

## 200 years of Kappeln: Germany's oldest allotment gardeners club celebrates its anniversary

The oldest allotment garden association in Germany has its home in Kappeln an der Schlei and is a member of the National Allotment Garden Association of Schleswig-Holstein. 1814 is considered to be the year of birth for allotments. Unfortunately, only little remains from the early days, but on the anniversary at this historic site, not only a plaque was unveiled, but there was also a three-day celebration. During the festival weekend from 25th to 27th April there was plenty on offer. The German Allotment Garden Federation was of course joining the celebration and held its two-day full board meeting to honour the anniversary of the association in Kappeln. More than 60 board members from all over the country gathered to celebrate the anniversary with the Schleswig-Holstein Allotment Gardeners and the Citizens of Kappeln.



Chis Zijdeveld - President of the International Office



Remittance of the souvenir plate: : Reinhard Samuelsen president of the association,Dieter Schiller president of the LV Schleswig-Holstein,Peter Paschke,president of the German federation

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The cradle of the German allotment garden movement is in the middle of Schleswig-Holstein? But what about a certain Mr. Schreber, who came from Leipzig? Or did it not all start with the gardens for the poor of the Churches?

All true, but not entirely. In fact, the allotment movement in Germany does have its origins in Schleswig-Holstein. To be precise: In Kappeln near Flensburg. Here, Pastor Schröder leased pastorate land - 24 garden plots were created - and for the first time he stipulated lease terms in the "Conditions". It was in 1820 that uncultivated lands were for the first time leased to the poor and needy by a letter from the Landgrave Carl von Hessen in the town of Schleswig. In 1822, in several cities in Schleswig-Holstein gardens for needy families were created along the lines of Carl von Hessen; there was also a very similar development in cities such as Berlin, Dresden, Frankfurt am Main, Stettin and Worms.

The patron saint of the allotment movement, Daniel Gottlob Moritz Schreber, did not yet have anything to do with it all at this stage. When the first allotment association was founded in northern Germany, Schreber was just six years old. That was back in 1814. So the oldest German allotment garden association has its home in Kappeln and is a member of the National Allotment Association of Schleswig-Holstein. Today, it is called KGV Kappeln, but, unfortunately, very little is preserved from that period. Nevertheless, for the anniversary in April at the historic site, not only a plaque was unveiled, but there was also a three-day celebration. During the festival weekend from 25th to 27th April there was plenty on offer: It got going on Friday evening with a warm-up party in the party tent at the clubhouse "Kürbisklause", followed by the official ceremony and the allotment gardeners ball on Saturday. On Sunday there was a celebration service, the unveiling of a plaque and a Jazz Brunch. The German Allotment Federation naturally joined the celebration and held its two-day full board meeting to honour the anniversary of the association in Kappeln. More than 60 board members from all over the country gathered to celebrate the anniversary with the Schleswig-Holstein Allotment Gardeners and the citizens of Kappeln.