

# Raising money for good causes

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The Franconian Society prides itself on raising money for all sorts of worthy charities and good causes. We organize book sales, sell cakes and refreshments at local events, offer our home-produced jams and chutneys at Christmas bazaars, together with hand-knitted scarves and socks – some of our members are unbelievably generous with their time and fantastically skilled and creative with their fingers. And on our Irish Music Evening it was no different. Bridget Ineichen, our Vice-President, is a remarkable organizer and motivator and managed to put together another Christmas Bazaar so that we had even more money in our “charity pot” for all kinds of good causes at home and abroad. Later that same evening we also sold hot food and, once again, the proceeds went to charity. Here is just a sample of our charity recipients for 2016:

One Dollar Glasses e.V.; WaterAid UK; Orphanage Vanadsor in Armenia; Lebenshilfe „Stifte stiften“; Kinderherz OP; Ärzte ohne Grenzen...

Friday, 2nd December, wasn't just a Christmas Bazaar, though. It was a very special “Stammtisch” featuring Irish music, and, thanks to our members Sheila and Horst Gutknecht, a huge success. It was a really enjoyable evening, particularly the sing-along, which had everyone happily joining in the choruses of some of Ireland's traditional songs. Sheila's voice, beautiful and genuinely Irish, moistened a few eyes, while her husband, equally talented, provided the deeper tones and guitar accompaniment. They are two very musically gifted people and we really appreciated their hard work, not just as performers but also as efficient organizers of the evening.



Sheila sings, Horst accompanying her on the guitar.



Karen and Valerie holding up the recipes for their respective dishes.

Many thanks to Sheila and Horst for organizing the musical event and to Valerie and Karen for providing nutritious, tasty food – Irish stew and Borscht!