

**Not long from now we'll be descending on Liverpool for our double-header, the three-day *Buchanan Masterclass* and the 2016 *Brita Kongreso*. The Gateway Centre, where the BK is held, is perfectly located, only a five-minute walk from the train station on Lime Street and one mile away from the waterfront.**

The venue will be open for registration **from 16:00 on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**. We'll open the conference itself around 18:00, with a light charity quiz as we did in Brighton and a presentation from John Wells about Scouse, the highly distinctive local accent. There will be a buffet shortly afterwards.

The conference will **close at 16:00 on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**. There will be an optional group meal afterwards at Zizzi's restaurant at 19:00, although since we have to present the restaurant with final numbers, please don't leave it too late to book.



The **Buchanan Masterclass** takes place from the **University of Liverpool's Foresight Centre from March 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>**, directly before the conference. It's £20 (£10 for students) and tickets must be bought no later than March 9<sup>th</sup>. Information is available at [espinfo.org/masterclass-liverpool](http://espinfo.org/masterclass-liverpool), plus a link to the booking form.

## HAROLD BOLINGBROKE MUDIE

January 6<sup>th</sup> marked the centenary of the death of Harold Bolingbroke Mudie, probably the most important pioneer of the Esperanto movement in this country and, at the time of his premature death in France, president of the British and World Esperanto Associations.

To honour the man I arranged with the local authorities where he lies for a memorial ceremony



to take place and was in attendance, alongside Osmo Buller, representing the *Universala Esperanto-Asocio*. I also built a site with details about Mudie's life and some rare photos at [mudie.eu](http://mudie.eu) and will deliver a presentation on him at the *Brita Kongreso*.

## AND AN ASSORTMENT!

John Gobourne dropped me a line recently to inform that the Birmingham account at [espinfo.org/meetup-birmingham](http://espinfo.org/meetup-birmingham) now has 112 members. They still get together monthly, usually in a group of 6 to 10 people. Malcolm Jones has also started running a group in Skipton, which has 8 members. You can find the group at [espinfo.org/meetup-skipton](http://espinfo.org/meetup-skipton).

I was very happy to read that Chuck Smith had been voted the *Esperantisto de la Jaro* for his work creating the Esperanto course on Duolingo. Since launching in May 291,000 people have started learning via it, putting it slightly ahead of Ukrainian, which launched at about the same time!

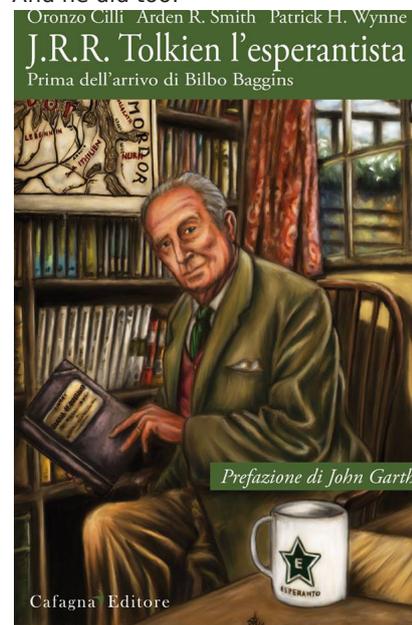
Chuck has been suitably modest in pointing out that this is not a one-man job. In fact, Duolingo's internal statistics indicate that our own Ed Robertson has contributed 17% of the course, putting him in second place among the ten-person team contributing to the project.

Esperanto and Duolingo got a bit-part mention in a Daily Mirror article about a student, Matthias Salzger, learning four languages on the popular platform. He had changed schools and had to learn Spanish, so used Duolingo to catch up with his fellow students, and quickly became top of the class: "Besides Spanish, I learnt some Italian on Duolingo, what I believe to be almost conversational Esperanto, and a good chunk of my French."

I accidentally made my debut as an author recently. Both Renato Corsetti and I have chapters in a new book, *Tolkien the Esperantist*. The professor was familiar with Esperanto around the time of the 1930 *Universala Kongreso* in Oxford, where he, of course, worked at the university. He was also a supporter of Esperanto by the time of the 1933 *Brita Kongreso* in

Oxford, submitting his name to a petition to introduce Esperanto into schools in that year. The Italian version of the book is on sale but I don't yet know of a date for the English one or whether there might be an Esperanto one.

