



## ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

BAVARIAN BRANCH e.V.

Creating global understanding through English

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### NEWSLETTER APRIL 2007

Dear Members and Friends of the English-Speaking Union,

We hope that, despite the brief, snowy surprise recently, you will join our next

Stammtisch at the Schwabinger

Wirtshaus now again called "Esszimmer"

at Siegfriedstr. 14 (entrance Clemensstr.), 80803 München

on Wednesday, 11 April 2007, at 7 p.m.

If you are planning to attend, please ring me (evenings) or Eileen (089 – 33 16 69)  
preferably by Thurs, 05 April, or by Tuesday, 10 April, at the latest.

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How long has it been since you last visited the Amerika Haus? We would like to invite you to watch two documentary films with us there (Karolinenplatz 3, 80333 München) on

Monday, 30 April 2007, at 7 p.m.

(1) "Journey to Justice" (USA 2006) by Steve Palackdharry

This documentary tells the story of Howard Triest, a German Jew who fled Nazi Germany in 1939 when he was 16 years old. He returned to Germany as an American soldier and served as an interpreter for the prison psychiatrists at the Nürnberg Trial. He came face-to-face with Nazi officials who shared responsibility for the death of six million Jews, including Howard's parents at Auschwitz. As a result, Howard himself felt transformed, from victim to victor, and was able to reclaim parts of his estranged German identity.

(2) "Munich – Capital of Bavaria" (1947) by Howard Triest

This is most likely the first documentary film of devastated post-war Munich. Howard Triest shot these scenes with a still camera during his return to Munich in 1947.

Tickets are 5 €; for reservation please phone 089 – 55 25 37-0; we will meet in the lobby.

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Recently, we had the great pleasure of welcoming the very charming Chairman of the ESU International Council, The Rt Hon The Lord Hunt of Wirral MBE PC, to help us celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ESU-Bavarian Branch.

On 23 March, Lord Hunt and a limited number of ESU members were invited to the residence of Mr. Steve Plater, British Consul General. Also present during this much appreciated reception (with various drinks and a rather generous cold buffet) were some representatives of the German-British Society, the Director of the Max-Planck-Institute as well as Consuls-General of France, Slovenia and South-Africa, interesting conversation partners. Many thanks to Mr. Plater, to his attentive help, as well as to his secretary Patricia.

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On 24 March, we greatly enjoyed Lord Hunt's talk titled "Shaping a free Europe together: the spirit of Cadenabbia", which was humorous and spiced with many anecdotes.

Lord Hunt, a lawyer active in over fifty charities, was a former cabinet minister in both Margaret Thatcher's and John Major's administrations.

He had joined the "Young Conservatives" when still young and eventually met, in Bonn, members of the "Junge Union" including Volker Rühle (later Minister of Defence) and Matthias Wissmann (later Minister of Transport); in later years they also met regularly at annual gatherings of conservative politicians in Konrad Adenauer's former summer residence in Cadenabbia, Italy. Still later, he also met Helmut Kohl and Angela Merkel there. It was she who had once coined the aforementioned title.

He was elected Member of Parliament for Wirral at a by-election in 1976 and spent 21 years as an MP.

Although Margaret Thatcher was in most people's eyes a tough politician, Lord Hunt greatly admired her and also experienced her soft side: In his presence, she cried twice – once when the first British soldier was killed in the Falkland war, and again when she had to step down from office.

Lord Hunt was also a great admirer of Winston Churchill but was too young to be actually close to him. However, we were entertained by some anecdotes on this great man. Furthermore, Churchill, who was also a historian, said in 1946 in Zürich: "Out of the ruins of this past war we will have a united Europe with France and with Germany."

Lord Hunt fully agrees with this statement, as he has always been very pro-Europe.

Following the talk we had a brief but very interesting Q&A period.

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After a brief walk, the evening came to a pleasant end with a delicious meal at the Gesellenhaus-Restaurant.

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Happy Birthday!

In April we would like to send our best wishes to Eike Lehmann (1 April), Monika Schönherr (15 April), and Frieder Neitzel (27 April).

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In the Pipeline:

Austrian ESU members will be visiting Munich between 4 and 7 May; Claus is working out the details with Mr. Biber of ESU-Vienna.

A visit by Bavarian ESU members to Hamburg is now planned for 16 June, as discussed by Walter with Mr. Howard Kroch, the Chairman of ESU-Hamburg.

Second half of June: Our traditional Garden Party hosted by Dorothy and Ben Bahr. As usual, edible contributions by attendants are most welcome!

- ESU International Book Project 2007:

Our members are invited to participate in a competition on local stories, fairy tales, or local customs and traditions. Manuscripts should be submitted to Claus Bruegmann; deadline for material is end of June 2007.

On 19 October: Talk by Pauline Chakmakijan on "British and Continental Freemasonry".

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In April the Amerika Haus (Karolinenplatz 3, phone 089 - 55 25 37-0) will present the following:

On Wed, 25 April 2007, through Wed, 23 May, always 5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. (five sessions)

Language course: Linguistic competence on the telephone

Fee 210 € incl. VAT

For reservations contact 089 – 570 62 00 or [jm@languages-intercultural.com](mailto:jm@languages-intercultural.com)

Exhibition through 27 April 2007, Mon – Fri 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.: "American Impressions"

Works by Christo, Sam Francis, James Rosenquist, H. Peter Irberseder

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From the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* special *Magazin* © edition dated 30.12.1999:

Siegfried and Roy, the great Las Vegas stars, walked into Tiffany's one day, and Siegfried asked for a diver's watch. "But I want one that shows the date!"

Roy looks quite shocked: "My goodness, Sigi, how long do you really want to stay down there?"

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Queen Mum is travelling in her Jaguar to Windsor Castle. En route she encounters a police patrol. "Excuse me, Ma'am, we will have to do an alcohol test."

"Excellent", replies Queen Mum, "which pub do you suggest as a starter?"

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Please do not forget to visit our web site, [www.esu-bavaria.de](http://www.esu-bavaria.de) which is updated about once a month, including activities abroad.

Should you have any suggestions regarding our web site, please e-mail your comments to Claus Bruegmann under [cbr.cbw@t-online.de](mailto:cbr.cbw@t-online.de)

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