

CHARITY COMMISSION APPROVES REVISED OBJECT

A process which started with suggestions received from members over the course of several years has concluded with the trustees applying to the Charity Commission to revise the charitable object of EAB.

The Charity Commission has approved the new wording and so the object of EAB now reads 'To advance education in and about the international language Esperanto and to preserve and promote the culture and heritage of Esperanto for the educational benefit of the general public.'

The original object didn't have any wording which indicated responsibility for cultural heritage, the over 100 years of Esperanto literature held in the Butler Library, which members and the trustees believe to be incumbent on EAB to protect. The new phrasing removes some superfluous wording which didn't obviously relate to measurable charitable activity.

BACKGROUND

The 2016 AGM asked the trustees to consider ways in which something could be incorporated into the charity's governing document to formalise EAB's responsibility for protecting the cultural heritage of Esperanto.

This is easier said than done: all charities must have a charitable purpose (also known as a charitable object), which defines what the charity is set up to achieve but that

purpose must fall within one or more of the 13 descriptions of charitable purposes listed in the Charities Act and it must be clear how it is for the public benefit.

Clare Hunter undertook considerable research on this project and worked with her fellow trustees to propose a revised object which they felt would capture the intention in wording which the Charity Commission would approve.

The trustees presented this revised wording in the 2017 AGM, after which followed a period of consultation with members for one year. Articles inviting feedback from members were published in *Update* 78 and 79 and the revised wording was subjected to AGM approval in 2018.

Of the 53 votes submitted, 43 were FOR, 8 AGAINST and 2 ABSTAINED. The trustees duly submitted the proposed wording to the Charity Commission, who have approved and therefore officialised it with immediate effect.

GOING FORWARD

In 2017 some of the trustees gave up a weekend to start work on a project to find out what we had and where it was located in the Butler Library.

There is an existing partially complete catalogue listing around 8,000 items but it doesn't contain details on where the books listed in it are located. Additionally, the closure of

Wedgwood Memorial College in 2012 meant that the Houghton Archive had to be relocated from an external building into the library, causing some disruption.

The trustees hope to build a new simplified catalogue which details the basic details of the books and where they are stored, and then to cross-reference with the existing and other external catalogues to import more details. But first, it's necessary to compile the basic list.

Another group of trustees have volunteered to do some cataloguing over a weekend in July and will be assisted by two members who have kindly offered their help. There will be more of these cataloguing weekends into the future and offers of help from other members would be appreciated. Please contact Kathryn Newbould (kathryn.newbould@esperanto.org.uk) or Viv or Tim if you'd like to volunteer or find out more.

We would also be interested to hear from anybody who has experience with library systems, in particular in how books should be labelled. Some libraries use a shelfmarking system, for example. Should EAB adopt one? If so, how? If you have any knowledge to offer or ideas to propose, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please get in touch with Edmund Grimley Evans (edmund.grimley.evans@esperanto.org.uk) with your comments and suggestions.

LOCAL GROUPS WORK WITH DUOLINGO

The online learning platform Duolingo has become the leading provider of new Esperanto speakers. Now EAB's local groups are working in tandem with Duolingo to get new learners to their events.

Duolingo introduced its Esperanto course for English speakers in May 2015. The small group of course contributors included EAB's Ed Robertson and the course's one millionth learner signed up only two and a half years later. There are currently 1.36 million learners on the course, and versions have since been introduced for Spanish and Portuguese speakers.

The people at Duolingo recognise that a holistic learning programme requires more than their app offers and so have set up a scheme whereby people can set up events for learners and have them promoted to people in the vicinity learning the language on the app.

Several of EAB's groups on meetup.com now work with Duolingo in

this way, arranging their get-togethers as before but reaching a wider audience. The pioneers in Britain include Adam Hall of the very active Manchester group (meetup.com/manchester-esperanto-meetup) and Maurizio Giacometto, who leads the group in Reading (meetup.com/reading-esperanto-meetup).



duolingo

1.00M Learners

Esperanto for English speakers

Esperanto Association of Britain

INTERNATIONAL POPULARITY

The *Universala Esperanto-Asocio* has recently started working with Duolingo on this project, meaning that events are being organised in other countries too.

Esperanto is out-performing many of the much stronger national languages; it is currently the sixth most active language in the system of Duolingo events, with get-togethers arranged in Madrid, Paris and even as far away as Brazil. Glances at maps indicate that there are towns and cities in which a Duolingo group exists for Esperanto learners but not for students of any other language.