Listeners recently heard Eddie Mair sign off on Radio 4's *PM* with "'Dankon', as they say in Esperanto" after discussing with listeners David Cameron's recent comments about Muslim women learning English. As pleasantly surprising as this was, it wasn't Eddie's first association with Esperanto. In February 1994 he conducted an interview with EAB's David Curtis on Radio Scotland, and it was David who introduced Eddie to the word: "*Dankon*? Sounds a bit German. OK, saluton and dankon. We will work on that. We will insist that all callers address us with saluton, and I will dankon them at the end. It's a start." And he did too!



And this brings me rather neatly to David, who recently sent out an email to state that he is finding life too difficult using a computer and so is reverting to pen and ink. Since I can't email him to say it, I think this seems an opportune place for me to write "Dankon, David" and send good wishes to him and his wife, Peggy.

And there's an *adiaŭ*, too, to Brian O'Sullivan, a lovely man from Sheffield who passed away recently. He helped set up the first International Languages Festival at the University of Sheffield a few years back, and quickly became the students' much loved grandfather figure. I should thank Gillian Cartledge, his fellow member of the Sheffield Esperanto Society, for sending to EAB the £115 which was in the group's bank account following Brian's passing.

**Tim Owen**



# COURSE CALENDAR FOR 2016

We've set the dates for several of our courses for the next several months. The trustees have also decided to make our events at Esperanto House free to attend.

Two sessions of our beginners' and post-beginners' courses **Lernu** and **Lernu Plu** have been set up for April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, and July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, from Esperanto House. The tutors will be a combination of Malcolm Jones, Ian Carter and Tim Owen. Students are welcome to attend both sessions, since the tutors will vary the content slightly if required. For more details and to sign up, visit [esperanto.org.uk/events/lernu](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/lernu).

Students will need to sort out their accommodation (we recommend the Travelodge at Trentham, [espinfo.org/travelodge-trentham](http://espinfo.org/travelodge-trentham)) and pay for their own meal on Saturday evening at a local restaurant, but the tuition and refreshments are entirely free.



Also taking place at Esperanto House will be this year's instalment of our long-time Somera Festivalo. The traditional model (Monday through Friday at Shallowford House) has had very few sign-ups in recent years (six students between two teachers last year). This imposes a significant cost on EAB, especially when we have to guarantee a minimum number of participants. We've been encouraged to make a drastic change this year by the fact that Shallowford House has no availability during August, and so we're going to be running the event from the two classrooms at Esperanto House.

In view of the fact that four nights' accommodation at a hotel and restaurant meals every evening would be prohibitively expensive, we've made the decision to follow the model for Lernu and Lernu Plu and hold it over a weekend. This will not only reduce the cost to a single night's accommodation (maybe two for people travelling from further away) but also make the event accessible for working people who might otherwise be reluctant to give up a week's holiday.

The provisionally renamed **Somerlernejo** will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of August. Jack Warren will take the intermediate class and Paul Gubbins

will be leading the advanced learners. For more details and to book a place, visit [esperanto.org.uk/events/somerlernejo](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/somerlernejo).

## EXAMS

Renato Corsetti is hosting a session **in London** for the Common European Framework of Reference exams on **June 4<sup>th</sup>**. EAB has offered to refund the exam costs of up to ten students, *providing they pass*.

In the event that more people sign up, Renato will determine which ones are the ten for this scheme and communicate this to candidates and to us. You can get more information from [esperanto.org.uk/events/exams](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/exams) or by contacting Renato *in Esperanto* directly at [renato.corsetti@gmail.com](mailto:renato.corsetti@gmail.com).

As Renato writes: "En la kadro de la tutmonda sesio de la KER-ekzamenoj oficiale agnoskita de eŭropaj instancoj oni aranĝas ekzamenan sesion en Londono, en ĉambro de Diorama Art Studios, 201 Drummond Street, London NW1 3FE. La antaŭvidataj niveloj estas B1, B2 kaj C1.

Jam nun deklaru vian partoprenemon aŭ petu informojn ĉe mi. Ne maltrafu la ŝancon havi oficiale rekonatan ateston pri via kono de Esperanto."

## 1000 SALES ON EBAY

It doesn't seem that long since we began using ebay to sell our books back in August 2013. We've now made our 1000<sup>th</sup> sale.

Traditionally we would expect to make most of our sales from members, usually for new copies of popular long-time titles or new releases. Second-hand sales, though, require people being on site, leafing through the collection, and then buying something which takes their fancy. Since it's unusual to have people in the office, the sales haven't been what they typically were. And we constantly inherit old copies after people pass away or groups close.

This has changed completely with ebay, which provides us with a virtual shop. It's no longer necessary for people to come physically to us to see what's on offer, and the result has been not only these 1000 sales, but contact with many new people.

