

***Meitheal Jumelages***

***Gaillimh 2019***

***Kilkenny / Waterford***

***8th-13th September***





## Meitheal Jumelages Gaillimh

### Multi-Section Meeting in Ireland Sept 2019

Jumelages Galway Section hosted a Multi-Section Meeting in the South East of Ireland incorporating two cities, Kilkenny and Waterford, from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019. In all 51 people attended this Multi-Section Meeting comprising of representatives from the Bonn Section, Nord Isere Section, La Rochelle Section, Bielsko-Biala Section and the Galway Section. In addition, we had guest visitors from the Darmstadt Section in Germany in attendance.

We were delighted and honoured once again to welcome Marian Fabian, President of Euro Jumelages to our meeting as Marian is a great friend of Jumelages Galway for many years and we very much appreciate the excellent work that he has undertaken in his term as President of Euro Jumelages.

This was the first occasion that Jumelages Galway hosted a Multi-Section Meeting in the South East of Ireland and the first time that our meeting involved visiting 2 major Cities of interest, Kilkenny, and Waterford. The programme for the visit was varied and exciting with something to suit all interests.



On the first full day of activities, the morning was spent visiting two historical landmarks in Ireland, Cahir Castle and the Rock of Cashel. The afternoon involved a visit to O'Hara's Craft Beer Distillery and guests had the opportunity to taste a range of craft beers and ciders as well as having a very informative tour of the distillery.



**Day 2:** Provided our visitors with an opportunity to see some of the famous historical sites in Kilkenny City as well as incorporating a pleasant Formal Reception hosted by the Kilkenny Deputy Mayor, Councillor John Coonan in the Kilkenny City Chambers.





**Day 3:** Highlights today were visits and guided tours of the Dunbrody Famine Ship in New Ross and the Hook Head Lighthouse in Wexford.





**Day 4:** Jumelages Members had a walking tour of Waterford City followed by a most interesting tour of the Waterford Crystal Factory, famous worldwide for its design and cutting of Crystal Glass.



Visit to bronze sculpture of Strongbow and Aoife in the heart of the Viking Triangle, Waterford.



Replica of the Crystal bowl used for the presentation of shamrock on St Patrick's Day 2012



## La Finale

While the various tours and trips were both interesting and enjoyable, the time spent with our Jumelages friends from the visiting sections over lunch, dinner as well as over after dinner drinks was the highlight of this Multi-Section Meeting.



All the visiting group leaders complemented the Galway Section President, Martin O'Grady on the excellent and well organised programme. The presentation of gifts from each of the groups was very much appreciated. The visiting groups thoroughly enjoyed meeting with their hosts, enjoying good craic(fun), music and excellent food. New and old friendships were fostered in this most enjoyable atmosphere. The visits to the top tourist attractions in the region and the sharing of Baileys Irish Cream and Irish Whiskey drinks on the bus completed a very memorable Multi-Section Jumelages meeting in the South East of Ireland.

Martin O'Grady

Martin O'Grady, Meitheal Jumelages Gaillimh, Ireland.

PHOTO'S



EIR Shop, Market Centre, Kilkenny



Waterford Crystal Master Piece, valued at €15,000 euro.





Hook Head, oldest intact operational Lighthouse in the World