 10.30am to 12.00 noon. Donations are made to “Feed the Minds” and “Meningitis Now”, which are very much appreciated.

TRIORCA, made up of young musicians from Koblenz, Novi Sad and Norfolk, will again be performing this year in Novi Sad, which is “2019 European City of Youth”. We would welcome financial support.

Norwich and District Photographic Society and Foto Club Koblenz are again this year after a 10 years break reviving a project to take photos of each other's cities for exhibition in Norwich and Koblenz.

A Koblenz youth choir, who performed at the celebration of 40 years of twinning in Koblenz Rathaus, attended by our Lord Mayor in Spring 2018, is still looking for a possibility to give a concert in Norwich. If anyone has a suitable contact with a Youth Choir, it would be very helpful!

We welcome the new Lord Mayor, Councillor Vaughan Thomas, and Sherriff, Dr. Marian Prinsley and hope that they will be able to attend some of our events during their time in office

“This is the right spirit to foster Twinning in the best possible way, for harmony to continue and for more cities to be inspired”. Siglinde Krumme