

TWINNING UPDATE (March 2025)

Twinning Meeting in Marl 2025

This was from Friday 14th February – Sunday 16th February 2025 in Marl to mark various twinning milestones, including the 30th anniversary of twinning between Pendle and Marl and the 50th anniversary of twinning between Marl and Creil. With The Mayor's permission, The Deputy Mayor of Pendle, Cllr. Mohammad Ammer attended this, marking the 30th anniversary of twinning between Pendle and Marl.

The Deputy Mayor gave a formal speech at the Twinning jubilee ceremony at Scharoun School. This speech highlighted the honour for Pendle to host Marl and Creil in October 2024, marking the 50 years' of twinning between Pendle and Creil and to mark early the 30th anniversary between Pendle and Marl.

Cllr. Ammer went on to mention the key role played by John and Judith David in getting Pendle's Twinning link established with Marl.

The focus then moved to the links which have been fostered, ranging from schools to sporting organisations to clubs and other organisations, such as Earby and District Local History Society and a young Colne football team. The very useful work exchanges looking at regeneration projects in Pendle and Marl was also mentioned.

The Deputy Mayor advised that "from little acorns mighty oaks grow". From the planting of acorns which led to the growth of the "Pendle Oak" in front of Marl Town Hall, to the privilege of Brinkfortsheide being named Marl's "Pendle Hill" and becoming a relaxing area covered with greenery, to the wooden twinning plaques, presented by The Mayor of Pendle to The Mayors of Marl and Creil last October, made by design and technology students from Pendle Community High School and College, to the planting of a Ginkgo seedling from Hiroshima outside the European House of Peace in Marl, the twinning partnership between Pendle and Marl continued to grow and flourish.

The Deputy Mayor then signed The Golden Book of Marl, a special guest book which documents the visits of prominent people on special occasions to Marl.

Marl's mining heritage was highlighted during this Twinning Meeting in Marl. It included a visit to a training mine in Recklinghausen.

The Chair and Committee Administrator met with M. Breda from Marl who had previously come on a work placement in Pendle in December 2024.

Work placement by a young person from Marl in December 2024

M. Breda did a very successful work placement in December 2024 with the Mayoral team at Pendle Council. She had been very kindly hosted by The Chair, J. David. As part of this placement, M. Breda had helped to organise a Mayoral event. She had also attended Mayoral engagements including with East Lancashire Scouts, a Dementia Positive Pendle Christmas Party and a Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Carol Service.

The success of this placement has meant that contact has been made between Pendle Twinning Association and M. Breda's English teacher in Marl, which the Vice Chair is following up.

Work placement of a young person from Marl in October 2025

It was confirmed during the Twinning Meeting in Marl that a young person, one of The Mayor of Marl's sons, would come on a work placement in Pendle in October 2025. This young person attended the International Youth Event in Marl in 2024 and had met the young people from Pendle who participated.

Poster to publicise The Association

A colour poster promoting The Association, with photos of Twinning events in the background, had been produced and distributed in Pendle.

Possible future exchanges

I. Graham has been in touch with Pendle Ladies' Choir and Colne Golf Club re. possibility of looking into exchanges with similar groups in Creil or Marl.

Berlin

The Chair and Vice Chair of Pendle Twinning Association participated in a trip to Berlin from 17th – 21st February 2025 following the Twinning Meeting in Marl.