EAB provides free accounts on meetup.com for people who wish to set up local get-togethers with other Esperanto learners. Would you like to create a group in your area? If so, please get in touch with us!



I found the conference in Aberystwyth to be a wonderful event. I think it had the best overall programme of any of our annual conferences of the last several years, so I tip my hat to Bill & Pat Chapman, Dee McCarney and Harry Barron, the three people who, alongside Viv and me, organised the event. Thank you!

That brings me neatly to the subject of next year's conference, which has the distinction of being the 100th. Clearly it needs to be something special to mark the occasion and ideally in a place with a connection to Esperanto. After looking at things like costs and accessibility, which made a few obvious places unlikely hosts, I thought of Dover. Not the first place which would've come to mind to anybody, I'm sure. In fact, I imagine that most readers are currently scratching their chins trying to work out what link Dover has with Esperanto.

You have to go back to 1904. Back then, there had never been an international get-together of Esperantists. There were plenty of local groups and magazines but no organised meeting of people from different countries who would use Esperanto to bridge the language gap. That changed when British Esperantists met with French ones in Dover and Calais. It was on the French side of the Channel that Alfred Michaux had the idea to invite everybody to come back the following year to his home town, Boulogne-sur-mer. The rest is history.

So I had the idea of following in those pioneers' footsteps, holding the centenary conference in Dover and heading over to Calais to meet with French Esperantists. It sounded like a good idea to me but I thought I should get a second opinion. Or

about forty, as it happened.

I asked the AGM what they felt. I was already reassured when it became clear that nearly everybody who had signed up for Aberystwyth had chosen to stay on past the Sunday. I'm pleased to say that the response of the AGM was a resounding yes. And so Viv and I have set to work making a proposal to run by the trustees.

We think we've hit upon something workable with what appears to be a good venue at a reasonable price. Bus and ferry companies have been slow to respond but we're making progress there too.

The result is that the 2019 conference will be held in Dover from **April 12 to 16**. We're looking at starting on the Friday evening, running a full programme (from 09:00 to 21:00) on Saturday, and holding an excursion to France on the Sunday. The Monday will be another full day's programme at the venue, with the traditional group meal in the evening, and there will be another excursion on the Tuesday.

The next step is to invite some suitably entertaining guests and build the conference web site so that you can sign up! We'll be in touch with those of you who have consented to receive information from us by email, as well as making the news public online soon enough.

FUTURE COURSES

We've had a good series of courses so far this year and we're going to continue with the rest of 2018. **Jack Warren** and **Ed Robertson** are leading our annual *Somerlernejo* on **August 18/19** from Barlaston. The course is free to attend and you're guaranteed an enjoyable and educational weekend. Register at [esper-](http://esperanto.org.uk/events/somerlernejo)

esperanto.org.uk/events/somerlernejo.

On **September 22**, **Anna Lowenstein** will hold a one-day session in London for new learners whilst Tim Owen leads another session of *Postplu* next door. Both events are free to attend so sign up online!

One week later our new learners will have the opportunity to be back in the friendly surroundings of Esperanto House. **Elizabeth Stanley** and **Harry Barron** will be making their debuts, teaching *Lernu* and *Lernu Plu* on **September 29/30**. **Ed Robertson** will also be taking a session of *Lernu Plu*, this time on **November 10/11**, alongside a session of *Postplu*, being trialled for the first time over two days.

All of these courses are free; you can sign up for them at esperanto.org.uk/events/lernu and esperanto.org.uk/events/postplu.

ERIC'S GIVE-AWAY

Long-time members will remember that the original editor of *Update*, which was launched way back in 1998, was the affable Eric Walker. Well, Eric has been in touch to say that he has a manual typewriter looking for a new home. He'd rather that this not be the local tip so is keen to hear from anybody who would like to take it off his hands.

Eric warns that it's a heavy beast and so would be suitable for collection only from his home in Ipswich. If you're interested in welcoming his typewriter into your household, please drop me or Viv a line and we'll put you in touch with Eric.

Tim Owen

LET US KNOW YOU WANT TO HEAR FROM US!

Your inboxes will have been inundated in May with companies that you didn't even know you had a relationship with sending you emails asking you to confirm you still wanted to receive their communications.

The deluge was a result of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into effect. The GDPR is about ensuring that organisations which hold information on you act as responsible stewards of that data.

EAB was no exception. If we had your email address, we sent you an email explaining what GDPR is, how we use your details, and asking you to indicate that you wish to receive email from us.

