



CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

I hope readers will agree that this newsletter amply testifies to the fact that Guildford's twinning with Freiburg is in excellent shape. Some of the activities are very long-standing. At Easter the Guildford City Boys & Girls Football Club celebrated the 25th anniversary of its matches against Freiburg's Blau-Weiss teams and their weekend in Freiburg included a grand civic reception by the Freiburgers. These exchanges are a wonderful achievement and Phil Dyas, the Club's Chairman who has played a major role in arranging them, reckons that over 8,000 people have participated over the years, either as players or supporters.

The Guildford-Freiburg Churches link, currently preparing for this year's events in Guildford, exceeds even the football link in longevity, having started exchanges just before the official twinning began 31 years ago. George Abbot School's exchanges with Freiburg's Goethe

"...we continue to catalyse new activities...."

Gymnasium are going strong after 20 years. The Soroptimists have continued their regular links with the Freiburg Group and have been joined by another women's group, Zonta, who have also established links with Freiburg's Zonta Club. After many years the Guildford Radio Society continues to link up with its Freiburg equivalents.

These and other activities are arranged by the groups themselves, although the Association provides help and support whenever we can and we continue to catalyse new ones. But we also arrange a growing number of events ourselves. Last November's annual Christmas market, when we again tried to emulate a German market on a mini-scale, was enhanced by a public tasting of wines from the Kaiserstuhl district. After that daytime event, in the evening we held a very successful tasting of the

same wines for members and friends. Another well-established series of events is the annual public lecture on a German theme, last year given very ably by Frau Balkenhol, of the German School in London, on the German education system. In June, for the fifth year running, we ran Guildford's participation in Freiburg's excellent Partner Cities Market and were able to promote the delights of Guildford to large numbers of Freiburgers as well as enjoying ourselves. Recently we have again enjoyed our annual dinner with a menu of German food.

All these activities require members to make them happen. Our new



The city of Freiburg—a beautiful mixture of old and new—from the air

Vice-Chairman Wolf Pietrek (a one-time Freiburger) put a lot into the Christmas Market and other activities. Ros Calow continued with her imaginative efforts to involve schools, and with Irene Black, Frauke Burge and Brian & Susan Lewis helped make our stand at the Partner Cities Market the success that it was. Michael Gorman looked after membership and our finances in an exemplary manner. Hilary Mills

CONTENTS

Young People's Activities:		Freiburg Comes To Guildford:	
Schools Liaison	2	An Easter visit	7
German Trainees gain work experience in Guildford	2	Freiburg Soroptimists visit Guildford	7
A Freiburg law student at Surrey University	2	Twin Zontas	7
Education:		The Anglo-German Club's visit – in verse	8
German Education: Our Annual Lecture	4	News From Freiburg:	
Football:		The Augustiner Museum Re-Opens	8
25th Anniversary of Guildford-Freiburg Football Matches	4	Freiburg named as Germany's most "Feel-Good" City	8
Retail:		Freiburg's environmental achievements impress in China	8
German Christmas Market & Wine-Tasting a great success	5	Social Events:	
Guildford Goes To Freiburg:		Nutcracker Ball	9
Guildford puts on a show again at the Partner Cities Market	5	Our annual summer party	9
The Freiburg Partnerschaftmarkt 2010: a personal snapshot	6	German dinner	11
Organ Tour of Baden-Württemberg	6	Websites	11
		Coming Events	11

again did her usual wonderful job as our secretary, Katie Butcher did sterling work as Social Secretary and, as you can see, Barbara Ford has done an excellent job in editing the newsletter. And of course the rest of the Committee has given valuable support.

Finally a few thoughts about the benefits of town twinning. One of these is to enable people to get to know well another town in another

**“Learning from each other should
Also be a benefit of twinning.”**

country ~ and what better town to get to know than Freiburg -- and to make friendships there. In my experience this can lead to an enhanced interest and understanding of the other country – Germany – as a whole. Learning from each other should also be a benefit of twinning. For example, there should be co-operation between Guildford and Freiburg on environmental matters, in which our twin city is world-renowned. Those are the things about our twinning that appeal to me and explain why I devote a good deal of time and energy to try to make it a success and why I have made 11 visits there since my first in 1993. I hope that those who have not been there yet will take the opportunity to join the trip planned for late September – early October. Perhaps their visit will lead them to the same pleasurable experience that I enjoy.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

