



Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft
Anglo-German Association
Braunschweig e.V.

www.deg-bs.de

Newsletter

No. 7 ♦ August 2023

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DEG Newsletter August 2023



Editorial – by Paul Kavanagh

The DEG with its ideals of making this world a little better and a more open place has always been interested in communicating with other institutions like the Bath Braunschweig Twinning Association, schools, colleges and universities. With this in mind, about 4 years ago, I met Carol Stoltenberg at a reception in Richmond castle and immediately we were on the same wave length with identical aims to extend the work we have both been doing for quite some years.

But due to the unforeseen interruption by Covid everything was put on ice, but thanks to the staff in the local council especially Sabine Apel and her colleague Gülcan Soak it was not forgotten.

Sister cities, known in Europe as twin towns, are cities which cooperate with each other to promote contacts and cultural links.

See below the agreement.

Paul Kavanagh





DEG Newsletter August 2023

Vereinbarung zur freundschaftlichen Zusammenarbeit und gegenseitiger Unterstützung in städtepartnerschaftlichen Belangen

Im Rahmen der bestehenden Städtepartnerschaft zwischen den Städten Bath/Großbritannien mit Braunschweig/Deutschland sowie Omaha/Neb-raska (USA) mit Braunschweig/Deutschland verständigen sich die **Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft Braunschweig e.V. aus Braunschweig** und die

Omaha Sister Cities Association aus Omaha

auf eine freundschaftliche Zusammenarbeit in städtepartnerschaftlichen Belangen.

Ziele der Vereinbarung

Unterstützung des gemeinsamen Kennenlernens der Bürgerinnen und Bürger der beteiligten Städte und das Vertiefen des Austausches zwischen den Bevölkerungen in den Bereichen Kultur, Jugendaustausch, Wirtschaft, Soziales und Verwaltung.

Förderung der deutsch-britisch-amerikanischen Freundschaft zwischen den Bürgerinnen und Bürgern der beteiligten Kommunen und Realisierung bilateraler oder trilateraler Projekte im Rahmen der Städtepartnerschaft bzw. der Kooperation der beteiligten Freundschaftsvereine.

Wirken für den Frieden in Europa, den USA und der Welt.

Ausschluss von Verpflichtungen

Aus dieser Vereinbarung ergeben sich weder für die beteiligten Freundschaftsvereine noch für die Kommunen Verpflichtungen, weder in organisatorischer noch finanzieller Hinsicht.

Eine Zusammenarbeit erfolgt auf freiwilliger und freundschaftlicher Basis.

Paul Kavanagh
Präsident.
Abteilung
Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft
Braunschweig e.V

Carol Stoltenberg
Stellv. Vorsitzende der Braunschweig-
Omaha Sister Cities Association





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**Agreement
for friendly cooperation and mutual support
in town twinning matters**

In the context of the existing twinning partnership between the cities of Bath/Great Britain and Braunschweig/Germany as well as between Omaha/Nebraska (USA) and Braunschweig/Germany, the

Anglo-German Association in Braunschweig
and the

Omaha Sister Cities Association in Omaha

agree on a friendly cooperation in town twinning matters.

Goals of the agreement

Support of the common acquaintance of the citizens of the participating cities and the deepening of the exchange between the populations in the areas of culture, youth exchange, economy, social affairs and administration.

Promotion of the German-British-American friendship between the citizens of the participating municipalities and realization of bilateral or trilateral projects within the framework of the town twinning or the cooperation of the participating friendship associations.

Working for peace in Europe, the USA and the world.

Exclusion of obligations

This agreement does not impose any obligations, either organizational or financial, on the participating friendship associations or on the municipalities.

Cooperation is on a voluntary and friendly basis.

Paul Kavanagh
President.
Anglo-German Association

Carol Stoltenberg
Vice chair for Braunschweig
Omaha Sister Cities Association





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In Memoriam Don Withers

Sadly, we must inform you about the death of Don Withers, a good friend and twinning enthusiast from Bath. Please read the following obituary written by his two sons Paul and Simon.

Don sadly passed away peacefully aged 88 in June 2023. He became chairman of the BBTA in 2001 and stepped down in 2012 because of ill health. He spent his school days in Salisbury and Bath before joining the Army Pay Corps as a corporal. He was posted to Sierra Leone for 21 months where he became Acting Sergeant.

