

Aberdeen City Schools

An important aspect of our twinning relationships is our work with schools. Exposure to different cultures, ways of life and foreign languages can have a huge benefit to a child's education. With this in mind twinning encourages approaches from schools who wish to develop their international links.

Schools may wish to consider activities in relation to:

- Francophonie Day
- European Day of Languages
- Mother Language Day

The International Partnerships Officer can offer support and assistance to schools with any of these international days, or with any other options they would like to explore, such as online communications or school partnership projects run by the British Council Scotland.



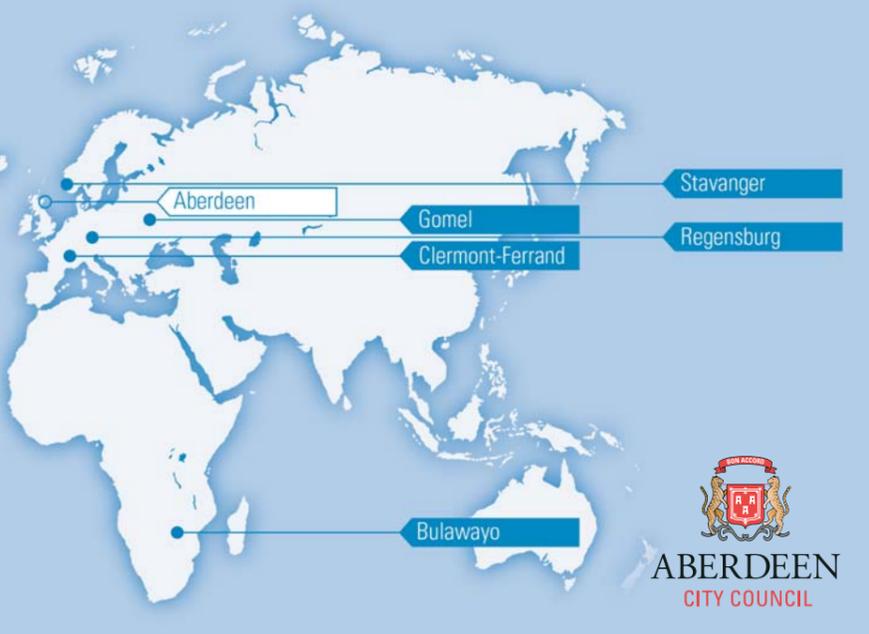
Union Street, Aberdeen

If you are interested in organising or participating in a twinning project/visit or would like more information please contact the International Partnerships Officer on twinning@aberdeencity.gov.uk

