

UK IN THE UK: BELFAST 2021

After a break of 32 years, the *Universala Kongreso* will be hosted on these shores! The largest event in the Esperanto calendar will be held in Belfast in 2021, making its first appearance on the island of Ireland.

This is breaking news and there are still two years and two other *Universalaj Kongresoj* to come beforehand, so there is currently nothing to report besides the good news, date and location.

The venue is Queen's University,

shown below, a prestigious institution located in the centre of Queen's Quarter and close to the Botanic Gardens and River Lagan. The event is planned to run from July 17 to 24, 2021.

This *UK* is particularly novel because it didn't require a proposal from a group of organisers, which is the usual way of going about things. Instead, it was the local authorities in Belfast who contacted UEA directly and made them a very attractive offer to bring the *Universala Kongreso* to Northern Ireland. The trustees of

EAB were aware in April that UEA were strongly considering accepting the offer and relayed that EAB would, quite naturally, do what it could to help with the organising. The most obvious thing is not to run our own mini-competitor and so in 2021 there won't be a *Brita Kongreso*.

We're looking forward to working with UEA, the local Esperantists and our neighbours in the Republic of Ireland to help ensure that the Emerald Isle's first ever *Universala Kongreso* is a resounding success!



BRITA KONGRESO IN THE HEART OF ENGLAND

We can't rest on our laurels. After the success of our jubilee conference in Dover, it's time to start planning the first of the next hundred!

We'd be delighted to see you next year in the largest city in the East Midlands, Leicester. We'll be running the event itself from 17 to 19 April, with an added excursion day on the Monday.

You'll know of some of the city's favourite sons even if you weren't aware that they're Leicestersians; Gary Lineker and national treasure Sir David Attenborough are perhaps the two most famous today. The city has given us a couple of our best-known Esperantists too; Bill Chapman and I are both *Chisits*, a nickname taken from the local pronunciation of 'How much is it?'

Leicester has had its fair share of recent sporting accomplishments.

The *Tigers* have won rugby's Premiership 8 times in the last 20 years, whilst the *Foxes* briefly become the world's favourite football club when they won the Premier League in 2016.



Most notable about Leicester, though, is its cultural mix: over one quarter of the city's population is from an Indian background. Some

parts of the city, particularly an area called the *Golden Mile*, are full of shops selling South Asian food, clothing and jewellery, and Diwali is celebrated as a huge community event.

The ticket price will be £50, which gets you a buffet on the Friday evening and refillable refreshments and biscuits over the weekend. There's an optional lunch and we're looking at offering an optional dinner on the Saturday evening too, as well as the traditional group meal on the Sunday evening.

We'll be updating britakongreso.org shortly. Keep those dates free in your diary so that you can join us in this centre of multiculturalism as we bring along our own unique flavour of it!

Huŝ tamanĉe lisĉĉaramam ĵo'um ĉurĉ ('See you in Leicester!')

Tim Owen

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UPDATE

The official newsletter of the **Esperanto Association of Britain**

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I thought the conference in Dover was a great success. A joyful 100th EAB conference as well as a true *Kunkongreso* with our friends from Esperanto France and from other countries, too. It felt really good to see so many *amikoj* from overseas. It was also great to be able to reenact the very first international Esperanto gathering of 1904 with all of them. The programme of speakers and events was truly 1st class and for all the above the organisers, Tim Owen and Viv O'Dunne, deserve our thanks and congratulations.

If only I had been able to attend the whole event, rather than just the last two days. Oh well, we'll have to remedy next year and in 2021. More about it on page 1...

Online reading group

Are you interested in joining an online reading group? The trustees thought it would be a nice idea to encourage people to read original Esperanto literature by buying in some books with a view to selling them at a very accessible price. The books were written by authors including Trevor Steele, Istvan Nemere, Claude Piron, Manuel de Seabra, Abel Montagut and Serĝo Elgo. We'll be selling them for £5 each, a sharp discount when you realise that some of them are on sale for over 20€ from UEA.

We'll put them online for sale shortly but first we'd like to hear from anybody who

might be interested in reading through the books in a group. If you think you might be interested, please drop Tim Owen (tim.owen@esperanto.org.uk) a line.

