

Meeting of nr6de October 3rd 2026 in Giessen

Here is a short summary of our stimulating nr6de meeting on Saturday October 3rd, in Giessen.

Thirteen participants attended, though one unfortunately had to cancel at the last minute. On the other hand, a new fan travelled from the south of Germany to join us—the oldest member of our group. He was caught by "Number 6" back in 1969 at the age of 20 and connected with us through our book.

Arno thanked everyone who helped finance the extensive photo book for his 70th birthday: 17 years Nummer 6 (2010 - 2016). It covers the time since Marc has been with us and has expanded his photo archive every year.

Marc had prepared a number of videos. These included clips of Portmeirion and footage from the filming that took place in the Village in September 1966.

A highlight—and something no one besides me had seen before in the group of the gathered—was Roger's video (compiled 2007) of the *Many Happy Returns* raft filming from 1966. The attendees expressed their appreciation with applause, and I am happy to pass those thanks on to Roger Langley.

I also offered congratulations to those celebrating milestone birthdays (marking 100, 80, 75, 70, and 60 years, see compilation below). The day concluded with a meal shared by the group.



David Witham, the “Man with the suitcase” who brought inside it 10 of Dave Barries books “What’s It All About?” to Germany told us his great experience about his first convention in Portmeirion. Here is his report:

Can You Become a Fan of a Fan Club?

In my case, the answer is definitely yes, and within the world of *The Prisoner* and Number 6, anything seems possible.

Having only discovered this groundbreaking television series relatively recently, it was all the more fascinating to learn about a German fan club that is also active on the international stage. International fans, so to speak.

So why not simply get in touch? Especially since a book about the series by Arno Baumgärtel and Michael Brüne had just been published.

The openness I encountered during our very first email exchange encouraged me to attend a fan club gathering in Gießen. Just as I had expected, I was welcomed by a warm-hearted group of film and television enthusiasts from all walks of life. Intelligent people with interesting careers and a wealth of life experience. It was simply a pleasure to join this club and benefit from their extensive knowledge of the series.

As luck would have it, I was able to arrange my vacation during the time of the 2026 Convention, giving myself a welcome break from everyday professional life.

Two days in Portmeirion with a great group of people already sounded like a dream on paper, and that is exactly how it felt.

Please forgive me for having consumed a little too much whisky before departure with Marc Christiansen and Michael Brüne. My ever-present fear of flying tends to get the better of me. Fortunately, everything went smoothly, and the subsequent train journey carried us safely to the Welsh coast. Anyone travelling to this region is rewarded with truly breathtaking scenery.

It was wonderful that Alexander Kulik, who had arrived earlier, met us at the station in the middle of the night and guided us to our hotel. We had finally arrived in beautiful Porthmadog and, the following morning, enjoyed an excellent breakfast before taking care of all our shopping for the Village.

One of the truly extraordinary moments comes when you finally arrive at the upper Castell at Portmeirion and board a Moge that takes you down into the Village. Standing majestically before you is the great Dome building in all its splendour, crowned by eagle statues silhouetted against the sky. Breathtaking and absolutely fantastic!

The colourful houses, playful arcades, and charming little squares create a surreal blend of Italian, French, and British eccentricity. The weather could not have been better: brilliant sunshine and temperatures above 20 degrees Celsius.

Of course, we were not the only visitors who had travelled there because of the cult television series *The Prisoner*. It did not take long to spot fellow attendees wearing the iconic black-and-white blazers and numbered badges. Naturally, many of these items were available for purchase in the delightful little Prisoner Shop.

Together, we mingled with fans from around the world, including Pat McGoohan's grandson. It was a colourful and cheerful crowd, always happy to strike up conversations and even give interviews to British television crews. Experiencing the locations of the series in person felt like stepping back in time. One especially memorable moment occurred when we gathered around the giant chessboard. The familiar Rover music from the series was played, and the famous white balloon floated through the sky. For a brief instant, one truly felt like Number 6, trapped within this beautiful yet mysterious Village.

Between events, we wandered through the gardens, sat by the coast, and simply absorbed the atmosphere. The sun sparkled across the waters of the picturesque estuary. We even had the opportunity to recreate the famous beach scene from *I Am Not a Number, I Am a Free Man*.

We laughed a great deal, took countless photographs, and enjoyed the feeling of sharing something truly special. Portmeirion is one of those rare places that both calms and inspires, a village that tells stories even when one simply sits quietly and enjoys the moment.

Amid all the excitement, there were also plenty of opportunities to relax at the accommodation shared by Michael, Marc, and Alexander. Shared snacks, coffee-and-cake gatherings, and the chance to get to know the famous Dave Barrie and his wife all became part of the experience. The evening events and gatherings in the Town Hall perfectly rounded off the sense of international camaraderie.

A visit to Portmeirion is always something special. But with friends, wonderful weather, and the *Prisoner Number 6 Convention*, it became an unforgettable experience. A few days filled with nostalgia, beauty, and shared joy.

Anyone who has not yet been there should definitely put it on their travel list.