

COMPLETE ESPERANTO, COMPLETE BARGAIN

Teach Yourself Esperanto. For decades, that's been the response of many people to the question 'How did you learn Esperanto?'

The authors' names trip off the tongue, even if nobody is aware of anything else that Cresswell and Hartley might've done in Esperanto.

Over sixty years after the publication of the revered *Teach Yourself Esperanto*, its successor for the modern day, *Complete Esperanto*, has appeared on bookshelves on the High Street. The book is huge, as John Parkinson is happy to demonstrate.



We're delighted that a mainstream publisher is willing to put its name and considerable reputation behind the language and put

Esperanto into bookshops.

To celebrate the launch, EAB is offering it at a very special price of £20 for a limited time. That's half the recommended retail price!

We've already sold over 100 copies since getting it in stock a little over a week ago, so place your order quickly whilst stocks last! You can order from our website at complete.esperanto.org.uk. ■



COMPLETE ESPERANTO
BEGINNER TO INTERMEDIATE COURSE

Read, write, speak Esperanto
Connect with Esperanto culture
Use over 2000 words confidently
Learn to learn Esperanto

special launch price!
rrp £40

complete.esperanto.org.uk

DISCOVERY
Learn faster, remember more

Tim Owen & Judith Meyer

Esperanto Association of Britain

LERNU.NET IN BOOK FORM

Congratulations to Anna Lowenstein, whose new textbook has recently reached Esperanto House!

Several years ago, the then most popular online site for learning Esperanto, lernu.net, underwent a wholesale revamp. In place of its several courses, the team chose to offer one key one. It was to Anna Lowenstein that they turned.



The result was **La teorio Nakamura**, a 26-lesson course in Esperanto, a science-fiction adventure taking learners from A1 to B1 and granting a solid foundation in the language.

The course was notable for its high-quality illustrations but, sadly, existed only as an online course. Not any more! Splashed across 96 beautifully coloured pages, the new book *La teorio Nakamura* is available to buy from EAB.

For a short while we'll be offering it for £10, so get yours quick before the price rises to its usual £11.50! ■



The October issue of *Update* is usually the one in which I present details of the next annual conference. The July issue usually comes out too soon after the previous one for the following to have taken shape, whereas by October the venue is booked and guest speaker confirmed.

That's only partially true for this October, I'm afraid. The venue is certainly confirmed and has been booked for several months. It's called *The Ark*, a conference centre in Dover, and the event will run from April 12 to 16.

The programme will kick off on the Friday, followed by a long programme on the Saturday, when we've booked the venue from 09:00 to 21:00.

Sunday will be a day for excursions in the form of a trip across the Channel to re-enact the first ever international Esperantists get-together from 1904, when Esperantists from Dover and Calais got together. We'll be back in the venue for another day on the Monday (09:00 to 17:00), followed by an optional group meal in the evening and a day of local excursions on the Tuesday.

So, why can't I report on preparations? I've had enough practice since 2012, haven't I? What's different this time?

What's different is that I spoke with our colleagues across the Channel to see whether there was scope for us to do something together to help make this jubilee conference something special. The approach went well, such that the idea was floated not only to have a French presence in Dover at our national event but to hold *Esperanto-France's* own annual conference there at the same time!

A decision like that couldn't be answered by individuals but had to be put to the entire committee of Esperanto-France, which was set to meet in mid-October. They've since had that meeting and have given a 'konkreta jeso' to the proposal, so it's now official: **The Esperanto Association of Britain and Esperanto-France will hold a joint Esperanto conference in Dover in April 2019!**

Clearly, that's great news, something to really look forward to. But it also means that we're not in the usual position of being able to tell you who the guest speakers are and so forth in the October *Update*. That problem will soon resolve itself now that everything is official and I can set to work on budgets, web arrangements and so on with our colleagues. We'll provide news online as things take shape in the coming weeks.

NEW WEBSITE

After countless hours of development over the last few years, I launched a new online home for EAB in October.

