



Spring 2019

The deed of partnership between Guildford and Freiburg was signed on 22 September 1979 by the mayor of Guildford, Cllr Ron Burgess, and the Oberbürgermeister of Freiburg, Dr Eugen Keidel.



The deed was signed as a “token and promise of lasting friendship between the two communities and an encouragement to regular mutual liaison to exchange experiences and to support the coming together of our citizens in every sphere.”



OVERVIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Forty years of twinning! To be precise 22 September 2019 will be the fortieth anniversary – but we’ll be celebrating all year.

As members will know, the relationship is still going strong, with more and more exchanges, activities and friendships every year. Definitely an achievement to shout about – and on both sides, for twinning is indeed a collaborative affair, requiring effort by both twins to nurture it. Looking back, our collective memories show:

- Organised visits to and from Freiburg – at least one every year, sometimes private, ie GTA members and Freiburg citizens, including the Anglo-German Club; sometimes civic, ie Mayor or Oberbürgermeister, city councillors and officers;

- Educational visits of schools and universities - regular exchanges over many years, one-off visits, internships;
- Music – scores of exchanges and one-way visits involving choirs, band and individual performers;
- Arts– an exhibition of textiles by a Freiburg artist in Guildford; exhibitions by photographers and of paintings and sculpture in both towns; Guildford writers have given readings in Freiburg
- Radio – regular contacts between each town’s local radio societies;
- Church, Zonta and Rotary clubs, Ssorooptimists – all have had regular contacts and exchanges;
- Sport – for 29 years there were exchange football matches between boys’ clubs; adult tennis exchanges, at least one virtual archery match;
- Public lectures in Guildford on German themes – a total of 13 so far;

- Mini German-style Christmas market in Guildford – annually since 2006;
- Parties and dinners, generally German-themed, held annually in Guildford; tastings of Freiburg wines occasionally; dinners with the Anglo-German Club in Freiburg whenever possible;
- Formal monuments – a commemorative mosaic plus information panel under Tunsgate Arch with an equivalent mosaic in the Rathausplatz; commemorative benches in Freiburg’s Seepark and Guildford Castle grounds.

Most of this was supported or facilitated by the GTA, with practical support and some funding by both city councils, and we are entitled to feel very proud.

In the past year we have continued our focus on young people, with mixed success, and also concentrated on the visual arts - film, painting and sculpture - with triumphant success. Highlights of the year 2018-2019 included:

- an evening of avant-garde film and discussion by Freiburg photographer and film-maker Telemach Wiesinger on a return visit to Guildford;
- our participation in Guildford Council’s event Picnic in the Castle Grounds, running a stall with activities for young children and promoting the twinning to their parents;
- the annual members’ visit to Freiburg, with a musical highlight;
- the 40th year of the Goethe Gymnasium/George Abbot School exchange – really impressive! To encourage other Guildford schools, we invited their teachers to a talk about various different possibilities for school exchanges, including virtual exchanges free internet video calls, taking the opportunity to extol the attractions of our twin city.



- Following this, St Peter’s Catholic School spent a day in Freiburg during their music tour.
- our public lecture, “German Art - a personal view from the bridge” given by history of art specialist Ian Charnock;
- our 16+ seminar, “Introduction to European film” a new GTA initiative for 6th-formers, given by University of Surrey film specialist Prof Phil Powrie;
- and finally, an amazing exhibition of sculptures by Freiburg artists Annemarie Matzakow, Maria Cristina Tangorra and Konrad Wallmeier. (see pages 17-20)

To complete the picture, I should mention some not-so-good bits: the boys’ team football matches have not yet been revived; entry to our essay competition was so poor we had to postpone it; and the hoped-for Versailles relationship has made no visible progress. And as for the “elephant in the room,” I have been resolute in declaring to all who would listen that international co-operation is vital to humanity’s wellbeing and our special twin partnership is part of it, all the more essential in the depressing climate created by the Brexit negotiations.

And I thank most heartily all the people who have contributed to our work and its success: as well as the GTA Committee members and their supportive spouses, there are many individuals, councillors and civic officers in both Guildford and Freiburg who have supported, helped and encouraged us along the way.

Barbara Ford, April 2019



Left: The mayor of Guildford, Cllr Ron Burgess, and the Oberbürgermeister of Freiburg, Dr Eugen Keidel, shake hands at the signing of the twinning deed (pictured above) in September 1979

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

WORK EXPERIENCE IN FREIBURG

Sixth Form student Claudia, from St Catherine's School, Bramley, reports.

In the October half term I travelled to Freiburg and completed 5 days' work experience and a home-stay with a host family, in the outskirts of the city. The opportunity to go to Freiburg and complete a week of work experience was brought to my attention by my German teacher, who had a contact at the Guildford Twinning Association and asked me whether I would be interested in spending a week in Freiburg. At first, the thought of travelling alone to somewhere new, staying with people I had never met, and working with people who did not speak the same first language as I did, was extremely daunting. I then realised it was a fantastic opportunity and accepted. I realised that an immersive experience would improve my language skills greatly.

The GTA put my teacher in touch with people who were working at the Freiburg Referat für Internationale Kontakte und Protokoll, who deal with international requests to the city of Freiburg. They offered me a placement helping at the "Local Renewables 2018" conference and the "International Sister Cities 2018: Sustainable Development" conference which had representatives from all over the world. Due to the incredible international connections and the use of modern technology, I was in contact with the family almost two months in advance of the trip, which was very helpful as it helped me get to know them before I met them. They picked me up from the airport; once I had settled into their home and unpacked, they showed me how I would get to work in the morning and told me not to worry as the mum would travel with me on my first day. We took the tram into the city (which was only a 7-minute ride away). Once we arrived in the centre, the family showed me where I would be working and also showed me the cathedral. They gave me a small tour of the city centre, showing me the nicest shops, sweet backstreets and buildings such as the university library which had been newly refurbished.

The family treated me like a daughter. We conversed in German for most of my stay, even though the oldest daughter was taking bilingual English classes at school; however, at the end of each day I was usually very tired as I had been speaking in German for most of the day working with people who spoke little English (although enough if I did not understand something I had been instructed to do). I finished work most days between 2 o'clock and 4 o'clock. This meant I could explore Freiburg each day and practise my German in cafes and shops. I thoroughly enjoyed

finding out more about German culture and tasting traditional, local German dishes, for example Flammkuchen.