### OUR BUYERS

We've sold to 199 different people, only 36 of whom were already members of EAB. If they live in the UK, first-time buyers get a copy of the brochure *Discover Esperanto*, a paper copy of Update from our surplus stock, and a membership form.

All buyers receive information about our events, including those who live outside these islands. And there are plenty of them too! We've sold to 17 other countries, including to people as far away as Hong Kong, Brazil, the USA, Japan, and Australia.

There are some very regular buyers. One person has bought 230 books, whilst

others have 85, 51 and 43.

### THE BOOKS

Our second-hand books start at £0.99. Many people grab a bargain if they're the only person to make a bid for a particular item but we've seen some surprisingly large prices on several occasions at the end of the auction.

The highest-value item we've sold was *Linguaphone's 30-lesson booklet*, which went for £30. Both *The Hobbit* and Geoffrey Sutton's *Concise Encyclopedia of the Original Literature of Esperanto* have sold each for £20.77. All five copies of Benson's *Universala Metodo* went for at least £20.



It's worth keeping your eye on the auctions because if nobody else notices the book you've got your eye on, then you can get an absolute bargain. We've sold copies of *Murdo en la Orient-Express* for £6.14, £26.00, £27.17 ... and one last week for £0.99 because there was only one bidder!

Our best seller is the *Ladybird* book *Jen Londono*. We sell them from the office for £1.05 each; we've sold 39 on ebay from £1.25 to £9.05! We also sell other new books on ebay for their usual, fixed prices rather than under auctions. Have a look and see for yourselves at [espinfo.org/ebay](http://espinfo.org/ebay).

For the fourth year in a row, Esperanto was been presented at the Languages Conference at Hillview School, Tonbridge, Kent. Roy Threadgold was there and reported the following back to us:

Quite a number of languages, translation services and international companies were represented, and I found myself sharing a room with Mandarin, Russian, Dutch and a French classical singer from Glyndebourne.

The format this time was that girls came in smaller groups than before, usually just four at a time, and I had only about ten minutes to introduce them to Esperanto. This concentrates the mind quite well, and, since each girl was taking away some material, I focused on showing how Esperanto fares alongside the languages they were learning. They were most impressed at learning past, present and future of "every verb in the language in 10 seconds". One group quickly recognised "domo" as they had just learnt "dom" in Russian. "Fromaĝo", however, was frequently translated as "yoghurt", even by those learning French.

During the day about 80 students came to me for their hectic few minutes. "We should start an Esperanto Club" was the reaction of one group, and a governor showed quite an interest too.

Four girls this time had heard of Esperanto, as against only one in previous years. Even those who turned up a bit bored originally showed a bit of interest. During the morning break, I spoke to a group of "Student Ambassadors" from the University of Kent, who were most fascinated and delighted to receive a booklet to take away with them.

## CANDIDATES FOR TRUSTEESHIP FROM AGM 2016 TO AGM 2017

The charity's AGM will take place at the Gateway Centre, Liverpool on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 10:00.  
Members of EAB will be able to vote on the candidacies of the five people named below.



### IAN CARTER

Proposed by Tim Owen & Ed Robertson

- Candidate for president
- Started learning Esperanto in 1965
- Working on audio and video material for learners
- Gives presentations and interviews about Esperanto



### TIM OWEN

Proposed by Ed Robertson & Edmund Grimley Evans

- Trustee since 2010
- Editor of Update and conference organiser
- Teacher at our Lernu Plu & Drondo events
- Working on website redesign & other projects
- Secretary of NoJEF and contact point for newcomers



### EDMUND GRIMLEY EVANS

Proposed by Clare Hunter & Ian Carter

- Trustee since 1997
- Former president of EAB & current member of the Akademio de Esperanto
- Has two Esperanto-speaking daughters
- Currently collating the life's works of Marjorie Boulton



### CLARE HUNTER

Proposed by Ian Carter & Tim Owen

- Trustee since 2009
- Treasurer
- Works professionally as an audit specialist and has examined the accounts of hundreds of charitable entities
- EAB's contact point with the Charity Commission



### ED ROBERTSON

Proposed by Edmund Grimley Evans & Clare Hunter

- Trustee since 2011
- Former president of the Skota Esperanto-Asocio
- Former editor of *Esperanto en Skotlando*
- Contributed in the creation of the Esperanto course on Duolingo
- Very busy with the incubator stage of Duolingo

### THANK YOU, PAUL GUBBINS

The trustees would like to thank Paul Gubbins for his work over the past three years. Despite having a very busy workload with his other Esperanto commitments and outside activities, Paul graciously agreed to come on board as president when somebody with name value was needed and has done his level best since then.