Upcoming Courses

We've already had a good series of courses this year, both in Barlaston and in London, and these will continue with four dates already planned for courses at all levels.

Lernu / Lernu Plu

Ariel Bonkorpa (Lernu) and **Tim Morley** (Lernu Plu) will be at EAB's headquarters in Barlaston leading the usual combined **Lernu / Lernu Plu** session on August 10-11. Both are experienced Esperanto speakers with lots of teaching experience, too: you'll be in good hands and learn lots! Book your free course here esperanto.org.uk/events/lernu/

More sessions of Lernu and Plu are planned for **early October** in Barlaston, so watch this space.

PostPlu

Lernu and LernuPlu are weekend events. The week before Lernu and Lernu Plu, on the Saturday, the latest PostPlu event for more experienced speakers will occur. Read more about the event at esperanto.org.uk/events/postplu/

Somerlernejo

EAB's annual summer weekend course, Somerlernejo, has now been organised for more than 50 years and is happening again in August. This year the course will run from 10.00am on Saturday **August 17th** to 1pm on Sunday **August 18th**. The course in Barlaston is free to attend and you're guaranteed another enjoyable and educational week end with **Jack Warren** and **Ed Robertson**. Head on to esperanto.org.uk/events/somerlernejo/ to book your place.

Courses in London

If you live in or near London or can get easily to it, do not forget that the nord-Londona Esperanto Grupo organise **regular weekly courses**. These are proving more and more successful and well worth considering if you are looking for a more frequent course than the week end residential of Lernu and Lernu Plu. **Anthony Bodineau** leads the beginners course on Thursday evening and **Anna Lowenstein** and **Renato Corsetti** take the intermediate and more advanced learners on Tuesday evening.

For more information, visit esperanto.org.uk/events/esperanto-london/ or the group's website at northlondonesperanto.com/



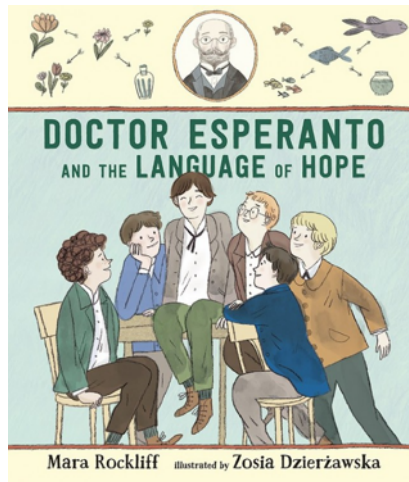
Rico

The Gift of Hope

A charming new book by author Mara Rockliff, beautifully illustrated by Zosia Dzierzawska, has recently been published. It tells the story of Zamenhof and the creation of the International Language with warmth and energy. The book is in English and so it can be a great gift for friends and family of all ages to introduce them to Esperanto. I know that I have already shown it to many family members, from 8 year olds to 88 year olds!

EAB are introducing the spectacularly good **Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope** to the shop for only £10.

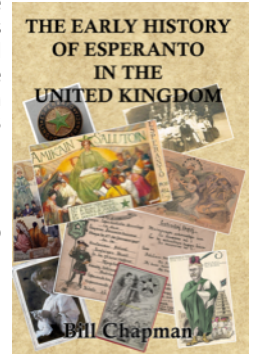
What are you waiting for, order yours now!



New Book

Our friend Bill Chapman will shortly be adding his name to the list of published Esperanto historians. His book **The Early History of Esperanto in the United Kingdom**, the result of decades of curiosity and research, will be available on Amazon, from EAB and from Bill himself shortly.

The RRP is £8.95. Look for EAB to launch it at a special price.



Trustee Elections 2019-2020

Elections for trusteeship were held at the AGM in April. All seven candidates were elected. The results for the period 2019 - 2020 were:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ian Carter (Re-elected as president)	43	5	3
Edmund Grimley Evans	48	0	3
Clare Hunter	50	1	0
Damon Lord	44	3	4
Lajo Miller	42	3	6
Ed Robertson	48	3	0
Richard Smith	45	1	5

NOTES FROM THE TRUSTEE MEETING IN APRIL

Following their election at the AGM in Dover, the seven trustees convened at Esperanto House two weeks later for their annual working weekend. As is traditional, the first post-election meeting started with them all signing declarations that they would work in the best interests of the charity. Richard Smith, newly elected in Dover, received an induction prior to the start of the meeting.

