



Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association



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Monthly meetings

Monthly meetings are held in the Mayor's Parlour in the Guildhall in Bath on

4 January

1 February

1 March

5 April

3 May

7 June

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Letter from Braunschweig

A long, dry and hot summer is finally and definitely over. It was so amazing to have temperatures around 30 degrees in October but somehow it was hard to enjoy when you consider the background of this phenomenon, i.e. the climate change which does exist (!). It won't be long and the Christmas season will start with everyone hustling and bustling around. After all the heat and the huge amount of sunshine we should all have our energy stores reloaded to meet this challenge.

On this philosophical note, best wishes from Katrin Landsmann



Letter from the Chairman

The past few weeks have been unusually busy, as I am heavily involved in the forthcoming '*Twerton - 100 Years Ago*' exhibition at the Bath City Football Club which is on November 10th. What began as a gentle request for advice from the event's organiser, Sally Harris, developed into a major research programme. The exhibition focuses on the Centenary of the Great War - 1914-18 - and there will be a table of fascinating exhibits, which include family photographs of the period and an array of Great War relics, both domestic and otherwise. I shall also take our BBTA Membership forms in an endeavour to attract interest in our movement. As we have discussed on previous occasions, we do need more members and younger ones at that!

The End of the First World War - the German Perspective

a talk by Robert Grözinger on 15 Nov 2018 to the German Society

This stimulating and original presentation was very well attended. Below is a summary of the salient points:

World War 1 resulted from:

- the gradual emergence of a highly unstable situation in Europe.
- a new, powerful country, *Germany*, being led by an erratic, insecure head of state.
- Britain not making it clear to *Germany* in time that it would side with France

Remembrance culture differs between Britain and *Germany* in that in Britain, remembrance brings the whole country together. In *Germany*, remembrance is a small affair, limited to a few people gathering in every town and village; there is no countrywide 2-minute silence.

Germany thoroughly examines its past culpability, but a victorious nation like Britain sees no need to do so.

Both countries could and should learn from one another. Britain could gain from a more objective view of history, *Germany* from a more unifying, nationwide remembrance culture.



If you would like to practise your *German* in a friendly informal atmosphere over 'Kaffee und Kuchen' come to the Stammtisch - every Wednesday lunchtime throughout the year and occasional evenings as well. As the venue has recently been changed please contact philippa@haringtonglass.co.uk for the latest information.



BBTA Annual Lunch

This year our annual get together, ably organized by Judy Spencer, was at the recently reopened Pack Horse in Southstoke. 18 members including 2 new members enjoyed good food and hospitality.

A raffle raised £42 for the association.

Visit from Ricarda-Huch-Schule in Braunschweig



On 24th September, the Mayor of Bath, Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones, hosted a reception for 15 pupils and their accompanying teachers from the Ricarda-Huch-Schule in Braunschweig. The visitors were taking part in an exchange with King Edward's School, a tradition which started some 30 years ago. While here they not only enjoyed their hosts' hospitality but were able to visit the sights of Bath and other tourist attractions. A group of pupils from King Edward's was able to make a reciprocal visit in October. Both schools enjoy a thriving language learning environment and are active in fostering international relations.

Judy Spencer



Bath Bridge Club and Bridge and Games, Bath, are pleased that a further exchange with our Brunswick bridge-playing friends will take place early next March (2019). We are expecting around fourteen visitors, and they will play in both clubs as well as at the Wiltshire Congress - a Green Pointed event - at the University of Bath. There will be a full social programme for our guests, and we look forward to renewing old friendships and forging new ones.

Judy Spencer

Proposed Visits and Exchanges 2019

March: 3 day visit to Bath by the Director of the Dept of the Environment, City of Braunschweig. Later in the month 14 visitors from Braunschweig will visit Bath to play Bridge

June: 3 day visit to Braunschweig by members of both the *Bath Operatic and Dramatic Society* and the ukelele band *Uke Can't be Serious*. Both will be performing in Braunschweig at the grand Kulturnacht on 22 June

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year!