The people I was working with were extremely welcoming and very understanding if I did not understand any of the vocabulary that they were using; they always tried their best to make me feel at ease as they understood that it was slightly daunting. They were all very appreciative of any work that I did especially when I was helping to set up for the conference and when I was helping to clear away after the conference had finished. Everyone was extremely sociable and very interested when I told them that I was on an internship from Guildford. Whilst the conference was underway, I realised how important international connections are especially as the conference was based upon sustainable development in Freiburg's sister cities. The city itself is extremely green; I was amazed to see how many green spaces and bicycles there were. I was told that tramlines had recently been installed in order to make the area more pedestrianised.

I am extremely thankful for the opportunity I was given by the GTA and Freiburg Association for the connections and I am also extremely grateful that the family I stayed with were so kind. I have already met them again because they travelled to England the week after I left and so my family have also had the chance to meet them. I would highly recommend this experience to anyone studying a language or hoping to better their current linguistic abilities.

SCHOOLS INITIATIVES

GTA EDUCATION ROUNDUP 2018-2019

A report from Steve Callaghan, GTA Committee Member for Education Liaison.

The new academic year started with a fantastic *16+ Seminar* for local Sixth Form students and staff when Professor Phil Powrie, Professor of Cinema Studies at the University of Surrey, gave a lively Introduction to European Cinema. Professor Powrie presented an overview of the importance of cinema and the state of the film industry in Europe before looking in more detail at two films on the A level specifications, *Das Leben der Anderen* and *Intouchable*.

Over 40 students and staff from Guildford schools attended the early evening event hosted by Guildford High School. Students were encouraged to look critically at excerpts from the films and express their views – a potentially daunting task in front of an expert professor, strangers and under the gaze of their

teachers. The young people rose admirably to the challenge and all agreed the event complemented their A level studies in an extremely enjoyable way. Our 16+ seminars are set to become a regular feature in our calendar. Both films are well worth watching in their own right, whether you're studying for A levels or not!

During the Autumn and Spring Terms I had the opportunity to speak to all four of the groups of adult learners of German at the University of Surrey to introduce them to the Association's work and to invite them to our events. Several of the students came to the Weihnachtsmarkt in December, and some were even persuaded to buy from our second-hand book stall. Barbara now sends a tailored version of the members' update to adult learner classes at the University and the Surrey Adult Education groups.

Students from St Peter's Catholic School in Guildford stopped in Freiburg during their music tour in July 2018 and enjoyed a day of R&R with a guided walk through the Freiburg Altstadt and a trip on the Schaulinslandbahn. For many it was the highlight of their trip.

A student from St Catherine's School in Bramley completed a week's work experience in Freiburg in October 2018 and the exchange scheme between George Abbot School and the Goethe Gymnasium is now in its 40th year! I had the pleasure of showing the group from Goethe Gymnasium around Guildford at the beginning of March. Many students were already aware of key figures in Guildford's past, and particularly enjoyed looking at Abbot's Hospital and the Alice Garden.

We are happy to try to arrange Conversation Partners for Guildford learners of German, linking with adult learners in Freiburg. Please look at the website for more details and get in touch

SCHOOL EXCHANGE: GOETHE GYMNASIUM, FREIBURG, TO GEORGE ABBOT, MARCH 2018

A report by Nele Giesecking.

We, students from form 10, landed in London in the evening of the last day of the carnival holidays, on the 10th of March, and went to Guildford by bus. On our first day we saw our partner school George Abbot School and were welcomed by the head teacher Ms. Carriett. It's huge! All of us agreed that we would get absolutely lost in these buildings. We were guided round Guildford town centre by a friendly member of the Freiburg-Guildford Association, who told us a lot of interesting things about Guildford and its history.

And we went shopping. In the afternoon we went bowling with our exchange partners and our teachers.

On Tuesday we went to Brighton with our exchange partners. First we saw and the Royal Pavilion and all the little lanes. But as soon as our free time ended and we met to go to the i360, which is something like a viewing platform, the weather went crazy: strong rain and even stronger wind. No one dared to bathe although some of us planned to. Wet but happy we arrived at the i360 but the view was not really good, just a lot of rain. We spent Wednesday in the Victoria and Albert, the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum. I think all of us had tired legs after this day. On our fourth day we went to school with our exchange partners. Beginning at 8.30 it was very relaxed. The English students start their day with something called "tutor time" or "form" when they sign in and the teachers can use this lesson as they want. After that their normal lessons start. In my case English, Biology, Drama and PSE. The English students have very different breaks compared to ours. Just enough time to change the building. And we, the German guys, had obviously no idea where to go and just followed our exchange partners, sometimes spotting other Germans in the crowd. The rest of the day was free. Friday was officially the last day together as a group. Just the German students went to London a second time and saw the city in the morning, guided around by our well experienced teachers. In the afternoon we had free time and most of us visited Covent Garden, China town and of course Oxford street. There was a lot of walking for sure - my phone counted 24000 steps!

We spent the weekend with our exchange families. Some went to London a third time, some visited Oxford or a big shopping mall. On Monday it was time to say goodbye to the families and, of course, to our exchange partners.



All in all, we had a great time in England and learned at least a few new words in English. And the ones who already miss their exchange partner: Don't worry; they will visit us in July!

SCHOOL EXCHANGE: GEORGE ABBOT TO GOETHE GYMNASIUM, JULY 2018

Report by a George Abbot student

In the summer of 2018 a few of George Abbot's courageous German-studying students left behind the school, destined for Freiburg im Breisgau, - a picturesque city in South West Germany by the Black Forest, where they were to reunite with the student exchange partners they had first met when the Germans, from the Goethe Gymnasium Freiburg, had arrived in England in spring 2018.

The trip was greatly enjoyed by both of the groups, with highlights consisting of the trip to Europa Park (obviously), the aqua enjoyment on Lake Titisee, the hilarious mini golfing session in Seepark, and simply wandering around the vibrant city centre, with its diverse architecture and fascinating history. School was also a very interesting experience, very different to George Abbot, with many customs and other things that we would never have found out about if we hadn't gone on that day. The teachers and organisers were also lovely to us and our limited capabilities, so thank you Goethe Gymnasium!

