BMC Garmisch Host Nation Newsletter

Out and About...

Thu, February 7, Noon, Mittenwald.: Dirty Thursday (Schmutziger Donnerstag, Unsinniger Donnerstag, Weiberfastnacht). This day is called 'dirty' because Schmutz (dirt) is the Alemannic word for 'fat' and it's the day to make Fastnachtskrapfen or Fasnetskiechle which are kind of doughnuts which are fried in fat.

During this time, men are well advised to wear an old tie, as women are allowed to cut them in half in exchange for a kiss. 'Mercy' is a word that women don't know on this day, as many tourists from abroad can tell. The trophies, i.e. the lower halves of the ties, are carried around and then nailed to walls. 'Castrated' men are supposed to wear the remains of their tie with pride on their faces. The humorless fraction is recognizable by wearing a pullover on this day.

With the ringing of the 12 noon church bells in downtown Mittenwald starts the parade of the "Schellenrührer", a group of men in masks with huge cowbells strapped on their backs trying to chase our winter with their hellish racket. A dancer leads them in a pretty costume showing spring the way. You are likely to run into a dancing bear with his trainer, the figure of grim old winter, rag people, a pack of witch or a person fallen into disgrace with the villagers, high up into the air on a tarp; the wheel spinners – masked figures spinning on a wheel pulled by 10 men in white, their faces covered with strange knitted stockings; and many other fantastic creatures of days gone by. The show lasts only about 1.5 hours. So, it's important to be there

on time. Follow parking signs near train station, then just walk into center of town, using church steeple as guidance.

Noon: Schellenrührer are also in the streets in Wallgau and Krün

Thu, February 7, 12.00 p.m., Garmisch-Pa, Olympiastr. 10, Schäffler Dance

<u>Thu, February 7, 1.30 p.m., Grainau and Fachant, Faschings parade in the streets</u>

At about **2 p.m.** and **again in the evening** on **Ludwigstrasse in Partenkirchen** there are generally lots of masked characters - Maschkera. Particularly the afternoon is for children.

I have to say generally, because it is not an organized happening. Some years lots of groups are out, other years hardly any. But, when they are out, you will find next to dressed up groups of students and children the traditional Werdenfels masks like the Bigallan (rag people), Untersberger Mandln (huge masks that take up half of the body), Schellenruehrer with cowbells on their backs, Jacklschutzer (a group tossing a rag doll/winter), woman carrying a man in a basket (one person), the ever popular mill that turns oldies into youngsters, tinkers, Schnaps vendors and the big brown bear with his keeper.



Thu, February 7, 7 p.m., Fachant, Alter Wirt, Youth Faschingsball (age 11-15) with DJ

Sat, February 9, 8 a.m., Weilheim, Kleine Hochlandhalle, Indoor Flea Market

Sat, February 9, 7 p.m., Garmisch-Pa., Olympic Ski Stadium, Pyro Games on Snow, Firework show, laser show and live music followed by an open-air party. Tickets start at €14,45: Tel: 2312

Sun, February 10 – Tuesday, February 12, Fasching in Munich, from Sunday through Tuesday, the city center will be turned into a gigantic party zone. Munich radio stations will set up their sound systems, and vendors will sell food and beverages to fuel the festivities. A traditional highlight will be the "Tanz der Marktfrauen" (Dance of the Market Women) at Viktualienmarkt on Faschingsdienstag at 11 am. After the dance, a crowd of about 50,000 will party on in celebration of the last day of Fasching until 6 pm. Most bars in the neighborhood will extend the festivities, which will end at midnight with the burial of a puppet representing the "Foolish Season."



Tanz der Marktfrauen

Sun, February 10, 2 p.m., Murnau, Fasching in the pedestrian zone Sun, February 10, 1.30 p.m., Grainau, Faschings parade, start at the Kurhaus Sun, February 10, 2 p.m., Ohlstadt, Faschings parade



Sun, February 10, 2 p.m., Seefeld/Austria, pedestrian zone, Traditional Tyrolean Masked Prarade, The Olympia Region Seefeld's Tourist Organization is putting together its annual street procession with original Tyrolean carnival societies in the pedestrian zone, especially to give our guests an opportunity to experience this old tradition. Fasching and Tyrolean tradition combine each year with a Mask Parade in the Seefeld pedestrian area. Members of traditional groups from around the Tyrol come to Seefeld and perform their dances to banish the winter wearing fascinating masks and costumes.

