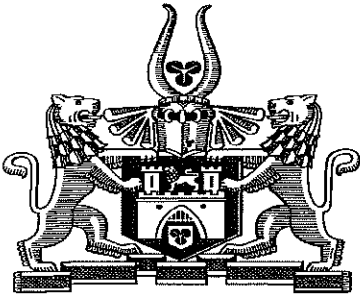


## BRISTOL-HANNOVER COUNCIL



# HEUTE



[www.Bristolhannovercouncil.org.uk](http://www.Bristolhannovercouncil.org.uk)

## TWINNING TO BE AXED

**THE LIB DEM cabinet met on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan at 6p.m. at the Council House to formally agree the officers' recommendations to cut the twinning budget in half on Apr 1<sup>st</sup> and to cut it completely next year.**

**Bristol-Hannover Council, together with the six other Bristol Twinning Associations presented their written and verbal statements and Committee Members submitted emails.**

**The cabinet decision must then be passed by the full Council Budget meeting on Feb 28.**

**At this point, we urge our members to overwhelm the Leader with a massive email campaign (addressed to [barbara.janke@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:barbara.janke@bristol.gov.uk)) and to lobby the three opposition parties (Lab, Con, Green), to contact the party leaders, to ask councillors to support Twinning and the twinning budget and to outvote the Lib Dems.**

**What does all this mean? The Twinning Budget is the relatively small amount of money given by the Council to the Bristol International Twinning Association which then itself employs Alix Hughes as its co-ordinator. This post and Alix's work is essential to all we do with Hannover. He is our liaison with Hannover and he organises all visits, exchanges (except the Citizens' exchange), and links across the whole spectrum of our activities.**

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IF YOU VALUE OUR TWINNING WITH HANNOVER. IT HAS MEANT SO MUCH TO SO MANY BRISTOLIANS FOR SO MANY YEARS**

## **TIME TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS**

**Three Big Events are coming up: make sure you get your tickets in good time. They are:**

### **ROSENMONTAG**

**20<sup>th</sup> February**

**7.30p.m. The Black Swan, Stoke Lane, Westbury-on-Trym**

**Our annual popular Fun Evening with Food, Music and Songs. Complete the attached form and post it to Ian.**

### **ANNUAL DINNER**

**This has been arranged for Friday 27 April.**

**Book the date in your diary and wait for further announcement.**

## **VISIT TO HANNOVER**

**Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012**

**Arrive in Hannover**

**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

**Railway trip to HILDESHEIM**

**Meet 'under the tail' at main station.**

**Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

**Guided tour of Historic Hildesheim in English**

**Bus tour to the CLOPPRENBURG MUSEUM**

**VILLAGE, which is a large collection of old farm and village buildings with demonstrations. Guided tour in English.**

**Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> June**

**6.00 p.m. Evening Service in the Market Church with the WESTBURY SINGERS**

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.00 a.m. Reception with the Oberbürgermeister in the Rathaus**

**2.00 p.m. Opening of the Photographic Exhibition of the history of the Bristol-Hannover Partnership in the Freizeithaus Vahrenwald.**

**6.00 p.m. Farewell Evening with Dinner in Hotel Loccumer Hof.**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

**Departure**

**Further details of the excursions and suggestions for private visits on the Sunday morning and afternoon will be sent to participants. Individual personal arrangements for travel to Hannover, passports and insurance must be made. (We can offer advice.)**

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED BOOKING FORMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

**BOOKING FORMS**

**ROSENMONTAG**

**Please reserve me places for the ROSENMONTAG PARTY at THE BLACK SWAN on 20 February.**

**Name.....**

**Number of places.....**

**Cost per person £6**

**Please send cheque and this form by 10 February to the Treasurer,  
Mr. Ian Devine, 16 Vicarage Rd., Southville, BS3 1PD**

**.....cut off here.....**

**VISIT TO HANNOVER**

**I would like to take part in this year's visit to Hannover June 21 – 26. I understand that I must make my own arrangements for travel, insurance and passport.**

**Names of Participants.....**

**.....**

**Address/email for communications.....**

**.....**

**Hannover partner's name and address (if applicable, OR please indicate if you would LIKE a partner family).....**

**.....**

**Write HOTEL if that is where you would prefer to stay.....**

**Please forward this form preferably by 29 February to the Secretary,  
Ms Doreen Pastor, 44, Winsbury Way, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9BE**

## BHC CURRENCY

An area in South Germany has introduced its own currency to complement the one currently in use. Contrary to misleading rumours, neither BHC nor the Gesellschaft intends introducing its own currency, the BEUROH, to be used by subscribers in Bristol and Hannover.

