

Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

in unserer Frühjahrsausgabe konnten Sie einen Beitrag über die Feierlichkeiten zum 70. Thronjubiläum von Königin Elizabeth II. lesen, der in einem ziemlich optimistischen Ton gehalten war. Ein paar Monate später hatte Großbritannien durch den Tod der Queen mit König Charles III. einen neuen Monarchen. Er ist zwar noch nicht offiziell inthronisiert, aber das ist sicherlich nur noch eine Formsache. Wie bekannt, ging es noch schneller beim Wechsel von Boris Johnson über Liz Truss zum neuen Vorsitzenden der Tories und Premierminister Rishi Sunak. Ob Großbritannien, aus politischer Perspektive gesehen, jetzt wieder in ruhigerem Fahrwasser segelt, wird die Zukunft zeigen.

Die Teilnehmer an unserer Grillparty im Juli werden sich möglicherweise gewundert haben, dass sie im letzten Newsletter nichts darüber lesen konnten. Das war dem vielen Material geschuldet, das für diese Ausgabe schon vorgesehen war. Den Nachbericht zum Grillnachmittag von Frau Böhme finden sie deshalb in diesem Heft gleich im Anschluss an diese Zeilen.

Einen weiteren Beitrag eines unserer Mitglieder könne Sie ab Seite 7 lesen. Am 1. Januar 1863 wurde in den Vereinigten Staaten durch Präsident Lincoln die Emanzipationserklärung (Emancipation Proclamation) veröffentlicht, ein Dokument der Freiheit von weltweiter Bedeutung. Herr Hasse hat dieses Ereignis zum Anlass genommen, in seinem Artikel den positiven Beitrag der USA-Deutschen im amerikanischen Bürgerkrieg hervorzuheben.

Wir hoffen natürlich, dass Sie auch die weiteren Beiträge in dieser Ausgabe interessant und lesenswert finden.

Damit wünschen wir Ihnen eine frohe Weihnachtszeit und alles Gute für 2023.

Die Redaktion

Unsere Grillparty

Unsere Grillparty fand in diesem Jahr am 20. Juli wie immer im Garten der Neuen Arbeit Chemnitz statt. Neben unseren zahlreichen Mitgliedern hatten wir auch drei Mitarbeiter der Neuen Arbeit Chemnitz zu Gast: Frau Müller, Frau Adam und Herrn Riedel.

Alles, was zum Grillen benötigt wurde, war diesmal, anders als im Vorjahr, an Bord. Also konnte die Grillparty auch pünktlich gegen 16.00 Uhr starten.

In diesem Jahr hatten wir auch wieder recht fleißige Helfer bei der Vorbereitung unserer kulinarischen Grillgenüsse. So steuerten zum Beispiel die Familie Geisler verschiedene Salate und Herr Wagner wieder selbstgebackenes Brot bei und Herr Hasse versetzte uns mit Antipasti - Produkten in italienisches Flair.

Unsere Gäste und Mitglieder kamen neben diesen Köstlichkeiten auch durch die von unseren Grillmeister Thomas Mehnert super gegrillten Steaks und Würstchen auf ihren Genuss, die wie in jedem Jahr von Frau Marion Rotstein organisiert und wegen ihrem runden Geburtstag durch sie gespendet wurden. Natürlich fehlte auch das nötige Nass nicht, welches durch die Kehlen rann.

Frau Engeltraud Zahrbuch war auch in diesem Jahr wieder unsere Kulturministerin. Mit ihrem kleinen kulturellen Beitrag erhielten wir einen kleinen Einblick in ihr Jugendleben.

Auch in diesem Jahr zeigte sich das Wetter von seiner besten Seite.

Allen hat es sehr gut gefallen und sie wollen auch im kommenden Jahr bei einer schönen Grillparty wieder dabei sein.

Dorothea Böhme

Calennig

Calennig is a Welsh word meaning "*New Year celebration/gift*", although it literally translates to "the first day of the month", deriving from the Latin word *kalends*. The English word "Calendar" also has its root in this word.

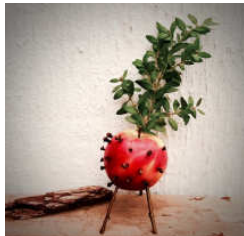
The tradition of giving gifts and money on New Year's Day is an ancient custom that survives even in modern-day Wales, though nowadays it is customary to give bread and cheese.