After leaving the army he worked for Duck Son & Pinker and then for a short while at The Horstmann Gear Company before joining Stothert & Pitt as a buyer for the rest of his working life. Before he became involved with the BBTA he was involved with the Percy Boys' Club (in Bath). Don, his wife and their two boys had several trips to Germany as part of the Percy Boys' exchange. Don & Lynn also went to Braunschweig many times with the BBTA.

He loved his music and played keyboard semi-professionally in clubs & pubs in and around Bath and was very knowledgeable about classical music and jazz. He even won a car in 'Name that Tune' television programme. Another passion of his was Somerset Cricket. When they played in Bath he would watch them as much as work allowed. In the evenings, if he wasn't playing the keyboard, he would be playing skittles. His other love was railways; he would take his boys on a '3 Day All Line Rover' to Scotland and back with several different destinations on the way. His last rail trip was a weekend in Scotland in April 2022. Don certainly had a full life.



The DEG wishes to thank Don for all his achievements in connection with twinning and for uncountable cheerful moments. Our sincere condolences to his sons and families.





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Looking back at previous events

25th May: Lyrics – Helga Weiss

We enjoyed a bilingual reading in a very private and intimate atmosphere. Due to the fact that „homemade“ lyrics are not everyone's cup of tea, we were only a small group. Gathering round one large table we experienced poems without rhyme and felt touched.





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Looking back at previous events

22nd June: „Learning English abroad“ by Jörg Dombrowski

... was the title of this talk. The subtitles in the air were: „When and how do we get home, since we ventured out to this catastrophe?“ Normal streets like Ilmenaustraße appeared like waterways ...
But as you all know details concerning this special day, we will share our memories, when the talk is repeated in September.





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Looking back at previous events

Saturday, 3rd June: Braunschweig International

The DEG took part in the most wonderful and colourful international event on the Kohlmarkt offering tea, snacks and cakes as well as English books. Lots of interested and interesting people stopped by for a chat and took information about the DEG and/or Bath with them. Thanks to all the DEG members who helped out at the stall by attending or making contributions.

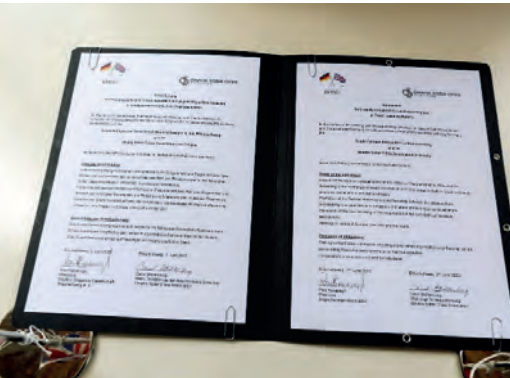


Foto: Stadt Braunschweig/Apel





Looking back at previous events



Fotos: Stadt Braunschweig

Friday, 2nd June: Reception at Schloss Richmond

Some DEG members took part in the reception of the Bath Bridge Club as well as guests from Braunschweig's US twin city Omaha at Schloss Richmond. Paul signed an agreement for further cooperation between Braunschweig and Omaha. It was nice to meet so many people and to come together in such beautiful surroundings.





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Looking back at previous events



Thursday, 8th June: Omaha Talk in Altstadtrathaus

Carol Stoltenberg gave a talk about Omaha showing some of the city's sights and pointing out the history and development of the twinning agreement. Paul and Carol discussed further plans for closer cooperation.





Die Damen des Literature-Online-Clubs aus Bath und Braunschweig trafen sich im Ripside im Magdaviertel zum ersten Mal persönlich und präsentierten ihre Lieblingsbücher. ERWIN KLEIN

Also, the press published details about the visits: Braunschweiger Zeitung, 8th June 2023

Partnerstädte: Braunschweig, Bath und Omaha rücken zusammen

Ein Bridge-Turnier, viele Kontakte und eine neue Vereinbarung: Die Verbindungen mit Bath in England und Omaha in Nebraska/USA sollen verstärkt werden.

