



NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION



THETFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

TRIP TO STRASBOURG VISIT TO THE EU PARLIAMENT THEN LILLE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Following Thetford Twinning Association's successful trip to Brussels in 2013, we have arranged a visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg in November. We had hoped to include a visit to Strasbourg Christmas markets but the timings made this difficult. We therefore plan to visit the Christmas Market in **Lille/Reims** on the way back. The **draft** programme is:

- Tuesday 24 November: Travel to Strasbourg by coach from Thetford, staying for 3 nights in Strasbourg.
- Wednesday 25 November: Visit to the EU Parliament.
- Thursday 26th November: free time to explore Strasbourg.
- Friday 27th November: leave Strasbourg for Lille. Time to explore **Lille/Reims** and its Christmas Markets.
- Saturday 28th November— leave **Lille/Reims** to travel back to Thetford.

The Parliament visit takes approximately 2 hours. It usually includes a briefing by a member of the Parliament's staff and then a presentation from our MEP host. We also hope to include a visit to the Plenary Chamber. NOTE: It is **mandatory** that everyone coming on the trip visits the EU Parliament. The EU pays the Association a subsidy towards the expenses of the trip and this will be used to pay for the coach travel. Anyone not attending the Parliament will be liable to pay the full amount of their share for the cost of the coach.

A non-refundable deposit* of £60 per person is payable to Thetford Twinning Association to secure your place on the coach. This payment covers all coach travel from Thetford to Strasbourg, Lille and back to Thetford. Thetford Twinning Association will arrange the coach travel.

Provisional hotel bookings will be made by the Twinning Association, but must be confirmed and paid for by individuals prior to the trip.

Hotel costs are approximately: Double/twin/single ...

Other costs to budget for are for meals and travel insurance. You must have valid travel insurance and a current passport.

Places are limited and it is **first come, first served**. Please let Janet know **by return** if you would like to come. We will need a non-refundable deposit of £60 (cheque made payable to Thetford Twinning Association) to confirm your place. 01842 820335 /thetford.twinning@tiscali.co.uk.

We will need to know the full names and dates of birth of those travelling.

Your place will not be confirmed until your deposit of £60 has been received.

To make it absolutely clear —everyone coming on the trip MUST attend the EU Parliament visit. If you don't, you will have to pay your coach costs IN FULL.

The deposit is NON-REFUNDABLE once the booking has been confirmed.

**The viability of the trip depends on enough people to fill the coach. If there are not enough, the trip will not go ahead and in this case your deposit will be returned.*