

April 2013

Summer Edition

Newsletter



Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association

BETTA

Welcome to the Summer Edition of our "New Look" Newsletter.

Keep on reading to see reports on recent events and exciting forthcoming activities.

In this Newsletter

- Report on Recent Visit of Volkshochschule to Borehamwood
- New Teacher for "Club Escargot"
- Details of Summer Events planned
- AGM Date Wednesday 8th May 2013
- Language Session Dates 2013



*VHS Offenburg in March 2013 Meeting
Mayor of Elstree & Borehamwood Cllr. Charles Kelly*

Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association Committee 2012-13

Chair

Martine Eni

Secretary

Jane Strongman

Treasurer

David Brown

School's Links Coordinator

Irmine Mason

Membership Secretary

Rex Dunwoody

Hertsmere Council Representative

Cllr. Sandra
Parnell

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council Representative

Cllr. Anne Mitchell

General Committee Members:

Rev. Richard Leslie

Josie Shingles

Nick Male

Andrew Grady (Vice-Chair)

Rev. David Jackson

Nigel Clark (Co-Opt)

About BETTA



BETTA is here to aid the local community in forming relationships with our twin towns of Offenburg in Germany and Fontenay-aux-Roses in France.

BETTA works hard to ensure individuals and groups have the opportunity to develop their cultural knowledge. We strive to produce opportunities for the community both here and in our twin towns. We will continue to make sure BETTA goes from strength to strength! All members of the committee have a wide and varied range of skills and abilities which contribute to the running of the association.

Contact BETTA: Email: bettagroup@hotmail.com Website: www.betta.org.uk Club Escargot Website: www.clubescargot.org.uk

Tel. 0203 441 6510 Mob: 0771 717 6869 Postal Address: Kinetic House, Theobalds Road, Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 4PJ

www.betta.org.uk

Volkshochschule Visit 23rd – 29th March 2013

Report by Ralph Brunner

A group of 22 residents from Offenburg visited Elstree & Borehamwood from the 23rd – 29th March. The trip was initiated by "Die Brücke" and Offenburg's Volkshochschule, a college for further adult education, and guided by Ralph Brunner, a German-Canadian who has been living in the Offenburg area for 30 years.

Before taking a very interesting and informative virtual tour of the town with Dave Armitage from the Elstree & Borehamwood Museum on Sunday morning, the German visitors were warmly welcomed by Martine Eni and Mayor Cllr. Charles Kelly at the Borehamwood Ibis Hotel. The afternoon was spent in St. Albans with a delegation of BETTA members. Special thanks to Nick Male, who guided the guests from Offenburg through St. Albans, the Abbey and the Verulamium Museum, and to Andrew and Erika Grady, Nigel Clark and Lynda Marshall.



On Thursday morning, the Offenburg delegation was welcomed by Hertsmere Mayor Cllr. Pat Strack at the Hertsmere Civic Offices, after which Bob Redman from the Elstree Screen Heritage gave a presentation on the history of the studios. This was followed by a visit to the Elstree Studios, where the Managing Director Roger Morris received the German guests and gave insight into the relevance of Elstree & Borehamwood as a globally-renowned studio town over the course of the past century. The morning ended with a guided film tour of the town by Nick Male.

The remainder of the time in England was spent touring and visiting many of the famous sights in Central London.



The "Folk Evening" at the Cat and Fiddle Pub in Radlett on Wednesday was a real highlight. After being greeted by George MacGregor and his bagpipes, citizens from both towns enjoyed a wonderful evening of song, conversation and merriment. Many thanks to BETTA for your hospitality and to Roswetta Lamb for accompanying the German folk songs on her accordion. This is twinning at its best!



The Offenburg guests wish to express their sincere gratitude to Andrew Grady, Vice Chair of BETTA, whose tireless efforts in the planning stage and constant care throughout the duration of their stay made the trip to Elstree & Borehamwood a memorable experience.

We look forward to coming again and especially to reciprocating BETTA's hospitality when citizens of Elstree & Borehamwood visit us in Offenburg in the hopefully not-too-distant future.

Club Escargot



Our aim is to introduce children to the fun of learning French as early as possible, as well as discovering the culture and customs. The general ages of those attending the club are between 6 and 12 years old but this is flexible. The classes are held every Saturday during term time at St Paul's Church Hall, St Paul's Close, (corner of Cranes Way and Furzehill Road) each one is 2 hours long (from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.). The classes cover the basics of the language (e.g. parts of the body, colours, numbers, positions, greetings, animals, clothes, transports, weather, etc.) through songs, rhymes, activities, cooking sessions, and traditional dances. The classes are run by qualified and fully trained teachers who have a lot of experience teaching children AND are all NATIVE FRENCH SPEAKERS. Children play, learn and are immersed in the French Language throughout the sessions. These activities actively help children with their communications skills and school progress. The adults who run the club are subjected to Enhanced C.R.B. checks, so you can drop the children off with the knowledge that they are in safe hands and go and have some much needed time alone!

We have a special offer for members of BETTA:

Pay for one of your children and another one can go for free!" Please contact us if you would like to know more and book a place for next term!

