Down under in Bayreuth

On Monday, 11 July 2016, we welcomed an international guest at the WWG: Mr Friedemann Hebart from Adelaide, Australia. He was born in the Barossa Valley in South Australia in 1938. Since he was exposed to German culture as a child because of his father, who was born in Australia of German descent, Mr Hebart studied German Language and Literature later. After having graduated, he went to Germany to complete his doctorate in Systematic Theology, where he also met his future wife Maria. Due to his wife, who was working as the Principal of the Diakonie’s School of Geriatric Care in Bayreuth, he learned to appreciate and even love Bayreuth. Mr Hebart became senior pastor of the St. Johannis parish and headed the city’s ecumenical Council of Churches before retiring and continuing to work as a lecturer at the College of Church Music in Bayreuth.

Visiting our school, he did not only tell us a lot about his personal background, but also about living in Australia and immigrating to Germany. We also had the chance to ask whatever we wanted to know. For instance, he told us more about Australian and German stereotypes and his own experiences with German and Australian bureaucracy.

It was a great possibility for us to meet such an experienced person from the other end of the world!

Denise Hoffmann, Kathrin Zimmermann
(Q11)