

TWINNING UPDATE (April 2024)

International Youth Event in Marl – 15th to 21st July 2024

Marl have now obtained the required project funding for this event, which is called “Together on the path 4 future”. Marl’s twin towns are invited to participate with 4 young people (2 boys, 2 girls/aged 15 – 18) and one adult group leader. Pendle has agreed to participate.

Marl have asked for the full names and dates of birth of participants and the group leader for each twin town by 6th May 2024 at the latest. Given the tight timescale, we are going to advise that we can submit the required details by 10th May 2024 at the earliest or as soon as possible after that date.

Further details, including requirements for participants and the preliminary programme will be circulated at the meeting.

A. Gander has kindly offered to find Pendle’s participants, with support from J. Kelly, who will be the adult group leader. A. Gander has issued an invite for applications which will be circulated at the meeting. A. Gander and J. Kelly will be meeting next week to progress this.

Official Twinning Meeting in Marl – 19th to 21st July 2024

This is being combined with the International Youth Meeting. The Mayor-elect of Pendle and guest - The Consort-elect of Pendle – have been invited to this Official Twinning Meeting. The preliminary programme will be outlined at the meeting. It includes a Mayors’ twinning conference, the planting ceremony of a Ginkgo seedling from Hiroshima and the “Spectacle of Cultures”. The “Spectacle of Cultures” will be the highlight of the International Youth Meeting at which each group of young people will give a short performance on stage representing their home country’s/town’s culture.

The Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Administrator of Pendle Twinning Association have been kindly invited to Marl by H. Mengert from 19th to 21st July 2024, coinciding with the final weekend of the International Youth Event when the young people present their projects. H. Mengert advises that other members of Pendle Twinning Association would also be heartily welcome if they would like to come. As per a previous email, Pendle Twinning Association members wishing to attend are to let F. Standring know by lunchtime on Thursday 18th April 2024.

International Weeks against Racism 2024

In total Marl received 600 colourful and creative submissions. The Mayor of Marl thanks Pendle Twinning Association for its support. W. Arndt advises that together with a local jury, he had a difficult time choosing the winners of the competition. 3 groups from Marl and 1 group from the twin towns were selected. The winning design from the twin towns was created by Julia Dural from the Tadeusz-Brzozowski School of Fine Arts in Krosno (Poland).

All 4 winning designs were printed on envelopes. In recent weeks the residents of Marl received their municipal post in them. This meant that approximately 7000

envelopes were distributed, sharing the call against racism. The Mayor of Marl thanked Pendle for participating and hopes for its support again next year.

Marl-Pendle staff exchange

The Mayor of Marl thanks Pendle for its great efforts when R. Lankeit and B. Anders visited as part of the Marl-Pendle staff exchange.

The Marl Council staff, R. Lankeit, Arts and Culture Officer and B. Anders, Town Planning Officer, visited Pendle to look at current regeneration projects. Accommodation and airport transfers were provided by 2 Pendle twinning members.

Twinning members welcomed R. Lankeit and B. Anders to a successful and enjoyable Spring get-together of Pendle Twinning Association at Banny's in Colne during their visit.

A press release following their visit to Pendle will be circulated at the meeting. As part of this, T. Wilson, Engineering Project Co-ordinator at Pendle Council advised, "We feel Rene and Bjorn had a full and informative visit, replicating our visit to them in Marl, looking at different approaches and solutions and sharing knowledge."

W. Arndt would be happy to start a new round of this staff exchange, welcoming 2 Pendle Council staff to Marl.

Creil Festival and 50 years of twinning between Creil and Pendle

The Mayor-elect of Pendle and the Twinning Committee Administrator, representing Pendle Council's Chief Executive, have accepted an official invitation to Creil Festival from 14th June to 17th June 2024.

Creil Festival will be taking place on 16th June 2024.

On Saturday 15th June 2024 a special time will be set aside along with Creil Twinning Committee for celebrating the 50 years of twinning between Creil and Pendle, by signing the renewal of the twinning charter.

N. Saudrais-Anciant invites Pendle Twinning members to attend.

As per a previous email, Pendle Twinning Association members wishing to attend are to let F. Standing know by lunchtime on Thursday 18th April 2024.

Venue of meeting

The next Twinning meeting at 5.30pm on Wednesday 17th April 2024 will take place in the Members Room at Nelson Town Hall.