

Short survey about the history and activities of the association „Gedenken im Würmtal“

On April 26 and 27, 1945, thousands of prisoners from the Dachau concentration camp and its Subcamps Allach and Kaufering were driven in three death marches towards the Alps. Along the sites of this ordeal, the communities of Gauting, Gräfelfing, Krailling and Planegg (located in the valley of the river Würm in the South-West of Munich, among others, erected memorials to the lasting memory of those Nazi crimes in the last days of the Second World War.

For more than 20 years, we have been organizing the local Memorial March as a non-profit association under the motto: "Bringing monuments to life - passing on the baton of remembrance to the youth." Students and teachers of the Feodor-Lynen-Gymnasium, the Kurt-Huber-Gymnasium, the Otto-von-Taube-Gymnasium, the Staatliche Realschule Gauting and representatives of the Christian churches and the Jewish community as well as the municipalities in the Würm Valley support us and maintain the connection to survivors and their families in the sign of reconciliation.

At the annual commemoration ceremony at the Jewish cemetery in Gauting and other events in connection with the remembrance work of the Holocaust, more urgently needed than ever we try to contribute against the resurgence of nationalism, racism, totalitarianism, militarism and imperialism in any form.

The association "Gedenken im Würmtal" was founded on March 20, 2007 in Planegg - shortly after the tenth commemorative procession, which the "Würmtaler Bürgerinitiative zur Erinnerung an den Todesmarsch von Dachau" founded in 1997 had organized every year on the historic route of the "Death March of Dachau".

The non-profit association "Gedenken im Würmtal" was founded by the members of this citizens' initiative in order to give their commemorative work a firmer and continuous basis. From the very beginning, we were aware that we were continuing and reinforcing a tradition that other citizens in the municipalities of the Würm Valley and elsewhere have begun.

Information about our activities up to 2010 can be found in the archive, which contains the pages of the first website of the association "Gedenken im Würmtal" created by the honorary chairman Dr. Friedrich Schreiber.

For further informations in English language please contact us by email via gedenken@wuermtal.de