Mew esu letter

New ESU of Hungary Newsletter Number 40 Dec. 2005

'Teamtalk' - Chatangoljunk ...



The Winners



The clear winners of the competition were Móricz Zsigmond Gimnázium from Szentendre with Gárdonyi Géza Ciszterci Gimnázium, Eger, as runners up. It was a close result and any of the first three teams could have won on a different day.

Third were Rózsa Ferenc Gimnázium (Békéscsaba), fourth, Fazekás Mihály Gimnázium (Debrecen), fifth, last year's winners PTE Babits Mihály Gimnázium és Szakközépiskola (Pécs) and sixth, last years runners up, Ady Endre Gimnázium (Ráckeve). The remaining teams, József Attila Gimnázium (Budapest), Zrínyi Miklós Gimnázium (Zalaegerszeg), Dániel Berzsenyi Gimnázium (Budapest), ELTE Apáczai Csere János Gimnázium (Budapest), Herman Ottó Gimnázium (Miskolc) and Révai Miklós Gimnázium (Győr) were very close also.

The winning team will spend two weeks as the guests of the King's Group English Language Schools in London, Brighton or Oxford. They will be flown by easyJet as part of the prize.





The event was supported by the four major publishers; Oxford University Press, MacMillan, Longman and Cambridge University Press, who provided prizes for the first three teams in each Regional Final.

In addition there were prizes from three magazine publishers Hot English, Hungaropress and Librotrade and support from Brill and Pesti Est.









PESTI ∔11



Already the partners, BBC Prime the Ministry of Education and the British Council have been talking positively about running the competition in 2006.

From the mail received by the organisers we recognise that those taking part have found it most stimulating and are looking forward to next year with anticipation. For further information see: www.chatangoljunk.hu



'Singlish'



www.singlish.hu

Downloads...

MP3s

Whilst performing for OUP and MacMillan at conferences, Steve Jones has been asked constantly for information on the songs – mostly English language folk songs – which he uses. You can now download MP3 files or listen to the songs on line. Naturally for those who cannot do this there will still be the possibility of obtaining the songs on CD as MP3s or audio files or

on cassette tape. Naturally, in this form there are associated costs.

Songbooks

The regular 'Singlish Folk' sessions at the Hauer are supported by a set of publications, free to download, which were previously sent out by e-mail. They can now be downloaded at your convenience and wherever you are at no cost. These booklets, each of between three and six pages, contain the words of the songs used on those evenings (Tuesdays at the Hauer Cukraszda).

There are 20 songbooks and a downloadable song locator which enables you to find in which book and on which page the songs are.

The Singlish Course

An additional resource found on the website is the 'Singlish' course. This is in the process of being updated but is free to download and gives 180 pages of songs with worksheets and information. We would welcome feedback on this. All information on New ESU of Hungary and its activities will be found on the website: www.singlish.hu

December	
Budapest: 'Singlish Xmas Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm - FREE TO ALL	Tuesday 13th Dec.
Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	Tuesday 20th Dec.
2006	
January	
Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	<i>Tuesday</i> 3rd Jan.
Budapest: 10th, 17th, 24th Jan Hauer - Starts at 6 pm – FREE TO ALL	Tuesdays.
Budapest: Burns Supper Scottish Mission - Starts at 6 pm Tickets from Steve Jones	Tuesday 31st Jan.

2005

ESU International Public Speaking Competition

It has been decided that the theme of the International Public Speaking Competition 2006 will be ...

"Mapping the Global Future"

Further details will appear on www.singlish.hu



The winning Speech from 2005

A one-time desk-mate

Coming to London is like coming into a different world. It reminds me of many of my former classmates and the children I am working with.

With the booming of the Chinese economy, many farmers are leaving villages and coming to work in cities. As low-income migrant laborers, they can only afford to send their children to temporary schools that retired teachers and other volunteers have set up for them. Several fellow students and I are now teaching in such a school.

Local news media interviewed us and put our pictures on the front page. Once, a reporter asked me why I wanted to teach migrant children. I pointed at a Confucian adage on the wall, which can be roughly translated: Teach without differences but with diversity. What this ancient sage means is that a good teacher should love pupils whether they are high or low in status; pupils bring diverse experiences to class and may enlighten the teacher. I liked this saying because I don't like country kids to be seen as different.

I was born in a poor small town in western China, where an average person made less than 100 pounds a year. Going to school was a privilege accessible only to some children. Luckily, I didn't have to worry about my tuition, but as I moved up grade by grade, I saw pupils, especially girls, drop out. At the beginning of every semester, my class would be short of one or two pupils, and I felt very sad about this.

This is what happened to Ah Mei, my one-time deskmate. One morning, she stopped coming to class, her textbooks still laid neatly on the desk, and her notes were in my schoolbag - I often borrowed them to do my own homework.

After Ah Mei left, I met her a few times, but each time I asked her to return, she avoided my eyes and said, "We are different. Only you can become a scholar." I didn't like her saying this, but as time went by, I realized what she said was true. While I was getting ready for college, she was working in the fields. While I was studying in the library, she was preparing for her wedding. Now, I am a second-year college student, and she is a mother.

I feel sorry and even feel guilty for such differences between people, between those who can receive education and those who cannot. I don't like Ah Mei's misfortune to be repeated. That was why I decided to help out the migrant children. They deserve the same education as the city children.

Despite our good intentions, however, we volunteers may feel superior about giving to the children we teach. Only by listening to them, by being good pupils ourselves, can we be truly touched and enriched. We also receive from those we give.

In the first class I taught, I was nervous but in high spirits. The kids repeatedly imitated my pronunciation in unison and quickly learned to use a few English words. Then, I told the class: "Good! You are doing just as well as the city kids even though you are different in many ways."

During the break, a girl approached me and said in a low but clear voice, "Teacher, we don't want to be seen as different from city kids. We want to be scholars too." Her reaction took me by surprise. Yes, I was wrong. It was true that I didn't like the prejudice against them, but I myself was seeing them as different. The little girl reminded me of my one-time desk-mate Ah Mei and reminded me of other classmates who didn't make it to college or even to middle school although they were by no means less intelligent.

After that first class, the dreams of these children were gradually engraved on my mind: they want to be scientists, sportsmen, teachers, and all of them want to be kind and honest. Their dreams move me and enrich me. Confucius is right about the diversity pupils bring to class. The children are teaching me how to teach them. Thank you very much.

(From www.esu.org the official ESU website)