Many people give gifts on New Year's morning, with children having skewered apples stuck with raisins and fruit. In some parts of Wales, people must visit all their relatives by midday to collect their Calennig, and celebrations and traditions can vary from area to area. In *Stations of the Sun*, Ronald Hutton, an English historian who specialises in Early Modern Britain, British folklore, pre-Christian religion and Contemporary Paganism, gives the following example of Calennig rhyme from 1950's Aberystwyth:

*Dydd calan yw hi heddiw,
Rwy'n dyfod ar eich traws
I 'mofyn am y geiniog,
Neu grwst, a bara a chaws.
O dewch i'r drws yn siriol
Heb newid dim o'ch gwedd;
Cyn daw dydd calan eto
Bydd llawer yn y bedd.*

"Today is the start of the new year, and I have come to you to ask for coins, or a crust, and bread and cheese. O come to the door cheerfully without changing your appearance; Before the next arrival of the new year many will be dead."



Ronald Hutton also notes that in the south-east of Wales and in the Forest of Dean area, the skewered apple itself was known as the Calennig, and in its most elaborate form consisted of "an apple or orange, resting on three sticks like a tripod, smeared with flour, stuck with nuts, oats or wheat, topped with thyme or another fragrant herb and held by a skewer."

Celebrations in Cardiff

The capital of Wales, Cardiff, holds Calennig celebrations at the Cardiff Civic Centre to welcome the New Year, including free live music, fairground rides, a midnight fireworks display and an opportunity to ice-skate into the new year at Cardiff's Winter Wonderland.

Source: Wikipedia

Review of the last months

25 August 2022

"Out of Belfast and Into the Mystic! - Life and Songs of Van Morrison"

"Who is Van Morrison?" you might ask. Well, honestly spoken, I did not know anything about him before I listened to **Mr Einde O'Callaghan's** talk. However, I like music and therefore expected an interesting talk. The talk was divided into two parts. At first we were informed about Van Morrison's life and career. Secondly we listened to several parts from Morrison's songs illustrating his different musical genres.

To my mind it would have been better to do it alternately. This way Mr O'Callaghan could have avoided repeating some information.

Nevertheless it was a very interesting talk and of course this article cannot completely describe O'Callaghan's great passion for Irish musicians and the wonderful songs we listened to.

Right at the beginning of his talk he mentioned that Morrison is well-known in Ireland, the UK and America but not in Germany although he has already given concerts here.

Van Morrison was born as George Ivan Morrison in a protestant area of East Belfast in 1945. In her youth his mother was a singer and tap dancer. His father was an electrician on a shipyard. His large record collection of American music influenced Van's development. Since his early childhood he had known that he wanted to become a musician. As a teenager he played in an Irish show band covering the popular hits in dance halls.

Morrison was a multi-instrumentalist. He played a variety of instruments such as guitar, saxophone, keyboards and drums.

That was the beginning of his successful professional career as singer, song-writer and musician.

Until 1964 he had lived in Northern Ireland, before he moved to the USA

Together with his band he released various albums and singles reaching the charts but it was his song "Gloria" (1966) from the B-side of a single which became very famous and belonged to the rock standards and was covered by many other singers, such as Jimmy Hendrix.

In 1967 he started his career as a solo singer with "Brown-Eyed Girl" which became the song he is most closely identified with. The lyrics basically consist of memories.

Later he returned to Britain and since 2018 he has been living in Dublin.

In all the decades of his work his music was characterized by different influences. Elements of blues, soul and gospel as well as traditional Irish folk songs are a reflection of these influences. In the 1980s, for example, he studied scientology and wrote some songs as prayers. His romantic ballad "Have I Told You Lately" (1989) is often played as the first dance on weddings nowadays.

His song "Days Like This" became the official anthem of the peace movement in Northern Ireland in the 1990s and was influenced by soul music.

As we could only listen to short parts of each song because of the licence regulations, Mr O'Callaghan advised us to listen to the full length of the songs on YouTube.

Thank you for this amusing talk, Einde.

Marion Rotstein

29 September 2022

"English Kings and Queens - Part 2"

Silvia Langhoff once mentioned that British history was one of her favourite subjects and she was particularly interested in the history of the British royalty. In the second part of her series of talks on English Kings and Queens, she proved again this statement to be true.