Erwin Klein

Braunschweig. Die deutsch-englische Freundschaft zwischen Braunschweig und Bath hatte es in den vergangenen Jahren nicht leicht: Erst war das diese Brexit-Geschichte und dann kam die Pandemie. Die gewohnten regelmäßigen gegenseitigen Besuche kamen komplett zum Erliegen – aber jetzt regt sich wieder neues Leben.

Die Engländer sind in der Stadt! Eine überschaubare Reisegruppe, aber immerhin 13 Bridge-Spieler und Spielerinnen aus der Partnerstadt Bath hatten sich auf dem Weg gemacht, um eine Woche lang Braunschweig und die Umgebung kennenzulernen und natürlich vor allem, um zu spielen. Eingeladen hatte der Bridgeclub Braunschweig. Anlass war das Michael-Scott-Open-Gedächtnisturnier am vergangenen Samstag im Glesmaroder Turm.

Und, um es gleich zu sagen: Bridge ist für Außenstehende eine ziemlich komplizierte Angelegenheit. Zwar „nur“ ein Kartenspiel, bei dem immer vier Spielende um einen Tisch versammelt sind – aber die Details haben es in sich. Wer auf Wikipedia „Bridge (Kartenspiel)“ eingibt, erhält einen fast endlosen Erklärungstext gepickelt mit seltsamen Begriffen wie Großschlemm, „Negativkontrolle“ oder „Oberlaufbi“. Klingt schwierig, ist aber auch faszinierend – die rund 100 Turnierteilnehmer im Glesmaroder Turm waren jedenfalls hochkonzentriert bei der Sache.

„Beim Bridge kommt es nicht auf das Kartenglück an“, erläuterte Reinhard Küer, Vorsitzender des Bridgeclubs Braunschweig, „es ist eher ein Strategiespiel, deswegen gilt es ähnlich wie Schach, als Sport.“

Aber die Gäste aus Bath waren nicht ausschließlich zum Spielen nach Braunschweig gekommen. Es waren auch Mitglieder der „Bath Braunschweig Twinning Association“ unter ihnen, die Kontakte zur Braunschweiger „Deutsch-Englischen-Gesellschaft“ (DEG) aufsuchen wollten.

Sofortlich zum ersten Mal der Literaturzirkel, der während der Pandemie online ins Leben gerufen wurde, ganz analog im „Ripside“ im Magdaviertel. Sieben Damen brachten ihre Bücher mit und redeten da weiter, wo sie online gerade stehen geblieben waren – darüber hinaus gab es natürlich auch vieles andere zu besprechen.

Katrin Landsmann, die den Literaturkreis ins Leben gerufen hatte: „Das ist eine schöne Corona-Auswirkung. Wir haben gelernt, wie wir online in Verbindung bleiben. Und dabei ganz neue Interessen mitgedeckt. Das funktioniert so gut, dass wir das auch nach dem Lockdown weiterführen. Und zusätzlich sehen wir uns jetzt im richtigen Leben.“ Judy Spencer, Vorsitzende der Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association, ist ebenfalls begeistert im Literatur-Club dabei: „Ich habe Bücher gelesen, auf die ich von allein nie gestoßen wäre.“

Ein Höhepunkt des Braunschweigs besuchs war ein Empfang im Schloss Richmond, veranstaltet von der Stadt. Bürgermeisterin Cristina Antonelli-Ngameni lobte in ihrer Ansprache das Engagement der Städtepartnerschafts-Vereine und betonte den Wert der gegenseitigen Besuche und der persönlichen Kontakte.

Eine Highschool-Delegation der US-amerikanischen Partnerstadt Omaha, die ebenfalls gerade Braunschweig besucht, war auch geladen – und bei der Gelegenheit wurde eine lange vorbereitete Vereinbarung zwischen der DEG und der „Omaha Sister Cities Association“ (OSCA) hochförmlich unterzeichnet. Diese Vereinbarung besagt, dass die DEG sich in Zukunft nicht nur um die Verbindung nach Bath kümmert, sondern auch die Beziehungen zwischen Bath, Omaha und Braunschweig intensivieren will.

Details dazu werden am heutigen Donnerstag im Altschulratssaal vorgestellt: Die Vorsitzenden von OSCA und DEG, Carol Stoltenberg und Paul Kavanagh, zeigen ab 19 Uhr Fotos aus Omaha und berichten über die Zusammenarbeit.



