

INSPIRATION PAGE

Celebrating 75 Years of British-German Town Twinnings (1947-2022)

A competition for schools sponsored by the British German Association and the Oxford-Bonn Link.

Town twinnings form important links between communities across the world, and they go a long way back. The movement took off after the Second World War as an initiative to foster personal ties that would help to create bonds of friendship. Since then, many towns, cities and communities have built close relationships that are brought alive in exchange visits, liaison between sports teams, artists and musicians, and school exchanges.



One of the early twinnings connected Coventry and Dresden, cities that shared a painful history of having been devastated by bombing during the war. Today, twinning activities range from jointly promoting the economic prosperity of the two cities to collaboration between artists in the Coventry Dresden Art Exchange.



Bristol established one of the first post-war twinnings with Hannover, with exchanges now involving the two Lord Mayors, schools and youth clubs, orchestras and choirs, church groups and sports clubs ranging from football to rowing. Regular twinning events include a Rosenmontagsparty during German Carneval.



Meanwhile Kirkcaldy can look back on almost 60 years of twinning with the Bavarian town of Ingolstadt, celebrated biennially in Kirkcaldy Town Square in the Ingolstadt Herrnbräu Beer and Music Community Festival. As the chair of the Kirkcaldy Ingolstadt Association commented in *Fife Today*: "Although there is a distance of 1356 km between Kirkcaldy and Ingolstadt, there are no barriers to the success of the twinning link."



For towns and cities in the UK and their twinned towns and cities, see these links: For England:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of twin towns and sister cities in England For Wales:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of twin towns and sister cities in Wales For Scotland:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of twin towns and sister cities in Scotland For Northern Ireland:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of twin towns and sister cities in the United Kingdo m