The new site allows users to create accounts, write articles, join social groups, ask questions, provide answers to others, make purchases at the touch of a button, add themselves to a member map, and much more. Everything is equipped to be perfectly accessible to mobile users, a feature of prime importance nowadays, since most online activity is conducted via small-screen devices

Lots of other features are nearing

completion and will be enabled as time progresses. As things stabilise I'll be adding translations to some of the pages on the site which have been written so far only in English.

We only have a small selection of our bookshop on the new site but will be adding more stock as time allows. You can still consult the old catalogue and make purchases at legacy.esperanto.org.uk.

We all owe profuse thanks to one of those people who do essential work away from the limelight, in this case, to **Vilĉjo Walker**. He took over an abandoned EAB site in early 2005 for what he considered to be a stop-gap until 'something better from someone more capable came along'. That was over 13 years ago.



People like Vilĉjo are essential and we're lucky to have him. Although he's undoubtedly earned a retirement, it won't be a long one; he's kindly agreed to help me and

Viv on the administration team of the current site and will be joining us very soon after a symbolic short break.

POETRY READING IN LONDON

I met with **Clive Boutle**, who commissioned and published the anthology of Esperanto literature *Star in a Night Sky*, edited by **Paul Gubbins**.

One thing led to another, as they say, and before we knew it we'd booked a poetry reading in London in honour of Paul! Spanish poet **Jorge Camacho** has graciously accepted our request to come over and read extracts from *Star in a Night Sky* at a poetry café in London on November 22.

The location is *Bookmarks Bookshop*, 1 Bloomsbury Street, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 3QE. We'll be aiming to start at 19:30.

On the following night, Jorge will be giving a poetry workshop at the *London Esperanto Club*, so if you're able to make the event, don't miss the opportunity to learn from a master of the artform.

COURSES

We've had a busy time recently with courses. A session of *Postplu* in London went very well, six hours of Esperanto with no English whatsoever. So strange to take a step back and think that most of these people speaking the language so well had only started to learn it within the previous couple of years.

Elizabeth Stanley and **Harry Barron** made their Barlaston debuts, teaching a session of *Lernu* and *Lernu Plu* in late September. Feedback from their students has been excellent, as I had every confidence it would be; several of Elizabeth's class immediately signed up for **Ed Robertson's** session of *Lernu Plu*, which will be held on November 10/11, alongside a sold-out *Postplu*, being held

for the first time at Esperanto House.

We have courses planned for early 2019 too. **Ariel Bonkorpa** (*Lernu*) and **Tim Morley** (*Lernu Plu*) will both be delighted to welcome friends new and old to their session at Barlaston on February 9/10. And making their debuts at a session on March 30/31 will be **Maurizio Giacometto** (*Lernu*) and **Chris Lewis** (*Lernu Plu*)! Both of these fine fellows are graduates of EAB's education provision, having participated in several of our classroom courses and undertaken a range of our distance-learning courses. From where I'm sitting it's great to see the plants we seeded three years ago when these weekend sessions were launched now bearing fruit and I'm looking forward to seeing other new people come on board in different capacities to help shape and steer the charity.

I will also set up a couple of sessions of *Postplu* at the start of the year and will make the dates available online once they and the location are determined.

EAB doesn't just have members in the UK. Some Brits have the luck to live in exotic locations abroad, including **Raymond Smith**, who emigrated to Canada and in the cold of Winnipeg started learning Esperanto via Duolingo. It's been a particular pleasure to watch Ray pass on to other new learners in the Facebook support group for Duolingo learners advice and explanations which he's seen experienced people give in the past. We taught the man to fish and he's now teaching others to do it; it's a great feeling.

I'm not the only person who's noticed Ray's contributions, such that he's been approached by UEA for a role in a future online project being set up. I don't think it would be good form for me to break the news before UEA itself does, so I won't go into details beyond saying that I think Ray will do a very good job in the role. Congratulations, Ray, and also to **John Parkinson** and **Simone Davis**, who I've just found out have been invited, at Ray's suggestion to UEA, to join him, an Australian and a Japanese Esperantist as part of the team.