She began with the king she had finished with in part 1, Henry II, and explained one more time the circumstances that led to the murder of Simon Beckett, who originally was a supporter of the king and later became a strict critic and opponent.

The two sons of Henry II, Richard (the Lionheart), who later ruled as King Richard I until his death in a war in France, and John (Lackland), Richard's successor as King John I, were the next topics. Here Mrs Langhoff mentioned the name Robin Hood that is often associated with King John. We also learned that Henry III, the eldest son of John, was the last king of Norman descent. It would lead too far to mention everything Mrs Langhoff told us about these kings.

The following period that is commonly referred to as the Middle Ages, was characterised by the reign of ten different kings, beginning with Edward I. Mrs Langhoff pointed out that he could be described as the first king to rule over all of Britain, including Ireland, Wales and Scotland, and that during his reign parliamentary work began with the introduction of the House of Lords and the House of Commons after quarrels with the barons and the church.

Another important period in English history that Mrs Langhoff covered was the time when the Houses Lancaster and York both laid claim to the English throne. This period, also known as the Wars of the Roses, eventually led to the reign of the Tudor family with Henry VIII as their most prominent member. Mrs Langhoff gave lots of information about the life of Henry VIII, outlined the reasons for the foundation of the Church of England and explained what happened to his six wives in his efforts for a male heir.

At this point she finished her talk and announced that it will be necessary to give a third part because of the abundance of material she still has "on hand". This third part that I'm already looking forward to will be given at the beginning of next year.

Siegfried Rosch

27 Oktober 2022

"Scotland Yard - Die Geschichte der Londoner Polizeibehörde"

Am **27.10.2022** lud uns **Siegfried Rosch** zu einer ungewöhnlichen Reise durch die **Geschichte der Londoner Polizeibehörde Scotland Yard** ein, dieses Mal in deutscher Sprache, um auch Mitgliedern und Gästen, denen das Verfolgen eines Vortrages in englischer Sprache zu anstrengend ist, dieses interessante Thema zugänglich zu machen.

Der Spannungsbogen reichte von Fakten bis zu spektakulären Kriminalfällen.

Ein Ausschnitt aus dem Hörspiel „Die Maske des Mörders“, untermalt mit entsprechenden Fotos, machte uns Zuhörer neugierig und verdeutlichte, dass die Kommissare von Scotland Yard durch Literatur und vor allem zahlreiche Filme bekannt wurden. Selbstverständlich existiert ein Unterschied zwischen Fiktion und Realität. Der Vortrag leistete einen Beitrag zur Aufklärung über die Wirklichkeit.

1829 gründete der damalige konservative Innenminister Robert Peel die „Metropolitan Police“, deren Hauptquartier sich am Whitehall Place befand, aber auch einen Eingang von der Straße Great Scotland Yard hatte, somit entstand die Bezeichnung der Londoner Polizei.

300.000 Polizisten, genannt „Bobbies“ wurden nach ihren Fähigkeiten und nicht nach ihrer politischen Orientierung ausgewählt. Sie genossen Respekt und Ansehen. Auf ihren Streifgängen, besonders nachts, sorgten sie für größere Sicherheit. Sie konnten verdächtige Personen festnehmen, aber zur Aufklärung der Straftaten wurden Detektive eingesetzt, die dank neuer Ermittlungsmethoden, wie z.B. der Feststellung von Fingerabdrücken, berühmt wurden.

Im Laufe der Jahrzehnte wurde es nötig, die Polizeibehörde zu vergrößern und es erfolgten jeweils Umzüge in den Jahren 1890, 1967 und zuletzt 2016. Seitdem lautet die Anschrift Victoria Embankment.

Anhand von drei spektakulären Kriminalfällen berichtete Siegfried Rosch über Erfolge und Misserfolge der Londoner Polizeibehörde in deren langer Geschichte.

