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## German History Day

as part of

### Brisbane German Week 2019

Wednesday, 2 Oct 2019 from 12.30-4.30pm, Brisbane German Club



The third German History Day will continue the series of events dedicated to gaining a better understanding of essential developments in the German history including impact at the intersection of Australian developments. First, **Peter Ludlow**, co-author of the book *'Queensland's German Connections'* will present on the first **German settlers here in Queensland**. Peter will look at the many and varied contributions by Germans to Queensland, from the first German immigrants in the 19th century, across the social, cultural and economic contributions they and their successors have made, to the shared collaborations of the 21st century, investigating bio-fuels and hypersonic flight.

Second, we will recognize that it has been 30 years since the **Berlin Wall** came down. Two presentations will discuss this anniversary from complementary views. The **Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, Prof Michael Rosemann**, who has studied 40 years of relationships between **Australia and the German Democratic Republic** will provide an overview about the historical developments of the political, economic and cultural relationships between both countries and uncover some surprising insights.

**Günter Wetzel**, escaped in 1979 with a self-made balloon that inspired the movie *'Balloon'* which was featured at the 2019 German Film festival in Australia. Günter will in his presentation (via Skype, in German with translations) not only reflect on his escape, but also on life in the German Democratic Republic. Passionate about rescuing knowledge about the German Democratic Republic, Günter who now lives in Chemnitz, travels regularly throughout Germany to share his unique experiences.



The day will be moderated by Dr. Heidi Kneebone. Heidi has been learning and teaching German language and culture for over 30 years, with senior, and middle school students, and in continuing and tertiary education. Her doctoral thesis connected the areas of German Studies, Linguistics and Language revival, and explored the linguistic legacy of Lutheran missionaries in 19<sup>th</sup> century South Australia. Heidi has a background in political and business consultancy and a strong interest in languages policy.

## German History Day Agenda

- 12:30pm Arrival of guests, refreshments
- 1:15pm German/Australian national anthem, performed by the Brisbane German Club Choir *"Liedertafel/Liederkrantz"*  
*Welcome by*  
Michael Rosemann, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Heidi Kneebone, MC of the History Day
- 1:30pm Peter Ludlow: *The First German Settlers in Queensland (incl. discussion)*
- 2:15pm Afternoon tea
- 2:30pm Michael Rosemann: *40 years of the Australia-GDR relationship*
- 3:00pm Günter Wetzel: *30 years since the Wall came down, 40 years since I escaped (in German with translations)*
- 3:30pm Moderated discussion with the presenters
- 4:00pm Networking
- 4:30pm Event concludes