

**The British and Pan-Celtic Esperanto conference will be taking place from April 13<sup>th</sup> and looks set to be nicely international, not least thanks to a the presence of a delegation from Brittany, as well as several people from elsewhere travelling individually.**

Quite a novel problem is that we've outgrown the venue for the Monday! Such a high proportion of the people having signed have indicated that they're going to stay on for longer to take advantage of the extended programme that we've exceeded capacity ... so we've hired a second venue for that day on the same street and will be running a two-venue programme! What's the programme like? Well, you can find it on the conference website, [britakongreso.org](http://britakongreso.org), which also includes a signing-up form!

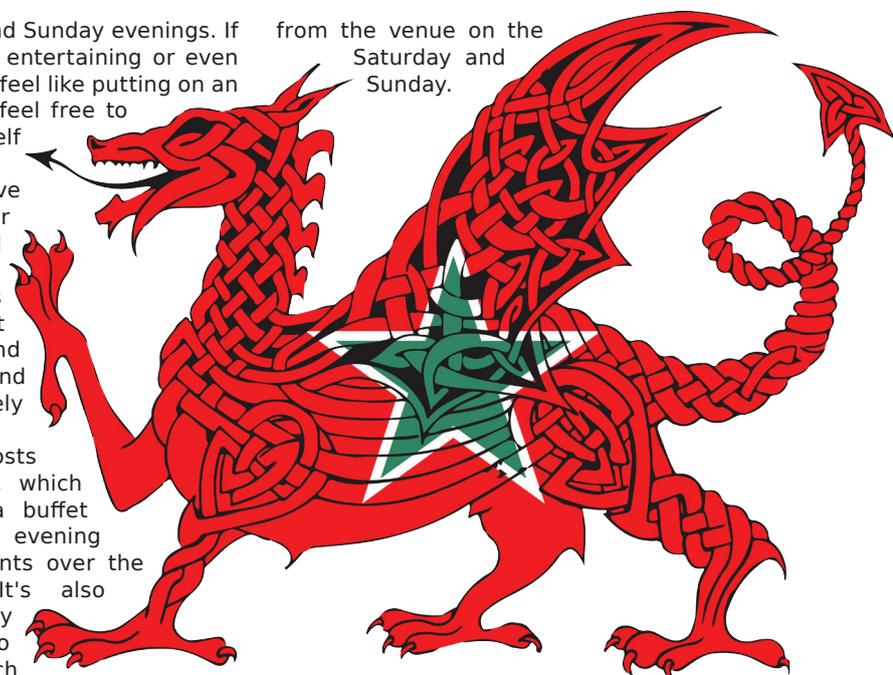
You could even be part of the programme yourselves because we'll be running something of a talent night on

the Saturday and Sunday evenings. If you're musical, entertaining or even a magician and feel like putting on an act, please do feel free to propose yourself via the site.

We'll have sessions for beginners and newcomers, as well as talks in and about Welsh, music and merriment, and all by a lovely seaside town.

The event costs £50 to attend, which will get you a buffet on the Friday evening plus refreshments over the weekend. It's also possible to pay a little extra to get a light lunch

from the venue on the Saturday and Sunday.



## 113<sup>TH</sup> SCOTTISH ESPERANTO CONGRESS

**The Esperanto event with the largest congress number in the world will be coming to Perth in June!**

The 113<sup>th</sup> Scottish Esperanto Congress takes place at the Royal George Hotel on Tay Street, from Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>.



Perth is well worth visiting in its own right, with renaissance stone houses and a 19<sup>th</sup> century cathedral. Walter Scott called it The Fair City.

Guest speaker Nina Pietuchowska will be travelling all the way from Białyсток to educate and entertain.

On Saturday afternoon there will be an excursion to the Lakeside Centre where participants will have the chance to experience how people



lived in the early Iron Age. An excursion further afield will take place on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, after the congress formally closes. There will be a trip

to the Discovery Centre in Dundee, a museum based around the ship *Discovery*, which carried Scott and Shackleton to the Antarctic.

The congress costs £25 to attend, not including the excursions. It will get you a buffet on the opening night, as well as tea or coffee with biscuits during breaks. Meals, including the annual banquet, and accommodation will need to be paid for separately.

