



## *Newsletter*

*Volume 19, No.2 - Autumn 2016*



### *From the Committee.*

*Thanks to Jerry for producing his first ever newsletter, bravely stepping into one of the gaps left by Ray's death..*

*This is only a very temporary measure and if there are any Twinners with either newsletter experience or good IT skills, please can they step forward & contact me!*

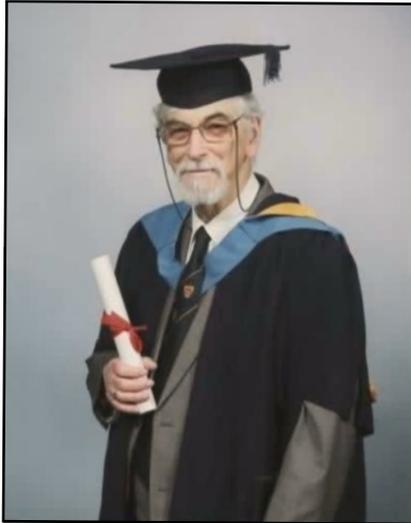
*Hilary*

*The Newsletter exists to report on Association activities and to reflect it's members interests and concern; please keep your news and other articles coming!*

### *Welcome to our new President.*

*We are pleased to welcome as our new President the Mayor of Kidderminster Councillor Mary Rayner who represents the Broadwaters ward on our brand new town council. We hope that Councillor Rayner will enjoy her term of office as our President, and that she will find time to support us as part of her busy calendar of engagements – at least one of those engagements will hopefully take her to Husum in the next few months.*





#### RAY HARROWING- An Appreciation

It was on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016 that our friend Ray Harrowing, a dedicated and innovative member of our twinning team left us for ever after struggling with poor health for some time. His contribution to the success of our friendship with Husum for some 26 years is immeasurable. It was in the late 1980s that, as a member of the Kidderminster Choral Society, he was prominent in setting up that Society's first visit to the Theodor Storms Chor in Husum which spearheaded a revival of activity lasting to this time.

Due to the increased number of exchanges and the resulting workload, Ray agreed to become the Twinning Association's Cultural Secretary in 1999.

This task involved him over the years with arranging visits to Husum for many organisations including Kidderminster Choral Society and Young Voices, The Kidderminster Male Choir, the Valentines Choir, the Wyre Forest Symphony Orchestra , Harry Cheshire School Drama Society (now Baxter College), a Kidderminster Dance School and Wyre Forest Arts Forum.

In 2006 he developed the Twinning Association website and the following year took over the Editorship of the Twin Town News. He was directly responsible for creating and administering the ecumenical visits of the Churches of Kidderminster to the Churches of Husum and for organising a commemorative window which was dedicated in 2004, as a gift towards the restoration of the Marienkirche from the people and churches of Kidderminster. Many individual personal contacts have occurred as spin offs from the cultural programme. His activities in other fields cannot be covered here but it will be seen how engaged he was on our behalf and how we miss him.

Thank you , Ray!

Charles E Talbot  
Former General Secretary  
Vice-President of the Association



This year's garden party took place on July 16th, hosted by Gina Lee and Des Philpotts in Broomfield Road.

Despite the low attendance due to clashing with other events, 26 people enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon, with an American style BBQ with salads, cakes and - of course - a glass of wine.

Michel and Jo Gaud were in charge of the cooking and Ken the bar, and there was much laughter and conversation amongst all the guests.

We were pleased that Pam and Dicker were able to join us.

Ron Bubb entered into the spirit of American theme by wearing his USA braces.

The weather was kind to us which completed the enjoyment of the day.

Pat Garbett

### On the Horizon:

#### October

28<sup>th</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup> Visit of Husum Civic leaders and Verein members to Kidderminster for the signing of a new Twinning Charter between the two towns and the re - dedication of Kidderminster's Husum Bridge

#### November

29<sup>th</sup> Management Committee meeting

#### 2017

#### February

10<sup>th</sup> Quiz night at Kidderminster Cricket Club



On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July members of the Kidderminster Gardeners' Group were pleased to welcome 5 members of the Husum Gardeners' Group. After everyone had met up at Geoff and Hilary Boyle's the guests were promptly taken to their hosts' houses to get ready for a splendid welcome meal and get together at Joyce Coombs' house.

July 16<sup>th</sup> was spent exploring Hanbury Hall and Whitlence Gardens. In addition some of the party visited Stone Cottage Gardens, whilst others visited Avoncroft where an English Civil War re-enactment day was in progress. All in all it was a very busy day, which was enjoyed by everyone and allowed only a little time for recuperation before we set off again to meet up at Hilary and Geoff's house for a fish and chip supper and a sing-song. Everyone was in good voice and we had a wonderfully convivial evening.

On Sunday we all set off on the 10:30 train on the SVR to Bridgnorth to spend some time in the town before returning to get ready for the farewell evening at the Squirrel in Alveley for a buffet and a game of skittles, which was great fun.

Our German friends left at Monday midday after a satisfying "brunch" at Rowberry's Nurseries. Everyone agreed that it had been a most enjoyable weekend, renewing friendships, and all are already anticipating our next reunion.

Margaret Phillips

#### Officers of the Kidderminster - Husum Twinning Association.

Chairman: Terry Garbett

Vice-President: Charles Talbot

Secretary: Hilary Boyle

Treasurer: Christine Dutton

Membership: Jerry Mayfield

Website: [www.kidderminster-husum-twinning.co.uk](http://www.kidderminster-husum-twinning.co.uk)

#### Newsletter

The Newsletter is edited and compiled by Hilary Boyle and Jerry Mayfield.

Any contributions for the next issue will be most welcome.

Please e-mail copy and photos (jpeg format) to "Contact Us" on the website.