He's now standing down having done more than his fair share for EAB in his non-existent free time. We hope that freeing himself of his EAB role will enable him to spend more time with his new grandson and finally be able to dedicate the appropriate amount of time to his anthology of Esperanto drama, an important project which has had to cede time to EAB until now.

### BOOK REVIEW: BRAVE NEW WORLD, BY ANNA COUDENYS

It is not very often that we find Esperanto used in an English novel aimed at a general readership but Hilary Chapman has found an example. The Dutch author Anna Coudenys' *Brave New World* was published in 2015. Here is Hilary's review:

Esperanto has become the first language spoken all over the world. As authors of imaginative fiction are wont to do, Coudenys has twisted and changed the course of historical events a little, but managed to install a World Government and reduce English to the status of Latin.

She is not herself an Esperanto-speaker, but was helped out by an obviously very competent Esperanto-speaking colleague, who has helped her place an abundance of Esperanto into the

text. The protagonist is an employee of *Publika Servo por Retkomunikado* and uses a *poŝtelefono*. Her computer has a *plata ekrano*. The word *karulo* appears, as does *ĵinzo*. We read about the high towers of *Esperanturbo*. The world has a *Monda Prezidanto*. There is a *Monda Himno*, which contains, yes, you've guessed it, "Sur neŭtrala lingva fundamento, komprenante unu la alian, la popoloj faros en konsento unu grandan rondon familian".

The liberal use of Esperanto throughout an English text throws up the occasional problem for anyone who knows the planned language. I won't spoil the story for you but octopuses play a major role. While it is fine for one of them to be referred to as *pulpo*, the plural *pulpos* looks strange. So does *tuŝekranos*. There are no accusative endings or adjective agreement here, except where the Esperanto

consultant has provide a phrase such as *elektronika libro*. We read of "*subgrundo journalism*". The sentence "We were libera" contains a rather, well, disagreeable lack of agreement, as it were.

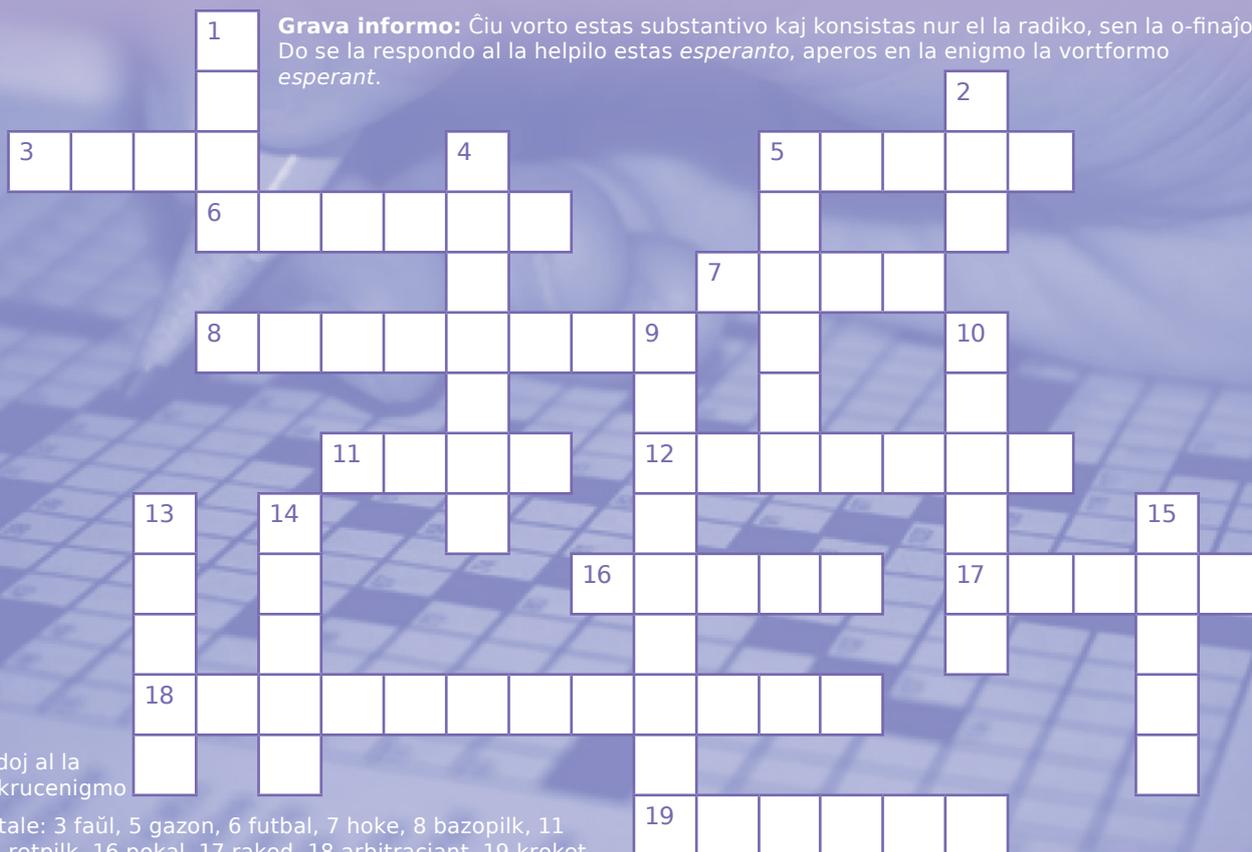
The English reads well and the book does not feel at all like a translation. It has an imaginative plot and, linguistic oddities aside, it provides entertainment.