There is a range of hotels and B&Bs nearby, which you can locate online. The congress venue is offering a 10% discount to participants, so book early to avoid disappointment. For more information, visit [skotlando.org/index.php/congress-general](http://skotlando.org/index.php/congress-general), where you will also find links to sign up.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNERS

### GRANTS TO ATTEND SOMERA ESPERANTO-STUDADO

**"How do I get better at Esperanto?" Heading abroad and using the language with other people is the best way. But what if you're still learning?**

*Somera Esperanto-Studado* is an annual teaching course in Slovakia. It provides study activities at different levels in the morning, excursions, games, sports and work groups in the afternoons, and concerts, talent nights and so on in the evenings. You'll get immersion in a supportive environment with other learners, whatever your level.

This year's event takes place in Liptovský Mikuláš from July 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. The trustees of EAB recognise the benefits to learning that an event

like SES can provide and so wish to encourage people from Britain to participate. To this end, they've agreed to provide up to ten people with grants of £200 towards their costs to attend. All you have to do is apply, filling in the relevant details. The trustees will consider the various candidacies at the end of April and make a decision on who will be the successful applicants.

To read up on the process and apply for a grant, visit [esperanto.org.uk/events/ses](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/ses). You can find more about the event itself and register for it at [ses.ikso.net](http://ses.ikso.net).

**GET AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED QUALIFICATION IN ESPERANTO ... FREE!**

**How do you know how well you speak**

**Esperanto? How can you prove it to others?**

A qualification based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is a guideline used to describe achievements of learners of foreign languages. It was put together by the Council of Europe and is recognised throughout Europe and elsewhere.

There's an annual worldwide examination session with simultaneous exams in different locations. It will take place on June 16<sup>th</sup> this year and there will be a session held in London, kindly set up by Renato Corsetti.

To encourage people to take these exams, EAB is willing to refund up to £50 towards the cost for up to 20 successful candidates. To apply, visit [esperanto.org.uk/events/ekzamenoj](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/ekzamenoj).



**The charity's AGM will take place at The Morlan Centre, Queen's Road, Aberystwyth, SY23 2HH on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:15.**

Members of EAB will be able to vote on the candidacies for trusteeship of the people who have proposed themselves for the role. There are seven candidates for ten available places. Ian Carter is the sole candidate for president.

This issue of *Update* comes with the usual pre-AGM paperwork plus something extra: a proposed new constitution, in which the Object has been changed, reflecting discussion which started several years ago. (This is explained in more detail in *Update* 78.) Members will vote on giving the trustees permission to send this to the Charity Commission for its approval or whether to keep the current

one.

The paperwork here includes an extract from the accounts. The full set, should you wish to consult it, is publicly downloadable from the Charity Commission's site.

This year a new accounting standard has come into effect which bears addressing. I know that accounts are usually the last thing anybody is really interested in beyond the bottom line but this new standard makes things rather misleading.

What it boils down to is that it's no longer possible to show surpluses or deficits before factoring in unrealised gains, which are financial movements outside of anyone's control and don't actually represent money either coming in or out of the Charity. When looking at your own financial situation, you compare what

comes in with what goes out and reach a conclusion. You wouldn't factor in how the value of your house has increased.

Unfortunately, this new standard means that we can't just enter a line in the account labelled "surplus/deficit" and showing operational performance any more. Instead, we have to factor in how the value of our investments has changed over the previous year. As with house prices, this figure doesn't actually represent any income and so it distorts reality.

Since that rather helpful piece of information can't appear explicitly in the accounts, we'll state it here: the Charity had an underlying surplus (difference between income and expenditure) of £21k. Since that includes a legacy of £17k, the effective operating surplus for the year is £4k.

## CANDIDATES FOR TRUSTEESHIP

### FROM AGM 2018 TO AGM 2019

#### DAMON LORD



I originally learned Esperanto in 1996, and was keenly involved in Esperanto at the time, travelling widely to meet new people and use the language. I returned to Esperanto follow-

ing a break a few years ago after being impressed how the new pioneers of the Esperanto movement were embracing technology, the internet and the progress and instigation of new online learning materials and applications.

