

Minutes of the Anglo-German FHS 38th Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday 13th June 2026 at King's Cross Methodist Church Hall, Crestfield Street, WC1

Welcome

Noële Barnfield welcomed members to the 2026 AGM.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Gwen Davis, Jennifer Taylor, Jenny and Peter Towey, Chris Wade, Bronwyn Klimach, Jo and Martin Lawrence, Keith Schnaar, Sue Neale, Lance Pettitt

2. Minutes of last AGM 14th June 2025

The previous minutes had been published on the AGFHS website and were accepted by those Members attending the meeting.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairperson's Report

As I am sure most of you will appreciate this year has been very difficult for me personally and I have stepped back somewhat over the last six months. However, the rest of your committee has worked tirelessly over the past year for the society, encouraging use of our FaceBook page as a platform to share ideas and information, and initiating other new ideas to try and encourage new members and of course more research.

New volunteers for the committee are also sought. Sue Neale has had to step down so a volunteer for Minutes Secretary would be particularly helpful. Extra help would be welcome in other areas too.

I am very indebted to Caroline and others for taking on the provision of refreshments at meetings at short notice, and any extra offers of help with these would be very welcome. Also, Lesley Secker has kindly offered to 'man' the book stall during our in-person meetings, but additional help to set up and put it away again would, I am sure, be welcome. When available at meetings the book stall is a great benefit to members and incurs no postage costs, another good reason to attend meetings. Our bookshop is also available as a postal service, *via* Jenny Towey, and on-line from Parish Chest.

The 'Blatt, produced three times a year, continues to be a great source of information as well as interesting articles and very helpful advice.

Unfortunately, we have had to shelve a possible conference in Manchester next year due to a lack of enough volunteers to pull this together.

We continue the pattern of 4 in-person meetings at King's Cross, and two Zoom only meetings in August and February. As always, Ann Gilmore has arranged some extremely

interesting speakers, with a mix of members and outside speakers, giving great variety. Coming up today after the AGM we have Frank Pattison, a tour guide to Germany and retired German teacher, taking us on an illustrated journey through Berlin's history.

Save unavoidable technical problems with the WiFi, all our in-person meetings continue to be made available 'live' via Zoom, so that members who are not able to travel to King's Cross, can log-in. Jeremy also records the talks, so they are available to people who are not able to attend on the day. I would again stress though that nothing beats meeting in person, chatting to other members, etc. So if you are in contact with anyone you consider might be interested do please encourage them to come along to a meeting, and please continue to support the society yourselves.

Most especially this year, my very sincere thanks go to all the committee members for their work and support:

Jeremy Gilmore, our long-serving treasurer, who also arranges and sets up the Zoom meetings, liaises with speakers, facilitates the showing of illustrations and deals with the inevitable technical issues *etc.* and Ann Gilmore who has continued to source and arrange the varied and interesting speakers. Peter and Jenny Towey for taking on the majority of the admin. for our FaceBook page and answering the queries that have been submitted, as well as Jenny being Bookshop Manager/running the postal bookshop *etc.* Jennifer Taylor and all the editorial team who continue to produce the excellent 'Blatt and occasional papers. Betty Anderson, our Membership Secretary, who also faithfully 'mans' the door, along with other volunteers and gives out the prize draw tickets. Sue Neale, who has been our long serving Minutes Secretary until very recently, and Gwen Davis our Secretary, KGL coordinator and Regional Meetings Coordinator. Andrew Guentert who deals with German family history journals and is our independent examiner, and Chris Arundel for all his work and innovative ideas for raising the profile of the society.

Thanks again to the various people who kindly took over the refreshments and clearing up when I have been unable to attend.

Finally, thanks to you, the members for continuing to support the society. Apologies if I have missed anyone out.

Thank you.

Noële Barnfield – Chairperson , June 2026

6. Treasurer's Report for Year Ending 31st March 2025

As you will see from the accompanying accounts (see below), we finished the financial year with an increase in total funds of £7497 with respect to assets at the end of 2024-25; and with the Deposit Account standing at £16586, compared to £8998 at the end of the previous financial year.

With respect to income over the year, the significant differences compared with 2024-25 are:

A significant 13% drop in membership subscriptions over the last year, which after stabilising last year, unfortunately continues the steady decline seen over many years.

