



the Kendal-Rinteln *Association*



KRA News July 2011

Thoughts from the Chair

Well after all the twinning activity in 2010, with nearly 150 people from Kendal and Rinteln involved in visits, I could have been forgiven for thinking that 2011 was going to be a somewhat quieter year. How wrong I was! This year is going to be every bit as busy as last year and then next year will undoubtedly be a busy year as we will be celebrating twenty years of twinning between Kendal and Rinteln – the original twinning charter was signed at the Torchlight Carnival in September 1992.

We have already hosted two visits so far this year. In early March a group of five boxers with their coach came over to box in the annual Kendal charity boxing tournament organised by the Licensed Victuallers Association and held at the Town Hall. The German boxers thoroughly enjoyed their visit, in particular being involved in what they term as dinner-boxing – being accompanied by bagpipes into the ring and having 120 men in dinner jackets shouting encouragement – not something that happens in Germany. It was an experience that I am sure will remain with them for many years to come.

Later in March, we welcomed the current confirmation class from the St Jakobi Church in Rinteln. The party comprised 18 young people aged between the ages of 13 and 14 which was led by the minister Pastor Heiko Buitkamp. While the party stayed at Kendal Youth Hostel the visit was hosted by the Reverend Dave Harkison and members of the United Reform Church in Kendal. Again all the young people thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

Highlights of visits taking place over the next few months include:

- Krankenhagen Ladies Football Team to play a return match with Kendal Town Ladies from 20 – 24 July.
- Kendal footballers will be visiting Rinteln between 3 – 7 August to play the local football team SC Rinteln as part of the club's centenary celebrations.
- Three students from Kendal secondary schools studying A Level German will be attending the Rinteln Sommeruni (University) for a week in August to improve their German and make new friends, all kindly funded by the Rintelner Stadtpartnerschaft.



•WOSP will be making their bi-annual visit to Rinteln to stay with their friends at the Lebenshilfe.

•A small party from Kendal will be visiting Rinteln for the annual Wine Festival at the end of September and we are very pleased to report that the group will include the new Mayor of Kendal Jonathan Brook and his wife.

•A large group of over 40 people from the Rintelner Stadtpartnerschaft will be coming to stay in Kendal for four days in late October. We have already started to plan an exciting itinerary. On their first night in Kendal they will visit Queen Katherine School PTA's Oktoberfest with music provided by the Kendal Concert Band and the QKS Orchestra.

Finally we are always looking for new hosts to put up our friends from Rinteln so if anybody would like to host, please get in touch.

Best wishes

Richard Pealing

Hosts Required

A large group of over 40 people from Rinteln will be visiting Kendal from Friday 21st to Monday 24th October. Although some of the party will be staying in a hotel and others are already accommodated with old friends, we will still need to find hosts for a number of the group. If you are able to accommodate either one or two people for these three nights then please get in contact with the Accommodation Officer, Hilary Webb (01539 727304) or email her at

hosting@kendal-rinteln.co.uk

Thank you for your support.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS....

After our May Committee meeting we all had a chance to chat about our personal KRA highlights so far this year - here are some of the comments:

Mike Middleton (visiting from Rinteln) started the ball rolling by describing what a pleasure it had been to address Kendal Town Council on behalf of the Rinteln Burgermeister at the recent mayormaking ceremony. Another highlight - Mike said he had found our committee meeting very interesting - perhaps that was Mike being polite!

Our Chairman Richard has written a piece for this newsletter about his highlight so far this year - attending the boxing match at KendalTown Hall - and by the way Richard admitted to needing a little bit of help from Hilary to tie his bow tie!

John (vice-chairman) who has visited Rinteln many times - and has made numerous friends there - described a special telephone call. The time was 7.45AM when the phone rang on his birthday. Picking up the receiver he was somewhat surprised to hear "Happy birthday to you" being played on the piano in the style of Beethoven! He then discovered close friends in Rinteln had organised this very pleasant surprise for him.