I would also like to thank the wonderful families that housed and fed us throughout the week. I feel that I have learnt a lot of vocabulary and am far more confident in speaking foreign languages, mostly thanks to them. I do not doubt that the others have had exactly the same kind treatment - especially regarding the still sensitive defeat of our country to Croatia in the World Cup!

Thank you all so much for everything, it was an excellent experience for the lot of us, and we all hope to remain in contact and meet again perhaps in future.

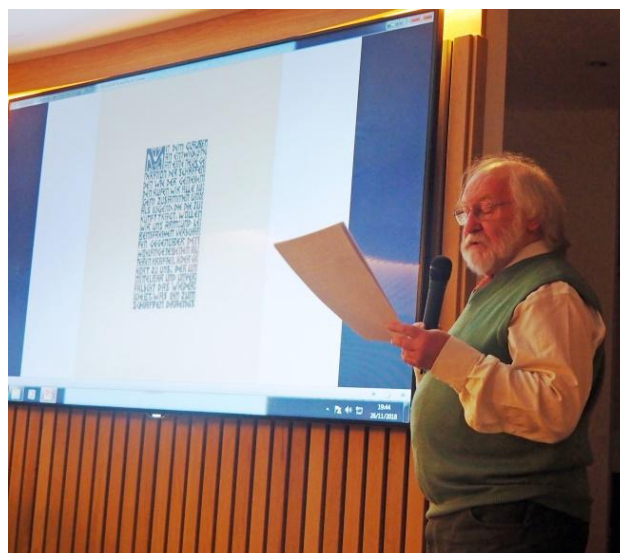
LECTURES

AUTUMN LECTURE - "GERMAN ART - A PERSONAL VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE"

Why hasn't German art been treated by students of European art in the same way as, say, Italian art? German music is the accepted benchmark for European classical music - as last year's lecturer explained to us - but why doesn't German art occupy an equivalent position?

Distinguished art historian Ian Charnock considered this question and others - such as: why and how did the German tradition of wood sculpture develop? - in a fascinating public lecture he gave for us last November in the Council Chamber of Guildford Council, illustrated by abundant slides.

The main answer to the first question was that Germany does not fit the template of art history laid down by Vasari in his seminal work, the book "Lives of the Artists". Vasari contended that art was cyclical, rising to a highpoint with the Greeks and Romans, then sinking to cultural decline with the Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic until rising again to the early Renaissance in Florence and the High Renaissance in Rome, with Michelangelo as the embodiment of a cultural summit. But German art existed outside this mainstream: hardly any Roman occupation, so not much Renaissance - what was to be reborn?



More important to Germany's rich artistic history was the German Reformation, with artists such as Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald and Lucas Cranach the Elder. Here Mr Charnock identified a bridge or link between German and Italian art: Dürer greatly admired the Venetian artists, in particular Giovanni Bellini and travelled to Venice, where he is credited with showing the Venetian artists how to use glazes more successfully. (We also learnt that it was because of Venice's position in the middle of a lagoon and therefore pervading damp, that the paint medium of choice for its artists was oil rather than water or tempera - egg yolk.) When the artists of Die Brücke (another bridge) chose in the early 20th century to reassert their artistic history, rather as the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood had done fifty years earlier, it was those artists, Dürer etc, from whom they took their inspiration.

Germany, a densely forested territory, has had a long history with wood, in both pictures of forests and carving wood. Wood sculpture came to prominence in the first half of the fifteenth century in southern Germany with some outstanding sculptors, in particular Veit Stoss of Nuremberg and Tilman Riemenschneider of Würzburg. They used the broad-leaved linden, a type of hardwood which allowed for

detailed carving but when it dried out did not crack as oak and walnut were inclined to. Traditionally wood sculptures had been covered in gesso and painted, often ultramarine with gold leaf detailing, but now they are often painted naturalistically or left plain.



Riemenschneider woodcarving

The most important form was the winged altarpiece, or retable. Slides of Riemenschneider's altarpiece "Holy Blood" showed how he used the ambient light to create effects and pick out different figures as the light changed throughout the day.



Presentation to Ian Charnock after his talk

Ian Charnock is a retired head of History of Art at Guildford High School & St George's, Ascot and a lecturer and author, who has published numerous articles and reviews on Art History, plus two books on Sherlock Holmes. He is also a keen rally driver of his classic 1955 MG MGA and has taken part in many international rallies including the Monte Carlo Challenge.

At present he is writing a book on Elizabeth I and the Succession Problem.

FILM & CONVERSATION WITH TELEMACH WIESINGER

Last May, German photographer and film-maker Telemach Wiesinger returned to Guildford to present and discuss (in excellent English) a selection from his works, in the Guildhall.

Telemach's works are essentially film poems. They reference early film aesthetics, using early film techniques and equipment such as one-reel black and white 16 mm film. They are largely composed of sequences of single camera set-ups and continuous takes lasting three minutes each, his longer films being composed of several of these linked together. Many of his works are made in collaboration with composer and multi-instrumentalist Tobias Schwab, some with a simple piano accompaniment. He often films elements of the industrial landscape: the whole of a three-minute film focusing on and lingering over an iron bridge, or a section of canal, or a train, for example. The effect was strangely hypnotic, and an unusual and rewarding experience for the Guildford audience, both GTA members (who were entitled to a discount from the ticket price) and the public.



The presentation was followed by a Questions and Answers session. Telemach talked about his techniques, including speeding up and double exposure, and his influences – one of the films "Die Ankunft eines Zuges" was his *homage* to early cinema pioneers Frères Lumières' 1896 landmark film "L'Arrivée d'un Train". Since he only moved to Freiburg at the age of 3 months, Telemach confessed that he himself is not a Freiburg "bobbele" (born in Freiburg) though his wife Ute is one. His career began very early in his life – photography when he was six years old, and film-making at the age of ten. He is particularly interested in travel and in cities, in pursuit of both of these has visited all of Freiburg's twin towns.