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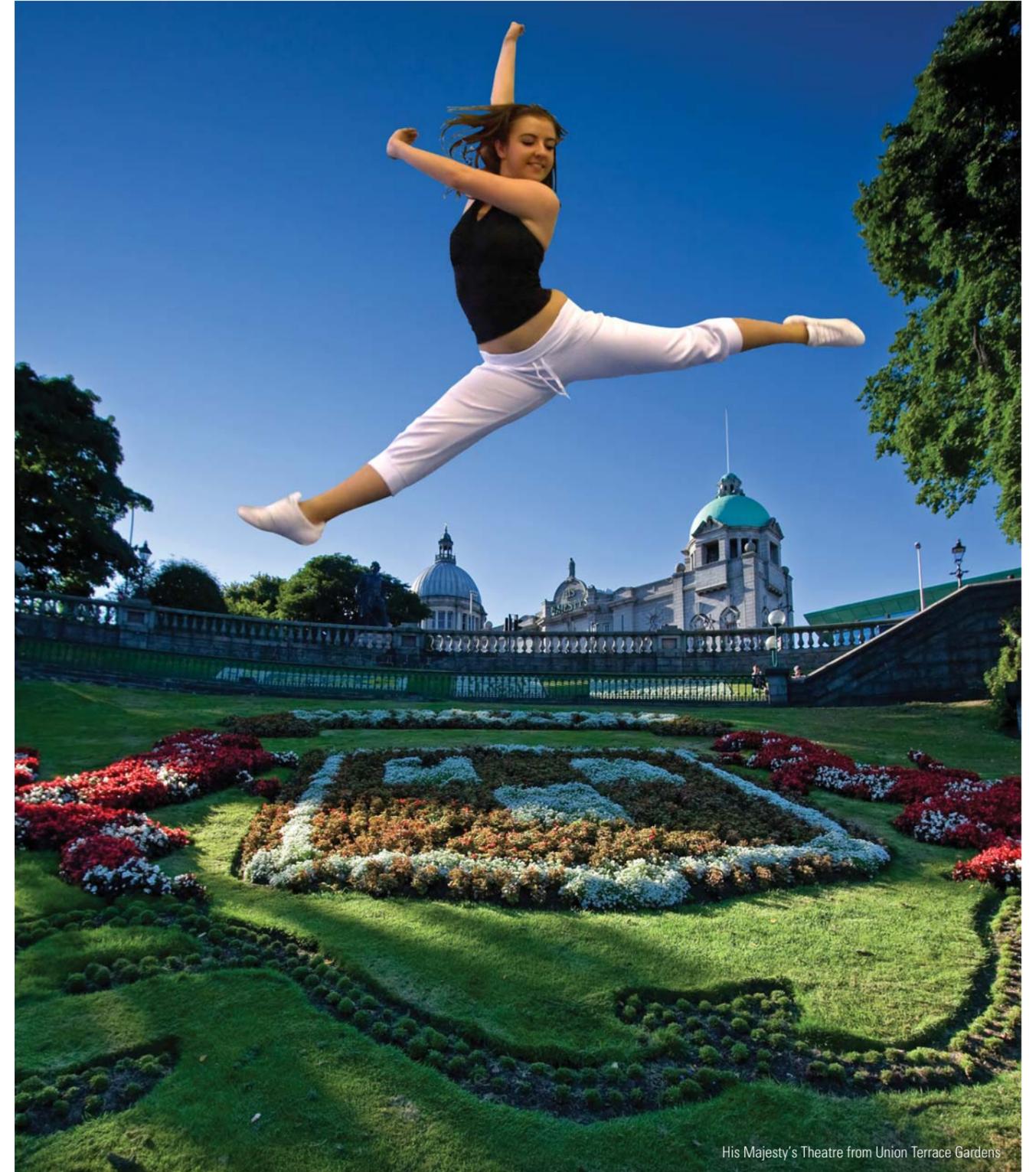
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aberdeencity.gov.uk/twinning



ABERDEEN INVESTLIVEVISIT

TWINNING ABERDEEN



His Majesty's Theatre from Union Terrace Gardens

ABERDEEN INVESTLIVEVISIT

ABERDEEN and her twin cities



Aberdeen

Aberdeen is twinned with five cities:

- Regensburg (Germany), 1955
- Clermont-Ferrand (France), 1983
- Bulawayo (Zimbabwe), 1986
- Gomel (Belarus), 1990
- Stavanger (Norway), 1990

Twinning relationships are based on cultural, social, educational, music, sport or economic exchanges and can help provide a platform for:

- Exchange of experiences
- Increased cultural awareness
- Building international relationships
- Sharing knowledge and best practice

Twinning Events

Throughout the year Aberdeen hosts and supports a number of events showcasing our unique city and local talent. Our twin cities are often invited to take part in these events. Successful projects have included:

- Participants from twin cities including Clermont-Ferrand and Gomel in the Aberdeen International Youth Festival
- Youth football teams including those from Stavanger and Bulawayo participating in football tournaments in the city
- The Mayor of Stavanger switching on the Christmas Tree Lights alongside the Lord Provost of Aberdeen
- The participation of Regensburg and Stavanger jazz musicians in Aberdeen Jazz Festival

The International Partnerships and Twinning Fund exists to assist individuals, groups or organisations with twin city projects. If you are interested please contact the International Partnerships Officer to discuss your project and eligibility for funding.

Regensburg, Germany

- Inhabitants 150,000
- Situated in Bavaria, South-East Germany

Regensburg is a beautiful ancient imperial city situated near the River Danube in Bavaria. It is well renowned for its medieval city centre, which was made a UNESCO World Heritage Site in July 2006. The main industries in Regensburg are beer brewing, biotechnology, electronics and mechanical engineering.

