

November 2013

Newsletter



Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association

BETTA

Welcome to the latest edition of our "new look" Newsletter.

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

In this Newsletter

- Report on International Evening
- Report on German School Visit
- Details of planned Christmas Activities
- Club Escargot
- Language Session Dates 2013 – 14
- Change of Postal Address



*German School visiting Borehamwood
18th September 2013*

Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association Committee 2013-14

Chair

Martine Eni

Secretary

Jane Strongman

Treasurer

David Brown

Schools Links Coordinator

Irmine Mason

Membership Secretary

Rex Dunwoody

Hertsmere Borough Council Representative

Cllr. Sandra
Parnell

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council Representative

Cllr. Charles Kelly

General Committee Members:

Rev. Richard Leslie

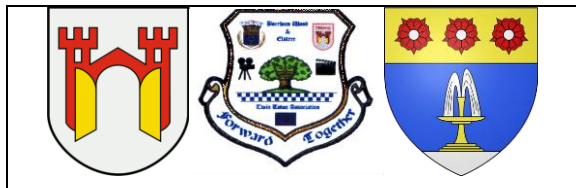
Josie Shingles

Nick Male

Andrew Grady
(Vice-Chair)

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.

www.betta.org.uk

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: Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 5BT

International Evening 18th September 2013

Report by Nick Male



The sounds and flavours of four countries came together at our International Evening. From Chinese noodles to French folk songs, there was something for everyone at Fairway Hall

Singer Denise Clarke and accordion/violin duo 'Jack in the Box' provided the entertainment for a packed room.

A special focus was the celebration of the proposed new link between our town and Wanshan in China. Councillor Charles Kelly and BETTA Chair Martine Eni outlined the benefits to the town of this new link.



Local businessman, Peter Wong – Morrow, who championed the new connection, was in attendance along with his family and friends.

Also there were a teacher and students from a high school in our German twin town of Offenburg, who had been sight-seeing in Borehamwood earlier that day.



Farewell to Rev David Jackson

At the last committee meeting Rev Jackson attended in August Vice Chair, Andrew Grady presented him with a framed photograph in recognition of his hard work for the association on the BETTA management committee.



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!

2014 Spring Term Dates:



Saturday 4th January

Saturday 11th January

Saturday 18th January

Saturday 25th January

Saturday 1st February

Saturday 8th February

Saturday 15th February

HALF TERM

Saturday 1st March

Saturday 8th March

Saturday 15th March

Saturday 22nd March

Saturday 29th March

Saturday 5th April

END OF TERM

Language Sessions

Session Dates 2013

Tuesday 26th November

NB. There is no session in December

Tuesday 28th January 2014

Tuesday 25th February 2014

Due to the numbers attending our language sessions we have decided this year to run only the French language session.

This French session is held on the last Tuesday of each month. It is intended for adults and lasts approximately two hours. Attendance is free.

Refreshments are provided. The session starts at 2.30 p.m. on and is 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 would like to learn or practise your German, then please contact us at the address below, as we may reconsider starting these sessions again.

BETTA Membership

Not a member yet?

If you would like to become a member of Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association, 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 £10.00 ☐ Family/Household Membership £20.00 No of Occupants: _____
- ☐ Organisations £20.00

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Please send form and fee to BETTA, Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 5BT or email enquiries to bettagroup@hotmail.com

Forthcoming Activities

Saturday 1st December 2003

Christmas Market Stall

All Saint's Church

2 pm -5 pm

Saturday 21st December 2013

Christmas Miscellany Evening
of Festive Music & Readings

7.30 pm

St Paul's Church, Crane's Way,
Borehamwood, Hertfordshire,

WD6 2DB

Tickets £10.00



Merry Christmas,
to all.



**Borehamwood
& Elstree
Twin Town
Association**



School Links Activities

The autumn term has started well and all schools involved with a pen pal exchange with schools in Fontenay are restarting the scheme this academic year with renewed enthusiasm.

Earlier in September, a group of over twenty children from Fairway School went to France and, during their stay near Paris, were excited to meet their pen pals at the Les Ormeaux School in Fontenay. The children were given a tour of the French school by the Headmistress, and could see the difference between the methods of teaching. They enjoyed singing in French and English and mingling together in the playground. As Clare Willis, their teacher, commented "It was lovely to watch them interact, both verbally and also through the international language of football." Both sides are looking forward to renewing the experience and the French children with their teachers are very keen to visit their pen pals in England next time.



More recently, Hertswood Academy kindly welcomed some German students from Offenburg who were visiting London. Groups of 6th formers showed them round the school and were able to socialise with them. The German students were delighted to get this opportunity to see how an English secondary school works and we were very grateful to Hertswood Academy for giving them this opportunity and in particular senior teacher, Laura Edgar for her welcoming talk.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers from the primary and secondary schools for their commitment to include this project in their busy timetables. There is no doubt that the pupils not only enjoy the exchanges but also benefit from seeing the purpose of conversing in foreign languages and getting to know a different culture.

We look forward to new exchanges taking place between local schools in Elstree & Borehamwood and those in Fontenay and Offenburg this year.

Irmine Mason

Schools Links Coordinator

Christian Council visit Offenburg

At the end of October, Rev. Richard Leslie, Vicar of St Michael's & All Angels, organised a group from the Christian Council to visit Offenburg. Highlight of the weekend was to witness, and take part in an Adult Christening, of Anne Fischer, who regularly visits Borehamwood.

New Postal Address for the Association

As part of the new image to the Association, and assistance from Cllr Charles Kelly, as from the 1st November 2013 our new postal address will be changing to:

Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association
c/o Borehamwood & Elstree Town Council
Fairway Hall,
Brook Close,
BOREHAMWOOD
Hertfordshire
WD6 5BT

Email addresses and telephone contact numbers remain unchanged:
bettagroup@hotmail.com
Tel. 0203 441 6510
Mob: 0771 717 6869

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

The Association, as usual, laid poppy wreaths on behalf of both our European twin towns, at both Remembrance Services in Elstree and Borehamwood, on Sunday 10th November. Vice Chair, Andrew Grady also performed the Last Post & Reveille at the service held in Borehamwood



The Mayor of the town Cllr. Clive Butchins and his wife Elaine visited Fontenay-aux-Roses to attend their Armistice Day commemoration on 11th November when Elaine laid a wreath on behalf of BETTA.

The hospitality led by Mayor Pascal Buchet was first class, everyone was friendly and they really enjoyed being able to represent our Town. The Mayor & his wife met with the Lord Mayor of Wiesloch, Franz Schaidhammer, Fontenay-aux-Roses German twin, what a privilege and a pleasure!

Rotary Club make new German friends.

At the end of September Elstree & Borehamwood Rotary Club, with the assistance of our contacts in Offenburg met their counterparts in the Offenburg Rotary Club.

The weekend was a great success, and the club were grateful for the help and assistance of the association. The Rotarian's are looking forward to hosting a group from Offenburg in the near future.

Elstree & Borehamwood Twin Town Association
is grateful for the financial assistance
we receive from our partners:

