



**DEG**

**No. 1  
January 2015**

**Deutsch- Englische Gesellschaft  
Anglo- German Association  
Braunschweig e. V.**

**Newsletter**

Published by the editing team of the DEG.

President:

Treve Erdmenger, Steinhorswiese 20A, 38108 Braunschweig

Tel.: 0531 352160 E-Mail: bjheck@gmx.de

www.deg-bs.jimdo.com

Our yearly membership fee is

20 € for single and 30 € for couple or family

Konto: NordLB 328039 BLZ 250 500 00

IBAN: DE33250500000000328039 BIC: NOLADE2HXXX.

**EDITORIAL**

Dear Members and Friends,

We hope that the New Year has got off to a good start for everyone, and wish you all continued peace and harmony. Let us hope that, on the world stage, striving to end conflicts, and achieve understanding among people of different faiths and convictions, and to attain a more equal distribution of resources and prosperity will bring the hoped for results, if not immediately, then in the not too distant future. That friendship between former "enemies" is possible can be seen, so to speak, on our own doorstep, here in Europe, where we last year commemorated the end of terrible conflicts and the beginning of new relationships, leading to the establishment of the European Union, with its ever-increasing membership.

In our particular case, the friendship between Germany and Great Britain has flourished, due to the efforts of politicians and many other organisations, including the various twinning associations. These have had the very important function of bringing ordinary citizens into contact with one another. Thanks to home-stays, sporting functions, music, drama and other cultural events, and school exchanges, many long-lasting friendships have been formed and even marriages have resulted!

Sadly, we now see the rise of much anti-European feeling, with political parties gaining support who wish for their country to sever ties with the EU and go it alone. On the other hand, last year Scottish voters rejected independence, which might have led to Scotland no longer, being a member of the EU, while states now on the fringe, such as parts of former Yugoslavia, or the Soviet Union, hope to join.

We cannot take our bi-lateral friendships for granted. At the end of last year we were very heartened by the visit of pupils from the Ralph Allen School in Bath to the IGS Franzshes Feld in Braunschweig, and this year a group from the IGS is about to visit Bath. It was good to hear that parents in Bath are now more interested in supporting school exchanges.

We have already announced, in our short letter earlier in the month, that we plan to visit Bath in July, when the City of Bath Pétanque Club celebrates its 10th anniversary. A group will fly over from 16th to 21st July. As it is necessary to make plane and hotel bookings quite soon, please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to join this trip. It is not necessary to be able to play pétanque(boule). We will do sightseeing in Bath and surrounding area, as well as taking part in the festivities organised by the Pétanque Club and enjoying the summer atmosphere in Bath.

We also hope that a group will go on the proposed trip to Hanover in February, to see the We Love Britain exhibition, following on the very successful trip to the exhibition on the Hannoverian Kings of Britain last year. And of course we look forward to seeing many of you at our regular meetings. A varied and interesting programme awaits us up to the summer holiday period.

Best Wishes to all for 2015!

Treve Erdmenger and Committee

## Programme Conversation Group January - July 2015

**Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> January:** - Let's start the New Year with a fun evening. Come and join Jane and Volker Henke for a Scottish evening to celebrate Robert Burns' birthday. We'll try a little shortbread and take a dram to put us in the mood for singing, dancing and a few poems.

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February:** - Visit to the Sprengel-Museum, Hanover to see the exhibition We Love Britain, showing photographic impressions by Martin Parr of "Britishness". Lady Di is included. Travel by train with Niedersachsen Ticket, departure 10.20 Braunschweig Hbf. Cost: train 9 Euros, exhibition 5 Euros (seniors reduced). Details on participating, meeting point, etc. will be given later.

**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March:** - An Evening with Agatha Christie (1890-1976). In celebration of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birthday, we will take a look at the fascinating life of one of the best-known British crime novelists. We will be introduced to her work including the most popular characters she created, Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot.

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March:** - The British and their Pastimes. Many pass their time with voluntary work. Barbara Heck will talk about the great variety of voluntary activities that her friends in Bath and elsewhere are involved in. Hear about helping at car races, or organising trips on canal boats and much more. Barbara will also report on her visit to Bath and a meeting of the BBTA in March, 2014.

**Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April:** - 3 p.m (15.00) Kinomuseum Vollbüttel. We'll have a tour of the historic film and cinema equipment at the museum; celebrate the 60th birthday of Mr Bean (Rowan Atkinson) by viewing his amazing sketches and finish with coffee and cake in the Kino-café. Cost: about 8 Euros. Transport by car-sharing. Details of departure time, how to get there, nearer to the date.

**Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May:** - My Time in Bath. A 16-year-old girl will report about the 3 months she spent in Bath. She will tell us what it was like attending a Catholic school and being in a host family in a foreign country. She will include impressions of the city and the surrounding area.

**Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May:** - A New Approach to Health and Well-being. Rainer Meyer-Prüßner will show film material and lead a discussion on the possibilities of healing by involving the whole persona - body and soul - in the process. The connection between thought or mood and the immune system will be considered. Please note that the film material is in German and the discussion in English.

**Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> June:** - The Elgar Society. Wolfgang-Armin Rittmeier will introduce us to the life and works of the now rather neglected British composer, Sir Edward Elgar, and to the aims of the Elgar Society. Best-known now for his Pomp and Circumstance March No 1, Elgar composed many other works, including Songs from the Bavarian Highlands. He spent holidays in Germany and knew German composers of the time, such as Richard Strauss. All this changed with the outbreak of World War I. Excerpts from his compositions will be presented. It is hoped that later in the year some of Elgar's works will be performed at a concert in Braunschweig.

**Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June:** Annual General Meeting / Jahreshauptversammlung

**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July:** Topic will be announced later

Meetings take place at the AWO-Haus, Frankfurter Strasse 18, 38122 Braunschweig, unless otherwise stated. Doors open at 7.30 p.m. (19.30) with the main topic at 8.00 p.m. Topic may be changed due to unforeseen circumstances

**How to join the DEG:** If you would like to become a member of our Association, please ask Treve Erdmenger or another committee member for a Membership Form to fill in. We appreciate your support. If you would like to receive our Newsletter please let us have your E-mail address and you will be added to our mailing list.

**Pay Day Reminder:** If you have not yet paid your membership fee for 2015 (or 2014, 2013...) please do so as soon as possible. It is 20,00 Euros for one person and 30,00 Euros for a couple or family