## WATERSHED PROJECT

Readers will remember the Watershed media scheme in which visitors from Hannover have taken part in a week's computer course based on a specified topic. This will continue, and the next course, in collaboration with the Knowle West Arts Centre, will be based on an industrial theme – former railway workers from Hannover are invited to apply.

## HANNOVER TRAMS

There was a talk recently on Radio Bristol by a Hannoverian about the integrated transport system in Hannover. Radio Bristol has for some time been keen to go to Hannover to broadcast on a topic which would interest Bristolians and BHC has suggested that this would be a subject of great interest to Bristolians.

## NEVILLE OSBORNE LECTURE

This was held at the Grammar School in November and was particularly successful. The speaker was Florian Seitz, Deputy Head of Culture and Education at the German Embassy, and his subject was the importance of learning German. His open, clear and convincing manner had an immediate appeal for the large audience, and he so much enjoyed his visit that he promised to come to Bristol again soon. His lecture may have been the last in our series of commemorative lectures, as it has been proposed to continue our link by holding informal talks about Hannover and sponsoring a bursary for a pupil to visit the city. Herr Seitz told us that the Embassy is already making plans for the anniversary in 2014. Just look up 1714 and George I in your history books to find out why. The speakers who have given the Neville Osborne Lectures were: 03: Ambassador Thomas Matussek, 14 Christoph Urban, Chair of BGA, 05: Canon Paul Oestreicher, 06: Erika Mann, MEP, 07: Dr Annemarie Schleich from the German Embassy, 08: Dr Mark Allinson, 09: John Osborne, 2010: Dr John Veale, 2011: Florian Seitz.

## ON THE GRAPEVINE

News reached us that a group calling themselves *Bristolians Living in Spain* visited Hannover recently and were ceremoniously received. The party was led by Rolf Bürger.

## HANNOVER POLICE IN BRISTOL

A Hannover police officer got a taste of law and order in Bristol during a three month secondment. Hans-Christian Wähler said he enjoyed experiencing various aspects of crime fighting around our city. The 23-year old saw several differences between the two countries, the main one being that English officers don't carry guns. Another thing is that most English people don't carry ID. 'It needs a major offence to get the authority to arrest someone. Also, we don't take fingerprints and photographs after every committed offence like the police do in England. It's all about human rights and data protection.

'I was quite impressed how the English police officers communicated with citizens. They were always calm and polite. I would like to emulate that quality.'

Hans-Christian Wähler started his three month exchange programme in September. He drove from Hannover to Portishead and stayed at police headquarters. During his time he shadowed 999 response teams, firearm units, the support group, the dog section, the mounted section, child abuse investigation team, youth offending team, helicopter work and the Transport Police's Neighbourhood Policing Scheme.

## MORE SPORTING LINKS

The Bristol Baseball Club has contacted us about forging links with a club in Hannover as a gesture of friendship, but also to offer any of the Hannover players an opportunity to join the Bristol team if they are over here. It may even lead to a friendly game between the two teams.

The Bristol team, called the Badgers, is five years old and plays in the British AAA league. Its nearest opponents (Oxford and Bracknell) are some 90 miles away, followed by London-based teams. Last year the Badgers won their division for the first time.

