

BRISTOL-HANNOVER COUNCIL



HEUTE

www.Bristolhannovercouncil.org.uk

MAY 2014

OUR TERCENTENARY

You can't miss it! The papers are full of it! The museums are full of it! The Radio is full of it! You can't even miss it on TV! We're celebrating the arrival in England of the Elector George of Hannover to be our King and to found the Hannover Dynasty.

Radio 3 is holding a series of Georgian Gems, featuring Hannoverian music, plays, talks and programmes at every opportunity. On 1st May begins the BBC series *THE FIRST GEORGIANS: THE GERMAN KINGS WHO MADE BRITAIN*. Lucy Worsley went to Hannover to research and record this programme and we at BHC were able to suggest contacts for her. Meanwhile the related exhibition is running at Buckingham Palace in the Queen's Gallery.

ANNIVERSARY EVENTS IN LONDON

February – mid May: Foundling Museum

Exhibition: *'By George' Händel's music for royal occasions. Display of manuscripts and instruments*

April -October – The Queen's Gallery

The First Georgians: Art and Monarchy 1714-1760

14-24 May: *Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music at St John's Smith Square and Westminster Abbey. English and German Baroque Music*

July-November: Händel House Museum. Theme of exhibition will be Royal Patronage and Händel's works for the Chapel Royal.

October - January 2015: British Museum Exhibition *Exploring Germany*. A comprehensive range of German culture and history.

Throughout 2014: *Historic Royal Palaces: Hampton Court, Kensington Palace and Kew Palace*. Different aspects of Georgian royal life.

All these events should be checked before you make arrangements to visit them

THE ROYAL COACH
Announcement from the British-German Association

An 18th century coach will replicate George I's journey from Hannover to the The Hague. In it will be a gentleman from Celle who looks like and will be dressed like George I. Tickets are being sold to those who want to join the coach for one or more stages.

In London a gilded coach will be used, with four horses only.

On the morning of Friday 16th May it will be driven round St. James's Park, and stop for just 15 minutes just inside the courtyard entrance to St. James's Palace. In it will be the same 'actor' who will have come all the way from Hannover.

At around a quarter past one the coach, escorted by two mounted police officers, will be driven up Constitution Hill and through Hyde Park to Kensington Palace. It will be parked outside the palace for about 45 minutes, and then be driven away.

This is timed to coincide with the big launch celebrations which we know are happening in Hannover. German Television (ndr) and the German Press will give press coverage of the events.

About 30 members of the Hannoversch-Britische Gesellschaft will be in London that weekend. They will be there to see the coach, and to go to the Lufthansa Baroque Concert at St John's Smith Square that evening.

These 30 members will also take part in a reception which is being organised at Kensington Palace. Afterwards guests can visit the areas in the palace which are open to the public.

Bristol-Hannover Council will also be represented at these ceremonies. Our Chair, Dr. Ann Kennard, has been invited by the British-German Association to attend these events.

BRISTOL MUSIC IN HANNOVER

Bristol will be well represented in Hannover in this Jubilee year, with **Brandon Hill Chamber Orchestra** giving a concert on April 26th in the Markuskirche (and prior to that on 24th in the Kammermusiksaal in Berlin!), and the **Exultate Singers** giving a concert in the Pauluskirche on May 26th during our BHC visit (and another in Hildesheim).

AS THE ROYALS CAME FROM HANNOVER

Electress Sophie of Hannover, as the last surviving protestant grandchild of the Stuart King James, was named as successor to the throne by the British Parliament in 1701 (Act of Settlement). After her death on 8th June 1714, the right of succession passed to her son, Georg Ludwig, who ascended to the British throne as George I just a few weeks later following the death of Queen Anne.

With the coronation of the Elector of Hannover as King of Great Britain and Ireland on 20th October 1714 in Westminster Abbey, the Personal Union became legally effective, and was passed on to George's heirs, Kings 1 to IV and William IV. Yet as different as the two countries were with regard to their national constitution and their economic and social situations, many political influences and interdependencies arose during the Personal Union, which had their effect on the social development of Great Britain and Hannover and on the cultures of both countries. Five exhibitions will be held in 2014 to mark the 300th anniversary of the Personal Union.

