

WGC

Wharfedale German Circle

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024

Monthly Meetings

These are held at the Salem Hall, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7DG, at the times stated.

Sunday 13 October 2024, 7.30 – 9.15pm – The pork butchers from Hohenlohe
Karl-Heinz Wüstner on the pork butchers originally from Hohenlohe in SW Germany, who settled in the Bradford area in the 19th Century. The talk will be in German with English summaries.

Sunday 17th November 2024, 3-4.45pm – German wines
WGC member Heike Funke will give us a talk on German wines. More details to follow.

Sunday 15th December 2024, 3-5pm – Weihnachtsfeier
This is always a lovely event. German-style refreshments will be provided, and we are putting together a series of festive activities. 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 Marion Lawson or Peter Lodge. A fun afternoon is guaranteed!

Looking ahead, with more information to follow

Talks planned for early 2025 include **Hildegard von Bingen**, the **Brothers Grimm**, **German popular culture** and **Hamburg and its surroundings**. The meetings are scheduled for the afternoons of 19th January, 16th February and 16th March, and our AGM will be on the evening of 13th April.

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 (e.g., 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 4.00 until 5.30 pm. The next Kaffee und Kuchen will be on 27th September.

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Zoom meetings for WGC members and our German contacts: For the past few years, once per quarter, we have been running evening Zoom meetings between the WGC and our contacts in Germany. We discuss what's topical and anything else that takes our fancy, speaking English or German, whichever participants feel most comfortable with. We follow the "Kaffee und Kuchen" format, i.e. some whole-group discussion and then smaller break-out groups of 4 or 5 people. All WGC members are welcome to take part. Also, if you have a friend in Germany, Austria or Switzerland who'd like to be involved, please encourage them to join us. Anyone interested in these Anglo-German Zoom meetings should get in touch with Marilyn at wgcircle@gmail.com. The next one will be on Wednesday 20th November, at 7pm in the UK, 8pm in Germany.

Mainz visit: We had a very enjoyable trip to Mainz for WGC members in May of this year. Activities included guided tours of the historic cities of Mainz and Worms, and a "circular tour" from Rudesheim, involving a cablecar ride, a walk, a chair lift and a boat ride in this beautiful part of the Rhine valley. It was a delight to meet up with German friends who joined us and entertained us for much of our time in their country. We look forward to a return visit from them in June 2025.

German lessons: The ninth series of 8 weekly lessons on **Zoom** started in September. They take place on Thursdays from 5.30 to 6.30 pm and are free to all existing and new members. We are also willing to run a few **advanced sessions** at times to be arranged with participants. Contact Peter if you're interested in either of the above.

Student events: Events are currently being organised by the WGC alone or in conjunction with the Foreign Language Assistants Committee at Leeds University for the new cohort of assistants due to arrive in Yorkshire in October 2024. This year events will include the Ilkley Treasure Trail and visits to Saltaire, Skipton, Haworth and the Mining Museum. 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.

The Sprachcafé/Language Café, run by the Leeds Anglo German Club, takes place at the Queens Arms, Harrogate Road, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, LS7 3PT from 10 am until 12 noon on the first Monday of the month. The next sessions will be on 7th Oct. and 4th Nov.

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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, 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