SCHOOLS LIAISON

Ros Calow reports: George Abbot continue their exchange with the Goethe Gymnasium and a further group from the Max Weber Schule, 11 students this time, enjoyed a course at Guildford College in September. The work experience was again a great success. A young pupil from the Angell Schule, Felix Höfflin, also visited Guildford for a home stay in April [his mother reports below]. A number of contacts



Young Freiburger Felix Höfflin with hosts Steve and Ailsa Vincent

were made at the Partner Cities Fair in Freiburg and we are hoping this will lead to a visit by the Staudinger Gesamt Schule later this year. Thanks go to Gina Redpath for trying to organize this. We are still hoping to arrange some on-line chess but have not yet found a reliable partner school in Freiburg which is willing to take on St. Peter's. We shall continue our search.

GERMAN TRAINEES GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE IN GUILDFORD

Students Patrizia Eiche and Melanie Jakob write: A group of 13 vocational students from the Max Weber School in Freiburg went for a practical training to the UK. The three-week trip was organised by the students and two teachers of the school and financially supported by the German Ministry of Education and Research as well as by the EU Leonardo da Vinci programme. The students were working in different companies in and around Guildford such as Surrey Highways or Allianz. The aims of the trip were mainly to learn about the British way of life and to get to know the world of work. Working life in Britain is not much different from the one in Germany, except the way the employees speak to their superiors; for example they use the first name. In Germany employees usually use the [title and] surname when addressing their bosses or older colleagues. The German

“...a very fruitful link between the two institutions over many years...”

students attended Guildford College every Monday and learned something about marketing, communication and cultural awareness. They were working in their respective companies for the rest of the week.

During their stay they lived in host families. These were very friendly and talked a lot with the students about the differences between their countries. The families were also very interested in the landmarks of Freiburg, like the Freiburger Münster, the medieval Freiburg cathedral and the well-known university of the city. At the weekend the young people went to see famous sights of Britain. They visited London and Brighton. All of them enjoyed the trip to the United Kingdom a lot and they will never forget the good time they had there.

A FREIBURG LAW STUDENT AT SURREY UNIVERSITY

The Law Schools of the Universities of Surrey and Freiburg exchange students for a semester each year. This is a long-standing partnership and has been a very fruitful link between the two institutions over many years, affording students the opportunity to experience life and study in a different environment.

The English and German legal systems are very different from each other and for Surrey students, studying a degree in Law with German Law, the opportunity to learn firsthand about the German, civil law, system provides them with essential understanding so that they can spend the second half of their placement year in a German law firm.

The Freiburg students find the English, common law, legal system similarly different. Our Law School offers specific introductory modules to enable all exchange students from various European countries to understand the fundamental principles that underlie the English model. But the content of these courses is not the only difference that students encounter. One of the recent exchange students, Kristina Marquardt, commented: “The teaching is very different. The relationship between teacher and student is a lot closer, which is a huge advantage and made it a lot easier for me to improve my skills.” The UK approach relies on students undertaking an active part in their learning through guided private study, but there is also a difference in size between the two law schools that makes it easier for students to get to know their staff more easily. For Surrey students who go to Freiburg the challenge is to adapt to an approach that involved higher levels of taught activity, with the German academic staff operating with a higher degree of independence over the content of their classes.

Students who study at Surrey only for the first semester, normally need to find accommodation locally. This can be a challenge given Guildford's modest size, but Kristina was able to find somewhere suitable. In general, Guildford is a more expensive place to live than

Freiburg: the Partner Cities Market



Susan Lewis promoting the Hog's Back Brewery



Brian Lewis offering tastings



Guildford was next to Tel Aviv and Isfahan



Irene Black (right) and Ros Calow man our stall



Events in Culture Tent: Freiburg City Hall employees' brass band (above); Dancers from Lvov, Ukraine (right); Penny Leube and English tea ceremony



A decorated tram advertising the fair

Freiburg but she found it a welcoming environment. All in all it was a very positive experience and she urges other students to: "Be open to all new experience and try to get the most out of the great variety of possibilities the uni offers (societies, sports park, events...)"

It is reassuring to know that both the University and the town contribute to making the experience positive.