Mon, February 11, Noon, Mittenwald, Fasching in the pedestrian zone

Tue, February 12-16, Garmisch-Pa., 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Richard-Strauss-Platz, French Market

Tue, February 12, Noon, Mittenwald, Fasching in the pedestrian zone

Tue, February 1.30, Noon, Benediktbeuern, Fasching parade

Tue, February 12, 2 p.m., Partenkirchen, Olympic Ski Stadium, Faschings Ski Jumping

Tue, February 12, 2 p.m., Garmisch, Faschingsgaudi around the Josefsplatz

Tue, February 12, 2 p.m., Grainau, Fasching in the streets

Tue, February 12, 2 p.m., Unterammergau, Fasching by the Gasthof Stern with Breznangeln, pretzel fishung) for children

Tue, February 12, Hausberg, Fasching on the mountain – hut to hut, The Hausbergbahn will run until 6 p.m., the Kreuzeckbahn until 5 p.m.

There are way more Faschingsevents than listed above. If you are interested look in the Kreisbote paper for the Faschingskalender (events calendar). Most indoor events will cost a small cover charge.

Fri, <u>February 15</u> (and every Fri), 4.30 – 9.30 p.m., Farchant., Skilift am Ried, <u>Night skiing</u> Sat & Sun, February 16 & 17, Garmisch-Pa., Riessersee, <u>Pond Hockey Cup</u>, Ice Hockey on natural ice.

Sun, February 17, 6 p.m., Garmisch-Pa., Olympic Ice Stadium, SC Riessersee vs. ESV Kaufbeuren

Tue, February 19, 8 p.m., Garmisch-Pa., Olympic Ice Stadium, Ice Disco

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February 14, Valentine's Day

Sentimental Education

Does the mention of Valentine's Day make you recoil in horror? Or are you intending to shower your sweetheart with kisses? Either way, it may be of interest to you to know about the legends surrounding this romantic holiday. It does, after all, have a long history, more than just the tradition bestowed upon it by the makers of tasteless valentine cards.

There are many different stories describing the advent of this ancient custom.

The most popular one dates back to the Early Christian Church in AD 200, when the Roman Emperor Claudius II forbade young men to marry, as he believed single men made better soldiers than those with families. Believing this decree to be unjust, a priest named Valentine decided to continue marrying young lovers in secret.

When his actions were discovered, he was sentenced to death, and the day of his execution was February 14.

It wasn't until AD 496 that Pope Gelasius I pronounced Valentine a saint and created a saint's day in his honor. According to another popular legend, Valentine, imprisoned because he refused to worship Roman gods, fell in love with the jailor's daughter (others claim that she was blind and that he restored her eyesight during one of her surreptitious visits to see him in jail).

Before he died, Valentine wrote her a long love letter, signing it "From your Valentine," a phrase still used today.

A third version attributes this romantic tradition to the ancient Roman festival Lupercalia, which celebrated the coming of spring on the eve of February 14. The night before this fertility festival, young men would draw girls' names out of a hat and the lady chosen would be their sweetheart for the year. And in the middle Ages in England and France it was thought that mid–February was the beginning of the mating season for birds, thus adding to the romantic flavor of this month. Chaucer even referred to the idea in The Parliament of Fowls: "For this was on St. Valentin most often used to depict fidelity. The earliest known valentine dates back to 1415 and can be found in the British Museum Library in London: it was a poem written by Charles, the Duke of Orleans, to his wife—he had been captured at the Battle of Agincourt and was being held prisoner in the Tower of London. A few years later, King Henry V hired the poet John Lydgate—or so legend has it—to compose a valentine note to Catherine of Valois. The first commercial valentines date back to about 1800 and were rather simple in style. By the 1850s, however, they consisted of elaborate messages in gold and silver, and were decorated with satin, ribbon and lace. Today, elegant flower arrangements, chocolates and even fancy lingerie are among some of the most frequent valentine offerings, and valentine cards are the second most popular greeting cards sent, ranking just behind Christmas at

a whopping one billion per year in the United States alone (though, not surprisingly, 85 percent of these are purchased by women!). Just how many of the myths surrounding Saint Valentine and this ancient celebration are actually true we will probably never know. Love, however, comes in many forms and even if you don't feel the urge to get all lovey-dovey, perhaps just being particularly good to your family and friends is valentine enough.

