



BURY METRO COMMUNITY TWINNING ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016



millions of refugees looking for security and acceptance somewhere in Europe, twinning visits are very important. They show how the world could be, they are small pieces in a mosaic showing a picture of a peaceful world and we should all do our very best to increase the beauty of this picture”.

All too soon the visit was over and the next day we saw our friends off on their way to the Airport. Everybody thought the visit was a great success and we look forward to accepting the invitation to visit Schorndorf in 2017.



AFTERNOON TEA

There has not been a very heavy response to our invitation to partake of Afternoon Tea at Park Farm Walmersley on Sunday 26 June at 2.30pm cost £11.95.

If you wish to come to meet friends and chat and indulge, please contact Anita Lindley, AT 3 Alkington Close, Unsworth BL9 8NP before 1st June 2016. or tel. 0161 766 6604

VISIT TO TULLE

The available places for the visit to Tulle staying also in Paris, have now been taken. There is a possibility that some people may fall out and a waiting list will be maintained. If you think that you would like to be on the waiting list we would require details of Date of Birth; Place of Birth and Passport Number. However, we would not require that you pay the deposit until we are able to tell you that a vacancy has arisen. To get placed on the waiting list please send the above details to Yvonne Moore, 2 Hey Croft, Whitefield, Manchester, M45 7HX or telephone 0161 766 7378.

EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE

The European Health Insurance Card - EHIC (formerly E111) covers basic healthcare on short trips around Europe and is available free of charge. It covers emergency treatment and treatment for existing chronic conditions. It will not provide for specialist transport home or accommodation for a relative. For this you need private holiday insurance.

But what will happen on June 23rd. if the UK opts for the so called Brexit? The answer seems to be quite complicated. The EHICs are valid in the European Economic Area, not just in the EU. The EEA was created in 1994 so that non EU countries such as Norway, Iceland and Switzerland could be allowed to participate in the European Common Market.

So it is possible that UK citizens could continue to use the EHIC. But it would depend upon the attitude towards Britain of the remaining EU

States. As one of the major net contributors to the EU it is unlikely that Britain would be viewed favourably by the remaining states if we left. In which case, the European health Insurance card might well become invalid.

Brexit might also mean that the UK leaves the EEA because one of the arguments for leaving is to better control our borders whereas the EEA membership rules require freedom of movement across those borders.

The UK could agree similar health cover with individual states within the EU but this would take time. So If you are travelling to Europe this year, your EHIC may not provide for your emergency health needs. So private health insurance may well become not only desirable but essential.

VISITORS FROM SCHORNDORF

Thirty five visitors ages between 9 and 80 from Bury's twin town of Schorndorf in Germany spent a 5 day visit in Bury from 13 to 17 May 2016. More than half were visiting our town for the first time and the party included 4 children. Clearly, twinning is in a very healthy state in Schorndorf.



In spite of a dreary long term weather forecast we enjoyed warm sunshine in the Lake District, where we cruised on Lake Windermere and travelled.

on a steam train from Lakeside to Haverthwaite. We also called in at a garden centre, which our visitors found interesting but air travel precluded buying plants.



On Sunday, our guests spent time with their host families visiting local attractions and shopping. And on Monday we were received by the Mayor, Cllr. Stella Smith at the Town Hall. The Mayor also presided over a Farewell Dinner at the Crimble in Bamford. in response to a warm welcome from the Mayor, Frau

In the evening We dined on fish and chips at the Olympus Restaurant in Bolton, accompanied by the pianist playing tunes from 'the Sound of Music' which no doubt made our guests think fondly of holidays spent in Austria.



Anruth Theurer thanked the Mayor and the Bury Twinning Association for their warm welcome and said that coming to Bury was like coming home the moment they enter the door of their hosts' homes. She went on to state that "In a world of misunderstandings, ugly wars