



Twinned with Fontenay aux Roses France and Offenburg Germany.

**Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association (BETTA)**

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BETTA, Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 5BT

## **BETTA Statement about recent Announcement from Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council**

Borehamwood and Elstree Twin Town Association (BETTA) is a community association, founded in 1982, to promote, to both community groups and individuals, the links Elstree and Borehamwood has with its European partner towns of Fontenay Aux Roses near Paris and Offenburg, in the Black Forest region of South West Germany.

The group is a non-political organisation run by volunteers and residents elected yearly at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

BETTA receives a grant from the local Town Council to assist with the promotion of these links within Elstree and Borehamwood to cover the administrations costs for running of the association and also to assist in hosting community groups from Fontenay Aux Roses and Offenburg when they visit our Town.

BETTA promotes these links by organising such events as 'The Bastille Ball', an Annual Christmas 'Carols by Candlelight' event and Barn Dances. Other themed evenings have been held to promote the different cultures of our partner towns.

BETTA's town twinning visits to Fontenay Aux Roses and Offenburg are paid for by the association members who take part in them. They do not use the annual funding from Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council.



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Over the years, many different community groups have visited both partner towns these include local scout groups and musical groups. We also have several school links with both towns.

The local Rotary Club and Church groups have also made links with the assistance of the Association and helped BETTA in hosting groups when they visit Elstree & Borehamwood.

The ethos of town twinning was to act as an official relationship-builder within Europe after the second-world war. The idea was simple: repair damaged relationships between France, Germany and the UK. Something BETTA has been doing for over 35 years.

The recent decision of the Town Council to link with a Chinese community with a population of over Two Million people was seen by the management committee of BETTA as something that they, given their current resources could not take on and therefore they were unable to back this proposal, as presented to them by representatives from Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council.

For further details about the association, please look at our web site,

[www.betta.org.uk](http://www.betta.org.uk) or contact BETTA either by E-mail [bettagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com) or by telephone: 0203 441 6510.