



CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

I hope that all members share my view that the past year has been another very successful one for the twinning and for the Association. A major event was the official (and his first) visit to Guildford of Freiburg's Oberbürgermeister Dr Dieter Salomon. I was delighted that he and his colleague Günter Burger, Head of the city's International Affairs Department, were able to be in Guildford for a long weekend in September, something I had been urging him to do whenever I have seen him in Freiburg in recent years. They obviously enjoyed their time here and our President, Cllr Terence Patrick, Guildford's Mayor, did an excellent job of showing the visitors what Guildford has to offer. A worthwhile feature of the visit was the excellent lecture on sustainable development in Freiburg which Dr Salomon gave to a large audience at the University, which some Association members attended and I'm sure found interesting and illuminating.

I would have liked the visit to have led to a commitment to co-operation between

Guildford and Freiburg on environmental issues. In view of Freiburg's world-famous excellence in these matters it should be an obvious feature of the twinning. So far it hasn't happened but I sustain the hope that it will, especially in the light of the fact that Guildford Borough Council is in the process of constructing a master-plan for the town. Freiburg's title as the European City of the Year in 2010

shows that there is much we could learn from them about how best we can improve our town.

Our annual public lecture, given last April by Dr Alan Russell, Chairman of the Dresden Trust, to a capacity audience in the Guildhall was an excellent contribution to our series of lectures on German themes. He spoke about the past and present of the extraordinary city of Dresden. I personally followed this up by joining the Trust's stimulating ten-day tour from Frankfurt to Dresden. The report of the visit in the British-German Association's newsletter



Oberbürgermeister Dr Dieter Salomon (right) visits Guildford: he and colleague Günter Burger meet our Town Crier.

contained the following thought: "After ten days, everyone shared a deep sense of bonding and reconciliation between British and German people and a love of each nation's cultural history. We realised that reconciliation is not something to be achieved once and for all and then regarded as complete, but must be seen as an on-going process

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that must continue.” I’m sure that all our members share these sentiments.

All our events have gone very well as can be seen by the reports in this newsletter. As usual a group of us attended Freiburg’s Partner Cities Market alongside the other partner cities and enjoyed ourselves while promoting Guildford’s charms to the Freiburgers. Our own small Christmas market was as successful as ever and attracted a good crowd of people and raised some funds. Our Summer party, again generously hosted by Helga and Terry Pearce, was much enjoyed by the crowd of members who were there and our recent wine-tasting

“...there is much we could learn from Freiburg about improving Guildford....”

went very well and enabled members and friends to sample the excellent wines produced in the Freiburg region. It is important that young people are involved in the twinning. Guildford City Boys and Girls Football Club again hosted Freiburg’s Blau-Weiss footballers and had a good weekend of sport and friendship. Guildford’s George Abbot School and Freiburg’s Goethe Gymnasium continued their long-standing exchange visits and there have been other schools twinning activities, including another successful stay at Guildford College by students from Freiburg’s Max Weber Schule. And the churches from the two towns again got together, last year in Freiburg.

Of course all these activities need people to help make them happen. Our Vice-Chairman Wolf Pietrek again made a major contribution to the Christmas Market and other events. Ros Calow continued with her excellent work to build up the involvement of schools and Irene Black, Frauke Burge and Brian & Susan Lewis and members of the Anglo-German Club made our stand at the Partner Cities Market successful for another year. Michael Gorman looked after our finances and the membership in his usual efficient manner. Hilary Mills continued to do a faultless job as our secretary, Katie Butcher did great work as Social Secretary, Pat Grayburn again helped with contacts with the University of Surrey and, as you can see, Barbara Ford has again done an excellent job in editing the newsletter. And of course the other members of the Committee have given invaluable support.

Finally, and certainly not least, Allianz Insurance plc have very generously sponsored this Newsletter. We are extremely grateful to them.