We can use your personal details to administer your membership, for example, sending you *La Brita Esperantisto*, *Update* and official documentation such as the *Trustees' Annual Report*. What we can't do is use those details for other purposes, such as sending you information which we believe to be of general interest. Examples of this kind of email within the past year include informing you that

Marjorie Boulton had sadly passed away, as well as a letter from the organisers of the conference in Aberystwyth inviting you to participate.

We can no longer send you this sort of general email unless you expressly consent to receive them. To facilitate this, we've created an online form where you can express your consent (or indeed indicate expressly that you don't consent). It's not binding; you can indicate that you've changed your mind at any point simply by completing the form again or by contacting us to let us know. You can find the form at espinform.org/gdpr.



Here's a quick thought for those of you who would like to actively support Esperanto speakers in poorer parts of the world. The association Esperanto Plus comprises around 60 people who each donate 10€ per month, with the money going to out-of-work Esperantists in Africa. Around 150€ per month is sufficient per recipient and so 15 people's donations, small sums though they are to most Europeans, go to each of the four people currently supported by the project. In return, those individuals are introducing Esperanto into their local schools.

Find out more at esperantoplus.jimdo.com or on the organisation's Facebook page, facebook.com/esperantoplus.

NOTES FROM THE TRUSTEES' WORKING WEEKEND IN APRIL

Within days of the AGM electing all the candidates, the trustees were in Barlaston for their annual working weekend. I hadn't been to Barlaston in about a decade, before the decision of the local authorities to close Wedgwood Memorial College in 2012. Some of the trustees, including me, arrived on the Friday evening to ensure that they would be in place ready for the start of the meeting on Saturday morning, whilst others committed themselves to very early starts.

The day started for me with a pre-meeting meeting, as Clare Hunter gave me, as a new trustee, a very thorough induction. I was already aware of some aspects of being a trustee from other similar positions I've held and from the very helpful phone call returned to me by Tim Owen after I had enquired about becoming a trustee for EAB. But Clare went into even further detail and clearly is very knowledgeable about the subject.

We were soon joined in the Butler Library by my new colleagues and the meeting began with the customary formalities before brightening up with the arrival of Viv O'Dunne. Viv went into great detail about the complicated area of data protection because of the imminent arrival of the *General Data Protection Regulations*. She had done lots of research in advance and explained that we currently handle members' data in line with the new regulations. However, she drew our attention to potential problem areas, such as people signing up for courses, whom we might like to make aware of future sessions. We concluded that the solution would be to add an opt-in button to our online sign-up forms. Viv and Tim would handle the technical side of GDPR, as those of you whose email details we hold will have since seen.

One particular part of Viv's report was extremely easy to digest; she's now sold over 3,000 second-hand books on EAB! Congratulations, Viv! That's a lot of books which would have been gathering dust at Esperanto House which are now with new owners. And it provides some income for EAB too. You can see what's currently on offer at espinfo.org/ebay.

The trustees who had attended the *Brita kaj Tutkelta Kongreso* in Aberystwyth

were all pleased to report that they had enjoyed it very much. Congratulations to the organisers for putting together such a well-received programme!

Next year's event will be the hundredth and so the trustees agreed with Tim and Viv's proposal to hold it in Dover in 2019 with a day trip out to Calais, following in the footsteps of the first international get-together of Esperantists in 1904. Much depends on finding an appropriate venue and keeping the travel costs low, so they also proposed some back-up ideas, just in case this proposal turns out not to be feasible.

We were very grateful to Viv and Tim for making sure that both *Update* and *La Brita Esperantisto* were prepared and distributed prior to Aberystwyth but we also know that they were extremely busy with last-minute preparations for the conference. For this reason, we were happy to remind them that LBE doesn't actually have to be available before the conference.

FINANCES AND FORMALITIES

Clare presented a summary of the finances for 2016-17, as well as a breakdown of income and expenditure for the current year. Her presentation style is admirably clear and she made an excellent job of making the subject accessible — and I speak as someone who has been math phobic all of my life.

Since the AGM voted in support of the new wording for the charity's object, Clare informed us that the next step was to approach the Charity Commission to seek their permission. As you will be aware, the CC duly confirmed the new object.

We concluded that we wouldn't sponsor the International Languages Festival in Sheffield this year. Ian Carter reported that it was very sparsely attended last year and Tim agreed that he had perceived a decline in attendance in recent years too.

EDUCATION

Feedback on our course portfolio is very positive and so we are going to continue to hold weekend courses at Esperanto House. I've attended some myself now,

both taught by Ariel Bonkorpa, and can state just how interesting and educational they are, not least because of Ariel herself. We need more Ariels!

