

New ESU of Hungary Newsletter Number 32 Dec. 2004

2004	DIARY DATES
December	
Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	<i>Tuesday</i> 21st Dec.
2005	
January	
Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	<i>Tuesday</i> 4th Jan.
Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	<i>Tuesday</i> 18th Jan.
February	

Budapest: Burns Supper 2005 – Scottish Mission, Vörösmarty u. 51 – tickets 3000HUF Tuesday 1st Feb.



The Competition Final ...

The teams who took part in the final saw a wonderful event which is summarised by the following e-mail sent to the co-ordinators MmD Public Relations, the Partners and other organisers. ...

I am writing to express my thanks for the recent Teamtalk – Chatangoljunk competition. I would also like to express my heartfelt congratulations to the organisers and sponsors on the success of the event and my hopes that BBC Prime, the British Council, the Hungarian Ministry of Education and the ESU will continue to promote such great initiatives in the future. The experience has been overwhelmingly positive, both for me and my students. They, for their part, were genuinely delighted to have had the chance to participate in such an engaging competition and were thrilled by the highprofile venue of the final and by the presence there of so many VIPs. For them, the very experience of taking part in the final – even before they realised they had won it – was a real boost to their confidence in themselves as English speakers.

As a teacher, preparing my students for the competition has been a truly rewarding experience, thanks to the communicative authenticity of the the competition's tasks and the inherent real-world usefulness of the skills which the students needed to master in order to do well. It is great that English teachers committed to the promotion of fluency and communication finally have a competition like Chatangoljunk with which to motivate their students. If the competition becomes a prestigious annual event I am sure that the washback effect on the classroom teaching of English in high schools up and down the country will be considerable.

The popularity of the competition's format is beyond doubt. At Babits the response from students was so great that I had to organise a preliminary school round with twelve teams taking part. Students and parents, meanwhile, have already begun to ask about next year.

I would again like to convey our gratitude to King's School and easyjet for their generosity in making it possible for the winners to travel to the UK to spend what will undoubtedly be the most enjoyable two weeks of their classroom careers to date!

In closing I would like to reiterate my thanks to all of the organisers and sponsors, in the name of my students, too. We would be happy to help you in any way we can in providing feedback on the competition or in promoting its future development.

Sincerely, Edmund Dudley



The winning team from Babits Mihály, Pécs with left Simon Fenn (King's School) and Bajnai Ágnes (organiser, Pécs) and right Edmund Dudley









The ESU Public Speaking Competition 2005

The local rounds of the competition will begin in early March and the final will be in April in Budapest. Information my be obtained from the ESU website <u>www.esu.org</u> but the title for the competition speeches will be '*Differences and Diversity*'.

A handbook for the competition is available from Steve Jones but it is a 1MB 'pdf' file, so make sure you have an e-mail which can accept it if you request it.

A new format, perhaps ...

As we need to make the competition shorter at the local level, we are suggesting that students be asked to speak for 2 minutes only on a topic they will select (choice of 1 out of 3) twenty minutes before they compete. Sample topics will be provided.

The Final ...

The rules for the final would be the same as for the International Final in London but with questions from the jury only.

Final at the Embassy ...

Once again our Patron, the British Ambassador Mr. John Nichols, has agreed to the use of the Embassy for this event. We are seeking sponsorship for a trophy for the event, which would be kept in a prominent place at the Embassy. Winning teams would get a smaller trophy to keep.

Ideas, opinions and suggestions on the competition, particularly at the local level would be welcome and we look forward to hearing from you.

Contact details:

Steve Jones, New ESU of Hungary, 06 30 261 7145 <u>stevejones@axelero.hu</u> website <u>www.hunglish.net</u> (diary dates)

Burns Supper 1st Feb. 2005 Senior Vice President attends...

This year we are greatly honoured as the Senior Vice President of the International Robert Burns Federation will both address the Haggis and give us the 'Immortal Memory'. You can find out more about Major (retired) John Paterson on their own information website http://www.worldburnsclub.com/index.htm.

This will be the New ESU's third Burns Supper and with



the success of the previous ones we are expecting a great demand for the limited number of tickets. There are 150 places only available so contact us quickly to book your places. Last year, John Murphy (left) played at the 'big' Burns supper. This year he is coming over specifically to attend our Burns supper and pipe for us. Our own Kéri György will be there and there will be the usual Haggis sponsored by the Hungarian Scottish Society.