

Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

so ein Winter kann schon ganz schön auf den Geist gehen. Besonders dann, wenn er sich so lange hinzieht, wie der letzte. Im Moment sieht es allerdings so aus, als ob der Frühling langsam die Oberhand gewinnen würde. In ihrem Beitrag, den Sie gleich im Anschluss an dieses Vorwort lesen können, hat sich Frau **Maria Weiße** einmal ein paar Gedanken zu diesem Thema gemacht.

Schönes Wetter erhoffen wir uns auch für unsere **Ausfahrt zum Grünfelder Park**, die wir am **Sonnabend**, dem **28.5.2011** durchführen werden. Abfahrtsort ist die Bushaltestelle an der Zschopauer/Moritzstraße und wir starten um **10 Uhr**. Außer der Besichtigung des Parks ist eine gemeinsame Führung durch das **Schloss Waldenburg** vorgesehen. Bei der momentanen Teilnehmerzahl entstehen pro Person für die Busfahrt, den Eintritt ins Schloss und die Führung Kosten von 20 €. Falls sich allerdings weitere Mitglieder für die Ausfahrt melden, die sich noch nicht in die Teilnehmerliste eingetragen hatten, könnte sich der genannte Preis auch noch etwas verringern. Die Rückfahrt nach Chemnitz ist für **17 Uhr** vorgesehen.

Über einen weiteren Termin, der für den Herbst dieses Jahres ansteht, möchten wir Sie an dieser Stelle ebenfalls schon informieren. Am **Donnerstag**, dem **27.10.2011**, werden wir die in diesem Jahr wieder fällige **Jahreshauptversammlung und Vorstandswahl** abhalten. Wir rufen hiermit unsere Mitglieder auf, Kandidaten für die Wahl zu benennen bzw. sich selbst als Kandidat zu melden. Die offizielle Einladung zur Versammlung sowie den Wahlzettel erhalten unsere Mitglieder dann mit der nächsten Ausgabe unseres Newsletters, der Anfang August erscheinen wird.

In wenigen Wochen ist Ostern und natürlich wird dieses christliche Fest auch im United Kingdom gefeiert. Zwar gibt es zu dem Fest selbst sicherlich nicht allzu viel Neues zu sagen, wir möchten mit dem Artikel ab Seite 5 trotzdem noch einmal einen Blick nach Großbritannien werfen und über einige spezielle Bräuche zum Thema berichten. Dieser Artikel stammt übrigens von einer Internetseite, wie auch der Hinweis auf die besondere Kalenderkonstellation in diesem Jahr aus dem Internet stammt, den Sie auf Seite 11 finden. Dazu aber der folgende Tipp: beachten Sie bitte auch das Kleingedruckte!

Abschließend wünschen wir Ihnen ein frohes Osterfest und hoffen, dass Ihnen die aktuelle Ausgabe unseres Newsletters gefällt und Sie beim Lesen viel Spaß haben.

Die Redaktion

Springtime thoughts

After a long period of coldness, ice, snow and short days, all people are longing for spring and waiting each year full of hope for the 20th or 21st of March.

I believe springtime is the most beautiful season of the year. Take a walk through the woods or parks, along gardens, or when you stay in your own garden, you cannot only see but also smell the spring with its lovely little flowers. The first of them are the snowbells and the crocuses, followed by daffodils, daisies, tulips, violets, hyacinths and



many other wonderful flowers and blossoms.

Another phenomenon you can watch is when trees get their new clothes, the leaves. They seem to have a tender green veil.

You can even hear the spring when you listen to the melodious songs of the birds.

A well-known German poet spoke about a blue ribbon that flutters through the air in springtime. And really, I have this blue ribbon in my own garden.

Not in the air, but alongside a garden path grow thousands of little blue flowers. Some of you know them already. I often brought with me little bunches. Do you remember?



Maria Weiße

Review of the last months

27 January 2011

“Heimat/Approaching Home”

When Mrs **Cornelia Neubert**, of the Chemnitz University, mentioned in her introductory words that the originally planned screening of the film “Approaching Home” could not take place, because it hadn't been completed yet, the audience took this information with some disappointment. However, Mrs Neubert assured us that we would hear at least a little bit about this film project and that they had prepared an additional talk dealing with a different topic.