The trustees were joined at the beginning by Viv O'Dunne, who had circulated a report beforehand. She detailed some maintenance work which had been carried out on site and informed the trustees that she would shortly be taking receipt of the book collection of a recently deceased member. Book sales at Dover amounted to £571, but would have breached £600 had four books which disappeared actually been paid for. I'd like to think it was an oversight, perhaps the result of somebody not understanding that the invitation to provide a new home to the second-hand books on one table didn't apply to the new books on the others.

I had looked into the feasibility of using compostable packaging for Update and La Brita Esperantisto, following a suggestion at the AGM by Bill Walker. My research indicated that this wouldn't be possible for us and that the norm now is to outsource the packaging to firms which use a special machine. The company I spoke to suggested that it would be prohibitively expensive for us with our relatively small print runs and recommended that we use paper instead, which was very honest of them. Of course, paper is both recyclable and biodegradable, so that's the direction we're going to be moving in.

Conference

Phew, everything in Dover went off without a hitch, bar the odd technical difficulty. (On the Monday, we came in to find that new stickers had been applied to switches on the mixing desk. Clearly, they had been wrongly labelled before, hence the problems we'd had!) I had been lucky to get a public thank-you from the trustees as the conference was coming to a close but Viv, the event's co-organiser, had had to leave by then so missed out. Fortunately, Ian Carter produced a lovely card and bunch of flowers to thank her for her hard work in making the event a success. In the end we reached 100 participants.

Prior to the meeting, we'd discussed in email the problem of people participating in the conference without paying the entrance fee. Viv had intercepted somebody on site who is known to be a regular culprit and successfully obtained the money. Another person was intercepted but declined to pay and chose to leave. Following the event, we chased up with other people who we knew were present, one for an evening, one for the whole weekend, without paying. We weren't sure what the solution to this problem could be, unfortunately.

Another recurring problem is people helping themselves to the optional meals on site when they haven't paid for them. I don't think there was too much of that this time but we'll continue to make very clear on the conference site that lunches must be paid for in advance and to monitor as best we can in the interests of fairness.

We briefly discussed whether to introduce a day rate for future conferences before quickly concluding that it wouldn't be in the charity's financial interest to do so. One thing we may do, though, is elevate the price as the date of the event approaches, since one difficult aspect of planning Dover was the number of people who left it to the final week before booking, by which time we've had to place final orders with the venue for lunches, print the name badges and so on.

As for 2020 ... prior to Dover, I had a venue lined up, a beautiful building on the grounds of a cathedral within ten minutes' walk of a railway station. And then their site disappeared, whilst the venue had a revamp. With the new paintwork came some new prices, more or less double what they were asking before, putting them out of our league. (A single cup of tea is priced at £2.50!) As I'm writing this report, I've located another venue and provisionally agreed dates, times and likely costs, but I'm awaiting confirmation in writing and then trustee approval. Whatever happens, you'll read about it on page one!

AGM & Finance

Lajo Miller opened this part of the session by expressing her admiration of Clare Hunter's performance in the AGM, which was a lovely thing to hear and which was shared by everybody else.

The trustees very quickly confirmed what they had said during the AGM about the purpose of co-option, namely that it exists as a mechanism to solve the risk of falling below the minimum number of trustees required, to resolve a pressing need for special skills, or to fill a sudden vacancy.

The trustees considered a suggestion from the AGM that time could be saved by collecting ballots from people as they entered the room, instead choosing to stick with the established norm, as another person in the AGM proposed, on the basis that people's votes would be better informed once they'd seen the people they're voting for in action.

Clare Hunter presented the income and expenditure for the last year and circulated an investment policy for review. Since Richard Smith hadn't seen it, having joined after the paper was originally circulated, the trustees decided to hold off on accepting it until a later meeting. Clare analysed the charity's investments' performance and led a discussion on where to invest a legacy which we've been informed will be arriving shortly. She shared her research and the trustees agreed to invest it in a fund which has

been returning 5.1% over the past year.

