



## CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

A while back I came across some thoughts on twinning in an extract of an application by Essen & the Ruhr to become European Capital of Culture in 2010. It said: "The aim of our co-operation is to cultivate human, artistic and cultural relationships between all the participating towns and cities and to inspire direct contact between citizens. In particular young people should be given an opportunity to participate in joint cultural projects, to exchange ideas and beliefs and to get to know one another better".

This seems to me to reflect many of the aims of Guildford's twinning with Freiburg and I believe that once again during the past year a great deal has been done to achieve those aims. The involvement of young people in the schools exchanges and visits does, I'm sure, add greatly to their understanding of another city's and country's culture and the friendly rivalry between the young footballers from Guildford and Freiburg who visit each other every year does something similar for them. The regular visits by the churches groups, when they get together to discuss a specific topic – this year it was "Renewal" -- has certainly achieved the same. The exchanges that take place between Freiburg and Surrey Universities have obviously benefited the students. And at a personal level I find my frequent visits (now numbering 13) to Freiburg and contacts with Freiburgers to be very rewarding and have led me to a greater interest in Germany and its culture more generally.

The activities referred to above and some other events are run



*A cake specially made for Peter Slade's birthday*

independently of our Association though we do all we can to support them. Our own activities include our Christmas Market, always enjoyed by us and the visitors who come, our annual lecture, last year a terrific one on Berlin by Eveline Eaton, and our highly enjoyable German Dinner and Summer Party.

Very much consistent with the ideas expressed in my first paragraph is the Partner Cities Market run by Freiburg City Council, involving its



*Rathausplatz and Partner Cities Market*

nine twin cities in a lively market in the Town Hall Square and a range of cultural events, better than ever last year. It was the seventh such event: we have been to all of them and always enjoy promoting Guildford and its amenities and the general feeling of friendship with representatives from the other twin cities. A group of Association members were in Freiburg at the same time as the market and had a great time in superb June weather, taking a good look at Freiburg and visiting some of the surrounding areas and meeting up with our old friends from the Anglo-German Club.

In October it was a delight to welcome old friend Bürgermeister Otto Neideck to Guildford for a short visit with some of his colleagues. It is also good to record some other contacts. A group of Triumph cars and their drivers went to Freiburg as did members of Guildford & District Rotary Club to meet their counterparts. The visit of a Freiburg Law Professor to Surrey Police could lead to future contacts between the police in both cities, which would be an important new link.

I've left a potentially extremely important issue till last. This is the forthcoming visit by a group of Guildford Borough Council officers and councillors to Freiburg to discuss that city's policies and achievements in urban planning, transport, energy and sustainability and to hear

how Freiburg has developed its plans to enable it to become world-famous for its excellence in these fields. I have long urged (indeed since my first visit in 1993) that Guildford and Freiburg should co-operate on such matters, which are now especially relevant with Guildford's Borough Plan under discussion, and I hope that the visit will also be the start of ongoing co-operation. Learning from each other should be an important aspect of twinning.

I hope all our members agree that we can celebrate another very successful year for our partnership with Freiburg. I want to thank all who participated and all the members of our committee, especially those who take on particular roles and perform them so well. And of course thanks go to our President, Mayor Diana Lockyer-Nibbs, who, like Guildford's previous mayors, has been very supportive.

*Peter Slade*

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

### SCHOOLS LIAISON

*Ros Calow reports:* The Association continues to encourage contact between young people from Guildford and Freiburg. George Abbot School has the most active and longstanding link with Freiburg and has visited the Goethe Gymnasium again this year. We would like to thank the teachers from both schools for all their hard work.

The Max Weber Schule brought another group to Guildford College in September 2013. A thank you to their teachers too. Peter Slade, our chairman, was present at a reception for students from the Karlsschule, who visited St. Peter's School for a day visit although they were actually staying in Hastings. We hope they will stay in Guildford next time.

We are keen to encourage more pupils from Guildford to visit Freiburg. It is a wonderful experience for them and the Germans are so hospitable. If you are a recently appointed teacher in Guildford who has not yet made contact with us, please e-mail me (address on back page). We can help with contacts in Freiburg and small grants to individuals or groups for visits to or from Freiburg.

### MAX WEBER SCHULE INTERNS AT GUILDFORD COLLEGE

*Alexander Willmann, on behalf of all the participants in this EU exchange scheme, writes:* It was roughly 6 months ago, when we,

thirteen apprentices from Freiburg, came to Guildford in order to explore the country and the culture and to learn about British business culture. During our German apprenticeship we all took the opportunity to be part of an exchange program funded by the European Union which was organized by Guildford College and Max Weber Schule, our vocational school in Freiburg. During our stay of three weeks, we lived together with host families, who let us feel like a real member of their family and gave us the chance to learn more about the differences and similarities of Germans and Britons.

Once a week we had classes at Guildford College to improve our language skills. Moreover we learnt a lot about marketing, international cultural competence and how to have a telephone dialogue at work. We all appreciated the commitment of our teacher, who involved every one of us in the lessons and answered every question we asked. The rest of the week we worked in different companies, which was the most exciting time of our stay. I worked at an international marketing agency in Guildford. I really enjoyed the work there and appreciated the time I could share with such nice colleagues as I had at my workplace.

On the weekends we planned several trips to London. Our first trip was to London where we explored the City by using the Hop-on Hop-off buses. In the afternoon we saw the palace and walked down by the Thames to have a sight-seeing city cruise. *[Picture on page 4: Ed.]* The last weekend of our stay we visited the stunningly beautiful Hampton Court and London in the evening. Summarized, we had a great time in Guildford, met lovely people, improved our English skills and made new friends. Thanks to Guildford College, the host families and to all the companies, without which we would never had the chance to visit this beautiful country and to meet so many nice people. Best regards from Germany!

