

Wokingham Civic visit to Erftstadt June 2007

A civic party led by the Mayor of Wokingham, Councillor Brian Willis and the Mayoress left for Erftstadt on Friday 1st June to take part in celebrations to mark 30 years of twinning between the two towns. An informal dinner and get together with the hosts was held that evening.

On Saturday the group attended an environmental presentation by Erftstadt which illustrated some of the measures being taken locally to preserve the local habitat and dealt with such changes as the introduction of solar panels on housing and the erection of wind farms. This was followed by a walk around the environmental centre and a buffet lunch.

In the afternoon a coach was provided to take the party to Bad Munstereifel to view the town which is situated in a wooded area of the Eifel.

A formal reception was held in the evening at which Ernst-Dieter Bosche, the Burgermeister of Erftstadt and The Mayor of Wokingham both spoke about the importance of twinning and the friendship between the two towns. A theme common to both speeches was that there is a need to engage the youth of both towns in order that the principles of twinning can be carried through to future generations. Both the Mayor and the Burgermeister noted that the friendship had extended over a period of 30 years. The Mayor presented the Burgermeister with an item of glassware and a silver letter opener.



On Sunday the group were entertained at an art exhibition by members of a local youth musical ensemble. In the afternoon there was a visit to the Max Ernst Museum in the nearby town of Bruhl to view the exhibition of paintings and sculptures by the artist who was born in the town.

An informal farewell meal was held on Sunday evening prior to a departure to Wokingham on Monday morning.