The significant increase in donations has been boosted by a generous legacy of £10000 from the estate of our late member, Reverend Michael Potter. However, there has been a decrease in the donations given by members with their annual subscriptions. But I would like to thank members for their continued generous donations which they include with their subscription payments.

The sales of books increased significantly by 35%, boosted by purchases of the new edition of Sue Gibbon's popular 'German Pork Butchers in Britain', particularly at a regional meeting in Bradford for descendants of German Pork Butchers arranged by Karl-Heinz Wüstner and local members.

All other items remained approximately in line with last year.

With respect to expenditure, the significant items are:

An increase of £780 under Fees. This was due to the timing of upgrades to the AGFHS website's Joomla Content Management software, with the 2024-25 upgrade and invoice being delayed until April 2025, whilst the 2026 upgrade was invoiced as usual in February 2026.

The expected costs of printing the 2nd edition of Sue Gibbons' 'German Pork Butchers in Britain' book under Other Printing.

Fees for speakers remains modest, in particular thanks to the number of members' talks.

All other items remained approximately in line with the previous year.

The estimate of the value of the Society's assets shows an increase of £1161, due to an increase in the Bookshop inventory with the addition of the new Pork Butchers publication.

In summary, I can report a significant increase in overall funds, due to the generous legacy received by the Society. There has, however, been an underlying modest drop when the addition of this legacy and the cost of the book printing have been taken into account.

No exceptional expenditures are expected in 2025-26.

Members may be curious to know of any specific plans we have for the legacy. The Committee's initial thoughts were that a portion should be put towards the financing of a 40th anniversary conference in the North of England. Members will have seen the request from our Vice-President Jenny Towey for regional help with the organisation of such an event but to-date there has been insufficient uptake to allow this to be progressed further. However, the current healthy state of our finances does allow us to maintain membership subscriptions at their present rate. I am loathe to increase these at present, as past experience shows that any rise in rates tends to result in a further decrease in membership numbers.

I would like to finish by thanking Andrew Güntert for his advice and the meticulous examination of the accounts.

Jeremy Gilmore – Treasurer, June 2026

Acceptance of the financial statements for 2025-26 was proposed (Noële Barnfield), seconded (Caroline Street) and agreed by those members attending the 2026 AGM.

7. Other Reports

a. Secretary

Sorry I cannot be at today's AGM. I am still suffering from back pain and am unable to travel very far. Occasionally I am asked what the role of the AGFHS is. Most enquiries I get from non-members wanting some general information about what we can provide to help their research, while occasionally some people think we should be doing their research at no cost. "Who Do You Think You Are" on television usually generates some interest from outside the society.

I always welcome contact from society members and am pleased to help if I can or to direct queries to other members who may be able to help. I am sure you join me in thanking all the committee members for their work during the year.

I look forward to hearing from more members in future.

Gwen Davis – Secretary, June 2026

b. Membership Secretary

The Society's membership has fallen considerably this year and now stands at 363 compared with 438 last year. We lost a total of 75 and there were only 18 new members who joined since last year's AGM compared with 30 the previous year.

So far we have 5 members joining in August and as the new series of WDYTYA, which is currently showing on BBC1, we hopefully can expect some more.

Once again may I remind members that it is renewal time again, and that by now you should have received the Summer edition of the Blatt in which you will find the renewal form together with a Standing Order Mandate. For those who prefer to pay by credit or debit card you can renew online at either the Parish Chest or Genfair. We can also accept bank transfers.

Finally I would like to thank all those members who gave donations last year, and to say that the Society is most grateful for any donations received however small.