### GOETHE GYMNASIUM SCHOOL EXCHANGE VISIT TO GUILDFORD

*Two girls, Janna and Julia, report on the exchange visit of a group of 24 school students to George Abbot School:* The first day in England we started off with a visit to down-town Guildford with our two teachers Margot Willeke and Matthias Blank. We saw a lot of interesting sights, such as Guildford Castle and the beautiful garden around it with the "Alice in Wonderland" statue. After a glimpse of Abbot's Hospital in the High Street we had time to discover the city centre on our own. We got some delicious wedges [snacks: Ed] in a small café and afterwards we enjoyed all the nice shops. In the afternoon the sun finally made it through the clouds and we had a lot

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## Partner Cities Market in Freiburg



Guildford tent & stall: Andrew Aylott and beer-tasting (right); Ros Calow presiding (left); Penny Leube of Anglo-German Club serving tea (lower right)



Penny Leube of Anglo-German Club serving tea (lower right)



Oberbürgermeister Salomon welcomes Mayors from Madison (left) & Innsbruck



Above: performers—Franco-German-Swiss choir (top l); Voice for Peace choir from Israel (top r); Musicians (lower l); Freiburg friends of Tel Aviv (centre); Madison String Quartet (lower r).  
Below: party in Rathaus garden



of fun rowing on the river Wey.

The second day we spent in London with our exchange partners from George Abbot School. After two hours in the British Museum we went shopping on Oxford Street. Later we met up again with teachers, parents and our exchange partners, and had a nice barbecue at Littlefield Manor. After everyone had their burger some students and even teachers started playing football on the field and others danced to music or sat on the grass and got to know each other better. All of us had a fabulous time! At the weekend our host families showed us even more of Guildford and we got to know the lifestyle of a British family. Of course we had lots of tea along with scones. And in the mornings we had the typical English breakfast. Yum!

On Monday our teachers took us to London again. We rode on the London Eye and were impressed by the fantastic view, which we tried to capture in hundreds of photos. We went to Big Ben, to Horse Guards Parade, through St. James Park and to Buckingham Palace. We all agreed that it was an awesome trip to London. The next day we went to Brighton. At the Royal Pavilion we got audio-guides and listened to all the interesting facts and stories. At the end of the trip everyone had fish and chips on the famous Brighton Pier.

On Wednesday we had the great opportunity to join our exchange partners through their school day and attend British lessons. We were surprised to learn that those are not very different from our lessons in Germany. But the school rules couldn't be more different. None of us



Max Weber Schule interns visit London

were happy about leaving Guildford and our new English friends after our last goodbye hugs. Even now, two months later, we still think about the amazing week we had in Guildford. And we are sure that someday we will come back to visit this beautiful town and all of the nice people we met. We would like to thank everyone who helped to make this wonderful experience possible for us. Thank you!

### FREIBURG'S KARLSCHULE VISITS GUILDFORD

In early October 47 students and 4 teachers from the Karlschule in Freiburg spent a day in Guildford whilst they were on a school visit to Hastings. They were shown round the town by Guildford Town Guides Nick Bale and Association member Tessa Johnson. They also spent time at St Peter's School in Merrow and St Catherine's School in Bramley. At the former the teachers discussed possible future exchange arrangements. The group was welcomed in the Guildhall by the Mayor, Cllr Diana Lockyer-Nibbs, who said she hoped they enjoyed their visit and would come again. She added: "Our schools

are a great example of how the younger generation play a part in fostering the links between Guildford and Freiburg".



Karlschule visit with Mayor (robed) in Guildford High Street

### FREIBURG STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Friedrich Schmitt, a law student on the EU Erasmus university student exchange scheme writes: On first sight Freiburg and Guildford are quite similar - which is why it might not be surprising that they are twin towns. Both cities are fairly small, surrounded with very pretty scenery, and are situated near other remarkable places: while Guildford is near to cosmopolitan London and famous Oxford, Freiburg lies within the heart of the Black Forest and is a stone's throw away from both Basel and Strasbourg. Thus, it is relatively easy to settle into Guildford as an exchange student from Freiburg. This is not only due to the similarities of the cities but is also rooted in the welcoming attitude apparent in the University of Surrey and its exchange administrators. Those responsible for the Erasmus students at Surrey are exceedingly helpful and even if you only turn up rarely in their office they will still remember your name and will happily help you with any queries.

However, there are of course some differences between Freiburg and Guildford as well – otherwise there would not be much sense in going abroad. Surrey is a campus university, hence most of the student life takes place on the university's premises. A vast majority of the students live on campus which is why the university is always brimful of life. Also, there is no lack of opportunity to spend your leisure with interesting activities since there are numerous student societies and a modern sports park nearby. Last but not least, Surrey also impresses academically and the different way of teaching is very refreshing: the hierarchy between students and the teachers seems much flatter and

the weekly and fortnightly tutorials ensure that the students revise and comprehend the learning material. Moreover, I found it very commendable that the university seems to put great emphasis on gender equality as concerns the teaching staff: in contrast to Freiburg there are a lot of female teachers at Surrey. With that said, I hope it became clear that the University of Surrey is a great place to spend a year abroad. I have enjoyed and still am enjoying my stay in Guildford.

## EXPERIENCE OF A SURREY UNIVERSITY STUDENT IN FREIBURG

*Amber Beasley, studying English and languages at the University of Surrey, in Freiburg also on the Erasmus scheme, writes:* Upon arriving in Freiburg in October 2013, I was instantly struck by how beautiful the city was, with its cobbled streets and old university buildings. It had all the charm of a small town but was large enough that it had anything I could need. As I had been extremely nervous about studying and living in Germany, it was reassuring how at home I felt there after a very short time, which is one of the main reasons I had also chosen to study in Guildford. I was eager to learn all I could of the fascinating history and culture of the city, such as the traditions behind the *Fasnet* carnival that takes place before Lent, or the legend that, if you step into a *Bächle*, one of the tiny canals that can be found in the centre of town, you will one day marry a Freiburger, or *Bobbele*.

