

## ***Tour to Germany May 2008:***



After our tour to Germany during 2004, we made contact with some of the organisers of the Philharmonic Children Choir Festival Committee. After some discussions, we were formally invited, together with the Mascato Coastal Youth Choir to attend the Second Festival during May 2008 in Dresden.

In addition to the festival performances some other concerts were held in order to make the tour worthwhile.



We started in Ingolstadt - our host, Wolfgang Lambrecht went out of his way to let us feel at home.



Tour group with Sabine, Prof Becker and all the organisers.  
The main reason for the tour was the choir festival in Dresden.

All the members stayed with host families. Families of the Weixdorfer Mittelschule hosted all the Marimba players in the district of Weixdorf.



To participate in the concert in the restored Frauenkirche in Dresden was a very special moment for all of us. We were informed about the history and the restoration process of the church.

On our last day we supported a fundraising effort of the Lutheran Church by performing on the plain of the Frauenkirche.





We also had the opportunity to work together with some percussion students of the Musik Hochschule in Dresden. Ferdinand was the facilitator of the workshop and we had a great time interacting with the music students.



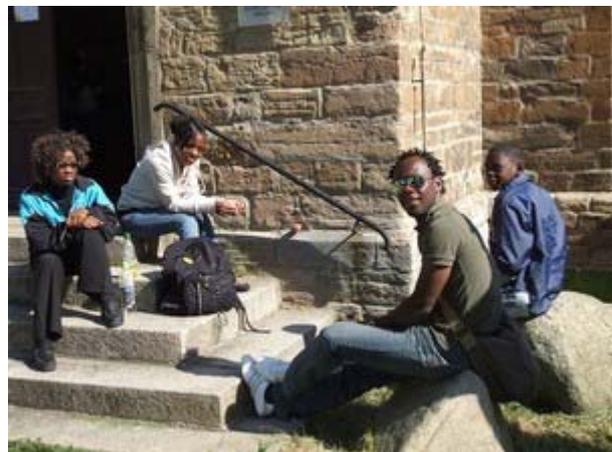


The organisers of the festival had a last performance for the group. They performed at the farewell party the last evening. During our week we met many musicians who joined us on the stage. This was fun.



The next stop was Wenningsten. Wolf-Rudiger Marenbach was our host and we once again stayed with host families. The concert at the church garden was exceptional. Many friends came to attend the concert, the weather was great and the event ended in a fantastic garden party.

A concert in the Marktkirche in Hannover was well attended and many Namibians, as well as old friends of previous tours, attended the concerts and we stayed until late at night.



Our visit to Rainer Huber and his family in Quedlinburg was a personal highlight for us. This was our fourth meeting with Rainer and his family. He organised host families for us as well as three great concerts - in Quedlinburg, Wernigerode and a church service in Bad Suderode.

We even had some leisure time, which we used to visit the Hexenspielfplatz.

Many rides on the go-cars (with an unfortunate accident which resulted in Golda's broken arm), walking in the park (Anrich getting lost) Made it a very special day for the whole tour group.



The last stop on our two-week tour was Berlin. Our host Jurgen Becker of the Deutsch Namibische Gesellschaft organised our stay in a hotel. We had two concerts and some free time to explore Berlin, a city with many historical venues.