*Annette Strauss
International Relations, University of Surrey*

EDUCATION

GERMAN EDUCATION: OUR ANNUAL LECTURE

The Head of the German School in London at Richmond gave our Annual Lecture to a large audience of Association members and members of the public on 21 April in Holy Trinity Church. This year's



Frau Marie-Luise Balkenhol, Head of the German School in London at Richmond, spoke on 'Education in Germany'

topic was "Education in Germany". Frau Marie-Luise Balkenhol's overview of the German system, with her frank comments on its good and bad points, proved a hot topic. Her talk was followed by a lively question-and-answer session, the audience being very interested to compare the German and English systems.

Briefly, under the German system formal education does not start until age 6, then children are selected at age 11 for secondary education in one of four types of school. The gymnasium, or academic school, takes roughly 45% of children, while the other 3 types of school cater for the 55% of children deemed non-academic. There are virtually no schools equivalent to our Public Schools.

The exam taken at age 18, the Abitur, is much more general than our subject-specific A-levels and, like for example the French baccalauréat, passing the Abitur entitles a student to go to University. For non-academic students there are professional courses combining technical study and practice, as a result of which German mechanics, plumbers, electricians, etc all have a theoretical as well as a practical understanding of their chosen field. Frau Balkenhol on the one hand acknowledged the problems of early selection, but on the other hand claimed that its education system is a key factor in Germany's current social harmony.

The talk was a worthy successor to previous talks the Association has arranged – on the German economy, on the country's environmental policies and achievements and on Baden-Württemberg, the Land in which Guildford's twin city of Freiburg is located.

Barbara Ford

FOOTBALL

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF GUILDFORD-FREIBURG FOOTBALL MATCHES

The visit to Freiburg at Easter 2010 by players and parents of Guildford City Boys and Girls FC was especially significant as it was the 25th anniversary of the exchanges between GCBGFC and the Blau-Weiss Wiehre sports club of Freiburg.

Whilst the players are always more interested in the football and the sporting aspects, the continued importance of this long-standing exchange and its recognition by the City of Freiburg was marked by a civic reception in the Historic Kaufhaus, in the Münsterplatz. The building is not often opened to members of the public and we and our friends from Freiburg felt suitably honoured by this gesture. There were welcome speeches and thanks by parties from both Clubs, by representatives from the City and the Kaufhaus, by the local Sud-Badische Fussball league and by the Guildford-Freiburg Association. Significantly the reception was also attended by Volker Elchlepp, the son of Dorothy Elchlepp, the founder of the twinning in 1979. Guildford friends were there too and friendships that were made on that first trip to Freiburg so many years before endure still.

As ever the weekend was made full for us by our hosts with an organised trip to Strasbourg and Titisee, and to the Rheinfall at Schaffhausen on the Swiss border. For the first time in many visits the SC Freiburg team from the Bundesliga (the German equivalent of our Premier Division) were at home and tickets were provided to enable many parents and players to attend the match against Bochum. The result was a 1-1 draw: Bochum were relegated at the end of the season.

In our own football matches our two younger sides were involved in very hard-fought and close games losing both by the odd goal, with our older boys winning magnificently against the top, and to that point, undefeated Under-16 side. The famed 'Dads' match was also a very close-fought game (for a change) and sadly we lost the Trophy won so well in 2009.

"...over 25 years we estimate that over 8,000 citizens of our towns have been involved in some way or another...."

During the course of our football exchange visits over 25 years we estimate that 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. The exchanges between our Clubs move into a new phase now with new generations and new players unfamiliar with their continued value and significance. 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.

Finally, my thanks for the enthusiasm and support received in recent years from both the Guildford-Freiburg Association and Guildford Borough Council, and to the University accommodations section for helping to house the many visitors from Freiburg and the Blau-Weiss Club

*Phil Dyas
Chair, Guildford City Boys and Girls Football Club*

Footnote: although girl players can now join the club, none played in last year's matches in Freiburg.



Wine-tasting evening: Günter Zimmermann chats with guests

Petche, director of Petersfield Wines, a specialist German wine importer, who imported the wine.

In the evening a wine-tasting was held in the Guildhall for invited guests, including the Deputy Mayor of Guildford, Cllr. Terence Patrick and his wife. 53 people turned out on a cold night to see a slide show and presentation about wine-growing in the Kaiserstuhl by Günter Zimmermann and David Petche. They were then guided through a tasting of five excellent white, red and rosé wines, accompanied by a selection of German cold meats and cheeses. The event was extremely successful and David was able to take orders from the enthusiastic audience. If members want to order further bottles David can be reached on 01730 269905.

