New ESU letter New ESU of Hungary

2004 DIARY DATES June Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer -Tuesday 29th June Starts at 6 pm August Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer -Tuesday 31st Aug Starts at 6 pm

The Past Year in Brief Burns and Speaking

The two highlight events of the year were Burns Supper in January, run jointly with St. Columba's Mission and with sponsorship from the Hungarian Scottish Society and the International Public Speaking Competition in March and April sponsored by the British Embassy, Oxford University Press, MacMillan publishers, and



Kékkuti with the technical support of the British Council. We cannot forget the support from British Airways who provided flights and the ESU at Dartmouth House and the London (England) branch of the ESU for covering



the winners' costs in the UK. We were also glad to welcome the new Ambassador, Mr. John Nichols, as our patron. The final was held at the British Embassy.

These events have become firmly fixed in the New ESU's calendar so you can begin to prepare for next year too!

English Clubs

We have been able to continue our support of English clubs by advertising their meetings in the Newsletter and by attending meetings and providing speakers.

This is very much something we wish to continue and we hope that those enthusiastic people who run these

clubs will continue to inform us of their activities. We would encourage our members to attend as many of these meetings as they can.

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'Singlish' Folk Nights

The 'Singlish' Folk Nights have continued throughout the year, at the Hauer cukrászda near Blaha Lujza tér, with average attendances of between 10 and 20. They will continue throughout the next year from September onwards. Keep a look out on the web site www.hunglish.net (click on diary dates).

From September ...

BBC Prime

November Schools Competition

BBC Prime, the British Council and the Ministry of Education are jointly sponsoring a National Competition for schools from September through to November. This will be a team event for students of 14 years and above and details will be published in August.

Because of the success of the Public Speaking competition in April, the New ESU has been asked to assist with the organisation of the event. Steve Jones, Chair of the New ESU will sit on the steering committee and there will be local events organised throughout the country.

This will be an inclusive event and will involve every school which wishes to take part. Those organising locally will be asked to cooperate closely with the Ministry's own area co-ordinators, though the ESU will take a leading role in the overall administration.

For further information on this competition please contact:

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A New Constitution for the New ESU of Hungary

Over the past year we have been working hard to create a new constitution in line with the changes required by the law and the changes in the nature of the organisation.

The emphasis of the document will be on membership, activity, information and participation and we will be welcoming constructive discussion on all of these aspects.

This Newsletter will be seen by over 500 people throughout Hungary, 50% of whom live in Budapest. We now have an active programme in Budapest which is constantly developing and we hope that a similar situation will come about in those centres where there is an active membership.

There will be opportunities for all of those who wish to take part in activities, both locally and nationally. Within

the year we hope to have completed the legal processes and will be able to set up a membership scheme. Fees for membership will remain nominal, possibly 2000 Ft for the year with cost reductions on tickets to some events.

Cooperation with the Hungarian Scottish Society

We will continue this co-operation which has enabled us to offer our Burns Supper at a very reasonable price (2500 Ft). There may well be other events on which we could cooperate and there is a possibility of joint membership of the ESU and HSS for ESU members at 3000 Ft for the year. Students and concessions will be at 50% and families will pay only for the adults, children's membership being free.

Companies and groups will be able to join at 3 times the normal rate as before. This will enable the organisation to organise more and better events.

British Hungarian Foundation

A new foundation is being set up to handle charity events in Hungary. The purpose will be to simplify the present very complex structure of organisations here.

It is possible that a voluntary job with some minimal expenses may be available for someone with a little time, good basic IT skills, excellent Hungarian (native speaker) and organisational ability to assist with this. If you are interested please contact, Steve Jones, by email.

We wish all of our readers a pleasant summer.

Relax and return with renewed vigour in September.