Oh, I particularly liked the footnotes and the helpful Short History of the Earth at the end, both of which give insight into the author's alternative world.

This science fiction novel is available in paperback from [lulu.com/shop/anna-coudenys/brand-new-world/paperback/product-22406482.html](http://lulu.com/shop/anna-coudenys/brand-new-world/paperback/product-22406482.html), costing £8.92 for 152 pages.

Por ĉiu eldono de Update **Jack Warren** preparas krucenigmon bazitan sur iu aparta temo. Jack celas, ke vi amuziĝu kaj eble lernu kelkajn novajn vortojn aŭ eĉ rememoru pri kelkaj iam forgesitaj. Vi povos kontroli viajn respondojn en la venonta eldono de Update.

## KRUCENIGMO: PILKLUDOJ



Respondoj al la antaŭa krucenigmo

Horizontale: 3 faŭl, 5 gazon, 6 futbal, 7 hoke, 8 bazopilk, 11 polo, 12 retpilk, 16 pokal, 17 raked, 18 arbitraciant, 19 krocket

Vertikale: 1 golf, 2 gol, 4 manpilk, 5 globet, 9 korbopilk, 10 bilard, 13 skvaŝ, 14 rugbe, 15 tenis

### HORIZONTALA

3 - peko kontraŭ regulo, 5 - herba ludsurfaco, 6 - internacia fonto de skandalo, 7 - kun kurbaj bastonoj, 8 - usona ludo, 11 - surĉevale, surbicikle aŭ naĝante, 12 - kun seshomaj teamoj kaj reto, 16 - premio por venkintoj, 17 - frapilo kun ŝnuroj, 18 - zorgas pri respekto de reguloj, 19 - ĝardenludo kun lignaj frapiloj

### VERTIKALE

1 - sur granda herbtereno, 2 - celo por venki, 4 - endome, kun sephomaj teamoj, 5 - el vitro, por infanludo, 9 - taŭgas por altuloj, 10 - verda tablo, longaj bastonoj, 13 - endome, kontraŭ kvar muroj, 14 - kun pilko ovala, 15 - kun mola felta pilko



### UNIVERSALA KONGRESO

**La 101-a Universala Kongreso de Esperanto okazos de la 23-a ĝis 30-a de julio 2016 en la urbo Nitra, en Slovakio.**

Nitra estas relative eta urbo, kiu situas en la okcidento de Slovakio, kaj do havas avantaĝon, ke Esperanto facile videblas kaj ke en ĝi vizitantoj ne facile perdiĝos. Ĝin oni povas atingi post alveno en la flughavenojn de Bratislavo, Vieno kaj Budapeŝto.

La ĝisnuna kosto estas 225€ por membroj de UEA (krom por tiuj en la kategorio MG) kaj 280€ por ĉiuj aliaj.

Por pli da informoj vizitu la kongresan retejon [nitra2016.sk](http://nitra2016.sk). Oni povas aliĝi ĉe [uea.org/kongresoj/alighilo](http://uea.org/kongresoj/alighilo). disponeblas la dua bulteno ĉe [uea.org/pdf/DuaBulteno2016.pdf](http://uea.org/pdf/DuaBulteno2016.pdf).

### NEW MEMBERS

Mrs D Key — Bromsgrove  
Mr K Peach — Crewkerne  
Rory O'Brien — Southend-on-Sea  
Samuel Horlock — Southampton  
Roger Newby — Sheffield  
Roland England — Barnet  
Kelly Payne — Dunstable  
Renato Corsetti — London  
Anna Lowenstein — London

### DECEASED

Brian O'Sullivan — Sheffield