A keen advocate of the internet for linguistic interconnectivity, I have aided learners of Esperanto globally from Alaska to the Philippines, and am highly interested in exploring the digitisation

and renewed availability of Esperanto materials, and developing access to topical current affairs for Esperanto speakers.

I am delighted that EAB has made use of self-publishing avenues over the past year to provide high-quality books at low cost on mainstream sites like Amazon following my initial suggestions to do so, and look forward to continuing to work productively alongside my fellow trustees into the future.

#### NOTES FROM THE TRUSTEES' MEETING IN MARCH

**The first weekend in March saw much of the country grind to a halt because of heavy snowfall. It didn't stop EAB's trustees from meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, thanks to modern technology. Ian Carter, Clare Hunter, Kat Newbould and Tim Owen met at Esperanto House, and were joined via Skype by Edmund Grimley Evans, Damon Lord and Ed Robertson, who had all been prevented from attending in person by the surprise weather. Sally Phillips had presented her apologies in advance of the meeting.**

The trustees in attendance were pleased to see that painters had done a good job of brightening up the office; under the terms of our lease we have to make sure that the office is painted in every fifth year, and there's always the bonus that the painters remove the cobwebs which unavoidably appear in hard-to-reach places, leaving the office looking noticeably fresher.

Clare Hunter led the first part of the meeting, reporting that the Directors of BEA Ltd had met and that she had signed the annual accounts. She also reported that Joyce Bunting had stepped down as Company Secretary following decades in the role, for which work Clare thanked her. Viv O'Dunne has taken over the role.

Clare was happy to share that the

Independent Examination had been passed with flying colours, the Examiner as customary being very diligent and requesting to see minutes and correspondence with the Charity Commission, before declaring herself to be satisfied that the Charity is being run appropriately.

The trustees discussed constitutional amendments, having asked twice in *Update* for feedback on a proposal to amend the Charity's Object to incorporate responsibility for the Butler Library. Several minor amendments were suggested but the trustees decided to focus on this major one and leave minor ones for some later date.

The trustees were pleased that the take-up and frequency of the Charity's residential courses were positive, and that the Charity's teacher base had increased, with more teachers set to come on board in the pipeline. They were aware that the Charity is becoming in some way a victim of its success with high-calibre students signing up to courses that target lower-level learners because they've enjoyed their experiences so far and don't necessarily have many other options for furthering their education, so were pleased to acknowledge that two sessions of Postplu had been set up and were sold out.

Acknowledging that the most effective way of becoming functionally fluent in

Esperanto is immersion abroad, the trustees rubber-stamped a project proposed last year to issue grants of up to £200 to a maximum of ten candidates to participate in *Somera Esperanto-Studado* in Slovakia, details of which you'll read about in this issue of *Update*. The event provides intensive teaching as well as facilitating the use of Esperanto in everyday tourist and social situations.

Of great interest to all of the trustees was the news of a forthcoming mainstream textbook, *Teach Yourself Complete Esperanto*. EAB's Ian Carter, Edmund Grimley Evans, Clare Hunter, Tim Owen and Ed Robertson have all been involved in contributing to it to various degrees.

The trustees briefly updated each other on projects which they were currently undertaking or would wish to start work on when they have time. These included audio recordings for new learners, publishing books which are at an appropriate level for people who are new to Esperanto, finalising a collection of Marjorie Boulton's poetry, and producing short blog entries on current events.

Kat Newbould reported that she, Damon Lord and Tim Owen had catalogued around 1200 books in the library collection and that she would be looking to organise more cataloguing weekends in the future.

**NEW MEMBERS** Richard Smith (Oldbury) **DECEASED MEMBERS** Vivienne Isherwood (Southport), C W Gillam (Eastbourne)  
**CONGRATULATIONS** Completed the Free Taster Course: John Ferguson; completed the Elementary course: Christos Bohoris **EXAM CONGRATULATIONS** Chris Lewis (Advanced written - Distinction), Tomasz Augustyn (Elementary - Pass)

## CLARE HUNTER



I have been a trustee since 2009 and worked as treasurer since 2011. In my day job as a chartered accountant, I keep up-to-date with the latest developments in charity law,

financial reporting and Charity Commission guidance. I believe it is important for the charity to always have at least one trustee who is confident with the finances and who can help other trustees with expertise in different areas to understand the numbers.