Geschafft! Die Vereinbarung über eine engere Zusammenarbeit ist unterzeichnet. Von links Paul Kavanagh, DEG-Vorsitzender, Bürgermeisterin Cristina Antonelli-Ngameni, OSCA-Vorsitzende Carol Stoltenberg und Judy Spencer, Vorsitzende der Bath – Braunschweig Twinning Association. ERWIN KLEIN



Frische Gesichter: Die Gäste aus Bath und Omaha beim Gruppenfoto vor Schloss Richmond. ERWIN KLEIN

Schöne Ziele, gute Absichten, viele gut gelaunte Gesichter auf Schloss Richmond – aber wie sieht die tägliche Realität aus? Die DEG hat rund 60 Mitglieder, die einigermaßen regelmäßig bei Treffen und Veranstaltungen dabei sind. Die meisten sind im fortgeschrittenen Alter. Nachwuchs ist rar. Eine organisierte Gruppenreise mit Familie-Anschluss hat in Zeiten von Bällflügen nicht mehr den Reiz wie in den Anfangsjahren der Partnerschaft. Katrin Landsmann betonte: „Wir müssen präsent sein und versuchen, attraktiver zu werden. Wir haben schließlich einiges zu bieten. Und Bath ist immer einen Besuch

wert!“ Umgekehrt zeigten sich auch die Besucher aus England und aus Omaha angetan. „Just lovely“ seien der Empfang und die verschiedenen Besichtigungen gewesen. Ob sie wiederkommen wollten? „Definitely!“

Beim Bridge klappte die Völkerverständigung jedenfalls hervorragend. Der „Großschlemm“ ist auf englisch der „Grand Slam“ – beides sind anderen Fachbegriffen gibt es international keine Missverständnisse. Entweder ratlos daneben stehen nur Beobachter, denen die Spielregeln auch nach langem Zusehen rätselhaft bleiben. Aber dafür können ja die Engländer nichts.





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Also, the press published details about the visits:
Bath Chronicle, 15th June 2023

BATH CHRONICLE THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

Team builds bridges with German twin

A group of bridge players from Bath visited Brunswick earlier this month as part of a continuing exchange which started in 2016, and which survived the pandemic by playing regularly with their German friends online.

The group's German hosts organised a full programme with tournaments in Brunswick itself, and also in Bad Harzburg - a spa town in the Harz mountains to the south of Brunswick - in Peine and in Wolfsburg.

The tournaments were challenging, but there was also free time to enjoy the German hospitality and to attend an official reception in Richmond Palace, an elegant summer residence in a landscape park, designed for a homeless English princess in the 18th century.

The reception was also attended by a group of young students of German from a High School in Omaha, Nebraska - one of Brunswick's nine twin and sister cities.

The formal Bath-Brunswick twinning arrangement dates back all the way to 1971.

Next week a group of young musicians from Bath Spa University will be performing at Brunswick's annual Kulturnacht.

In October, a choir from Brunswick will be visiting Bath and performing in the Abbey, Wells Cathedral and at Salisbury Cathedral among other venues.



Members of the Bath-Brunswick Twinning Association on their recent visit





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DEG programme August to October 2023

Monday, 21st August, 3 pm:

Inauguration of the Bath Garden in Kiryat Tivon Park

A delegation from Bath will be in Braunschweig from 20th to 23rd August. On 21st August the Bath Garden in the Bürgerpark – Kiryat Tivon Park will be officially inaugurated by Braunschweig's Lord Mayor Dr. Kornblum and the Mayoress from Bath, Dine Romero. This event is public and everyone is welcome to join and celebrate this occasion.



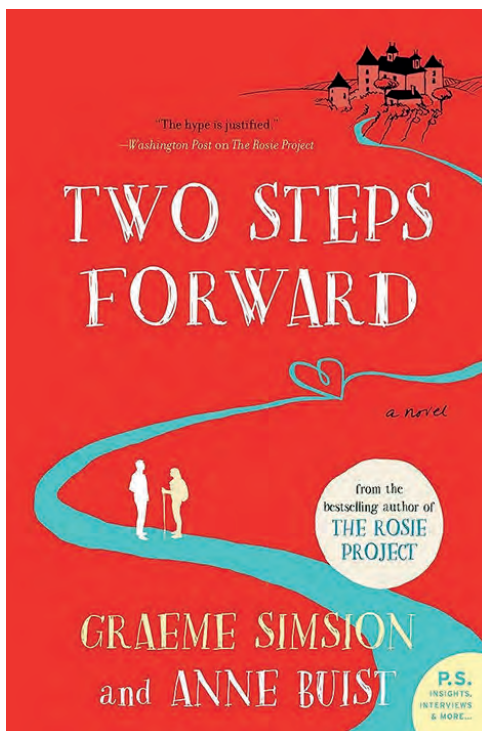


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Thursday, 24th August 7.30 pm German time:
Literature Club

