

TWINNING UPDATE (August 2025)

Twinning Meeting in Creil – 20th – 22nd June 2025

The Mayor of Pendle attended the Twinning Meeting in Creil in June 2025. It marked the 50th anniversary of twinning between Creil and Marl.

The visit began with a peace ceremony at the Peace Monument in Creil. Each delegation wrote the word “Peace” in their native language on a ribbon and then attached it to the branches of an olive tree.

The Twinning Meeting at Creil Town Hall followed. The renewal of the Twinning Oath took place between Creil and Marl.

Each twin town then gave a presentation of current developments and projects. For Pendle these developments included Heritage Quarter and Market Hall in Colne and a new Pendle Rise planned for Nelson.

In terms of possible twinning projects, twinning links with Pendle YES (Youth Employment Support) Hub was mentioned. Pendle YES Hub is very successful in helping young people aged 16 – 24 into employment and training.

Other potential joint co-operation twinning projects put forward by Pendle were establishing links with Pendle Community High School and College.

With the agreement of Pendle Yes Hub Lead and the Head Teacher of Pendle Community High School and College, their contact details have since been forwarded to Creil and Marl to facilitate the forming of any twinning links.

Work placements for young people from Pendle’s twin towns were covered. 2 young people from Marl are coming to do work placements in Pendle in October 2025. Pendle offered work placements for 2 young people from Creil in 2026.

Other collaboration suggested was with Pendle Ladies’ Choir. This choir are interested in making contact with choirs in Creil and Marl. Pendle Ladies’ Choir also have links with other choirs in Pendle, including a choir for young people.

The possibility of developing links with golf players in the twin towns was also proposed. Colne Golf Club are interested in doing this.

The twinning trip to Creil in June 2025 also included a visit to the International City of the French Language at Villers-Cotterêts, which was extremely interesting and interactive.

As part of the National Day of Music in France on June 21st 2025, concerts took place in Creil.

International Youth Meeting 2026

Creil propose to host an International Youth Meeting in 2026 at the Carroz d’Arraches site in Creil-Alpes. This would be for 5 days. The aim is to bring together 4 young people aged 15 to 20, accompanied by a facilitator, from each of Creil’s twin towns.

Pendle Twinning Association Social Evening – 25th June 2025

This was to celebrate 50 years of twinning with Creil and 30 years with Marl and to look towards the future of twinning for Pendle. It took place at the Curry On The Street premises in Nelson.

Twinning Members were delighted that Mashuq Hussain OBE, Senior Youth and Community Worker at Marsden Heights Community College, brought along young people from their Positive Voices Group. Mash and the young people are keen to be involved with Pendle Twinning Association.

A participant of a previous International Youth Seminar also attended this Social Evening and was very positive about International Youth Seminars as a twinning activity.

Work placement of 2 young people from Marl in October 2025

2 young people from Marl, including one of The Mayor of Marl's sons, will come to Pendle from Monday 20 October – Saturday 25th October 2025 inclusive to undertake work placements.

Venue of meeting

The next Twinning meeting at 5.30pm on Wednesday 20th August 2025 will take place in the Members Room at Nelson Town Hall.