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## SAVE THE DATE: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April/Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April

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### LEIPZIG DIASPORA COMES 'HOME' FOR FAMILY WEDDING – AND REUNION

<b>Where:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hotel Kavalierhaus (basement bar) in Machern (20km from Leipzig) Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April, from 0900 and from 1145 at the Leipzig Bahnhof, concluding at 1700 at the Auerbachs Kellar.</li><li>▪ Schloss Machern: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>, April, from 1330 hrs</li></ul>
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On **Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> April**, the registrar in a small provincial town just outside Leipzig will say the following words: “The town of Machern is bound in history over more than a hundred years with your family, Mr. Simpson, since your grandmother was born in Leipzig and found her second home here in Machern.” With that she symbolises the return of sorts of a family of **Leipzig émigrés who have come ‘Home’ on April 21<sup>st</sup> for a Family Wedding – and Reunion** on the 20th.

Jerome Simpson is a British national who has lived in Hungary since 1994. He will cause a stir in Leipzig city centre when he guides a group of international visitors, including many family members from across Europe (but also including Argentina) to explore historical sites of interest, including those where his family lived 100 years earlier. Wearing period costume, Jerome will effectively bring his Silesian great grandfather who perished in World War I back from the dead!

The detailed tour is indicated in a historical tour booklet, which can be downloaded here:

[www.wandervogel.org/documents/PaulTyralasPassageThroughLeipzig-optimized.pdf](http://www.wandervogel.org/documents/PaulTyralasPassageThroughLeipzig-optimized.pdf)

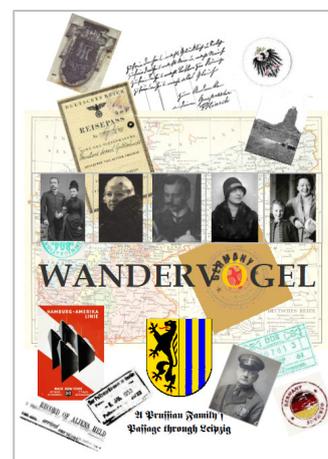
Joining the tour will be three great granddaughters (who will be ‘reunited’ when two visit Leipzig for the first time) and three great great great grandsons of the late Schneidermeister Friedrich Hinsch, whose former Stube was at Rosspatz until 1906. Were it not for a shoebox full of old photos, none of this would probably have been planned.

Prior to the tour, Jerome will give a short presentation (available here:

[www.wandervogel.org/documents/WhyLeipzig\\_Final\\_SansNotes.pdf](http://www.wandervogel.org/documents/WhyLeipzig_Final_SansNotes.pdf)) in Machern (where he will marry on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1330hrs) to explain why he and his Slovenian fiancé chose the location for their wedding, besides recount his grandmother’s own fascinating life story which began in Leipzig before concluding in Amsterdam.

In fact, were it not also for the website of Machern-local, **Heinz Mielke**, the wedding may never have been hosted in Machern. In early summer 2000, the groom approached this local via his website at: <http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~mielke/villen/villen2.htm>, asking whether he recognised a former family home in an old black and white photo. A few days later this emeritus professor of Veterinary Science of the University of Leipzig responded not only having identified the former home of the groom’s great great grandparents but also distant relatives Daniel Förster and Veronika Bauer.

The above city tour takes place in the context of extensive research work Jerome is completing (thanks to the excellent archives maintained in Saxony) regarding his family’s historical connections to Leipzig and which are being summarized in a book he currently writes called: “**Wandervögel: A Prussian Family’s Passage Through Leipzig**”. The tour was filmed and a short clip is now available here: [www.wandervogel.org](http://www.wandervogel.org)



