

FROM HAMBURG TO CHESTER, the GIANT city AND BACK – BLOG

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Host Family: John and Ruth, Chester

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WEEKS:	What's been on? – What have I been done so far? – How do like things ?
1st week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FRIDAY, 4 OCT: I had a nice and very cheap flight with easyJet and met 2 half English, half German girls got the number of one oft hem during the flight! 😊 • I arrived well in Manchester, still exited but lucky to have been picked up by Susan and drove to 17 Lime Grove in Hoole, Chester. John, my host father welcomes me as his own sown. It feels like being home so far! 😊 • SATURDAY, 5 OCT: First weekend in Chester, and I have been visiting Johns wife and her Family in “welshest Wales”. Later we went to a wild raptor and bird farm, exiting! 😊 • Having a nice time at my host family’s house. I enjoy nice meals and a great room for me alone here. 😊 • SUNDAY, 6 OCT: I had the chance to relax a bit and settle down in Chester before 1st day with Chester GiANTS. We had a great dinner this evening. Later I wrote e-mails with friends and family in Germany. 😊 • MONDAY, 7 OCT: First day at work: Something completely different to what I originally expected, but very interesting people and place to be – CHESTER, THE GIANT CITY 😊 • Kristine is my boss; Lucy the head designer is nice and always looks after me and gives me little tasks and jobs to do! 😊 • TUESDAY, 8 OCT: 2cnd day at work: I broke my I phone on my way to Sealand Road while driving on the bike...😞 Led a workshop with Chris, a wood designer, worker and artist. 😊 • WENDSDAY, 9 OCT: Kristine and Lucy gave me a cool task with Microsoft excels: „I’m getting into it...” 😊 Still working on the giant-customer list it is quite a lot of work, will last over the weekend till at least Monday or Tuesday... • THURSDAY, 10 OCT: I have to create an email list as well to send out mass-emails with Chimp-Mail. I’ll see what I can do about it! 😊 Had a lovely dinner and a great evening with my host parents tonight! • FRIDAY, 11 OCT: Had a to do a stocktaking with inventory of all current stored giants parts with 2 volunteers and went on with my contact lists, Kristine told me to focus on the GiANT email list for • „Mail Chimp“ because further projects are based on it. 😊+😊 • SATURDAY, 12 OCT: Had a fantastic day with my Host Dad: We were cycling around a large lake in Wales and having dinner with his Daughters family near Chester. Had a fabulous meal and watched a great political thriller. 😊 😊 😊 • SUNDAY, 13 OCT: Had a great day with Natascha in Liverpool. We

	<p>went to many different nice shops and saw the Liverpool Museum, Docks, and very many different Pubs. Later I had Dinner with Host Family ☺</p>
<p>2nd week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MONDAY, 14 OCT: I had a hard day @ work, continued in the office to prepare the final list for MAILCHIMP, started research for past events with Giants. Also prepared to continue with stocktaking/ inventory with volunteer. ☹ <p>Had a great Dinner with Host Family, after it went to meeting with Kate, Susan, Natascha and Dave we talked about: How our stay and our work went so far. Went to an nice Pub in Chester, Hoole with Natascha, where we met some funny musicians who invited us to their home to have a drink... ☺</p> • TUESDAY, 15 OCT: Stressful and noisy day at work. Kristine gave me another task to do. I had to write an event file for the Diwali Parade, which takes place on Saturday, even if I had two tasks left. ☹ • WENDSDAY, 16OCT: I had a good but tough day at work continued my event file for the Diwali Parade. ☹ <p>I received Post from Germany again and had a nice evening with Host Family. ☺</p> • THURSDAY, 17 OCT: Tired! But had a good and productive day at work, finished my event file for Saturday and was able to print and cut out the prototype customer-giant email list. Later had a nice dinner and evening with my host family and a great talk to my dad in Germany who sent me a package with his old digital camera. Now I can shoot photos again. Nice day! ☺ • FRIDAY, 18 OCT: Last things to organize for our services and performances at the Festival of Diwali parade. Loaded and assembled the trailer with the “three royal, Indian dresses giants”. Later at work I went on with may email list. At home I ordered delicious Indian food with my host parents. Then Natasha and her host family picked me up to visit a local comedy theatre in Cheshire. Nice! Late I went out with Natascha and some friends wee met in “the Church”, a great bar. We visited another pub and had a great night in “Rosie’s”. ☺ • SATURDAY, 19 OCT: I met Kristine and Lucy earlier this morning for our delivery and services at the parade. One more volunteer, Nasira, came to help us. So we were able to go. Assembling the giants and parking was an easy job. We finished the preparations very quick. The parade started at 12.00pm and went on until 12.30. We did a great job to support this Indian festival with our giants! The Indian community was really happy. After the parade some workshops with Indian food, dancing and craftsmanship took place... We later unassembled the giants and their dresses again to drive

