



August 2017

Norfolk & Norwich / Koblenz Friendship Association

Understanding and Friendship our motto

–is more than ever relevant and to be pursued, strengthening our existing links and encouraging more new and younger members to join and provide continuation.

Annual General Meeting We started the 2017 NNNKFA year, by tradition, with the AGM on March 10th at County Hall, graced by the Vice Chairman of Norfolk County Council, John Ward, and Joe Sterling with author Phyllida Scrivens, presenting her book, “Escaping Hitler” about Joe’s life story, including his escape from pre-war Germany on one of the “children’s trains”. The book had also just previously been presented at the German National Archive in Koblenz, and Joe’s original home of nearby Nickenich. Indeed a most memorable event.

Lord Mayor 2016 – 2017, paid a return visit to Koblenz, and we were delighted that Lord Mayor



Marion Maxwell and her consort were able to accept the invitation to Koblenz expressed by the Oberbürgermeister of Koblenz Prof. Dr. Joachim Hofmann Göttig during his 2016 visit to Norwich. This coincided with the pre-Easter visit by Waltraud and Richard to her home village of Winnigen, near Koblenz, and they were pleased to meet them on arrival in Koblenz, together with Günter Hahn, at the Hotel Brenner, and then take them by car along the Mosel and to a special Winnigen welcome. The official welcome by the Oberbürgermeister the next day was followed by a guided tour of the City Library, in the Koblenz Forum. Koblenz is still hoping to further increase the link with our City Library.



We thank the past Lord Mayor, and Sheriff, Richard Marks, for their support for twinning during their year in office, and we welcome the interest our new Lord Mayor, Councillor David Fullman, and Sheriff, David Walker, and look forward to welcoming them during the year.

Norwich Philharmonic Choir paid their four yearly exchange visit to Koblenz in 2017. Before their visit, on Saturday 18 March, at St. Andrews Hall, Norwich, they sang “The Seasons” by Haydn, and for this performance, the Koblenz Musik Institut Choir Conductor, Prof. Mathias Breitschaft, came especially to hear their performance, prior to the joint performance by both choirs in Koblenz on April 28 at the splendid Rhein/Mosel Halle. A remarkable 34 year tradition, most prominently and favourably recorded and reviewed by the Rheinzeitung in Koblenz, with a large photograph and heading “The Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie and united singers of the Norwich Philharmonic Chorus and Koblenz Musik Institut”.

Diocesan Pentecost visit to Koblenz, by Bishop Graham and Mrs Julie James and the Dean of Norwich, The Very Reverend Jane Hedges and her husband, Mr Chris Hedges, took place from 3 to 6 June, strengthening our Diocesan link, and also taking part in the “Christusfest” in Festung Ehrenbreitstein.

DUaM German conversation group continues to meet weekly with a regular attendance of 12 to 14, and also support both “Feed the Minds” and “Meningitis Now” regularly.

Feed the Minds 48th Norwich Book Fair

Thanks to the Lord Mayor, Councillor David Fullman who opened the Book Fair and to all NNNKFA members who supported the Book Fair in various ways – Habet Dank! So far we have reached £1400 and the remaining books have been collected and a donation received. It is more important than ever to provide education and guidance to the desperately needy people in the global South, working with local organisations. Burundi was our chosen country this year, where training for the Ministry is also supported.



NNKFA Summer Outing took place on Saturday 10 June, to Audley End House by coach.

The following report is contributed by Michael Salt

With our usual disciplined approach 31 of us were all assembled in the County Hall car park ready to meet our Spratts coach and our familiar and always cheerful driver Mark, this time accompanied by his wife who had just joined and became our latest member (welcome Emma) and we were able to depart ahead of schedule..

The weather was rather uncertain to start but improved through the morning and was pleasant by the time that we arrived at Audley End after a 90 minute journey.

Audley End has a long history going back to medieval times when it was Walden abbey until Henry VIII dissolved it. It was recreated as a very large and impressive Jacobean building by Thomas Howard, the first Earl of Suffolk with the intention of entertaining King James 1. Expense was no object but when it became clear that much of the money spent had been derived from his time as Lord Treasurer. In 1619 Suffolk and his wife were charged with embezzlement and sent to the Tower of London but a huge fine secured their release. Suffolk died in disgrace at Audley End in 1626.