She then introduced four of her students, **Eric Schuster** and **Sascha Schmidt**, who would give some information on the film project, and **Stefanie Kunde** and **Ulrike Abraham**, who would speak about their interesting stay at a Chinese university in 2010.

Mr Schuster and Mr Schmidt first explained the reason why the film couldn't be completed in time and described how the idea for the production of this documentary film came up during a seminar which had the topic “Home”. The students wanted to find out by interviewing citizens of Chemnitz what “Home” means to them. By the way, one of those interviewed is a member of our society, Dr Martin Hoffmann. This first part of the talk was finished with a short trailer that really made curious to see the whole film one day.

After that Mrs Kunde and Mrs Abraham gave a report on their stay at the Hong He University, which is situated in the Yunnan province in the south of China, that was initiated and led by Prof Schmied, of the Chemnitz University. On a map, they showed where the university is located and gave by means of a number of photos an impression of the modern university complex, that is said to be designed and built according to the rules of Feng Shui. Furthermore, we saw pictures from their trips to Hong Kong and to rice terraces, where we could see farmers at their work.

During their stay at the campus of the university they came across some funny examples of wrongly used English words, such as a waste bin with a label saying “recoverable” (abbaubar (im Bergbau)) instead of the correct term “degradable”.

In the final part of their lecture, the two students showed a short video taken during an English lesson at that university, by which they analysed the teaching methods and pointed obvious flaws and faults out.

The ensuing discussion was very animated and the students answered several questions from the audience to both topics.

24 February 2011

“Whisky – Schottlands kulturelles Erbe”

Gleich zu Beginn seines Vortrags bezeichnete Herr **Felix Jedlicka**, der im Rahmen des Programms der Volkshochschule Whisky-Seminare durchführt, auf Grund der vielen Veranstaltungen zum Thema „Whisky“ in unserer Region Chemnitz als Whisky-Hauptstadt Sachsens. Danach ging er näher auf den Whisky selbst ein, dessen Name übrigens von der gälischen Bezeichnung für „Wasser des Lebens“ – Uisge Beatha – herrührt, und der, kurz gesagt, gebranntes Bier ist, da für seine Herstellung bis auf den Hopfen die gleichen Grundstoffe, nämlich Gerste, Wasser und Hefe, verwendet werden. Herr Jedlicka beschrieb ausführlich die einzelnen Schritte des Herstellungsprozesses vom Mälzen und Trocknen der Gerste über die Destillation bis hin zur Abfüllung der alkoholhaltigen Flüssigkeit in Fässer, in denen während der mehrjährigen Lagerung letztendlich das wird, was man als Whisky bezeichnet. Er erläuterte den aufmerksam lauschenden Zuhörern auch die Unterschiede bei den verschiedenen Whiskysorten, was man unter Malt Whisky versteht und was beim so genannten Blending geschieht. Natürlich ging er auch auf die Geschichte des Whiskys ein, wies auf seine wirtschaftliche Bedeutung hin und beantwortete einige Fragen aus dem Publikum.

Daran anschließend zeigte Herr Jedlicka eine Reihe stimmungsvoller Fotos von einer Schottlandreise, die ihn und andere Whisky-Enthusiasten auch auf die Insel Islay führte, wo sie die Möglichkeit hatten, die Bowmore-Destillerie zu besichtigen und selbst einmal Torf zu stechen, das ja speziell auf dieser Insel für die Whisky-Herstellung eine nicht unbedeutende Rolle spielt.

So interessant der Vortrag auch war, er hatte einen kleinen Mangel: Im Gegensatz zu den Seminaren in der Volkshochschule, bei denen die Teilnehmer die Möglichkeit haben, verschiedene, zum jeweiligen Thema passende Whiskies zu verkosten, war dieser leider ein „trockener“.

Siegfried Rosch

31 March 2011

“Welcome to Jersey”

Der Bericht zu diesem Vortrag konnte leider nicht mehr berücksichtigt werden und wird in unserer nächsten Ausgabe erscheinen.

