



Spring 2010

30 YEARS OF TWINNING!

This, our anniversary year, has been packed with action. Tapestries, music, markets, schools, universities, churches, football—even archery. They teach us about environmentalism, we teach them about Fairtrade. Young people, old(er) people, whizzing back and forth between Guildford and Freiburg, in a haze of goodwill and good feeling. It's enough to give you hope for the world—read on...

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Last September marked the 30th anniversary of the twinning of Guildford with Freiburg. At the official twinning ceremony in 1979 the Mayors of Guildford and Freiburg signed a Deed of Partnership “as a token and promise of lasting friendship between the two communities and an encouragement to regular mutual exchange experiences and to support the coming together of our citizens in every sphere.” I hope that all our members agree that these aims are being amply fulfilled. The various activities and events arranged by the Association or by other groups in Guildford that have taken place over the past year demonstrate the ongoing strength of the partnership with our twin city. These are recorded in the pages of this newsletter and add up to a fine celebration of our 30th anniversary.

It is good to be able to report the continuing involvement of young people in the twinning. Particularly successful are the football matches played between Guildford City Boys football club and their rivals in Freiburg every Easter, now into their 25th year. Schools links have also always been important and are being resumed and enhanced thanks to Ros Calow's hard work. We have also helped to arrange a number of other visits by young Freiburgers to Guildford and young Guildfordians to Freiburg.

As usual in June we participated in the annual Partner Cities Market in Freiburg, with the support of many people, including the Hogs Back Brewery and Freiburg's Anglo German Club. We also arranged an environmental tour for, among others Mayor Pauline Searle and her husband who were official guests of Freiburg City. In September we were delighted to play host to

“...the continuing involvement of young people...”

Freiburg's Anglo-German Club, with whom we have very strong and friendly links, and to help arrange an exhibition of beautiful tapestries by Freiburg artist Zoja Elchlepp in Guildford Cathedral.

We are delighted to have facilitated yet another twinning activity—an on-line archery competition between Guildford Archery Club and their counterparts in Freiburg. We hope that this will be a regular event and will lead to on-the-ground encounters between the clubs.

We are also working on possible arrangements for chess matches.

As we move into the fourth decade of our partnership with Freiburg it would be good to see even more of Guildford's citizens and groups participating in it. We'd like to hear any ideas on how we might make this happen.



Freiburg's Rathaus (Town Hall) with flags for the Partner Cities Fair June 2009

THANKS

It'll end with some deserved thanks. To our Vice-Chairman Keith Taylor for his support in many ways; to Michael Gorman for looking after our finances and the membership records very effectively; to our highly efficient Secretary Hilary Mills; to Ros Calow for her dedicated efforts on schools liaison; to Barbara Ford for designing and producing such an excellent newsletter; to Wolf Pietrek for his input into our Christmas market and in other ways; to Katie Butcher in her role as Social Secretary for arranging very successful events; to the rest of the Committee for all their support at our bi-monthly meetings. And special thanks to Susan & Brian Lewis, who on their regular visits to Freiburg provide much useful help.

Finally, it is also a pleasure to note that the Mayors of Guildford have continued to give us excellent support by appearing at most of our functions and at other twinning events. Former Mayor Jennifer Jordan and this year's Mayor Pauline Searle have also both visited Freiburg and are very enthusiastic about our twin city and our links with it.

Peter Slade

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their efforts. They are hoping to bring a bigger group in 2010. Our thanks must also go to Anouska Turner at Guildford College for providing some excellent work placements and to Gina Redpath for organising the accommodation. Thank you also to the host families. More will be needed this year: if you are interested, please contact us. (Read more about these visits from the participants, below Ed.)

King's College has expressed interest in developing links with a school in Freiburg through Deputy Head Nicholas Phillips. It is very encouraging to have a new school involved and we are hoping to develop a contact with the Lessing Realschule. We are also very pleased that St. Catherine's School in Bramley has established links with the French/German School in Freiburg and have an up and running class penfriend scheme, thanks to Elodie Nevin.

"Our current project is to set up a chess tournament ..."

Our current project is to set up a chess tournament ~~time~~ between schools in Guildford and Freiburg. Anyone interested in this please contact me.