I am shocked by the recently reported budget deficits in UEA and believe that one of the key jobs of the EAB treasurer is to ensure that the charity spends within its means. EAB's accounts for the year ended 31 October 2017, the key pages of which are distributed with this Update, show that the charity finished the financial year with an underlying surplus of £4k, after removing the impact of unrealised gains on investments and a one-off legacy received. The charity is therefore in a healthy financial position and, if elected for 2018-19, I am happy to continue to work as treasurer, to ensure that the charity's funds remain prudently invested and the income continues to be spent responsibly on charitable activities.

## KATHRYN NEWBOULD



I've been a trustee for nearly a year now, which seems like a great time to take stock of what I've achieved since I was nominated in May 2017. I've managed to lead the effort to catalogue Esperanto House's

collection of books, which to date has captured more than 1200 titles. I've also chaired one of the trustee meetings and been nominated by my fellow trustees to act as co-Secretary and chair at this year's AGM. As a trustee, I've been able to help the charity focus on metrics, as I believe that you can't control or improve things you don't track.

In the coming year, if elected, I plan to work closely with my fellow trustees to put out a free collection of audio Esperanto short stories from the library in the form of a podcast, to capture Lernu Plu and PostPlu graduates. I will also continue in my efforts to catalogue the library's extensive collection of books (I'm looking for data entry volunteers - email me!).

## LAURA MILLER



I arrived in Britain from the USA fifty years ago and have lived in England ever since, working as an educator. Since retiring I have tried to keep up with new tools in education, such as

internet services like Skype, which I use myself with private students.

I have been really pleased to watch new technology help Esperanto expand, such as the over one million Esperanto learners (including me) on Duolingo. I have also been impressed by how EAB works to attract these new learners.

I have long been around Esperanto (I used to be the editor of the magazine *La Verda Proleto*) and have experience of working productively on committees, both in Esperanto (for SAT) and outside (for my then Union, NATFHE, for the Knitting and Crochet Guild, for various committees in my current union, UNITE).

I make no claims about being the world's best Esperanto speaker; but I keep trying. And I am happy to be as helpful as I can in working with the other trustees.

I have recently restarted my Esperanto lessons with Ian Carter. It's going well; I've finally gotten my head around the accusative after 10 years!

### CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

## IAN CARTER



Montri ke Esperanto egale bone funkcias kiel iu ajn alia lingvo, tion celis mi dum la pasintaj pli ol 50 jaroj.

Kiam mi verkis ion ajn, mi kutime tion faris ne pri Esperanto, sed en la lingvo mem. Kiel redaktoro de la revuo *Kial Ne?* (organo de JEB en la jaroj 1970aj) mi kuraĝigis aliajn verki artikolojn pri, ekzemple, vera biero, sagetludo kaj domenoj. Mi kreis krucvortenigmojn, kaj poemojn, kaj tradukis anglalingvajn kantojn. Estas nun ĝojige vidi usonan kanzongrupon, kantantan unu el miaj tradukoj. Nuntempe, mi kelkfoje spektbligas filmetojn ĉe la retejo YouTube, inkluzive de radio-intervjuoj, kaj mia aktuala projekto estas registrado de mia voĉo leganta novelojn de Claude Piron (inter aliaj) por provizi novan lernmaterialon al homoj nove trovintaj Esperanton.

Mi instruas niajn novulojn, kaj rete kaj en la klasĉambro, kaj estos la voĉo de Esperanto en la publikigata libro *Teach Yourself Complete Esperanto*. Intertempe, mi daŭre studas diversajn metodojn por instrui la lingvon efike, sen kaŭzi tiajn oftajn erarojn, kiajn faras multe da lernantoj, precipe se ili tradukas el la angla en Esperanton.

## EDMUND GRIMLEY EVANS



I started learning Esperanto around 1985 and have been a member of the Management Committee of EAB since 1997.

Over the last two decades I have often been responsible for books, CDs and DVDs published by EAB. A project I am currently working on is preparing some of Marjorie Boulton's unpublished work for publication.