BHC has promised the Badgers every help in finding a partner team in Hannover. This will develop our sporting links.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

**Members will remember Mervyn Morgan who took part in BHC's first Youth Visit to Hannover in 1948. Sadly, Mervyn died last year. But he was always proud of the important part he played in our history. His daughter and his widow have now kindly passed to us his records of that first visit, together with photographs and press clippings. His handwritten diary makes fascinating reading and we are pleased to quote from it:**

MONDAY SEPT 6<sup>th</sup> 1948: 10.00a.m. We met at the Council House to receive the Lord Mayor's speech about our visit. He gave a short but very sincere speech about our trip and expressed his hope that visits like ours would help to make and strengthen ties between the two cities and countries. After the speech we had coffee and biscuits. Whilst we were at the Council House we each changed £2 of our English money in C.C.G. [Control Commission of Germany] money. We also received our passports and travel tickets and vouchers for the journey.

Afterwards several photographs of the party were taken by the local press. After his speech the Lord Mayor gave each of us a signed letter in which he expressed the views which he had given in his speech.

12.00 The train left Bristol.

14.45 The train arrived at Paddington. We immediately took our luggage to Liverpool Street Station then split up to have a look at London. We arranged to meet at L.S. station at 19.30.

19.45 Train left for Harwich

21.30 Arrived at Harwich after a very good train journey. We passed through the customs and passport office O.K. Then we boarded our ship *The Duke of York*.

22.40 The ship left harbour. Some of us had supper on the ship. Later on we bought some cigarettes. None of the party slept on the crossing as all the berths were full and sleep was impossible in the lounge. The sea was very smooth.

TUESDAY SEPT 7<sup>th</sup>

6.00 Arrival at the Hook of Holland. Put our clocks on. 1 hour to make continental time.

7.00 We waited for the ship to be unloaded. Went through customs etc.

9.30 Had breakfast on the train which was still in the station. A special CCG train.

10.55 Train left station. We passed through Holland via Utrecht and Arnhem. Not much bomb damage. Very flat country etc.

11.30 Lunch.

3.00 [sic] Arrived at the German frontier of Emmerich, or rather what was the town. There was heavy fighting there and we could not see a single whole building standing. The customs searched the train there.

16.00 Tea

17.20 Arrived at Essen. One cannot describe the trip so far in Germany. Almost every house standing is touched in some way or another, that is any house that is still standing.

18.00 Arrived at Dortmund. Everybody by now has got tired of looking at the bomb damage.

18.40 Arrived at Hamm.

19.00 Dinner

19.40 Arrived at Bielefeld

20.00 Arrived at Herford

20.25 Arrived at Bad Oeynhausen

20.45 Arrived at Minden

21.08 Arrived at Bückeberg

22.00 Arrived at Hannover. A party of German Youth met us at the station and took us into a hotel nearby. We had supper there whilst two or three speeches were made. Everybody by this time was very tired and the heat in the hotel made most of us feel dizzy. Shortly after the supper we all got into an army truck and were taken round to our various homes.

WEDNESDAY SEPT 8<sup>th</sup>

10.00 We all met outside the Town Hall to go on a 5 day tour of the Harz mountains and the Weser river. Most of us were staying in German homes where the people could not speak English.

10.45 We set out on our tour in a 5 ton lorry (army truck) hired by the German Youth organisation from the CCG. There are 15 Germans in the party and one German driver making a total of 30 in the party altogether. Fortunately only three or four of the Germans do not speak English.

13.15 Stopped for lunch in a German village.

14.45 Arrived at a small German town. Stopped there for a drink. Later we passed through the district where ochre comes from (the colouring material in paint). Once while climbing a hill which had a gradient of 1 in 8 the radiator boiled so we all got out and walked for a mile or so. It was a cobbled road and had to walk on. On the way we could see the Russian Zone from the lorry.

17.45 Arrived at a Youth Hostel at Braunlage. Quite a big hostel. The country around here is very good. The Germans hold winter sports here

18.10 Had tea consisting of dry bread and jam.

18.20 We went out for a short walk around the hostel.

19.00 Dinner. A large plate of porridge. After dinner we sat down and had a singsong. Two of the Germans played the piano accordion so we had some musical accompaniment.

22.30 Left the hostel to go to some place to sleep as the hostel sleeping accommodation was full.

23.20 Arrived at our sleeping hut. It was a ski hut about 400 yards from the Russian border and about half a mile from the road. We were all issued with 2 sleeping bags. We had to sleep all cramped together on straw mattresses. However everyone was very tired and soon off to sleep. Today we have been 72 miles.

