



Bavarian dance group Bund der Bayern members Thomas Knoll, Thomas, 11, and Kerry Anne Palzewski are gearing up for the biennial Volkstanzfest. Picture: DAVE CRONIN

Euro culture comes to town

Stephanie Timotheou

This weekend more than 300 people will dig out their traditional German, Austrian and Swiss costumes and head to the German Club on Flinders St for the biennial Volkstanzfest.

The festival, in its 38th year, celebrates the culture of all three countries through music, food, beer and dancing.

Local Bavarian dance group Bund der Bayern will host the event, which will also take guests on a tour of Hahndorf.

Dance group leader Reinhard Struve says festival-goers can expect to see non-stop dancing from more than 10 groups and entertainment until late.

“We ask all participants, including the public, to dress in costume and enjoy the

German, Austrian and Swiss culture which is a big part of Adelaide,” he says.

For the first time in the event’s history, Bavarian and Austrian dance groups will travel from their homelands to perform across the two-day event.

As one of the main organisers, Struve says the festival is always well-attended by people keen to lap up aspects of the German, Austrian and Swiss cultures.

“Most people have a specialised interest in the countries, or they have a strong German connection, so it’s always great to see them embracing it,” he said.

“We’ve hired the rooftop courts next to the German Club so the kids can play soccer and have fun mingling with others.”
Volkstanzfest (April 4-5) is free. Visit thegermanclub.com.au