My other Esperanto activities include editing and proof-reading for *Monato* and the occasional translation. Since 2013 I have been a member of the *Akademio de Esperanto*. I speak Esperanto almost every day because I speak Esperanto to my daughters, now aged 11 and 13. Unfortunately, having young children means that I have little spare time and rarely travel.

Professionally, I work for Arm Ltd, the UK-based "chip designer" that was recently acquired by Japan's SoftBank. I work in the software research group.

The main activities of EAB are education and publicity. I think it is important for EAB to remain focused on these activities, and also to continue looking to the future. Esperanto organisations that have been around for a long time, as EAB has, can sometimes concentrate too much on historical archives and the repackaging of old material.

## ED ROBERTSON



Nothing in the world is as constant as change, and the trustees of our association need to be not only out there keeping up with it, but anticipating it, or even driving it. I am pleased to

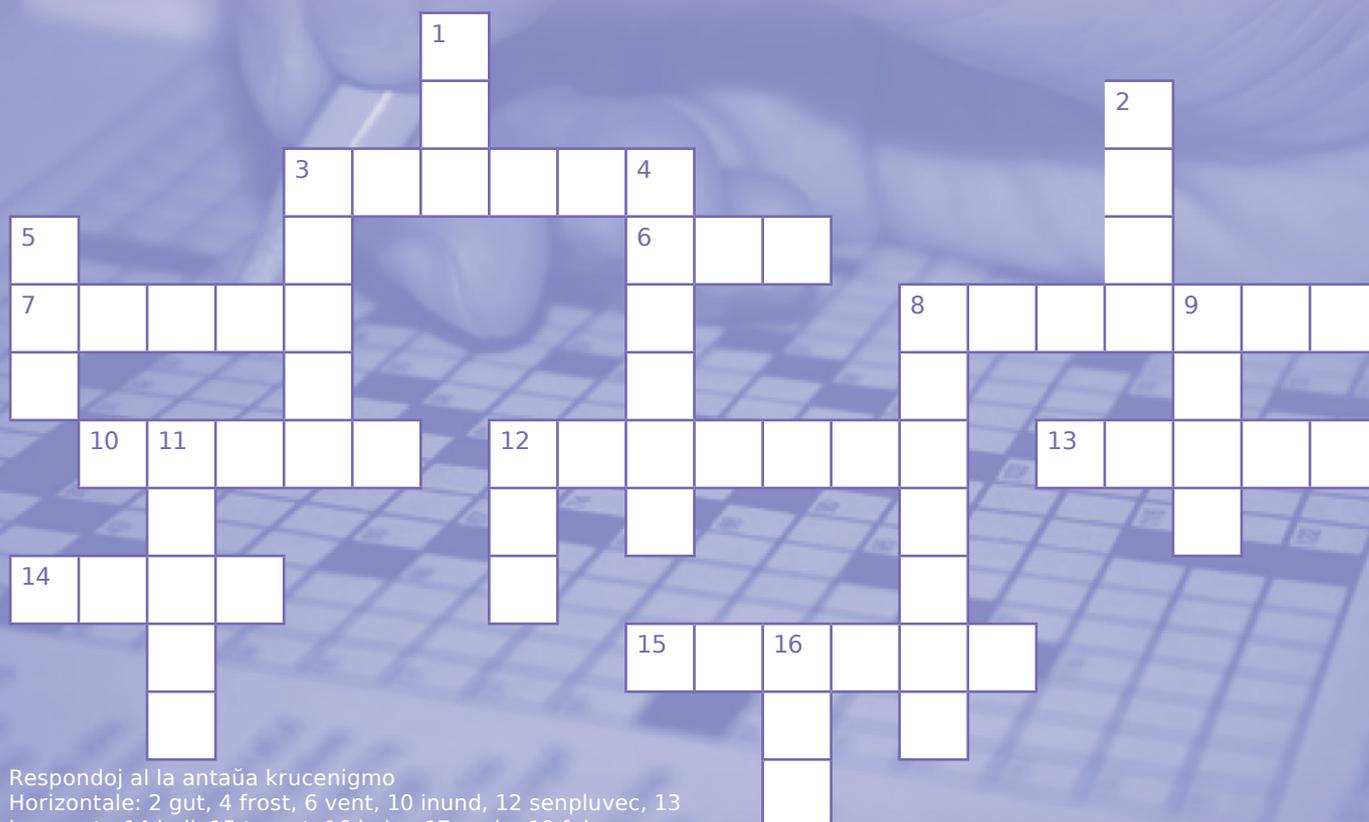
have been part of a professional, modern, forward-looking EAB management team, in touch with reality, moving with the times, and making the most of opportunities in the real and the virtual worlds for Esperanto as a tool in international and multilingual contact.