VISITS FROM GUILDFORD TO FREIBURG

A MEMORABLE FOOTBALLING WEEKEND IN FREIBURG

A report from Real Ale Social Dads, Alistair Williams & Toralf Lahs

We are Real Ale Social Dads (a play on Real Sociedad football team) – an assembly of middle-aged and not-so-fit but very willing Guildfordians who meet up once a week for a game of football in Surrey Sports Park. Having organised a very enjoyable and successful trip to Berlin the year before (we beat the amateur veterans' team of a famous football club) we decided to try our luck in Freiburg – what are twinned cities for...? The veterans of PTVSV Jahn Freiburg (Post Office Gym and Sports Club) were found online and happy to play against us, the trip was booked. So 18 of us got on the plane and arrived on a beautiful Friday afternoon in May. With the help of the people in the Rathaus we had arranged a sightseeing tour of the city - by a 15th century harlot. She painted a very interesting picture of the old Freiburg and told some memorable stories...



This was followed by a tour of the Schwarzwald-Stadion, home of the Bundesliga team of SC Freiburg; their head of fan activities was a great host. Then came the big game. In the shadow of the Black Forest hills, the air thick with the scent of pine in the warm spring sun, Real Ale Social Dads from Guildford maintained their unbeaten European record with victory over their Freiburger hosts. Having beaten FC Union (Berlin) Old Boys in a similar fixture the previous year, Social Dads faced tougher opposition in a first half where chances were few and far between. The hosts started strongly, their incisive, possession-based football, was clearly causing their Guildford visitors problems. The Social Dads kept a solid defence and absorbed the pressure as Freiburg struggled to create opportunities - a break-away goal giving the Social Dads a slender 1-0 lead. There may of course have been a home

advantage with the visitors playing into the setting sun in the first half, yet at half time there was clearly some nervousness from the visitors that they'd met their match in this talented Freiburg team. With the sun now set and both teams making frequent changes, the game was finely balanced until the superior fitness of the English saw them take command. Dan (Mark) Hughes, rounded the keeper to make it 2-0, while some robust tackling from the Social Dads midfield limited opportunities for Freiburg. As legs tired, Social Dads made it 3-0 with a goal on the counter, before the tie was finished off with Matt Higgins scoring the goal of the game, starting and finishing a wonderful passing move that swept through the tired Freiburg defence. The German's proved to be wonderful hosts, they had arranged beer and food in their clubhouse afterwards and we spent a very long evening eating, drinking and talking.



With firm friendships made (particular mention of Mr Klaus who had played for the team for more than 50 years), we made the most of the following few days with a visit to the Ganter Brewery, the Fan Zone to support SC Freiburg in their last home game, and ample sampling of the local food and beverages. Sunday was spent in a lovely restaurant above the vineyards in Ihringen, tasting white asparagus and Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte. For most of us it was the first time in this beautiful city and its very friendly people. And what a great time we had...



Visits from Guildford to Freiburg contd. p 12

40 Years of Friendship: a reason to celebrate

CELEBRATING OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY WITH FREIBURG ARTISTS IN GUILDFORD

What a day! Saturday, 4 May 2019 began with live BBC interviews, continued with the opening of an exhibition, the arrival of the public, a meeting with the Mayor and finally ended with a party! A wonderful success and an exciting achievement for the Guildford Twinning Association and for Freiburg artists – the first part of an exhibition exchange and a fitting event for the 40th anniversary of the twinning and the GTA. The exhibition of which our works formed part was Surrey Hills Sculpture Garden: see “Setting up an Art Exhibition” for details. This year the beautiful garden featured more than 160 sculptures by more than 45 artists, including Freiburg’s Maria Cristina Tangorra, Annemarie Matzakow and Konrad Wallmeier, who between them exhibited three works. Maria Cristina and Annemarie came to Guildford to install the sculptures and joined in the celebrations enthusiastically, charming everyone.

To our delight, BBC Surrey decided to broadcast from the Sculpture Garden from 6 – 10 am on the opening day, as part of their “Surrey Day” programming. Their reporter James Cannon interviewed, among others involved in the exhibition, both the Freiburg artists and three GTA committee members, which gave us the opportunity to talk (or preach!) about twinning and its importance to a very wide audience, as well as of course to join our hosts in encouraging people to come to the exhibition. You can listen to recordings of those interviews courtesy of BBC Surrey via our website at www.guildfordtwinning.uk/radio-interviews-may-4-2019/

Our private view party went with a swing: the 65 or so guests drank wine from Freiburg, kindly donated by Hans-Jürg and Victoria Höfflin, winegrowers of Freiburg, and nibbled canapés while they examined the sculptures between rain showers. No special occasion is complete without speeches and that evening was no exception. Barbara Ford, Chair of the GTA, welcomed everyone and thanked our hosts, Simon and Caroline Whalley of Surrey Hills Enterprises, for their support and committee member for arts liaison Ros Calow for all her hard work and perseverance in arranging the Guildford end of this wonderful exchange. Barbara went on to speak about the aims and importance of twinning and the enduring (40 years!), live and warm relationship between Guildford and Freiburg – and read out a message from the Mayor of Guildford who had not been able to stay

for the party. Penny and Ernst Leube, the Co-Presidents of the Freiburg Anglo-German Club, had come to Guildford to join us and to represent their city: Penny spoke about the origin of the twinning and its founder Dorothy Elchlepp, and stressed their joy in the relationship and hopes for its continuation – and Ernst read out a message from the Oberbürgermeister of Freiburg. The text of these two mayoral messages is set out below. One of the guests wrote to us afterwards: “I was really heartened by the speeches that were given on the evening; these have given me personally a more positive view of our relationship with Europe for the future.”

THE FREIBURG ARTWORKS: CONCEPTUAL AND INTERACTIVE

These were placed under a magnificent oak tree in a relatively wild part of the grounds of Birtley Estate, which set them off really well – see the pictures. They were all very much conceptual in nature, which we were told is typical of contemporary art in Germany. The major work was an installation called “Voices of the World” by Maria Cristina Tangorra and Annemarie Matzakow, which is intercultural, inter-religious, interactive and participatory. Viewers of the work are invited – it is a continuing and developing project – to write a short answer to questions about the importance of the spiritual or the sacred in their lives and send it to the artists for artistic interpretation and inclusion in the next iteration of the work, of which they brought only a small selection to Guildford. For the full questions and instructions for participation, see voices-of-the-world.net.