Betty Anderson – Membership Secretary, June 2026

c. Programme Organiser

Over the past year we have had 5 talks from 4 members, one of whom did 2 talks, and we've had 6 talks from outside speakers, one of whom did 3 of those talks. Several replacement talks were hastily arranged due to the previously booked speaker needing to cancel at short notice, so I am particularly grateful to Kathy Chater, the outside speaker and to one of our members who also stepped in to do a talk with little notice. Luckily, Kathy Chater usually is available on Saturdays, so once we have heard all of her talks I will be badgering members to step up with little warning to do a talk! Talks from members are great for several reasons: we can hear about how they traced their German ancestors and about the lives of those ancestors, or about some person of German descent, unrelated to them, but whose interesting story they may have chanced upon. Some members talk about an area of family or social history of particular interest to them. An added bonus of having talks given by members is that our Society saves money—outside speakers cost a lot, but we do not pay members. If needed, Jeremy is happy to help with putting your talk into a Powerpoint presentation. Your talk can be the usual 50 minutes with questions afterwards, or you could do a shorter 25 minute talk, and share the hour with another member's short talk. If you don't live near London you could still do a talk for our online only meetings in February or August. If you would like to give a talk or if you know of a speaker or talk which might be of interest to the rest of us, please contact me, and please use something like 'Talk for AGFHS' as your subject line. Many thanks to all of our members who have given talks or suggested a talk.

Our members' talks over the last year have covered a variety of subjects: Sue Gibbons stepped up to replace another member who had to cancel at short notice. Sue talked about *Tracing Immigrant Ancestors* and discussed a variety of ways of finding them—a very useful talk. Jenny Towey talked about what to do next after you receive your DNA report. Richard Ford told us about his German Ancestors in a talk titled *From Belsenberg to Britain*.

Richard's German ancestry includes pork butchers, army service, internment as an alien, and deportation. (Unfortunately, I cannot recall if that is all the same person or not—sorry Richard!) Member Claudia Sternberg gave us 2 talks—the first, entitled *From Germany to Yorkshire*, was about German immigrants since the 2nd World War and British-born people of German descent, especially German immigrants in the last 30-40 years, and how they view themselves now regarding their 'German-ness'. The 2nd of her talks was about the life of Paul Cohen-Portheim, a German-Jewish Cosmopolitan man, a writer, translator and painter, who had lived in England and who was also interned on the Isle of Man and at Lofthouse Park Camp during the 1st World War. We had originally planned that the 2nd talk that day would also be by Corinna Meiss with more about the life and family history of Portheim, but unfortunately, Corinna had to cancel due to another commitment which was taking longer than she had planned. (I will book for later.)

The 6 talks from outside speakers over the last year included the following: Karen DeBruyne's talk, *Finding Jacob*, was about her husband's great grandfather, and about the sources she used to find out about his life. She used DNA matches, translation tools, and sources in the Dutch East Indies, Paraguay and the Netherlands as well as here in the UK. Gill Blanchard told us about Trade Directories and Gazetteers, very useful for finding your German ancestor's business premises in the UK. Matt Graydon spoke about the story of a German man who married his Aunt. Matt has fictionalised his Uncle's life and written a successful novel using his Uncle's life as the basis for the story. Kathy Chater gave us 3 talks over the last year, stepping in when a booked speaker had to cancel. Luckily for us, she is usually free on Saturdays. She talked about the *London Labyrinth*, on the variety of resources available in London for finding ancestors. Her 2nd talk was *Coroners' Inquests* and her 3rd talk was *Institutions in the Censuses*, when she gave us ideas for finding an ancestor who is not with their family in a census—they might be in gaol, in a workhouse, etc.

Many thanks to those of you who have suggested or given a talk, and especially to Jeremy for handling the tech for us and for sending out e-mail reminders to members before every meeting. Today, after the break, we will have a talk from Frank Pattison on *The Many Faces of Berlin*.

Ann Sternberg Gilmore – Programme Organiser, June 2026

d. Mitteilungsblatt Editorial

This year we have again produced three issues, but sadly, due to the falling membership, we have not been able to achieve forty pages consistently. The number of contributions has, however, increased slightly recently and we are grateful to all our contributors, both the occasional contributions from the general membership and the regular contributions from members of the Committee. Among the latter a relatively new feature has been the DNA Corner, written by Jenny Towey, informing readers of the new advances in this area which can aid family history research. We are also indebted to Andrew Güntert for explanatory material about the Society's website, much appreciated by those who need encouragement to take advantage of this aspect of technology.

The Blatt is a team effort, and after having lost Eva Lawrence, who sadly died in June 2025, we are happy to welcome Lance Pettitt to the editorial team, as well as new members to the proofreading team. Finally, thanks are due to our indefatigable publishers who put the finishing touches to the Blatt and give it a professional polish.

And just to finish with an appeal to all our members: please write up your research for the 'Blatt so that we can continue to present our readers with a wide variety of articles.