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Müller'sches Volksbad Munich – Indoor Pool

Swimmers will be hard pressed to find another setting like this.



"Ein Volksbad, hauptsächlich für das einfache Volk" (A public bath, mainly for the average person)—it was in this spirit that Karl Müller donated a piece of prime real estate—valued at 1.8 million Goldmarks—to the city of Munich in 1894. City organizers quickly went to work on the proposed project, a lavish swimming and bathing facility financed with the cash saved on acquiring the land. Designed by renowned Munich architect Karl Hocheder, the Art Nouveau masterpiece opened in 1901 nestling beside the Isar, opposite the Deutsches Museum.

The elegant Art Nouveau interior design and décor of the swimming facilities cannot be found elsewhere in Munich or in even Germany. Before swimmers head for the pool's hardwood changing cubicles, they must buy entrance tickets at a window framed by marble

columns. From the changing room, swimmers may gaze out across a large gallery to the hall's 31x13-meter swimming pool. A high stucco ceiling, Art Nouveau lamps hanging from intricate bronze fittings, a Greek, water-spitting gargoyle and a clock with a zodiac design are but a few of the trappings that set the tone at this unusual aquatic center. Smaller swimming pools are found in rooms off the main hall and offer swimmers warmer waters. In 1989, an archaic, and certainly sexist, rule was lifted at the Müller'sches Volksbad. Until that time, only men were allowed access to the large pool—women had to be content with the smaller ones. Today, men and women alike may enjoy every inch of this art-gallery-cum-spa.

The most beautiful room in the Volksbad, however, houses the Roman-Irish steam bath. Under a 15-meter dome, visitors may relax in a round pool of warm water while admiring the opulent surroundings.

Visitors may also choose from one of three of the Volksbad's saunas, the hottest of which is heated at up to 80°C. A word to the wise: always bring shower sandals. The tile floors in

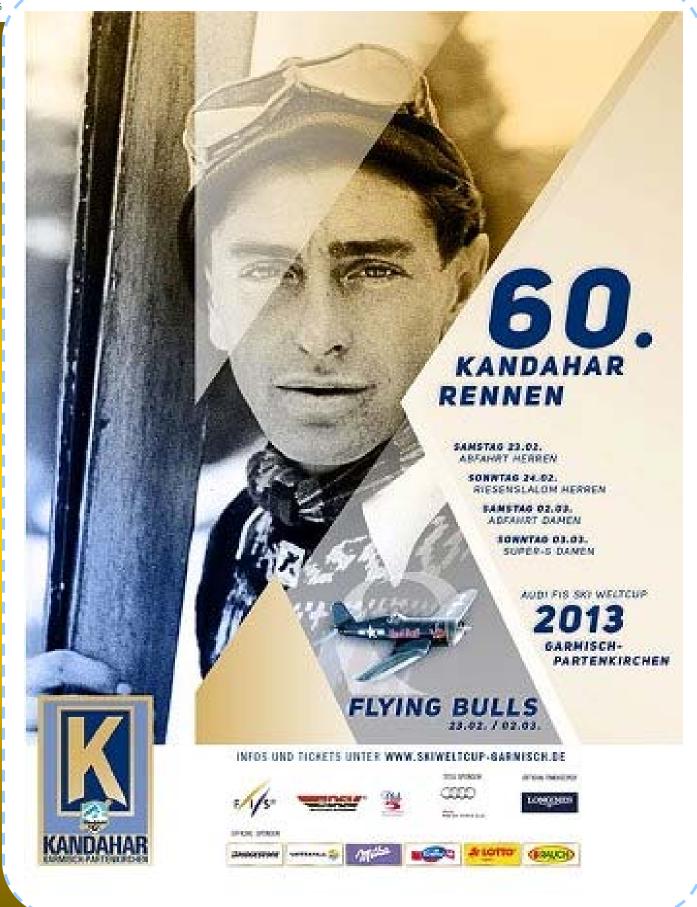
the sauna are ridiculously hot and will burn the soles of your feet if you are not protected. Some may, however, take issue with another "little problem" at the Müller'sches Volksbad steam baths and saunas. As the Germans whimsically say, these facilities are "textile free"—meaning that visitors to these rooms are stark naked. You may wish to wrap a towel around yourself, but that won't save you the view of other nudists. At the pool section, however, swim suits are required. More info and prices: http://www.swm.de/de/



Cross Country tracks

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 5 – 8 p.m.