I was sorry to hear of the recent passing of EAB's librarian **Geoffrey King** and **Ian Mac Dowall**. Both were very pleasant men to be around and often helpful to others during their several decades around Esperanto.

They were both in ill health at the end of their lives so I hope it offers some degree of comfort to think that they're both free of it now. ■

Tim Owen

NOTES FROM THE TRUSTEES' MEETING IN JULY

At the trustee working weekend in April this year, we decided that it would be too long to go until October (traditionally when the next trustee meeting is held) without catching up with each other again. While a lot of trustee work can be done remotely and we're in regular contact via email, it is still very useful to meet in person from time to time and catch up on the progress of ongoing projects.

We therefore decided to schedule a short meeting at the end of July and combine it with a cataloguing visit to Barlaston. Damon, Lajo and Clare were joined at Esperanto House on Saturday morning by volunteers Sammy Kennedy and Ali Mecham, plus Tim Owen, for a weekend of hard work and long hours in the library. I'm pleased to report that the end result was an additional 1,200 books added to the new library catalogue. Thank you to all those who participated!

The trustees broke away from the cataloguing group on Sunday morning to hold their meeting and were joined by Ian, as well as by Edmund and Kat via Skype. Ed was unable to attend, as the best overall weekend for getting the trustees together happened to clash with the *Universala Kongreso* in Lisbon.

EDUCATION

As befits an educational charity, we started the meeting by discussing education, noting that another successful session of the Esperanto CEFR exams had taken place in London since we last met. We noted our thanks to Renato Corsetti and

others involved in making this happen.

We agreed that we would put money aside in next year's budget to sponsor another session of the exams, and also to continue the new bursary scheme for the immersion course *Somera Esperanto-Studado*, which we trialled this year. Hopefully by now you have all had chance to read some of the very positive reports from Anna Langley and John Parkinson, who attended SES this year having successfully applied for bursaries, in the latest issue of *La Brita Esperantisto*.

We agreed to host the sound files for the *Jen Nia Mondo* course on the charity's new website, making them freely downloadable to the public, and also received an update on the progress of the subgroup who are currently working on revamping the charity's taster course.

BUT NOT JUST EDUCATION

Of course, not everything is as exciting as these educational projects and part of being a responsible trustee is dealing with less exciting topics, such as the maintenance of Esperanto House. We spent some time discussing potential tasks for the handyman's next visit, as well as updating on the current status of our finances. We also reviewed and approved wording about cookies, guidelines and terms and conditions for the new EAB website.

Rather more exciting was the update on plans for our 2019 conference in Dover. We also had a useful discussion about publicity, considering which of the events and initiatives which we'd been involved in over the past few years had been most

successful, and where we could best direct the publicity budget for the next financial year. We agreed to revisit this and make decisions in our October meeting, so watch this space.

LIBRARY

With several of us having spent all the previous day cataloguing, we also spent a fair bit of time discussing the library. Edmund shared some of his thoughts on shelfmarking with us, and agreed to draw up a proposal for an EAB shelfmarking system. We noted that Tim had been invited to attend a meeting about creating an international catalogue for Esperanto libraries during the UK in Lisbon, and looked forward to hearing more about that next time we met.

Finally, we spoke about the charity's periodicals and were happy to welcome Maurizio Giacometto on board as the new editor of *Update*, freeing Tim from the 'stop-gap' role he's occupied for the last five years. We agreed some guidelines for the format of the newsletter, getting clear in our heads what we want the distinction to be between *Update* and *La Brita Esperantisto* in terms of content and focus.

All that then remained was to confirm the date for our next meeting, which was agreed as Saturday 20 October. Some of the trustees will attend in person, with others joining via Skype. Who knows, we may even find time to do a bit more cataloguing! ■

Clare Hunter

UEA membership: MG is M-Gone

For people in the UK, membership of the *Universala Esperanto-Asocio* is about to get more expensive. Does that mean you're going to be priced out of membership? If so, does this become the end of the road for your relationship with UEA? It doesn't necessarily have to be.

