



## On your own behalf

In 1971 Fritz Lenz founded the folk dancing group "Fröhlicher Kreis e.V. Cölbe". Today it has approximately 190 members from 4 to 70 years of age.

We consist of five dancing groups for different age-groups and a band. Our repertory includes folk dances from the whole German-speaking area focusing on Hessian dances and choreographies. In addition we also rehearse Hungarian-German dances.

The costumes we wear at our performances are reproduced from original patterns. Many details are still the Originals

We try to cultivate the costumes characteristic for the area around Marburg and also local traditions. Therefore we have a variety of different traditional costumes, e.g. the so - called Protestant costume and its Catholic counterpart respectively as well as the Hungarian-German one above - mentioned. Numerous international contacts have been established over the last three decades and every year we have several meetings with friendly groups either in Germany and abroad.

Since 1981 we have organised the "Internationales Cölber Kindertreffen", an international meeting for children, which takes place every two years.

The "Fröhlicher Kreis e.V. Cölbe" helped to start up AKIFF, an association primarily concerned with the organisation of international folklore festivals. Since its foundation it has always seen to the accommodation of the guests.

Furthermore we are in regular touch with foreign students of the local Philipps-University. Those various international meetings provide our young people with a whole range of useful contacts. Our team hopes to show several possibilities to structure our leisure time sensibly and get contact with people from all over the world.

The "Fröhlicher Kreis e.V. Cölbe" was guest and host respectively of the following countries:

### America:

Brazil, U.S.A.

### Asia:

China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand

## Australia; Oceania:

Australia

## Europe:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Hungary, White Russia