

TWIN TOWNS

Bouchain is a small town with a population of approximately 4000, situated a two hour drive from Calais and half an hour from Lille. It has strong connections with the battlefields of WW1 and for boating enthusiasts, it sits on the impressive and lovely river Escaut.

The Society have an annual trip to Bouchain in December to attend their Marché de Noel, where we have a stall selling British food and drink. Every alternate year we are invited for a summer trip, which is usually in June.

Eitorf is a larger town (population 20,000) just a half hour drive from Cologne-Bonn airport, or 5 hour drive from Calais. In addition to Bonn and Cologne, there are numerous attractions in this lovely part of Germany, such as the river Rhine and many lovely wooded valleys, vineyards and fairy-tale castles.

The Society normally visit Eitorf for their spring fair in April and again for special trips arranged by our very friendly German hosts.



HALESWORTH & DISTRICT TWINNING SOCIETY

Further details can be found online at:
www.halesworth-twinning.org.uk

Or Follow Us on our Facebook Page
HalesworthTwinningSociety

For information regarding trips and to book places, please contact Dean on 01986 873283

Or email chair@halesworth-twinning.org.uk

Ask us about:

- Exchange visits to France and Germany
- Events in the UK involving our twin towns
- Virtual twinning
- Forthcoming trips
- How groups can be involved with twinning
- Links with schools
- Potential for business links
- Being a host family
- Volunteering at events

The Society welcomes new members at any time. It doesn't cost anything to join and language skills are not necessary, although useful.

We do ask that people have a desire to learn about and understand each other, our twin towns in France and Germany and the different cultures. A readiness to come along on one of our regular trips and being able to help the Society when we host guests is also appreciated.

Halesworth & District Twinning Society

Encouraging cultural and language exchange within the Halesworth area



Events 2018

Twinning Society Events 2018

28th and 29th April

Visit to Eitorf to attend the Frühlingsmesse. This is a trade fair where we operate a pop-up pub to raise funds for twinning activities. Your help in running the pub for a few hours is needed.



This visit will require you to make your own transport arrangements (drive or fly to Cologne-Bonn), however the Society can arrange hosts.

Contact Dean on 01986 873283 for more details.

19th and 20th May

Minibus trip to Bouchain, France. Pick up 06.30hrs Saturday 19th and return 22.00hrs on Sunday 20th May.

£50.00 per person, payable in advance. This covers return transport costs plus the Eurotunnel crossing and will take you to the centre of Bouchain where we will be met by our pre-arranged host families. It is customary to offer a small gift to your hosts, but no other payment is required. Money will be required for meals and drinks etc. during travel. As you will be staying *en famille*, your accommodation and meals will all be provided by your hosts.

During our stay we may have the opportunity to visit places of local interest, take tours and a meal together in the evening - it all depends on what our French hosts organise for us!

This trip is open to new and existing members of the Society - knowledge of French beneficial, but not required as host families will be arranged

according to your fluency. Accompanied children are particularly welcome and encouraged; host families are selected where there are children of similar ages.

If this trip interests you, but you are unsure about staying with another family, please ask for an existing member of the Society to contact you who can discuss their own personal experiences.

To book a place email: chair@halesworth-twinning.org.uk

23rd and 24th June

Our turn to host.... Visit from French twinning town families for the Halesworth Midsummer Fair, Walpole village barbecue and Halesworth Open Gardens on the 24th. Helpers and host families needed and always much appreciated.

9th and 10th September

Eitorf Surprise Tour to Bouchain (France).... such a surprise that we don't even know what it is yet!

8th and 9th December

Visit to Bouchain to attend their Marché de Noel.

This is our main fundraising activity of the year, where we have a stall selling Christmas cakes, marmalade, hot toddies and whisky mac. A real opportunity to meet the locals and be part of the community.

Stay *en famille* with a group meal on the Saturday evening and enjoy a traditional Christmas market on the Sunday.

Minibus travel for this weekend may be available subject to interest levels.

Help with the stall always appreciated (and it's great for your French trying to explain what a whisky mac is!!)

What language skills do I need?

Ability to speak either French or German is not essential to be a part of the Twinning Society.

There are a number of ways that you can be involved from hosting a family, volunteering on stalls, recruiting new members and taking part in twin family exchange in France or Germany. Each aspect will require a different level of language skill, from none to enough to converse at least a little with a host family. No one is expected to be fluent, but a desire to learn is always a good start.



For further information or to book a place on a trip, please contact Dean (Society Chairman) on 01986 873283 or email: chair@halesworth-twinning.org.uk