Several years ago, UEA introduced a new low-cost membership category, MG, which stood for *membro kun gvidlibro*. This was a great step; it included an electronic version of *Esperanto* rather than the paper copy which had until then been part of the package. Since it didn't incur the printing and postage costs of 11 issues per year which soaked up such a large proportion of the other membership categories, it could be made available at a much lower price, attracting new people.

At only £10 per year, it drew me into becoming a member.

I had wanted to support UEA in a small way. Since I had no interest in reading the magazine (and still have done little more than occasionally glance at it) and am unlikely to benefit from the discounted price for members at the *Universala Kongreso*, the previous membership fees seemed too high when the sole reason for joining seemed to be solidarity.

The result is that the cheapest membership fee for people from very poor countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Benin has very justifiably dropped from 5€ to 2€. Conversely, people in the more developed world are going to be asked to pay more.

On top of this, the category MG which attracted me and others like me will be eliminated in 2019. Instead of £10, we will have to upgrade to a £40 membership. People who want a paper copy of

Esperanto will jump from £58 to £67.

So, what to do if, like me, you don't actually read the magazine and see your membership fee as a small contribution? £40 is no longer small, is it?

I spoke with my equivalent in UEA, its *Ĝenerala Direktoro* Martin Schaeffer, and we concluded that the answer is actually quite simple: donate £10 and don't worry about membership status. So if you're feeling priced out, why not consider a donation next year? ■



Indeed, UEA's very likeable president, Mark Fettes, gives exactly that as a reason to become a member: '*Per membriĝo en UEA oni konkrete esprimas sian solidarecon kun la monda esperantistaro kaj sian kredon je la estonteco de Esperanto.*'

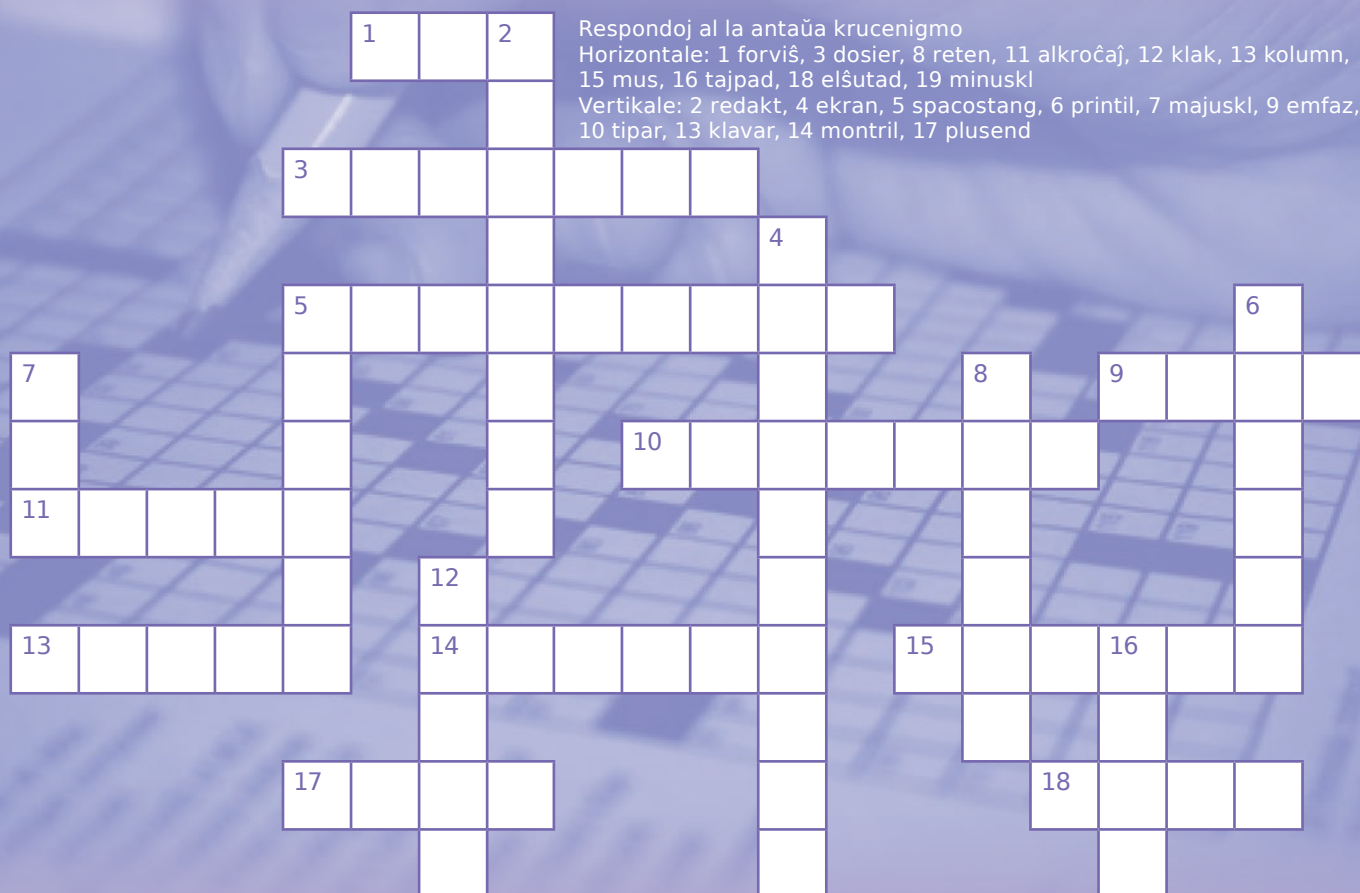
Unfortunately, UEA is in a difficult financial situation currently and its committee has had to make some tough decisions, being mindful that it needs to increase income but also that the membership fees weren't necessarily fair.