Your Editorial Team

e. Bookshop and Facebook

This year has seen the long-awaited second edition of our publication *German Pork Butchers in Britain* by Sue Gibbons. The new edition has many more pages than the 1st edition, costs £16 and is available from the usual channels (ie with cheque/cash from Jenny Towey or bookshop at meetings, online with credit card from ParishChest or GenFair).

Peter & I attended the Pork Butchers' Descendants' Reunion in Bradford last year – which was held only two weeks after I had received delivery of this new publication! Consequently, initial sales were excellent – together with sales of our recipe book.

Generally, sales have slightly risen this year – partially due, I think, to the direct links, on our website, to the online sales companies of ParishChest & GenFair.

May I make a plea that book orders and membership renewals be made through ParishChest as we don't pay such a high commission on them (due to ParishChest being owned by the FHF and us being members of same).

As of 2nd June we had 575 Facebook members. Additional members are just a trickle, these days, but I try and keep the site interesting by forwarding informative/attractive items from other Facebook groups. It is gratifying to see that existing members are helping new members out with translation and research suggestions.

Jenny Towey - Vice President and Bookshop Manager, June 2026

f. Publicity

Last year I reported on efforts to raise awareness of the society, by setting up a dedicated AGFHS Press email account to enable contact with the press offices of organisations we want to work with. I also reported on efforts to spread the word via the various town-twinning associations and “for Europe” groups in the UK.

I'm pleased to report we now have good relations with the influential British-German Association, who regularly promote our talks via their newsletter. The approach with the BGA, and other organisations, is to make short, simple requests and always leave them with a positive, trouble-free experience. In return, we publicise their Zoom talks and boost the audiences for them.

We have good relations with the Goethe-Institut and recently received an invitation to attend a discussion about cultural and educational links between the UK and Germany, involving the heads of the British Council and the Goethe-Institut, the event being introduced by the German ambassador Suzanne Baumann. Andrew Güntert and Professor Lance Pettitt, both of whom are involved in educational links between the UK and Germany, and will hopefully spread the word about the society to all and sundry.

One of the themes that emerged from last year's members' survey was an interest in more meetings and meetups in the regions, and to enable this we've now set up two regional WhatsApp groups, to allow members there to chat, ask questions, and make plans. One group is centred around the Northwest, and the second covers the Northeast and Cumbria – and initial signs are there's a good takeup. But keeping the groups active and interesting is in the hands of the group members, so do check in and ask questions – or even raise topics like “Do you have a favourite German food?” or “Do you have a favourite German holiday tip?”

There has been interest in these groups and there is perhaps scope for launching more regional WhatsApp groups covering, for example, East Anglia, Wales or the Southwest. If you want to set up a regional WhatsApp group, email Jeremy and he will, in his busy schedule, set up an email group and invite all the members in that region to join. Joining is entirely voluntary, and the group might be fun.

Our Development Advisor, Chris Wade, will talk about his Heritage Open Days collaborative map. Work to publicise this project is underway, and the Family History Federation, the Austrian Embassy, and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain have already agreed to share information online or via their networks.

Chris Arundel - Publicity, June 2026

g. German Family History Journals

Andrew updated the AGM on his work during the year, describing the German FHSs who send us their journals and explaining how he translates and publishes the contents of the article titles in these journals so that AGFHS Members can see if anything is of interest to them. Members can then contact him by email (andrewguentert@gmail.com) to ask for further details or to ask for a translation of any relevant article.

He showed where and how these can be found on the Society website (see slides below) and then went on to explain and demonstrate the fairly new very detailed website section listing most of the FHSs in Germany by location and how each of these can be contacted either by email or by accessing their homepages. Direct links to most of the homepages are on our website ([German Family History Society Periodicals - AGFHS](#); [German FHSs - AGFHS](#)).

Andrew also referred to his articles in the last 2 Blatts about what can be seen on the AGFHS website and how the information can be used productively.

Andrew Güntert, June 2026

h. Development

This year, the Anglo German Family History Society is thrilled to announce our participation in the nationwide Heritage Open Days 2026 initiative. To mark the occasion, we are launching an interactive, collaborative map on our website dedicated to tracing the rich legacy of our ancestors. We are inviting all members and anyone with German or Austrian heritage to share short stories and descriptions of the contributions their forebears made to life in the UK. Whether it is a tale of occupational triumph, a significant societal impact, or simply the quiet, enduring strength of building a family in a new country, this map will serve as a visual celebration of our shared history and the profound footprint of the Anglo-German community across the UK.

