

Aus dem Jahresbericht der australischen Partnerschule

Principal's Report

Bright P12 College
Yearbook 2005



Overseas experiences

For the first time, travelled to Germany in Bad Aibling. parents experienced German life through environment and students and staff levels of maturity and our European sister forward to Bad 2006.

For the second year from Honami and visits, with Honami two weeks with us in students returning in



students from Bright to spend three weeks. Students, staff and a taste of true living in a homestay attending school. All returned with higher understanding about school. We look forward to Aibling visiting us in

in a row, students Bright had exchange students spending May and our November.

John Pryor
Principal
Bright P12 College, 2005.

Bad Aibling – German Trip

In 2001 the College was host to Pia Grossmann who was a German language assistant. Through extended contact with Pia, the College began an email program with a local German school in Bad Aibling. (Bad Aibling is a town of about 12,000 and is renowned as a health resort that specialises in special mud baths.) From the email program it was decided to begin an exchange program, and so the adventure began with the first leg of the exchange which took place from September 24 to October 11, 2005.

A group of 19 students from Years 8, 9,10,11 accompanied Katrina Ciolli, Frank Kusch and Martyn Paterson on the exchange. Few were prepared for the boring, long haul and by the time of their arrival on German soil hadn't slept for over 36 hours.

One of the first revelations for our party was the early start of 6am in order to get to begin classes at school at 8am. At 10.30am the students gathered in the student lounge during the one and only recess for the school day and excitedly exchanged experiences of their first "German" classes. School finished, as is customary at 1pm and amazingly there were no arguments from any of the students at such an early conclusion to studies.

That night the group met again at the school with their host families to be formally introduced to the school community at a terrific welcome evening. Our students gave a brief introduction about themselves in German. This was well received and put to rest any concerns or reservations the group had.

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The next morning saw the school take a trip to the *Kampenwand*, a rugged mountain peak. Unfortunately the weather was quite bleak and the trip down the mountainside was not as comfortable as hoped. Although Mr. Kusch could only imagine the experience from the comfort of his cable cart, given the extreme difficulties he would have had hiking with crutches. It has now become a legendary tale as to how a group became disoriented and was lost for a time in the German/ Austrian mountainside.

The next morning all students in the school went on excursions with their homegroup teachers. Two groups of Aussies went to Salzburg, the home of Sound of Music, others went to Munich, the capital of Bavaria.

On Thursday the group visited various English classes and gave presentations about Bright. In the afternoon they joined Year 9 Phys Ed classes and took the opportunity to teach Germans some “real” sports such as netball, cricket and Aussie Rules football.

On Friday morning the Aussies were given an orienteering assignment in the town of Bad Aibling. This culminated with a meeting with the Town Mayor of Bad Aibling, *Herr Felix Schwaller*. Our students asked some very pertinent questions and we presented him with a gift from our Alpine Shire Mayor, Julie Carroll, and a framed dot painting produced by our students. From there the group visited the *Maxlrain* Brewery for a tour, the final visit before the commencement of the long weekend.

Many of the students and their hosts took the opportunity to attend the world famous *Oktoberfest* in Munich on this weekend.

On Monday October 3 the whole German exchange group attended the school for a cultural evening. This was a cultural extravaganza as most families were decked out in their traditional *Lederhosen* for the males and the *Dirndls* for the females.

A trip to Munich by train took place the following day where the group visited the Olympic Stadium which hosted the 1972 Games and also had some free shopping time. Magnus Makeshin, Rotary exchange student to Bright in 2003-04, met the group to catch up with some old friends.

On the Wednesday the group visited a 400 year old farm in *Amerang* that has become a museum. They then journeyed to *Prien* and the *Chiemsee* which is a beautiful large lake with a 65km circumference, here they visited two islands: the *Herrenchiemsee* (the blokes island) where the infamous “crazy” King *Ludwig II* recreated his version of the Palace of *Verseilles*, and the *Fraueninsel* (the sheilas island) which contained a monastery and some quaint houses.

The group paid a last visit to the school on the Thursday and an impromptu farewell was held in the school auditorium with everyone being presented with commemorative T-shirts.

Friday morning the group travelled to Berlin and had an early night as they were exhausted.



The next morning the group had a 4 hour walking tour of Berlin which took in all of the major highlights and attractions in the eastern section, leading into the famed Wall area. That evening the group travelled through the famous floodlit *Brandenburg* gates to visit the *Reichstag* which is a most impressive German Parliament building.

