

time of day of the mass on 9th August in Langenbruck

From: **Irmgard Moosmayr**

Sent: 04 May 2008 18:45:16

To: [...](#)

Dear Martin Fletcher,

I am Irmi Moosmayr and I am a neighbour of Mrs. Betty Reith. Betty doesn't speak English and so I've translated your letters from and to English. Betty asked me to let you know the time of day the mass will be celebrated on the 9th August. She received your letter, but I was very busy the last weeks and so I could not find the time to write a letter. Sorry! So I intend to write an e-mail:

The mass will be celebrated at 6 pm on the 9th August (in Germany we say: 18 o'clock - it's in the evening!)

Dear Martin Fletcher, I would be glad to meet you and your family (your brothers, cousins and their wives and also your nephew Michael). May I invite you before or after the mass to my home? My husband and children would also be glad to meet you. Betty would also be there then. She is 72 years old and she's got a bad leg since some months. She also would be very, very glad to meet you.

If I can help you with anything else at your visit in Germany, please tell me!

Please tell me also if and when it would be possible to meet.

With all good wishes and greetings to you and your family.

Irmi Moosmayr

Dear Peter McLindon,

Thank you very much for your e-mail. I was very pleased to receive it.

When the air accident happened in 1968 where you lost your sister, cousin and friends, I was twelve years old. I lived in a village close to Langenbruck and therefore close to the accident. I was a child, but I remember the catastrophe, of course. Now I've got children myself, our daughters Regina and Viktoria are 25 and 18 years and our son Johannes is 23 years old. If I imagine I can feel how sad you all must have been. Losing a loving person is always dreadful and terrible, but losing the person in a terrible accident like that must be more worse. I feel with you and with all those, who lost members of their families or friends.

But although we knew nobody of those who died that day they are not forgotten and so the mass will be celebrated on August 9th.

I really would be glad to meet you and your family before the mass. I would like to repeat my invitation to my home.

Betty, who took care of the shrine in our cemetery for all the years, has got a bad leg now. She is not able to walk long distances and therefore she often is sad. But we hope that it will be better soon.

Last I want to apologise for the mistakes I certainly made, but I have been learning English at school many years ago and I forgot a lot.

If I can help you something with your stay in Munich, please let me know.

With all good wishes

Irmi Moosmayr

Liverpool
Merseyside

26th August 2008

Herr Michael Franken

Reichertshofen
Germany

Dear Michael,

My family and I send our warmest greetings to you following our recent visit to Langenbruck and Austria.

I am sure that you will understand that our holiday was very special for us as we visited, for the first time, the place where my sister Maureen, cousin Mary Fletcher and friends died in the air crash of 9th August 1968. We also visited Seefeld in Austria which is where the girls were going for their holiday that year.

We are now able to look back on a quite remarkable visit from which we now have so many memories of the kindness and respect of the wonderful people of Langenbruck. It was early in 2007 that my cousins James and Father Martin Fletcher made their first visit there. Before that time we were aware only that in 1968 the plane had crashed thirty five miles north of Munich. For my parents and us all we had the sad reality that our loved ones had died. Ten days after the crash the bodies of the girls were brought home to England to be buried. At that time I have to say that we were so grief-stricken with the loss of the only daughters of the McLindon and Fletcher families that we never thought of the shocking experience that the people of Langenbruck had suffered. Nor had we realised that a family of six from Liverpool had also died in the crash. It was therefore fortunate that James and Father Martin visited Langenbruck last year and had met Michael Klepmeir. He and his son were so kind and sympathetic to them. They showed them the scene of the crash and the memorial garden in the cemetery. Also they were shown the grave of Father Wilhelm Hofler who had assisted at the scene of the crash. It is true to say that James and Martin were amazed that so much respect had been shown to the victims by the people of Langenbruck. At a later date they heard also of the great work carried out over the intervening years by Mrs Betty Reith and others. It was for that reason that we, the McLindon and Fletcher families, decided to join with the people of Langenbruck to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the air crash. We had made contact throughout the year with Irmi Moosmayr and made arrangements to meet her at the cemetery on 9th August. We had not however anticipated that we would have received such a wonderful welcome from Hans and Irmi and their family. They were exceptionally kind to us and are without doubt a truly lovely family.

We were all so grateful to the priest and the congregation for the wonderful anniversary Mass. The procession to the cemetery afterwards was also very special for us all.

So much respect has been shown to the victims of the crash over so many years and our family received great kindness during our visit.. We regret that language limitations on our behalf meant that we were unable to speak to so many lovely people. We were honoured however to meet you and your wife, also the deputy Mayor. It was also a pleasure to have met Irmi, Hans and family, Michael Klepmeir, Dr. Karl and many other kind people. Especially we will remember the fireman to whom we spoke and who was on the scene of the accident. I am sorry we did not get to know his name but it is clear from what he told us that he too suffered very much on that dreadful day in 1968. God bless him and all the people who helped at that time and have been so kind to us all since.

I am sorry that my parents had not visited Langenbruck. It would have been a great consolation to them to have met all those lovely people as they tried to overcome the loss of their only daughter Maureen.

I close this letter by thanking you for all your personal kindness to us. Please also would you convey our thanks to the priest and all the people of Langenbruck Especially we wish to thank Hans, Irmi and family who helped to make our visit possible. We were also very sorry that we were unable to meet and thank Betty Reith personally for all she has done over the years. We hope that by now she is much better and out of hospital.

May God bless you all. Thank you once again.

Your sincerely,
on behalf of the McLindon and Fletcher families,

Peter and Philomena McLindon