Im Fall der sogenannten Whitechapel Morde (1889 - 91), eine Serie von 11 Morden an Frauen, die wegen ihrer Armut als Prostituierte arbeiteten, war die Polizei erfolglos. Fünf dieser Morde wurden „Jack the Ripper“ zugeordnet. Aufgrund der grausamen Begehungsweise, bei der man den Frauen innere Organe herausgeschnitten hatte, wurden hauptsächlich Schlachter, Ärzte und Chirurgen verhört. Auch das Auftauchen eines Briefes, unterzeichnet mit „Jack the Ripper“ brachte kein Licht ins Dunkel der Ermittlungen.

Anders 20 Jahre später im Fall Dr. Crippen. Der aus den USA stammende Arzt wurde beschuldigt seine Frau, eine erfolglose, im Alkohol und bei anderen Männern Trost suchende Opernsängerin, bei einer Feier in ihrem Haus mit einem Giftcocktail getötet zu haben. Bei der Erklärung zum Verschwinden seiner Frau verstrickte er sich in Widersprüche und machte sich verdächtig, indem er sich kurz danach mit seiner Geliebten zeigte und überstürzt abreiste. Bei der erneuten Durchsuchung seines Hauses fand man unter dem Kellerboden Leichenreste. Dank neuer wissenschaftlicher Methoden stellte man die Art und die Dosis des Giftes fest. Inzwischen befand sich Crippen allerdings mit seiner als sein Sohn verkleideten Geliebten auf einem Schiff nach Kanada. Am 31.07.1910 wurde er jedoch verhaftet. Die Erfindung der drahtlosen Telegrafie und das schnellere Schiff, mit dem der ermittelnde Inspektor folgte, hatten es ermöglicht. Später wurde er zum Tode verurteilt. Wir waren sehr erstaunt zu hören, dass dieser Fall trotz des offenbaren Erfolges die Polizei noch ca. 100 Jahre später beschäftigte. 2007 fanden amerikanische Forensiker mittels Untersuchung von DNA-Material heraus, dass die damals gefundenen Leichenteile mit hoher Wahrscheinlichkeit nicht von Cora Crippen stammten.

Der dritte Fall ereignete sich in der jüngeren Geschichte. Siegfried Rosch berichtete über den legendären Postzugraub, der 1963 durch alle Medien ging und auch uns noch in Erinnerung war. Bessere Ermittlungsmethoden und Hinweise aus der Bevölkerung führten zur Festnahme und Verurteilung der Posträuber. Die Beute jedoch wurde nur unvollständig gefunden.

Am Ende des interessant und kurzweilig gestalteten und, wie vom Vortragenden gewohnt, ausgezeichnet illustrierten Vortrags erfuhren wir, dass Scotland Yard auch heute noch eine wichtige Rolle spielt. Die Polizeibehörde führt eine Datenbank über alle Straftäter in Großbritannien. Spezialisten von Scotland Yard werden entsandt, um örtliche Polizeikräfte im Ausland zu unterstützen, wie es beispielsweise 2007 beim Verschwinden der 3-jährigen Madeleine McCann aus einer portugiesischen Ferienanlage der Fall war.

Am Ende des Vortrages bedankten sich die Anwesenden mit herzlichem Applaus.

Enttäuschend war, dass so wenige Mitglieder und Gäste der Einladung gefolgt waren.

Marion Rotstein

Vorschau auf unsere nächsten Veranstaltungen

Do., 26.1.2023, 19 Uhr, Veranstaltungssaal im DASTietz: "English Kings and Queens - Part 3", Vortrag in englischer Sprache von Silvia Langhoff

Do., 25.2.2023, 19 Uhr, Veranstaltungssaal im DASTietz: "Cruising up the rivers Rhone and Saone", Reisevideo in englischer Sprache von Siegfried Rosch

Do., 25.3.2023, 19 Uhr, Veranstaltungssaal im DASTietz: Thema und Referent stehen noch nicht fest, werden jedoch rechtzeitig bekanntgegeben

(Änderungen vorbehalten)

Germans in the American Civil War (1861 - 1865)

The history of United States of America is linked to the migratory movement of many nationalities. Thus, at different periods and for different reasons, immigrant German people settled in their new American homeland. To preserve their democratic ideals, many revolutionaries fled to the United States in the aftermath of the lost revolution of 1848.

It was logical that these men hated slavery and backed President Abraham Lincoln, a convinced opponent of slavery. When 11 slaveholding states of the South declared secession and independence and proclaimed the Confederacy, they sided with the Union, the army of the slave liberators.

