DIF INFOLETTER Feb. 2025

The **St. Patrick's Day Parade** celebrations are taking place in **Munich on Sunday, 16/03/2025**. See here for full details: : ST. PATRICK'S DAY MUNICH

DIF is very well represented in the St. Patrick's Day organisation this year, with our members taking on many roles: Frank McLynn is Main Stage - Master of Ceremonies on 16/3.

Helen Kreuz is doing VIP support.

Frank & Alison will also be playing for the Monster Céilí with Alison's Munich Céilí Band on 16/3.

Paul Daly is Music Programme Director & Coordinator on both stages on both days.

Martin Cotter is doing parade group coordination and security.

Brigitte Schilbach & Karen Wandtke are marching with the Greenisledancers and distributing DIF leaflets.

There are also DIFlers in the hospitality tent.

Wolfgang Schramm is, as always, St. Patrick.

Alexander Benz is organizing the DIF marching group again and distributing our leaflets.

Alex did a super job last year and the photos are ample testimony.

More details regarding the DIF marching group will be issued when they come to hand. Last year we had a very strong group taking part in the parade and this year should be no different. Please make sure that the **WHOLE** family marches with you. It creates a great atmosphere. You can register with Alex under: veranstaltungen@dif-bayern.de



As if there isn't enough going on in March '25, **Brigitte Schilbach and Karen Wandtke** are organizing a Céilí on Saturday, 22 March 2025.

Afternoon-Céilí with Live Music at Kulturhaus Milbertshofen – Pure Irish Joy!



Immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere of a traditional Irish Céilí and let yourself be swept away by vibrant music and dancing! On Saturday, March 22, 2025, the German - Irish Friendship Society of Bavaria e.V. invites you to a special afternoon at the Kulturhaus Milbertshofen.

Venue: Kulturhaus Milbertshofen, Curt-Mezger-Platz 1 (U2 Milbertshofen), Time: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Admission: Free

Experience Irish dancing just like in Ireland: Experienced callers will guide you through the dances, ensuring everyone – from beginners to experienced dancers – can join in. The event will feature live music, creating the perfect atmosphere for an authentic Céilí experience. Refreshments will be available at the foyer bar. But that's not all: Look forward to a few surprises that will make this afternoon truly unforgettable! Whether you come alone, with friends, or with family – this event is perfect for anyone who loves Irish culture and dancing.

Join us and dance your way into the world of Ireland!

"Irish Céilí dance is a traditional group dance performed in a social and festive atmosphere at gatherings or celebrations. It is characterized by lively steps, precise formations, and close cooperation among the dancers. Céilí dances are performed to traditional Irish music and are suitable for both beginners and advanced dancers."

BLOOMSDAY 2025 falls on 16 June 2025 and **Frank McLynn** is organizing an event with music, readings and Joycean costume to mark the occasion. Places are limited, so early booking is advised: <u>BLOOMSDAY '25</u> "A lighthearted look at the writings of James Joyce - Irish novelist, poet, singer, musician and language teacher, and considered to be one of the most influential writers in the modernist avant-garde of the early 20th century.

The musical accompaniment offers a selection of music that Joyce enjoyed listening to and performing himself throughout his life, as well as music mentioned in his writing.

Bloomsday is a commemoration and celebration of the life of Irish writer James Joyce, observed annually in Dublin and elsewhere on 16 June - the day his 1922 novel "Ulysses" takes place in 1904, and the date of his first sexual encounter with his wife-to-be, Nora Barnacle. The day is named after its protagonist, Leopold Bloom. **Get into the spirit of things and wear some period garb. Hat, spectacles, cane, parasol, waistcoat...**



Many of our members have expressed an interest in **learning Irish**. I did a little research and came up with an online course which should suit everyone's needs. If we sign up together we can participate together, which should be fun!! **Details below**. Who knows, if all goes well, we might be able to take part in the **Irish speaking regulars' table** in the Old Irish Pub, in Giselastr. in Schwabing, Munich at some stage.