	<p>them back to the GiANTS headquarter. Then had really bad headings and went to bed early before dinner. ☹️, 😊</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUNDAY, 20 OCT: Had a nice breakfast with my host parents. Went to Chester city to buy some postcards. Wrote them and a few letters to friends and family in Germany. Had a nice day in Chester city centre taking some photos, visiting some shops and having good fish and chips. Later I had great dinner with my host family. Nataschas host mom picked me up later and invited us to another cultural event in Upton. We saw a nice little Jazz concert in a community hall. Quite a nice location! Great music! We met lots of interesting people! 😊
3rd week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER: Good, smooth day at work: Continued my giant-customer-contact list, started another event script for the rugby world event match in Warrington between Samoa and New Zealand. Later I helped Lucy our head artist with washing and unesssembling the 3 royal giants from the Diwali Parade. This evening I cooked dinner together with my Host Dad and had a relaxed evening with a beer and some chats to friends in Germany. I also wrote and finished the rest of my postcards. 😊 TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER: Nice day with not too much to do in the office. 😊 Had the possibility to write some emails to a customer with Lucy for the Warrington rugby event. We want to create an event pack and are currently collection information for it. Later Natashas host family invited me to Dinner at their home at queens park, Chester. Just over River Dees bridge, quite near to Queens Park High School. Had a lovely evening with the whole family (Natascha, their both sons Alex and Wilf and the parents Claire and Mike) eating fabulous and tasty dinner, talking and watching T.V. 😊 WENDSDAY, 23 OCTOBER: Productive day at work: I was able to finish filling in the data for contacts of all giants' lists in one excel worktable. I also helped Geoff our "wood-master" with his logs business. Later I had a nice chat and dinner with Ruth and John. I also wrote some more emails, post cards and started a letter to Germany. Wrote my diary and tidied up my documents. Then I prepared myself a bit for the short presentation at Chester's University. 😊 THURSDAY, 24 OCTOBER: I had a short and quite relaxed but interesting day with Chester Giants. I helped Geoff and Eddy to deliver two tons of logs to a buyer near Birkenhead. We had to do two tours with the car to get it there. After this I continued wit the Information pack for the providing service of the Alice in Wonderland giant for the Window

at Warrington Event, which takes place simultaneously to the quarterfinals of the RLWC in Warrington.

I then finished work a bit earlier today to visit the University of Chester with Natascha and Kate.

We presented the Leonardo da Vinci Programme, what we do in our schools and companies in Germany and how our system of training, working in combination with universities and vocational schools works.

Later we had the possibility to talk with the students about a currently running project/ task (creating a Mega-Event), their experiences with University and the event business in general. We will stay in contact with Tim, the professor who introduced us to the students. ☺

- **FRIDAY, 25 OCTOBER:**

I was able to finish putting all "Offline-Information" in my final giant customer and event list at work today. I also finished the small information pack for our Alice in Wonderland giant which goes to Warrington for an rugby event, and gave it to Kristine, my Boss. She was fine with it and told me to help Lucy and Chris a bit with artistic stuff.

