

ROMSEY TWINNING



NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2025

www.romseytwinning.org.uk

Welcome to your Christmas Romsey Twinning Newsletter. After a busy start to 2025 things have been quieter in the latter part of the year, but here is a flavour of how things look as 2025 draws to a close...



Future Twinning Visits – Members Vote

Here is the result of the recent ballot of members on a proposal to change the pattern of future twinning visits. Members were asked to respond to the following question:

Do you agree that, with effect from 2027, the pattern of formal twinning visits between Romsey Twinning and its three twin towns should move to a three-year cycle, as previously explained?

Members voting YES 36

Members voting NO 10

Total votes cast 46 (=75% of the membership)

The Committee will consider the result of the ballot at its next meeting in January and decide how to take this forward. The pattern of twinning visits from 2027 will be confirmed in due course.

Roland Matthews, Chairman

Paimpol

We are hoping that our Breton partners will be able to visit Romsey in the summer of 2026, so we will update information on the website as we get it.



Our friends in Paimpol celebrate at their Repas de Noël

Battenberg

It is hoped that we will be able to welcome a group from Battenberg later in 2026 once dates have been agreed.



The town has recently had a little snowfall – one of our German friends kindly sent these photos of snowmen built by his granddaughter.

Treviglio

Continuing links with local schools

Children in Year 3 at Halterworth Primary School were delighted to welcome Karen Bolton to their Geography class earlier this year. The children were tasked with comparing the physical and human features of Romsey with a location in Italy. Due to its status as Romsey's twin town, Treviglio was chosen and the children were presented with the enquiry question,

'Romsey v. Treviglio. Are twins always the same?'

Karen gave the children a fantastic insight into the history of twinning in order to reestablish relationships and build friendships after the two World Wars. She described local landmarks and told stories associated with them and of course, shared lots of information about the amazing food that is produced in the area. The children particularly loved hearing about the dinosaur park and the tractor factory in Treviglio.

Armed with all this valuable information, the children started to research more information about Romsey, thinking about its proximity to main travel hubs such as Southampton Airport and major motorways. They explored key industries in the area and the types of crops that are grown, also significant buildings and geographical features such as the River Test. They compared their findings to the information that they had about Treviglio and completed the unit by holding a debate to answer the key question. There was not a clear majority at the end either way, but the children really enjoyed being able to debate and discuss their opinions. This would not have been possible without the involvement of Romsey Twinning and the wonderful enthusiasm that Karen brought to the classroom (including of course a lovely smattering of Italian!).

Ally Brown

Concorso letterario 'Treville' 2025 (literary competition in Treviglio)

Our friends in the Amici di Romsey in Treviglio have been supportive of this competition for several years. The 'Treville' literary competition is organized by the Clementina Borghi Association. Clementina Borghi was a head teacher at Treviglio middle school, who left all her estate to fund scholarships for deserving students in the town.

The competition is in Italian for both adults and young people and the Amici di Romsey association participates with a youth section in English. Every year, high school students are invited to take part in the competition by writing poems or narrative texts. One of the goals of the Amici di Romsey is to spread the English culture and the use of the English language in Treviglio.

This year's winner of the young writers' competition was a 15-year-old pupil, who wrote a narrative text whose title is "The War Will not Win". The second prize was given to a 15-year-old girl of Indian origin who wrote the poem "The first Home I ever Knew".

With thanks to Gian Battista Scrivanti for this contribution. The texts are available to read on the Romsey Twinning website by clicking on this link: <https://www.romseytwinning.org.uk/did-you-know-2>



Participants and judges at the Concorso Letterario Treville

A modern view of town twinning?

This entertaining video clip talks about the origins, development and current state of town twinning across the UK.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zte_vg0D8Z4

As this is an external YouTube video please note that there is advertising from 5.17 to 6.40, then at the very end from about 12.20.

Subscriptions

Twinning subscriptions are due each year on 5th January. The good news is that there is to be no change in the rates. Individuals will still pay £10 for a year's membership and families of two or more pay £15.

Many of you pay by standing order which we very much appreciate as we don't have to chase you. If you don't pay by standing order, then let us have cash or a cheque made out to Romsey Twinning.

At the AGM, John Parker stood down as Treasurer and Kathrina Gwynne was elected. Part of the handover plan is to open a bank account at another bank but that is proving problematic. In the meantime our account remains at Barclays Bank and John Parker is still looking after it.

If you are paying by cash or cheque, then please send it to
John Parker at Cornerways, Highwood Lane, Romsey, SO51 9AF.

John Parker, Retiring Treasurer

Diary Dates 2026

20 March Annual Dinner, White Horse, Ampfield

More dates to be announced, please check the website

www.romseytwinning.org.uk

**We wish you a very merry Christmas and a
happy, healthy 2026!**