The second work was “Flower of Light” by Maria Cristina Tangorra, so called, she explained, because the flower has petals of primary colours, which if they were light would when combined make the colour of the flower’s centre, white. The third work is “Dreams” by Karl Wallmeier, who studied solar physics before becoming an experimental artist. See the photographs of all these.

MESSAGE TO US FROM MAYOR OF GUILDFORD, CLLR MIKE PARSONS

“First I must tell you how sorry I am not to be with you in person: unfortunately it clashes with a civic event that I am hosting. At least I was able to come to see the Sculpture Garden this afternoon and was charmed to meet Maria Cristina and Annemarie and most impressed by the originality and creativity of

their works. Then, I want to say how delighted I am that the partnership between Guildford and Freiburg has endured for 40 years, and is still alive and meaningful. International friendship is more important than ever in the modern world, and this twinning is an important contribution to it. The many contacts, links and exchanges between the two towns over those 40 years have all worked to maintain that friendship. And much of the effort to keep all those contacts alive and refreshed has been due to the Guildford Twinning Association, whose 40th anniversary it also is this year. The twinning was entered into by the civic authorities of both towns, but in Guildford it has been given flesh by the citizens, all those volunteers who give up their free time to set up marvellous events such as these two art exhibitions featuring artists from Freiburg and their works. Congratulations to the Association and everyone involved with it, on its 40th birthday – my thanks go to all of you!”

MESSAGE TO US FROM FREIBURG OBERBÜRGERMEISTER MARTIN HORN

Translated by Ros Calow

“This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the twinning of Guildford and Freiburg. A long-lasting partnership like this cannot be taken for granted these days and I am therefore delighted it has lasted over four decades and is still active. The close links between Freiburg and Guildford are enough to make this event a success. Back in the 1960s it was the Anglo-German Club Freiburg which laid the foundations for this lively exchange. The perseverance of London-born Dorothy Elchlepp led to the formation of the partnership in September 1979. This perseverance has had very good results. The fact that our close town twinning has remained so close until the present day is due to those who keep it alive and strengthen it. Close connections have been made between many of our schools. I am very pleased that artists from Freiburg and Guildford are now presenting their works together. Art can create a lasting and important link between our cities. The question: “What still holds our postmodern world together?” is the question that the artists in *Voices of the World* present through their works, and today it is more relevant than ever. The social divide is one of the greatest dangers of our time. Much more connects us than separates us. It is the task of society as a whole to convey this central message.

International dialogue at all levels is more important than ever. Answers to the greatest challenges of our time, from climate change to refugee movements and the growing social and economic gap, will not be found by individual nation states alone. There needs to be an exchange of ideas in the areas of politics, culture and religions backed by research. The fact that the art

project *Voices of the World* focuses on talking to each other, and learning from each other how to live together, is inspiring. Art builds bridges and inspires action. The 40-year twinning between Freiburg and Guildford is full of stories. With the art exhibitions at Surrey Hills Sculpture Park and Guildford House Gallery two more wonderful chapters will be added. My thanks go to all those who have made this possible. This will strengthen our cities and, should Britain eventually leave the EU family, our connection will be all the more important because we have to talk to each other and not about each other. This art project is a great role model.”

SETTING UP AN ART EXHIBITION

Ros Calow reports..

In October 2018 I met artists Maria Cristina Tangorra and Annemarie Matzakow in Freiburg in response to their request to set up an artists’ exhibition exchange. I was greeted with great enthusiasm at Maria Cristina’s studio despite the fact that her husband had fallen off a ladder on a building site that day and our time together was punctuated by phone calls to check on his welfare.

We were starting to plan how to bring work from Freiburg to Guildford in 2019 including their major project “Voices of the World”. Since then we have been in almost daily contact, working out the complex logistics of bringing over work and artists – three more Freiburg artists joined in, getting exhibition space and organising grants to get it to happen. Things now seem set fair for two separate exhibitions: one of the outdoor work of three Freiburg sculptors as part of the annual Surrey Hills Sculpture Garden and arts festival at Birtley estate in Bramley, and the other of indoor work, sculptures and paintings by five Freiburg artists and one Guildford artist, in Guildford House Gallery in the High Street.

Then there were the additional logistics of organising celebratory parties for distinguished guests including local artists, and members. You will see descriptions in this newsletter and next year’s and plenty of photographs on the website. Our thanks go to Wendy Varcoe at Surrey Hills Enterprises and Lynn Szygenda at Guildford House Gallery and to Guildford Borough Council for their support.

Remember that bringing Freiburg artworks to Guildford is only one side of the exchange – the artists are keen to encourage the other side, with Guildford artists taking their works to Freiburg for exhibition in 2021. If you are an artist based in Guildford and you are interested, do contact Ros Calow, GTA committee member for arts liaison, at:

guildfordtwinning@gmail.com

Freiburg Artists in Guildford

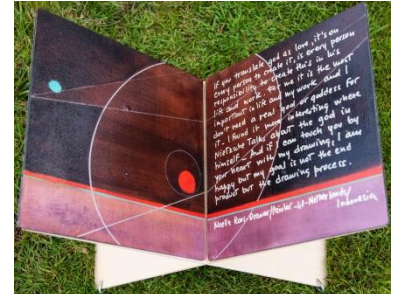
Celebrating 40 Years of Cultural Collaboration
at the Sculpture Garden opening ceremony



L to R: Penny & Ernst Leube (Co-Presidents of Freiburg's Anglo-German Club); Barbara Ford (Chair of GTA); Annemarie Matzakow (Freiburg artist); Cllr Mike Parsons (then Mayor of Guildford); Maria Cristina Tangorra (Freiburg artist); Ros Calow (Art Liaison at GTA); Simon Whalley (Chair of Surrey Hills Enterprises)



"Flower of Light"



"Voices of the World"



"Voices of the World" art installation



L to R: Frauke Burge (GTA), Martin Stringfellow (GTA Treasurer) & Jill Stringfellow, Penny Leube