In addition to my work in EAB and EAS, I am proud to be a moderator of one of the Esperanto course development teams on Duolingo, which together have so far over the past three years attracted worldwide a million and a half students of the language, helping to bring Esperanto to the attention of more people, and new faces to our activities here in Britain.

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: Arboj

**Grava informo:** Ĉiu vorto estas substantivo kaj konsistas nur el la radiko, sen la o-finaĵo. Do se la respondo al la helpilo estas *esperanto*, aperos en la enigmo la vortformo *esperant*.



Respondoj al la antaŭa krucenigmo

Horizontale: 2 gut, 4 frost, 6 vent, 10 inund, 12 senpluvec, 13 barometr, 14 hajl, 15 torent, 16 kalm, 17 prujn, 19 fulm

Vertikale: 1 ŝtorm, 3 neĝ, 5 temperatur, 7 tondr, 8 ĉielark, 9 sunlum, 11 nebul, 17 pluv, 18 nub

VERTIKALE: 1 - Malmola ligno, flugilformaj fruktoj, 2 - Alta, maldika, foje staras laŭ vojoj, 3 - Uzata por kriketaj kaj bazpilkaĵ frapiloj, 4 - Kun bongustaj dolĉaj nuksoj, 5 - Piramida, kun nadloj, 8 - Per la beroj oni spicas ĝinon, 9 - Nacia arbo de Kanado, 11 - Konifero, perdante la nadlojn ĉiujare, 12 - Granda, kun griza ŝelo, 16 - Tipa nordeŭropa konifero

HORIZONTALE: 3 - El la floroj trinkaĵo, el la beroj suko, 6 - Pasintece, fonto de lignoŝuoj, 7 - Per la branĉetoj oni vergis krimulojn, 8 - La nukso aspektas kiel cerbo, 10 - Kristnaska ornamo, 12 - Uzata por ilteniloj, minacata pro malsano, 13 - Taŭgas por pordoj aŭ mebloj, 14 - Ĵeleo fariĝas el la ruĝaj beroj, 15 - Malhelverda konifero, foje ĝardenarbo

### COURSES

**EAB is hosting several educational courses over the next few months. All are free to attend.**

There will be another weekend session of *Lernu* and *Lernu Plu* from Barlaston, with Ariel Bonkorpa and Tim Morley in the teaching roles. Jack Warren and Ed Robertson will lead our annual *Somerlernejo* in August. Another session of *Postplu* is set for London in May and has already sold out, so we'll be looking at running some more. On that same day, Anna Lowenstein will lead a one-day session for new people in London.

Find details at [esperanto.org.uk/events](http://esperanto.org.uk/events).

### AMIKOJ DE ESPERANTO

**Do you want to help Esperanto even if you don't yet speak Esperanto well?**

*Amikoj de Esperanto* (Friends of Esperanto) is a scheme launched by the World Esperanto Association (Universala Esperanto-Asocio - UEA) to help people show their interest, even if they do not yet speak the language.

The programme allows people to receive limited access to UEA's offers at no cost and provides special information on how to learn Esperanto.

Through *Amikoj de Esperanto* you will be able to show your support for Esperanto and will regularly receive brief notices about Esperanto in English.

If you are younger than 36, you'll

receive free membership of TEJO, UEA's youth section.

Add your name at [esperanto.net/en/friends-of-esperanto](http://esperanto.net/en/friends-of-esperanto).

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## easyfundraising.org.uk

You can help EAB at no cost to yourself by registering with [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and electing EAB as your charity of choice. When you shop online at supporting sites, some of what you spend will be donated to EAB by the seller. It's easy to do and doesn't cost you anything, so why not give it a try?

 **Esperanto**  
Association of Britain

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