We strongly encourage everyone here today to get involved and help us populate this map with your unique family histories. Adding your ancestor's story is a wonderful way to honour their memory while building a lasting, publicly accessible archive for future generations and researchers. Please visit our dedicated event page at: [Help Us Map Our German-Speaking Heritage - AGFHS](#) to submit your short description and place your family's pin on the map (see slides below). Your stories are the very heart of this society, and together, we can create a powerful, nationwide tribute to the German and Austrian men and women who helped shape our communities. Please do share this opportunity with others with German / Austrian Heritage.

Chris Wade – Development Advisor, June 2026

8. Any Other Business

No matters were arising.

9. Election of Independent Examiner

Andrew Güntert has kindly agreed to continue in the role of Independent Examiner. This was proposed (Noële Barnfield), seconded (Bob Rush) and agreed by those members of the Society present at the 2026 AGM.

There being no other business, Noële Barnfield thanked everyone for attending the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

Financial Statement 31st March 2026 (Jeremy Gilmore):

ANGLO GERMAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31st March 2025

2023/2024	Receipts	2024/2025	2023/2024	Payments	2024/2025
7226	Subscriptions	7233	3292	Fees (Insurance, etc)	591
782	Donations	1389		Donations & Presentations	
632	Sales - Bookshop	787	8601	Mitteilungsblatt Printing	6142
253	- Bookstall	105		Other Printing	
	- Fairs			Social Events	
66	Postages	114	84	Bookshop	0
1	Research	2	126	Postage & telephone	389
98	Bank Interest	95	2200	Venue Hire	1120
261	Raffles	210	425	Speakers	310
	Refund	2	10	Stationery	29
				Refund	19
				Equipment	
				Travel	
£9,319	Total Receipts	£9,937	£14,738	Total Payments	£8,600
£5,419	Excess payments over receipts			Excess Receipts over Payments:	£1,337
<u>£14,738</u>	Total	<u>£9,937</u>	<u>£14,738</u>	Total	<u>£9,937</u>

Cash position and Statement of Assets as at 31st March 2025

2023/2024		2024/2025	2023/2024		2024/2025
13437	Opening Balance 1st April	8018	149	Bank Current Account	191
			7703	Bank Deposit Account	8998
-5419	Excess Payments over Receipts				
	Excess Receipts over Payments	1337	146	Cash items held - Treasurer	146
			20	- Bookshop flo	20
<u>£8,018</u>	Balance in Hand	<u>£9,355</u>	<u>£8,018</u>		<u>£9,355</u>

Hon. Treasurer's estimate of values of Society Assets as at 31st March 2025

2023/2024		2024/2025	2023/2024		2024/2025
0	Computers	nominal	582	b/fwd	554
82	Extra Equipment	54	3779	Society Publications	3182
0	Projectors	nominal	300	Other Sale Items	300
500	Microfiche/CD Roms	500			
£582	sub-total c/fwd	£554	£4,661	Total	<u>£4,036</u>

I confirm that I have examined the financial records of the Anglo-German Family History Society, and have received such explanations as may have been necessary. The above Receipts & Payments Account gives a fair & true summary of the financial activities of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2025


(signed)
Andrew Guentert, Independent Examiner

German Family History Periodicals and Societies (Andrew Güntert):

[Home](#) [About Us ▼](#) [Events ▼](#) [Society Publications ▼](#) [Research ▲](#) [Members' Pages ▼](#) [Site Information](#)

You are here: [Home](#)



Welcome (Willkommen)

The Anglo-German Family History Society welcomes all those who are interested in researching the genealogy or family history of people from the German-speaking parts of Europe who have emigrated over the centuries and settled in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (North and South), and the neighbouring islands.

We are a self-help group with considerable expertise and resources, and **new members** are always welcome. Please take the time to look around the site. If you experience any problems, please [see our help section](#).