Peter Slade

YOUNG PEOPLE’S ACTIVITIES SCHOOLS LIAISON

Ros Calow reports: The following schemes have all been creating interest during the past year.

- Guildford’s George Abbot School and Freiburg’s Goethe Gymnasium once again successfully exchanged students, an association that has continued for over 20 years.
- The Max Weber Schule made their third visit to Guildford College in September and we hope this will remain a regular yearly trip. We thank Jochen Pabst and Ute Pagel for bringing the students and Guildford College for providing the work experience placements.
- Guildford County School has recently started a small pen-friend arrangement with the Wenzinger Realschule in Freiburg. We thank Caroline Brooks and Linnette Pretsel for being so receptive to the idea and getting it underway.
- The South West Surrey Wind Band will play at the Wohnstift Freiburg on 24 July 2012. We are very much hoping that they will then host the Franco/ German School Orchestra from Freiburg for a day during a visit to Guildford in 2013. This type of visit is always difficult to co-ordinate and I am grateful for the help Rafe Courage has already given to me on this. I hope that our efforts will eventually be successful.

It was also a pleasure to make contact with another teacher at St.Peter’s this year. We have always been in touch with Judith Lewy but we have now also been introduced to Gabi Scherer.



George Abbot and Goethe Gymnasium group on the Feldberg in the Black Forest

GUILDFORD SCHOOL GROUP VISITS FREIBURG

Student Edward Mason writes: Last March thirty students from George Abbot School had the opportunity to participate in the German exchange and visit the wonderful twin town of Guildford, Freiburg within the Black Forest of Southern Germany. I thoroughly enjoyed all of the excursions, spending time with my exchange partner and his family. During the week we went sightseeing around Freiburg, visiting Titisee, the Feldberg and Luzern. Everyone also did lots of other excursions with their partners in and around Freiburg. Through the week in Germany I gained much more knowledge about the German language including pronunciation and building my knowledge of verbs and my confidence to speak the language.

Then in July our partners and their teachers from the Goethe Gymnasium in Freiburg came to stay with the George Abbot students who had participated in the German exchange. The German students had a guided tour of Guildford, a bus trip around central London, a day out in Brighton and spent the weekend with the English students.



George Abbott students with Freiburg town guide (see item right)

Guildford: Oberbürgermeister Dr Dieter Salomon visits



Dr Salomon at the controls in GLive



At Surrey University: (from left) Dr Malcolm Parry, Director of Surrey Research Park, David Hill, Chief Executive. Guildford Borough Council, Peter Slade, Dr Salomon, Mayor Terence Patrick and Mayoress Angela Patrick



At Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd



Above: At Watts Gallery with director Perdita Hunt

Top left: At Abbot's Hospital

Centre left: At Loseley House with host Michael More-Molyneux (2nd right)

Below left: In Guildford Castle grounds with guide



Overall the whole exchange is an excellent school trip to go on and I would definitely recommend it to any George Abbot student.

FREIBURG TRAINEES GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE IN GUILDFORD

Students Tamara Simon and Patrick Kapp write:

British politeness - that's one of the things which 17 students from the Max-Weber-Schule in Freiburg learned during a three week internship in Guildford. This internship which took place from 24th of September to 16th of October 2011 was organized by two English teachers from the German school and financially supported by the Leonardo Da Vinci Programme of the European Union.

The aim of the stay in England was to let the students gain insight into English working life accompanied by tutoring and lessons provided by the Guildford College of Further and Higher Education. Each of the seventeen students has been working in a company which was located in Guildford or the surrounding area. During their internship



The Max-Weber-Schule group in Portsmouth

the students have developed new business relations and they also learned a lot about cultural and traditional aspects of British life such as the importance of politeness in business, the dress code in the office (no jeans please!) or food habits. At the beginning it was complicated to get used to these habits, but after a few days everybody got accustomed to the situation and then everything went well. Of course the students did not only work but also enjoyed their free time and the weekends. On a sunny Sunday the students went to London and this trip included a ride with a double-decker bus and a boat trip on the river Thames. The destination of the second weekend trip of the group was Portsmouth, with a visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard and the Spinnaker tower. All the students really enjoyed these interesting trips. At the end of these three weeks they all agreed on the following: they had spent three wonderful weeks in England, three weeks of fun, three weeks of pleasure and three weeks of valuable education.

