



Wharfedale German Circle

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2026

Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings are held at the Salem Hall, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7DG. Please ensure you check the individual meeting times for the event in question. We start with refreshments and a chat at the times indicated below, and the welcome and main item begin half an hour later.

Sunday 18th October 2026, 7 - 9pm - Film

We'll be watching the German film produced in 2021 that we were not able to see in January. It lasts 102 minutes so the show will start as soon as possible after 7.30 pm. Bring your own popcorn!

Sunday 15th November 2026, 3 - 5pm - Westdeutschland in den 70er Jahren

50 years on, WGC Chair Peter Lodge will give a personal reflection on the 1970s in West Germany. His talk will be in German with English summaries and will touch on key issues like the internal German border, nuclear power, and the Red Army Faction, but not forgetting the late Kevin Keegan's move to Hamburg!

This is the first of our afternoon meetings this Autumn.

Sunday 13th December 2026, 3-5pm - Weihnachtsfeier, the WGC's Christmas do.

Sunday 17th January 2027 - Charlotte von Mecklenburg-Strelitz

Mick Ganley will do a talk in English on Charlotte von Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who was the wife of George III.

Other activities.

Visit of Geoff Tranter and his group from Dortmund, 21st -26th October.

Once again Geoff and his group will be visiting Yorkshire, and a full itinerary is already planned. WGC members are warmly invited to attend some of the activities. The programme is attached to this email for you to peruse.

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 part of each session is for general conversation and news, and during the second half a specific



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topic (e.g. a holiday in Germany, a current issue, a favourite book/film) is considered. Participants are split into smaller groups as and when appropriate. K und K takes place twice a month on Friday afternoons from 4.00 until 5.30 pm. The next sessions will be on 2nd and 16th October.

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 run evening meetings with them once per quarter on Zoom. We discuss what's topical and anything else that takes our fancy, and participants can speak in English or German, whichever they feel most comfortable with. We follow the "K und K" format, i.e., some whole-group discussion and then smaller break-out groups of 4 or 5 people. We'd like more WGC members 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. If you have not yet contacted Marilyn about this Anglo-German Zoom meeting, but feel you'd like to take part, please get in touch with her at wgcircle@gmail.com. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th November, at 7pm in the UK, 8pm in Germany.

Student events: These events are organised by the WGC alone or in conjunction with the Foreign Language Assistants Committee at Leeds University. This year students will participate in a baking day and walk on Ilkley Moor, and excursions to Howarth, York, Skipton, Saltaire and Halifax. 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.

German lessons: The latest series of 8 weekly lessons on Zoom will commence in the second half of October, exact date to be confirmed. They are held 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 agreed with participants. Contact Peter if you're interested in either of the above.



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The Sprachcafé/Language Café, run by the Leeds Anglo German Club, takes place at Queen's Arms, 201 Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS7 3PT, from 10 am until 12 noon on the first Monday of the month. The next session will be on 5th October.

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.

John Harris

We are very sorry to report that John Harris, husband of Alison, died peacefully in August after quite a long illness. We cannot do justice here to John's outstanding career, but we were certainly honoured to have him in our club over the past few years. Our first contact with him was when he brought Alison from Harrogate to our meetings, taking a stroll around Burley while she was with us, and then driving her home again. After 2 or 3 times we invited him to join us, which he did, becoming a very active and enthusiastic member. We shall miss him greatly, but will always remember him with fondness and respect, and our deepest sympathy goes to Alison and the family. A memorial event is scheduled in Harrogate on Saturday 17th October. Please ask Peter for details if you would like to attend.

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