Artists explaining the installation to the visitors



L to R: Gill Brown, Dr Gwyn Brown, Barbara Ford (GTA members)



*Charlotte Gegg, Revd Stanley Hemming-Clark
(GTA member)*



*Artist John Lord with Virginia Porter and Sue
Risbridger from Surrey Adult Learning*



The reception



*Right: Stella
Whitbourn & Roger
Eeles (GTA
members)*

*Left: Guildford artist
Angela Watson
(seated) with
Freiburg artists
Annemarie
Matzakow & Maria
Cristina Tangorra*



Ernst Leube (standing left) and GTA members



*Jim Minnis with GTA members Tessa Johnston and
Wolfgang Pietrek*



*Ernst Leube reading
message from
Oberbürgermeister of
Freiburg*



*Member Steve
Callaghan pours
rosé wine donated
by Victoria and
Hans-Jürg Höfflin
of Freiburg*

More photos on page 19

Visits from Guildford to Freiburg contd.

VISIT TO FREIBURG 2018

A report by Peter Slade

A select group of only three members went on the annual Association visit to Freiburg last year – Peter Simpson, Alan Johnston and myself – the latter for the 19th time. The visit lasted for five days in early June and stormy weather was forecast for most days, which we feared might curtail our activities. In the event there was only one afternoon of heavy rain. As always we had a really enjoyable time, including the usual very comfortable stay at the family-run Schwarzwälderhof Hotel.



Schloss Bürgeln



At the Gewerbe Canal



Schloss Bürgeln interior



Hard at work keeping Freiburg beautiful

Highlights were:

- A visit to the handsome Schloss Bürgeln, about 50 km south of Freiburg, with members of the Anglo-German Club. The Schloss was built in 1764, owned by the community run Bürgel-Bund since 1920 and renovated by Richard Sichler, Director of the company that makes Odol mouthwash, during his time as a paying tenant.



Schloss Bürgeln interior

- A tour with friends of mine who live in Ihringen in the Kaiserstuhl to the attractive town of Staufen and the Münstertal, in a delightful part of the Black Forest.

NEWS AND VIEWS

DEVELOPMENTS IN FREIBURG

Peter Slade reports

Meeting on Sustainable Development

Last autumn eleven of Freiburg's twelve Partner Cities, including Guildford (led by the Leader of the Council, Paul Spooner) met to discuss the "Circular Economy", which aims to minimise waste and make the most of resources, which has been adopted by the European Union. The meeting concluded with delegates signing up to the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The new mayor, Oberbürgermeister Martin Horn, said that the signing of the document is "a milestone towards reaching an environmentally-friendly goals", an indication that he will be following in the environmental footsteps of former Oberbürgermeister, Dieter Salomon. As indicated in Guildford Council's recently-published "Innovation Strategy" these issues will influence future policy here. The Freiburg meeting also discussed the possibility of future collaboration between the various partner cities: hopefully Guildford will also engage with that idea.

New settlement in Freiburg

As a contribution to tackling Freiburg's housing shortage, a new environmentally-sustainable settlement of 6,500 dwellings, named Dietenbach, adjacent to the district of Rieselfeld, has been discussed for some time. It was approved by the City Council last year, and at the end of February it was put to a "Bürgerentscheid (a "citizen decision)". The population was supplied (via Amtsblatt, the city's newspaper) with a 16-page document explaining the pros and cons of what is proposed, and containing the views of all the political parties. In a 49.6% turnout, 60% approved the development.

New tramline

A 2 km long new north to south tramline running from Europa Platz (formerly the Platz am Siegesdenkmal) along the Rotteckring to Kronenstrasse, was opened on March 16. A very large crowd, mainly seated under a huge awning, celebrated the opening with speeches from Oberbürgermeister Horn and others, preceded by musical events. Described as the most important project in the public realm since the introduction of the city's large pedestrian zone in 1973 it required reconstruction of the Kronen Bridge over the River Dreisam. it is planned to lead the way to re-landscaping this part of the inner city, already helped by the recent completion of the renovation of the Platz der Alten Synagoge. Seventy percent of the cost came from the Federal Government, the remainder from the Land of Baden-Württemberg.



Tea-time stop in Black Forest with Rainer & Elvira Dorwarth



The Münstertal



With the Anglo-German club members near the Schloss

- And finally... we were treated to a stunning performance of Mahler's huge 9th Symphony by the Sudwest Deutsche Rundfunk Orchester, conducted by the 90-year old Herbert Blomstedt in the Konzerthaus.



Celebrating the opening of the new tram-line

National Socialism Documentation Centre

In November the City Council unanimously agreed to the establishment of a centre for the collection of documentation and information about the Nazi period in Freiburg. It follows the excellent, if sobering, exhibition about those times which was held in the Augustiner Museum in 2017, which some of us visited.

Freiburg's Bundesliga Football Team

SC Freiburg have had a rather moderate season in the First Division of the Bundesliga, ending the season about two thirds down the table.— which as so often was won by Bayern München. The present club stadium has long been too small for a team in the Bundesliga. Construction has recently started on a new stadium, which will have a capacity of about 35,000 spectators. It is to be ready for the 2020-2021 season

Looking to Freiburg's future

The City has established a project to investigate Freiburg's future development with the title "Future Forum 2040". Groups of citizens will be asked to participate in a series of "Future Forums" to say how they think the city should develop.

Topics to be investigated include:

- How should the City change?
- What green infrastructure is needed to produce a good quality of life?
- How will citizens move about?
- What will be the future of work?
- How much housing should be built and for whom?

FREIBURG TOWN COUNCILLOR RECEIVES AWARD FOR SERVICE



The Distinguished Service Order of Baden Württemberg was awarded to 84-year-old Ellen Brockwoldt by Winfried Kletschman, Landtagsvorsitzender of Baden Württemberg.