Educational and art links with Aberdeen are strong and there are long standing annual exchange visits between Aberdeen's YMCA group and the CVJM (German YMCA) Regensburg group. While these links play an important role in the personal and social development of young people links have also been developed to include sports, music, culture and senior citizen visits.

Regensburg holds various festivals during the year such as:

- Bavarian Jazz Festival
- Bürgerfest every 2 years
- Christmas Markets

www.regensburg.de/tourismus/de/3854



River Danube, Regensburg

Clermont-Ferrand, France

- Inhabitants 140,700
- Situated in the Auvergne region of France

Clermont-Ferrand was founded in the 17th century from the union of Clermont, and Montferrand. Spread out at the foot of the Chaîne-des-Puys volcanoes it is also the natural capital of "Massif Central", one of France's most attractive regions.

The city has two universities: Université de Blaise Pascal and Université d'Auvergne (student population approx. 35,000). It is home to tyre manufacturer Michelin and other industries include food processing, mechanics, tertiary services, and a technology park.

Twinning projects have included an exchange between the Jean Jaurès School and Manor Park Primary in Aberdeen, as well as participation in the Aberdeen International Youth Festival.

Clermont-Ferrand Events and Festivals:

- Jazz en Tête
- Festival Européen des Musiques Rares
- International Short Film Festival
- Cultural Season
- Fete de la Rosière
- Trans'Urbaines Hip Hop Festival
- Vidéoformes

www.clermont-ferrand.fr
www.clermont-international.org



Clermont-Ferrand, Jazz en Tête



Gomel, Belarus

Gomel, Belarus

- Inhabitants 492,000
- Situated in South-East Belarus

Gomel was deeply affected by radiation from the Chernobyl disaster in 1986 with radiation affecting human health and entering the soil. Aberdeen's links with Gomel have focussed on culture and music while the Aberdeen Gomel Trust was set-up to help provide aid and medical support to cope with the aftermath. The Trust consists of Councillors, The Medical Faculty of Aberdeen University, churches and the Friends of Gomel.

Examples of previous projects have included:

- 21st Aberdeen Scouts (Cults) provided teaching materials and teaching conversational English in local schools.
- Exhibition exchanges between the Gordon Highlanders Museum and Gomel Regional Museum of Military Glory.

Gomel is also twinned with Clermont-Ferrand allowing for bilateral collaborations between the cities and the stimulation of new projects and relationships.

www.gorod.gomel.by

Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

- Inhabitants 730,000
- Situated in south-west Zimbabwe

Aberdeen was twinned with Bulawayo in 1986 and the Bulawayo Trust was established in the same year. The Trust provides humanitarian assistance and supports Bulawayans with medicines, educational materials and other practical assistance.

Operation Florian, a UK based fire fighting charity, has recently begun donating fire fighting equipment and training to fire fighters in Bulawayo.

Social and cultural exchanges have also taken place with musicians and dancers taking part in the Aberdeen International Youth Festival, and a young female football team participating in the Aberdeen International Football Tournament.



Operation Florian, Bulawayo



Stavanger Harbour

Stavanger, Norway

- Inhabitants 126,000
- Situated in Rogaland region of Norway

Stavanger, like Aberdeen, grew to a city of importance after the discovery of oil and gas in the North Sea in 1969. It is a stunning coastal city which has one university, the University of Stavanger, with approx 8,000 students. In 2008 the city was voted European Capital of Culture.

Not surprisingly, Aberdeen and Stavanger have a lot in common. Both have a long maritime history of fishing and fish processing and both share the huge success of the oil and gas industry in the North Sea.

The connection with Stavanger originated through the economic links of the oil and gas industry while twinning brought about links in education, culture and sport. This includes:

- Long standing links between the 21st Aberdeen Scouts (Cults) and Stavanger groups
- Links between Aberdeen Jazz Festival and Stavanger jazz groups

Events and Festivals in Stavanger:

- MaiJazz Festival
- Gladmat Food Festival
- Offshore Northern Seas Stavanger
- Chamber Music Festival
- Literature Festival
- Constitution Day, 17th May

www.stavanger.kommune.no/English