Alongside the exhibition in the Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum Hannover, the newly reconstructed Herrenhausen Palace, the Historisches Museum Hannover, the Deutsches Museum für Karikatur und Zeichenkunst-Wilhelm Busch and the Residenzmuseum in Celle Castle invite visitors to discover the eventful period during which Hannover's rulers reigned on the British throne.

FIVE EXHIBITIONS IN HANNOVER

Hannover's rulers on the British Throne. 1714-187

The central theme, during the 123-year period when a single monarch ruled over two empires simultaneously. Outstanding exhibits from German, British, international museums and private loans are depicted, as will the rise of pomp and ceremony in the London court, the founding of Göttingen University and Georg Friedrich Händel's effect on the court of London and the influence of English fashion in Hannover will be presented.

Herrenhausen Palace

To mark the 300th anniversary, the Guelph summer palace at Herrenhausen has been rebuilt following its destruction in 1943. The exhibition recounts the story of the Electorate of Hannover and relates the power politics of Ernst August and his marriage to Sophie von der Pfalz, the 'mother' of the Personal Union. It reveals the elements of court life around the turn of the 18th century.

Historisches Museum

The Royal State Coach, built for the Opening of Parliament in London in 1782, is the centrepiece of this exhibition, and was brought over in 1814 following the victory over Napoleon and the elevation of Hannover to a Kingdom. It was used in 1821 on the occasion of George IV's long-awaited visit to Hannover.

Wilhelm Busch Museum

Caricatures paint a vital picture of English politics and society during the Personal Union, and visitors will be brought into the Royal Court where the royals from the House of Hannover are highlighted with all their weaknesses. The caricatures criticise political decisions and comment on scandal and intrigue.

Residenzmuseum in Celle Castle

The exhibition is dedicated to the preceding history of the Personal Union and shows how the descendants of Henry the Lion became the rulers of the British Empire.

Report for HEUTE from PAUL WATSON

‘Ann and I were invited in late 2013 to join the Seemanns Chor for their annual trip to North Germany. We flew to Hannover the night before the coach left for the North, and we flew back the day after our return. It was a long-weekend visit, and they had gigs on the Friday night and the Saturday night. The reason for our visit was a presentation to me of an Honorary Membership of the Choir. The citation stated:-

Herrn Paul Watson - We awarded today Honorary Membership of the Seemanns Chor Hannover, in recognition of his long and excellent service, together with the Lapel badge in gold.

The Lapel Badge is the logo of the choir and was intended to have been presented in 2010.’ Paul goes on to write that they stayed with Elfie, who asked them if they were coming in May with the Bristol party, but they were travelling to Singapore in April and taking a cruise in June. Paul went on to say they had always enjoyed their relationship with Hannover and would miss it.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are asked to check that their Annual Subscriptions, due on 1st April, have been paid.

LUFTHANSA RETURNS TO LULSGATE

Travellers have been promised better access from Bristol Airport to nearly 250 key destinations as part of a new agreement with German airline Lufthansa.

Yes, you’ve guessed it. Frankfurt, Hamburg and Munich are among the 250 destinations.

But Hannover isn’t.

TARTETE Event

‘Tartete’ was an underground Art movement in Hannover, led by Dada artist Kurt Schwitters, during the Second World War, and BHC members were treated to a spellbinding presentation by UWE Fine Art student, Sam Ford, who told of his meeting with Karl Übergriff, who had come to Bristol in the 1950s after losing his parents, who were part of the movement.

HANNOVER TREE PLANTING

The Rotary Club in Hannover donated a rare tree (‘suntel-beche’) to their sister organisation in Bristol, and our Chair, Ann Kennard, was invited to the planting ceremony, led by the Lord Mayor, in the University of Bristol Botanic Garden.

ANNUAL HARBOUR FESTIVAL

This year’s Festival will be held 18-20th July, and we are planning a 300th anniversary theme for our stall.