I have also loved how easy it is to travel, both within Freiburg using the tram system or to the surrounding Black Forest, and being right near the border of Switzerland and France, there is an enormous choice of other cities that can be visited on a day trip. I have so far spent days visiting museums and wandering through winding medieval streets in both Basel, Switzerland and Colmar, France, enjoyed mulled wine at Germany's most famous Christmas market in Nuremberg and spent a weekend seeing the many sights in Munich.

As for Freiburg's Albert-Ludwigs University, I am incredibly grateful that I chose to study there. I have taken a range of courses both with the *Sprachlehrinstitut* (Language Teaching Centre) as well as at the main university, where I have met many lovely people and have

always felt supported as an international student. I have found that my experiences in Freiburg have changed me and helped me grow as a person and I know that I will be very sorry to leave when my Erasmus year is at an end.

## YOUNG FREIBURG FOOTBALLERS PLAY IN GUILDFORD

*Phil Dyas, Vice-chair of Guildford City Boys and Girls FC, reports:* For the annual Easter exchange in 2013 Guildford City Boys and Girls FC (GCBGFC) welcomed 47 young players and 24 adults from the Blau-Weiss Wiehre & the St Georgen Sports Club of Freiburg. Unfortunately the weekend was dominated by the bitterly cold weather and this had quite an influence on the weekend in general, and the vast effort required to watch the football led to the contraction of one case of pneumonia which was a very unwelcome first for this 28th exchange between our clubs.

The players were generously hosted by the Guildford City players' families and we once again tried to provide a full and varied experience of Guildford life for the visiting group which included many first time visitors to Guildford and to the UK. For the players we were well supported by the Spectrum Centre, for bowling and ice-skating, and two of our Committee 'baby-sat' the younger age groups on a freezing visit to Thorpe Park. The older players were taken to London along with the adult group where, in the absence of their usual tour guide, they were treated to the Lynne Dyas tour of London, a first for Lynne [Phil Dyas's wife—Ed] guiding a 70-seater coach and driver around the London sights. The main adult group chose to stay at the Travelodge and to spend their leisure evenings in the warmth of the Wooden Bridge pub.

On Saturday, introduced by Nikki Simmonds, the Chair of GCBGFC, the group were formally welcomed in the Guildhall by the then Mayor of Guildford, Jennifer Jordan, with speeches given by her, by representatives from the Association and from both Clubs, with gifts duly exchanged. In the evening the group were hosted by GCBGFC club and committee at the Merrist Wood Golf Club where a good time and good food were had by all.



*Football: Blau-Weiss team in blue and white strip, Guildford in red and white, St Georgen in green and white.*



As usual the boys played their practice games in good and fair manner on the Friday but come Sunday the situation became more competitive as games for trophies took place, following a ceremonial kick off by Mayor Jenny Jordan. For the first time in memory of those involved, the Guildford teams won all four games and therefore a clean sweep of all four trophies but at the customary awards party at the Fairlands Community Centre they accepted the prizes with quiet good grace. It's not about the football....so we are told.

## OUR ANNUAL LECTURE 2013

### NEW BERLIN: ART AND ARCHITECTURE

*Peter Simpson reports (also noting that Berlin has seventeen partner cities, which beats Freiburg's mere nine! Berlin's include London, Paris, Tokyo, Moscow and Los Angeles):* Our latest Annual Lecture was given in October to a full house at the Guildhall by Eveline Eaton with the theme of New Berlin: Art and Architecture. Eveline was born in Berlin but is a long-time resident of the UK. Her talk, illustrated by striking images, described the origins of Berlin and the physical, social, cultural, and political factors that have shaped the city. Then by taking us on a walk starting at the famous Tiergarten – Berlin's central park -- she described the government buildings, embassies, monuments and cultural attractions seen along the Unter den Linden. We finished at the Museum Insel whose nineteenth-century buildings contain artistic and archaeological treasures from Europe and the Middle East. There are other galleries with landmark examples of twentieth-century art.



*Speaker Eveline Eaton (l), Peter Slade, Mayor Lockyer-Nibbs*

The speaker described the reconstruction work in central Berlin since unification. The refurbished Bundestag and the Neues Museum involved UK architects working with German expert advisors. New embassy buildings of diverse designs and monuments reflecting Germany's twentieth-century political history have been created. Since Berlin became the capital and a place of power and influence the need for governmental, organisational and residential accommodation has grown. Derelict sites are being redeveloped and new transport infrastructure has been created.

Eveline reviewed Frederick the Great's role in shaping the culture of Berlin by his decision to welcome groups from outside Germany to take up residence there. The presence of the French influence is seen in place-names and aspects of design. Baroque influence can be seen

in the rich ornamentation of Frederick's palace in Potsdam which is a convenient train ride from Berlin -- the palace and gardens are 'must-see' places. Frederick had them built to provide a place of quiet and rest away from the demands of government.

## GREEN FREIBURG

### A TOWN PLANNER VISITS FREIBURG'S ECO-SETTLEMENTS

Have you ever wondered what planners do on holiday? We don't visit new towns or check out the latest retail park or try out new park and ride sites (actually we have done that!) but after deciding that our family holiday would be in the Black Forest, it seemed essential that we visit Freiburg. We were eager to visit the new eco-suburbs but were anxious to know if we could visit unobtrusively as we didn't want to offend anyone by intruding into the privacy of the residents. I contacted the tourist office and asked for advice and mentioned that our interest was genuine as we were both planners in Surrey and had a connection with Guildford, its twin town. I was delighted and surprised when two days later Peter Slade contacted me to ask if we were really visiting (he had been emailed by the tourist office – how impressive is that?) and he very kindly offered to try to arrange a guide for us to visit Rieselfeld and Vauban, the eco-suburbs in Freiburg.

*"We have never become quite so excited about the designs of bin stores before. ..."*

That is how one morning at 9am we waited outside the railway station for our guide, a very charming and knowledgeable chap called Steffen Ries from the Innovation Academy in Freiburg. We used the excellent tram system to travel around the city and to the suburbs. It is quick, simple to use and for tourists in the Black Forest entirely free, along with the use of trains and buses.