A SURREY LAW STUDENT AT FREIBURG UNIVERSITY

Isabel Lich writes of her Erasmus experience. The European Union's Erasmus programme supports university students who work or study in another European country for periods of between 3 and 12 months.

Isabel is studying Law with German Law and her School has a partnership with Freiburg that allows her to study for one semester in the Law Department there:

I went to Freiburg in October 2011, as a slightly nervous Erasmus student, never even having been to this part of Germany before. I found it to be a beautiful, vibrant and very friendly place. Like Guildford, it's a perfect size: small so that you don't feel lost, but there is always lots going on. It was very interesting attending the Albert-Ludwigs-University and being able to compare not only the workings of the two universities themselves, but also the differences



Surrey student Isabel Lich (right) and fellow-students at the Christmas Market in Freiburg

between English and German law. My free time there was also very exciting: I met lots of new people and made some great friends. Together we had a great time. We explored the area, on trips to places such as Basel, Strasbourg or Karlsruhe. We gained an insight into local culture, through going on wine tours organised by the University, and attending "Karneval," a celebration before Lent begins, where everyone dresses up - it has numerous traditions and is great fun.

Freiburg offers something for everyone, from various clubs and bars to cultural activities. One of the most interesting aspects of the city itself is the "Bächle" -- little streams of fresh water running throughout the city. During the summer months children and students alike buy little boats and let them float down the streams. During our stay, we also made full use of as many possibilities as we could: going on a trip to the 'Europa park' (a theme park near by), skiing on the Feldberg, and to the Schauinsland, a cable car that goes up to over 1,000 metres, where you have a great view. I really enjoyed my time there and was very sad to leave. Erasmus in Freiburg was everything I could have hoped for and more.

FOOTBALL LINK

GUILDFORD AND FREIBURG BOYS' & GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Stoughton Recreation Ground was the venue for last year's matches between Guildford City Boys and Girls Football Club and the Blau-Weiss Wiehre Sport-Club of Freiburg. The two clubs from the twin cities were meeting as usual at the Easter weekend, for the 26th time, the games alternating between the two towns. On Saturday morning the teams, their managers, parents and supporters filled the Guildhall for an official reception as guests of Guildford's Mayor, Cllr Marsha Moseley, and listened to speeches of welcome by The Mayor and Association Chairman Peter Slade, who said that the football matches were one of the most successful aspects of the twinning. Uwe

Pottberg, Chairman of the Blau-Weiss Club, responded. Later that day the two groups went to Portsmouth for sight-seeing and to watch the match between Pompey and Swansea. The weekend also included the inevitable trip to London.

The matches took place on Friday and Sunday in the usual friendly rivalry, but nevertheless with a determination on both sides to win. After the exchange of club shirts and of commemorative medallions, Guildford won the under-13s game by 5-1, the under-15s match was 2-2 (then to Blau-Weiss on penalties), and the under 17s game was 4-2 to Blau-Weiss, a fitting end to these older Freiburg boys on their last visit to Guildford, and in their final season with their German Club. The result of the traditional "Dad's game" was 6-4 to Guildford. The Match Trophy and Man of the Match Trophies were presented in the evening when the groups got together for a social evening at Fairlands Community Centre.

During the course of these football exchange visits over 26 years over 8,000 citizens of our towns have been involved in some way or another, and many of us have formed new and long-term friendships as a result. It will be important to maintain enthusiasm for the exchanges to continue, although I feel the obstacles in our way will now become more economic than logistic. I want to thank Guildford Borough Council and the Guildford-Freiburg Association for their continued enthusiasm and support.