[German Family History Society Periodicals](#)
[Help tracing German ancestry](#)
[German Occupations](#)
[Members' Names of Interest](#)
[AGFHS Name Index](#)
[Adding Your Names of Interest](#)
[Members' Articles & Presentations](#)
[Resources for Learning German](#)
[Useful Web Links](#)

Access to German Family History Society Periodicals

Andrew Güntert, a member who wrote in the 'Blatt in 2005 and subsequently gave a presentation to us on finding his family in the Schwarzwald, has taken on responsibility for reviewing the contents of the German (Language) Family History Periodicals which have been sent to us by Family History Societies in regions of Germany.

This is a list of those periodicals currently held; in most cases we have only one edition:

- 1) "Düsseldorfer Familienkunde" - magazines of the Düsseldorf Family History Society from 2022 Issue 1 to 2025 Issue 4 ([PDF](#))
- 2) Pfälzisch Rheinische Familienkunde - Rhineland-Palatinate Family History Studies
 - a) Index to Volume XIX Magazine ([PDF](#))
 - Register of Family Names
 - Register by location
 - b) Contents of Volume XIX Issue 10 and Volume XX Issues 1-12 ([PDF](#))
- 3) "Zeitschrift für Niederdeutsche Familienkunde" - Magazine from the Low German Family History Society ([PDF](#))
- 4) "Zeitschrift für Mitteldeutsche Familiengeschichte" - Magazine from the Central Germany Family History Society - based in Leipzig ([PDF](#)).
- 5) "Mitteilungen der Westdeutschen Gesellschaft für Familienkunde" - Magazine of the West German Society for Family History - based in Ratingen, North Rhine- Westphalia ([Link](#)).



Pfälzisch-Rheinische Familienkunde

74. Jahrgang · 2025 · Band XX, Heft 10

Pförtner an den Toren von Neustadt an der Haardt von 1383 bis 1599	[Weingart]	525
Von Mühlen und Müllern im oberen Eckbachtal von Hertlingshausen bis Altleiningen	[Ref]	535
Als Mutterstadt von einem Oberbürgermeister regiert wurde	[Schläfer]	563
Hundert Jahre Pfälzisch-Rheinische Familienkunde. Gründungsdatum 1925 oder 1927?	[Ref]	564

MITTEILUNGEN ZUR WANDERUNGSGESCHICHTE DER PFÄLZER

Der Brasilienauswanderer Peter Bauer und die Bedesbacher Bauer-Familie	[Hüttenberger]	565
---	----------------	-----

Rhineland-Palatinate Family History Studies Magazine

Volume XIX

Index to Volume XIX (separate file)

Register of Family Names
Register by location

Volume XIX Issue 10

Pages

Village Life – Impressions from Mühlbach am Glan	465
The hiking book of the Saddler Johannes Krehbiel from the Weierhof	467
The Testament of Magdalena Wingerter (1790-1878) from Schaidt	472
Estimate of the Horses in NeuStadt an der Haardt in 1523	478
AGM in Sept 2021 in Quirnbach	480
What did Grandpa do in the War – ancestry research on the Second World War	482
Reviews:	
Leube family from Altenburg and Gera	484
Family Book of the Middle Ostertal	484
Jakob Hassinger the honorary citizen of Rehborn	484
Writings on the Migration of the Palatinate	487

You are here: Home



Welcome (Willkommen)

The Anglo-German Family History Society welcomes all those who are interested in researching the genealogy or family history of people from the German-speaking parts of Europe who have emigrated over the centuries and settled in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (North and South), and the neighbouring islands.

We are a self-help group with considerable expertise and resources, and **new members** are always welcome. Please take the time to look around the site. If you experience any problems, please [see our help section](#).

RootsTech (5-7 March 2026)

The online/in person Family History show RootsTech is free to register and free to watch their online talks: there are 7 talks on German research. [Register](#), and then schedule the talks you wish to hear ([Schedule](#)).

7th Great German Pork Butcher Descendants' Reunion

To coincide with Langenburg's 800th anniversary celebration, Karl-Heinz Wüstner is organising another German Pork Butcher Descendants' Reunion from 18 - 22 August 2026. For full programme details and how to book, [Read more...](#)

Langenburg in Baden Württemberg celebrating its 800th anniversary in 2026

As part of their celebrations the town council would like to track down descendants of the

Considering Joining the Anglo-German Family History Society?