At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, the central objective was not the abolition of slavery but the conservation of the Union. The victorious and bloody battle of Antietam (a river in the State of Maryland) in 1862 secured the authority and the position of President Lincoln. Consequently, the general abolition of slavery in all states of the Confederacy, the

Emancipation Proclamation,

was issued.

It is estimated that about 200,000 Germans joined the army of the Union as volunteers. Indicative of the spirit of the German-American soldiers is the refrain of the battle hymn, sung in German:

Auf, für Lincoln und die Freiheit,
auf, für Lincoln und die Freiheit,
für das Banner der Union!

Many Germans were honoured for their bravery, served in different ranks, some became generals, among them were:

Maj. General Carl Schurz
Maj.Gen. Franz Sigel
Maj.Gen. Peter-Joseph Osterhaus
Brig.Gen. August Willich
Brig.Gen. Ludwig Blenker
Brig.Gen. Alexander Schimmelpfennig

The most outstanding representative of these Germans was

Carl Schurz

A short summary of his life (1829 – 1906)

As a participant in the 1848 revolution he served as officer of the Baden-Rhineland-Palatinate revolutionary army and fought inside the besieged fortress of Rastatt. After his capture, he managed to escape and fled to

the United States via Switzerland and England. There he joined the Republican Party and became a very active supporter of President Abraham Lincoln as an important propagandist inside the American-German community.



At the beginning of the Civil War he was ambassador to Spain, but shortly after that he joined the Union Army, fighting in many battles and commanding two divisions.

In 1867, the newly elected President Rutherford B. Hayes appointed him United States Secretary of the Interior, a very influential and responsible position in the post-war period.

Carl Schurz is considered the voice of progressive Germans in the USA. The memory of him is still alive. In Germany, too, some facilities, streets and schools bear his name, but not in our hometown.

Peter Hasse

This and that from the 'island'

Bobby's Bus Shelter

When considering top visitor attractions, it's unlikely that a bus shelter on a remote northern island with few passing buses will be top of the list; but that's precisely what is on the list for many visitors heading to the island of Unst – Shetland's most northerly island.



Bobby's Bus Shelter has become a Shetland treasure in recent years, and arguably one of the most visited and photographed attractions on the island.

The bus shelter which has now become a focal point for locals and visitors alike, sporting a different and imaginative theme every year, was created by local boy Bobby McCauley when he was at school on the island.

Bobby, who lived nearby, growing tired of the often long, cold and wet waits in the morning took matters into his own hands and wrote a letter to the local newspaper *The Shetland Times* requesting a new shelter for him to wait in. The shelter was duly built and, soon after, a sofa appeared... and a table... a microwave... and a carpet. Before long, the humble bus shelter was a warm and welcoming place with its very own visitors' book for those seeking refuge and a place to rest.

With growing interest in the quirky bus shelter that sits near the village of Baltasound on the main A968 running between Belmont and Haroldswick, an annual theme for the decor was set. Themes over the years have included: the Queen's Jubilee, outer space, women's suffrage, the colour yellow and an underwater theme. When Bobby went to study in Swaziland, the shelter was transformed into an African theme in recognition of its founder.

The legacy of Bobby's Bus Shelter continues with a new and fresh theme every year and entrants in the visitors' book from every corner of the globe.

Philosopher on Display

Jeremy Bentham was an English philosopher, jurist, and social reformer who died in 1832. But he can still be seen today as a so-called "auto-icon" (or self-image).

After Bentham's death, in accordance with his instructions, his body was dissected by his pupil Thomas Southwood Smith, in the presence of his friends. The skeleton was then reconstructed, supplied with a wax head to replace the original (which had been mummified), and so preserved for the following decades. The head and the body, padded out with hay and dressed in Bentham's own clothes, were placed in a wooden cabinet that Bentham himself called "auto-icon" and which would be his memorial.

Today he is on public display in a glass case in the entrance of the Student Centre at



University College London (UCL).

In life he was an exceptional thinker, a forerunner of many social revolutions like equal rights for women, the abolition of slavery, the defense of animal rights, the separation of state and church, the right to divorce, but he also demanded the decriminalization of the crime of sodomy. Because of his arguments in favour of the general availability of education, he has been described as the "spiritual founder" of UCL. However, he played only an indirect role in its establishment.

