

## OUR BROMLEY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS FOR 2013/14

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**Committee members (non office holding):** Peggie Bensaid, Sheila Brown, Lilian Clarke, Norma Classen, Barry Cogdell, Councillor David McBride, David Noble, Ralph Palfrey and Joe Weiss. Two councillors also serve on the committee. They are Councillor Jane Beckley and Councillor Ruth Bennett

## Events diary for summer and autumn

### Thursday, July 11 – Sunday, July 14: Neuwied's annual festival – the Deichstadtfest

Sunday, July 21: Annual Summer Garden Party, Petts Wood, courtesy of Peter and Barbara Woods. Admission price £10

### Friday, July 26: BTTA is running a publicity stall in Bromley High Street, 9am to 5pm. Volunteers needed for one or two-hour slots

Saturday, September 7: Sandwich Carnival. Parade at 4pm. It's not definite yet but a Neuwied matching band is hoping to take part

### Saturday, September 28, to Sunday, September 29: Tennis-Club Neuwied come to Bromley to play a return match with The Parklangley Club

Thursday, October 3, to Monday, October 7: Visit to Bromley by Junge Philharmonie Neuwied

### Wednesday, October 16: BTTA Annual Lecture. Speaker to be confirmed so date is provisional

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE BTTA MEMBERSHIP

**WE ARE always looking at ways to improve our communications with you.**

With the introduction of our website which contains all our event information and also provides an excellent public relations and historical record of our activities, some members have queried the need for a newsletter.

We approached this with an open mind but it does seem that many members still like to see a printed newsletter. So our policy now is to run the newsletter three times a year. Times of the year may vary but we

roughly aim to produce newsletters in the summer and spring and at Christmas.

Now, however, we face yet another challenge of modern communication. Some members have said why not go on Facebook. Accordingly, Steve Cotterell has created a Facebook site. We are now learning what benefits it can bring – although other members fear personal information may stray on to the site. Try it yourself on [www.facebook.com/BromleyTTA](http://www.facebook.com/BromleyTTA)



## GOODBYE TO BOB MACINTYRE

**WE ARE sorry to report the death of one of the stalwarts of the association, Bob Macintyre, at the age of 90.**

Bob played a hugely influential role in establishing the BTTA. He was Secretary in the Steering Committee stages, and then first Secretary of the association when it was formally established. He also served as Vice-Chairman and was an Honorary Life Member.

### The Taylors depart

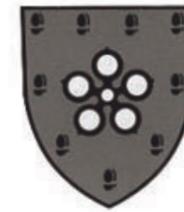
We send our good wishes to Brian and Susan Taylor who were founder members of the BTTA and committee members. They have moved to the north-east for family reasons.

Susan was a former secretary of the association and Brian the newsletter editor. They were both Honorary Life Members.

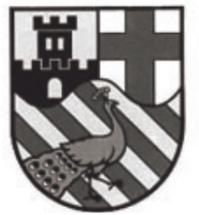
Another of our members, Pam Brockhurst, has also left the area. She was always a supporter of our events and a fine host to visitors from Neuwied.

### Youth music visit

Neuwied's youth orchestra, the Junge Philharmonie Neuwied, will be in Bromley from October 3 to 7. This is their first visit to us. A programme is being arranged with Bromley Youth Music Trust.



# Bromley and Neuwied News



## RUNDSCHREIBEN DER STÄDTEPARTNERSCHAFT BROMLEY-NEUWIED SOMMER 2013



## CHANCE TO MEET UP AGAIN... AT TENNIS

**WE WILL have another chance soon to meet up again this year with some of our friends from Neuwied.**

Tennis-Club Neuwied e.V are making a welcome first visit to Bromley. They were the host team when The Parklangley Club, Beckenham, visited Neuwied last September as part of our 25th anniversary trip.

A return match has been arranged for Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29.

