



Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft Austro-British Society

Open most Thursdays, 7 pm onwards at Karfreitstr. 6/1.

Club Tel: 0650 5668278 & 0664 4506196.

www.austrobritish.com

February 2020, Newsletter



Dear members and friends of the Society

Yet another year behind us and what have we done since our last newsletter? We had a special Annual General Meeting in September, to approve our new constitution. This was a legal requirement and it all goes through the 'vereinspolizei'.

In October, in the most beautiful autumn weather, some of us 'attacked' the Gerlitzten, first by taking the easy option and going up to the summit in the lift, and then came the walking, all steep up or down and with no flat terrain! It was an all women's group, except for lucky (or not so) Peter Ross. Next time maybe some of you men might come along to keep him company. There's always a beer to be had.

The Brexit party was cancelled for obvious reasons - there was no Brexit at that time! Helen had the 'horrible' experience of turning the big 70 and we had a super evening at the club. The buffet at the Christmas party, which was well attended, was probably the best on record, thanks to those people who brought things along.

Please take note that there will be no AGM in 2020. As was agreed to in the new constitution, our AGMs will be held every 2 years. If there is anything that is on your heart regarding the club then please just let us know. It is your society and the committee wants to listen to what you have to say.

Warm regards, Helen and Australian Susan



Calendar of Events

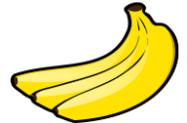
Feb 13 Irish Coffee Evening



Come and savour the delights of a mixture of coffee, whisky, sugar and cream - being made for you by Elisabeth Riedl. Forget the calories for once.

Feb 20 A Bananagram Evening

This game is a little like scrabble, but different! Anthony Hall will co-ordinate the evening and much fun will be had.



Feb 27 Club Night Out at Augustin's - 6pm onwards

Theatergasse 7, opposite the theatre and almost next to Molly Malones. The club premises will be closed.

March 5 Antarctica: A place of mystery and intrigue - 8.15pm



Try to be there 15 minutes early, so we can start on time. This talk and film will be presented by Jürgen who has, on more than one occasion, ventured down to the Southern Oceans and the St. Georgian Islands, to name but a few. The Southern Oceans are the roughest in the world.

March 19 Club Night Out, PrincS Bar and Restaurant - 6pm onwards

Heuplatz 1. It is at the roundabout opposite the city arcade, between the church and the ice-cream parlour. Check for our room behind the bar area. We will be there dancing and waving!

April 2 A Talk by Uwe on Winston Churchill - 8.15 pm sharp



This subject is a passion of Uwe's and will probably be the most informed talk, on one of the greatest statesmen of the last century, you will ever experience.

April 9 The club will be closed for Gründonnerstag

April 16 Club Night Out, Taverna Paros - 6pm onwards

St. Veiter Ring 19 - directly opposite the prison.

April 23 St. George's Day

Richard Gould will delight us with a short 'party piece'. Exactly what? That's up to Richard! So come and be surprised.



May 14 Club Night Out at the Unipizzeria - 6pm onwards

Universitätsstraße 33

News from our ex-president Joy Grätz (Jerney)

'temporarily living far away'

My first year in Malaysia

It has been a very exciting and interesting 12 months here in Penang, or Pulau Pinang, in local lingo. When we first arrived it was in the middle of the dry period (Dec-March) which is hotter and more humid than the rest of the year. The rainy season is from April -May and Oct-Nov, and believe me when it rains, it pours. It took some getting used to but if you like hot weather it gets bearable, especially with the local "Tiger beer".

The people are very friendly and helpful but the language can be a problem as they speak a very different kind of English (manglish) plus, influenced by the three main ethnic groups Malay, Chinese and Indian.