David Petche & Peter Slade

GUILDFORD GOES TO FREIBURG

GUILDFORD PUTS ON A SHOW AGAIN AT THE PARTNER CITIES MARKET

From June 10th to 12th the Town Hall Square of Freiburg was the location for the fifth annual Partner Cities Market. Including Guildford, eight of Freiburg's nine twin towns were represented -- Besançon from France, Innsbruck from Austria, Lviv from Ukraine, Madison, Wisconsin from USA, Matsuyama from Japan, Padua from Italy and Isfahan from Iran. Only Granada was absent. Tel Aviv, which Freiburg hopes to make its tenth twin city, also took part.

To mark the opening of the market by Freiburg's Deputy Mayor, one of the City's trams was specially decorated with slogans about the market and cameos of each of the partner towns. Then for a very busy three days, representatives of each town manned stalls in a large marquee to promote their town's attractions. Large crowds of local people and visitors from far and wide attended. Irene Black and Ros Calow (both fluent German-speakers) from the Association (which again arranged and paid for Guildford's participation) looked after the Guildford stall and promoted the splendid range of attractions in Guildford and the surrounding district very ably. Sales of souvenirs of Guildford, supplied by the Tourist Information Centre, were very brisk. Some new large posters of Guildford, designed by Association member Peter Simpson and produced by the Borough Council's Graham Foster, provided a colourful back-drop to the stall.

Association members Susan and Brian Lewis also worked hard on the stall: each lunch-time Brian offered tastings of Hog's Back Brewery beer, from the local brewery at Tongham, which were very popular. In the afternoon members of the Freiburg Anglo-German Club served English tea and a wide variety of home-made cakes. These were very enthusiastically received by many visitors -- donations were invited for people in need of help in the city. Of the other towns Lviv had a display of the country's crafts on their stall, Madison an exhibit about Wisconsin's native Indian people, Matsuyama had a calligrapher, Isfahan had a tapestry-weaver and a samovar producing water for tea, and Padua dispensed samples of wine and salami. Outside the main marquee, in the "culture tent", there were performances by Iranian musicians, folk dancing by a large group of young people from Lviv, Flamenco dancing by a group of Freiburgers (representing Granada), a brass band made up of Freiburg City Council employees, and many other events.

As well as all the promotion and entertainment, friendships from previous years were renewed in a really lively and friendly atmosphere. In all, it was a most enjoyable and worthwhile event due in large part to the city of Freiburg's enthusiasm for fostering its links with its partners throughout the world.

To coincide with the Market, a group of Guildfordians also visited Freiburg. As well as a guided tour and a dinner with the Freiburg Anglo-German Club in a delightful restaurant overlooking the town, they were able to sample some of our twin city's many attractions.



Wine-tasting evening: Deputy Mayor Terence Patrick's speech

overseen by Günter Zimmerman, manager of the wine co-operative, who had flown over for the event, and by Association member David

Irene Black & Ros Calow

Peter Slade, who was in Freiburg for the tour and the market, comments: "This was the best Partner Cities Market yet and thanks to the sterling efforts of the volunteers from Guildford who manned our stall, many more people in Freiburg know what an attractive place Guildford and its surrounding countryside is and some more Guildford people were able to see for themselves what a beautiful, relaxed and environmentally-friendly place our twin city is. And as in previous years our friends in the Anglo-German Club worked very hard to dispense tea and cakes, which add something special to our stand."

THE FREIBURG PARTNERSCHAFT-MARKT 2010: A PERSONAL SNAPSHOT

It's taken a while, but this year, my third year running at the Partnermarkt, I'm really beginning to feel at home in Freiburg. I've always thought it a beautiful city, but I was a stranger there. This year it's begun to feel familiar, to take on the comfort of a beautiful dress still new enough to be worn only on special occasions.

My marquee duties were shared with Ros Calow, ably aided by countless selfless volunteers. The day began shortly before ten, when, after a superb breakfast at the Rathaus Hotel, I rolled across the Rathausplatz into the marquee, where I usually found that Ros, who had obviously been up since the crack of dawn, had everything shipshape long before I arrived. We had been allocated three tables, snugly placed between Isfahan and Matsuyama. These we loaded with goodies – mainly information leaflets and booklets about Guildford, as well as items for sale – books, tea towels, fridge magnets, recipe books and the like. The wonderful posters designed by Association member Peter Simpson and produced by the Council's Graham Foster made a super backdrop to our display.