We also may have a chance to meet another set of Neuwied friends. One of the town's marching and dancing groups Funken Rot-Weiss Fanfarenkorps and the Tanzkorps Silver Dancers are provisionally booked to take part in the Sandwich Carnival parade at 4pm on Saturday, September 7.

## Chartwell and Messiah mark anniversary visit from Neuwied



*Job well done. Tessa Cogdell, left, and husband Barry, second left, relax at last after organising a splendid anniversary dinner at The Chateau restaurant*

**THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY celebrations of our twinning finally came to an end with a visit from our sister body in Neuwied, the Freundeskreis, and two great performances of Handel's Messiah at Langley Park and in Neuwied.**

The visit included both the Messiah performance at the new Langley Park Centre for the Performing Arts, and a visit to Chartwell, near Westerham, the home of Sir Winston Churchill, set in a lovely Kentish landscape.

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**DON'T FORGET OUR SUMMER GARDEN PARTY ON SUNDAY, JULY 21, AT 3PM, 49 TOWNCOURT CRESCENT, PETTS WOOD**



THE CHAIRMAN WRITES...

The 25th anniversary celebrations are now behind us and it just remains for me to thank host families and others who helped to make everything so successful, including Councillor Ian Payne for his participation in his capacity of Deputy Mayor. The AGM was well attended, we have a new Treasurer, Arthur Wilkinson – our warm thanks go to him and to his predecessor Jeff Harvey – and two new committee members, Councillor David McBride (the Mayor of Bromley in 2011/12) and Joe Weiss. Membership is rising and we are looking again at ways in

which to increase public awareness of twinning, as well as looking at spheres of activity where there might be value in setting up exchange links. We are now looking at dates for our next visit to Neuwied, and trying to avoid clashes with members' holiday plans. Next year there will be major festivities in Neuwied over the weekend of July 18th to 20th – the yearly Deichstadtfest combined with the Rheinland-Pfalz-Tag, a federal state festival held in towns in the state and which is returning to Neuwied – so that might be a date to note in your diaries!

## It's a first – the town twinning football match



The Cray Wanderers team (light-coloured shirts) with their Engers opponents

**WE REALISE that not all our members are football fans. But Bromley is privileged to have two historic football teams.**

The first is Bromley, one of the leading clubs of the amateur era, winning three FA Amateur Cups. The other is Cray Wanderers, founded in 1860, and the second joint oldest team in the world.

Through our committee member David Noble and Cray Wanderers we fixed up the first ever football match with our twinned town, as the football season ended. Cray travelled to play FV Engers, the leading team in the Neuwied district.

The Neuwied club won 5-2 and will be the recipients of a new twinning trophy. They had finished their competitive season with a long run of wins that secured their local league cham-

ionship and promotion to the sixth tier of German football.

The game took place at their Stadion am Wasserturm (Water Tower Stadium). They were 3-1 up at half-time and 5-1 in the second half before Cray scored a late penalty. Chris Saunders scored Cray's first goal, making the score 1-1, and Michael Power converted the penalty.

Afterwards, FV Engers laid on an excellent barbecue for the players and officials and Cray's German hosts from our sister organisation, the Freundeskreis.

And for the record, who are the world's oldest team? Well they are Sheffield FC (not to be confused with Sheffield United and Sheffield Wednesday), founded in 1857. And who are the joint second oldest team? That's another Sheffield club, Hallam, also founded in 1860.

## KARNEVAL REPORT

I couldn't go on the anniversary trip to Neuwied last year as my daughter was having difficulties with her pregnancy (all OK now, he's a strapping bouncy baby). So I did the next best thing. Well, maybe the best thing actually. I went to Karneval.

My wife Sue and I went with David and Lynne Noble who are veterans of the event. It was amazing. Everywhere you went in the streets, people came up and said Hello David, Hello Lynne.

Through their work in bringing Neuwied carnival groups to UK carnivals, including the now defunct Bromley Carnival, they are very well-known and much liked in Neuwied.