On the final day in Berlin, the group went into the city centre and spent the day sightseeing. Most hired bikes for a couple of hours to explore the city and others visited the Berlin zoo. That evening the group went to bed early as they were to rise at 3am to ensure that they were at the Berlin airport by 5am for a 7am flight.

Next year we will be visited by 24 German students and three staff. They will arrive on April 3 and leave Australia on April 20. We are looking forward to giving them a terrific "Aussie" experience.

Participants in the 2005-2006 Bright/ Bad Aibling School Exchange:

Students:

Thomas Gales, Jarryd Poyner, Daniel Kusch, Paul Steiner, Neil Wright, Amy Burrowes, Anna Paterson, Maggie Beth Webb, Jade Jackson Shuey, Leah Sheppard, Sophie Litschke, Nikki Hall, Charleigh Razeng, Natalie Texler, Lauren Henry, Jessica Poyner, Sarah Edwards, Matt Britten, Laura Wright

Staff:

Frank Kusch, Katrina Ciolli, Martyn Paterson

Natalie

It was awesome! I had a blast in Berlin and Bad Aibling. It was great getting lost in the rain and also playing guitar and singing in front of the Germans... I had to go to church (torture cell for an agnostic). *Oktoberfest ist sehr wunderbar!!!* plus I learnt how to pronounce 'Bißchen'... always a bonus....

Laura

My favourite part was the 4 hour tour in Berlin! The tour guide was hilarious! But I hated the icky fizzy water thingy they drank!

Jessica

The whole trip was amazing! My host family was really nice and they even had a couple of horses! My favourite parts of the trip were the *Oktoberfest* and Berlin. Berlin's history is just so interesting although it was hard to believe there once was a wall dividing the city. The *Oktoberfest* was huge with lots of beer, pity I couldn't drink! Awesome rides and loads of people. The German's pretzels and their chocolate is the best.

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Amy

I liked the walk in the forest and getting lost, and the tour in Berlin, it was so fascinating. I also made so many new friends from the trip which is a bonus. The bikes in Berlin were really scary and Martyn nearly got me ran over by a *Mercedes*. The *Oktoberfest* was so big and the rides and beer tent were huge.

Jarryd, Thomas & Daniel

The different culture, different food, different landscape and different people all gave us a great insight into the German way of life. Our favourite part of the trip was *Oktoberfest*! Beer, rides and lots of people, a teenager's paradise! And I even managed to learn a few things throughout the trip. Driving 220km/h+ down the *Autobahn*, on the wrong side of the road, classic. The crowds/crazy fanatics at the soccer are almost more interesting to watch than the match itself.

Little Kusch

Cool...J

The Boys!

Showing Germans that even when times are tough, true aussie spirit shines through. Walking down the *Kampenwand* singing everything and anything ranging from Jimmy Barnes's Working Class Man to any of the AFL Football teams anthems we could remember allwhile trying to find about 20 people lost somewhere on that godforsaken hill. *Löwenbrau*, *Hoffbräu*, any *Bräu* any how. If there was beer we were here!

Jade

The trip overall was great! I liked the *Oktoberfest* and when we got lost in the forest!!!, also meeting the German people and they took us to different spots they were just like us! Trying Bavarian food was good and I want to go again it was a great experience. Oh and it was a pity my girl didn't speak much English but I learnt some German!!!! Also the tour in Berlin was great and we got to see all the different sites of Berlin which was great thanks tour guide!!!

Lauren

The highlights of the trip.... umm... *Oktoberfest* was sooooo much fun... all the people.. all the rides... all the beer... no, not really.. I liked the walk down the mountain but getting lost and hypothermia wasn't so good. I smelt like Neil Wright. Ummmm..... I liked the family and especially the VW beetle car soft top convertible. Soooooo much fun!!! The family was really nice and friendly!

Katrina Ciolli

What a great experience for all involved. The *Wirtschaftsschule Alpenland* was so welcoming to our group and we have all made some new friends, for life. All students were excellent ambassadors for their school and country. One of my favourite experiences was seeing the German students (mainly boys) take to AFL footy so quickly. There was always a footy being kicked or hand-balled at recess and on walks together. I also got to drive, (on the wrong side of the road, scary!) - not on the *Autobahn* though, thank god. I also got to see my host family from 10 years ago when I was on exchange in Hamburg. They came to Berlin to visit and we had a great, but short, catch up.