

Longford Town and Noyal-Châtillon sur Seiche, Brittany France

On Friday March 15th 2024 a delegation of 14 Noyal Citizens, led by Mayor Sébastien Guéret and Noyal Town Twinning Chair André Guyomard, arrived in Dublin Airport from Nantes at 9.40. They were met by Cllr Seamus Butler and proceeded to the Kanes coach. They then drove to the Guinness Storehouse for the tour including the Gravity Bar and Lunch in the Brewer's Dining Hall. The party departed at c 15.00 and arrived c 17.30 at County Buildings to meet the host families where they spent the first night.

Saturday 16th March saw a Twinning Business Meeting hosted in the Boardroom of Butler Manufacturing Services Ltd at 11.00. At 12.30 the party departed for a trip to the Party Town of Carrick-on-Shannon. At 19.00 we hosted a Dinner at Longford Rugby Club where much singing and camaraderie was had by all. This was followed by visits to certain hostelries in the Town.

On St. Patrick's day the French delegation assembled for the Parade and were lead by Mayor Sébastien Guéret who was awarded Grand marshal in honour of 25 years of our Twinning. The Parade was followed by the Prize Giving in the temperance hall. Our guests were then free to for the evening to enjoy the entertainment around the Town.

Bank Holiday Monday 18th March a tour to the Award Winning Village of Abbeyshrule followed by Lunch in the famous Rustic Inn. Later that evening a much enjoyed music session was held Lyons Pub on Main Street which didn't finish early.

Our tired guests, and hosts, assembled at the Cathedral Car Park at 8.00 on Tuesday March 19th to see them off for their return flight to Nantes.

A Quote by the André, Noyal Chatillon organiser after their return to France:

" I know how difficult, stressful and tiring it is to organise such events. You did very well and all participants will have excellent memories of this stay!"

We incurred costs just under the budgeted € 5,000.

A big thank you to Lorraine and especially to all the generous home hosts.