Vorschau auf unsere nächsten Veranstaltungen

Do., 28.4.2011, 19 Uhr, Vortragssaal im DASTietz: „Bored of Bratwurst and Sauerkraut“, Vortrag in englischer Sprache von Peter Krause über das Schüleraustauschprogramm des Bundestages

Do. 26.5.2011, 19 Uhr, im Vortragssaal im DASTietz: „Crete – Island of the gods“, englischsprachiger Reisebericht von Silvia Tröller

Do., 30.6.2011, 19 Uhr, im Vortragssaal im DASTietz: Vortrag in englischer Sprache von Evan Braun, Germanistik-Student aus Nashville

Im Juli findet wegen der Sommerpause kein Vortrag statt

(Änderungen vorbehalten)

Bunnies, eggs and Easter customs

At Easter time there are two public holidays in the UK: Good Friday and Easter Monday. This means that many families can enjoy a long weekend together.

Easter is the time for holidays, festivals and a time for giving chocolate Easter eggs. But Easter means much more....

Easter is the oldest and the most important Christian Festival, the celebration of the death and coming to life again of Jesus Christ. For Christians, the dawn of Easter Sunday with its message of new life is the high point of the Christian year.

Easter is the story of Jesus' last days in Jerusalem before his death. The Easter story includes Maundy Thursday (the Last supper leading to the Eucharist), Good Friday (the day on which Jesus was crucified) and Easter Day (the day on which Jesus came back to life).

Christians gather together on Easter Sunday for a Sunrise Service. This service takes place on a hill side so everyone can see the sun rise. Some Christians take part in an Easter vigil, lighting a new fire outside the church early on Sunday morning. The Paschal candle, decorated with studs to symbolize Christ's wounds, may be lit from the fire and carried into the church where it is used to light the candles of the worshippers. The Easter Eucharist is a particularly joyful service. It is a popular time for baptisms and renewal of baptism vows.

Some churches have an Easter Garden. A stone is placed across the mouth of a tomb before Easter, then rolled away on Easter morning.



Where does the name 'Easter' come from?

According to Bede, the English monastic historian, the English word Easter comes from the Anglo-

Saxon name for the month of April, which was known as "Eostremonath" (the month of openings) in the Anglo-Saxon tongue. However, it should be remembered that Christians celebrated the resurrection of Christ long before the word "Easter" was used, and the word they used for the celebration was "Pesach", which is derived from and linked to the Jewish festival of Passover. Since Pesach was most often celebrated in Eostremonath, the English Christians began calling it "Easter". Bede also notes that the month was named after the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eostre.

Rituals related to the goddess Eostre focus on new beginnings, symbolized by the Easter egg, and fertility, which is symbolized by the hare (or Easter bunny).

The first eggs given at Easter were birds eggs. These eggs were painted in bright colours to give them further meaning as a gift. We still paint bird eggs today but usually only chicken eggs.

Decorating and colouring eggs for Easter was a common custom in England in the middle ages. Eggs were brightly coloured to mimic the new, fresh colours of spring. The practice of decorating eggs was made even more famous by King Edward I of England who ordered 450 eggs to be gold-leafed and coloured for Easter gifts in 1290.

As chocolate became more wide spread in the 20th Century, a chocolate version of the traditional painted egg was developed. The size of the chocolate egg has grown over the years and is now more likely to be the size of an ostrich egg rather than a small birds egg.

Chocolate eggs are given to children. The eggs are either hollow or have a filling, and are usually covered with brightly coloured silver paper.

Small chocolate eggs are hidden for the children to find on the traditional Easter Egg Hunt. In recent years this game has been linked to the Easter Bunny, which only arrived in England relatively recently.

Around 80 million chocolate eggs are eaten each year in Britain.

Easter day, like Christmas day, is also associated with special food. After the lean months of winter and the fast weeks of Lent, food at Easter was always a special treat.

Roast lamb, which is the main dish at Jewish Passover, is the traditional meat for the main meal on Easter Day. It is served with mint sauce and vegetables.

The traditional Easter pudding is custard tarts sprinkled with currants and flat Easter biscuits. Simnel cake is baked for tea. The Simnel cake is a rich fruitcake covered with a thick layer of almond paste (marzipan). A layer of marzipan is also traditionally baked into the middle of the cake. Eleven balls of marzipan are placed around the top to represent the eleven true disciples (excluding Judas). Originally the simnel cake was a gift to mothers on Mothering Sunday in Mid Lent.