In addition to her 16 years of service as town councillor of Freiburg, where she was active in cultural, social, youth and buildings committees, she chaired the senior advisory service in Freiburg for 15 years. Twenty years ago, she also founded a domestic abuse centre in Freiburg and chairs this organisation to this day. At the age of 80 she slowly started shedding some of her many responsibilities, but the spritely 84 year-old, with a twinkle in her eye, has no intention of giving up all her voluntary positions. "It is not good to lay off too many posts at once," she says, and wants to keep going a little longer but on a reduced scale. Zonta is an international women's club, with a mission to advance the status of women worldwide. Freiburg has 2 Zonta Clubs, Freiburg im Breisgau and Freiburg Schau-ins-Land. When the Guildford Zonta Club was established in 2010, Zonta Guildford invited one of the Freiburg clubs to twin with them. Ellen, together with 3 other members from the Freiburg Club, came to the charter of the Guildford Club, which took place in Brookwood, as it has a link with Amelia Earhart, one of the most famous past members of Zonta International.

Born in Hamburg, Ellen, moved to Freiburg after she married. She studied medicine. She says, "as a doctor one learns to find out all details of a situation before making a diagnosis". This method has proved very effective for her over the years in many other situations. "But once having made a judgement, there is no delaying, as action is required to get the job done", she says.

We congratulate Ellen to her Award and wish her well in all her future endeavours.

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN FREIBURG-OPFINGEN - INTEGRATION IN PROGRESS

A report from Margarete Müller, on behalf of the Helpers Circle, Freiburg-Opfingen

Since my last report more than two years have passed. I am still in contact with some of the refugees (all young men from Syria), who started their living in Germany in the emergency camp in Freiburg-Opfingen in autumn 2015. In May 2016 the camp was dissolved and most of my Syrian friends have found private flats and do not live anymore in refugee accommodation. They have all finished Integration Classes, where they learn German and study German social, political and cultural life and laws. These are obligatory for those refugees who have obtained residence permits. The classes conclude with German language level B1 and most of those I supported continued at school to achieve level B2, which is needed in order to start an apprenticeship. This is no easy task. German children go to school at least 8 years before they start an apprenticeship. And we expect the refugees to learn an unfamiliar language and script within a short time. Those who enter an apprenticeship and have to go to professional school will need help with German schoolbooks and the job-related subjects. In autumn 2018 I started supporting apprentices (Syrians and Gambians) learning economy which is essential for their final exam after 3 years. They are doing quite well, but it is very hard.

Those who already have a full Syrian university degree have good prospects for official recognition of their certificates, but must have good German to work as doctors, engineers or other professionals. Although Germany needs professionals of all sorts, German firms generally employ people who match the job exactly. The majority of firms do not want to spend too much time training fully paid employees. Therefore they tend to employ and train apprentices, which only cost about 600 to 800 Euros a month. According to the newspapers only 15 to 30 % of refugees have found a part or fulltime job. Most jobs have been made available by small firms and craftsmen and not by multinationals.

Amongst those, whose journey I have accompanied for over three years, there is one young Syrian engineer, with certificates fully recognised by the German Engineering Authorities. His German is quite good, but he has not much engineering practice. It took about one year to find him a place in industry for 6-months practical training. He worked very well and in the meantime he got a contract for a fulltime job as a technical skilled worker in production, i.e. a long way from being an engineer. But he is very happy, because

now he will have the chance to climb up the ladder, to gain technical experience, improve his German and one day work as an engineer. This kind of luck, of course, is rare

Nevertheless, almost all of those I know have some sort of job by now. Some have jobs that will just bridge the time until their German is good enough to start formal education; some earn money in simple jobs in order to support their families at home. Some have already started an apprenticeship, mainly as a craftsman such as a car mechanic, electrician, heating technician or carpenter. And many placements are still vacant, which is a good sign for future opportunities. In general much has happened since autumn 2015. Without the tireless support of private volunteers the state would probably not have been able to cope with everything. To integrate most of them fully into our way of working life, will need time. According to the officials it will take about 3 - 6 years, which according to my experience is realistic.

There is still a long way to go, but integration is in progress.

OUR ANNUAL EVENTS IN GUILDFORD

GUILDFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION TAKES PART IN THE 2018 GBC PICNIC



Barbara Ford with the mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons at the GBC Picnic

At the picnic organised by Guildford Borough Council, the Association ran a stall in the grounds of Guildford Castle to promote the twinning, with fun activities for children. The picnic took place one Saturday in June in glorious sunshine in the picturesque setting of the castle grounds. The weather and the crowds made for a buzzing atmosphere and there was considerable interest in our stall as friendly families turned up to chat, try their hand at hooking ducks and learn about our twinning activities.

We will be repeating the experience this year.



Ros Calow and Barbara Ford minding the stall

MINI CHRISTMAS MARKET IN THE GUILDHALL



Our annual German mini-Christmas market took place on Sunday December 2, 2018 at the Guildhall. The many visitors were able to buy unusual and charming gifts at stalls selling traditional wooden toys, gifts, cards, candles, German bakery, second-hand German books, new books with a German theme, CDs and DVDs. The Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons and Mayoress, Mrs Jean Parsons also dropped by to lend their support. Fine German wines were on offer for tasting and purchase. The tombola and the refreshments on offer - Glühwein, coffee and German cakes – were as popular as ever. The Market was open to the public, with free admission. We look forward to repeating the event this year.



Distinguished visitors...



New German-themed books...



Good as new and vintage German books and CDs...



Vibrant atmosphere

BERNARD PARKE

We record with sorrow the death of Hon Alderman Bernard Parke on 26 February 2019, aged 81. Among Bernard's many and varied public-spirited roles, including 12 years as a Councillor and a term as Mayor of Guildford, he was a member of the Association's committee for more years than anyone can recall. He was a lovely man and a strong supporter of the twinning with an encyclopaedic knowledge of its history. For a full obituary, see online publication Guildford Dragon at:

<http://www.guildford-dragon.com/2019/03/25/obituary-alderman-bernard-parke/>

ASSOCIATION SUMMER LUNCH



In August members and their guests gathered once again for our annual lunch party in the beautiful and historic wood-paneled room of Merrist Wood College in Worplesdon, enjoying the excellent food, stimulating conversation and Freiburg nostalgia with old and new friends, as well as the gorgeous view onto the lovely garden.



