



CRAWLEY TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

CTTA NEWSLETTER - JANUARY EDITION

Issue 90

January 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to the January 2024 edition of the CTTA Newsletter.

Since the last September 2023 Newsletter issue I would like to report as follows:

CTTA Chairman Iain Millar is leaving his post.

With regrets and after 17 years of holding the CTTA chairman's position Iain Millar has decided to resign. Despite this sad news, we are of course very pleased that Iain (and Marilyn) will continue to be members of the association. The committee and members would like to say a big thank you for the excellent leadership and hard work that Iain dedicated for the smooth running and representation of the Association. His first class presentations and confident speaking skills will be very hard to replicate and to replace. Once more a big thank you Iain, and we all wish you and Marilyn a very good health and happiness for many years to come. Cheers and Slainte Mhath.

50th Anniversary evening at St. Andrews on Saturday 14.10.2023

Last October we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the CTTA. Hilary Jones and committee members and friends organised an excellent evening-concert held at the St. Andrews Church. Dave Hathaway was a very entertaining and enjoyable compere for the evening, introducing the excellent choirs, singers and band during the evening. For more details please refer to the article shown on pages 4&5. Once more many thanks to Hilary for her excellent work in leading and organising this wonderful event. Additional thank you for Jacky and Sandy and other CTTA members, friends and family for their assistance as well.

50th Anniversary Dinner on 17.10.2023— details to follow

Our Social secretary Moira Blackman kindly organised the above dinner which was held at the Crawley Rugby Club. Many members attended this important event and we have also welcomed the Mayor of Crawley Cllr Jilly Hart and Cllr Julian Charatan. From the reactions of those who attended the dinner and the evening was enjoyed by all. We have even tasted the celebratory 50th. Anniversary cake specially made for this occasion. Thank you Moira for organising this event and Mike and other members for their assistance. (photos shown on page 6).

Pre Christmas Pub Evening at the Parsons Pig 12th. December 2023

Our busy social secretary Moira organised this pre Christmas get-together. The evening was very much enjoyed by all the those who attended this event. Thank you Moira. Well done.

Manor Green College Work Experience 27.1.2024—2nd. February 2024

In addition to the above activities Moira together with the college management and members helped to organise a week of School experience for seven students and two teachers from Dorsten. Various and interesting program for the students and teachers is also being organised during the week. CTTA are wishing the students and the accompanying teachers a very pleasant and fruitful stay in Crawley and UK. The Dorsten Mayor Mr Stockhoff, Marita and our Mayor will visit the Manor Green College and the Town Hall on 29th January.

Crawley Borough Council event

Mayor's of Crawley Celebration Evening on 27th January 2024

The Mayor of Crawley. Cllr Jilly Hart has sent out invitations for the above event to be held at the Hawth Theatre to celebrate the 50th. Anniversary of the town twinning with Dorsten, Germany and help to raise funds for the Mayor's chosen charities. Among the people invited from various Crawley organisations, this event will be also attended by the long serving Chair from the Dorsten-Crawley Freundeskreis Mrs. Marita Kipinski and the current Mayor and CEO of Dorsten Town Administration Mr Tobias Stockhoff and his wife Monika. The CTTA wishes all attendees a very enjoyable and memorable evening.

Peter Klin P.R. officer and Newsletter Editor
On Behalf of CTTA



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Crawley Town Twinning Association



Chairman's Farewell Message

Marilyn and I joined the CTTA in 2004 and I was appointed Chairman in 2007, so it is now time to retire and hand over the reins to someone younger. It would not have been possible to do this job for so long without the fantastic support from the rest of the committee but especially from Geoff who has been secretary for much, much longer. Very many thanks to them all.

The 20 years in the CTTA have been a most enjoyable and interesting experience not least due to the many friends we have made, not only in Dorsten but also here in Crawley.



However we will also never forget some of the great experiences we have had and the places we have visited.

On our first visit in 2004 it was to the Neanderthal museum near Köln, located in the Neander valley where the first remains of Neanderthal man were found. It brought pre-history to life and was a unique experience.

Another highlight was the visit to the Meyerwerft shipyard in Papenburg where within one large building we saw not one but two large cruise ships under construction. With the cabins being constructed as finished modular units off site and fitted into the ship like Lego blocks this enabled the total ship to be built in less than one year.





Crawley Town Twinning Association



A real surprise in 2007 was to find that one of the Dorsten committee members was an experienced bagpipe player and the “silly games” that we played during the Dual Committee Meeting were based on the Scottish Highland Games including tossing a (cardboard) caber and a tug of war. Needless to say the British team won, as the visitors always do (in true CTTA tradition).



As times change and foreign travel becomes much easier, Town Twinning must adapt to meet the needs of new members. As Keith said at the Anniversary concert, Town Twinning is about new experiences and not just a cheap holiday. Less emphasis should be placed on hosting and more on the experience of sharing mutual interests with friends from a different country in a way that is not possible as an ordinary tourist.