Phil Dyas
Chairman, Guildford City Boys and Girls Football Club

RADIO LINK

RADIO SOCIETIES OF GUILDFORD AND FREIBURG

This is our first report for a while from the Guildford & District Radio Society, supplied by Committee member Stella Whitbourn GOSWE (members identify themselves by their call signs):

Guildford & District Radio Society, after more than 30 years, continues to have a weekly "SKED" (prearranged contact over the air) with members of the Freiburg Amateur Radio Club. The SKED happens at 12.30pm UK time each Thursday, the frequency used being 7.065 (40 metres) and despite some difficult conditions over the airways contact is usually successful. Club member Lew Bright G4BHQ is a stalwart on this SKED. We are regularly in contact with Oskar Funk DL3GAI and the club president Achim DL1GWO in Freiburg.



Stella Whitbourn GOSWE (left), Guildford & District Radio Society Secretary, at Freiburg Radio Club-House

At Guildford & District Radio Society in the last year we have undertaken a project to install a mast at the Model Engineers' HQ in

Stoke Park where we meet on the second and fourth Fridays of the month from 7.30pm. We also meet, usually for a practical evening, if there is a fifth Friday in the month. This will enable us to make long distance contacts on the high frequency (HF) bands during meetings if we wish, particularly useful to give new members operating experience. We have previously installed a wire antenna in the trees around the building and for the royal wedding in April 2011 we also managed a special SKED with members of the Freiburg Club and I personally talked to Oskar DL3GAI.

Stella Whitbourn GOSWE
Guildford & District Radio Society

OUR ANNUAL LECTURE

DRESDEN – YESTERDAY & TODAY

Peter Slade reports: Guildford's Guildhall was packed on a Wednesday in mid-April last for the Guildford-Freiburg Association's annual public lecture, which was given by Dr Alan Russell OBE on "Dresden – Yesterday and Today". Dr Russell traced the history of the city from its origins to its great Baroque period in the eighteenth century, when it became one of the most beautiful cities in Europe – a veritable "Florence on the Elbe." He described its great musical, artistic, architectural, literary and theatrical traditions and how in the nineteenth century, it also became a great military, commercial and industrial city.



Dr Alan Russell OBE spoke on 'Dresden—Yesterday & Today'

Throughout its history it suffered damage as a result of wars but always managed to re-invent itself. Much the worst devastation occurred in the bombing of February 1945, and Dr Russell outlined the process of rebuilding the ruined city, not always attractively by the East German Communist regime, and then its renaissance after German re-unification. He described the extraordinary feat of rebuilding the Frauenkirche, the beautiful Baroque church which was almost totally destroyed in the bombing. He ended by outlining the contributions made by The Dresden Trust, of which he is the Chairman, which has included financing the construction by English craftsmen of the Orb and Cross for the top of the church. The Trust is also dedicated to the objectives of reconciliation and understanding between the people of Germany and the UK.

FREIBURG OBERBÜRGERMEISTER VISITS GUILDFORD

DR SALOMON'S VISIT

The Oberbürgermeister of Freiburg, Dr Dieter Salomon, accompanied by Günter Burger, head of Freiburg's International Affairs Department, made a highly successful visit to Guildford in September. One of the highlights was Dr Salomon's address to a large audience at the University of Surrey on the first afternoon of the visit on "The sustainable development of Freiburg" (see accompanying article). I'm sure that those who were there found the talk stimulating and that it demonstrated why our twin city is world-renowned for its environmental achievements. It was good that it was followed by presentations by three Guildford companies with businesses in environmental topics.

"...the model European city of the future will ... provide a high quality of urban life for all its citizens..."