Who would be interested in a guided tour of the **Bavarian State Archaeological Collection** in Munich in early May 2025? The Bavarian State Archaeological Collection is located in the heart of the popular district of Lehel, right next to the English Garden and just 300 metres from the famous "Eisbach wave". The central location and good public transport connections make the museum particularly attractive for both locals and tourists. Themed 'Back to the past', the museum invites you on a fascinating journey through time. Bavarian State Archaelogical Collection They have a lovely café where we could relax afterwards. "In close proximity to the Eisbachwelle and the English Garden, the SOLÂ invites you to linger, enjoy and chat before or after your visit to the museum. In summer, the roof terrace offers a relaxing evening with a view of the gardens". Please drop me a line before Tuesday, 1. April 2025 at the latest: yorsitzender@dif.bayern.de

The Irish Folk Club Munich has lots going on in 2025/26 - check it out here: Irish Folk Club Munich

Helen Kreuz, who is in charge of our membership administration, has just started the mammoth task of reorganising our membership files. New membership cards will be issued during the course of 2025. Patience is all that's needed.

Nicole Schwarz sent me a wonderful list of places to visit. Go through them at your leisure, pick out something you'd like and drop us a line - or even organise a trip yourself.

GREAT PLACES FOR DIF TO VISIT

10 places to visit ******* 26 places to visit

Helen Kreuz and Brigitte Schilbach took part in the annual meeting of **German Irish Societies** at the Irish Embassy in Berlin on 16. November 2024 on behalf of DIF-Bayern e.V. Helen has given us a written report of the proceedings, which will be presented at the next DIF AGM. Of great interest to us here in Bavaria could be interactions/collaborations with other organisations in Germany, and we will be seriously looking into this over the coming months.

Don't forget! – the next **DIF Regulars' Table** is on Thursday, 6 February 2025 in the <u>Old Irish Pub</u> in Giselastr. 11, 80802 Munich at 19:00 hrs.



That's it for now folks. Looking forward to hearing from you and especially seeing you at the **St. Patrick's Day** celebrations which are only 6 weeks away!!!

Le gach dea ghuí / With best wishes / mit freundlichen Grüßen.

Frank McLynn (Chairman) - for the Board















Irish Language Courses 2025

Conradh na Gaeilge Bheirlín e.V.

BCG1d: (Bunchúrsa Gaeilge 1) Wednesday, 19th March - 21st May 2025 Scheduled time: 18:15 – 19:45

This is a course for complete beginners who would like to be able to conduct simple conversations in Irish and learn some basic Irish grammar. The course consists of 10 weekly classes of 90 minutes each. **German** is the language of instruction of this course.

Classes start on **Wednesday**, **19th March 2025** and will be held **weekly** from **18:15 – 19:45** Berlin time

The class dates are: [19/03 | 26/03 | 02/04 | 09/04 | 16/04| 23/04 | 30/04 | 07/05 | 14/05 | 21/05].

<u>CCGe: (Cúrsa Comhrá Gaeilge)</u> Thursday, 20th March – 15th May 2025 Scheduled time: 18:15 – 19:45

This course is for people with a good basic knowledge of Irish who wish to improve their conversational skills and polish their spoken Irish. The course consists of **5 fortnightly** classes of 90 minutes each. **Irish** and **English** will be used as languages of instruction in this course.

Classes start on **Thursday, 20th March 2024** and will be conducted **fortnightly** from 18:15-19:45 Berlin local time.

The class dates are: [20/03 | 03/04 | 17/04 | 01/05 | 15/05].

All courses will be conducted on Zoom. You will receive further instructions as soon as you have registered for a course.

Participants: minimum 5 and maximum 18 participants per course. (Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.).

Course fees: BCG course: **€85,--** per person. CCG course: **€55,--** per person. To register and for all enquiries write to berlin@cnag.ie

Bígí linn!