Ros Calow

WORK EXPERIENCE IN GUILDFORD

Those 7 students from Freiburg each told us in their own words why they found their stay in Guildford "an enriching experience" and here are some extracts:

Linda Kufner says:... The English are very polite and openminded. "Sorry" was a word I heard quite often... I was very lucky to stay with a very, very nice and funny family. Ailsa and Steve Vincent took great pains to improve our English, always finding something interesting to talk about. One evening they also took us to a traditional English pub with a fireplace in it, something that is prohibited in Germany. After bonfire night there was a typical English dinner with jacket potatoes, sausages and hot wine punch in my family's huge garden. Some of our German friends were also invited to join in. I had a great time and I'd love to return to Guildford!

"...I saw Guildford for the first time and I liked it from the first look..."

Vanessa Rudmann reports: Before my stay in England I had the opinion that in England the weather is always terrible, but when the plane arrived in England the weather was beautiful and the sun was shining. The bus collected us from the airport and then I saw Guildford for the first time and I liked it from the first look. Guildford is a big city but with a lot of nice, little houses and gardens. In our free time we had such a lot of possibilities to make sport e.g. in the leisure center with its bowling alley, the swimming pool or the ice skating rink. Or to go shopping or drinking a coffee or something else in all the great pubs. And the English people were all so lovely and friendly. Because of this I felt after the first week familiar with England and my daily life here and I loved it to live there... I can say that it was a fantastic time in Guildford and I'm sure one day I will come back!

Christian Kranz tells us: For me the Work Experience Program in Guildford was a great time and experience. It was so interesting to see what's different between Germany and England. Of course there's the traffic... It was also interesting to see that the weather was not as bad as the Germans always think. But my best experience is that all English people are unbelievably polite. My host family, the people in my workplace and the people on the streets we asked for the way... everyone was so friendly.

Michael Ammazzini says:... In Guildford there are a lot of things you

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

SCHOOLS LIAISON

Ros Calow reports: We are very pleased with our progress on school contacts this year. Richard North of George Abbot School led a successful exchange with the Goethe Gymnasium in 2009 for which the Association provided a grant of £250. We all enjoyed Richard's presentation at our AGM in June. Seven Freiburg students from the Max Weber Schule attended Guildford College on a study and work placement scheme in the Autumn, after a lot of work by their teachers Ute Pagel and Jochen Pabst to get them here we really appreciate

Tapestry exhibition —Zoja Elchlepp



Paintings, or tapestries? Really, they're both.



Opening of tapestry exhibition at Guildford Cathedral: the artist, Zoja Elchlepp, and her husband with the Dean, Victor Stdc

Guildford City vs Blau -Weiss



Teams and supporters at the Guildhall reception



Mayor Jennifer Jordan & Andreas Zier (Chairman Blau-W



Mayor & Phil Dyas (Chairman GCBFC)



can do. There is for example a large shopping mall with a lot of different shops. There are also things like a giant sports centre for ice hockey, bowling, swimming and many more different kinds of outdoor sports. People who live in Guildford are all very polite to visitors from other countries, something that was very helpful, especially at the beginning. The nightlife in Guildford was also great, because there is a wide range of pubs and clubs in Guildford....

Katja Ruf writes: My stay in Guildford was the first time that I spent such a long time in a foreign country. Fortunately my host family's welcome was very friendly and throughout the whole three weeks they really cared about me. So they took all my fears away which I had had before.... Another thing I also like to remember is the English people with their openminded character. They are incredibly communicative and gentle.

Christoph Hein says:All the experiences I had within the three weeks, between the college, my work placement, obscure bus systems, my host family and, of course, Guildford's nightlife... I learned a lot about working abroad as well as the English culture and I was able to improve my English a lot... I loved everything about my stay. Yes, even the working part- and I want to say a big "Thank you" to the University of Surrey Students' Union staff and to Sally and Ash. (Next time I'll beat you at pool, promised!) for all their support in making these three weeks as enjoyable as they were. Freiburg definitely chose its twin city wisely!

If you could provide accommodation to charming young people such as these this year, please contact Ros Calow.

And finally, Jonas Gier: During the three weeks in Guildford, I learned more than in the previous four months in Germany. I was able to raise my level of self-confidence and to improve my English. It was nice to see that the British people are so friendly and helpful to someone who obviously isn't from their country and doesn't know the way. Everyone I met was very hospitable and attentive. My host family made it very easy for me to enjoy my time in a different country.

GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL EXCHANGES

More young people travelling back and forth, more goodwill increasing on both sides, and language skills improving too.