After the talk Dr Salomon and Herr Burger visited the fascinating Space Centre on the Research Park and the Cathedral and in the evening Guildford's Mayor, Cllr Terence Patrick, with the Mayoress, hosted a civic dinner for our guests. The next day was Heritage Day and Dr Salomon and Herr Burger visited some of the attractions, including a back-stage visit to our splendid new entertainment centre, GLive. The Association, represented by members of the Committee, hosted a dinner that evening for the Freiburgers and our Mayor and Mayoress at Olivo Restaurant. The visit concluded on Sunday with visits to the beautifully refurbished Watts Gallery and to Loseley Park and its garden, graciously hosted by Michael More-Molyneux.

Rain was forecast for the weekend but none came. I'm sure our visitors went away with a very good impression of Guildford and its surroundings and its amenities – Dr Salomon had not been here before, but Herr Burger had been a few times before. Mayor Terence Patrick and I accompanied our visitors throughout the weekend and the former, with his deep knowledge of Guildford's history, proved to be an excellent guide. Although there were not any opportunities for Association members other than the Committee to meet Freiburg's charming Oberbürgermeister, I hope that as many as possible were able to be at his talk at the University, which was reported in the Surrey Advertiser. An article about Dr Salomon's visit also appeared in November's edition of "About Guildford."

DR SALOMON'S TALK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

At the start of his visit Dr Dieter Salomon addressed a large audience at the University of Surrey on "The sustainable development of Freiburg." He began by quoting the words of British architect Richard Rogers: "The perfect city should be one that gives back to the environment exactly what it takes away from it". This is what is meant by sustainable development and should be the goal that all cities and towns strive for. In Freiburg it has been dubbed the "Green City" concept.

Over the past few decades, Freiburg has made great strides towards this goal with determined policies on renewable energy, energy conservation, climate protection by reduction of carbon dioxide, reduction of car-use and expansion of the city's public transport system and facilities for cyclists. What helps to implement these policies is a tradition of high quality and future-oriented urban planning and design and co-operation with the city's range of research institutes and local industry and supportive public attitudes.

In Dr Salomon's view the model for the European town or city of the future will not be mega-cities like Seoul or Tokyo. It will have ecological, economic and social sustainability as its guiding principles and provide a high quality of urban life for all its citizens, whose active involvement will be needed to make it happen. And to help achieve it cities, especially partner cities like Guildford & Freiburg, should co-operate and learn from each other's experiences.

The talk was followed by presentations by three Guildford companies involved in environment activities.

Peter Slade

The full text of the talk is available from Peter Slade: pictures on p.3

RETAIL LINK

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET IN THE GUILDHALL

Once again, on the last Saturday in November, Guildford's historic Guildhall was filled with the aroma of Glühwein and rang with the



Stall with Freiburg toys



Mayor and Mayoress at Wolf Pietrek's candle stall



Mayor and Mayoress with Peter Slade

sound of Christmas carols. The occasion was the Association's seventh annual German Christmas market, helping to celebrate the 32 years of Guildford's twinning with Freiburg. Wooden toys from our twin city, candles and German Christmas confectionery were on sale, there was a tombola, and literature about Freiburg was available. An additional attraction was a public tasting and sale of fine Baden wine from the region near the city, run by Association member David Petche of Petersfield Wines.

As always the market brought a touch of Freiburg to Guildford and helped to promote the partnership with our lovely twin city to the many people who came to the Guildhall.

TASTING OF WINES FROM THE FREIBURG AREA

Forty-five members of the Association and their guests filled the Guildhall on Leap Year Day, 29th February when member David Petche from Petersfield Wines gave a tasting of wines from the Baden area around Freiburg. This was preceded by a slide show of



Family setting off for the grape harvest



Village of Schelingen in the Kaiserstuhl

his very beautiful and atmospheric pictures of the landscape, wild flowers, orchards and, of course, the vineyards. The wines included Grauburgunder, Weissherbst and Spätburgunder from the Tuniberg near Freiburg; a Gewürztraminer from Ihringen in the Kaiserstuhl and two wines from Durbach, a pretty village near Offenburg, famed throughout Germany for the Rieslings grown on its flinty soils. David gave a brief introduction to each wine as it was poured and tasted, and had brought examples of the crumbly loess rock deposited during the glacial period over the Rhine valley, which enabled vines grown

there to reach depths of over 50 feet, and bringing to the grape the rich mineral flavours characteristic of the wines.