Later I had a great evening with my host family with some good desserts, beers and DVDs. ☺

- **SATURDAY, 26 OCTOBER:**

I had a funny day with my host dad. We went to a child's birthday, a Halloween party for his granddaughter. Lovely, very funny! Later we had a good cup of tea and some biscuits at Rachel's (his daughter) House in Wales. From there we drove to a nice Viewing Point in Wales on the top of a Mountain. Great view! Great Country!

In the evening we both cooked pasta together. After Dinner I went to "Cruise" with Natascha and had a lovely, relaxed night. ☺

- **SUNDAY, 27 OCTOBER:**

Today my boss, Kristine, and me went to "Window and Warrington" and the quarter final of the WRLE game between New Zealand and Samoa: We picked up Nasira on Hoole Road and drove to Warrington Stadium. We received our tickets and went to the city centre, market place where the dance performances took place.

We got ourselves a coffee then assembled and dressed the Alice in Wonderland and QEII Giant. So we were able to join the big Window at Warrington parade and enjoyed a nice show.

Later Kristine and me went to the WORLD RUGBY LEAGUE CUP quarterfinal in Warrington between New Zealand and Samoa. Many dancers came to the Halliwal Jones Stadium to perform there as well. New Zealand won the game quite obviously. Great match, great show! Kristine gave Nasira, who was staying with the giants, and me a lift home and I had a lovely portion of bacon and eggs with my host family. Great day! ☺

4th week

- **MONDAY, 28 OCTOBER:**

Last Week! And it only felt like a few days I have been to Chester now.

I had a productive and good day at work. The clock has been putting backward today. It is getting dark very early now.

I helped Geoff with his Logs then I added some information to the "Alice in Warrington" script. I started with researching information and dates for the Christmas event with three giants in a Christmas/oriental theme. I also printed out final Lists for stocktaking the giant inventory with Karl our warehouse manager.

We originally planed to go out to a pub this evening with the GiANT staff but instead we chose the Friday and "the church", a pub I have already been to with Natascha, to have our party to meet the board members of GHQ and to say good bye to me.

Instead I had the chance to learn for my final exams and to prepare a few documents for Arbeit und Leben and the Leonardo da Vinci programme. Good day! ☺

- **TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER:**

Started my day with to less sleep and to much work. So I got a bit Headache and had to take a paracetamol. ☹ Nevertheless I went on with the event information Pack for the "Christmas Lights Switch On" in Rhyl. Therefore I wrote some emails with Lucy to our contact and collected information from the internet.

I also printed out he first final giant customer list to fill in additional information handwritten.

I needed to print out my boarding pass as well as a conformation for my stay under accommodation at my host family's house.

John, my host dad signed it for me later.

My headache went better when I got home and had a good Dinner with tea! ☺ I made my date with Kate and Susan to go through all documents and sign the Leonardo agreement.

- **WENDSDAY, 30 OCTOBER:**

I felt better this morning and had a good day with lots of different things do in the office today. Unfortunately our customer did not answer yet. So I worked with my GiANT customer list and filled in more information. I invited all colleges/ staff from Chester GiANTS HG to a Lager at the "church", a nice new pub in Chester to say good-bye to "the German guy"! ☺

Later I went shopping and had some good dinner with my host dad. My host mum, Ruth, went out to "The Church" with some friends this evening.

- **THURSDAY, 31 OCTOBER:**

Halloween! ☺

I started a busy day at work with helping Lizzy in the kitchen and preparing some workshops for the Probation.

I went on filling the last necessary information into my GiANT customer-event list and researched new e-mail addresses and telephone numbers.

Later Chris, Paula and me helped Kristine to collect 3 Giants from Birkenhead, load them on our trailer and drive them back to GiANTS HQ.

After I got home I had a tasty dinner with my host parents. This evening I went through and signed all-important documents for my stay, my flight back and the Leonardo da Vinci scholarship with Kate and Susan. 😊

Later I'll be maybe out with Natascha and her host brother to celebrate a Halloween party at cruise. But don't know yet... I have to get up tomorrow morning early!

- **FRIDAY, 1 NOVEMBER:**
- **SATURDAY, 2 NOVEMBER:**
- **SUNDAY, 3 NOVEMBER:**
- **MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER:**