Goethe Gymnasium visits George Abbot

A teacher's view: The programme for the week was full, including some trips for the German visitors on their own to London where they went up the London Eye and visited the London Dungeons and of course took advantage of Oxford Street. Monday was occupied with a visit to George Abbot School, including a welcome at the start from headmaster Mr Danny Moloney, followed by lesson observation to see how the English school day compared with the German. In the afternoon they had a tour of Guildford followed by a very rainy party in Stoke Park. The students seemed very impressed with Guildford: the town centre was described as quaint and cute, and of course the shopping facilities got a definite thumbs up.

Tuesday was taken up by a joint trip to Blenheim Palace... followed by a trip to Oxford. The students enjoyed visiting this old town, marvelling at the buildings and atmosphere, although not at the weather, which prevented us from punting. Thursday saw a trip to Brighton, with much better weather. The German students fully enjoyed a tour of the Pavilion, after which they were given free time with their English partners to enjoy Brighton. The quiriness of the town impressed them, as well as the beach of course. Coming from Freiburg, they have very limited chances of seeing the sea, so having a walk along the beach and doing a little bit of paddling were met with pure enthusiasm.

The students from Freiburg have formed some strong friendships with their English partners. Some have plans to visit again in the summer, as well as some of the English partners going to Freiburg. We are certainly very glad that the exchange is up and running, and are already looking forward to going to Freiburg next March.

Richard North
Head of German at George Abbot School

George Abbot School in Freiburg

This time from the pupils, Georgia France first: On 7 March, twenty students and two teachers from George Abbot travelled across Europe to Freiburg... in Freiburg FC's five star coach! Each day was spent doing different activities including a relaxing afternoon in a spa, seeing a ski jumping site and visiting France and Switzerland where we had great fun sledging in all the snow! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip, including teachers Mr North and Mrs Roberts. Some of us even found it challenging to revert to speaking English after a week of being in Germany! When Friday came, none of us wanted to leave!

Next, Claudia Arnold: At a time of day not many people wish to see, 20 of us set off for Germany. The German exchange was a great experience for everyone involved. It gave us a chance to practise the language and experience the German culture. ...experienced lessons in a German school...our twin town of Freiburg...the top of Mount Pilatus in Switzerland...swimming in thermal baths, sledging in the Black Forest ...We all thank Mr North for organising such a fantastic trip.



The Edelweiss Band work hard on a sunny day in Guildford—see opposite

UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE LINKS

Annette Strauss, from the University of Surrey's international relations office, tells us about exchanges for university students:

The University of Surrey and the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität in Freiburg have been exchanging undergraduate students for a number of years. Partnerships exist between the two language departments and the two law departments. There has been a steady flow of students in each direction, with six German students here in Guildford this year. In recent years the Surrey language students have been more likely to work abroad rather than study, but the links continue between the academic departments. Law retains a study exchange for the students who follow a degree in Law with German Law. The study period is typically for one semester and is followed by a work experience with a law firm.

The students speak warmly of their experiences and this has been another way in which the link between the two towns has continued.



Guildford Archery Club—played inspiring music



Freiburg archery team—maybe the two teams will meet next year?

The students themselves are not likely to be from the local communities, but the partnership serves as a tangible expression of the relationship between Guildford and Freiburg, not least through the staff who maintain the contacts and support the students whilst they are abroad.

Annette Strauss

MUSIC

EDELWEISS BAND

The Edelweiss Band from Waldbronn, north of Freiburg and also in Baden-Württemberg, visited Guildford last June, the Friary Guildford Brass Band having played in Freiburg the previous year. They sat in the Tunsgate Arch on a sunny Saturday afternoon and played to an appreciative audience of shoppers, following which the Mayor treated them to afternoon tea in the Guildhall opposite, supplemented by the well-known produce of the Hogs Back Brewery.

FREIBURG BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Peter Slade reports Although our twin city's world-famous orchestra missed the Proms and the London Festival of Baroque Music last year, classical music enthusiasts will know that it can be heard frequently on BBC Radio 3 usually with commendations from the announcers. The station's CD Review's Disc of the Week on December 28 2009 was the orchestra's recording of Haydn's "Creation" – with the comment that "this impeccable Creation .. by the exemplary period instrument musicians of the FBO .. is fresh and illuminating".

The orchestra's web-site (paraphrased) claims a success story lasting over twenty years, being a popular guest at the most important concert halls and opera houses, with a diverse repertoire ranging from the Baroque to the musical present and from Freiburg to the Far East. The FBO aims to play a composition in as lively and as expressive a manner as possible. This also involves its members playing demanding solo concerts. Cultivated and simultaneously rousing ensemble playing has become an international trade mark, and they were called "a diamond of particular brilliance, ...creating a musical cosmos of overpowering richness," by the Salzburger Nachrichten in a review in January 2009).

