



Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association



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Until further notice society meetings will be held by Zoom. Following consultation with members 7 pm on a Friday suited a large majority.

to join contact: Martin Guest, Membership Secretary BBTA
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DEG

Letter from Braunschweig

2020 - what an exceptional year! Who would have thought that this year would be dominated by a new virus, diseases, vaccinations, lockdown, shutdown... Now we are in the middle of a "Lockdown light" as it is called in Germany. The situation is a real disaster - especially for artists, theatres and restaurants. And who knows how it will go on? On the positive side, I am deeply impressed by so many people developing creative ideas, using new technological devices to keep us connected and in some cases even broaden our horizon. There are so many things to be discovered virtually.

Stay safe, stay healthy.

Best wishes from Katrin and the DEG

The BBTA AGM 2019 was held on line on Friday 7 Aug 2020

The following officers were all reelected:

Chairman	Bryan Chalker
Vice Chairman	Jeremy Key-Pugh
Hon. Secretary	Hilary Elms
Hon. Treasurer/Minutes Secretary	Tony Horstmann
Membership Secretary	Martin Guest

There are in addition 5 committee members

Bridge News



Keep calm – and carry on playing bridge!

During the past few months we have not been idle: contacts to our bridge friends in Brunswick have increased dramatically. It has always been possible to play bridge online, but since the early days of lockdown our clubs here in Bath have taken up the invitation of our counterparts in Brunswick to play in a weekly twinning tournament. This attracts some forty players each week, with occasional guests from other continents – and even robots!

The tournaments are hosted by Christina Lehne and directed by her and our own Christine MacFarlane (as shown in the photo), and also by other guest directors.

Tentative plans for Bath's next visit to Brunswick are being considered for May 2021, but in the meantime our virtual friendship is developing well.

STAMMTISCH



You're never too young to start speaking *German*!
Would you like to speak *German* in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere? Our Stammtisch meets every Wednesday at 13.00 in a Zoom video session. Bath German Society also continues to host a variety of interesting talks, also on Zoom. Please contact Martin Guest for details on how to join.

Forthcoming Events for 2021

3 to 6 May Civic visit of Mayor Ulrich Markurth (a group of 4) to Bath

The city of Brunswick is naming a new bridge after Bath. To reciprocate this honour, go to the B&NES website, where suggestions for the naming of the new bridge in Bath can be made.

Sadly our Pre-Christmas meal will not be taking place this year. However as soon as as is feasible we look forward to meeting up again for a meal.

Recommended for lockdown:

Netflix:

"Charité" (6 episodes). set in the late 19th century it features the great pathologists Koch, Ehrlich and others working in Berlin's famous Charité Hospital.

"Charité at war" (6 episodes) the sequel. Life and work at the hospital in 1943

Both are in *German* (not difficult to follow) with English subtitles and both are fascinating from a medical and a historical perspective

A good read:

The House by the Lake by Thomas Harding (in English)

The story of a house from the early 19th century, the families that lived in it and its subsequent restoration by a descendant of the original owner

Don't speak German? Why not learn?

U3A Bath have 2 beginners' groups that meet weekly

German a bit rusty? Why not brush it up?

U3A Bath have an intermediate group that meets weekly

German quite good? Why not come to the Stammtisch?

See box on p4 above

or come to a Bath German Society monthly meeting?

Polite Notice

Annual subscriptions were due in April. Bath members will be receiving a reminder in due course.