I encourage our new members to consider joining the committee to lead the CTTA into a new era of Town Twinning so that they too can enjoy the benefits of Town Twinning that I have experienced.



Cheers!

Iain Millar



Crawley Town Twinning Association



CTTA 50th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, 14th October 2023 saw the celebration concert for the 50th Anniversary of the CTTA between Crawley and Dorsten. The concert was held at St. Andrews, Furnace Green and we welcomed an audience of past and present members and other invited guests, including Marita and Ilse from Dorsten.

What a celebration it turned out to be thanks to everyone's hard work and the amazing performers!

The evening commenced with a super performance by the Manor Green Singing Choir. The resulting applause really raised the roof and set the tone for what followed. Next came the Handbell group, so a completely different experience. They were followed by the Songbirds Choir and then a speech by Keith Sullivan explaining about Town Twinning.

During the interval, where there were refreshments, including German Sekt, there was a slide show of past visits on the screens in the coffee shop and church. Also an opportunity to mingle, catch up and ask questions.



The Copthorne Silver Band came next with their truly rousing music and this was topped off by everyone singing Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head and an ABBA medley. Iain rounded the whole evening off with a speech thanking everyone for their hard work and for attending.



As the audience streamed out, with smiles on their faces, there was a retiring collection for the Mayor's charity, Crawley Armed Forces Breakfast Club and Songbirds charities, KSS and

Free Shop. The amount raised was truly amazing. Thank you.

Thanks again to everyone who attended and helped, without you it would not have been such a success, and to all the performers who gave up their time to help us celebrate.

By Hilary Jones





50th Anniversary Concert- Photos





Crawley Town Twinning Association



50th Anniversary Dinner





Crawley Town Twinning Association



Down the memory lane - photos



**Signing of the Crawley Town
and Dorsten Twinning Agreement 17.10.1973**

**Below are photos from the 40th. Anniversary of Crawley and Dorsten Twinning and MGV
in the summer of 2013**



Crawley Town Twinning Association



Pre Christmas Pub Evening Get Together at the Parsons Pig on 12th. December 2023



Cheers

Crawley Town Twinning Association



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on Tuesday 23rd January 2024
at the
St Andrew's Church, Wealds Drive, Crawley RH10 6NU, at 8p.m**

As a member of the C.T.T.A. you are cordially invited to attend and be involved with how the Association works with our Twin Town of Dorsten.

NOMINATION FOR OFFICERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN
SECRETARY
MINUTE SECRETARY
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
5 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

VICE-CHAIRMAN
TREASURER
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
ACCOMMODATION SECRETARY

NAME

POSITION APPLIED

PROPOSED BY

SECONDED BY

I accept the nomination for the position of _____

Signed _____

To be returned to the Honorary Secretary, Geoff May at the address below or handed in before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.

Please reply to: 5 Sissinghurst Close, Worth, Crawley, RH10 7FX Tel. 01293 885 444

Crawley Town Twinning Association



CTTA COMMITTEE MEMBERS (AT 1st. JANUARY 2024 PRIOR TO THE AGM)

Position	Name
Executive Committee Members	
Chairperson	Iain Millar (retiring on 23.01.2024)
Vice Chairman	Position currently vacant
Secretary	Geoff May
Treasurer	Di Sullivan
Minute Secretary	Joan Newton (retiring on 23.01.2024)
Public relations officer/Newsletter	Peter Klin
Accommodation Secretary	Jacky May
Membership Secretary	Michael James
Mayor's Secretary PA	Hayley Thorne
Social Secretary	Moira Blackman
Committee members	Brenda Smith
	Elaine Williams
	David Rayner
	Hilary Jones
	Sandy May
	Cllr Simon Piggott
	Cllr Julian Charatan



CRAWLEY TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION



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 here. 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. The following year we act as hosts to our German guests.

The link between our Towns has been in existence since 1973 and many strong friendships have been built up during this time.

Membership is open to Families, Individuals, Clubs and Societies.

You do not have to speak German but there is the opportunity to do so of course.

For more information please contact:

The membership secretary, Michal James, on 07990 972379 or 01293 532699

e-mail: mike@mikedjames.co.uk

APPLICATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERS

How to join:

Fill out this application form and send it together with your subscription to:

Membership Secretary

Michael James, 16 Epsom Road, Furnace Green, Crawley, RH10 6LU

e-mail: mike@mikedjames.co.uk

Annual subscriptions

To subscribe you will need to make annual payments to:

Crawley Town Twinning Association (CTTA)

Metro Bank, account no. 44788063, sort code 23 -05 - 80

Please quote your name and its payment for membership fees.

Individual residents	£8.00
Individual non-residents	£10.00
Family residents	£12.00
Family non-residents	£15.00

Name.....

Address.....

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Telephone/mobile.....

e-mail.....