this meeting will probably be in person in Braunschweig. If you have read the book and would like to take part in the meeting, please ask for further details: info@deg-bs.de

We are going to discuss the novel “Two Steps forward” written by husband and wife authors Graeme Simsion and Anne Buist. From the New York Times bestselling author of The Rosie Project comes a story of taking chances and learning to love again as two people, one mourning her husband and the other recovering from divorce, cross paths on the centuries-old Camino pilgrimage from France to Spain.





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Thursday, 31st August, 7 pm

Idiomatic expressions

Idioms (idiomatic expressions) are phrases or sayings that have a meaning that is very different from the individual words that make them up. They are sometimes humorous, often surprising, and always fascinating.

Oda, Ingeborg, Dorothea, and John will talk about some popular German and English idioms.

Prepare to have your socks knocked off, oder, Sie werden aus den Latschen kippen!

In our room at Ambet





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Tuesday (!!!), 5th September, 7 pm

Braunschweig's twin city Nîmes in Bath

Philippe Rivron, gebürtiger Franzose, bietet Ihnen in einer etwa 60 minütigen Präsentation in englischer Sprache einen Einblick in die Partnerstadt Nîmes an. Für Reiselustige und Kulturinteressierte Okzitaniens wird der Vortragende auf folgende Aspekte eingehen:

- Geografische Lage
- Geschichte und Entwicklung der Stadt
- Sehenswürdigkeiten
- Events
- Nîmes und seine Umgebung
- Ausblick

In our room at Ambet



Foto: Stéphane Ramillon/Stadt Nîmes - Amphitheater „Les Arènes“





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Thursday, 28th September, 7 pm
Learning English abroad

Jörg Dombrowski reports on his experiences with language schools in Malta, Cape Town and Dublin.

In our room at Ambet





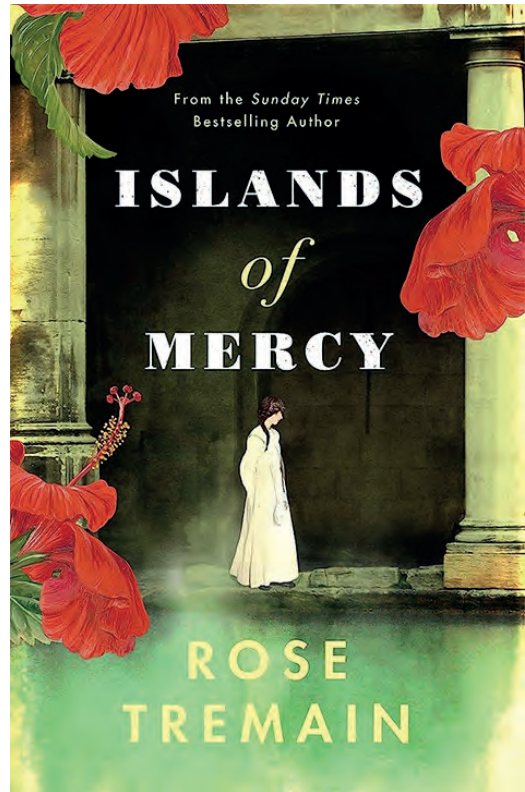
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Thursday, 5th October 8 pm German time (7 pm British time) Online Literature Club

We are going to discuss the novel „Islands of Mercy“ by Rose Tremain, a novel that ignites the senses, and a bold exploration of the human urge to seek places of sanctuary in a pitiless world. In the city of Bath, in the year 1865, an extraordinary young woman renowned for her nursing skills is convinced that some other destiny will one day show itself to her. But when she finds herself torn between a dangerous affair with a female lover and the promise of a conventional marriage to an apparently respectable doctor, her desires begin to lead her towards a future she had never imagined.

