



The **General Meeting** concluded on the 11<sup>th</sup> January with several changes to the organisation.

## **The New Board**

Due to the resignation of the previous Board a completely new Board has been elected. The new Board will consist of three people initially. These are the Chair, a Vice-Chair or Secretary and the Programme Director, which is the only paid post and only runs until the end of January. The Chair is Márta Torda from Győr, the Vice-Chair is Roland Gurály from Budapest and the Programme Director remains Steve Jones. Profiles of your new officers will be found later in this Newsletter.

Miklós Barabás, the retiring Chair confirmed that the English Speaking Union will no longer have its Headquarters at Dezső u. 3 but will have to find new premises. In addition the secretarial support provided by European House has also been terminated and alternatives have been put in place. As the majority of the membership are e-mail users, we will be concentrating on electronic communication and those who do not have this kind of facility will be supported by those who have.

When the transfer of information, including bank accounts and other facilities is complete we will be able to give members a better idea of the financial position of the organisation. At this point in time we have very little real idea of the financial basis of the organisation. One thing we have been able to do, however, is to ensure that financial matters in future are clear to all of the membership and that there is independent verification of all financial transactions. I am happy to say that Mr. Jason Moore at the UK Embassy has agreed to look over the accounts for all events.

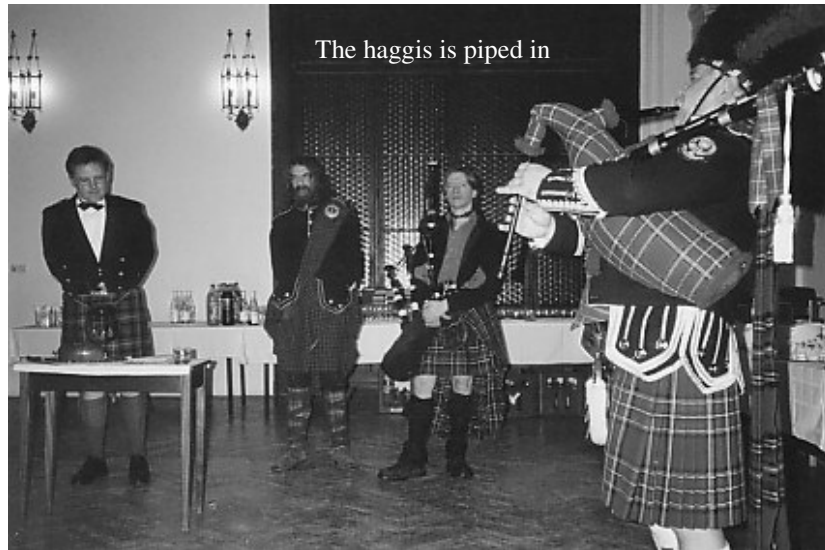
## **Burns Supper 27<sup>th</sup> January**

The award winning **Brown Cow Company** is delighted to present a Black Comedy by **Peter Shaffer**

**Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2003 at 3 p.m.**  
at Fazekas Mihály Fővárosi Gyakorló Gimnázium  
8 Horváth Mihály Square, 1082 Budapest  
Entry **FREE**: Contact: [esu@revai.hu](mailto:esu@revai.hu)  
Further information is on page 4

I have spent the last two days answering the many e-mails which came from those who attended this event. Firstly I have to apologise to all of the members outside

Budapest who were unable to attend as it was held on a Monday. This was inevitable in the circumstances. The St Columba's Church hall has been newly renovated and the minister, Ken MacKenzie, was happy to see it used for this joint celebration. More than that, Ken shared the arranging of the whole programme for the evening with several members of the ESU. He also



made a wonderful Master of Ceremonies in his kilt. His address to the Haggis was devastating – for the Haggis!

The evening itself contained all of the best loved elements of Burns Suppers, but with some differences. We deliberately did not have a top table. As a membership organisation, all of our members are of equal importance. Our guests from the Embassy, Jason and Debbie Moore and from the British Council,

Nigel Bellingham, expressed their thanks to the organisers and said how enjoyable it had been.

### ***The Pipers***



Yes! The piper it was – not one but two. Kéri György was his usual magnificent self, however he was joined by a young Scottish piper, one of a group of Scots on their way to Kiev.

### ***The Toasts***

As is traditional, the toasts were a central part of the evening.

The traditional whisky was available in sufficient quantity to get through all of the toasts - the Haggis, the Bard, the Loyal Toast, the Ladies and a reply from the ladies. Both the toasts to the Bard by Robert Wright and to the Ladies by Alan Wilkinson were less than conventional bringing much animated heckling from the audience adding to the atmosphere of the event.

### ***The Songs***

Two of the most beautiful of Burns' love songs, "Ae Fond Kiss" and "My Love is like a Red Red Rose" were sung by Steve Jones, the Programme Director.



One of the highlights for those attending was the traditional dance. Debbie Ann Moss called the dances as eighty people filled the floor. They were soon strutting as if they had been born to it and it was only lack of time which prevented them from continuing long into the night.

### ***Auld Lang Syne***

To finish the evening there were two more performances with the pipes from our two pipers, then finally the rendering of "Auld Lang Syne", probably Burns' best know song. As the dancers formed two huge circles they held hands and cemented the friendships of the evening in fine style.

### ***An ESU of Hungary Web-Site***

Very soon we will be on line with our new web-site, designed and maintained by ESU members. The site was designed by Eyal Zucker and will be updated by Reményi Edua with assistance from Renner Péter. All there have the skills to provide the kind of service we will need to keep you informed of what the ESU is doing. The web-site will carry the information seen in each of our Newsletters as well as basic information on the ESU of Hungary, regional information and news and a calendar for coming events.