Of course part of the fun was also checking out the other towns' displays. All sorts of interesting items were handed out. I particularly relished the cheese from Besançon, the tea from Isfahan, the Dead Sea skin cream from Tel Aviv and the delicate little towel from Matsuyama. Several of the towns had wonderful artwork and ceramics on display. Some great things were going on in the cultural tent too, but we were so busy that we hardly got a chance to sample these.



"The white asparagus was divine!..."

As I said, we were busy! The Guildford delegation was in constant demand from the many visitors who thronged the marquee. Some had been to Guildford already and came to reminisce, others were planning a visit and wanted information – hotels, sightseeing, cultural activities, camping, youth hostels, B&B – you name it. Another favourite enquiry concerned exchanges – children wanting to come for anything from a couple of weeks to several months, adults wanting to exchange houses, even pets! We soon ran out of Guildford tea

towels and Surrey recipe books. Hog's Back Ale, expertly poured out by Brian Lewis, was, as ever, a hot favourite. My most frantic half hour was when I took over from Brian so that he could have some lunch. Equally popular was the wonderful afternoon tea put on the Anglo-German Club. They must have been baking all night every



Dinner with Anglo-German Club at Greiffeneggschlössle

night. We were royally entertained in the evenings too. A concert celebrating the Isfahan partnership was held one evening in the picturesque Altes Kaufhaus. Traditional instruments played traditional Iranian music; German singers entertained us with music by Schubert, Ravel and other classical composers who had written pieces with an Islamic theme. We even got to hear an old Iranian folk story, read out in German at various points during the concert. And afterwards there was a buffet.

Another evening was spent with the Anglo-German Society in a restaurant high above the city. The white asparagus was divine! The weather smiled on us – and then started to laugh at us as we sweltered in 34-degree heat inside the marquee (i.e. it was 34 degrees outside – I daren't think what it was inside!) By Saturday I found time to shop in the market on the Münsterplatz, where the fruit and veg all looked like prize-winners from Pirbright Flower Show.

On Sunday after it was all over I did manage a ride on the little Schossbergbahn with my cousin who has just moved to Freiburg. Another pretty view of the town. Then it was time to bid Freiburg farewell for another year and head back home.

Irene Black

ORGAN TOUR OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Alan Winn, President of the Surrey Organists' Association, arranged a 3-day tour of organs in Baden-Württemberg in June. Ten members spent the first day was spent in Rastatt (Woking's twin city) visiting the historic Stieffell organ built in 1831 in the Stadtpfarrkirche St. Alexander and a Heintz organ built in 1987 in the style of a late 19th Century instrument in the Evangelische Stadtkirche. Between these two visits Bürgermeister Arne Pfirrmann held a reception for the group in the historic Rathaus where they met local musicians who are very interested in establishing contacts in Woking.

On the second day the group travelled to Freiburg, using the incredibly cheap Baden-Württemberg day tickets which cover rail, tram and bus journeys for groups of up to 5 people. The group was met on arrival at Freiburg Hauptbahnhof by Kirsten Galm, the organist of the University church who had arranged visits to no fewer than 5 organs – or 8 organs if the 4 organs in the Cathedral which can be played from a central console are counted separately. The visit to the Cathedral was necessarily short as it coincided with the general tuning of the organs for the summer recital season. The group learned that tuning continues day and night with short breaks for the daily

mass. The 4 organs together have more pipes than any organ in Britain or France. Between the afternoon visits, Freiburg City Councillor Gabi Rolland welcomed the group at a reception in the Rathaus.

On the third day the group visited two Silbermann organs in the Black Forest. The first at Ettenheimmünster was built in 1769 and is virtually unaltered from the original. The second at Villingen was a reconstruction of an organ built in 1752. The original instrument was sold to a church in Karlsruhe in 1807 and no longer exists but drawings which survived enabled a faithful reconstruction in 2002. This day was arranged by Professor Hans Musch through the Guildford-Freiburg Churches Link. It was also notable for our discovery that autobahns built 75 years ago are disintegrating under the weight of modern traffic and are requiring complete reconstruction with traffic accommodated on one carriageway using very lengthy contraflows.

This short tour demonstrated what can be achieved through the contacts established in town twinning and should lead to further musical exchanges with Woking and Guildford.

