



REPORT RE OLDER PEOPLES MEETING IN BIBERACH GERMANY (short report)

Programme

Thursday 29th September. Pre Meeting Welcome Dinner. Hotel Drei Konig

Day 1. Friday 30th September 2011

- Welcome
- Presentation regarding the structure of financial system for the elderly
- Visit to 'Burgerheim' Innovative residential, day care and community care complex
- Visit to 'Multigeneration Living' complex
- Visit to Older Peoples Centre in Biberach
- Walk around local sites in Biberach

Day 2 Saturday 1st October 2011 World Older Peoples Day

- Presentation and discussion by delegates from Tendring, Valencia and Swidnica
- Demonstration by Council for Older People what it feels like to be old
- Meeting with the Mayor of Biberach
- Viewing of display regarding visit by Biberach and Valencia delegates to Turkey
- Presentation by community groups
 - 'Citizens for Citizens group'
 - Housing and housing adaptations group
 - 'Council for Older People'

Funding for event provided by town of Biberach

Informal Activities

- Visit to a church for a multi faith service and meal
- Tour by car of local area
- Meals in local restaurants
- Transport and interpretation throughout

General Information re Financial System and care for the Elderly in Germany

Two funds which people pay in to monthly

One for medical care, one for 'care' needs

When people need residential care the care fund pays a contribution towards this but the person themselves also have to pay. Usually around Euro 1,800/month

If a person has insufficient money to pay their part the government will help

Burgerheim Biberach

An innovative approach to care for the elderly which offers many different types and levels of service under the one organisation

- Care in the home
- Catering service = like meals on wheels
- Open lunch cafeteria. People and their relatives can come without booking for a main meal
- Residential care (low dependency)
- Residential care (high dependency)
- Assisted living units
- Day Centre

At the moment they offer these services in the immediate area of the buildings but they want to expand it to all of Biberach

Multi-Generation Living Complex

A complex which has been built to keep the elderly living within the community versus being separated from it. Started 1992 and 1999 first residents moved in

Facilities

- Apartments for families and single people
- Residents centre/day centre
- Nursing Home
- Creche

Older Peoples Centre, Biberach

Housed in a beautiful old building which has been renovated

Has different sized function rooms

Downstairs rooms people can come and have coffee or a beer and play board games or do crafts. Computer rooms and woodworking rooms upstairs. Funded by local government and the hospital fund

Presentations by Delegates from Valencia, Swednica and Tendring

Valencia

Lady mayor did presentation

In their town 25% are older than 55 years. In the next few years this will rise to 35%

In her view people should see getting older as an advantage vs a disability

Last year they had a parade through the town of old and young people walking together. They want to strengthen the family unit so the elderly stay within it

Swednica

Delegates from a centre or a 'school' for older people

All were volunteers. They help people over the age of 55 years

Welcome by Mayor of Biberach

Very good idea to come together to discuss not only the issues of older people but also the future of the town twinnings. The approach in Germany is that the smallest part decides first. There are many things we can work together on. The examples of care we have shown you on this visit are our best examples, they are not the standard

Citizens for Citizens Group

Try to help people in Biberach who are in need

9 different working groups

Provide a very wide range of services

- small repairs in the home
- telephone advice line
- advisory service re retirement and finance
- help to make a will
- help for blind people
- garden work
- snow shovelling
- transport to hospital
- help with hospital discharge to prepare home (shopping, put heating on)

Get funds from the city as well as donations

Housing and Housing Adaptations Group

Help for older people or disabled. Help people who have had a stroke, or who have Parkinsons or dementia. Give advice re making home safe and re adaptations

Can arrange for some adaptations to be done. Will assist people with applications to the government for funding for adaptations

Council for Older People: Presentation by Marlene P Goethe (Chief)

Volunteers. The council has different levels: regional to local

The council looks at the needs of older people and speaks to the government regarding this . (See fact sheet entitled 'Seniorenrat Biberach' in English and booklet re services for older people in Biberach entitled 'Alterwerden in Biberach' in German)