The Night Loipe (tracks) in Kaltenbrunn is open for the public.



Munich Movie Schedule www.cinema-muenchen.com

Thursday 07.02.

_10:30 Special School Screening Lincoln

_15:15 Zero Dark Thirty

_18:30 Lincoln

_21:45 Django Unchained

Friday 08.02.

_10:00 Special School Screening 3D Life of Pi 3D

_14:00 Quartet

_16:15 Lincoln

_19:30 Django Unchained

23:15 Sneak-Preview (English)

Saturday 09.02.

10:30 Nice Morning Price (only 7,50 € Zero Dark Thirty

13:35 Kids Club (Kids 9,90 €/Adults 10,90 €) The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (in HFR) 3D

_17:00 Django Unchained _20:30 **SPECIAL PREVIEW** (Live from the Red Carpet at the Berlinale) Les Miserables

Sunday 10.02.

10:30 Nice Morning Price (only 6,50 €) Quartet

12:30 Kids Club (Kids 7,90€/ Adults 8,90€) Life of Pi 3D

15:00 Lincoln (English)

18:15 Django Unchained 21:45 Django Unchained

Monday 11.02.

_12:45 Lincoln

15:35 Zero Dark Thirty 18:50 Django Unchained 22:15 Silver Linings Playbook

Tuesday 12.02.

_13:35 Frankenweenie 3D

_15:20 Lincoln

18:25 Django Unchained

21:50 Django Unchained

Wednesday 13.02.

12:35 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (in HFR) 3D

_15:40 Zero Dark Thirty

_19:00 Django Unchained

22:30 Special Preview

A Good Day to Die Hard

Thursday 14.02.

_14:00 A Good Day to Die Hard |_16:05 Lincoln

19:15 A Good Day to Die Hard 21:45 A Good Day to Die Hard

Friday 15.02.

_13:00 Finding Nemo 3D

_14:55 Lincoln

_18:00 Silver Linings Playbook

20:45 A Good Day to Die Hard

Saturday 16.02.

_11:00 Nice Morning Price (only 6,50 €) A Good Day to Die Hard

_13:00 Kids Club (Kids 7,90€/ Adults

8,90€) Finding Nemo 3D

_15:15 Django Unchained

19:00 Live from the Metropolitan Opera, NY MET: Verdi - RIGOLETTO

(Original, ST: German) 22:50 A Good Day to Die Hard

Sunday 17.02.

_10:15 Nice Morning Price (only 6,50 €) Argo

12:30 **Kids Club** (Kids 9,90 €/ Adults 10,90 €) The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (in HFR) 3D

_15:45 Lincoln

19:00 A Good Day to Die Hard

Monday 18.02.

13:15 Lincoln

16:10 Django Unchained

19:30 A Good Day to Die Hard _21:55 A Good Day to Die Hard

Tuesday 19.02.

_15:00 Lincoln

21:30 A Good Day to Die Hard

Wednesday 20.02.

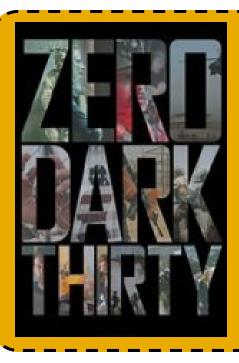
_17:00 Argo

19:35 A Good Day to

Die Hard

21:50 Django Unchained





For a decade, an elite team of intelligence and military operatives, working in secret across the globe, devoted themselves to a single goal: to find and eliminate Osama bin Laden. This smart and well-crafted drama/thriller reunites the Oscar-winning team of master filmmaker Kathryn Bigelow and writer -producer Mark Boal (»The Hurt Locker«) for

the story of history's greatest manhunt for the world's most dangerous man. Telling a story with an ending everyone knows and yet riveting from first frame to last. Bigelow's brilliant thriller surpasses her Oscarwinner with a visceral vet rigorous, technically exciting vet politically detached account of capturing Bin Laden.