The FBO continuously collaborates with important artists such as René Jacobs, Andreas Staier and Thomas Quasthoff, and has a close alliance with the French label Harmonia Mundi France. They have made numerous CDs and received prominent awards, such as the Edison Classical Music Award 2008, the ECHO Classical German Music Prize 2007 or the Classical Brit Award 2007.

Under the artistic direction of its two concertmasters Gottfried von der Goltz and Petra Müllejans, and under the baton of selected conductors, the FBO presents about one hundred performances per year in a variety of formations from chamber to opera orchestra: a self-administrated ensemble with its own subscription concerts at

Freiburg's Konzerthaus, Stuttgart's Liederhalle, and Berlin's Philharmonie and with tours all over the world.

ART

ZOJA ELCHLEPP'S TAPESTRIES ON SHOW IN GUILDFORD

Peter Slade reports on an exhibition of the most beautiful tapestries, big and richly vibrant, created by a Freiburg artist with special links to Guildford. See also the report by Penny Leube in her letter to the Anglo-German Club below.

Zoja Elchlepp, an artist from Freiburg, was here in mid-September for the opening of the exhibition of her very beautiful large-scale contemporary tapestries at Guildford Cathedral. The exhibition, arranged by the Association, had the title "Impressions of Freiburg and the Black Forest." It ran at the Cathedral for 10 days: it proved to be deservedly very popular with visitors and could easily have run for a longer time.

Zoja Elchlepp was born in Prague and studied painting and drawing at the College of Art in Hamburg and now makes tapestries, oil paintings and pastel drawings at her studio in the village of Denzlingen near Freiburg, and at the Art Protis studio in Brno, Czech Republic. Her work has been shown in numerous exhibitions, including onewoman shows, in Germany and elsewhere in Europe. Her tapestries have been described as "painting with wool" and represent an interesting and important new style of tapestry work.

Zoja was accompanied by her husband Dietrich, the son of Dorothy Elchlepp, the remarkable Englishwoman who, as the wife of a Freiburg pharmacist, lived in Freiburg throughout the second world war. Afterwards Dorothy worked for the improvement of Anglo-German relations and initiated and developed the twinning of Guildford and Freiburg.

Peter Slade

ARCHERY

BOWS & ARROWS & INTERNET

Stephen Tully of Guildford Archery Club tells us a bit about the sport and reports on a friendly competition between his team and a team from Freiburg – both sides playing at home:

Guildford Archery Club is one of the biggest in the SouthEast: we have over 120 members and take part in target archery. We are based at Normandy and have just finished building a splendid new club house at our ground at Glaziers Lane.

Archery is an Olympic sport governed by rules derived from those of the International Archery Federation abbreviated FITA (Fédération Internationale de Tir à l'Arc). At the 2012 Games the event will be

held on the hallowed turf at Lords Cricket Club. Archery GB, the British governing body for the sport, is based at the National Sports Centre, Lilleshall, in Shropshire. Archery is highly regulated and has over 40,000 participants in the UK.

The competition we shot against Freiburg was a FITA 70 metre shoot (6 dozen arrows shot at a distance of 70m at 12one scoring targets). We added up the archers' 6 highest scores from each club and compared the results over the internet. We had a lot of fun on the day – the weather was fantastic and we created a friendly atmosphere by playing some great German musicand some rousing British anthems. It all helped to heighten the spirit of the twin town shoot but failed to create a winning formula for us Brits.

Freiburg were the winners, beating Guildford by 211 points (3,378 to 3,167) – all good fun. We are working to strengthen our association with our new friends and hope to repeat the competition again this year, maybe we will even manage an exchange trip.

Stephen Tully

FOOTBALL

BLAU -WEISS COME TO GUILDFORD

Phil Dyas reports on the 2009 visit of SV Blau -Weiss Wiehre Freiburg sports club to Guildford:

Easter 2009 was the turn of Guildford City Boys FC players and families to play hosts to a large group from Freiburg, in the 24th year of the exchanges between the clubs. The home Club was unable to use its own facility at Stoughton Recreation Ground, still under development, so was very grateful for the offer of facilities at Worplesdon Phoenix, for the Friday practice games, and the Fairlands Community facilities for the trophy games on Sunday.

All told we received 68 visitors, with the adult group staying at the University (probably the last year they can do so, due to the change round in the academic year) and the players with Guildford families. At a meet and greet on Thursday evening at the Woodbridge Hill Club we had time to catch up with old friends and meet some new. It was interesting to discover that the bar manager had been a GCBFC Player in his youth and had been on one of the visits, and we all worked out that, over the 24 years, some 6,500 people had been involved in these exchanges in one way and another .

