





#### **CRAWLEY TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION** Issue 73

#### **CTTA NEWSLETTER - SPRING EDITION**

April 2016

Dear members and friends,

Welcome to the Spring 2016 issue of the CTTA Newsletter.

The majority of this Newsletter is dedicated to our CTTA honorary president Alderman Jim Smith MBE and his public and private life achievements including his MBE investiture held in Crawley Town Hall on 7th. January 2016.

The CTTA Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 6th February 2016 in Rowfant House, organised by Elaine Williams. Short summary of the successful event with a few photos are shown on page 9.

Geoff May, the organiser and trip leader of this year's August Main Group Visit to Dorsten reports that his list of people participating on the trip is almost full. At the moment there may still be 3 or 4 places available. So anybody thinking of going, please contact Geoff as soon as possible to avoid any possible disappointment.

Our long standing member Mrs. Judy Rayner had a accident during her cruise in the Far East. Following an operation, Judy is now back on British soil, and on behalf of the CTTA we all wish her a speedy recovery and get well soon. Equally we wish a speedy recovery and best wishes to our Dorsten dear friend Petra Guenther who will be coming home from rehabilitation on 7th April.

Peter Klin PR officer and editor of the newsletter On behalf of CTTA

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Inside this issue	Page:
Foreword by the editor	1
Alderman Jim Smith MBE	2
By Peter Klin	
Jim Smith MBE- photo and MBE in- vestiture photos (by CBC)	3 to 4
Jim's public service	5
MBE a "huge honour"	5
Article from Crawley Ob- server - published on 13/1/2016	
Copy of the official HONOURS CITATION	6
Investiture – two copies out of the many " thank you emails"	7
Copy of STADT DORSTEN, DER BUERGEMEISTER's congratulation letter	8
CTTA ANNUAL DINNER By Peter Klin	9
CTTA Annual Dinner Quiz (Q&A) By Keith Sullivan	10 & 11
CTTA ACTIVITIES- Local Press articles	12
CTTA GENERAL & MEMBERSHIP INFO	13

### **ALDERMAN JIM SMITH MBE**

As mentioned in my title page, this Newsletter is on the whole dedicated to our long standing CTTA member and Honorary president Mr Jim Smith MBE.

Majority of Jim's life and lifetime public achievements (which were really many) are well documented and described either in the HM Queen's Honours Citation Form shown on page 5 or in the local press coverage and article e.g. Crawley Observer—page 6.

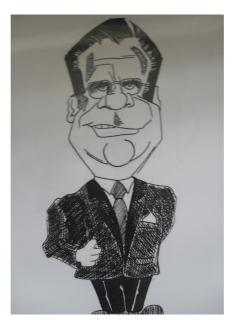
My small contribution is taken from a slightly different angle and includes some of Jim's private information given kindly to me at my chat with Jim and Brenda in their home last month. This chat followed the brilliant MBE investiture and celebration given by Jim and Brenda at the Town Hall's loaned Chamber on 7th January 2016. The Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Susan Pyper, performed the formal ceremony on behalf of The Queen.

During my chat with Jim he confirmed that he was born in Rochester on 29th.October 1927, grew up in Shortlands and moved to Crawley in 1958. During his early life he was a professional footballer for 3 years with Crystal Palace FC and was Three Bridges' captain for many years.

Apart from his known public appointments as a Chairman of the Crawley Urban District Council as a labour councillor, County Councillor on West Sussex Council, magistrate on the Crawley Bench and Borough Mayor re-elected three times, Jim was also a full time lecturer of Maths, Technical Drawings and Mechanical engineering first in Crawley College and later in Lewisham Technical College. He commuted daily by car between Lewisham and Crawley.

Jim was the first Chair of the Crawley Town Twinning Association, established in 1973 and served continuously for 25 years and is currently it's Honorary President.

Jim has 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren, which he very much enjoys. On Behalf of the CTTA we all wish Jim many happy years with his dedicated wife Brenda, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, and look forward to seeing him at the forthcoming CTTA committee meetings and also at the next Main Group Visit in Dorsten in August of this year.



Text by Peter Klin

### **JIM SMITH MBE**















Alderman Jim Smith MBE



Investiture, 7th January 2016





#### Jim's public service MBE a 'huge honour'

A town stalwart received his MBE for services to the community of Crawley after making a remarkable health recovery.



A town stalwart received his MBE for services to the community of Crawley after making a remarkable health recovery.

Some 150 people attended Alderman Jim Smith's investiture at the Town Hall's chambers on Thursday (January 7).

His wife, Brenda Smith, said he was applauded as he walked into the chamber despite being at 'death's door' only weeks before.

The Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Susan Piper, performed the formal ceremony on behalf of The Queen. The chamber heard he had been involved in public services for almost half a century and a borough councillor for 40 years.

He championed education during the 12 years he served as a Crawley county councillor, was a magistrate for 21 years, and was 'pivotal' in getting the town's cultural hub, The Hawth Theatre, built.

Mr Smith was selected for an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in April 2015. He was unable to formally receive the award at Buckingham Palace and was planning to receive at home due to ill health.Mrs Smith, who has served as Mayor of Crawley twice, said: "This is the biggest thing that has ever happened in our lives.

"It was a huge honour and a surprise.

"After coming out of hospital it was clear he was not going to be strong enough to make a visit to London and all that involved."

Mr Smith, who was diagnosed with dementia in 2009, made an 'amazing recovery' after a change in his treatment late last year.

Mrs Smith said he was 'very frail' but determined to walk into the chamber.

Friends and family applauded him after he entered the room holding on to Susan Piper's arm.

Mrs Smith said: "We were absolutely thrilled that the Lord Lieutenant agreed to come and invest him with his medal and that the council had very very kindly provided the council chamber.

"We were able to invite guests which we would not have been able to do if the investiture were at the palace."

She added Mr Smith was chairman of the town's twinning association for 25 years and had been made its life-time president

He continued to visit schools to help reduce the stigma of dementia to children.

Article Published in Crawley Observer - 13th.January 2016

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Stadtverwaltung Dorsten – Postfach 21 02 05 – 46269 Dorsten

Mr. Jim Smith

Crawley

#### Stadtverwaltung Dorsten

Postfach 21 02 65 46269 Dorsten

Tel. 0 23 62 - 66 33 00 / 30 10 Fax 0 23 62 - 66 57 01

www.dorsten.de buergermeisterbuero@dorsten.de

Dorsten, 25th June 2015

Dear Jim,

I became aware that you have been awarded by Queen Elisabeth II as a Member of the Order of the British Empire. I would like to congratulate you warmly for this great honour. I am particularly pleased that the Queen appreciates specifically your service for the town twinning between Crawley and Dorsten. This also means that some of the glamour gleams on our town.

But it is indeed impressive that you served for this exchange for more than four decades. With your commitment you caused uncountable friendships between citizens and associations in both of our towns. And along the way this stable connection between two towns is part of a large network of Peoples' Friendship and understanding in Europe.

Dear Jim, unfortunately I also became aware that Brenda had an accident und had to be treated in hospital. I keep my fingers crossed that her injuries heal quiet well und I wish her a speedy recovery,

Yours sincerely

Tobias Stockhoff Mayor

#### **CTTA ANNUAL DINNER 2016**

This year's Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 6th February at Rowfant House. Elaine Williams once more kindly agreed to organise this year's event and 28 members were at the evening.

The dinner was enjoyed by all. Following the meal, Jacky May organised the evening's raffle prizes and Keith Sullivan prepared an excellent (although relatively hard) quiz with Germany as a theme for each of the question. (See pages 7& 8 for the Quiz's questions and answers).

Once more many thanks Elaine for organizing such a successful event, Jacky for the raffle and Keith for the brilliant quiz. See you all in 2017.















#### CTTA ANNUAL DINNER 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 'HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GERMANY' QUIZ