Easter Egg Customs

In the UK, there are many Easter Customs involving eggs:

Pace Egging

Pace Eggs are hard boiled eggs with patterned shells, they are traditional in northern parts of England at Easter, with local variants in the name, such as Paste Eggs. The name is derived from Pesach (Passover). The background colour of the eggs is provided by onion skins with designs created by leaves and flowers placed next to the shell. All kinds of fun are had with the hard-boiled decorated pace eggs.

Egg Jarping (Egg Tapping)

Another activity that takes place on Easter Day is the playing of a game with the eggs known as "jarping", It's a bit like playing conkers, with players tapping their opponents' eggs until one breaks. The winner goes through to the next round, and so on until there is only one egg left unbroken. A good hit by a jarper is called a "dunch". The game is popular in County Durham, where it is played on Easter Sunday.

Egg rolling

Egg rolling is very popular in England and is an Easter Monday sport. Hard-boiled eggs are rolled down a hill. Customs differ from place to place. The winner's egg may be the one that rolls the farthest, survives the most rolls, or is rolled between two pegs.

(Source: www.projectbritain.com)

This and that from the 'island'

Robin in the shop



A robin which sought shelter in a shop during the long winter snap has become a daily fixture. The bird - which has been named Robbie - seeks morning crumbs and warmth in a Co-operative store in Aberdeen's Seafield Road. The bird first appeared in November amid the heavy snow and can be seen sitting behind the tills each morning, often singing.

Store manager Alan Dunn said the feathered visitor was popular with staff and customers. The robin flies in through the store's automatic doors and appears to sit watching staff at work, as well as eating crumbs. Bits of croissant, Aberdeen rowies - also known as butteries or rolls - and blueberries have become the bird's favourites.

Mr Dunn told the BBC Scotland news website: "The robin has been coming in since November, when the snow really kicked in. It found a warm spot and must have remembered it. The robin stays for an hour or two, mainly behind the tills, singing as well, the customers certainly seem to like it."

One customer, Mike Greaves, said: "I came in a couple of weeks ago and the robin was sitting on the end of the till, it was when the snow was down so food must have been short."

"He comes in about half past five every single morning, even at the weekends," said shop assistant Yvonne Benzie. "He sits on the till and has something to eat then he meets and greets all the customers. He's very friendly. He cheers us all up. We will miss Robbie when he goes."

Haggis for the USA

A US government delegation has been invited to Scotland by Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead in a bid to overturn its 40-year ban on haggis.

Imported haggis was banned by the US because its food standards agency prohibits sheep lungs in food products. Mr Lochhead raised the issue with the US last year but said he was still hopeful that imports would resume.

Traditional Scottish haggis, which is made with a sheep's heart, liver and lungs, had faced a double barrier. In addition to the sheep's lung ban, the US prohibited the use of offal from the UK in the wake of the BSE outbreak in 1989. However, the US ban on British meat products in the wake of the BSE crisis has since been relaxed.

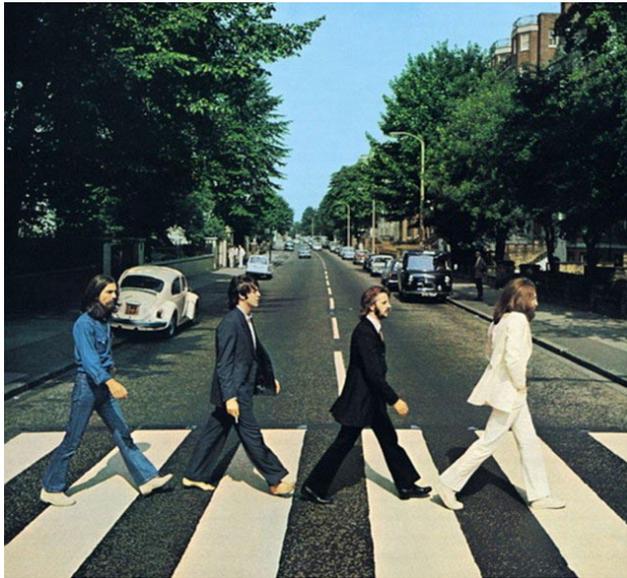
Mr Lochhead said the US was a "potentially lucrative market" that could be worth millions to Scottish haggis producers. He added: "Scotland's produce is amongst the best in the world and I've asked US Department of Agriculture officials to come here to see for themselves the high standards we have in animal health and processing. This will help them realise that our haggis is produced to the highest standards and that it's time to allow imports to resume."