The visit was packed with activities. Friday's practice matches went without a hitch in spite of some rain and in the evening the players went swimming and attended the ice disco at the Spectrum.

"...over the 24 years, some 6,500 people have been involved in these exchanges in one way and another"

Meanwhile the adults made full use of the coach available and visited Blenheim palace, with a request for a longer stay next time if possible. The Freiburg group received their now customary but always appreciated official welcome from the town at the Guildhall.

Sunday is always trophy match day, and Mayor Jenny Jordan proudly wore her GCBFC tour weekend shirt and kicked off the proceedings. The games were hardfought as ever, on a slightly damp pitch. Unusually, but nonetheless welcome, Guildford triumphed in three out of the four matches, including the famous Dads' Match, overcoming the defeat on penalties suffered the previous year in Freiburg. As seems the case these days the talking points were less about the football and more about the rules, but as everyone came to accept- over a beer later- the referee is always right.

On Monday the Freiburg boys were chaperoned at Thorpe Park whilst the German adults went to London for the day. All returned to Fairlands for the evening to a wonderfully presented German supper

and a farewell party. We are all looking forward to Freiburg in 2010 and our 25th Year celebration. We hope that a lot of past players and parents might attend in spite of the fall in value of sterling against the Euro.

Phil Dyas
Chairman of Guildford City Boys Football Club



Keith Taylor demonstrates jumping jack toys and glühwein at our Christmas market in the Guildhall

RETAIL

THE ASSOCIATION'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

On the second Saturday in December Guildford's Guildhall was filled with the aroma of Glühwein and rang with the sound of Christmas carols. The occasion was our fifth "mini" Christmas Market, in 2009 celebrating the 30th anniversary of Guildford's twinning with Freiburg. Wooden toys, Wolf Pietrek's candles and Christmas confectionery from our twin city were on sale, there was a tombola, and literature about Freiburg was available. The market was the most successful one yet. As always it 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. Thanks go to all those members who helped make it a success and such an enjoyable occasion.

GUILDFORD VISITORS TO FREIBURG

In June there were a number of overlapping events, partly to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the twinning, involving visitors to Freiburg from Guildford, including the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Pauline Searle, and her husband.

PARTNER CITIES MARKET

As in previous years we participated in a three day "Partner Cities

Fair" or market. Freiburg has eight other twin cities besides Guildford and for the past four years all of them have been invited to take part in the Fair in a large marquee in the Town Hall Square in the centre of the town. The aim is to give all the partners a chance to promote their own town's tourist possibilities and cultural activities and to encourage contacts between them all. On the first evening musicians and singers from Besançon played in the historic Kaufhaus in the Münsterplatz to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of their city's

Association and the Guildford Environmental Forum and the Mayor of Guildford and her husband. Freiburg is of course world famous for the excellence of its environmental policies and activities and the group had a very good overview of these, including talks on how Freiburg is tackling climate change and developing its already excellent public transport system, a tour of the historic centre of the city and visits to two low-energy housing developments and to a factory making photovoltaic solar panels. All the members of the group were very impressed by what they saw and heard and want to see Guildford develop more links with Freiburg on environmental matters.

All these activities were enhanced as always by the customary hospitality and support from Freiburg City Council, the Freiburg Anglo-German Club and Guildford's other friends in the city. And of course they further strengthened the bonds of friendship between our two towns.

Peter Slade

FREIBURG VISITORS TO GUILDFORD

FREIBURG CHURCHES VISIT AND DISCUSS FAIRTRADE

A report from David Welbourn, a member of the Guildford-Freiburg Churches Link Committee. Guildford explains its Fairtrade status and impresses Freiburg visitors:

At the end of May, 26 representatives of churches in Freiburg, including eight youngsters, visited Guildford, as part of a regular biennial inter-churches exchange. The twinning goes back 31 years, but it was the churches who acted first, arranging their own first exchange visit just a few months ahead of the official twinning. Ever since, the Freiburg and Guildford church committees have collaborated in arranging alternate visits.