We are pleased to announce that we have recently appointed Sophie Eni as our new teacher for the Club, who will be assisted by Lucie Meaux.

2013 Summer Term Dates:



Saturday 20 th April	Saturday 8 th June
Saturday 27 th April	Saturday 15 th June
Saturday 4 th May	Saturday 22 nd June
Saturday 11 th May	Saturday 29 th June
Saturday 18 th May	Saturday 6 th July
HALF-TERM BREAK	Saturday 13 th July
	Saturday 20 th July

Language Sessions

Session Dates 2013

Tuesday 28th May
 Tuesday 25th June
 Tuesday 30th July
 Tuesday 27th August
 Tuesday 24th September
 Tuesday 29th October
 Tuesday 26th November

NB. There is no session in December

Due to the numbers attending our language sessions we have decided this year to run only one French language session. The French session is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The session is intended for adults and last approximately 2 hours. The session is free to attend and some refreshments are provided. The session starts at 2.30 p.m. on each date and are held in the bar area of The Ibis Hotel, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, WD6 1JY.

We will keep an open mind about the German session. If you want to learn German, then please contact us at the address below, as we may reconsider starting these sessions again if there is enough demand.

BETTA Membership

Not a member?

If you would like to become a member of Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association, then please fill in the form below and send it to us.



BETTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Borehamwood & Elstree
Twin Town Association (BETTA)

Twinned with Fontenay aux Roses (France)
and Offenburg (Germany)

Title: _____ Name: _____

Representing an Organisation? Yes ☐ No ☐

Name of Organisation: _____

Address:

Postcode:

Home Tel:

Mob:

Email:

Please indicate any particular skills or interests:
(e.g. foreign language, sports, arts, international business etc.)

Agreement:

I support the broad aims of the association:

"The promotion, on a non-political basis, of close relationships between the United Kingdom and other nations."

"I also support the furtherance of international understanding."

"I agree to pay annually, by cash or cheque (made payable to BETTA), the membership fee (as agreed at our Annual General Meeting on 28 May 2008)."

Please tick one of the following:

- ☐ Individual Membership £5.00 ☐ Family/Household Membership £10.00 No of Occupants: _____
- ☐ Organisation £10.00

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Please send form and fee to BETTA, Kinetic House, Theobald Street,
Borehamwood, Herts. WD6 4PJ or email enquiries to bettagroup@hotmail.com

Forthcoming Activities

Wednesday 8th May,
Fairway Hall 7.30pm
Annual General Meeting

24th – 26th May 2013
Visit to Fontenay Aux Roses

29th June 2013 Families Day
Meadow Park
Borehamwood

We will be selling a variety of
cakes from England, France
and Germany on this year's
stall



**Borehamwood
& Elstree
Twin Town
Association**



School Links Activities

Halfway through the school year, we are pleased to have put in place links between six schools in Borehamwood/Elstree and four schools in Fontenay. We have another pen pal exchange in the pipeline for this term.

The teachers sometimes keep in touch via email while the children exchange by post. They send something as a class, gathering cuttings about their schools or specific topics (sports, activities, outings, events, etc.), or write individually, introducing and speaking about themselves.

Artwork such as drawings, collages or cards for exceptional occasions such as The Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games last year and regular ones like Christmas, Easter, etc. can also be sent.

Depending on the respective level of the pupils in the two languages, the exchange is either in French or English but can even be in both! It can evolve as the pupils expand their knowledge. Above all, it is about exchanging and getting to know children from a different culture.

This is an exciting venture which has been welcomed with enthusiasm by our local schools, and we look forward to introducing the scheme to other schools.

School trips between our two countries could be planned. Some classes from Fontenay have already shown some interest in visiting Borehamwood/Elstree and, in so doing, possibly getting to meet their pen pal in person. To be continued...

Irmine Mason

School's Link Coordinator

**B.E.T.T.A 2013 3 DAYS
TRIP TO PARIS
24th of MAY BANK
HOLIDAY WEEK-END!**

Book fast!

*Only £175 per person
And £150 if you book 4 people!*

Includes:

- Visit of Versailles OR Grand tour of Paris with Eiffel tower, Arc de triomphe, Champs-Élysées & Shops, Montparnasse and the Sacré Coeur.
- 2 nights Accommodation with breakfast.
- Tour of Paris by night.
- Transport by luxury coach.
- Visit to the Mayor's Chamber for a welcome drink.
- Free time to explore Town Festival.
- Optional convivial Moroccan couscous evening meal.

NB: all bookings must be concluded and paid for by the 15th of April 2013.

Please contact: bettagroup@hotmail.com or phone 0203 441 6510
www.betta.org.uk

Photo Appeal

We are compiling an album of recent trip's to either of our "Twin Towns" and need archive images. So, do any of you have some old photographs of visits to our either twin towns over the years?

If you are able to help, please contact us on by either E-mail bettagroup@hotmail.com or by telephone 0203 441 6510

When we are putting together the next issue of the newsletter we would very much like to hear from you. If you would like to submit any articles please email them to us at bettagroup@hotmail.com

Elstree & Borehamwood Twin Town Association grateful for the financial assistance they receive from the following partners:

