

## **Arklow Twinning**

Twinning helps to develop a better understanding of other nationalities and cultures. In addition to educational, cultural and sporting exchanges, partnerships with international communities have led to lifelong friendships, to business exchanges and commercial opportunities.

Arklow Town is twinned with two towns:

- Châteaudun ,France
- Aberystwyth, Wales

## **Châteaudun**

- Châteaudun and Arklow have been officially twinned since 1982. Throughout the past years many strong links have been established between the two towns, including school-exchanges, adult visits, cultural and sporting links. On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Arklow Twinning Association welcomed 24 visitors from Châteaudun and 4 from Aberystwyth for a four-day celebration of 35 years of twinning with Châteaudun
- Châteaudun is a very attractive town with its hilltop castle and period houses lining the picturesque streets of the old town.
- The town has a population of approximately 13,963.
- Châteaudun is located in the centre of France approximately 1 hour 30 minutes from Paris. It lies on the river Loir, a tributary of the Sarthe.

## **Aberystwyth**

- In 2016 Arklow signed a twinning agreement with Aberystwyth.
- Aberystwyth is a lively coastal town centrally located on Cardigan bay.
- The coastal town has a population of approximately 18,749.
- A close relationship began between Arklow and Aberystwyth through the Celtic Challenge boat race in which teams from both towns row competitively across the Irish Sea from Arklow to Aberystwyth, a distance of about 90 nautical miles. It is the world's longest rowing race.
- Both towns have a strong nautical tradition and it has been through the efforts of their rowing fraternities that this strong friendship has been forged.

Arklow Twinning Association welcomes new members. The committee meets on a monthly basis in Arklow Municipal Library. We are very committed to maintaining a strong European dimension and also to reaching out to our local community and emphasising social inclusion. New members are welcome. Contact address: [mariamfitzm@gmail.com](mailto:mariamfitzm@gmail.com).

Maria Fitzmaurice : Chairperson

Paul Maher : Secretary

Arklow Twinning Association





Visitors from Châteaudun enjoying beautiful County Wicklow.





Visitors from Aberystwyth.