*Alan Winn
Surrey Organists Association*

FREIBURG COMES TO GUILDFORD

AN EASTER VISIT

Victoria Höfflin, mother of Felix, a German teenager, writes: The Saturday before Easter I arrived at Guildford station and was welcomed in the most friendly way by Ailsa & Steve Vincent who had already been hosting my son Felix for a week while I was attending a course on "Britain today" in Kent. Soon he was my tourist guide and showed the sights of this beautiful town – busy High Street, small yards, the castle, shopping malls, the river, some nice parks and the riverbanks. In English! he explained about the poets and we explored "Alice in Wonderland" sculptures and flowerbeds. The size of the town, my friendly confident and fluently English-speaking teenage son, sunshine - hard to name the most convincing. I was just happy he had such a good host family and Guildford was what it is.

Easter Sunday brought us to Hampton Court Castle – a very "recommendable" visit including a walk along the Thames. London called on Monday and Tuesday where my new-born great-niece Charlotte waited to be visited and the British Museum was to be seen. On Wednesday we walked along the river banks – a perfect walk in nice weather. A last fine English home-cooked dinner at my son's host family, a final walk down a hill to a comfortable B&B and Thursday was a long drive back to Freiburg. Alas – sunshine all the way, warm sun on the face, a brilliant view of the sparkling cliffs as I had never seen them before in 40 years visiting Britain; were we doing the right thing leaving this wonderful place that day? There are still lots of gardens and homes to visit and things to do and see. This visit and the extraordinary amount of engagement and welcome we both received from the people concerned with the twin town business made me plan my next visit to Guildford.

FREIBURG SOROPTIMISTS VISIT GUILDFORD

The Soroptimist Club is a worldwide women's organisation working to advance human rights and the status of women. The president of the Guildford branch reports:

A weekend in June saw a very successful visit, in lovely summer weather, by seven members of the Freiburg Soroptimist Club who stayed with members of the local Soroptimist Club. On Friday evening a joint business meeting, also attended by Regional President Debbie Rogers, was held at the University of Surrey in Wates House. The evening started with super canapés (home-produced by our home economist member Barbara Logan), drinks including wine and an excellent meal provided by the University. Not exactly our usual fare!

The business meeting followed with presentations of each Club's programmes and methods of working and general exchange of ideas. Much was learnt on both sides and Guildford now all wear blue skirts or trousers with yellow tee shirts for fund-raising and similar occasions, having seen the effect of this in Freiburg's presentation.

On Saturday, a drive around the countryside south-west of Guildford and a visit to the Weald and Downlands Open Air Museum, followed by tea at Daphne's and a lively supper with President Anne. To this last we had invited two frequent past hostesses: Lenore, and past member Janet Russell. Finally, the visitors spent Sunday morning with their hostesses.

*Anne Thomas
Soroptimists International, Guildford and district*

TWIN ZONTAS

Zonta International is another international women's organisation...

When the Zonta Club of Guildford celebrated its Charter last September we were delighted to welcome guests from all over Europe, but especially Dr Ellen Breckwoldt, Dr Ulrike Bernius and Teresa Bitzenhofer from our twin, Zonta Club Freiburg im Breisgau.

The Charter dinner at Brooklands Museum was attended by the Mayor of Elmbridge Cllr Barry Cheyne, and the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Marsha Moseley, as well as Zonta district officials. We were honoured that Ellen Breckwoldt, in her role as town councillor was able to relay official congratulations from the Mayor of Freiburg, Dieter Salomon. In her address, she talked about the "bridges" that had been created between the towns, Clubs and people and emphasised the importance of nurturing and expanding these



Mayors of Elmbridge and Guildford, with Zonta district officials

friendships in maintaining good relations and understanding in an increasingly complex world.

Guildford and Freiburg Zontians enjoyed a busy three-day programme, which included a visit to the House of Lords with Baroness Sharp, a guided tour of Guildford and a relaxing Sunday at Clandon Park. The highlight for Ulrike Bernius was the invitation to the Royal Grammar School with its chained library because her son had been a Freiburg exchange student at the school many years ago.

New friendships were made and now we are all looking forward to a return visit no later than 2014 when the Zonta Club of Freiburg im Breisgau celebrates its 50th Anniversary

The Zonta Clubs of Guildford and Freiburg im Breisgau are both members of Zonta International, founded in 1919 "to advance the status of women." Each club takes on a local project and also



Sculpture hall of the Augustiner Museum

contributes funds to selected United Nations Women Programmes to help women around the world. Call Hilde Bartlett on 01252 876182 if you would like to attend one of the Guildford Club's monthly meetings.

