

**Conference organised by the Katherine Mansfield Society,** and hosted by the Bad Wörishofen Mayorality

and Tourist and Spa Bureau

**16-18 July 2022**

**Katherine Mansfield: Germany and Beyond**

**Friday 15th July: Pre-conference event**

**7.00-9.30 Conference warming at Adler Restaurant, Hauptstraße 40. All delegates, partners and friends invited (self pay).**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**All events will be held in the Haus zum Gugger, Bachstraße 1, 86825 Bad Wörishofen**

**Saturday 16 July**

9.00-9.20: **Registration** at *das Haus zum Gugger*

9.30-10.00: **Street renaming**: Pescatore intersection, connecting Hauptstraße, Türkheimer Straße and Irsinger Straße will be renamed Katherine-Mansfield-Platz.

**10.00 -10.45:**  **PLENARY**: Bad Wörishofen Local History (Chair: Monika Sobotta)

Michael Scharpf (Independent scholar, Bad Wörishofen): Illustrated talk on Bad Wörishofen from 1909.

**10.45 -11.15**: **MORNING TEA**

**11.15 -12.45: PANEL 1:**  Illness, Cure and Healing (Chair: Peter H. Marsden)

Patricia Plummer (University of Duisburg-Essen): ‘*In a German Pension*: Mansfield, Modernism and Healing’

John Horrocks (Independent scholar and writer): ‘From Rotorua to Bad Wörishofen’

Femke Van Der Smissen (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium). **‘**The View from the Window: Illness as (Dis)ability in Katherine Mansfield’s *Prelude*, *The Man Without a Temperament* and *At the Bay‘*

**12.45-1.30.**  **LUNCH**

**1.30 – 2.30** : **PLENARY:** Recent Discoveries and Publications of Mansfield’s Work (Chair: Janet M. Wilson)

Gerri Kimber (University of Northampton, UK): ‘Katherine Mansfield: Modernist Poet and Letter Writer‘

**2.30-4.00: PANEL 2**: Mansfield’s Literary Influences (Chair: Todd Martin)

Michael Hollington (Independent scholar, UK): **‘**Katherine Mansfield and *Sekundenstil’*

Natalie Perman (St John’s College, Oxford, UK): ‘A “Long[ing] for German”: Katherine Mansfield’s German Encounters,

Eliana Rozinov (Princeton University, USA): **‘**Katherine Mansfield’s “Marvellous Things”’

**4.00-4.30: AFTERNOON TEA**

**4.30-6.00:** **PANEL 3:**  The Publication, Translation and Reception of Mansfield’s Works (Chair: Janka Kaščáková)

Monika Sobotta (Open University, UK): ‘Katherine Mansfield’s German Reception in Nazi Germany and in the former German Democratic Republic’

Dieter Riemenschneider (Goethe University, Frankfurt): ‘Transculturality and Translinguality in Katherine Mansfield’s *In a German Pension’*

Martin Griffiths (Independent musician and scholar, NZ): **‘**Katherine Mansfield and London Music Periodicals’

**6.00-6.45: VIN D’HONNEUR**

6.45-7.30: Downtime

7.30- 10.00: **CONFERENCE DINNER** at Gasthof Rössle, Hauptstraße 14.

Talk by Peter H. Marsden (University of Berne, Switzerland). ‘“Twas a long way to Tinakori (and even longer to Marsden Cross): A personal voyage of discovery’. Introduced by Janet M.Wilson

**Sunday 17 July** *Haus zum Gugger*

9.00-10.30 **PANEL 4:** Mansfield’s Literary Intersections and Legacies (Chair: Gerri Kimber)

Grażyna Drabik (City College, CUNY, USA): ’The Imaginary Borderlands of Literature: New Zealand-German-Polish connections’.