Edinburgh-based haggis producers, Macsween, said the impact of any decision to reverse the US ban would be enormous. Director Jo Macsween added: "In our experience, American visitors love our haggis when they taste it while in Scotland and it would be lovely if they could not only be permitted to take some home with them at the end of their stay here, but purchase it in America too. Of course, we would love to do business in America as we know we have so many fans there."

Listed zebra crossing

A zebra crossing made famous after appearing on a Beatles' album cover has been given 'listed'

status by the government. The crossing - just outside the renowned Abbey Road studios, where the Beatles recorded much of their output - has been given Grade II listing by heritage minister John



Penrose. The crossing near the studios, the first of its kind to be listed, has been recognised for its "cultural and historical importance" following advice from English Heritage. The Abbey Road Studios themselves were listed in February last year.

John Penrose, minister for tourism and heritage, said: "It is a fantastic testimony to the international fame of The Beatles that - more than 40 years on - this crossing continues to attract thousands of visitors each year, trying to mimic their iconic Abbey Road album cover. This London zebra crossing is no castle or cathedral but, thanks to the Beatles and a ten minute photo-shoot one August morning in 1969, it has just as strong a claim as any to be seen as part of our heritage. And as such it merits the extra protection that Grade II listing provides."

Sir Paul McCartney added that the news was the "icing on the cake" of a great year for him and his band The Beatles.

Roger Bowdler, head of designation at English Heritage said: "This is obviously an unusual case, and although a modest structure, the crossing has international renown and continues to possess huge cultural pull - the temptation to recreate that iconic 1969 album cover remains as strong as ever! Together with the nearby Abbey Road studios, also listed at Grade II on our advice, they remain a mecca for Beatles fans the world over."

Order of the Phoelicks

Two of the most famous characters from the Harry Potter stories are featured in a new limited edition of Royal Mail stamps.

The Magic Realms collection includes the young wizard's headmaster Professor Dumbledore and arch enemy Lord Voldemort.



Best selling author JK Rowling's creations are among the set of eight fantasy covers along with favourites such as the White Witch and Aslan the lion from CS Lewis's The Chronicles of Narnia, Merlin and Morgana from the tales of King Arthur, and Rincewind and Nanny Ogg from Terry Pratchett's Discworld.



A Royal Mail spokesman said: "They are a magical tribute to some of our legends of literature."

(Sources: Internet, „Daily Mirror“)

Our language section

Eating vocabulary

„Tea“, „dinner“ und „supper“ gehören zu den verwirrendsten Wörtern der englischen Sprache, denn sie haben für verschiedene Leute verschiedene Bedeutungen. Es ist allgemein bekannt, dass in Großbritannien und Irland Tee trinken ein alte Tradition ist, wenn auch seit längerer Zeit häufig Kaffee bevorzugt wird. Aber „tea“ kann auch „high tea“ bedeuten – eine leichte Speise am Nachmittag bestehend aus kleinen Sandwichs, Scones mit Marmelade und Schlagsahne oder auch einer Auswahl verschiedener Kuchen. „Tea“ kann allerdings auch ein „schwereres“ Mahl mit Fisch oder Fleisch und

Kartoffeln sein. Dieses abendliche Mahl wird aber auch Dinner oder Supper genannt – abhängig davon, wo und wer man ist.

In Großbritannien kann das Abendessen drei verschiedene Bezeichnungen haben, wobei man sich allerdings nicht sklavisch an die genannten Zeiten hält:

- Angehörige der Arbeiterklasse nennen es „tea“. Es wird meistens gegen 18.30 Uhr eingenommen.
- Innerhalb der Mittelklasse wird es „dinner“ genannt und gegen 19 Uhr gegessen.
- Die Oberklasse nennt es „supper“, das im allgemeinen gegen 19.30 Uhr eingenommen wird. Für sie ist „dinner“ eher ein sehr förmliches Abendessen.

Angehörige der Arbeiterklasse bezeichnen das Mittagessen oftmals als „dinner“, während es für die anderen Bevölkerungsschichten „lunch“ ist. Die Iren nennen ihr Mittagessen ebenfalls „lunch“ und nehmen ihr „dinner“ am Abend ein. Aber viele Menschen in Irland essen auch „supper“ – üblicherweise ein warmes Getränk mit Toast oder Biskuits – ehe sie sich zu Bett begeben.

