Düsseldorf Old Framlinghamian Dinner 2018

- a note from the organiser Kim Alexandra Dickel (M97-98)



After three hugely successful dinners over the past years (links to full reports below) German OFs assembled for the fourth time over a reunion dinner on November 10th in Duesseldorf. The date was chosen with care as the 100th anniversary of the Armistice in Compiègne and Saint Martin's eve provided a poignant background to celebrate the harmony, friendship and unbreakable bond between British and German OFs brought to us by Framlingham College.

While past German dinners broke several records with regard to hosting the most and youngest

attendees across the globe this year's dinner stood out in another regard. With only four guests the evening turned out to be an intimate and precious gathering allowing for deep conversations and true catching up. I was overjoyed to welcome back Conny Zawadzky, attendee of our 2016 dinner, and Johannes Tröger, attendee of our splendid 150th anniversary event in Hamburg in 2015. New to the group was Robert Benning, who after a couple of failed attempts to join us during the last years finally delighted us with his presence. He just welcomed his first daughter, Carla, five months ago and was the winner of a free dinner ticket, as he helped us grow our FRAMily by providing email addresses of 'lost' OFs. All three of them have advanced impressively in their various fields and I discovered that, amazingly, between the four of us we share nine university degrees including two doctorates – surely a testament to the excellent education and thirst for knowledge seeded in us by Framlingham College! Conny is currently curating her first exhibition in Krefeld. Make sure to get in touch if you happen to be in the area.



We had an excellent start to the evening at a small delicacy and wine fair, with VIP tickets and the possibility to sample over 900 wines. We had the opportunity to connect with the owner of the



vineyards and let's just say we ordered quite a numerous amount of bottles and follow up meetings between the four of us to enjoy our purchases are already being arranged. Later in the evening we went on to beautiful restaurant Parlin in the heart of Duesseldorf's old town to enjoy a hearty meal of roasted goose and share lively conversations and laughter well until the morning hours.



I would like to express my gratitude towards the College and the Society, which as always have supported this event financially and with hands on help wherever needed. Spending evenings with exquisitely interesting and genuinely nice personalities such as Conny, Robert and Johannes is a pure delight and I hope that many OFs will continue to participate in these events in the years to come!

List of attendees on Saturday 10th of November 2018

Kim Alexandra	Dickel	M97-98
Conny	Zawadzky	M03-05
Robert	Benning	S04-05
Johannes	Tröger	R96-98

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