### ***The new Chair Introduces herself Márta Torda***

Hello, I'm Márta Torda and I live and work in Győr, the fifth largest town in Hungary.

I have an English-Hungarian language and literature degree from the Teacher Training College in Pécs. I completed my university studies when I was working at a primary school in Győr and since then have been teaching, mainly in the secondary sector.

I have also worked for International House, Budapest where, in 1993, I did a three-month trainer development course both in Budapest and London. I

am a teacher and a teacher trainer and have worked as a county supervisor in Győr-Moson-Sopron County for several years. During its last two years of its existence in Győr, I managed the British Council Resource Centre.

In addition, as one of the teacher trainers' group I was involved in the Erettsegi (school leaving) Exam Reform. For several years I worked together with the CERNET (Central European Regional Network for Educational Transfer) centre in Vienna. With a group of teachers from England, Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary we collaborated on a book for European Middle Schools in European Studies for years 7 and 8.

For three years I have prepared groups for the English Drama Festival in Solymar. Last summer I led an English Drama Group at the summer drama camp in Csorna.



I have been a member of the English Speaking Union for a number of years. I feel it is very important to provide opportunities to all those speaking English

in Hungary, whether they be students, businessmen or women, native speakers or simply someone who enjoys using the language.

This association, the ESU, is vital in Hungary and I will do my best to develop and re-organise the ESU of Hungary and to encourage people to work together to the benefit of all of the members.

### ***Introduction by the new Vice-Chair***

## ***Roland Gurály***

Hi' I'm Roland Gurály and I have been a member of the ESU for several years.

I attended Grammar school here in Budapest – Jedlik Ányos – before leaving to attend the International Business School of Budapest , focusing on European Business, International Marketing, Marketing Communications and Product and Service Management. Subsequently I attended the University of Economics to study International Relations before joining Malev (Hungarian Airlines) as a Sales representative.

Within a year I was promoted to Key Account Manager supervising the work of managers and sales staff at several major travel agencies.



At the present time I am working on the THENA project, trying to find solutions to many of the problems facing airlines throughout Europe.

I will be concentrating on young people, particularly in Budapest though not exclusively and developing a programme including events featuring politics, commerce and industry.

## ***The International Public Speaking Contest***

***Tpoic: 'Local value, Global worth'***

We have received the information on the International Public Speaking Competition, which will take place in London on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2003.

It is our intention to hold a local area competitions before having a final in Budapest on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> April. The winner we hope will be able to attend the International Competition in London providing sponsorship is available.

The local cometitions need to produce a winner and runner up for each area by the 19<sup>th</sup>

## *Peter Shaffer's Black Comedy*

(see front page for further details)

**This performance is best suited to adults (16+) with fluent English.**

The performance is organised by The Budapest Institute of Education (Fővárosi Pedagógiai Intézet) with the kind support of The English Speaking Union and The British Council.

### **The Cast:**

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| BRINDSLEY MILLER | Péter Szabó    |
| CAROL MELKETT    | Eszter Tóth    |
| MISS FURNIVAL    | Ágnes Járfás   |
| COLONEL MELKETT  | János Bibó     |
| HAROLD GORRINGE  | Géza Bodor     |
| SCHUPPANZIGH     | Gergely Farkas |
| CLEA             | Nóra Nikowitz  |
| GEORG BAMBERGER  | Miklós Hunya   |

### **Stage crew:**

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Lighting effects | Éva Szilágyi  |
| Stage designer   | Orsolya Sipos |

The story in brief:

*Brindsley Miller, the intelligent but irresolute young sculptor is expecting a millionaire art collector to arrive at his flat and hopefully to buy some of his works. To impress his guest, Brindsley borrows the elegant furniture of his huffy neighbour, Harold, for the evening and temporarily improves the run-down interior of his poor artist-home. At the beginning of the evening the main fuse blows and before the stone-deaf German millionaire arrives the deceitfully decorated flat fills with a company of odd variety due to a series of silly accidents. Come and see what this weird flock of Brindsley's stupid neighbours, his mischievous ex-girlfriend, his foolish present girlfriend with her monstrous father and the German-refugee electrician make of this evening*

Our most prestigious awards are:

Best Production, 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Actress & Special Award at the Debrecen Festival of English Drama both in 2001 and 2002 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Production, Best Actress & Special Award at the Lublin International Drama Festival 2002

## ***Expertise needed!!***

Within the next few weeks we have to set up an administration to cover every aspect of ESU life. There will be several groups set up to organise programmes in Budapest and in the regions. These tasks will all be voluntary but will enable those doing them to gain experience and put something into the organisation. We also need people with specific skills, e.g. legal, journalistic or accounting skills, to enable us to carry out the tasks necessary in the running of an expanding organisation. If you have the skills, the time and the interest please contact us and say what you can offer.

### **CHECK LIST - WHAT WE DO**

**Promote** English in international public speaking and debate for the support of worldwide communication and dialogue

**Encourage** the enjoyment and constructive use of English through educational programmes

**Provide** a forum for international friendship through our support of the worldwide network of ESUs and the provision of secretariat facilities for the International Council at the headquarters at Dartmouth House, London

**Initiate** and administer international youth exchange and work experience schemes

**Focus** on key current affairs issues through regular international conferences, seminars and meetings

**Provide** and create cultural activities

**Facilitate** and assist the establishment and recognition of ESUs worldwide

**Ensure** the coordination and coherence of our activities through the skill and dedication of our staff and voluntary helpers

**Rely** upon the enthusiasm and support of all our members

**Work** in close and innovative partnership with our corporate members and sponsors

### **Contact us using:**

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1111 Budapest, Vak Bottyan u. 3.V.9.

or by e-mail: [esu@revai.hu](mailto:esu@revai.hu)