



## **FEN EDGE TWINNING ASSOCIATION: ANNIVERSARY VISIT TO AVRILLÉ**

This year saw a significant milestone in the relationship between the Fen Edge Villages and the town of Avrillé, Maine-et-Loire, France as we reached the 20 anniversary of the twinning agreement signed by representatives of the Parish Councils of Willingham, Cottenham, Rampton, Landbeach and Waterbeach. It was also the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning of Avrillé with the town of Schwalbach am Taunus, just outside Frankfurt, in Germany. Consequently, Avrillé put on a special event. Over 40 adults and children from the Fen Edge attended this year along with other supporters making a total party of around 50. We thank Willingham Parish Council and the other organisations that made grants which augmented our existing fund-raising efforts and enabled us to subsidise the travel costs of those adults and children from the Fen Edge. Our visit took place over the long weekend 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> May and helped develop existing links and create new opportunities.

One aspect of the weekend was to provide opportunities for youth involvement. This included an exhibition and exchange of collaborative art, films of joint youth trips, and youth bands participating in a significantly sized pop concert on the Saturday evening. A part of the art aspect there was a proposal to ask individual schools to produce panels of collaborative art on the theme of peace and living together.

We are very grateful for the effort put in by Willingham Primary School pupils, led by Sara Varty their art co-ordinator, for producing such a great collection of collaborative art that fitted the theme so well. We transported these tableaux to Avrillé where as part of the main ceremony on the morning of Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May at the Porte d'Europe they were held up by pupils of Fen Edge, Avrillé and Schwalbach schools, during addresses by representatives of all three communities, and a subsequent release of doves by children from all three communities. The art was admired by all including the deputy mayor of Avrillé and the mayor of Schwalbach who were present, and it was subsequently displayed on the walls of the marquee where a formal lunch was held for all participants on the Sunday.

The Willingham Primary school art has now been taken for display and use in primary schools in Avrillé and Schwalbach. In return, we received similar artwork from three primary schools in Avrillé for use in the Fen Edge villages. This is already being used by Cottenham primary school in its French themed House day on 18<sup>th</sup> May, and has been offered to Willingham and Waterbeach primary schools for their own use.

On the Sunday morning, there was the option of a walk around parts of an urban greenway that Avrillé has developed – a concept that may come to the Fen Edge if the development plans for Waterbeach and the Greater Cambridge Partnership go ahead. It was interesting to see the integration into the town that had been achieved with suitable screening trees and foliage.

An ecumenical first also happened in the church of St Gilles on the Sunday morning. A large number of people from Avrillé, Schwalbach, and the Fen Edge Villages gathered there for an Ecumenical Service, which took the form of a Roman Catholic Mass presided by the Parish Priest, Fr. Thomas Diouf from Senegal. Revd. Brian Macdonald-Milne from Waterbeach, shared with him in the conduct of the service, and also preached in the three languages used throughout the service, namely French, German and English. The intercessions were led by two French people, a German Protestant woman and the Rev. Gareth Morgan, retired priest from Cottenham, who all assisted Fr Thomas and Brian in distributing the sacrament to the congregation in different parts of the church. There was a post-service reception and also present there, after presiding at another service, was the priest from the Maronite (Eastern Rite Catholic) congregation which uses the R.C. Martyrs' Church in another part of the town.

Although there have been previous bi-lingual Communion services in the past at Landbeach and Waterbeach when our French friends have visited us, and have taken part in the Parish Mass at Avrillé on past visits there, this service was the first one of an ecumenical kind at Avrillé of which we are aware. It follows on from the establishment of church twinning between the RC parish of Schwalbach (30 years ago) and the Anglican parishes of Waterbeach and Landbeach, which complements the civic twinning between these places. We hope that this will lead to future links.



Kit Kilgour, Chairman, Fen Edge Twinning Association. May 2018

# F.E.T.A.

Fen Edge Twinning Association

## ACCOUNTS 2017-18



Opening balance of funds 2 Oct 2017

**£1,880.64**

### INCOME

#### Fundraising Events:

Quiz Nov 2017	£582.30
Grants	£2,235.00
Payment Twinners May 2018	£2,610.00
Interest	£0.55

### TOTAL INCOME

**£5,427.85**

### EXPENDITURE

#### Misc

#### Fundraising Events:

Quiz Nov 2017	£230.12
Visit May 2018	£3,838.00
Account Tax	

### Total expenditure

**£4,068.12**

### Balance

**£3,240.37**

## Fen Edge Twinning Association Accounts 2017-18

## Opening balance of funds 2 October 2017

1,880.64

Date act	From	Interest	Grant	Social events	Twinning w/e	Total	pending
<b>INCOME</b>							
25-Nov-17	Quiz Nov 2017			£582.30			
#REF!	Grant Waterbeach		£300.00				
31-Dec-17	CBS						
#REF!	Grant Willingham	£0.55	£300.00				
04-Apr-18	Grant Cottenham		£800.00				
18-Apr-18	Grant Rampton		£100.00				100
30-Apr-18	Feca Grant Twinners		£735.00		£2,610.00		
<b>Total income</b>		<b>£0.55</b>	<b>£2,235.00</b>	<b>£582.30</b>	<b>£2,610.00</b>	<b>£5,427.85</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
25-Nov-17	Quiz Nov 2017			£120.12			
03-Jan-18	Deposit Ilew Jones				£250.00		
#REF!	#REF!			£110.00			
27-Apr-18	Llew Jones				£3,540.00		
May	Gift to Avriile (48+161+11=220)				£48.00		
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£230.12</b>	<b>£3,838.00</b>	<b>£4,068.12</b>	
<b>Current balance of funds</b>						<b>£3,240.37</b>	
Made up of				Lloyds TSB account 3824836		£1,123.01	
				Cambridge Building Society		£2,117.36	
						<b>£3,240.37</b>	