



## WINDERMERE – DIESSEN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

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Dear Members,

### Spring 2011 Newsletter

Well, what a wonderful Easter holiday and Royal Wedding weekend we have had to lift our spirits and hopefully look forward to a good summer this year!

We had a good attendance at the Annual General Meeting in March at which the standing Committee members were re-elected with the exception of Sheila Ricketts who kindly donated all her photoboards to the Association on her retirement and the appointment of Annette Pearson as a new member of the Committee. As continuing Chairman I wish to express my thanks to everyone who has contributed in any way over the past year to ensure the aims of the Association are fulfilled. The delayed programme from the Christmas evening with the showing of the DVD 'Im Garten des Topfers' (In the Potter's Garden) – a delightful history of Ernst Loesche's blue decorated Diessen pottery, ably narrated in English by Rosemary, was enjoyed by everyone as were the typical Bavarian refreshments.

A report of our year's work was presented at the Annual Town Assembly of Windermere Town Council in recognition of the receipt of the Grant kindly given by the Council in support of our various cultural and linguistic exchanges.

Two important dates for your diaries, are firstly on **Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>** we will be holding another fund raising **Coffee Morning** at the Windermere Methodist Church Room between **10.00am and 12.00 noon**. I hope that many of you will come along and bring a friend for a coffee and a chat and the chance to buy something from the home produce table which proved successful last time. Entrance will be £1.00 payable at the door.

The second date is for our **Annual Garden Party** at the **Fairfield Hotel** which with kind permission of Liz and Tony Blaney will be held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June** between **2.00pm and 5.00pm**. There will be the usual delights of Pimms and strawberry teas, and games and competitions with fabulous prizes so an enjoyable afternoon can be had for everyone with families and friends. Entrance including refreshments £5.00, children free.

Any donations for the produce stall or tombola or our usual raffles will be warmly welcomed, either on the day or by a telephone call to me to arrange for collection to help us make a success of both events.

We are looking forward to the visit of students from the Carl Orff School who arrive on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May to spend some time at Lakes School as well as a varied programme of visits including Keswick and the Stone Circle and Carlisle and Hadrian's Wall. Later in July 58 pupils and 8 staff from Lakes School will be visiting Diessen and the Association will give the usual financial support to add a little extra interest to these trips.

This year several students from Windermere School will be making arrangements to gain work experience in various businesses in Diessen and some individual students from both Carl Orff School and the Ammersee Gymnasium have arranged to come to Windermere for similar purposes. Carolina spent eight weeks studying at Lakes School and Margo recently spent four weeks helping child minding at one of our local pre-school nurseries. Both were hosted by Twinning members and gained significantly in their English language skills and understanding of our local culture. A further three students will be here for a week in early June with interests in photography, design, and hotel hospitality. If anyone knows anyone who can help in any of these fields or can offer accommodation please let me know. We hope this will be the start of a programme of similar exchanges for future years.

Some of you may know that our Treasurer, Norman, is currently recovering in hospital having suffered a mild stroke. He is progressing well and has asked that anyone who has not yet paid their annual subscription (£10.00) would be kind enough to send it to him at the address above so he can get his books up to date when he gets home! In the meantime I would like to thank all those who have sent good wishes to him or helped me out recently.

Kind regards,