

Great Yarmouth & Rambouillet celebrate their 60th Twinning anniversary.

A recent joint **Civic and Twinning Association** visit to **Rambouillet** further strengthened our French Connection with a thoroughly enjoyable initial celebration of our **60 year ‘marriage’**.

The second occasion to celebrate this remarkable milestone will be made in September this year, when a party from Rambouillet will visit Great Yarmouth during the ‘Out There’ Festival.

By special request from our French friends, who had been previously impressed by song and dance routines put on for them at the Town Hall by our local **Dusmagrik Young People’s Theatre Company**, 21 of their team of youngsters joined our coach trip this time, under the supervision of their leaders Mary & Rusty Carter and Janice Harvey.

The Dusmagrik children, aged between 11 and 15, were hosted in pairs and were also joined by two of their mothers. Their 45 minute song and dance performance at the National Bergerie theatre, was much appreciated, especially with its nautical theme and song about ‘wonderful Yarmouth’.

Lovely countryside and forests surround Rambouillet but things nautical, like boats, sea and sand, are conspicuous by their absence!

At the Gala Dinner on our final evening, the Dusmagrik youngsters again took to the stage for an impromptu Indian-style routine (think Bollywood) which I was told was one of their ‘warm-up’ routines. Well it almost set the room on fire with appreciative applause and laughter when some of the youngsters of the Rambouillet CCJ committee tried to emulate the dance moves on the high up balcony opposite the stage. How our children didn’t miss a beat through giggling, I just don’t know!

That helped to make up for our disappointment that the Street Music Festival had been cancelled the previous day, because of the need for Police officers to be sent to Paris to help control the overly boisterous football fans (?).

The photos show the unveiling, by our Mayor, Malcolm Bird, of the new Rambouillet town sign, with the names of its five Twin Towns and the signing of our Twinning’s 60th anniversary document by Kate Watts, on behalf of GYBC Chief Executive – witnessed by our two town Mayors.

Vive le Jumelage! (Long live the Twinning!) – our friendship links must not be affected by the recent ‘Brexit’ decision from the EU Referendum – it is above politics!

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