

LYMINGTON TIMES

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Hosts welcome German twinnners



EIGHTEEN Lymington families welcomed 32 twinning visitors from the German twin town, Mosbach, for a long weekend visit. Five of the guests were teenagers who had come as a reward for good performance in their English studies.

A restful first morning allowed time to get over the journey and to catch up on family news as many guests were staying with hosts whom they know as family friends after several previous exchange visits.

Their first trip out was to Eling Tide Mill for a guided tour followed

by a cream tea. As Mosbach is 12 hours' drive from the sea, the twinning always appreciate anything remotely marine, and a tide mill was a novelty. From Eling the teenage guests and their hosts went on to a 10-pin bowling session.

The next day being Saturday, it was left free for hosts to entertain their guests, and many of the visitors enjoyed Lymington's market in warm sunshine, while others were taken further afield.

In the evening, most hosts and guests got together at Lymington

Community Centre for a riotous beetle drive with a fish and chip supper. Among the guests was Lymington mayor Coun. Jacqui England. By the eighth and final round, widespread cheating was under control and most people had finally grasped the rules.

Sunday dawned dry if a bit cloudy, as the party from Mosbach took the ferry to Yarmouth and the bus to Freshwater Bay. There everyone enjoyed refreshments before all but three set off to walk over Tennyson Down to the Needles, pausing at the

Tennyson monument to take in the fine views. After finding a picnic spot sheltered from the brisk wind at the Needles new battery, the party took the bus back to Yarmouth where there was time for a brief exploration before boarding the ferry to Lymington.

A quick turnaround found all the guests and hosts assembled in the evening at the Walhampton Arms, where they again welcomed the mayor to join them for a tasty Italian hot buffet. Brief speeches of welcome from the mayor and thanks from the guests ended with an

invitation for the hosts to visit Mosbach at the end of May 2013.

On their way back to Heathrow Airport, the guests visited Windsor and enjoyed tours of the castle.

Lymington has twin towns in France and Spain as well as Germany, and twinning provides an enjoyable way of getting a deeper understanding of the way of life in these countries. Families with children are welcome, as well as singles and couples of all ages. For more information go to www.lymingtontwinning.weebly.com