

President's Letter

Dear members,

I hope that 2025 has started well for you all and that it will be a year which enables you to do the things you would like to do and which give you much satisfaction and pleasure. I hope, too, that this finds you all well and free of any of the viruses which seem to be doing the rounds throughout Germany at present. Hopefully, spring and the somewhat warmer and drier weather will put an end to all that!

This will just be a short President's Letter, as our AGM is taking place very soon - namely, on Friday, 4th April - when we will use this opportunity to review the past year (May 2024 - March 2025) in the Franconian Society and outline events which will take place in the year to come. This can be done far better in a short talk supported by pictures at the AGM than in a President's Letter. It will also give me the opportunity to thank all of those who have been instrumental in organizing the many varied events our Society has offered during this past year.

I hope as many of you as possible will come to our AGM, as this also serves as a forum for our members to put forward suggestions for the future running of the Society and to let the Board and Committee know what they would currently like to see happening in our Society's activities. It also gives our Board and Committee the opportunity to explain what the future challenges are for a Society like ours and, through discussion with our members, come to a solution as to how we can best face up to, and deal with these challenges together.

So please put Friday, 4th April, Turnerbund, 6 p.m. into your diaries and we look forward very much to seeing you then. There will also be an Easter bazaar on this evening to help swell the charity box from which we make our yearly donations to various local, national and international charities. We hope, also, that as many of you as possible will come along on 7th March to listen to Dr Hobeck talk on "Tigerauge", a mobile children's hospice initiative in Northern Bavaria. For other interesting events in March, please look at our calendar and read the articles on these events in this edition of our Newsletter.

Until then, take care - and with the slow, but certain approach of spring, which brings with it the hope of new life, together with fresh beginnings in so many different ways, let us remain hopeful that 2025 will offer new and, above all, peaceful solutions to the many conflicts which are troubling our world at present.

With every good wish for the coming weeks, ***Bridget Ineichen.***