It is always difficult to draw parallels between planning in England and Germany because of the difference in the nature of local government, cultural attitudes that relate to housing tenure and the different aspirations about house ownership, the type of housing available and attitudes to car use and the availability of good and cheap public transport. Some might say the difference in weather might be a factor, but I am unsure how much this influences attitudes. What we saw was a fundamental difference in attitudes to house types, community and social responsibility.

Much of the housing which has taken place in recent years reflected an acceptance of communal living, with shared open space and car parking areas that are located away from the housing areas. This means that many of the streets and drives are genuinely car free with families and children clearly taking ownership of these public spaces. Most people lived in flats in buildings of 3 or 4 storeys. The designs were modern but the scale and architectural treatment of the buildings was still on a human scale. Here was a high level of intervisibility between flats. This has arguably always been the case in continental Europe but has allowed densities that are much higher than would be acceptable in English suburbs. However, while very few people had access to their own garden, what was noticeable was the size of balconies which were large and in effect an additional living space, helped by the generally better weather which Freiburg

experiences. Too often in Britain balconies are seen as an add-on to provide interest in the design of building rather than as usable space. There was also ample space for gardens outside the housing areas on the edges of the suburbs and beautiful allotments filled with flowers



Vauban, with Solarsiedlung or “plus energy houses” (top)

and fruit trees and hives. Between some of the flatted buildings [sic] there were gardens for the ground floor units but these were never fenced in or enclosed in the way one would expect in a British housing development: the vegetation, flowers, play equipment all drifted naturally into a communal area around the buildings. There were clearly few boundary disputes here.

The careful attention to the practical day-to-day needs of the residents was impressive. We have never become quite so excited about the designs of bin stores before. Some of them were beautiful mini pieces of architecture with details such as sliding doors to ensure the views of the bins would never be obvious, or sedum-planted roofs with trailing plants over the edges. The bike stores were also carefully detailed and located. There are also signs of extremely civilised and generous, open-hearted attitudes to building a community. Vauban

features a communal house where residents can meet to watch a large TV together or hold meetings or family gatherings. It includes a guest suite for hire to ensure that those with smaller flats can still have family and friends to stay. The flats are designed internally to be flexible to grow or contract to accommodate the changing needs of a family. A number of the blocks include working spaces for hire and another, at the request of the residents themselves, includes provision for people with dementia, to allow them to remain within the community rather than in a separate area away from family and friends.

The biggest difference was attitudes to transport. Despite the city being very prosperous, car ownership in Freiburg was low and outside the rather frenetic city centre the lack of cars on suburban streets was notable. Residents of Rieselfeld and Vauban pay an additional charge to park their cars in purpose-built garages on the edge of each neighbourhood. These are large, well-designed buildings of three or four storeys. This of course is possible when the public transport is as pleasant, reliable and accessible as in Freiburg. The city benefits from a tram system that was introduced into the city in about 1900 and was built along former horse bus lines. This means the system is integrated into the city in a way that is unusual compared to later modern tram systems in European cities. It runs along-grass covered tracks. This reduces noise levels in residential suburbs and reduces flooding and provides a habitat for insects and butterflies. Cycle routes are integrated into the train and tram systems with sophisticated depots for picking up a hired bike or garaging your bike at the edge of the city near the railway stations.

On the train back to our hotel in Hinterzarten (free travel courtesy of the local tourist office to all holiday-makers) we reflected on how much of the Freiburg experience was relevant to Surrey. Surrey has particular challenges - it does not have a dominant centre to which most people gravitate for work and leisure, change is more incremental and the direct link between where people live and work has all but disappeared. This was in contrast to Freiburg where we sensed that people seemed to live close to their work or could access good public transport. There were remarkably few obvious commuters on the train into Freiburg at 8am when we travelled. Arguably one of the attractions of our cities and towns is the chaotic way they operate – though if you travel daily on the M25 or A3 or brace yourself for the Underground each morning, you may disagree.

Our brief visit to Rieselfeld and Vauban was a glimpse into an urban life that seemed so different to anything we had experienced here in Britain; even our teenaged daughters were impressed. And that is a rare outcome and has never happened visiting retail parks or park and ride sites.

Matthew Evans  
Head of Planning Services, Waverley BC, formerly Guildford’s Local  
Plans Manager