Philip (schools liaison) was really encouraged by the continuing twinning between Heron Hill Primary school and Grundschule Nord. Peter Hicks - the new head teacher at Heron Hill School - has continued to give support to the exchanges which Philip see as growing each year.

Janette and Philip who make every effort to visit Rinteln each year and have strong connections in the town have just received news from Rinteln friends travelling in New Zealand, Denmark and even Doncaster! Surely this lends a whole new meaning to "Postcards from the edge"!

Liz (library display organiser) said how much fun people at Whinfell Office Skills Project were having with a new jigsaw. During a recent visit to Kendal from St Jakobi Church the confirmation group presented KRA with a 1000 pieces jigsaw depicting the Market Place in Rinteln. People at WOSP have visited Rinteln many times and really enjoyed putting the pieces together to reveal the cafe where they had eaten "kuchen" and a shop; where they had bought icecreams. A group from WOSP will be visiting Rinteln again in September for yet more fun and festivities!

The jigsaw is available for any member who would like to see how quickly they can put it together - to date I think Anne Handley holds the record!

Hilary (hosting organiser) was very pleased to see how friendships had flourished this year between families new to hosting exchange visitors. It's always encouraging to see how the ties between families grow stronger over the years.

Jane and Malcolm who have organised young footballers in exchanges between the twin towns have received an invitation from SC Rinteln to attend their centenary celebrations. A team of footballers will be travelling to Rinteln in August to attend the event.

Frances and Peter were very pleased to welcome a young visitor from Rinteln to their home for English afternoon tea in April. Tristan - who was visiting Kendal with the St Jakobi confirmation group - is the nephew of one of the couples we had recently hosted and is very interested in music. He had recorded a collection of CDs as a gift for us earlier in the year. Needless to say we were racking our brains for the names of heavy metal bands (his particular interest) but managed to persuade him that jazz wasn't all that bad!!

I'm sure that many of our members have special twinning highlights which could be shared. Please contact the newsletter editor Stuart Bell with any highlights at treasurer@kendal-rinteln.co.uk or by post to 63 Empsom Road, Kendal, LA9 5PR.

St Jokobi Church

Kendal URC Minister, Rev Dave Harkison, was pleased to welcome on Wednesday 23 March Pastor Heiko Buitkamp and a group of eighteen Confirmation candidates and six helpers from their twin Church, St Jakobi in Rinteln. They all seemed to enjoy the programme arranged between the Church and KRA, the weather being kind throughout, especially for their lakes tour on the first day. Walks around Kendal town centre and Scout Scar kept them interested Friday and Saturday mornings allowing free time in the afternoons.

One highlight was the evening games session in the URC large hall organised by the Dixons including the obligatory 'Kafer' (Beetle Drive). After attending the URC Sunday morning service the visitors were guests at a Church lunch which was sadly also the farewell meal with Dave Harkinson leaving to take up the URC Ministry at Whitehaven.

Diary

A Rinteln girls football team will be in Kendal from 20th to 24th July. Matches will be played on Thursday 21st at 7:00pm at Parkside Road (vs Kendal Town) and on Saturday 23rd there will be a tournament with Kendal Town and Blackburn Rovers, again at Parkside Road starting at 12:30.

Three secondary school pupils will be attending the Rinteln Summer University from 30 July to 5 August.

A boys football team will travel to Rinteln and play a couple of matches from 3rd to 7th August.

At the same time, a group of stamp collectors will be in Kendal to establish links with their Cumbrian counterparts.

WOSP continue their twinning links with a trip to Lebenshilfe in Rinteln from 10th - 18th September.

A general visit from Kendal to Rinteln for the Wine Festival from 29th September to 2 October.

A general visit from Rinteln to Kendal from 21st to 24th October.

2012

For some people 2012 means the Olympics, but for us it is even more special, our 20th anniversary year. We are planning to go to Rinteln in August. The Kendal Concert Band has already booked their places at the Altstadtfest, and we are looking to take as many representatives of previous, current, and potential future twinning links as possible. Please let us know if you are interested in helping us celebrate. It is expected that there will be a similar visit to Kendal at around the same time.

Contacts

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