For a very modest subscription, you will receive a copy of our magazine, Mitteilungsblatt ('Blatt' for short), 3 times a year; you can attend our bi-monthly meetings either in person or online, with speakers on a wide range of genealogical and social history topics, together with the opportunity to chat with other members; and you will have access to our very large Name Index of descendants of German families in the UK, and much more besides. [Read more...](#)

Compendium of German Family History Societies

This is a new feature to help researchers identify significant German Family History Societies, searchable by State, with links to websites and contact e-mails where available. [Read more...](#)

Help Us Map Our German-Speaking Heritage

To mark this year's Heritage Open Days, the Anglo-German Family History Society is building a collaborative map to celebrate the rich and diverse contributions that our German and Austrian ancestors made to British life. This is your opportunity to add details of your German roots.

[Read more...](#)

How to Watch German TV in the UK

A question often asked is "Can I watch live German TV in the UK?"

[Read more...](#)

'A Light in Dark Times' (online Exhibition)

'A Light in Dark Times' is a new online exhibition exploring the history of the Austro-

Introduction to our compendium of Family History Societies in Germany and some suggestions as to how it may be used:

There are many local and national Family History Societies in Germany and we thought it might be useful to pull together any information that we can find about them.

This would include where they are, the location or locations that they cover, their website if they have one, and any published email address for information.

It is unlikely that we have identified every German FHS but we think we have found the most significant and possibly the most useful.

You will see the following in the next pages:

- A Map of the States of Germany listing the names of the States and also the 2 letter descriptors sometimes used for each State (e.g. BE for Berlin and BY for Bavaria). There is also a section showing links to places which were formerly German, or where many German families were settled. For each State there is a map of the particular State, a suggestion for finding an online map of the State (allowing a more detailed search of the map), and a link to a list of the identified FHSs in that State with contact details. ([Link](#))
- An alphabetical list of the Towns, Cities and States where we have found references to a FHS showing which State the town or city is in. At the bottom of the list are some more FHSs which cover traditional "German" areas outside the borders of modern Germany. ([Link](#))

We envisage that members may find this information very useful in collecting further genealogical information locally, and that in some cases a local member of a German FHS might become a very useful source or contact.

Only a small proportion of the websites we have looked at provide an English option (do look out for a British flag or the word English somewhere on their homepage) but most modern browsers can do a competent job of translating webpages into English.

List of Towns, Cities and States referred to with FHSs (in alphabetical order) and the State that the Towns or Cities are in:

Click on the State Code to access a detailed map of the State and a list of the appropriate Family History Societies.

Town or City	State	State Code
Augsburg	Bavaria	BY
Bad Homburg	Hesse	HE
Bad Karlshafen	Hesse	HE
Bensheim	Hesse	HE
Berlin	Berlin	BE
Bonn	North Rhine-Westphalia	NW
Braunschweig	Lower Saxony	NI
Bremen	Bremen	HB
Bremerhaven	Bremen	HB
Bretten	Baden-Württemberg	BW
Dortmund	North Rhine-Westphalia	NW
Duisburg	North Rhine-Westphalia	NW
Düsseldorf	North Rhine-Westphalia	NW
Erlangen	Bavaria	BY
Frankfurt	Hesse	HE
Gevelsberg	North Rhine-Westphalia	NW

Family History Societies in Hamburg (HH)

HH1 - name

Genealogische Gesellschaft Hamburg e.V. - Hamburg

<https://www.gghhev.de/>

Email: info@gghhev.de

HH2 - name

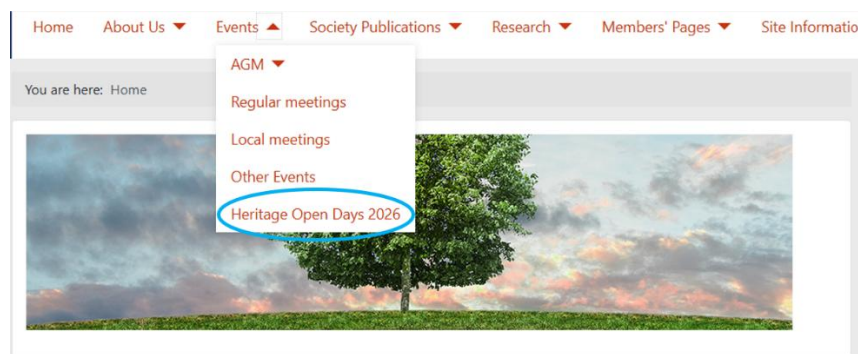
Verein für Familienforschung in Ost- und Westpreußen e.V. - Hamburg but for both East and West Prussia (a vast expanse)