## MORE PRAISE FOR FREIBURG’S URBAN PLANNING

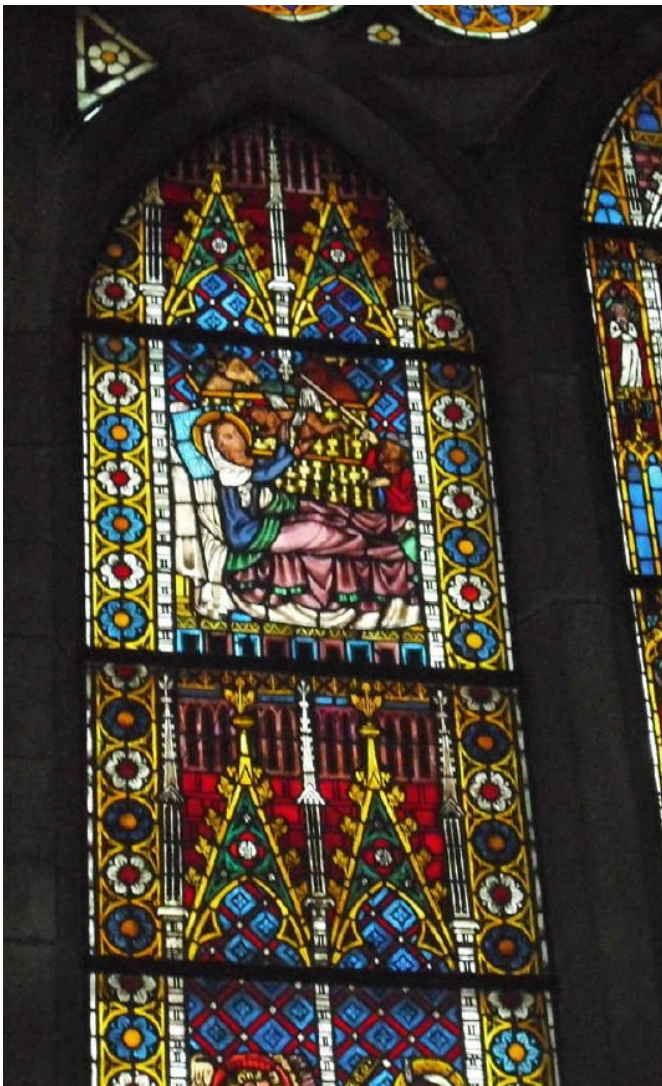
Extract from an article in The Guardian newspaper about Peter Hall, Professor of Planning and renowned urbanist, 18 January 2014: “The essential argument of [Peter Hall’s] new book, *Good Cities, Better Lives*, is simple: there is something wrong with the way we develop our built environment in Britain. We don’t build enough, and what we build is too often ugly, alienating and poorly served by infrastructure. For some time, Hall and his colleagues at the Town and Country Planning Association have been organising field trips to cities in France, the Netherlands, Germany and Scandinavia that appear to have it all figured out – he cites Freiburg as the outstanding example. “They have created good jobs, built superb housing in fine natural settings and generated rich urban lives. But not only that:

## Association visit to Freiburg, June 2013



Freiburg scenes including:

- asparagus in Münsterplatz (top right)
- Rotarian wife Valerie Connelly in the Münster (right)
- Münster window (bottom left)





## Association visit to Freiburg, June 2013



Freiburg: Association members Helga & Terry Pearce in cycle rickshaw (top right)

Breisach sign (above)

Breisach with view of cathedral (below left)

Above Breisach (bottom left)



Ihringen: views of Karle's Weingut (middle right)

Ihringen: wine-tasting with Frau Karle (bottom right)

simultaneously these cities have become models of sustainable urban life, minimising energy needs, recycling waste and reducing emissions."

## MARKETS

### OUR ANNUAL GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

For the seventh year the Association held its annual German Christmas Market in Guildford's Guildhall at the end of November. This year there was a new feature -- the sound of traditional German music played by Tony Trent on an accordion greeted visitors. As usual the aroma of *Glühwein* contributed to the festive atmosphere. Wooden toys from our twin city, candles and traditional German Christmas bakery items were on sale, there was a tombola, literature about Freiburg was available and there was a free tasting of some excellent Baden wine from the Freiburg region. This all helped to celebrate the 34 years of Guildford's twinning with Freiburg.

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. And it was good to talk about the twinning to visitors, including a few Germans.

*Peter Slade*

### GUILDFORD SHINES AGAIN AT FREIBURG'S PARTNER CITIES MARKET

*Irene Black reports:* At the beginning of June the Guildford-Freiburg Association represented Guildford for the seventh time at Freiburg's Partner Cities Market, alongside the city's other twin cities. The market, which was held annually until 2011, is now held biannually, but with no loss of momentum and enthusiasm on the part of all participants or the Freiburg organisers. It provides an excellent opportunity to promote Guildford and its attractions and cultural activities to potential visitors.

Stalls were set up for participant towns in individual open-sided marquees around a stage on the picturesque old Town Hall square. Freiburg has nine twin and two 'friendship' towns across the globe, so for two days the square was filled from morning to evening with colourful costumes and the stage was alive with world music and folk dancing.

The weather was glorious, which encouraged many people to visit the market. The Guildford stall displayed a range of publicity material about the town and county and local attractions and events as well as numerous Guildford souvenirs and books by local authors. The stall was run by Association members Irene Black and Ros Calow – German-speakers who could answer questions about Guildford and its environments as well as assist people with specific enquiries, such as music group exchange possibilities and youngsters wanting to stay with Guildford families over the summer.

Guildfordians Caroline and John Greenwood and Andrew and Julia Aylott provided a 'star turn' with beer tasting sessions from the Hogs Back Brewery, and the English 'afternoon tea' and wonderful cakes provided by Penny Leube and her Freiburg Anglo-German Club have become legendary at the event. Association Chairman, Peter Slade, had arranged a tour to Freiburg to coincide with the market (*see page 13*). He and the tour members also came to lend a hand and their support, helping to make a true 'Guildford' atmosphere in the marquee.



*Christmas market: Barbara Ford sells toys, Katie Butcher Glühwein (for pictures of the Partner Cities Market, see page 3).*

It was also an opportunity to soak up the culture of other participant towns. These included day and evening performances by the Madison Symphony Orchestra String Quartet who treated us to chamber music, folk music and dancing from Innsbruck, Spanish flamenco dancers representing Granada, a superb Schubert song cycle, the Freiburg Brass Band and the wonderful Voices of Peace Youth Choir from Tel Aviv – made up of Jewish and Arab singers. It was a truly international event, bringing people together from around the world.

## VISITS BACK AND FORTH

### SURREY TRIUMPH CARS & THEIR OWNERS VISIT FREIBURG

The Surrey group of Triumph TR sports car owners ventured off in their cars to the Black Forest in June. We thought it would complement the Guildford-Freiburg relationship if we displayed our TRs in Freiburg during our stay and we got in touch with Peter Slade who was very helpful in enabling us to contact the person responsible in Freiburg. We were given permission to display our TRs in front of the Freiburg Concert Hall in the Konrad Adenauer-Platz. On a Sunday in mid-June, a very hot and sunny day, we were able to line the cars in an arc in the large paved area in the allocated position and attracted a lot of interest. The local police kept passing throughout the day as if to ensure that no harm came to them. We posed for a photo late in the afternoon and a policewoman was happy to take the picture.