Join our online Jitsi video conference by following the link:

<https://meet.jit.si/DEGLiteratureClub>





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Thursday, 12th October, 7 pm

Erwin Klein on James Joyce: „Ulysses“

An entertaining lecture about the book that everyone knows, but almost no one has finished reading, with actual pictures from Dublin (Bloomsday!), Trieste and Paris.

In „Ulysses“ James Joyce describes a day, June 16, 1904, in the life of Leopold Bloom, an advertising canvasser for a Dublin daily newspaper. In the style of Homer’s Odysseus, he lets the reader participate in his protagonist’s wanderings through Dublin.

What sounds so banal and is spread out over almost a thousand pages is a rather intricate affair. The Ulysses is one big language experiment and confusion game, at the same time very funny and extremely meticulously elaborated. More than 100 years after its publication (1922), it is still „the“ modern novel on which generations of literary scholars continue to labor.



Just as exciting as the Ulysses itself is its genesis, as well as the life story of Joyce and his wife Nora Barnacle (June 16, 1904 is the day they first met). Dublin, Trieste and Paris are three cities where they lived for a long time; I visited these cities in the past two years and followed some traces of Joyce and Ulysses there.





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General information

To whom it may concern - Payment details

Many of our members have already paid their yearly membership fees in March. Regrettably there are still some who have not.

The next time we have our fortnightly gatherings, we must pay for the room in Ambet, and also for the tea and biscuits that we share at our meetings.

Therefore, please, if you are one of the people who haven't paid, transfer the money for your membership fees using:

Nord LB IBAN DE33 2505 0000 0000 3280 39

Meetings take place at Wohnen mit Zukunft Ambet, Ilmenaustraße 2, 38120 Braunschweig, unless otherwise stated. Doors open at 7.00 pm (19.00) with the main topic at 7.30 pm (19.30). Topic may be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

How to get there:

<https://www.google.de/maps/place/Ambet/@52.2452825,10.4789899,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x47aff62480b2b06b:0xee0cc197bed52c!8m2!3d52.2451954!4d10.4810498>

We welcome suggestions and ideas for future topics for our programme. Your input will be appreciated.





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The DEG timetable

We wish to remind you of all the activities related to the DEG. You are more than welcome to join any activity you are interested in.

Tuesdays afternoons

Short story group meets every four weeks; various venues; registration necessary and obligation to be host

For details please contact Paul: paul.kavanagh.deg@gmail.com

Wednesday evening

from 19:00 the **Wednesday painters** meet at the Familiensportverein Braunschweig, Parnitzweg 5, 38108 Braunschweig;

For details please contact Paul: paul.kavanagh.deg@gmail.com

Thursday during the day

International Tea and Talk Group

For details please contact Katherine: kathy.kueppers@t-online.de

Thursday evening

Online Literature Club, from 20:00, via jitsi video conference, dates (about once a month) and topics are fixed individually and announced on the homepage: <https://www.deg-bs.de/deutsch/literature-club/>

For details please contact Katrin: landsmann.bs@web.de

Thursday evening

alternative weeks: **Conversation Group**, every two weeks from 19:00, meetings take place at Wohnen mit Zukunft Ambet, Ilmenaustraße 2; tea and talk + respective topic to be found on homepage: www.deg-bs.de

For details please contact Paul: paul.kavanagh.deg@gmail.com

during the day – flexible dates, weather permitting outing either bicycle tours or walks

For details please contact Katherine: kathy.kueppers@t-online.de





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Braunschweig Twin Cities links

Bath / Braunschweig:

www.bath-braunschweigtwinningassociation.co.uk

Sousse / Deutsch Tunesische Gesellschaft:

www.deutsch-tunesische-gesellschaft.de

Zhuhai / Deutsch-Chinesische Gesellschaft Braunschweig e.V.:

www.dcgbs.de

Bandung / Deutsch-Indonesische Gesellschaft:

www.dig-niedersachsen.de

Kiryat Tivon / Deutsch-Israelische Gesellschaft e.V.:

<https://braunschweig.deutsch-israelische-gesellschaft.de>

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Our yearly membership fee is

25 € for single and 40 € for couple or family

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