

Mayors meet at Annual Twinning Visit Le Ferte Mace

John Aitken Mayor of Ludlow was delighted to be invited to take part in the annual visit, this year to Le Ferte Mace, which took place from 17th – 31 May 2011. John is pictured below at a reception host by the local school Lycee Flora Tristan.



Ludlow has been twinned with La Ferté-Macé in Normandy since 1986, when a group of intrepid pioneers from Ludlow ventured across the Channel to make contact.

From those initial steps the twinning associations of Ludlow and La Ferté-Macé have worked closely to build lasting bonds of friendship, organise regular visits and develop common aims. These aims are supported by the towns' respective local authorities and include economic co-operation, school exchanges, cultural events, social and family exchanges, and sporting activities.

The central core of the co-operation between the two twinning associations are the annual visits. The towns take turns to visit one another, usually in May, to meet up with old friends and make new ones, practice language skills, and gain a better understanding of each other's culture.

On these occasions families are hosted by and play host to the visiting families. Helping to organise educational exchanges and apprenticeship opportunities is an additional and important aspect of our co-operation, as is the furthering of contacts between sporting and cultural bodies.

Right to Left: Jacques Dalmont, Mayor of Le Ferte Mace; Bernard Blondel, Chairman of Le Ferte Mace Twinning Association; John Aitken, Mayor of Ludlow; Gilles Guezennec, Head of Lycee Flora Tristan accompanied by a member of staff; and Tim Mawson Chairman of Ludlow Twinning Association