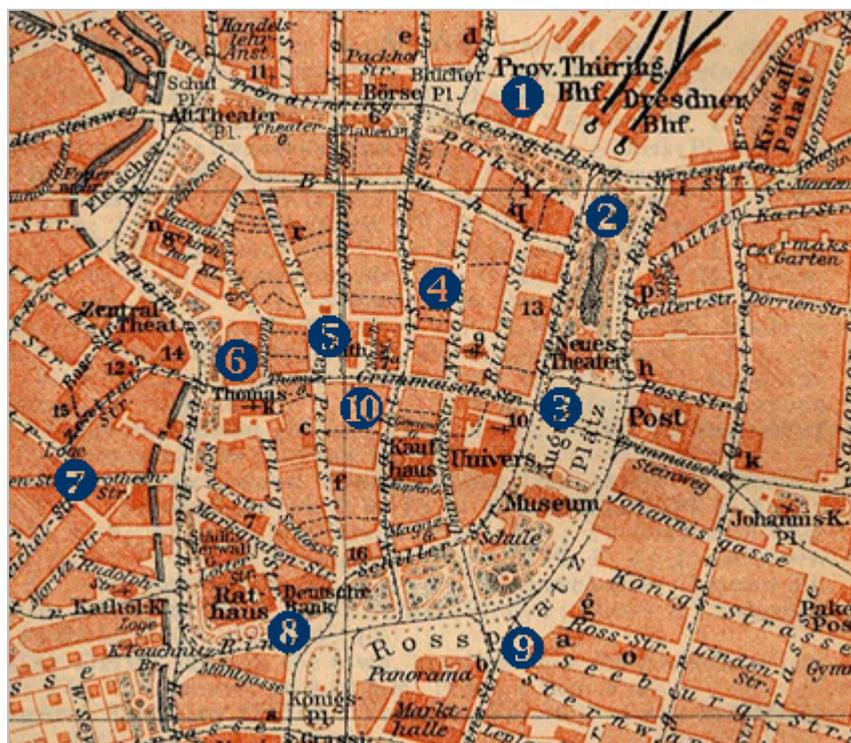
Of particular interest is the fact that every generation since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century migrated from one political entity to another (including the author). This is being used to survey the apparent ‘Pull and Push of Leipzig.’

With Jerome and Mirjam’s marriage in Machern, “it will not only be two people who are bound together, but two distinct families of diverse nationalities” concludes the registrar. And that brings another exciting chapter to the colourful lives of these Wandervögels too.

Further Information: **Jerome Simpson**, [JSimpson@rec.org](mailto:JSimpson@rec.org); +36203988326 (Mobile); +3626504039

# A Family Celebration: Where Cultures, History and Nations' meet

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Leipzig Historical City Visit \*



1 km  
approx.

- 09.00** [KavalierHaus](#) Pub (in the hotel's basement) for an introduction to the mysteries of a Machern Villa
- 11.00** Ten minute walk to Machern's train station to take the 1125 train for Leipzig (buy tickets on train)
- 11.50** Leipzig Bahnhof, once the largest in the world, and now a great example of mobility management (1)
- 12.15** Brühl, at one time the centre of the European fur trade and likely working place of the groom's great grandfather (2)
- 12.30** Augustusplatz, where Prussia defeated Napoleon, Leipzigers demonstrated, Paulinerkirche razed (3)
- 12.45** [Riquet house](#) for light lunch (cash only, at own cost), Salzgäßchen: home of the Hinsch's (4)
- 14.00** Altmarkt and its history, including the City Tunnel (5)
- 14.15** Thomaskirche, home of the Thomanerchor, Bach, and that place where the groom's great grandmother was married in 1907. Not far off is the Kaffeehaus Baum (6)
- 14.45** Kolonnaden Str. 17, where the groom's great grandmother's brother had his first business (7)
- 15.30** Neues Rathaus, completed in 1905, example of bourgeois expressionism on the site of former Schloss Pleissenburg, military headquarters of Saxony and site of many of Luther's sermons (8)
- 16.30** Roßplatz, former horse trading and wool market, home too of the groom's great great grandparents and their Schneiderstube plus the Magdebrunnen fountain (9)
- 17.00** Dinner at [Auerbachs Keller](#), scene of famous scene from Goethe's Faust.  
The English menu (at own cost) is [here](#) (10)
- 20.09** Return train to Machern (arriving 2028), followed by ten minute walk to the hotel

\*timings are approximate