

2nd German History Day as part of Brisbane German Week 2018

German Club, Wednesday, 10 October (1.30-4.30pm)

The second German History Day will not only provide a colorful overview of the history of Germans in Brisbane, but also highlight to the audience where signs of this history can be found in today's city. Three short presentations will be followed by a discussion allowing interactions and audience participation.

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 19th century South Australia. Heidi has worked with the IBD/MYP and SACE curricula and over the last 3 years has written for SACEboard and as senior writer (German) with the Queensland Department of Education project, C2C creating German resources to assist teachers in implementing the Australian curriculum. Heidi has a background in political and business consultancy and a strong interest in languages policy.

Agenda

- 1:00pm Arrival of guests
- 1:30pm German/Australian national anthem, performed by German Choir, Liedertafel/Liederkrantz
Welcome by Heidi Kneebone (MC)
Monika Kortz, President Brisbane German Club
Michael Rosemann, German Honorary Consul
- 1:45pm Michael Rosemann: *History of the German Consuls in Brisbane*
- 2:15pm Blair Allsop: *It started with pineapples*
- 2:45pm Afternoon tea
- 3:15pm Robin Kleinschmidt: *Bethania: A unique community among German settlers*
- 3:45pm Moderated discussion with all three presenters and the audience
- 4:30pm Event concludes

Michael Rosemann: *The History of the German Honorary Consuls in Brisbane*

Germany was the first nation appointing an Honorary Consul in Brisbane. Since Georg Appel started as an Honorary Consul representing Hamburg in 1855, a number of merchants, lawyers, public servants, medical experts, engineers and academics have served Germany in this role. This presentation will provide a brief overview about the history of the 11 German Consuls here in Brisbane providing a colorful story of the unique and significant contributions that have been made in this role. A short booklet summarising this history will be launched on the day of the presentation.

Michael Rosemann is the German Honorary Consul in Brisbane since May 2016. In this role, he is committed to developing contemporary bridges between Australia and Germany. He initiated the Brisbane German Week, the David meets Goliath series and the German-Australian Start-up Hub Summit. Passionate about the history of his predecessors, he researched the context and impact of previous German Consuls. Michael is the Executive Director, Corporate Engagement at QUT and Professor in Information Systems. He authored more than 280 refereed papers and seven books which are available in five languages. A frequent, global keynote speaker, he provides advice to executives on innovation management and corporate performance.



Blair Allsopp: *It started with pineapples: My journey into the German history in Brisbane*



It's a long way from Canada to Brisbane, a journey that includes a History degree, teaching qualifications and more than 20 years working internationally for both Apple and Microsoft. Settling in Queensland nearly 20 years ago, Blair has made it his mission to explore Brisbane's history, wandering the streets and uncovering many of its secrets. Blair was one of the first Brisbane Greeters, is a regular radio presenter, has appeared in travel documentaries for CNN as well as features in numerous newspapers and in-flight magazines. Recently Blair had the opportunity to host Presidents and Prime Ministers during Brisbane's G20. Through his company, TOPSTORIES, Blair engages in public speaking for business and community groups. This is Blair's fifth season on Channel Sevens show *The Great Day Out*.

Robin Kleinschmidt: *Bethania: A unique community among German settlers in 19th century Qld*

The wave of migration from the German states began in the first half of the 19th century. The new colony of Queensland attracted its share of migrants and actively sought Germans. Land ownership was the long-term goal for most, but it took time to work off the cost of the voyage and to gather capital. The community at Bethania on the Logan River was different, based on a conscious decision to form a German community. The community had a strongly religious character, and exercised an influence on the Lutheran church in Queensland. Densely populated and with an enduring German character, the settlement became a staging point for migrants before they moved into new districts. Urbanization altered the district in the late 20th century, but much of its early character, including remnants of German language, survived longer than in many other areas of German settlement.

Robin Kleinschmidt spent 42 years as teacher and administrator in government and Lutheran schools, retiring in 2001 after 21 years as the founding Headmaster of Redeemer Lutheran College at



Rochedale. A third generation Australian, he developed an interest in 19th century German migration to Queensland when researching his family history, *Stegelitz to Steiglitz*, for which he won a Silver Award from the National Trust in 2011. He has published a number of short works of family, church and migration history, and a major work *Queensland's German Connections 1842-2012* in collaboration with Peter Ludlow. He is in demand as a speaker on German settlement in

South-East Queensland. In 2015 Robin was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to education and the Lutheran Church.