Kathryn Newbould is interested in putting together a podcast for new learners and is looking into options for hosting it online.

Tim presented the four applications received for the £200 bursaries recently offered to attend *Somera Esperanto-Studado* in Slovakia. He informed us that one of the candidates had received funding from the *Norwich Jubilee Esperanto Foundation* and we discussed the remaining three candidacies whilst he left the room. I'm pleased to be able to report that all three were of a sufficiently high standard and were accepted, and we decided to repeat the scheme next year.

We've decided to look at revamping our taster course. It really could benefit from some changes; there are references in it to *French Francs* and *Deutschmarks*, for example. A small group of the trustees is going to work on this project together; Ian Carter (the most experienced of us and a tutor on the current course), Damon Lord (who has learned and tutored in several languages and so will have ideas to bring across) and me, since I'm an educator who just happens to be working through the current course!

We spoke about the Butler Library and continuing efforts to catalog effectively. Edmund Grimley Evans is particularly keen to look at various systems for labelling, including the introduction of a shelfmarking system.

Since there will be a long gap between this meeting and the next one in October, Clare Hunter suggested that we hold another one in between, combining it with a cataloging weekend ... so that's what we're going to do in July, with most of us working over the weekend and those with other commitments joining us on Skype. If you'd also like to volunteer to come to a cataloging weekend, please let us know! (This cataloging weekend comes with homemade American chocolate chip cookies as an added inducement!)

Lajo Miller



The trustees outside Estoril on the site of Wedgwood Memorial College: Ed Robertson, Kathryn Newbould, Edmund Grimley Evans, Lajo Miller, Damon Lord, Clare Hunter, Ian Carter

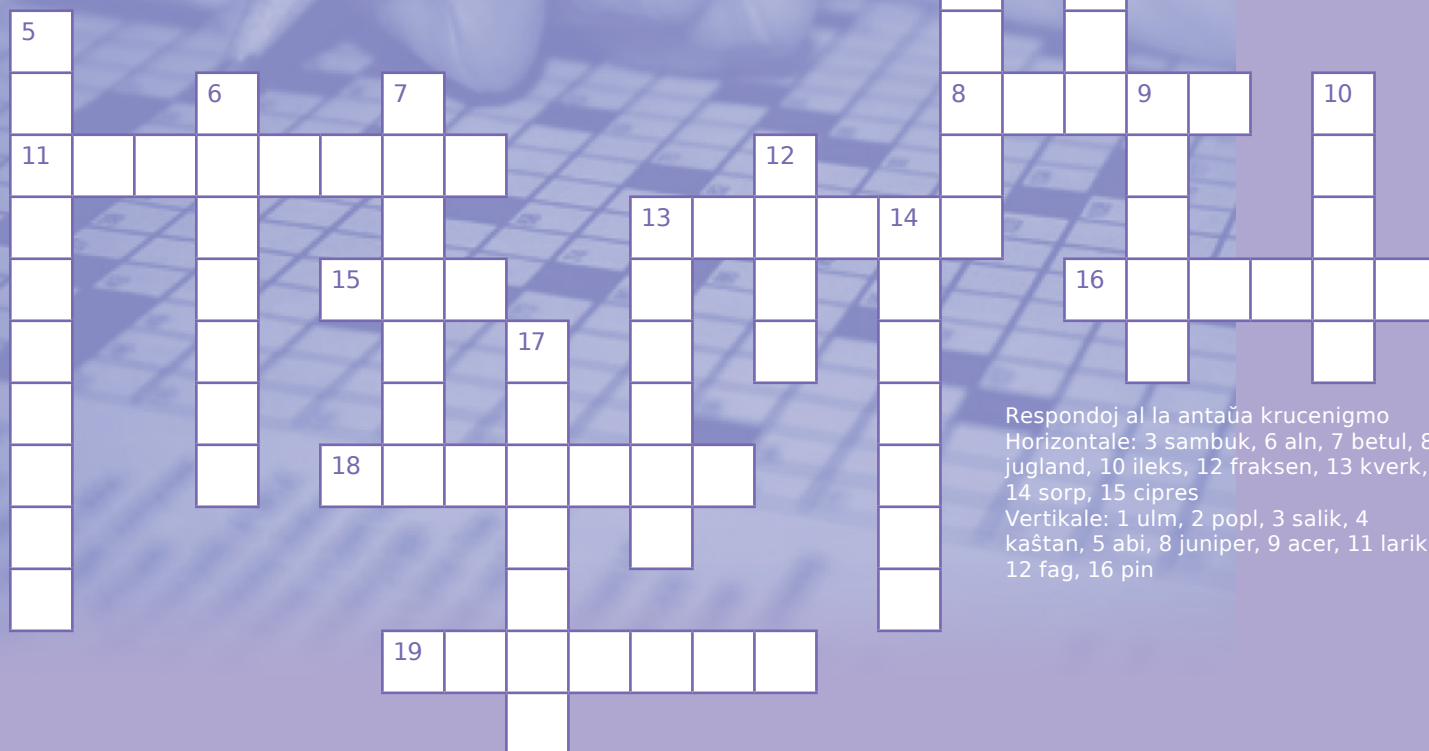
Por ĉiu eldono de Update **Jack Warren** preparas krucenigmon bazitan sur iu aparta temo. Jack celas, ke vi amuziĝu kaj eble lernu kelkajn novajn vortojn aŭ eĉ rememoru pri kelkaj iam forgesitaj. Vi povos kontroli viajn respondojn en la venonta eldono de Update.

