

WGC

Wharfedale German Circle

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2022

Monthly Meetings.

These will be held at the Salem Hall, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7DG, starting at 7.30 for 8 pm unless stated. From November to February our events will start at 3 for 3.30 pm.

Sunday 16th October 2022 - Das Ruhrgebiet - Vom Kohlenpott zur europäischen Kulturhauptstadt.

Wolfgang Keinhorst, a retired Graduate Teaching Fellow at Leeds University, will tell us about the history and development of the Ruhr area. This was once the largest coal-producing region in Europe, then had to face big structural and economic changes in the late 20th century, earning the title of 'European City of Culture' in 2010. The talk will be in German, with pictures and relevant music, as well as short summaries in English.

Sunday 13th November 2022 - 29 years Anglo-German Walks - a chronicle (eine Chronik)

WGC member **Neil McDonald** will tell us about the business he built up to bring together over 400 German- and English-speaking guests in walking harmony in the British Isles and on the continent. The talk will be in German with English summaries. **Please note this is an afternoon meeting starting at 3pm**

Sunday 11th December - Weihnachtsfeier (Christmas do) 3-5 pm.

German-style refreshments will be provided, and we are putting together a series of festive activities for this event. They are likely to include readings, games, a film extract, a quiz and musical items. If you have any suggestions or would like to do a turn, please contact Chris and Fiona Farquhar or Peter Lodge. A fun afternoon is guaranteed!

Future dates - 15th January 2023, 12th February 2023, 12th March 2023

Other activities.

Kaffee und Kuchen: These conversation sessions, held on ZOOM, are open to all members and their friends who would like to practise speaking German. The first half of each session is for general conversation and news, and during the second half a specific

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topic (eg a holiday in Germany, memories of schooldays, a favourite museum or gallery etc.) is considered. Participants are split into smaller groups as and when appropriate. Kaffee und Kuchen takes place twice a month on Friday afternoons from 3.30 until 5pm.

Beginners' German lessons: The fourth series of 8 weekly lessons on ZOOM has just begun. They take place on Thursdays from 5.30 to 6.30 pm and are free to all existing and new members. We are also running a few **advanced sessions** at times to be arranged with participants. Contact Peter if you're interested in either of the above.

Student events: Recent events organised by the WGC alone or in conjunction with the Foreign Language Assistants Committee at Leeds University have included a visit to Halifax Minster and Piece Hall, a trip to Whitby, and a baking day and Ilkley Moor walk. Watch this space for information about events for the new cohort of foreign language assistants due to arrive in Yorkshire in October 2022. Any student or FLA who would like to be involved should contact Marilyn at wgcircle@gmail.com. WGC members wishing to help with activities should contact Marilyn or Peter.

Zoom meetings for WGC members and our German contacts: In our quest to strengthen and re-establish links between the WGC and our contacts in Germany, we had a successful first A-G Zoom meeting on 15th March with nine participants in Germany and eleven WGC members. Discussion took place in English or German, whichever the participants felt most comfortable with. We followed the "Kaffee und Kuchen" format, i.e. some whole-group discussion and then smaller break-out groups of 4 or 5 people. At this inaugural meeting we each introduced ourselves and also discussed holidays. Our second meeting was on Wednesday 1st June, when we discussed some items that had been in the press in both countries, and our 3rd meeting will be at the end of August. If you have not yet contacted Marilyn about this, but feel you'd like to take part, please get in touch with her as soon as possible at wgcircle@gmail.com.

The Sprachcafé/Language Café, run by the Leeds Anglo German Club, takes place at the Lawnswood Arms, Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 7PH from 10 am until 12 noon on the first Monday of the month. The next sessions will be on 7th November and 5th December.

Events organised by other local German groups, e.g. the Leeds Anglo German Club and the Calderdale German Circle, are frequently available to our members. Some of these are on ZOOM, others in person, and invitations are forwarded before each meeting.

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Contact: Information on all our activities can be found at www.germancircle.ilkley.org, Our website includes a "hot of the press" page with recommendations for items in the media relating to the German speaking world. Our email address is wgcircle@gmail.com