We were based just to the east of Freiburg in the small town of Kirchzarten, where a member of the group has a cousin living and it

was the perfect place to discover the Black Forest. If you have never visited this part of Germany you should as it is very beautiful. The weather was warm and sunny as we discovered the lakes of Titisee and Schluchsee, the waterfalls at Todtnau, the villages of St Peter and



*Triumph Cars in front of Freiburg Konzerthaus*

St Märgen, all well worth visiting. This is the home of the cuckoo clock and in Furtwangen the Uhrenmuseum or Clock Museum is a must. Another small town to note is Staufen, surrounding the remains of a medieval castle on a mound which still has a quaint historic atmosphere. Staufen is sometimes referred to as 'Fauststadt' -- Dr Faustus resided here until his death in 1539. During our return journey, we stayed in Adenau to do the 'Green Hell' or the Nordschleife, the original 22 km circuit of the Nürburgring. It was very exciting taking our TRs around this famous circuit and very popular with British as well as German drivers. We thought Freiburg a beautiful city.

*Mervyn Rogers, Group Leader and Jon Gordon, Events Co-ordinator*

### **FREIBURG'S DEPUTY MAYOR VISITS GUILDFORD**

In late September we were delighted to welcome to Guildford Freiburg's Deputy Mayor Otto Neideck and the nine members of his office staff – including his secretary Gabriele Scherer who wore traditional Black Forest costume. Herr Neideck, who was here in 2004 for the 25th anniversary of the Guildford-Freiburg twinning when he unveiled the commemorative plaque under Tunsgate Arch, is one of four deputy mayors who are professionals elected by the city council for an eight-year term. The city's Lord Mayor is elected by popular vote of the citizens, also for eight years: the present incumbent is Dr Dieter Salomon, who visited Guildford in 2011.



*Bürgermeister Otto Neideck in Guildford, with secretary in Black Forest costume, Mayor Lockyer-Nibbs in white jacket, Cllr Taylor (left)*

The group's visit to Guildford was part of a weekend stay in London. They were shown round the town on a conducted tour accompanied by the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Diana Lockyer-Nibbs, and by Cllr Keith Taylor and our Chairman Peter Slade, who both know Herr Neideck well. Their tour included the river, the castle, the Guildhall, Guildford House, Abbot's Hospital and G Live. Members of the group said that they were impressed by all that they saw and that they found Guildford to be a really charming town.

After the tour, the group was joined by several members of the Association for a dinner at the County Club, hosted by the Mayor and Peter Slade. Before departing for London, Otto Neideck praised what he considered to be Guildford's achievement of successfully blending recent new developments with the town's heritage.

### **FREIBURG LAW PROFESSOR VISITS SURREY POLICE**

*A report by Prof. Dr. Susanne Scheller, Professor of criminal law, State Police College, Baden-Württemberg:* On the 9th December I arrived in Guildford following an invitation by Surrey Police, eager to find out about the differences in police structure and police work in Guildford and Freiburg.



*Professor Dr. Susanne Scheller in Guildford with Peter Slade*

The area I work in is the training of police officers: while British officers are largely trained "on the job", German officers have to undergo 18 months of theoretical training before becoming a police constable. In order to reach higher ranks, they have to study for a Bachelors Degree at the State Police College, the *Hochschule für Polizei, Baden-Württemberg*, situated in the Black Forest and Freiburg. This is where I have worked as professor of criminal law since 2002.

My visit to Surrey Police has been very interesting. I was able to witness a major search for a missing person in which the different units of the force (e.g. response teams, helicopter, dog and rescue units) showed excellent team-work.

What I find amazing about British police forces is that most policemen and women do not carry guns and that there is a long tradition of "policing by consent". Thus - from my observation - the UK Forces are more likely to focus on de-escalation skills. There are some other important differences: in Germany the police are legally bound to investigate every crime. Police have very few discretionary powers – as opposed to the prosecution service and judicial supervision.

I am very grateful to Surrey Police and especially the Chief Constable for giving me the opportunity to gain insight into their work. In the long run, I think it would be very fruitful to both countries' forces if they had the possibility of exchanging their experience in policing on a regular basis.

I also had the opportunity to meet Peter Slade, Chairman of the Guildford-Freiburg Association. Thank you for showing me around the beautiful City of Guildford!! As I live in the well-known eco-neighbourhood of Vauban there will be more opportunities for exchange on these issues in the future as well.

## RENEWING THE CHURCHES LINK IN GUILDFORD

*Sue Wilbraham of the Guildford-Freiburg Churches Link tells us:* They had a good time and so did we! Stanley Hemming-Clark had guided the committee responsible for putting together a varied, enjoyable programme for the Churches Link of our two centres. Mulling over a suitable theme whilst tasting wines in Freiburg two years ago, we did wonder if it would work in reality - but successful it was.

The visitors from Freiburg churches arrived at Guildford Station to be greeted by friends and hosts at St Nicolas' Church. For their eight-day stay we introduced "Renewal" as our theme, guided by the Church's time of Pentecost. In celebrating the Holy Spirit's continued help and guidance we were able to reflect on the positive changes in our own church, St Mary's, and many other aspects of life in this area.

Guildford Borough Council's representative from Planning, Chris Mansfield, took us through new ideas to improve housing, transport – quality of life in general - while further afield we considered long-term plans to reopen a canal route to the sea via the Wey & Arun canal and the delights of Sussex. For landlocked Freiburgers the sight of the sea was a highlight – only late-May temperatures held them back from testing the "briny" at Worthing! We did manage however to picnic on the pier and buy ice-creams before being driven coach-wards by a deluge.

Highdown Gardens, Worthing, and an extraordinary ceiling in an ordinary church, were also included in John Ashworth's masterful planning of the day. This ceiling was a revelation: Gary Bevans, a sign-writer, had taken just over five years to reproduce Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling in the English Martyrs' Church in Goring. We were helped to understand why and how he did it by a video, shown

later in the week by his friend Michael Phillips, at St Edward the Confessors' Church Sutton Park.