Krucenigmo: Komputilo

Grava informo: Ĉiu vorto estas substantivo kaj konsistas nur el la radiko, sen la o-finaĵo. Do se la respondo al la helpilo estas *esperanto*, aperos en la enigmo la vortformo *esperant*.

VERTIKALE: 2 - ŝanĝo de teksto laŭ gusto, 4 - tie videblas ĉio, 5 - oni uzas ĝin inter vortoj, 6 - ĝi bezonas paperon, 7 - granda litero, 9 - por ke parto de la teksto elstaru, 10 - granda elekto, kelkaj strangaj nomoj, 13 - tion la fingroj tuŝas, 14 - indikas lokon en teksto, 17 - mi ricevis, aliulo legos

HORIZONTALE: 1 - por ke io malaperu, 3 - paĝo(j) pri la sama temo, 8 - tiel eblas uzi ion estontece, 11 - aldonita al retmesaĝo, 12 - perfingra frapo, 13 - vertikala sur la paĝo, 15 - tamen ne besto, 16 - skribado per maŝino, 18 - kopiado el la interreto, 19 - malgranda litero



Respondoj al la antaŭa krucenigmo
Horizontale: 3 sambuk, 6 aln, 7 betul, 8 jugland, 10 ileks, 12 fraksen, 13 kverk, 14 sorp, 15 cipres
Vertikale: 1 ulm, 2 popl, 3 salik, 4 kaŝtan, 5 abi, 8 juniper, 9 acer, 11 larik, 12 fag, 16 pin

TECH FIRM WILL PAY YOU IF YOU'RE GOOD AT ESPERANTO!

In an encouraging example of the business world treating Esperanto as a serious language, a world-renowned firm in the area of machine intelligence is looking to add Esperanto to its repertoire. And to do that, it needs Esperanto speakers ... and it's willing to pay them for the trouble!

Global Services for Machine Intelligence (GSMI) at Lionbridge is looking for people who speak Esperanto to C1 level or above to participate in a short, paid task, which will assist in the development of speech recognition technology for Esperanto. You don't have to be a native English speaker to work with them, although the instructions for the tasks are in English as is communication with the firm, so a reasonable level of English is necessary.

The task does not require any specific

or previous industry experience besides an appropriately high level of Esperanto. The firm isn't looking for formal certification, so don't worry if you're one of the majority of Esperanto speakers who don't have a qualification attesting to your competence.

The exercises aren't particularly challenging if your Esperanto is good enough. You will see sentences or part of sentences in Esperanto and all you have to do is record your voice while you read them aloud.

There's no travel involved; you can participate from anywhere in the world if you have a good enough internet connection.

Please note that the firm can only work with recordings which are made on either an Android phone or Android tablet, or on any computer with the Chrome browser. Unfortunately, the company can't work with recordings made on an iOS device, so if

you use a Mac or an iPhone, I'm afraid you won't be eligible.

The task should take roughly one hour to carry out, for which the company will reimburse you 40 USD upon completion. They can make payment via Paypal or a direct bank transfer via XendPay; you indicate your preference when you sign up.

You can find the form to register your details at espinform.org/lionbridge. Please note that although the form asks you to confirm that you're a native speaker, Lionbridge has confirmed that in the special case of Esperanto, people should feel free to tick even when they're not. 360 candidates are required for this project to succeed.

Once the registration form has been completed and you have qualified to participate, Lionbridge's production team will contact you with additional details and instructions.