

# *Twinning News*

*from the Twinning Association of Rushmoor*

*Winter 2015-16*



Introducing the Twinning Association team from left to right:  
Vice Chairman Barbara Hurst, Treasurer John Pask,  
Chairman Veronica Graham-Green

A word from the Chairman:

*I was delighted to be elected in May as the Chairman and to follow in the well trodden footsteps of Brian Fagg. There is a great new team of Barbara and John but we could not do without Alison's fantastic support. Welcome to Terry Bridgeman, Mara Makunara and Virginia Long who all joined us during the year. Let's get our recruiting skates out and bring some more new people like them. I am pleased that our young people are finding opportunities to meet with their peers in our twin towns. In the spring it was good to welcome again the children from the Ecole Elementaire Jules Ferry in Meudon at the FAST Museum and in the summer to meet the student visitors to Farnborough Sixth Form College from the Oberursel Gymnasium.*

*We have decided to start sending out a newsletter again—it will appear twice a year and will give you a snapshot of what's going on in the twinning world. We hope you enjoy this first edition.*

## **Permanent Christmas tree for Aldershot**

In November, a permanent Christmas tree was planted in Princes Gardens Aldershot. It was given to Rushmoor by Oberursel to mark 25 years of twinning and will remain there as a lasting reminder of the friendship and cooperation between the two towns. The tree was decorated with white lights for the Christmas period.



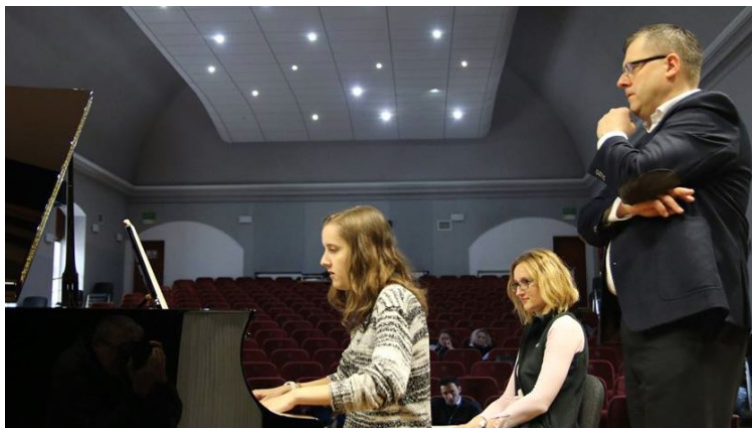
## Sulechow Chopin Music Festival

Nine first year music students from Farnborough Sixth Form College travelled to Poland at the end of November to take part in Sulechow's annual Chopin Music Festival. Ben Dowsett, Curriculum Manager for Music said: "I am always amazed at the sheer breadth of the Festival with very high profile artists performing and esteemed academics taking masterclasses .."

The Festival provides a superb opportunity for students to perform and learn from the masters. Kate Humphries, a first year pianist at Farnborough Sixth Form College said: "It was amazing to experience how music can bring such different people together, both in performance and supporting roles."



The Festival has grown in size over the years and now includes Chopin's song as well as his vast piano output. Pianists from Farnborough Sixth Form College were put through their paces by Chopin experts from Poznan University and also had the opportunity to perform at Trzbiechow Palace and make their own recording at one of the most hi-tech recording studios in Europe.



## Oberursel Christmas Market

Team Rushmoor at this year's Oberursel Christmas Market which was a very successful event. Almost all the stock was sold and new friendships were made with local people as well as those from Oberursel's French and Russian twin towns.



For more details of twinning events, photos and activities, please see our website and like us on Facebook!



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### **Cactus Brass visit to Meudon December 2015**

Linda Somers writes: “

Cactus Brass set off, despite recent terrorist attacks, to make music in Meudon on Thursday 3rd December 2015. The members of the group travelling on this occasion were Andrea Day, Gaynor Popplestone and Linda Somers on cornet, Anthony Green on trombone, Ray Somers on baritone and Ossie Osorne on tuba. We were blessed with good weather and great company for our entire visit.

On the Sunday evening Lewis Brown (and Martin Petry) at the Protestant Temple had arranged for us to play at his small church. He was most concerned that he had not been able to advertise the concert due to the ban on publicity for public gatherings following the terror attacks. However, we played to a very appreciative full house and were treated to a wonderful supper afterwards. In very school girl French I was able to comper the entire concert - great for the audience but not so good for Cactus Brass. After my introductions for each piece I sat down ready to play again to be greeted by a whispered "What did you say? What are we playing now?" from Ray and Ossie! “





## **Richard Wagner's house in Meudon by Brian Jupp**

On a recent trip to Meudon, to give a talk on the time Richard Wagner lived in Meudon in 1841, I was fortunate to have been invited into the house where Wagner lived. All that remains from his time is the front wall. The present owner, author Agnes Soulez Lariviere, had the inside designed in the nature of the interior of a ship. Even the lounge window is in the shape of a sail.

Most appropriate, because it was here that Wagner wrote his first great opera, 'The Flying Dutchman', the story of the phantom ship, whose Captain was doomed to sail the seven seas for eternity when he made a pact with the Devil.

### **Special points of interest coming up this year ...**

- Cove FC is inviting a young football side from Oberursel to play football in Rushmoor in May.
- There may be exciting new links with Oberursel for some Farnborough scouts ...
- A Meudon retirement home seeks links with a similar Rushmoor establishment!

### **Forthcoming events in the pipeline for the spring/summer 2016**

- Farnborough Sixth Form College—20 first year German students exchange to Oberursel
- Hawley Place School choral group— 20 pupils visit to Meudon to perform and spend a day at Lycee Rabelais
- Taunus Heavy Metal Music Festival, Oberursel— opportunity for a local band to participate
- Cove Football Club under 12s— taking a team of young footballers to play in an international football tournament in Oberursel
- Cove Football Club hosting an under 12 team from Oberursel in Farnborough
- Brunnenfest Festival in Oberursel—a team from the Twinning Association man Rushmoor's beer and cider stand
- DJ party in Oberursel—a DJ from Rushmoor is invited to participate