

New ESU of Hungary Newsletter Number 14 Sept. 2003

DIARY DATES

Budapest: 'Games Night' (mahjong, scrabble etc.) at the Hauer, from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Tuesday 23rd Sept

Budapest: "Singlish Folk"

Tuesday 7th Oct

Budapest: Celebration of 1956,

Tuesday 21st Oct

venue to be arranged.

Budapest: "Singlish Folk"

Tuesday 4th Nov

Budapest: "Multicultural evening"

Tuesday 18th Nov

at the Hauer, from 6 pm.

Budapest: "Singlish Folk" Christmas Party - venue to be

Tuesday 9th Dec

announced.

Budapest: Burns Supper (to be confirmed)

Tuesday 27th Jan

Our Course in the UK

By Pénzes Kata and Czikai Zsuzsa

Thanks to the very generous support of the ESU Metropolitan-Essex Branch, this summer a two-week teacher training course in the UK was offered to two teachers of English from Hungary. From the number of applicants we, Katalin Pénzes and Zsuzsanna Czikai received the scholarship. This is a short summary of our experiences.

The course aimed to present teaching techniques in the contemporary classroom, but for us it meant much more than that. It gave us an opportunity to experience the friendliness of British ESU members and the benefits of being part of an international group of teachers, to take part in a rich variety of social programmes, and all in all, to have a wonderful time in Saffron Walden.

We arrived in London on the 17th August. At Heathrow we were met by two members of the committee, Joyce and Derek Hall, who took us on a most enjoyable short sightseeing tour of London (and taught us some Cockney English!) before transporting us to Saffron Walden. We met the rest of the committee and some other members of the Metropolitan-Essex Branch on the occasion of a delightful dinner. We very much enjoyed talking to our hosts, telling them about Hungary and learning more about the ESU and Britain.

As for the course, it was a two-week teacher training programme especially designed for teachers of English as a second or foreign language. It focused on language development and teaching methodology, so among the traditional language areas - such as teaching grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and writing- recent developments in methods and techniques were presented, too. These included the use of information technology in language teaching, changes in the language and the expansion of colloquial and idiomatic language knowledge. Thanks to the excellent and highly trained teaching staff at Bell Institute, the new approaches and ideas were not only theoretically described and discussed, but actually put into practice during the sessions, giving us a very clear idea of how the different activities could be adapted in the classrooms. In addition to that, we could also exploit the excellent self-study facilities offered by Bell, there was a very well equipped library and study centre, a language laboratory and a multimedia suite, all with the latest language teaching resources.



Zsuzsa and Kata at the ESU - Singlish Folk Evening after their return from Saffron Waldon, sponsored by the ESU Essex branch in the UK.

At Bell we were offered special social and cultural programmes as well: visits were organised to Cambridge and London, there was a trip to a West End theatre, there were video nights, pub visits and welcome and farewell parties. Saffron Walden itself is a charming medieval market town surrounded by pretty

countryside, so we enjoyed walking round the narrow lanes, the market square, the Elizabethan timber houses and country cottages. Our international group thoroughly enjoyed all these events and could learn a lot from each other both professionally and socially by sharing cultural aspects of the different countries.

To sum up, we have entirely benefited from all aspects of the course. We have brought back with us not only nice memories, but a bunch of innovative ideas which we will use to improve the quality of our own language teaching and which we are happy to share with our fellow professionals. We are most grateful for this wonderful opportunity and would like to say THANK YOU to all those who had contributed to it: to all members of the ESU Metropolitan-Essex Branch, who had kindly supported our tuition, stay and travel to the UK: to the members of the committee for the idea of supporting development in education and for supporting teachers from Hungary; and to Joyce and Derek Hall for their help in transporting us and their most enjoyable company. A very special thanks to Una Corderov and Ron Truss for all the efforts with which they organised our course and for making us feel comfortable and well looked after throughout our entire stay in England. Finally, we would like to say thank you to Steve Jones, chair of the ESU Hungary for his contribution to the success of this programme. We hope to see the members of the Metropolitan-Essex Branch again here in our country, and we wish that the ESU -both in the UK and in Hungary - will continue bringing people closer to each other by means of the English language, promoting in this way a better international understanding.

Scottish Highland Games

Csesznek "Kőbánya" outdoor arena

On Saturday 6th September 2003

'The first official Games event to be held in Hungary and possibly Central Europe.'

The sight of strong men in kilts and the stadium, which resembled a Scottish hillside in the hight of summer

with the castle in as a backdrop, was memorable and with over 1000 people attending it was a a strikingly



good start to an event which will undoubtedly become a permanent fixture in the Hungarian calendar.

The event was opened by H.E. Mr. John Nichols, the British Ambassador. Jock MacKenzie, the vice President of the Hungarian Scottish Society expressed his thanks to all of those who had been involved in the organisation of the event, not least Magyar Zoltán, the President of the Society and his team who worked very hard to make it the success it was. 'We will go away and look to see how we can make it an ever greater success next year'.

We will continue to bring you further news of Hungarian Scottish events and, indeed, any events which members would find interesting and useful.

Budapest News

English at EGIS

Over the past months employees of the EGIS pharmaceuticals company have been able to practice their English due to the initiative of members of the ESU who work there.

The guest speaker of the evening this week was Steve Jones who did a 'Singlish' presentation – English through folk songs. They are looking for native speakers to offer their services free to this very

enthusiastic group of ESU members. They have meetings twice a month. If you are interested in helping or would like to set up a similar club at your place of work contact us on the address given in this Newsletter.



Those who attended the EGIS English club on the 18th September 2003

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Aims and Objectives:

- <u>Promote</u> English in public speaking and debate for the support of worldwide communication and dialogue
- <u>Encourage</u> the enjoyment and constructive use of English through educational programmes
- Provide and Create cultural activities
- Ensure the coordination and coherence of our activities through the skill and dedication of our voluntary helpers
- <u>Rely</u> upon the enthusiasm and support of all our members
- <u>Work</u> in close and innovative partnership with our corporate members and sponsors