Nick, verger of St Martha's on the Hill, gave an inspiring talk on his church's history. It is on trackways significant since early times and boasts many architectural features including a bell tower. In my view it is best appreciated by walking up from the Shalford direction. At Watt's Gallery Pauline Surrey recounted the BBC's Restoration programme initiative which so greatly benefited the site and the whole area including the Chapel. Visiting Compton Church nearby we marvelled at its fascinating history, which renders the church accessible to all through use of chancels on two floors.... and delighted in afternoon tea provided by the church.

Food was a necessary highlight of the programme. We would like to thank any hosts, church officials or committee members reading this for coping so well – our German visitors were very impressed. The farewell meal at St Mary's was a triumph, not one portion nor potato remained and Shalford puddings lived up to their fine reputation; this followed the Eucharist.



*Churches Link visit: Freiburg group at Guildford station*

A welcome and introduction by the Rev John Cruse in German began the service in style, the Rev Hemming-Clark continued, officiating in both languages, with Bishop Ian Brackley giving the sermon in German, much to our visitors' delight (there was an English transcript available!) We talked of friendship being a basis for understanding different cultures and looking back on the Churches Link it has certainly engendered many real long-standing relationships - and it doesn't stop here. We are hoping new, different, older and younger people will want to become involved. Let anyone on the committee know if you would like to be included. In May 2015 a party will leave Guildford for Freiburg -- make a note now!

## GUILDFORD ROTARIANS VISIT FREIBURG

It was a fine day in mid-June 2013 when three Rotarians and their wives set off to take part in the celebration of the granting of the Charter for the establishment of the Rotary Club of Freiburg eighty years ago. The Rotary Club of Guildford District have a long and very happy association with the Rotary Club of Freiburg and we have visited Freiburg before and they had visited Guildford. In addition we had a joint visit to Dresden with them a couple of years ago.

The celebrations commenced on the Friday evening with an informal dinner for visitors from various places. This was very much a fun evening where we met old friends and made new ones. Breakfast the following day was interesting and somewhat unusual for us. There were one or two people with crutches and the odd person with facial

bruises and we wondered why. On exploring the hotel we found that there was a clinic and day surgery facility in the hotel and the patients were then cared for by their relatives or looked after themselves. A new concept for the health service in the UK perhaps.



*Presentation: Barry Gay, Guildford Rotary President, to Dieter Russmann, President of the Freiburg Club*

Lunch was held in a lovely old tavern in the Münsterplatz. It was good to meet more of the wives and families of the host club. Later we went to the choir school house for a short recital and some talks by prominent Rotarians including an MEP. Next was a reception in the garden of the Colombi Hotel, followed by dinner, with speeches of welcome by the President and other officials of the Freiburg club. We were treated to a short recital by an eleven-year-old pianist who has been supported by the Rotary Club of Freiburg: he has won many prestigious awards. We shall certainly see more of him again. President Barry Gay of our club made a short speech (in English) and presented a token of our friendship in the form of a small silver item, plus a bouquet of flowers for the host president's wife, in recognition of all the wives do to help Rotarians. Whilst most speeches were in German our table hosts most graciously interpreted for us. They all spoke impeccable English, shaming us all. The last event was breakfast at the Dattler Hotel on Sunday, with its wonderful panoramic view. We enjoyed a jovial breakfast with exchanges of friendship and look forward to spending time together again soon, when we hope to strengthen our links with the Rotary Club of Freiburg.

*Bill White  
Rotary Club of Guildford District*

## ASSOCIATION VISIT TO FREIBURG

It was obviously sensible to arrange a visit to Freiburg for Association members at the same time as the Partner Cities Market (*reported on page 10*). For some of the ten visitors it was their first time in Freiburg – although it was my fourteenth visit -- and (of course!) all were impressed by what they saw. It was especially memorable for member Silvia Khoo, who had so many memories of “this beautiful place” from visits with her children to her parents who had moved there from Hamburg and who knew Dorothy Elchlepp the founder of the Guildford-Freiburg twinning.

As always with our visits, Freiburg City Council kindly laid on excellent guided tours of both the City and Vauban, the world-famous environmentally-advanced district in Freiburg, as impressive as ever. On another day the group went by train to the village of Ihringen, in the wine-growing district of Kaiserstuhl, where we tasted a delightful selection of wines at the Karle Weingut. Thus fortified we went on to the pleasant Rhine-side town of Breisach with its magnificent cathedral high above the town. Those who climbed up to it had

splendid views of the town and the surrounding countryside.

Some of the group went on the cable-car to Freiburg's mountain, Schauinsland, and others into the Black Forest to visit the lakeside resort of Titisee. Others visited some of Freiburg's excellent museums – the gorgeous Augustinermuseum, with its fine collection of medieval art and architecture, the City Museum, the Colombi archaeological museum and the Modern Art museum. On one night we joined our friends from the Freiburg Anglo-German Club for our now traditional and convivial dinner at the elegant Dattler Hotel overlooking the city, always a highlight of our visits. On the last night we joined the other twin cities for a festive party in the garden of the Rathaus where, as well as being served excellent food, we were entertained by music from the town hall employees' band and the Voices of Peace choir from Tel Aviv.

All the activities of the market and our visit were enhanced by the customary wonderful hospitality and support from Freiburg City Council and the contributions from the Anglo-German Club and Guildford's other friends in the city. And they further strengthened the bonds between Guildford and our delightful twin city.

*Peter Slade*

## NEWS ITEMS

### FREIBURG'S OPERATION CUDDLY TOY

*Reported in the Badische Zeitung, 7 June 2013:* The Teddy Clinic, through which medical students hope to make children less afraid of doctors, has been set up in Freiburg's Stadtgarten.