The wines were accompanied by a selection of German sausages, salamis and cheese prepared by Committee members, and all, together with the beautiful and historic (the Guildhall is Elizabethan) surroundings, contributed to a very convivial atmosphere. The wines were available for purchase at a discount after the tasting, with the Gewürztraminer proving the most popular.

David Petche and Barbara Ford

GUILDFORD GOES TO FREIBURG

GUILDFORD SHINES AT THE PARTNER CITIES FESTIVAL

From 26th to 29th May the *Rathausplatz*, Freiburg's medieval town hall square, was the location for the sixth annual Partner Cities Festival. As well as Guildford, Freiburg's eight other twin towns were represented – the French town of Besançon, Innsbruck in Austria, Lviv in Ukraine, Madison, Wisconsin in USA, Matsuyama in Japan, Padua in Italy, Isfahan in Iran, and Granada in Spain. The Israeli city of Tel Aviv and the village of Wiwili in Nicaragua, both of which also have a special relationship with Freiburg, took part as well.

For three days, representatives promoted their town's attractions in a large marquee in the square. Guildford's stand was between those of Tel Aviv and Isfahan, which ensured that the stall-holders -- Association members Irene Black and Frauke Burge -- were regularly fortified by Israeli candy and Iranian tea. Irene and Frauke (both fluent German-speakers) provided information about the many attractions in and around Guildford, and dealt with a wide range of enquiries ranging from requests for student exchanges to queries about the social structure of Guildford! Souvenirs of Guildford were on sale, as well as books about Guildford or by Guildford authors. Sales were brisk.

Other Association members lent a willing hand. Chairman Peter Slade gave encouragement and support. Peter Simpson ensured an artistic backdrop to the stall with a display of large posters of Guildford that he had designed. Caroline and John Greenwood, spent part of their holiday in Freiburg taking turns on the stall each day, thus enabling the rest of the team to get some lunch, for which they were very grateful. An excellent lunch was provided daily by Freiburg town council. Brian and Susan Lewis also worked hard on the stall, offering lunchtime tastings of Hog's Back Brewery beer – always immensely popular. This was followed in the afternoons by the arrival of British Freiburg resident Penny Leube and her band of redoubtable ladies of the local Anglo-German Club, whose hand-outs of English tea and a never-ending supply of delicious home-made cakes, made the Guildford stall even more popular.

A wonderful musical event was hosted by Granada, this year celebrating the 20th anniversary of its twinning with Freiburg. A quartet of singers and a pianist entertained a capacity audience to an evening of classical Spanish songs. They received a standing ovation with tumultuous applause. The Guildford team also enjoyed a delightful evening at one of Freiburg's hilltop restaurants with members of the Anglo-German Club.

National costumes added colour to the festival, and Guildford's contribution of bowler hats caused much audience amusement when each town was interviewed in national dress on the 'culture stage', and was required to explain the meaning of their costume. Thus year's festival can truly be said to have been the best yet and much credit must go to Freiburg City Council for devising such an imaginative event and providing the financial backing.

Irene Black (pictures on page 11)

CHURCHES VISIT

What I particularly like about these regular bi-annual exchange visits with Christians in Freiburg is that they 'have everything': fellowship and fun with those whom we now regard as firm friends, worship in wonderful settings often accompanied by remarkable music, and study of a chosen topic that we, as fellow Christians, regard as important to our faith. This time the theme for our visit to Freiburg was 'care for those in need', and we tackled it both theologically – in Bible study; liturgically – it featured in much of our worship; and practically – in a number of visits we made to projects in Freiburg designed to bring effective support to the needy and disadvantaged. We were impressed by what is being done in Freiburg, and heartened by the high degree of Christian



Ascension Day Service at Ludwigskirche



Church group arriving in Freiburg



Thankyou dinner: Gegg family with Schopmeyer & Sneider family

involvement. Even those of us who spoke little or no German found language no barrier, thanks to the help of excellent translators.