Like previous visits, this recent one had a study topic, this time Fairtrade. Our visitors, who stayed with church families in the Guildford area, were introduced to the subject on the first full day of their visit, when at a Civic Reception in the Guildhall Guildford's new mayor, Cllr Pauline Searle, spoke about Guildford's commitment to Fairtrade and its successfully achieving Fairtrade status, first as a town, then as a borough. Former mayor Tamsy Baker and school teacher Sue Wilbraham described Guildford's link with Mukono in Uganda, and explained how the proceeds from the sale of Fairtrade goods in Guildford have provided community development help for



Partner Cities Fair: Guildford photographic exhibition in Freiburg

partnership with Freiburg.

Volunteers from the Guildford-Freiburg Association - Irene Black, Cllr Jennifer Jordan and Peter and Vicky Slade - represented Guildford at the Fair alongside Freiburg's other twin cities: Besançon (France), Granada (Spain), Innsbruck (Austria), Isfahan (Iran), Lviv (Ukraine), Madison, Wisconsin (USA), Matsuyama (Japan) and Padua (Italy). Also participating was the Freiburg-Tel Aviv Friendship Association. The Guildford group worked hard distributing literature about Guildford and talking to many interested Freiburgers. There were also tastings of samples of ale from the Hogs Back Brewery, showings of Circle Eight's film on the history of Guildford and each afternoon the Freiburg Anglo-German Club once again did a great job of serving English tea and homemade cakes - as usual very popular with visitors!

As part of the Fair's cultural events, Guildford writers Irene Black and Alwyn Marriage gave short readings of their prose and poetry, and there was an exhibition of 35 superb photographs from the Guildford Photographic Society, which was much admired by the locals.

ENVIRONMENTAL TOUR

Alongside these activities there was an environmental tour for members of our



Guildford-Freiburg Churches Link exchange visit at University

Mukono. Matthew Alexander, curator of Guildford Museum, presented an illustrated, lively talk on trade in Guildford in medieval times. Later, our visitors were shown round Guildford Cathedral, where the visit concluded with Evensong.

On Day 4 the Fairtrade theme was picked up again, in the form of a Bible Study at St Mary's Shalford. Then the morning of Day 5 was devoted to studying the development of Fairtrade in Guildford, at an event hosted by Surrey University. Four speakers described the growth of the involvement of Guildford and its institutions with Fairtrade. First, former Guildford MP, Sue Doughty, told the story of how Guildford became a Fairtrade town, stressing the importance of church involvement throughout. Garry Bosworth from Guildford Borough Council told how the Council overcame its initial caution and achieved Fairtrade status for the Borough. Greg Melly and David Jesson spoke next on the University's own achievement of Fairtrade status. Finally, Cathy Thompson, Secretary of the Guildford Fairtrade Steering Group, joined the other speakers in a panel discussion and gave an upbeat assessment of how the business community in Guildford has risen to the Fairtrade challenge. During the lively ensuing discussion, our Freiburg visitors said how impressed they were by how seriously Guildford is taking Fairtrade, and resolved on their return home to encourage Freiburg city council

**"...our Freiburg visitors were impressed
how seriously Guildford is taking
Fairtrade..."**

to follow Guildford's example.

Day 5 closed with an Indian evening, including a film illustrating how producers of Fairtrade goods and their communities in India were benefiting from their Fairtrade partner status. During the week, the visitors were taken on various visits, including a trip to the World Garden of Plants at Lullingstone Castle, Kent, which concluded with a service in the chapel on the theme of 'Gardens and Grace' with a special hymn written by the Revd Stanley Hemming Clark, chairman of our Guildford-Freiburg Churches Link Committee.

Much was gained from this visit by visitors and hosts alike, the making and renewing of friendships, the opportunities for sharing ideas on the serious topic of Fairtrade, the participation in worship (much of it bi-lingual), the trips to places of interest, and all the times spent talking, sharing meals and relaxing together. We in Guildford keenly anticipate our next visit to the lovely city of Freiburg in 2011, and our German friends' fellowship and hospitality.

David Welbourn

ANGLO -GERMAN CLUB'S TRIP TO GUILDFORD

This is a letter to the members of the Freiburg AngloGerman Club from Penny Leube, joint President of the Club, with husband Ernst, following their visit in September 2009. The visit coincided with the start of Zoja Elchlepp's exhibition of tapestries which is described elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Dear members and friends,

We do hope you have had a very enjoyable summer and are looking forward to our autumn programme. As you will know the first event of our programme has been and gone! The trip to Guildford in September for the 30th anniversary celebrations has taken place and although we were a small group, "klein aber fein", it was considered by all as a great success. The weather could not have been kinder, our Guildford friends were as always so welcoming and hospitable and even arranged for the sun to shine ~~not~~! It only poured with rain as we were leaving and that they said were their tears at our departure!! We were so pleased that our club had made the journey firstly to support our member Zoja and be there for the

opening of her exhibition but also to show our Guildford friends how we appreciate their friendship and to see their lovely city. They were equally delighted to be able to show us the charms of their city and the surrounding beauty of the Surrey hills.

