



## WINDERMERE – DIESSEN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

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Dear members and Friends,

### Spring Newsletter

Because it affects everything we do here so much, I always seem to start my letters with comments about the weather, and this time it is to say what wonderful spring weather we had last week when the group of 42 students and 4 teachers from the Carl Orff School in Diessen were staying at the Hostel in Ambleside for their annual visit .

Due to the problems of the closure of the road North of Grasmere following the winter storms, a different programme of activities had to be arranged this year focussing on the south of our area. The group enjoyed visits to the Lakes Aquarium, Morecambe and Lancaster, and spent time experiencing lessons at Lakes School. A visit to Bowness was followed with a boat trip to Waterhead, and a later social evening together with our Lakes students who will be going on the exchange visit to Diessen in July. The final day saw two of our Members leading a walk around the 'Rydal Circuit' which although challenging was enjoyed by all – especially for having fish and chips on return to Ambleside!

On Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> some of our Committee Members manned a stall at the 'Community Day' at the Ladyholme Centre, giving us the opportunity to meet up with local residents and friends to create awareness of Twinning opportunities and activities planned for 2016, and we were pleased with the level of interest on the day.

This year a small number of players from the Blasergruppe will be arriving on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May, relaxing on arrival with a meal and a visit to Hawkshead Brewery in Staveley. On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, together with our own group 'Take4' Saxophone Quartet under the leadership of Peter Bayliss, they will be playing outdoors (hopefully!) at Allan Bank in Grasmere, followed in the evening by a concert at St Herbert's Church at 7.30pm where I hope that everyone will be able to join us and bring along a friend or two. Entrance will be £5.00 including refreshments, payable at the door.

As a special event, the Blasergruppe members will also be taking part in St Cuthbert's School's morning assembly on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May together with some of the children who are learning to play Glockenspiels. This will be held at 9.30am in the Maryholme Centre next to St Herbert's Church so there will be room for parents and visitors to attend.

With Easter being early this year, and many people being involved with recovering and repairing after flood damage, we have not been able to get together for a social event, so our AGM will be held later than usual on 28<sup>th</sup> April. It would be good to be able to meet up with our members and friends for a pleasant social evening starting at 7.00pm at the Marchesi Centre, so we will keep the meeting as short as possible to be followed by refreshments . All further details and the Agenda will be sent in due course.

As a further date for your diaries, we will be having a fund raising Coffee Morning at the Marchesi Centre on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May from 10.00am to 11.30am and as always, contributions for a stall or raffle would be welcome. However, as the event will also focus on the St Cuthbert's Parents' Committee raising funds towards the purchase of Glockenspiels for the school, there will be a special stall of home produce and cakes and other baked goodies made by the ladies from the Church and the School, so clearly a opportunity not to be missed for you and your friends!

Please also note the date for our annual Strawberries and Pimms Garden Party at the Fairfield Hotel on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Town Mayor, Leith Hallastch and his wife for their interest in Twinning and their attendance and support of some of our activities, particularly the recent Lakes School's social evening where Leith ended up judging a highly innovative and exclusive fashion parade!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Kindest regards,

Jennifer Borer