Hero dogs

A dog that completed 300 rescue missions and saved the lives of four people has been honoured in a special awards ceremony in London.



Zak, a 14-year-old border collie from Southampton, is one of five dogs to be awarded the PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals) Order of Merit. Owner Kevin Saunders described Zak, who is now retired, as a "hero dog". Mr Saunders, a volunteer at Hampshire Search and Rescue, said Zak saved his first life 11 years ago when he found a man who had been missing for three days.

The award, described by the animal charity PDSA as the "animals' OBE", formally recognises extraordinary animal contributions to society. The ceremony took place at the Honourable Artillery Company in July.

Also honoured at the ceremony were post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) assistance dog Jerry, a cocker spaniel from Hook, Hampshire, and Labrador Dexter - a wellbeing dog for officers in the Metropolitan Police.

Medical alert assistance dog Clive, a 10-year-old cocker spaniel from Hull, also received a medal.

Another recipient was six-year-old Oliver, a black Labrador that gives comfort to victims of crime.

Sources: www.shetland.org/, www.britannica.com/biography, www.bbc.com/news/

Our language section

Twisting the tongue

Ein Zungenbrecher, im Englischen *tongue twister* genannt, ist ein Satz oder mehrere Sätze, manchmal auch ein kurzes Gedicht, mit einer speziellen Folge von Worten, deren schnelles und deutliches Aufsagen meistens sehr schwierig ist und einen hohen Grad an Konzentration verlangen. Oftmals sind es ähnlich klingende Worte, die aufeinander folgen, die sich aber manchmal in den Silben unterscheiden. Sehr häufig sind Alliterationen (Worte mit gleichen Anfangsbuchstaben).

Einige Zungenbrecher dienen der amüsanten Unterhaltung. Andererseits werden sie auch von professionellen Sprechern, wie z.B. Schauspielern, Politikern oder Rundfunk- und Fernsehmoderatoren, zum Aussprachetraining benutzt.

Hier ist eine kleine Auswahl aus der großen Anzahl von englischen Zungenbrechern, deren Texte manchmal auch einen gewissen Sinn ergeben. Beachten Sie, dass es nicht nur darauf ankommt, sie besonders schnell, sondern auch deutlich aufzusagen. Viel Spaß!

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked.
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers?
Where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

How much wood would a woodchuck* chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?
He would chuck, he would, as much as he could, and chuck as much wood,
as a woodchuck would if a woodchuck could chuck wood.

*Waldmurmeltier

She sells sea shells by the seashore.

Betty bought a bit of butter.
But the butter Betty bought was bitter.
So Betty bought a better butter,
and it was better than the butter Betty bought before.
(Variation of Carolyn Wells' *The Butter Betty Bought*, published 1899.)

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.
(According to The Guinness Book of World Records this is the toughest tongue twister - so far.)

Round the rough and rugged rock the ragged rascal rudely ran.

A fly and a flea in a flue
Were imprisoned, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "Let us flee!"
"Let us fly!" said the flea.
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.

Two tiny timid toads trying to trot to Tarrytown.

These thousand tricky tongue twisters trip thrillingly off the tongue.

Missing lyrics

Kennen Sie sich mit den Texten englischsprachiger Weihnachts- und Winterlieder aus? Wenn das der Fall ist, dann füllen Sie die Lücken in den folgenden Textzeilen.

1. "On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me a _____ in a pear tree"

2. "Rudolph, the red nosed reindeer had a very _____ nose"



3. "Good King Wenceslas looked out upon the Feast of _____"

4. "O Christmas tree, o Christmas tree, true _____ of eternity"

5. "Away in a manger, no _____ for a bed"

6. "Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the _____"

7. "Silent night, _____ night"

8. "We wish you a _____ Christmas and a _____ New Year"

Auflösung aus Newsletter Nr. 95 "Pack your suitcase"

1. hiking holiday: binoculars, walking boots
2. beach holiday: sun cream, swimming costume
3. city break: city map, comfortable shoes
4. skiing holiday: helmet, skiing equipment

CHRISTMAS FUN

What type of key do you need for a Nativity play?

A don-key!

How do cats greet each other at Christmas?

"Furry Christmas and a happy mew year!"

What do you call the wrapping paper leftover from opening presents?

A Christ-MESS