I include in the 'fellowship and fun' aspect of our visit the time spent in the homes of our German hosts, where we were received with such warmth and generous hospitality. Our hosts also took us out and about during our 'free times', and to their own churches on the Sunday. Fellowship and fun also characterised our organised day out to Alsace, and the three meals we had as a whole group. But perhaps it was the intensity of the hugs shared as we were about to board our coach for the trip back to Guildford that spoke as eloquently as anything of the warmth of friendship built up over our seven-day visit. We eagerly look forward to their 2013 visit to us!

The Guildford visitors also met up again for a reunion meal and entertainments on a November evening in St Mary's, Shalford. This was partly a fund-raising event and an opportunity to show photographs and generally reminisce about our Freiburg visit in May/June.

David Welbourn

ZONTA CLUB MEMBER WALKS THROUGH THE HEXENTAL

Zonta International is an international women's organisation.

Member Anna Hummel reports:

Early in 2011 I was delighted to receive an invitation from Ulrike



Anna Hummel (left) with Ulrike Bernius of Freiburg Zonta club

Bernius to visit her in Freiburg. Ulrike is a member of the Zonta Club of Freiburg am Breisgau and she had stayed with me for a weekend in September 2010 when the Zonta Club of Guildford celebrated their charter (*reported in our last newsletter – Ed.*) She was conscientiously determined to return my hospitality at the earliest opportunity and I saw no reason to resist!

My 2011 trip, was planned for September so as to coincide with the annual walk for all the Zonta clubs in the Freiburg area, which was very sociable and gave me plenty of opportunity to practice my German. About 30 Zontians, partners and friends set out on Sunday morning from Merzhausen taking a gentle path through the Hexental valley, past villages and vineyards. At lunchtime, just as it was starting to rain we arrived at a hamlet called Sölden. Although it was his annual holiday and all the staff were off the local innkeeper had agreed to cook Schnitzel and Kartoffelsalat for our party, which was delicious. It was hard to leave his warm friendly *Stube* but we had another rendezvous so we pulled on our anoraks and set off punctually. Waiting for us just up the road was a guide who told us all about the history of the parish church, St Fides and Markus. Built around 1750, this intricately decorated baroque building with its trompe l'oeil ceiling had replaced an earlier church that had burnt down. It was originally part of a Cluniac convent founded in the

12th century. By the time we were ready to complete our 10km circuit the rain had stopped and we finished our walk in cheerful spirits.

If you are spending some time in Freiburg and would like to spend a day enjoying the countryside you will find details of the route on the web at www.outdooractive.com, if you enter Hexentalrundweg bei Freiburg in the search box.

SOCIAL EVENTS

OUR ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY

In July, Association members Helga and Terry Pearce were once again kind enough to host our summer lunch party at their home in Guildford. A persistent drizzle kept us indoors, looking out on the delightful garden rather than sitting in it, but this did not dampen our spirits. Helga and Katie Butcher, our Social Secretary, and many other helpers provided a superb spread, with a German theme. This event was again very successful and the summer lunch party has now become a regular fixture in the Association's calendar, giving members a chance to get together in an informal atmosphere. We thank Helga and Terry for their generous hospitality.



Hostess Helga Pearce (in white), organiser Katie Butcher (in blue)

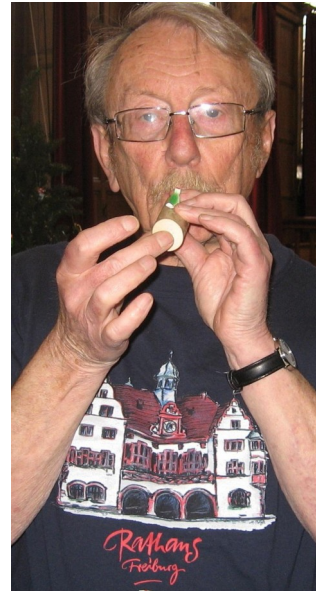


The food was so good it was hard to choose..