John Horrocks (Independent researcher and writer, NZ): ‘“The Death Ship”: Lawrence in Katherine Mansfield’s Wellington’

Jean-Claude Lin (Independent scholar, Germany): **‘**Floating Mysteries — Reading Katherine Mansfield for the first time after Kirsty Gunn’

**10.30-11.00: MORNING TEA**

**11.00 -12.30 PANEL 5:** German popular cultural and linguistic influences in Mansfield’s writings (Chair: Dieter Riemenschneider)

Anna Kwiatkowska(University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland): ‘To eat or not to eat: the function of cake in “Frau Brechenmacher Attends a Wedding” and other stories by Katherine Mansfield’

Janka Kaščáková (Catholic University, Ružomberok, Slovakia): ‘“Where had she come from?” The Fairy Tale and Biblical Undertones in Katherine Mansfield’s “A Cup of Tea”’

Zana Nura (University of Debrecen, Hungary): **‘**The presence of the German language and the absence of the Bavarian pages in the diaries of Katherine Mansfield’

**12.30-1.15:**  **LUNCH**

**1.15-2.45: PANEL 6.** Modernist Perspectives in Mansfield and her Contemporaries (Chair: Patricia Plummer)

Janet M. Wilson (University of Northampton, UK): ‘Seeking the modern woman in Mansfield’s  *German Pension* stories: “The Advanced Lady” and “The Modern Soul”’

Nusret Ersöz (Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University, Turkey): ‘Tides of Fin de Siécle as Represented in Katherine Mansfield’s *In a German Pension’*

Sameeya Maqbool (University of Lancaster, UK): ‘Recovering the Arabian shawl: A Post-Critical Dialogue between Edith Miriam Spray and Katherine Mansfield’

**2.45- 4.45**: **PANEL 7.** Creative Responses to Katherine Mansfield (Chair: Martin Griffiths)

Sue Casson (Independent artist): ‘Reimagining Two Tigers: A Musical’

Kirsten Ellis (Independent artist): ‘Sudden Flight’

Maggie Zolinsky (Guildhall School of Music and Drama, UK): ‘Dramatisation of the life of Katherine Mansfield’

Jan Kemp (Independent creative writer): *‘Raiment*, Mansfield and Gurdjieff’s Institute for the Harmonious Development of Man’

4.45-5.15 **AFTERNOON TEA**

5.15-6.15: **ROUND TABLE**: ‘Teaching Katherine Mansfield’ (Chair: Delia da Sousa Correa)

Panelists: Gerri Kimber, Janka Kaščáková, Monika Sobotta and others.

6.15. **CLOSE OF CONFERENCE**

**Monday 18 July**

10.00 -11.00 : **GUIDED WALKING TOUR**

11.00-12.30: Readings for the German audience (Chair: Delia Da Sousa Correa). *Haus zum Gugger.*

**Welcome Speeches:** Delia da Sousa Correa and Janet M. Wilson

**Monika Sobotta**: Goethe's influence on Katherine Mansfield and Jan Kemp.

**Jan Kemp**: Reading of translated excerpts from Kemp’s short fiction *Spirals of Breath/Atemspiralen*(Tranzlit, 2020), and some poems dedicated to Katherine Mansfield from *Black Ice & The Love Planet / Glatteis & der Planet der Liebe* (Tranzlit 2020) www.tranzlit.de, including discussion between Jan and Monika Sobotta, chair of this session.

**Monika Sobotta**: New Zealand poets on Mansfield and Bad Wörishofen in German. Short introduction with biographical details on each poet.

**Kirsty Gunn**: An informal discussion and reading presentation, in which writer Kirsty Gunn joins (virtually) her German publisher Jean Claude Lin (Oktaven) and scholar and translator Monika Sobotta to read extracts from her short story collection ‘Untreuen’ and notebook ‘My Katherine Mansfield project’ and talk about how Mansfield has influenced short story writing and reading and her own approach to creating short fiction.

**Poems by New Zealand poets on Katherine Mansfield’s stay at Bad Wörishofen 1909**

**K**ä**thi Bowden in Bavaria**

Käthi is good at looking enigmatic,

but Frau Fischer is not to be discouraged:

‘Ah, that is so strange about you English!

You don’t enjoy discussing your complaints.’

What is strange about this German spa town

is that it possesses a gully

just like the one in Käthi’s Thorndon,

and a harbour, what’s more. Käthi is a tease.