#### Can you find the hidden phrase?

- 1. SWEET SCENTED CITY IN GERMANY (4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011)
- 2. S-BAHN END STATION OF BERLIN S1 RAIL LINE
- 3. OLD MAN FOUND IN THIS PLACE NEAR DUSSELDORF
- 4. HOME CITY OF SCHALKE 04
- 5. OFTEN POORLY PRONOUNCED GERMAN GRAPE
- 6. CHARLEMAGNE EMPIRE CAPITAL & SPA TOWN
- 7. GERMAN CHRISTMAS TREE
- 8. INSPIRING CATHEDRAL CITY IN BADEN-WURTEMBURG
- 9. SOMETIMES CALLED THE MURMURING ROCK ON GERMAN RIVER
- 10. RIVER, VALLEY & GERMAN RED WINE REGION SHARE SAME NAME
- 11. NUMBER OF WINE PRODUCING REGIONS IN GERMANY
- 12. NO ROOM AT THIS GERMAN RIVER
- 13. PASSIONATE THEATRICAL CITY IN BAVARIA
- 14. NUMBER OF COUNTRIES BORDERING GERMANY
- 15. ONE OF BERLIN'S AIRPORTS
- 16. INDUSTRIAL CITY IN FORMER DDR WITH A TOUCH OF GLASS
- 17. BUNDESLIGA TEAM (BEGINS FC I.....), ALSO HQ OF AUDI
- 18. NOT JUST DESSERTS, GERMAN FOOD COMPANY
- 19. WATER FROM A HOSE, BERLIN RIVER
- 20. GERMAN RIVER SHARING BORDER WITH LUXEMBOURG
- 21. MUNICH'S RUSSIAN SOUNDING RIVER (BUT ONLY AFTER 'I')
- 22. MOUNTAIN RANGE IN HESSE (GERMAN FORD CORTINA)
- 23. TOWN OF IRON MEN
- 24. ANGEL (PERHAPS) BORN IN HAMBURG IN 1954
- 25, SMALLEST STATE OF GERMANY
- 26, STATE CAPITAL OF THURINGIA
- 27. GERMAN CHEERS
- 28, DORSTEN NUMBER PLATE ADMINISTRATIVE TOWN
- 29. CITY TO EAT, IN GERMANY
- 30. DOUBLE BARRELLED GERMAN STATE
- 31. ESKIMO HOME OF SPINACH
- 32. CAPITAL CITY OF NORD RHEIN WESTFALEN
- 33. DRESDEN'S RIVER
- 34. GERMAN F1 TRACK, BUT NOT USED IN 2015!
- 35. SLOGAN 'CAR FOR FOUR WITH LUGGAGE IN A COMPACT SHELL'
- 36. GERMANS LOVE THIS SPICY SNACK, ESPECIALLY IN BERLIN
- 37. OPERA BY RICHARD WAGNER
- 38. AUDI SLOGAN 'VORSPRUNG DURCH ... '
- 39. FAMILY NAME OF FOUNDER OF ALDI
- 40. FAMOUS PERSON IN CRAWLEY A CLUE TO THIS QUIZ