GTA ANNUAL GERMAN DINNER

Report by Irene Black



The Twinning Association's annual German Dinner took place on 6th March, attended by Twinning Association members and the Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons and Mayoress, Mrs Jean Parsons. As last year, the venue was the function room at Weybourne house. Unlike last year we did not have to battle through several inches of ice and snow to get there! I enjoyed my starter of mushrooms and the main course - vegetarian goat's cheese tart. The meat-eaters seemed happy too. And thanks to Frauke Burge's excellent instructions to the chef, the red cabbage was prepared in true German style! The dessert was a take on the German 'Rote Grütze', a lovely compote of stewed summer fruits. It was good to be able to chat to people I did not know, and renew acquaintance with those I had not seen for a while. A happy atmosphere pervaded the evening and a good time was had by all.



Peter Slade and Frauke Burge entering into the spirit...

CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC EXCHANGES.

RADIO CONTACT ESTABLISHED!

A report compiled from information provided by Roger Eeles, President of the Guildford & District Radio Society at the time of the event.

The GDRS links with Freiburg started about one year before the twinning of Guildford and Freiburg. In 2018 the GDRS celebrated 100 years of Amateur Radio in Guildford. On August Bank Holiday (24th to 27th) the society held a "Celebration of 100 years of Amateur Radio in Guildford". In the spirit of Guildford/Freiburg twinning, Guildford's Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons and the Oberbürgermeister of Freiburg, Martin Horn, were invited to make radio contact on Sunday 26th August. Both town leaders agreed to meet "On-Air".



Oberbürgermeister Martin Horn making contact in Freiburg



Roger Eeles with Guildford mayor, Mike Parsons at the Guildford event

The contact between the two mayors was a huge success. What had started as an "off the cuff" suggestion to Freiburg A05 Radio Club, to invite Oberbürgermeister Horn, turned into quite a civic occasion, particularly on the Freiburg side. The society has already received QSL cards confirming the contact. One of these was signed by Oberbürgermeister Martin Horn.

A GENEROUS FREIBURG FRIEND

Ros Calow reports.

Victoria Becker arrived on 2nd March for a pre-Brexit visit to Guildford. We made friends a few years ago through the Association and have been visiting each other on a regular basis since. Entertainments during the visit included the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford Pancake Races and the Association German dinner, where she was warmly welcomed. Apparently pure wool jumpers are still much cheaper in England than in Germany.

Other favourite things to take back were pork pies, English cheese (from the Guildford Farmers' Market), biscuits and various types of tea.

Victoria and her husband Hans-Jürg Höfflin have very kindly donated wine from the Bötzingen Wine Co-operative on the Kaiserstuhl for the reception at the Birtley House Sculpture Garden

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

The major part in bringing the Guildford-Freiburg twinning about was played by Mrs Dorothy Elchlepp, an English woman who had married a pharmacist in Freiburg, in the late 1930s. Mrs Elchlepp spent the whole of World War II in Freiburg and afterwards decided to work to build bridges between Germany and Britain. After a long search she decided that Guildford would be a suitable twin for Freiburg.



Dorothy Elchlepp also founded the Anglo-German club in 1959. She was awarded the Federal Grand Cross, first class, by the German government for her services to Anglo-German relations. This complements the MBA which she received a few years previously. She died on 9th December, 2004, aged 90.



MORE FROM THE FREIBURG ARTISTS' EXHIBITION AT THE SCULPTURE PARK



Keith & Lesley Childs (GTA members) with Ernst Leube (centre)



Artist Maria Cristina Tangorra talks about her work to Penny Leube and Mayor Mike Parsons

GTA Members Tony Ford and Susan Lewis inspect a sculpture by a Surrey artist



Artist Annemarie Matzakow talks about her work to Mayor Mike Parsons and Barbara Ford

COMING EVENTS FOR 2019 – 40TH Anniversary Year!
See our website www.guildfordwinning.uk for up-to-date details

- 4 May-2 June**Freiburg sculptors, Surrey Hills Sculpture Garden, Birtley Estate, Bramley
- 25 May-16 June**.....Exhibition "Voices of Freiburg": 5 Freiburg artists, Guildford House Gallery
(**15 June**.....Private view afternoon tea reception at Guildford House Gallery)
- 1 June**.....GTA stand at Picnic in the Castle Grounds
- 6-9 June**.....Members' trip to Freiburg
- 25 June**..... AGM, Council Chamber, Millmead, 7.30pm
- 10 August**.....John Sheppard Ensemble (from Freiburg) concert at Holy Trinity at 7.30pm
- 18 August**.....Summer lunch at Merrist Wood College
- 16 October**.....Autumn Lecture on German films, Council Chamber, Millmead, 7.15pm
- December 1st**GTA Christmas Market in the Guildhall

If, as is hoped, the Freiburg Oberbürgermeister comes to Guildford in 2019, additional events will be held by the GTA and Guildford Council to celebrate the anniversary – members will be notified and the website updated.

EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN EARLY 2020 include the German Dinner, the Spring Public Lecture and the AGM. Members will be notified of these and other events, and they will also be posted on our website: www.guildfordwinning.uk

CONTACTS IN THE GUILDFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION (MAY 2019)

To contact committee members please email: guildfordtwinning@gmail.com

Chair: Barbara Ford

Vice-Chair: Peter Slade

Secretary: Hilary Perry

Minutes Secretary: Jennifer Margrave

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Martin Stringfellow

Education Liaison: Steve Callaghan

Arts Liaison: Ros Calow

Newsletter Editor: Irene Black

Other committee members: Cllr David Goodwin, Michael Gorman

WEBSITES

Our website (with our full events programme):

www.guildfordtwinning.uk

City of Freiburg:

www.freiburg.de

Freiburg's Anglo-German Club:

<https://sites.google.com/site/anglogermanclubfreiburg>

New Committee members wanted

We urgently need a new secretary, social secretary and publicity officer. If you can help with all or part of any of these roles, or have any other ideas, please contact Barbara Ford at guildfordtwinning@gmail.com

The Committee meets every other month. A typical agenda includes discussion of education liaison, forthcoming events, ideas for new ventures, arrangements and support for individuals and organisations keen to make twinning visits or arrange events, participation in the Partner Cities Fair, organisation of our Christmas market - as well as the inevitable discussion of our finances.

Our thanks to all members and friends who contributed articles and photographs for this newsletter.