<https://www.vffow.org/>

See website for various email addresses

Heritage Open Days 2026 – Mapping German-Speaking Heritage in the UK

(Chris Wade):



Welcome (Willkommen)

The Anglo-German Family History Society welcomes all those who are interested in researching the genealogy or family history of people from the German-speaking parts of Europe who have emigrated over the centuries and settled in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (North and South), and the neighbouring islands.

We are a self-help group with considerable expertise and resources, and **new members** are always welcome. Please take the time to look around the site. If you experience any problems, please [see our help section](#).

RootsTech (5-7 March 2026)

The online/in person Family History show RootsTech is free to register and free to watch their online talks: there are 7 talks on German research. [Register](#), and then schedule the talks you wish to hear ([Schedule](#)).

Considering Joining the Anglo-German Family History Society?

For a very modest subscription, you will receive a copy of our magazine, Mitteilungsblatt (Blatt for short), 3 times a year; you can attend our bi-monthly meetings either in person or online, with speakers on a wide range of genealogical and social history topics, together with the

Help Us Map Our German-Speaking Heritage

To mark this year's Heritage Open Days, the Anglo-German Family History Society is building a collaborative map to celebrate the rich and diverse contributions that our German and Austrian ancestors made to British life. This is your opportunity to add details of your German roots.

7th Great German Pork Butcher

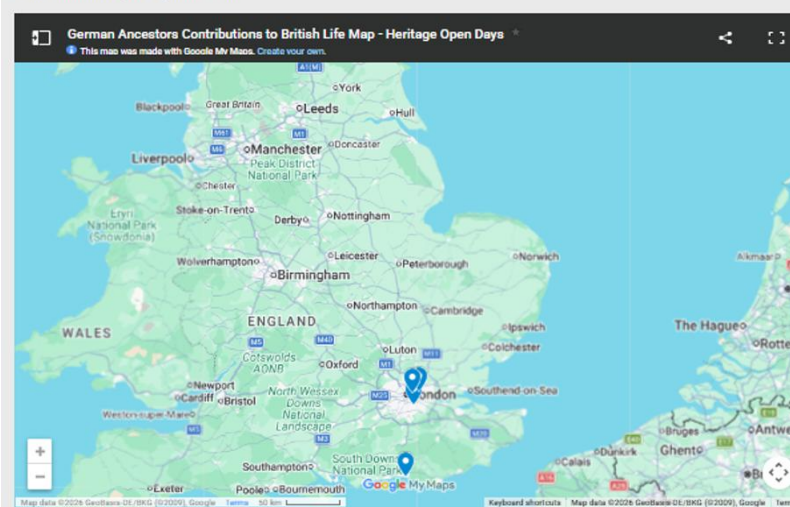
Help Us Map Our German-Speaking Heritage

Celebrate Heritage Open Days by adding your ancestor's story to our interactive map!

To mark this year's Heritage Open Days, the Anglo-German Family History Society is building a collaborative map to celebrate the rich and diverse contributions that our German-speaking ancestors made to British life.

From clockmakers and bakers to community volunteers, soldiers, and dedicated parents, German-speaking immigrants and their descendants have woven a vibrant thread into the fabric of the UK. We want to capture these stories and put them on the map — quite literally.

Whether your ancestor was a prominent local figure or someone who simply worked hard and raised a family, their story matters. No contribution is too large or too small, and whether you are a long-standing AGFHS member or a first-time visitor from the general public, we would love for you to get involved.



(Click on a star to view an ancestor's story)

Important Note on Data Protection: To protect privacy, this project is strictly for historical records. Please ensure you do not submit details, stories, or photographs of any living individuals.

How to Add Your Ancestor: Please use this [short form](#) to submit an entry for the map.



← Robert Julius Klamroth 1842 - 1...

name

Robert Julius Klamroth 1842 - 1889

description

Cycle maker from Cottbus, the first man to cycle from London to Edinburgh in 1869. Lived in Penge.

o British Life Map - Heritage Open Days

ate your own.