Education & Publicity

The trustees considered the eight candidacies for the bursary to Somera Esperanto-Studado, accepting six of them. (One of the applicants said that she hadn't yet learned any Esperanto and didn't respond to an email asking her to confirm that she would; the other didn't have a UK bank account and hadn't given a contact email or very helpful answers.) Since one of the candidates is under 25, she won't be receiving a bursary from EAB but instead will receive a larger grant from NoJEF. I'm looking forward to reading some excellent reports, following on from the two very positive ones last year by Anna Langley and John Parkinson!

I was able to confirm to the trustees that six people had signed up for the CEFR exams in London under an EAB scheme to refund up to £50 of the fee to successful applicants. That number was quickly upgraded to seven when Ed Robertson revealed that he too would participate!

Ed informed the group that there had been a double-page spread in The National in the recent past. I was happy to report that I had got an article about Dover into The New European, as well as an advertisement in the pre-Dover issue, inviting 'mondcivilitanoj' to try Esperanto.

Library & Publishing

Edmund Grimley Evans led a discussion on archiving, based on material he'd distributed prior to the meeting. I've since been working in the archives (you wouldn't believe the dust!) and drawing up a list to confirm that what's within a box broadly conforms to what the label on the front says. Edmund then led discussion on a shelfmarking proposal, which he has since reformulated by experimenting with cataloguing his own books. Clare invited trustees to participate in a cataloguing weekend following the next meeting, and we appear to have sourced a volunteer who will come to Barlaston periodically to help. I confirmed that we would soon be taking receipt of bespoke cataloguing software and that I would aim to have it installed in good time for trialling.

I asked the trustees to consider complementing the audio files of Jen Nia Mondo which we host online for free download with PDFs. There was general agreement so I'll be taking care of that over the summer.

We updated ourselves on various publishing projects and ideas. I tend to think the best approach to take is to announce things like this once they're done and on the market, so you'll have to hold off for a little bit for the details!

Finally, there's some news to report regarding positions: Lajo Miller volunteered to fill the role of secretary, and Renato Corsetti has replaced Edmund Grimley Evans as our representative on UEA's committee.

Tim Owen

Por ĉiu eldono de Update **JACK WARREN** preparas por vi 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: Surplaĝe

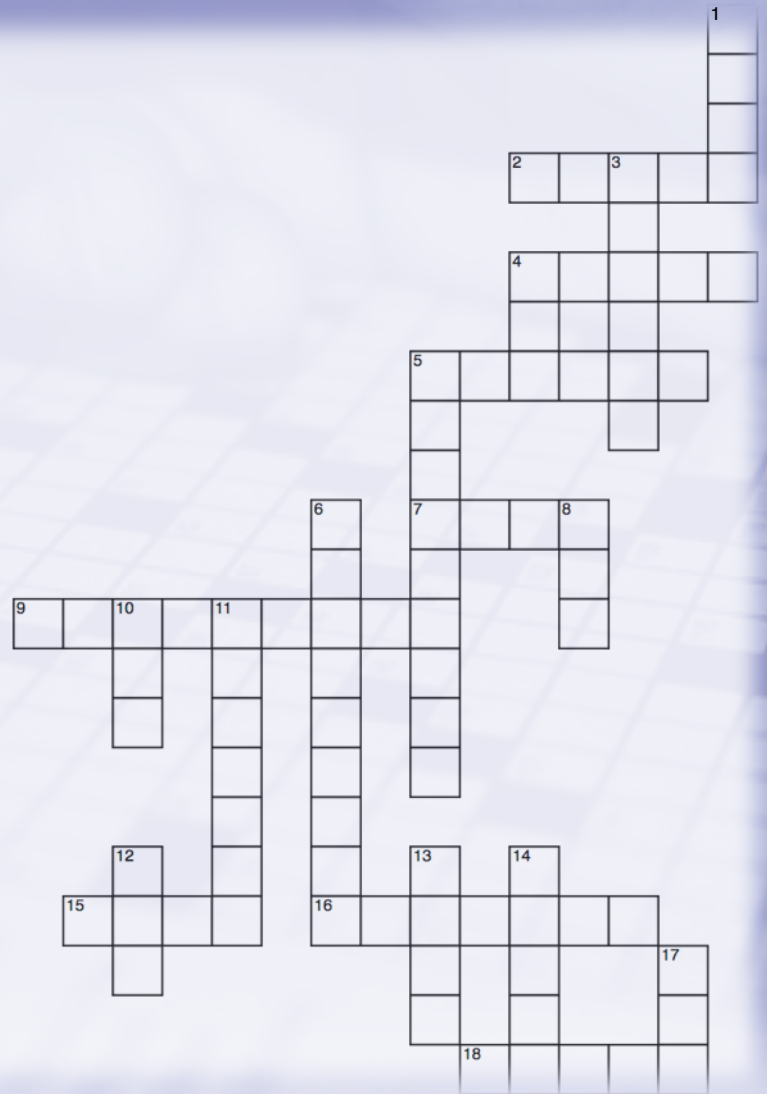
Informo: Ĉiu vorto estas substantivo kaj konsistas nur el la radiko, sen la o-finaĵo. Do, se la respondo al la helpilo estas 'Esperanto', aperos en la enigmo la vortformo 'Esperant'.