Over the next century, parts of the house were gradually demolished until it was reduced to its current size. The main structure has remained little altered since the main front court was demolished in 1708 and the east wing came down in 1753. Sir John Griffin, fourth Baron Howard de Walden and first Baron Braybrooke introduced sweeping changes before he died in 1797.

In 1762, he commissioned Capability Brown to landscape the parkland, and Robert Adam to design new reception rooms on the house's ground floor in the neoclassical style of the 18th century with a formal grandeur.

The third Baron Braybrooke who inherited house and title in 1825, installed most of the house's huge picture collection, filled the rooms with furnishings, and reinstated something of the original Jacobean feel to the state rooms including a most impressive gallery and fireplace in the great hall which is the main feature of the house.

Audley End was requisitioned by the government in March 1941 and turned over to the Special Operations Executive (SOE). It was used to house the Polish branch of the SOE. A memorial to the 108 Poles who died in the service stands in the main drive. After the war, the ninth Lord Braybrooke resumed possession, and in 1948 the house was sold to the Ministry of Works, the predecessor of English Heritage who now looks after it.

In some respects the Braybrookes were advanced in the ways they developed the house, installing five flushing toilets before these were in use elsewhere. They also installed hot water pipes through much of the house. But they were reluctant to change traditional lighting arrangements and electricity was not installed until 1941 when it was essential for war work.

Our visit corresponded with a display of servants quarters with volunteers suitably dressed showing how things used to be when so much hard work was required to keep the house operational. Though the house was large the servants were few with



normally only one or two at the most in each role; Butler, Housekeeper, Lady's Maid, Footman, Housemaid, Steward's Boy.

Other parts of the servants working areas that were on display were the Laundry and the Dairy. There was a formidable amount of linen to be washed and cleaned and ironed and only two cleaners to do it all. Although there were very large and heavy primitive machines, one to squeeze out excess water and another to help roll sheets into some sort of order all the drying had to be done outside on racks in the courtyard. Since the Braybrooke's mostly used the house only during the hunting season, October to February, that must have been a particularly onerous process. Ironing with heavy flat irons that of course had to be constantly reheated themselves would have been an even more tiring task.

Not all of the upstairs of the house was open to visitors since three of the bedrooms were closed off in preparation for a film production but there was still so much to see, including a bed which had been made for a royal visit that never actually took place though every last detail had been put into place. It is impressively and almost frighteningly high and would have required a small step ladder to climb into.

Another major feature is the Nursery that was built as a self-contained suite of rooms for the 3rd Lord Braybrooke's eight children (five boys and three girls). There was a live in governess and Hannah, their mother, only saw them for one hour a day when they were allowed down to her private sitting room.

Curiously there is a coal store at the top of the house with rows of bunkers with considerable weight of coal in them (more than 100 tons a year) which was used for heating the water needed for baths and washing, and for the primitive heating system. The coal was hauled up through a window with a pulley and chain.

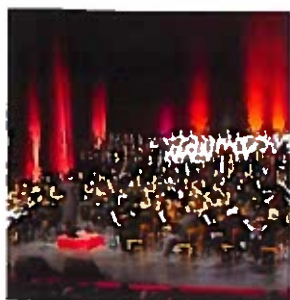
The Capability Brown parkland includes many of the neo-classical monuments, although some are not in the care of English Heritage. The grounds are divided by the river Cam, which is crossed by several ornate bridges, and a main road which follows the route of a Roman road.

The walled kitchen garden has been partly restored by an organic growing charity, in parts one can now imagine what it may have looked like in late Victorian times: full of vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers, and on a warm and sunny afternoon that marked the latter part of our visit was most enjoyable to walk around. But the dependence on volunteer labour limits what can be done, and there was an infestation of caterpillars on the fruit trees for which no organic treatment had yet been found.

After a refreshing ice-cream and final walk across the beautifully kept park we were all back on the coach to depart at the scheduled time for another smooth journey back to Norwich grateful a most pleasant day out.



Triorca, The visit to Novi Sad for a joint training and concert, by young musicians from Norwich/Norfolk and the Koblenz Region took place from 25 July to 1 August.



Early reports record a happy and successful visit.

The Norwich Triorca Trust is most actively involved, in these exchange visits.

You can see photos of this visit and other information at <https://www.facebook.com/Triorca/>



Koblenz Visit September 2017. We will be visiting Koblenz on our biannual visit leaving Norwich Saturday 2 September, and returning Saturday 9 September. At present we are a party of 23 although we might still be able to fit anyone else in, who is keen to come with us.

