

Hebden Bridge Twinning Society

50 ANS : JAHRE ST POL WARSTEIN

Visit to Warstein: 29th to 31st August 2014

On Saturday the 30th August 2014 50 years of twinning between St Pol and Warstein was celebrated in the



Prof. Dr Norbert Lammert, Bundestag President, opens the proceedings



Manfred Gödde, Luciano Pugliese, Jonathan Timbers and Maurice Louf,

school centre in Beleke. The proceedings were opened by a very important visitor – President of the German Bundestag, Prof. Dr Norbert Lammert. His thoughtful and thought provoking speech on the importance of harmony in Europe (and the contribution that twinning makes to this) was very striking. Mayors from twin and friendship towns spoke too and commemorative gifts were exchanged. The names of those who had contributed greatly to twinning (Marie-France Acquart and Franz Josef Berghoff) were signed into the golden book of Warstein. Accompanying the ceremony was a delightful programme of classical music from the Amalia Quartett.



Maurice Louf presents commemorative artwork to Manfred Gödde



The four mayors release doves of peace after the church service on Sunday 31st August

In the afternoon we toured the festivities in Warstein enjoying music, sport, a tractor tour and a boy-scout camp-fire! During the evening there was a most eclectic programme of music and dance compered by that inimitable comedy duo, Gérard Bocquillion and Wolfgang Heppekausen.

On Sunday morning there was a pontifical mass in the Stadtkirche St Pankratius directed by Hans-Josef Becker, Archbishop of Paderborn (but originally from Belecke). The proceedings included the release of doves of peace by the mayors of Warstein, St Pol, Pietrapola and Hebden Royd. Finally we all had a farewell snack together in the church centre before bidding each other farewell and heading for home.

Jane Jackson
18th September 2014