

# WGC

## Wharfedale German Circle

### NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 3 pm for 3.30 pm.**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 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!**

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - Unsere Eltern kamen aus Deutschland oder Österreich**

**4 or 5 WGC members and friends** will tell us about the circumstances and events which led their parents - or one of them - to come and live in the UK. Some of the talks will be illustrated, and they will all be either in English, or in German with English summaries. **This is an afternoon event starting at 3 pm for 3.30 pm.**

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**12<sup>th</sup> February 2023 - The Doncaster-Herten link**

Following the promotion of Doncaster to "city status", **Peter Hattam** of the Doncaster Herten German Society will tell us about the history of the club, how friendships have evolved and the exchanges that have been arranged. He will provide an overview of Herten and the surrounding areas that club members have visited. The talk will be in German and English, and is **an afternoon event starting at 3 pm for 3.30 pm.**

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30 pm for 8 pm -TBA. Watch this space!**

### **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 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, usually on Friday afternoons from 4.00 until 5.30 pm.

**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: An introductory afternoon at Leeds University, the traditional treasure hunt followed by cream tea in Ilkley and a guided tour of Skipton.

Other events for the autumn include trips to Haworth, York and Saltaire, as well as some social events. Any student or FLA who would like to be involved should contact Marilyn at [wgcircle@gmail.com](mailto:wgcircle@gmail.com). WGC members wishing to help with activities should contact Marilyn or Peter.

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**Zoom meetings for WGC members and our German contacts.** We have now held three very successful "Anglo-German Zoom" meetings between WGC members and our friends in Germany. We like to have the same number of British-based and German-based participants (about 20 in total), so we would like more WGC members to take part. Discussion takes place in English or German, whichever the participants feel most comfortable with. There is some whole-group discussion and then smaller break-out groups of 4 or 5 people.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd November (at 7pm in the UK, 8pm in Germany), when we will discuss items that have been in the press in both countries and our Advent/Christmas customs. 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](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Contact:** Information on all our activities can be found at [www.germancircle.ilkley.org](http://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](mailto:wgcircle@gmail.com)