We will be going to Winningen on the first evening for the end of the Wine Festival and to see the spectacular Fireworks Display on the banks of the River Mosel. Also included in our visit are a reception by the Oberbürgermeister in the Rathaus, a dinner at the Weindorf, at which we hope to be joined by some of our Koblenz friends, a visit to Bernkastel, a pretty wine village on the Mosel, with a boat trip to Traben Trarbach, a daytime visit to Winningen, including a Tractor Ride through the vineyards, and a visit to Wiesbaden, the interesting capital city of the state of Hessen, with a guided tour by coach through the city.

The Pilgrim Group from Koblenz will visit the Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Norwich, during their tour of English Catholic Cathedrals on Saturday 9 September.

John Jennings will welcome them on behalf of NNKFA, as this is during our visit to Koblenz. It would be good if some other members could welcome them too. Please contact John.

We are sad to report the deaths of four members since the last Kontakt.

Dr. Janice Norman, former head of Heartsease School, now City Academy, Norwich and our vice chairman, whose radiant smile will continue to inspire us and give wise counsel.

Jim, the husband of Diana Ray. The playing of "Alte Kameraden" at his funeral is a comforting link

Elizabeth Waghorn, a long term supporter of NNKFA, who took part in many activities.

Norman Bacon, who joined NNKFA in 1982, and spent much time recording the war damage in Norwich, and honouring those who suffered, and also kept in touch with the widow of a German Aircrew member killed during 1942, and cared for their war graves in Earlham Cemetery. A delegation from Koblenz came to the 50th anniversary service, which he was involved in organising.

Norwich District Photographic Society held their annual Photographic Exhibition in the Hostry at the cathedral at the end of July. As usual it was a very interesting and imaginative display, with a stand full of photos from their twin Fotoclub Koblenz. This link first started in 1987 through the initiative of Ron Courtenay, one of our members, who now lives in New Zealand. NNKFA presents a trophy each year for one of the photos from Koblenz.

Future Events:

Sunday 17 September. Park Farm, Hethersett. Annual Birthday Luncheon

Monday 4 December. Great Hospital Advent Evening

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Ortsgeschichte



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Öffnungszeiten: Mai bis Oktober
Samstags und sonntags 15 bis 18 Uhr
sowie nach Vereinbarung

Weinbau



Fasskeller



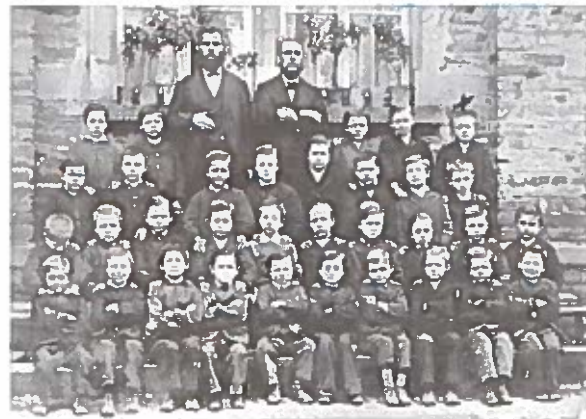
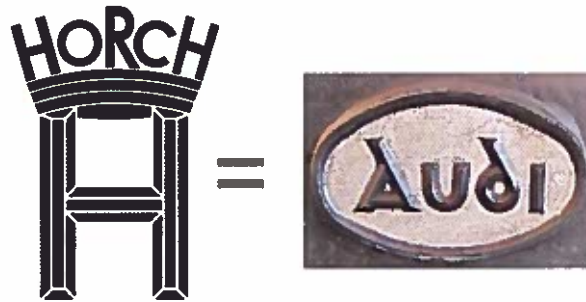
Weinpressen aus 3 Jahrhunderten



Schnapsbrennerei

August Horch (1868-1951)

Der Automobilpionier August Horch gründete 1899 in Köln die Firma HORCH und 1909 in Zwickau die Firma AUDI.



A. Horch, in Winingen geboren und beigesetzt, ging im heutigen Museumsgebäude zur Schule.

August Horch-Ausstellung

Unsere Ausstellung von historischen und modernen Motoren der Firmen Horch und Audi bietet allen Automobilinteressierten einen Überblick über Leben und Werk von August Horch.