Respondoj al la antaŭa krucenigmo (Dorlotbestoj):

Horizontale: **3.** Hamstr, **5.** Mus, **6.** Orfiŝ, **7.** Gerbil, **8.** Kolomb, **9.** Melopsitak, **12.** Testud, **14.** Hund, **17.** Kaĝ, **18.** Papag, **19.** Kanari, **20.** Idar
Vertikale: **1.** Striglad, **2.** Biskvit, **4.** Kobaj, **10.** Pajlaĵ, **11.** Kunikl, **13.** Segaj, **15.** Kat, **16.** Vakcin

HORIZONTALA: **2.** Virina naĝvesto **4.** Ankaŭ ĝardena ilo **5.** Manĝebla marborda molusko **7.** Ŝirmas la haŭton **9.** Oni sidas sub ĝi **15.** Surplaĝa sedimento **16.** Ekz. vanila aŭ fraga (G) **18.** Sono de akvo

VERTIKALE: **1.** Infano rajdas sur ĝi **3.** Portempa fortikaĵo **4.** Enmara planto **5.** Vira naĝvesto **6.** Fotelo por la plaĝo (ĝ) **8.** Vasta, profunda, sala **10.** Ludas surplaĝe kun via filo? **11.** Kvinmembra besteto **12.** Akvosporto **13.** Perioda movo de marakvo **14.** Por porti akvon **17.** Arkoforma akvo



Cabaret with Esperanto

How often can you see a one-woman comedy cabaret featuring Esperanto? Thanks to Margot Przymierska, you can! **Wesele/ Wedding** is an immersive cabaret about the last Polish-English wedding before the borders close, told by a real life Polish wedding emcee from Białystok, the birthplace of our **Ludoviko Zamenhof**... who features in the show.

This *collage* of integration stories, raunchy wedding rituals and disco sing-alongs, peppered with Polish and Esperanto, dismantles (or perpetuates?) the East European stereotypes and asks whether popular culture can bring people together. Supported by the Arts Council England, Polish Cultural Institute and UCL Festival



of Culture, the show has been on in London and Boston already but you can still catch two dates at the Bedford Fringe on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th July.

Don't forget...

Easyfundraising is an incredibly easy way to raise money and help EAB whilst shopping online. Simply visit easyfundraising.org.uk to get all the details.

All you need to do is choose a cause or charity (EAB) and then, when you visit an associated website, a portion of what you spend with them is donated. It could not be easier. Big names like Sainsbury's, John Lewis, ebay, Amazon, M&S, Booking.com, Argos and Aviva are part of this scheme which has over 3,600 retailers in total, so it's well worth using.



Gift Aid. The government-operated scheme allows UK charities to claim back the basic rate tax already paid by the donor, so for every £1 donated, EAB can claim back 25p, boosting the value of your subscription or donation by 25%. If you would like help EAB this way but are not sure whether you have signed up for Gift Aid with us (registrations are valid for ten years), simply visit espinfo.org/giftaid and fill in a new declaration or contact Viv in the office.

giftaid it

And finally...

"Vere majstri en lingvoj eblas nur per ĉiutaga babilado"

What are you doing today to 'vere majstri' in Esperanto?

Rico

Deadline for the October 2019 issue: 10th September 2019



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

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