We were welcomed on our first morning there by the Mayor, Mrs. Pauline Searle, with a reception in the historic Guildhall and we presented her with a small gift from the club of a coloured etching of the Freiburg Münster by the Freiburg artist Horst Sobotta. After the reception we were treated to a very informative tour of the town by the tourist guide and German speaker, Mrs Tessa Johnson. After our tour the Lewises very kindly invited us back to their Surrey home, together with some members of the Guildford Freiburg Association, for a delicious luncheon garden party and afterwards took us for a stroll along the banks of the river Wey and into the bustling market town of Godalming. Thank you very much Susan and Brian!

On the Saturday we visited Hampton Court Palace which is situated



Anglo-German Club visit: with Mayor and Association members at Guildhall

not too far from Guildford and then in the afternoon we were kindly shown the dear little village of Albury by two members of the Association. Mrs. Pat Grayburn became known amongst our group as the "coolest lady in Guildford"! She together with Mary Lloyd-Jones, former mayor and chairman of the Association, whizzed us around through the narrow lanes, Pat, who is no spring chicken sped in front of us, at a real Michael Schumacher tempo in her BMW leaving our VW bus panting for breath!! In the short space of time left before our formal dinner we managed to see the old church of St Peter and St Paul, on the Duke of Northumberland's estate, a medieval pigeon house, an idyllic English garden and have time to sip champagne on Pat's lawn before a quick change of attire ready to receive the Guildford Freiburg Association at our hotel for the get-together dinner. The evening was a very jolly one especially as their chairman, Peter Slade announced at the beginning of the meal that they were going to foot the bill for all our drinks!! Fortunately, we could return the compliment by presenting the club on the occasion of their 30th celebration with some Baden wine and some achtele glasses, and as the German president remarked these small

**"...the surrounding beauty
of the Surrey hills..."**

glasses would make the wine go further!

The next two days were spent sightseeing, on the Sunday in London and on the Monday at Wisley Gardens and then for last minute shopping in Guildford High Street. On the Tuesday morning we arrived early for the Exhibition so as to have plenty of time to explore Guildford's 20th century cathedral. Its exterior of red brick belies what awaits the visitor when crossing its threshold.. The interior is light and majestic and Zoja's wonderful works of art, her so called "tapestries", with their warm tones, looked stunning hung

against the light stone work of the cathedral. The Dean in his welcoming address felt that this exhibition would indeed further enhance the Cathedral's artistic reputation, and would he hoped help the Cathedral becoming known as the "Tate on the Hill." Zoja reminded everyone in her speech of how moving it was to be able to have her first exhibition in Britain in the very town where her mother-in-law, Dorothy Elchlepp, had laid the foundations for this very successful twinning, which thirty years on continued to thrive. The chairman of the Guildford Freiburg Association, Mr. Peter Slade, emphasized the good links that our two clubs had and said how pleased they all had been to have us there and hoped we should be coming again soon, which we shall, of course, try to do!!

The Mayor, in her short address in the cathedral was sure that the exhibition would be a great success as she like many of the others there were so impressed by it all. She also took the opportunity of thanking the town of Freiburg for the warmth of the welcome that she and her husband had received in June, and thanked our club, too, for our hospitality towards them both, and she could only encourage all Guildfordians to make the journey to their twin city and see for themselves what a lovely place Freiburg is, surrounded as it is by such spectacular countryside and how we all agree with that!!

Penny Leube

FREIBURG MATTERS



Freiburg Solar factory – visited by the Guildford group

FREIBURG NAMED EUROPEAN CITY OF THE YEAR 2010

Our twin city was named at the end of last year as the "European City of the Year" for 2010 by the UK's Academy of Urbanism. Runners-up this year were Bordeaux and Valencia and previous winners of the award have been Berlin, Edinburgh and Bristol.