Fräulein Sonia and the Herr Professor

have gone off to examine the modern soul.

The Baron is receiving due deference.

The servants are muttering in the kitchen.

Käthi is pleased to have studied German.

They have all found their way into her notes –

the maids, the postman, the posturing guests,

the Advanced Lady, the anxious father –

to be subtly altered, as she alters herself…

But a surge of delegates is approaching,

about to be greeted by the Mayor

in yet another commemoration.

This is a different century.

Käthi slips around the corner,

tucking her notebook into her muff.

If she is quick enough she may dodge them.

**Fleur Adcock**

**Once Upon a Time**

From the end of the earth

But estranged and alone

A young writer

Touched with greatness

Came here to rest

And renew herself

Among the daily lives

Of those who called it home

**Peter Bland**

# When you kinda need a holiday

reads a sign on a window, and yes, I do.

Life is never as the crow flies and we’ve lately had our share.

Floods, hospitals, births and deaths. A heart giving out

and other infirmities. A bit of a spell in Wörishofen would do me good.

Spas, forest walks, regenerating exercises, quiet little *pensions* to retreat.

Of course it’s over a hundred years since you were there

and things will have changed. The village will have grown up.

Hotels will be more opulent. There’ll be more people.

Oompah bands may still be marching though to jolly everyone along.

In your day as your mother knew, Wörishofen was the place ‘to be

with the seen to be seen’. And she had the dosh to do it.

Perhaps I’ll apply to a Beauchamp fund to get me there.

I could do with some luxury. Life has been stressful.

Things have run down, but I won’t be going.

The new Corona virus will keep me away

as will the state of my dodgy heart.

Thank goodness you didn’t get old Katherine,

but in your short life you packed a punch. I have your stories, all your letters, the notebooks,

shelves full of commentary and myriad editions. Wish I’d had a promotion machine like Murray.

This poem may well be my swan song Katherine, so count yourself special,

as indeed you are.

**© Riemke Ensing**

**A Vague Murmur**

K swam in the early morning.

She winced over the pebbles

and backstroked twice along Goose Bay,

watched by seals with dawnlight on their polls.

Back at the bach, she hung her togs

on the manuka and made frenchtoast

that she ate on the verandah while the sun

turned the woodwalls marmalade.

The day passed doing this and that :

finding white stones for the garden,

changing a cleatrow in the corrugatediron roof,

sewing a burst cushion for the old elbowchair.

In the evening, tilley-lamp on the table,

she soldiered on with a jigsaw-puzzle

of alpglow and cowpeople, while tui

rustled and clucked in the mistfilling bush.

Dark water and moonslick. Seals bobbed asleep.

Moths came for light at the bug screen .

The burghers of Bayern drank their bright beer.

K stared out of the chair.

**John Gallas**

**KM, Wörishofen and 1909**

1909 doesn’t ring in the mind. It was a year

of far-off wars, uprisings and collapses.

Schoolkids may recall that Shackleton

set off for the South Pole and Taft became

President of the US, Diaghilev brought

the Russian Ballet to the West, while Bleriot

achieved the implausible by flying across

the English Channel. Oh, and perhaps by

an extraordinary conjunction of the stars,

a Mrs Bowden, far better known to us now

as Katherine Mansfield, came to Wörishofen

in various kinds of desperate trouble,

the worst of which now seems to those

who’ve read up the particulars, to be that she

was under the purse-strings and control

of a Mrs Beauchamp, who was her mum.

There was also abject gossip of a stillborn child.

Somehow, we must accept all this, and shake

our heads, then read short stories that record

events that really could have happened.

**Kevin Ireland**

**Decisions to Make at Breakfast**

(for KM in Bad Wörishofen)

Shall I take the waters?

Dare I eat a peach?

The park is cordoned off today.

I wish there was a beach.

I could go along its sands,

ever so slow

with my head in my hands

& forget my woe.

Forget that mother

has hidden me here,

so I'm no bother

to anyone other

than me, myself,

my pen, myself and I,

forever and ever,

Amen.

**Jan Kemp**