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: Veturiloj

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*.



Respondoj al la antaŭa krucenigmo

Horizontale: 1 forviŝ, 3 dossier, 8 reten, 11 alkroĉaĵ, 12 klak, 13 kolumn, 15 mus, 16 tajpad, 18 elŝutad, 19 minuskl

Vertikale: 2 redakt, 4 ekran, 5 spacostang, 6 printil, 7 majuskl, 9 emfaz, 10 tipar, 13 klavar, 14 montril, 17 plusend

VERTIKALE: 2 en Londono kaj Novkastelo, 4 ofte revenas al urĝejo, 5 granda, por varoj, 6 por turistoj en Venecio, 7 persona transporto, 8 du radoj, du pedaloj, 12 en 1817 sendiĝis la poŝto tiel, 16 surstrata kaj surrela

HORIZONTALA: 1 atenda ĉe haltejo, 3 sur lago en urba parko, 5 du radoj, unu ĉevalo, 9 por eskapi el insulo, 10 el la flughaveno, 11 luebla, kun ŝoforo, 13 oni vojaĝis en korbego, 14 ekz. zepelino, 15 oni antaŭeniras per unu piedo, 17 por vojaĝi sur neĝo, 18 boato el Ameriko

ĜIS LA REVIDO!

After five years as the acting editor of *Update*, I'm delighted to say that this issue will be my final one!

It's great news for me, since this isn't a role I've ever coveted or enjoyed, and even better news for you. Why? Because *Update* isn't going anywhere except into a new pair of hands! New hands, new ideas, new energy. What's not to like?

Our work over the last few years of investing in new learners and hoping that some of them, liking what they see and wanting to support EAB, will want to give something back is paying off in the form of **Maurizio Giacometto**, who will be taking the reins starting with the January issue.

Good luck, Rico! I hope you enjoy your new role and that your readers enjoy the fruit of your labours! ■



Hi!

New editor
Maurizio
Giacometto

Bye!

Departing
editor Tim
Owen



 **Esperanto**
Association of Britain

Update is published four times a year and complements the Esperanto-only magazine *La Brita Esperantisto*.

Esperanto House
Station Road
Barlston, Staffs
ST12 9DE

+44 (0)1782 372141
0845 230 1887

esperanto.org.uk

eab@esperanto.org.uk

 @esperanto_uk

 [esperanto.uk](https://www.facebook.com/esperanto.uk)