Von Deutsch to English

Welche fünf Buchstaben müssen zwischen die beiden "und" eingesetzt werden, um ein englisches Wort zu bilden?

und.....und

Auflösung aus Newsletter Nr. 60 “Happy holidays”

1. Robert is going to *decorate* the tree.
2. Can you hear the children singing Christmas *carols*?
3. This present isn't easy to *wrap*.
4. Did you find anything good in your Christmas *stocking*?
5. Will you pull the other end of this Christmas *cracker*, please?

Let's have a beer!

The pub, or public house, is an integral part of British culture. It is commonly believed that if you haven't been to a pub, then you haven't seen Britain. They are the traditional focus for village life – a place to chat, gossip and catch up on news. In the cold winter months they are the perfect place to enjoy a pint of beer in front of a crackling fire.

Beer has always been a popular drink in the UK and what better place to 'sup' a traditional British pint than in a pub.

Although it is possible to buy most drinks in a pub, beer is the mainstay of the trade. Until the 16th century, the UK's favourite drink was ale made with fermented malt from barley. Then hops, a climbing plant, were introduced. Their dried flowers were used to flavour and preserve the ale and 'ale' became 'beer', although the two names are used interchangeably nowadays.

Pubs are one of the few historic buildings that are still used for their original purpose. This makes them doubly interesting for tourists. *Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem* in Nottingham claims the title of the oldest pub in Britain as it dates back to 1189. Half of the pub is actually a cave. Other pubs have fascinating historical architectural features or a famous clientele. The village 'local' may have a fireplace where Charles I warmed himself or may have been the place where literary giants took a break from writing. Past regular drinkers at the *Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese* in Fleet Street, London include W. M. Thackeray, Charles Dickens and Dr Johnson.



Pubs are one of the few places where the English can cast off their traditional reserve. You have to go to the bar yourself to order drinks. This practice automatically brings you into contact with others. While waiting for the barman to pour your drink it is acceptable to talk to your neighbour – even if he is a complete stranger!

Pubs are ideally suited for socialising. They tend not to play loud music so it is easy to chat in a relaxed way. You can meet people, enjoy good food and drink, and even join in a game of darts or snooker, a game similar to billiards.

City pubs are popular with after work drinkers while country pubs serve their local communities and are used by weekend day trippers.



British pub names and signs provide a unique record of the country's history. The origin of the signs goes back to Roman times. The Romans hung vine leaves outside their tavern to show they sold wine. Britain is generally too cold to grow vines so small evergreen bushes were used instead. By the 12th century it was common for pubs and inns to have names. As most people couldn't read or write, pictures were substituted for words. In 1393 Richard II made signs compulsory. These refer to historical events or local landmarks or characters. Others include references to animals, many with their origins in heraldry.

Many pub signs honour monarchs either by name or symbol: The Golden Lion – Henry I, The Rising Sun – Edward III, The White Hart – Richard II, The White Boar – Richard III. Another popular pub name - the Coach and Horses - reminds us that many pubs were once coaching inns where travellers would stop for refreshment, a night's sleep and to rest or change the horses pulling their stage coach. There were many coaching inns in London, with stage coach services to outlying villages and towns operating from their yards.

One of the most famous fictional pubs is the Queen Victoria, affectionately known as the Queen Vic, which is the meeting place for the characters of the TV soap opera *Eastenders*.

Calendar Phenomenon

THIS IS THE ONLY TIME WE WILL SEE AND LIVE THIS EVENT

Calendar for July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

This year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens only once every 823 years.

(The same "phenomenon" happened last year in January and October and will happen again in March 2013, May 2015 and January and July 2016, so no need to wait 823 years! Remember 1 April)

in memory

Mit großer Trauer haben wir die Nachricht vom Tode unseres englischen Freundes

Mr Eric Nowell

empfangen. Eric war als Sekretär der Manchester-Chemnitz Society für viele Jahre unser Verbindungsmann nach Manchester und seit 2008 auch Mitglied unserer Gesellschaft. Gern erinnern wir uns an seine Besuche in Chemnitz. Wir werden ihn vermissen.

Der Vorstand