Teddy is being x-rayed. Diagnosis: broken leg. On the operating table a toy dog is having a tear in his neck sewn up. In the consulting room the Teddy Doctor removes the stethoscope from the toy rabbit: his heart is beating normally. A large number of children have brought their cuddly toy animals to the Stadtgarten. The Teddy Clinic started from small beginnings ten years ago and is now a major event. Lionel is three and looks on seriously as Teddy Doctor Lara Knüpfper puts his teddy in the X-ray apparatus. The medical student explains what X-rays do. She marks the broken leg on the x-ray photo and gives it to Lionel. Off he goes to the next department where the broken leg will be treated.

More than 1,000 children visit the Clinic over the four days, says Brigitte Stiller, the professor of paediatrics who oversees the event. Traditionally this is run by the second semester medical students with the help of a couple of older ones. Over 100 students take turns to man the medical tents. “We provide 1:1 care”, explains Laura Schneider at reception. Everything in the Teddy Clinic is as close as possible to a real hospital. Children and toys go into a waiting room, from which their Teddy Doctor fetches them for their consultation. The doctors always explain what they are doing and why. The students have put together toy apparatus including ultrasound, X-rays and ECG, which is attached to the patients with clothes pegs, to make the diagnosis easier. At the end a prescription is handed out for medicine from the pharmacy: pain-killing and digestive tea for the patients, jelly babies for the children.

The hospital goes down well, says teaching assistant Kirsten Birlin from the Tuka-Tuka-Land playgroup in Rieselfeld, who has brought Lionel and his teddy. The children go on talking about it for a long time – what is wrong with teddy, or that he has a sore throat again. Now Max has neck trouble. The dog with a tear in its neck lies on a table. Diana (6) stands in front, holds Max's head and his pink lead. Next to her hangs a drip with red contents. Diana and her friends from

the intercultural Family and Children’s Centre in Weingarten want to know why. “So that he’ll get well again quickly if he has lost blood. But we only do that when it is really bad” explains Teddy Doctor Ida Schregel, who gives Max an injection and begins to operate on his fur. This is tough, so the student has to press hard. “The wound is deep, but he won’t feel anything,” she says through her mask, then explains to the girls what the anaesthetic does and asks “Who has had an operation?” One of them says shyly, “I once had a hole in my head.”

The children are playing with their bandaged toys next to the bouncy castle. This has been made to look like an ambulance. “The purpose of this is that they do not get frightened by white coats” says Birgit Bannert, assistant at the Wald Kindergarten in Rieselfeld. It is her fourth visit to the Teddy Doctors. “It is fantastic for the children.”

### DEMISE OF GERMANY’S LONGEST WORD

German is well-known for its compound nouns. The longest authentic one, with 63 letters, has up to now been *Rindfleischetikettierungsüberwachungsaufgabenübertragungsgesetz*. This was a law for the delegation of monitoring beef labelling. The law has now been repealed so that, sadly, the word has become redundant.

### NEW FREIBURG—PARIS RAIL LINK

Enthusiasts for railway journeys will be delighted to know that there is now a daily service from Paris to Freiburg by TGV. This will simplify train travel from London to our twin city – Eurostar to Paris, then TGV to Freiburg, with a journey time from Paris of 3 hours and 40 minutes.

### REGIONAL TWINNING MEETINGS

Following our Association’s initiative in 2011, several local town twinning associations with German links have met every 6 months or so to share ideas and discuss common problems, which has proved to be worthwhile. The other members of the group are Basingstoke, Cranleigh, Godalming, Petersfield, Rushmoor, Waverley, Woking and Wokingham.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

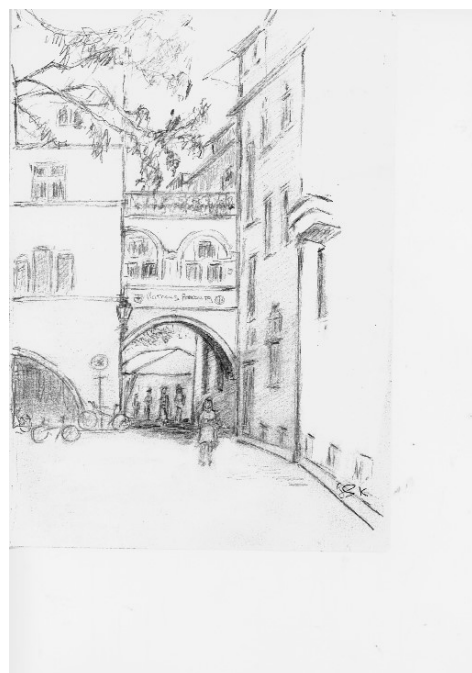
### OUR ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY

On a beautiful sunny Sunday in early August – not that sunny Sundays were at all unusual last summer – 48 Association members and

friends gathered in member Christine Young’s beautiful garden for our Annual Summer Party. Katie Butcher and her band of helpers had prepared (as usual!) a delightful buffet meal with a German flavour and this, accompanied by excellent wine from the Freiburg area, was greatly enjoyed by everyone. This annual fixture in the Association’s calendar of events provides members with the opportunity to get to know each other better in a relaxed atmosphere.

### OUR ANNUAL GERMAN DINNER

February saw a large group of member and friends gathered at Guildford College again, for a delicious German-themed dinner. This was prepared and charmingly served by College students and enormously enjoyed by everyone.



Sketch by Association member Silvia Khoo

## COMING EVENTS

### Dates for your diary

<b>29 May</b> .....	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>
<b>26 June to 1 July</b> .....	<b>Visit to Freiburg</b>
<b>17 August</b> .....	<b>Association Summer Party</b>
<b>Late October – early November (date tbc)</b> .....	<b>Public Lecture on a German topic</b>
<b>13 December</b> .....	<b>Association’s Christmas Market</b>

## Association social events 2013



*Summer Party  
(right) and  
German Dinner  
(left)*



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Cllr David Goodwin, Patricia Grayburn, Cllr Gordon Jackson  
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](http://www.freiburg.de)

Freiburg's Anglo-German Club:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/anglogermanclubfreiburg>

## 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 all those members and friends who supplied pictures and articles for this newsletter.*