Anna Hummel

THE ANGLO-GERMAN CLUB'S VISIT— IN VERSE

A copy has only just reached us of the annual report which Penny Leube, joint Chairman of the Anglo-German Club, read to members at their Christmas party in 2009. The following is a brief extract:

In September the club from Europcar a bright red minibus lent
And with Ernst at the wheel all nine members to Guildford then
went.

... Over to England by calm sea to Dover you sailed,
Stopping off at Canterbury before Guildford where the Mayor the
club greeted and hailed.

After a tour of the town with dear Tess it was time for your
luncheon to eat

So to Godalming, Appletree Close and the home of the Lewis's seat
When there in their garden you sat eating from plates on your knees
Drinking champagne and chatting while you enjoyed the shade of
their trees....

The next day so many things did you see
Hampton Court Palace, a pigeon house, a beautiful garden and the
sweet church of Albury.

In the evening to a dinner at your hotel the Guildford club came
It was lovely to meet all those dear friends once again
For 30 years friendship you gave them achtele Glasses and Badische
Wein

And they in return paid for all of the drinks, which meant that you
all had a very good time....

Zoya's tapestries in the Cathedral on the Tuesday were shown
Those beautiful masterpieces looked as if they should always hang
against the white stone.

The Dean told us how pleased he was that Zoya had exhibited there
This art so graced his cathedral, it was special and rare.

And the audience just said, "Oh, how wonderful her tapestries are."
And then sadly it was time for goodbye and back home to Freiburg
by car.

As we left them all standing in a torrent of rain

We promised most faithfully it wouldn't be long before we returned
once again.

*[We are now hoping that Peter Slade will report in verse at the
Association's next AGM - Ed.]*

NEWS FROM FREIBURG

THE AUGUSTINER MUSEUM RE- OPENS

The Augustiner Museum, which is housed in the former church and monastery of the Order of St. Augustine, was re-opened in 2010 after extensive restoration. Visitors' first impression will be of the magnificent sculpture hall, with 4-metre high stone statues of the Prophets. The museum also houses Freiburg's finest collection of art, including religious art spanning more than 1,000 years. Among the treasures are some of the cathedral's original stained-glass windows, as well as the most important of its medieval gold and silver treasures. There is also a fine collection of late-Gothic wooden sculpture, as well as Art Nouveau glass objects.

Peter Slade

FREIBURG NAMED AS GERMANY'S MOST 'FEEL-GOOD' CITY

In September Freiburg City Council's newspaper *Amtsblatt* carried the news that Freiburg is Germany's number one "Wohlfühlstadt" or "feel-good city." This emerges from a detailed "urban audit" of 258 cities from 27 countries in Europe by the European Union's Statistical Office which has assembled a very large amount of data on demographic, social and economic issues, environment and traffic and transport and the satisfaction of citizens with their city.

Amtsblatt is published fortnightly and carries much interesting news about what is going on in the city. It is now available in full on the Freiburg City website: www.stadtfreiburg.de. *Amtsblatt* is listed under *Aktuelles*.

FREIBURG'S ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS IMPRESS IN CHINA

Our Chairman visited the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai, and saw how Freiburg's environmental programmes impressed the vast audience there.

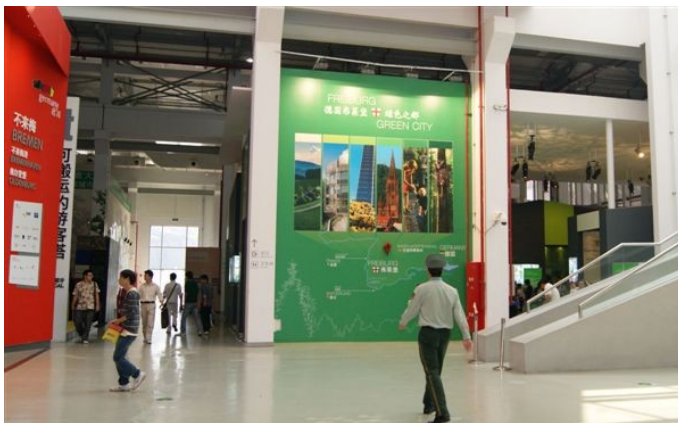
As most Association members will know, Freiburg is world-renowned for its environmental policies and achievements. Its latest



Freiburg Pavilion at the Shanghai Expo



Shanghai expo: Freiburg gives an environmental lead



Shanghai expo: Bremen is red and Freiburg green

honour was to be selected to have a pavilion in the Urban Best Practice section of the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai, which had the overall theme of "Better Cities, Better Lives" and which was visited by over 70 million people during the six months it was open.