**The report continues in this direct style while the group continues through the Harz, to Goslar, Clausthal-Zellerfeld, down to Northeim and Gandersheim, across to the Weser and to Bad Pyrmont, where they visited the spa ('where people go for heart and rheumatic troubles and drink the water that tastes like Epsom salts'). The Bristol party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Wallis, Margaret Bone, Betty Ayliffe, Beryl Plaisted, Keith Rex, Roger Phillips, Terry Lewis, David England, Robert Klisky, Raymond Boswell, Malcolm Williams, Mervyn Morgan and Terry Callow. Bristol-Hannover would welcome news about any of these pioneers, and we treasure the record left by Mervyn Morgan.**

## AWARD FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

At a ceremony at the German Embassy Michael Withers, BHC Vice-President, was awarded the Officers Cross of the Order of Merit. In conferring the award the German Ambassador paid tribute to Michael's contribution to British-German relations and understanding.

## GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

This year's Bristol Weihnachtsmarkt was more successful than ever and was visited by large numbers of visitors. A group of BHC members met in the Café Hannover and enjoyed a fine German lunch of Bratwurst and Bratkartoffeln washed down, of course, with mugs of Glühwein. Meanwhile, they were serenaded by Paul Seath's choir singing Christmas music. We now look forward to this year's market, but before that comes.....

## BRISTOL'S GERMAN BIERFEST

This will be held at HANNOVER QUAY between May 3 and 7. The event will create a party atmosphere for up to 5,000 people over 5 days. Visitors will get the chance to taste a variety of German beers and foods. The event will also feature the Edelweiss band playing traditional bierfest songs with Mädchen in traditional costumes. It will be held in the amphitheatre. The event will certainly promote business in the area and it is intended that it should become a regular Bristol feature.

## QUIZ EVENING

Readers may know of the annual Quiz evening held annually by the 7 members of BITA. Unfortunately, due to the brilliance of last year's BHC team, we won the tournament, and this means we have to set the questions for this year's match which will be held on THURSDAY 15 MARCH at our *Stammlokal* The Black Swan where we hold our *Rosenmontag* festivities. Now as the erudite members of our Committee set this year's questions, they obviously cannot themselves enter a team, BUT OTHER MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CAN JOIN UP AND JOIN THE COMPETITION. If you would like to form a team, or join in with one, TELEPHONE ANN (9425860) and let her know. It's always a good fun evening.

## OUR YOUNG MEMBERS

Our Executive Committee now proudly has FOUR members who are at least a third younger than the others.

## WEBSITE

PLEASE KEEP UP TO DATE  
BY FOLLOWING OUR NEWS ON OUR  
WEBSITE [bristolhannovercouncil.org.uk](http://bristolhannovercouncil.org.uk)

Those with internet access should make sure we have your email address. Those without email should also let us know, so we can send you details by post. (There will be an opportunity to respond to this on the Membership Renewal Form which will be sent out in MARCH.)

## WHAT TO DO IN HANNOVER

Those going to Hannover will be wondering what to do on Sunday before the evening programme. We have no intention of being prescriptive, but Hannover has suggested some interesting visits. Think them over and discuss them with your Hannover partners. Perhaps later we can agree on meeting up.

- (a) The Herrenhausen Berggarten.
- (b) The Tram Museum
- (c) The Sensory Garden

The Herrenhausen Berggarten is on the other side of the road at Herrenhausen, and was developed at the same time as the Great Garden. It is in the forefront of international plant development, particularly in orchids and African violets. You'll find full details on Google and Wikipedia (Hannover Herrenhausen Gardens).

The Tram Museum is a fascinating hands-on visit to a collection of old Hannover Strassenbahnen. The museum was developed by a former great friend of Bristol, the Lower Saxony officer i/c education officer in Hannover, who over many years managed the school exchanges with Bristol and regularly took parties of Bristol schoolchildren to ride on his trams. All good fun and instructive.

The Sensory Garden is a garden which specialises in plants which affect our senses, for smell, touch, etc. Should be interesting.

REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR RETURN  
SLIPS TO DOREEN AND IAN