

March 2015

# Newsletter



Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association

BETTA

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter.

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

## 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.

## Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association Committee 2014-15

### Chair

Martine Eni

### Secretary

Rex Dunwoody

### Treasurer

Pat Smith

### Schools Links Coordinator

Irmine Mason

### Membership Secretary

Sophie Eni

### 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-Opted)

## In this Newsletter

- New Year Message from our Chairman
- Report on recent Events / Activities
- School Links & Language Course update
- Bastille Day Event 2015
- Details of Trip to Offenburg
- Community News

www.betta.org.uk

Contact BETTA: Email: [bettagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com) Website: [www.betta.org.uk](http://www.betta.org.uk)

Tel. 0203 441 6510 Mob: 0771 717 6869 Postal Address: Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 5BT

## New Year Message from our Chairman

Dear Members,

This year it is our intention to organise a visit Offenburg, our German Twin Town, at the end of September, to co-inside with their popular Wine Festival. Please book early, as places will be limited. See further information about this visit within this Newsletter.

We also plan to hold a French Evening, on the 11<sup>th</sup> July at Fairway Hall to celebrate Bastille Day, see further information enclosed.

As ever the management committee of the association is always looking for members to assist in the running of the organisation. Due to personal reasons the person looking after the accounts for us, has had to step down from this position. Therefore if there is any member, who has some experience with book keeping, and is willing to assist, please contact me in confidence on our usual contact details below.

We look forward to seeing you at our Events this year and also on our trip to Offenburg and the surrounding area.

*Martine Eni*

Chair, BETTA


February 2015

Email: [bettagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.betta.org.uk](http://www.betta.org.uk)

## Community News

New Drop in Centre at 96 Shenley Road



### Morning Drop-In

event in the centre of the village



**What:** Tea & biscuits, raffle, Bingo, Quizzes, sing-a-long and fun fun fun

**Where:** 96 Shenley Road, Borehamwood, WD6 1EB

**When:** Each Wednesday 10 am to 12 Midday

**Who:** Residents of Elstree & Borehamwood over 60s

**Cost:** Joining fee £5 includes entry and raffle ticket, then £2 each week.

Register on your first visit or at the Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council Office, Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood WD6 5BT.

For more information call Pat Strack 0208 386 3151,  
Sandra Parnell 0208 953 0832 or Clive Butchins 020 8953 1827

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## Event Reports and Language Sessions Dates

### A BETTA kind of Christmas

#### Report by Nick Male



Members and friends of BETTA welcomed in the festive season with a Christmas Miscellany Evening.

Readings and carols were enjoyed at St Paul's Lutheran Church and were followed by mulled wine and Yuletide fayre served by the Eni family.

Our musicians were Andy, Roswitha and Sean.

This event has become a favourite in our programme and we look forward to repeating it in December this year.

### Language Sessions



#### Session Dates 2013

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015

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. The session starts at 2.30p.m. on and is held in the café area of 96 Shenley Road, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 1EB

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.

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# 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](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com)

## Forthcoming Activities

Diary Dates

2015

### Annual General Meeting

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015

7.30pm Fairway Hall

27<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Families Day 2015

Meadow Park, Borehamwood

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Bastille Day Event  
Fairway Hall

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Visit to Offenburg to savour the famous Wine Festival



**Borehamwood  
& Elstree  
Twin Town  
Association**



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## Bastille Ball 2015

# ***BASTILLE BALL IN THE WOOD***

Presented by your Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association at Fairway Hall on the 11th of July 2015 7pm

**Come and join and dance on Live music, Traditional Accordion and show your skills on the dance floor....**

**The best dancing couple competition...Best Bastille costume competition.**

**Entertainment, refreshments and drinks provided. Raffle and friendship included. A night not to be missed...**



**B.E.T.T.A**

Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association  
Fairway Hall, Brook Close,  
Borehamwood,



Price per person £10

BOX OFFICE: 0203 441 6510  
or  
E-mail: [bettagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com)  
[www.betta.org.uk](http://www.betta.org.uk)

***BETTA entertaining the Wood since 1982!***

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## Town Twinning Visit 2015 to Offenburg Wine Festival



### ***Borehamwood & Elstree Town Twinning Association***

***Come with us to visit the French & German Wine Regions  
Between the  
24<sup>th</sup> September – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015***

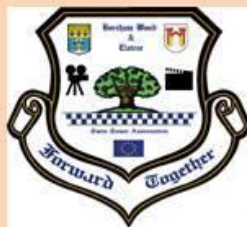
**Visit includes:**

Wine Festival in Offenburg  
The Visit of Strasbourg in France  
Two hotel nights in the centre of Offenburg  
All Travel via private coach.  
Sightseeing tour of the French & German century old wine regions  
Option of the river boat on the Rhine River Strasbourg.



*"The most enchanting wine region is crossing borders and languages at our doorsteps, a few hours away."*

Open to all. For only £280.00 per person !!!  
For Non-Members  
£250.00 per person for BETTA Members



Booking form, please contact BETTA by:  
E-mail [bettagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bettagroup@hotmail.com)  
Tel. 0203 441 6510  
Mob. 07717 176869

### ***Town Twinning Team helps raise money for Hertsmere Mayor's Charity.***

A team of six town twinning members headed by Vice Chairman Andrew Grady entered the annual Hertsmere Borough Mayor's Annual Charity Quiz Night recently.

The evening was well attended, with over ten other charitable groups entering teams which raised over £750.00 for this year's charity, Hertsmere MENCAP



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## John Edward Cowen 1946 – 2015

### 'John the Bard'



It is with great sadness that the committee of BETTA announce the loss a good friend and member with the recent sudden death of John Cowen.

John had taken part in visits to both Fontenay and Offenburg with his companion Cath Moffatt.

Known as 'John the Bard', John was justly celebrated for his remarkable memory, which enabled him to recite both serious poems and comic monologues.

#### Elstree & Borehamwood Twin Town Association

is grateful for the financial assistance  
we receive from our partners:



#### LANGUAGES IN THE COMMUNITY

At BETTA, we believe in encouraging exposure to foreign languages (French and German at the moment) and this is reflected through the help we provide in the local schools, the events we run in Borehamwood and Elstree and the trips we organise to our twin towns in France and Germany.

Since September, primary schools are required to offer their pupils compulsory lessons to acquire the basics in a foreign language. In support, BETTA has, for several years, put in place a pen pal exchange with our French twin town, Fontenay-aux-Roses to provide pupils from Borehamwood and Elstree the invaluable opportunity to interact with French children. The pupils from both countries respond very positively to the scheme because it gives them a chance to use their increasing knowledge of the language in a real-life context.

"Usage is the best language teacher" as Marcus Fabius Quintilianus stated and this is why we run our popular French conversation classes on the last Tuesday afternoon of the month at 96 Shenley Road, the new Borehamwood community centre. For those with reasonably fluent level, we offer two hours worth of practising the language in a friendly and sociable environment with a native speaker. Just come along and find out about the latest news from France, share points of view on current events and familiarize yourselves with various aspects of French culture.

To practise German speaking or if you just want to discover our twin town Offenburg in the late summer, we are looking forward to a trip there in September when we will have the pleasure of meeting our German friends again. Many of us will fondly remember the superb performance the fabulous "Musikverein Rammerseier" band gave at the Ark Theatre last year as well as the fun evening we had with them at our Barn Dance evening that weekend.

We look forward to meeting you at any of our events or if you join us on our foreign trips.

**Irmine Mason**

*(School Links Coordinator and Volunteer for the French conversation classes)*