For a change, the 2012 summer lunch party will be held at Cobham Park, rather than in a private home. Details to follow.

GERMAN DINNER – MAYBE NEXT YEAR

It was decided not to repeat our German-themed dinner this year, because of the difficulty of maintaining quality. However, the event has proved so popular that the Committee is seeking a solution for next year.



Peter Slade demonstrates the cuckoo whistle (at Christmas market)

FUTURE EVENTS IN PROGRESS

Events with fixed dates are listed in the box on p.11. Others under discussion include: a talk in October 2012, a wine-tasting in November 2012, and a Quiz Night in January 2013.

REGIONAL TWINNING MEETINGS

Early in 2011, the Association suggested to a few other local town twinning associations that it would be a good idea to meet occasionally to share ideas and discuss common problems. In April that year the first meeting was held at the Council Offices in Guildford and it proved worthwhile, so meetings have been held every six months. As well as us, members of the group are Basingstoke, Cranleigh, Godalming, Rushmoor, Waverley, Woking, Wokingham and Cranleigh.

Amongst many issues discussed an important one was the need to have Public Liability Insurance (a sign of the times) which most other associations had but we did not. As a result we have joined an existing group scheme.

WEBSITES

The Association's website, produced by our webmaster, Association member Tony Ford, helps to spread news about the twinning and the Association and our activities and events. Grateful thanks again to Tony for his excellent work on this. The address is: <http://surreycommunity.info/gfa>

Our good friends in the Freiburg Anglo-German Club also have a website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/anglogermanclubfreiburg> which lists their interesting range of activities and events. The home page carries a fine view of the city's Münster and old town.

With thanks to those who took the photographs, who include Irene Black, Frauke Burge, Lynn Dyas, Barbara Ford, Hilary Mills, David Petche & Peter Slade.

Freiburg: the Partner Cities Market



At the welcome party



Irene Black & Frauke Burge promote Guildford



The British (in fact Penny Leube & the Anglo-German Club) drank tea



John Greenwood promotes Guildford



The Austrians (in fact Innsbruck) danced



Brian Lewis persuades a Freiburger to sample Hogs Back beer

Freiburg views



The Rathaus



Freiburg's river Dreisam

Guildford: Guildford City vs Blau-Weiss



Phil Dyas (Chairman of GCBGFC) (left) & Uwe Pottberg (Chairman of Blau-Weiss) with Mayor Marsha Moseley



Action shots of various matches (left and centre right)



Teams and supporters at Guildford reception

COMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary

30 May

Annual General Meeting

14—18 June

Group of Freiburgers visit Guildford (reception & dinner to be arranged)

1—8 July

Visit to Freiburg and the Black Forest with wine-tasting

17 July

Annual Summer Party

Contacts in the Guildford-Freiburg Association

Chairman: Peter Slade 01483 531472
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Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Michael Gorman 01483 450036
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Other Committee members: Irene Black, Frauke Burge, Cllr Graham Ellwood,
Cllr David Goodwin, Patricia Grayburn, Val Hazelwood,
Hon. Alderman Bernard Parke, Cllr Keith Taylor

Websites

Our website (with our newsletters and updates):
<http://surreycommunity.info/gfa>

City of Freiburg: www.freiburg.de

New Committee members welcome

The Committee meets every other month to discuss matters relating to the twinning and to run the Association's business. A typical agenda includes discussion of schools liaison, forthcoming social activities, 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. If any member is interested in joining us please contact Peter Slade. If any member wishes to receive the minutes of committee meetings by email, please contact our secretary, Hilary Mills.

Our thanks to Allianz Insurance plc, who have kindly sponsored this newsletter.

