

Press Release

Town Twinners Return Home After Weekend Trip To France

A group of 38 Hailsham residents has returned from an annual town twinning trip to Gournay-en-Bray in France held last weekend [Saturday 16th – Monday 18th July], as part of this year's cultural exchange program between the two twin towns.

The rest of the party stayed with host families for three nights and the group enjoyed a programme of events organised throughout the weekend, including the annual St Clair Festival which showcased many visiting groups from Belgium, Germany, Russia and other countries.

Included in the group which travelled by coach were 9 young people from the Square Youth Café and Hailsham Youth Council, accompanied by youth workers who camped in Gournay-en-Bray for the weekend.

Association chairman Keith Townsend said, "Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our weekend trip to Gournay-en-Bray. It was action packed, jam-packed full of enjoyment, and a chance to improve our French into the bargain. It was an extremely worthwhile trip for all concerned for the simple reason that it further strengthens relationships between Hailsham and Gournay-en-Bray and raises awareness of our different cultures."

"The hospitality of the French and the friendly relations between our two towns was only equalled by the excellent warm and sunny Pays-de-Bray weather!"

Association Secretary Pauline Townsend said, "There was a lot of excitement throughout the weekend and we had some new people taking part in the trip that hadn't been before."

"We are hopeful that the rest of 2011 will be a great success for the Hailsham & District Twinning Association. We are, however, always keen to recruit new members from Hailsham and surrounding villages. Our French friends will also be visiting Hailsham in August and later on in the year too."

For further information on the Hailsham & District Twinning Association's events and activities, visit www.hailsham-gournay.org. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact John Puttick (Membership Secretary) on 01323 441787 (evenings).

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For all enquiries relating to this press release, contact:

Terry Hall
Public Information Officer
Hailsham Town Council
Inglenook
Market Street
Hailsham
East Sussex, BN27 2AE

Tel: (01323) 841702 | Email: terry-hall@hailsham-tc.gov.uk