Established in 2006 following an initiative by the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Academy's aims are to promote high social, cultural, environmental and economic standards in the urban environment. It brings together a diverse group of thinkers, decision-makers and practitioners involved in the social, cultural, economic, political and physical development of villages, towns and cities (Lord Richard Rogers is a prominent member). Among its sponsors are a number of local authorities and SEEDA. Apart from the European City of the Year award, recipients of its awards are restricted to the UK and Ireland – for Great Town, Great Neighbourhood, Great Street and Great Place. More details can be found on the Academy's website www.academyofurbanism.org.uk This latest honour for Freiburg adds to its world-renowned

environmental achievements. In 2009 these received more plaudits in the world's press, including substantial articles in "Time" magazine, the New York Times, the Financial Times, the Independent and the BBC. In December the city's Lord Mayor Dr Dieter Salomon attended a meeting of about 100 Mayors from around the world as part of the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. Also at the meeting were former US President Bill Clinton, California's Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and the President of the World Bank. Later this year Freiburg will be honoured further by being represented at the Shanghai Expo, where it will be demonstrating its environmental expertise, with special reference to the low energy development at Vauban.

Peter Slade

LOOKING AFTER FREIBURG'S PARTNERSHIPS

As most Association members will know, Freiburg has 8 other partner towns in addition to Guildford – Besançon, Granada, Innsbruck, Isfahan (Iran), Lviv (Ukraine), Madison (Wisconsin, USA), Matsuyama (Japan) and Padua, plus a friendship arrangement with Wiwili in Nicaragua.

These worldwide connections obviously need a great deal of administration and Freiburg City Council has a Department of International Relations to do the work. The Director is Günter Burger (who will be remembered by some members for his enthusiastic conducting of the City Hall band during Freiburg's civic visit here in 2004) and there are four other managers – Ariane Hötzer, Petra Hess, Martina Ruch and René Sutter. Most of our (frequent) contacts are with Ariane and Petra and all are unfailingly helpful.

SOCIAL EVENTS

THE ASSOCIATION'S GERMAN DINNER

The snow had disappeared and the weather had warmed up (a bit!) in time for our Association Dinner at the Park Room Restaurant on



Our German dinner: Chairman Peter Slade & Mayor Pauline Searle

the Guildford College in early February. For the second year running the final year catering students prepared a fine German meal for us. Once again the quality of the food was excellent and the service was impeccable. All 46 guests enjoyed themselves and we must obviously now think of this as an annual event – indeed the group at one table suggested it should be held two or three times a year!

Freiburg —Partner Cities Fair



Mayor at Guildford stall with helpers



Guildford group with AngloGerman Club at Dattler Hotel, Freiburg



Penny Leube serves tea



Alwyn Marriage reads her poetry

Guildford —Christmas market



Ros Calow with Freiburg calendar *



Katie Butcher, Wolf Pietrek and Irene Black at candle stall



THE ASSOCIATION'S SUMMER PARTY

In July, Ros and David Calow hosted a delightful lunch party for members of the Association in the lovely garden of their Guildford home. Ros and other members contributed a delicious array of different dishes to a cold buffet, with as German a theme as they could all manage, organised by our Social Secretary Katie Butcher. Many thanks to Ros and David for their generous hospitality. (Pictures overleaf)



Association summer party: the occasion and the garden were lovely



Lunch at the Calows'



Visitors to our stall at the Partner Cities Fair

GUILDFORD MATTERS

ASSOCIATION'S NEW WEBSITE

The Association has a new website, produced by Association member Tony Ford. This replaces our previous website which was hosted by Guildford Borough Council, to whom thanks. The new site is excellent and much more comprehensive than the previous one and will help to spread news about the twinning and the Association and our grateful thanks go to Tony for a splendid piece of work. Our thanks also to the SurreyCommunity.info support team for having allowed us to load our new site on the SurreyCommunity.info pages, as well as for helpful technical support.

The address is: <http://surreycommunity.info/gfa>

NEW MEMBERSHIP LEAFLET

Our membership leaflet has recently been reprinted. Please request copies to help you recruit new members.

WANT TO SPEAK GERMAN IN GUILDFORD?

A German language coffee morning group meets at the Guildford Institute in Ward Street on Saturday mornings from 10.30am to noon. New participants will be welcome.

The U3A runs some German courses at two different levels. Contact Peter Slade who can provide details.

Pictures marked* on page 10 were kindly supplied by theSurrey Advertiser

COMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary

21 April

Talk by Marie -Luise Balkenhol
on Education in Germany

2 June

Annual General Meeting

10 -12 June

Partner Cities Market in Freiburg

11 July

Association Summer Party

Contacts in the Guildford-Freiburg Association

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Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Michael Gorman 01483 450036

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Other Committee members: Patricia Grayburn, Val Hazelwood,
Cllr Olaf Kolassa, Cllr Ed Owen, Wolf Pietrek

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.