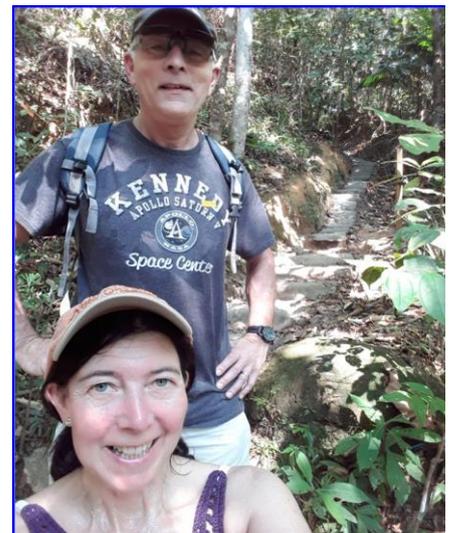
There are multiple cultural groups living together and practising their religions (about 60% Islam, 20% Buddhist, 9% Christian and 6% Hindu). This is reflected by the public holidays we have, being Chinese New Year, Hari Raya, Deepavali and Christmas, just to name a few – we have about 12 throughout the year.

Food in Malaysia (and especially in Penang) is diverse due to the different cultures, including the influence from the west, so you can eat your Satay (barbequed meat on a stick) or Nasi Lemak (coconut cooked rice with roasted peanuts, vegetables and sambal chilli) at your local Hawker centre for a few Malay Ringgit or eat fish and chips at the next Irish Pub or even eat a la carte from one of the many fancy restaurants on the island.

There are lots of places to visit on the island including the many temples, Kek Lok Si being the most famous especially at this time of year with its display of lights. You can walk up to Penang Hill at 833m or better still, take the steepest Funicular Railway tunnel track in the world to the top. A walk around George Town is a must, seeing the famous street art while on the Heritage Trail, or enjoy a snack at one of the many street vendors.

The botanical gardens have a wonderful display of trees and flowers in bloom throughout the year and you will certainly see long tailed Macaques and, if you are lucky like we were, dusky leaf monkeys. One can also take a boat trip to Monkey Beach then on to Turtle Beach, which is fun or just relax at one of the beach bars with a cocktail and watch the sun go down.

Being here in Malaysia opens up the possibility to visit other countries in Asia, which we intend doing throughout our stay here. At Christmas we had the chance to fly to Perth, Australia, not only to meet up with relatives but see some of the south west coast. The flight took only 5 hours from Kuala Lumpur! We are both looking forward to the rest of our stay here, to whatever challenges it may hold and also the many adventures that await.



Selamat Tahun Baru, New Year greetings from Penang Joy and Eric

Membership is due again

Single €35 Family/Partner €55
Fees are valid for a calendar year.

Pay at the bar or via the bank :

Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft
Kärntner Sparkasse
IBAN AT50 2070 6000 0010 9876

If you pay at the bar make sure you receive a receipt. Ask for an Erlagschein - if you prefer, you can get this at the bar or send us an email requesting one and at some stage we will send it to you by post.

Thanks to all those who have paid.

Welcome

to new members

Dr. Chris Jones

Dr. Helga Reiterer

Did you read ...

the article featuring our society, in the [Kleine Zeitung](#), 31st Jan 2020?
No? Then, check it out.

Like MOST?

Real, original Most?

We will now be selling it at the bar: either apple or pear, at €2.00 for 250ml. Thanks to our suppliers, Hofladen on the Feschnigstrasse.

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Mahatma Gandhi

"Others have seen what is and asked why. I have seen what could be and asked why not." Pablo Picasso

"I don't necessarily agree with everything that I say." Marshall McLuhan

"Learn what is to be taken seriously and laugh at the rest." Hermann Hesse

"Never let your sense of morals prevent you from doing what is right." Isaac

"I believe in God, only I spell it Nature." Frank Lloyd Wright

"If you don't have a strategy, you're part of someone else's strategy." Alvin Toffler

"Dear future generations: Please accept our apologies. We were rolling drunk on petroleum." Kurt Vonnegut

"The truly faithless one is the one who makes love to only a fraction of you. And denies the rest." Anaïs Nin

Entities should not be multiplied unnecessarily. William of

Philosophy is common sense with big words." James Madison