On a visit to China in October I joined the huge crowds visiting the Shanghai Expo and the Freiburg pavilion with its impressive and well-designed displays of what the city is doing to create a better environment for the future. Freiburg's aim to become a carbon-free city and its famous low-energy housing development at Vauban featured strongly in the pavilion. Many people from China and around the world are rightly keen to learn environmental lessons from our twin city (Vauban receives many visitors) and my visit to their exhibition in Shanghai strengthens my view that Guildford should be doing more to share experiences with Freiburg in this field. Learning from each other should surely be one of the important aspects of twinning.

Peter Slade

SOCIAL EVENTS

NUTCRACKER BALL

A group of us went to the British-German Association's Nutcracker Ball the Nash Ballroom at the Institute of Directors, Pall Mall in November 2010. The evening started with a champagne reception and was inaugurated by His Excellency the German Ambassador. We enjoyed an excellent four-course dinner, prepared by the resident chef and accompanied by some very good wines. And on our table was the BGA Vice-Chairman, John Hopley, who told me how much they appreciate all the work that our Chairman puts in for the Guildford-Freiburg Association. After some speeches, mainly about the BGA's Youthbridge Project (which encourages German language learning in schools) for which we were raising

money, there was an auction, followed by dancing, and counters were provided for playing blackjack, poker and dice.

It was a very happy occasion and if anyone would like to join us next year you would be very welcome.

Christine Young

OUR ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY

In July, once again in glorious weather, Association members Helga and Terry Pearce hosted our summer lunch party in the delightful garden of their home in Guildford. Helga and Social Secretary Katie Butcher and many other helpers provided a superb spread, with something of a German theme. This event in the



Mayor Marsha Moseley (centre)



"...a superb spread, with something of a German theme..."



Guildford: the Association's (mini) Christmas market



Wolf Pietrek and Ros Calow with confectionery display



Wolf Pietrek with candle display



Vicky Slade with tombola



Val Hazelwood with Glühwein



Happy shoppers

Association's calendar was again very successful and has now become a regular fixture, giving members a chance to get together in an informal atmosphere. Thanks to Helga and Terry for their excellent hospitality

GERMAN DINNER

Having enjoyed a dinner at Guildford College last year, members of the Association repeated the treat this February. On a cold winter's evening, the College catering staff and students cooked and served a delicious German-themed meal, everyone was in good humour, the wine flowed convivially and everyone enjoyed themselves hugely.

WEBSITES

THE ASSOCIATION'S WEBSITE

The Association's website, produced by our webmaster, Association member Tony Ford, was already good but has been improved over the past year. It is helping 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>

ANGLO-GERMAN CLUB'S WEBSITE

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.



Günter Zimmermann & David Petche propose a delightful treat on a cold day. There's no denying it, German wines from the Kaiserstuhl, and the experts who were promoting them, proved very popular in Guildford.

COMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary

26-28 May

Partner Cities Market in Freiburg

1 June

Annual General Meeting

17 July

Partner Cities Market in Freiburg

29 September—6 October

Trip to Freiburg with wine-tasting

Contacts in the Guildford-Freiburg Association

Chairman: Peter Slade 01483 531472
email: peterslade@ntlworld.com

Vice-Chairman: Wolf Pietrek, 01483 893555
email: wolfgangpietrek@aol.com

Secretary: Hilary Mills 01252 324082
email: hilary.mills@mypostoffice.co.uk

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Michael Gorman 01483 450036
email: m.gorman@ntlworld.com

Social Secretary: Katie Butcher 01483 573439

Schools Liaison: Ros Calow 01483 574730
email: ros.calow@ntlworld.com

Newsletter Editor: Barbara Ford 01483 575819
email: barbaraann.ford@gmail.com

Other Committee members: Irene Black, Frauke Burge, Patricia Grayburn,
Val Hazelwood, Cllr Olaf Kolassa, 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.