



Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association



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Monthly meetings

Monthly meetings will be held in the Mayor's Parlour in the Guildhall in Bath at 2 pm on the following dates:

3 May* (2.30 pm)
7 June
5 July - AGM
2 Aug
6 Sept
4 Oct
(Nov no meeting)
6 Dec



Letter from Braunschweig

Mark Twain used to say: "In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." This seems like an exact description of the current weather conditions in Braunschweig. One day we are sitting in our gardens, enjoying the sun and the beautiful flowers, next day we feel like putting on our winter boots and coat and fighting the cold. As a result, many people are down with influenza. But the positive aspect is: Summer is coming and we are looking forward to our visitors from Bath for the big cultural event in June, the "Kulturnacht". It will be an amazing and wonderful addition to the programme to welcome artists and guests from all international twin cities.

Best wishes from

Katrin and the DEG



Letter from the Chairman

Hello, fellow members and a Happy Springtime to you all. It's been a funny few weeks for me, having undergone two successful operations to remove cataracts and battling chaotic weather conditions here at Claverton Down - but all is well and my sight now perfect! Our Association was pleased to host visits from three guests from Braunschweig, Dr. Franziska Gromadecki, and Dr. Britta Jänicke, representing environmental issues common to both cities, and Sabine Apel, from the Department of International Relations. The Mayoral staff, Elizabeth and Anthony, did us proud, as usual, and helped to make our guests feel welcome.

A number of our members have been experiencing health problems of late and we wish them well.

I realise that RMS Titanic is totally unrelated to the Association but it has been one of my focuses since 2011 (my Mayoral year) and I shall be giving a talk at the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution (9th May - 7.30pm) on the ship's links to Bath. One of the highlights of these links was the Titanic's oldest survivor, Edwina Troutt, who was born in Bath in 1884 and I have finally managed to have a metal plaque created to honour her existence and this will be placed in Southgate in the coming weeks.

Kulturnacht Braunschweig 22 June 2019

Uke Can't Be Serious

We travel out to Braunschweig on Thursday 20th June and will attend a civic reception in the evening.

On Friday we will be leading a 'flashmob' of all nine participating acts singing '*Let It Be*'. After this we expect to busk over lunchtime. In the evening we will attend a summer party of various Braunschweig 'friendship associations' with countries from around the world. We hope to present a painting of Bath to the Mayor at this party or at the reception on Thursday evening.

On Saturday we will do a city tour in the morning. In the afternoon we will rehearse for the Kulturnacht with the other eight twin cities. We will then perform at the Kulturnacht and lead a final 'flashmob' of *Let It Be* in the hall.

On Sunday, we will travel home.

Bath Operatic and Dramatic Society

The Bath Operatic and Dramatic Society will also be participating in the Kulturnacht. Their previous visit in June 2017 partly in cooperation with the Cortez Musik Theater was a great success.

Environmental Visit

Our 3 visitors from Braunschweig, Drs Franziska Gromadecki [FG] and Britta Jaenicke [BJ] from the Dept of Environmental Protection and Sabine Apel [SA] from the Dept of International Relations, have written to say that they found the visit both interesting and enjoyable.

The programme included a Mayoral Reception, which was followed by a forum on environmental topics with short presentations from 3 officers from BANES Council and FG and BJ. There were visits to the Roman Baths, the Bath Abbey Footprint Project and the Wessex Water HQ at Claverton Down.

The visit concluded with a talk to the German Society of Bath by FG and BJ followed by a lively discussion.

SA was able to make contact with both Huw Morgan from BODS and Andy Ward from 'Uke Can't be Serious' to discuss their forthcoming participation in the Braunschweig Kulturnacht in June. She was also very happy finally to meet Anthony Martin and Elizabeth Mence in the Mayor's Office; in addition she took back with her a large number of booklets and a DVD from the Bath Tourist Office.

Martin Guest



Bridge Visit March 2019

From Thursday 28th February to Monday 4th March members of Bridge and Games, Bath, and Bath Bridge Club were delighted to welcome some 15 guests from bridge + art, Braunschweig for a weekend of bridge and social activities.

After a buffet and bridge at Bath Bridge Club on the Thursday evening, the guests were welcomed officially by the Mayor of Bath, Cllr. Patrick Anketell-Jones, on the Friday and were then given the opportunity to explore the Roman Baths and have a guided tour of the city. Those who had taken part in the previous exchange were able to meet old friends and get to know Bath better. The weekend was devoted to the Wiltshire Congress, an annual green pointed event which was held at Bath University and at which many of our guests were able to display their bridge skills. These two highly competitive days were rounded off with a party hosted by Gill and Andrew Clarke, at which everyone joined in singing traditional German folk songs.

The final session of bridge saw us reunited in Queen Square, where Bridge and Games, Bath, hosted the bridge and offered a delicious cream tea for the refreshments. They also invited our guests to cocktails in the Canary Gin Bar before we all moved on to the "Scallop Shell" for traditional fish and chips. Many thanks to both clubs and to BBTA for generous assistance with hospitality for our guests, who all expressed themselves delighted with the arrangements for the weekend. We now look forward to our return visit to Brunswick in 2021.

Judy Spencer