Sue and I came by our own transport and were given an address to link up with David and Lynne. We thought it was a private house and duly arrived at 6pm. No, it was one of the many carnival celebrations in the towns and villages that make up Neuwied district. It was an instant, hilarious introduction to music, dancing, singing and all-round fun. We were to go to quite a number of them and even invited to take part in the main parade itself.

One Karneval highlight is a "battle" to arrest the Oberbürgermeister, and Sue and I duly found ourselves inside a portable prison (on wheels) with Nikolaus Roth.

David and Lynne are permanent visitors to Karneval – the Neuwieders insist they come. But I think it a good idea if, every year, say two to four BTTA people accompanied them. More would be intrusive, I think, in the suburban halls in which a lot of Karneval takes place.

I can guarantee you'll have a wonderful time.

**Richard Redden**

CHARTWELL continued from Page 1

Both were symbolic – Chartwell a testimony to the friendship of our nations after the most terrible of wars and Messiah, composed by a man who was German but came to spend his life in London.

We also received a welcome at the Civic Centre and excellent hospitality by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ian Payne.



Christiane Fischer of the Freundeskreis, left, and Susan Redden of the BTTA, at Chartwell

After the wonderful reception we were given on our visit to Neuwied last year, we faced the challenge of staging a similar successful event. We chose The Chateau restaurant and it proved a very memorable event too.

There are too many names to list in a newsletter but we must say a special thank you to Tessa and Barry Cogdell for masterminding the event and to Lilian Clarke for her German language guide for our visitors.

The years pass by so quickly but this was a visit we will fondly remember for a long, long time.

## Messiah excels twice over in our towns

PETER BROWN SAW THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MESSIAH IN BOTH TOWNS AND REPORTS ON A WONDERFULLY MEMORABLE TWIN EVENT

**WHAT MORE spectacular way to celebrate our anniversary than to see The Messiah performed in both towns with singers and orchestras joining their talents together. The choice of the Handel work was so apt – a German great who became a Londoner.**

The first performance was at the new Langley Park Centre for the Performing Arts and it was a highly charged musical evening, with fine orchestral playing by the Bromley Youth Music Trust students supporting excellent soloists, and a combined Bromley-Neuwied choir which gave no hint of the short rehearsal time that they had had together. Then

50 members of the BYMT Adult Choir, together with a group of instrumentalists, travelled to Neuwied. For this second Messiah, the combined choir were joined by instrumentalists of the Rheinische Philharmonie Koblenz and supported by four fine professional soloists.

The performance – sung in English, a new experience for at least one of the soloists – was utterly spellbinding, especially the Hallelujah Chorus. It was marked by the German audience standing in acknowledgement – following our old British custom.



Two Messiahs – at the Langley Centre for the Performing Arts, top, and the Marktkirche church in Neuwied

## ...Hannelore sends a thank you from Neuwied

**THANK YOU for a wonderful anniversary. Our 25 years of lively partnership between Bromley and Neuwied were celebrated on a weekend full of well-organised and well-chosen activities.**

As a guest from Neuwied who has been a member of this very active partnership, I would like to express my unreserved thanks to the organisers of this eventful and most agreeable weekend. I very much appreciated this chance to celebrate this anniversary of our English-German friendship and was highly impressed by the programme, which offered

different highlights such as the reception at the Civic Centre, the visit to Sir Winston Churchill's former private home and the splendid evening dinner at "The Chateau".

There can be no doubt that the brilliantly performed Messiah by Georg Friedrich Händel, sung by an excellent Bromley-Neuwied choir, was another pleasure of the weekend. Thank you very much indeed to the English host families who also helped to make the stay extremely pleasant.

**Hannelore Klären  
Freundeskreis Neuwied-Bromley**



Hannelore, left, meets up with the conductor Simon Sundermann at Langley Park. With her are fellow Freundeskreis members, Christiane Fischer, second left, and Thomas and Monika Mehlbreuer