#### AND THE ANSWERS ARE:

CongratulationsJimSmithMBEPresidentCTTA

1. COLOGNE - SCENTED CITY FOR 4711

2. ORANIENBURG - S-BAHN END STATION OF BERLIN S1 RAIL LINE

3. NEANDERTHAL - OLD MAN FOUND IN THIS PLACE

4. GELSENKIRCHEN – HOME CITY OF SCHALKE 04

5. RIESLING – POORLY PRONOUNCED GERMANY GRAPE

6. AACHEN – CHARLEMAGNE EMPIRE CAPITAL & SPA TOWN

7. TANNENBAUM – GERMAN CHRISTMAS TREE

8. ULM – INSPIRING CATHEDRAL CITY IN BADEN-WURTEMBURG – tallest steeple in the world (161.53 m or 529.95 feet)

9. LORELEI – OFTEN CALLED MURMURING ROCK ON GERMAN RIVER (The translation of the name Loreley is 'murmuring rock')

10. AHR – RIVER, VALLEY & GERMAN WINE REGION SHARE NAME

11. THIRTEEN - NUMBER WINE PRODUCING REGIONS IN GERMANY

12. INN - NO ROOM AT THIS GERMAN RIVER

13. OBERAMMERGAU – PASSIONATE THEATRICAL CITY IN BAVARIA (passion play performed since 1634, tradition by inhabitants)

14. NINE – NUMBER OF COUNTRIES BORDERING GERMANY (DK, PL, CZ, OS, CH, FR, LX, BE, NL)

15. SCHOENEFELD – ONE OF BERLIN'S AIRPORTS

16. JENA - INDUSTRIAL CITY IN FORMER DDR, TOUCH OF GLASS

17. INGOLSTADT – BUNDESLIGA TEAM (BEGINS FC I..) & AUDI HQ

18. MUELLER – NOT JUST DESSERTS, GERMAN FOOD COMPANY

19. SPREE – WATER FROM A HOSE, IN BERLIN (250ml long trib of Havel)

20. MOSELLE – RIVER SHARING BORDER WITH LUXEMBOURG

21. ISAR – MUNICH RUSSIAN SOUNDING RIVER (ONLY AFTER 'I')

22. TAUNUS – MOUNTAIN RANGE IN HESSE, GERMAN FORD CORTINA

23. HATTINGEN – TOWN OF IRON MEN

24. MERKEL – ANGEL (PERHAPS) BORN IN HAMBURG IN 1954

25. BREMEN – SMALLEST STATE OF GERMANY'S 16 STATES

26. ERFURT – STATE CAPITAL OF THURINGIA

27. PROST – GERMAN CHEERS

28. RECKLINGHAUSEN – DORSTEN NUMBER PLATE ADMIN TOWN

29. ESSEN – CITY TO EAT, IN GERMAN

30. SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN – DOUBLE BARRELLED GERMAN STATE

31. IGLOO - ESKIMO HOME OF SPINACH

32. DUSSELDORF – CAPITAL CITY OF NORD RHEIN WESTFALEN

33. ELBE – DRESDEN'S RIVER

34. NURBURGRING - GERMAN F1 TRACK NOT USED IN 2015

35. TRABANT – CAR FOR 4 WITH LUGGAGE IN A COMPACT SHELL

36. CURRY WURST - GERMANS LOVE THIS SPICY SNACK, IN BERLIN

37. TANNHAUSER - OPERA BY RICHARD WAGNER

38. TECHNIK – AUDI SLOGAN 'VORSPRUNG DURCH' "Advancement through technology"

39. ALBRECHT – Karl Albrecht (Feb 1920 – July 2014) Founded Aldi. Many years richest in Germany. Feb 2014, 21st-richest in the world.

40. FAMOUS PERSON IN CRAWLEY - A CLUE TO THIS QUIZ

ARTICLES ABOUT CTTA ACTIVITIES IN "CRAWLEY LIVE" AND "CRAWLEY OBSERVER"

## Take a trip to our twin town

Join the Crawley Town Twinning Association (CTTA) and explore our German twin town, Dorsten.

The association has been organising visits for more than 40 years and groups like The Weald Choir, Millennium Band and Scouts have all enjoyed visits. Along with these visits, the association also organises visits for couples and individuals and their children/ grandchildren to stay with host families.

Three local trips are organised for the week but the rest of time is open to explore the local area which includes the university town of Munster, villages and castles. The river Lippe and Wesel-Datteln Canal run through Dorsten which links north-easten Germany to the Rhine.

Travel from Crawley is by coach which is also used for the excursions arranged by the Dorsten Town Twinning Committee. Travellers participating in the visit pay for the cost of travel and their personal expenses while accommodation and meals at home are provided by the host families.

The main group visit in 2016 will take place from the 20-28 August and although priority is given to members who have hosted in the past, places are available for new members.

Membership is open to everyone who lives in Crawley so if you would like to join or have more information please contact the membership secretary, Michael James. Telephone 01293 532699 or email michaeljames271@btinternet. com

Further information about twin town activities can be found at www.dorsten-crawley.com



he Crawley Town Twinning Association (CTTA) is offering residents the chance to join them on this year's visit to the twin town of Dorsten in Germany.

Over more than 40 years, strong links have been forged with the town, which like Crawley was formed out of several small villages. Clubs from both towns take part in twinning events throughout the year. There are also annual groups trips of couples and individuals, which will take place on August 20 to 28.

CTTA chairman Iain Millar said: "Accommodation and meals at home are provided by the host family with the idea that visitors will then welcome German visitors to their home in Crawley when the Dorsten group visit us the following year.

"Many strong friendships have resulted over the years and this is a wonderful opportunity to get to know a country and its people in a way that tourists can never experience."

People pay for their coach travel and personal expenses while their meals and board are free. Any Crawley residents can take part by joining the CTTA. Call membership secretary Michael James on 01293 532699 for details.

# Chance to explore twin town







#### CRAWLEY TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION-GENERAL AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

#### WHAT IS TOWN TWINNING?

Town Twinning exists to promote friendship between people of different countries through personal and cultural links.

Every year a group from Crawley visits Dorsten or a group from Dorsten comes to Crawley. We pay our own travel expenses but when in Germany we stay with a German family as non paying guests and visits are arranged to places of interest in the neighbourhood. The following year we act as hosts to our German guests.

It is also normal to arrange a youth programme for teenagers so that they can enjoy their own activities and experience life in a different country and enjoy new experiences.

Exchanges can also be arranged between clubs and societies such as sports clubs, choirs and orchestras.

The Crawley – Dorsten link has been in existence for more than 43 years and many strong friendships have been built up during this time.

INTERESTED?

Membership is open to Families, Individuals, Clubs and Societies. You do not have to speak German but there is the opportunity to do so if you wish.

For more information please contact:-

The membership secretary Michael James Telephone: 01293 532699

How to Join Fill out the application form below and send it together with your Subscription to:

> Membership Secretary, Michael James 16 Epsom Road Furnace Green Crawley RH10 Tel. 01293 532699

The annual subscriptions To subscribe you will need to make annual payments (by cheque)\*.

> Individual residents £ 8.00 Individual non-residents £10.00 Family residents £12.00 Family non residents £15.00 Schools/other associations resident £20.00 Schools/other associations non resident £20.00

\*Please remember that cheques must be payable to the CTTA.

I enclose a cheque to the value of £
Name
Address
Signature