

NATIVE ESPERANTO SPEAKER AT LEICESTER 2020!

The 101st Brita Kongreso will be headlined by Stela Besenyi, a Franco-Hungarian who has spent her whole life surrounded by Esperanto. She's a native Esperanto speaker, born in the jubilee year of 1987.



She is proposing a discussion group and a workshop besides the usual presentations on topics such as how really to organise an effective Esperanto event, the experiences of a *denaskulo*

growing up, and a particular connection which she too has with the host city.

Stela has been part of countless organising committees and parlays her experience into a podcast, *La bona renkontiĝo*. In recent years, she was chiefly responsible for bringing back *Pasporta Servo* after a period of stagnation, complete in web and paper forms.

Two Excursion Days

There was too much to fit into the usual *postkongreso*, so we've doubled the length for people stopping on after the conference itself comes to a close on the Sunday evening. On the Monday we'll be visiting the King Richard III Visitor Centre, Leicester Cathedral, and the Bosworth Battlefield for a day's worth of history. The

Tuesday is rooted in the natural world and life beyond Earth, with a trip to the National Space Centre and a pleasant break at Abbey Park, a tranquil 89-acre park through which the River Soar flows.

Tickets for the conference cost £50, which gets you entry, a buffet on the Friday evening, and refreshments whilst you're on site. The address is The Big Shed, 93 Commercial Square, Leicester LE2 7SJ. It's not quite central but the walk from the train station is fairly easy and can be combined with some sightseeing, and there are plenty of taxis running from the train station if required. The venue offers free parking for those of you who are driving. Book your place and find out more at britakongreso.org.



A MONSTER OF A CONGRESS!

The Esperanto event with the largest congress number on the planet continues its pursuit of an entry in the Guinness Book of Records and will reach its 115th edition next year.

In what the organisers promise will be a 'monster of a congress' participants will be able to enjoy the delights of the city of Inverness, the capital of the Highlands region on the banks of the river Ness, very close to Loch Ness itself and its mysterious but nonetheless world famous, Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster.

There will be several excursions, as well as interesting presentations and opportunities to learn more Esperanto both for beginners and more experienced learners. Participants will have a chance to explore the area in and around

Inverness itself, with its dramatic and often tragic history, the famous Highlands food & drink or the numerous pubs in the city centre with live music.

The organisers are happy to announce that the guest presenter this year will be Robert Nielsen, young Irish Esperantist, TEJO committee member and one of the most well known Esperanto bloggers.

The congress will take place from the **29th** to the **31st of May 2020**. More information, including registration details, to follow on the Esperanto

Asocio de Skotlando website skotlando.org/index.php/congress-general.

In the meantime to get more



information on the event, please e-mail weepurpleman@gmail.com



BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

Great Book at Great Prices!

Here's a list of the 14 books that are currently available from EAB for just £5 with the UEA price in brackets. This offer cannot be going on forever, and we have already had to reorder some of the books after we run out of stock, so

get yours quick before the prices return to their regular level! More info on books and reading inside.



Author	Title
S. Bako; C. Piron	La kisa malsano (12€)
S. Bako; C. Piron	La meteoro (13.20€)
Serĝo Elgo	Surklifa (13.80€)
Serĝo Elgo	Ŝia lasta poŝtkarto (13.80€)
Abel Montagut	La enigmo de la ar@neo (18.60€)
Istvan Nemere	La fermita urbo (12€)
Claude Piron	Dio, psicjo kaj mi (15€)
Claude Piron	Malmalice (10.80€)
Manuel de Seabra	Ĉu vi konas Blaise Cendrars? (12.30€)
Manuel de Seabra	La tago kiam Jesuo perfidis Judason (13.80€)
Trevor Steele	Kaj staros tre alte.. (21.90€)
Trevor Steele	La fotoalbumo. 1. (19.20€)
Trevor Steele	La fotoalbumo. 2. (13.80€)
Trevor Steele	Neniun ajn papilio (16.50€)

The official newsletter of the Esperanto Association of Britain

esperanto.org.uk • eab@esperanto.org.uk • ISSN: 1741-4679 • Charity Number: 272676

UPDATE ISSUE 87 OCTOBER 2019



A new online reading group, more courses, more books published by British Espies and more books available to members, literary success at the *Universala Kongreso*, more British involvement in international initiatives and events, the 2020 *Brita Kongreso* and the 2021 'UK in the UK', the ever increasing success of the KER exams.. one cannot accuse the *Brita Esperantistaro* of not being *vigla* enough.

On the courses front, we've had a nicely busy time recently: the last sessions of *Lernu* and *Lernu Plu* in Barlaston went very well. **Maurizio Giacometto** and **Chris Lewis** came back for a second teaching session. Earlier on, in August, the annual *Somerlernejo* sessions, with **Ed Robertson** and **Jack Warren** as course leaders, proved as popular as ever. Prior to that, another *PostPlu* session was enjoyed by more experienced learners, who also shared a wonderful BBQ in the summer temperatures.

Online Book Club

The online reading group that was announced in the previous issue of *Update* has now started. The idea is to encourage people to read more original Esperanto literature and to support keen readers by providing books at very accessible prices. The books by authors such as Trevor Steele, Istvan Nemere, Claude Piron and Manuel de Seabra, are available for just £5 each.

If you are interested in reading through the books in a group, please drop Tim Owen (tim.owen@esperanto.org.uk) a line. You'll be able to join when the members start a new book later on in the year. In the meantime, why not visit the group on the website and join in the discussion? esperanto.org.uk/groups/8-book-club/

More Books Available

For keen readers, whether or not they participate in the **Book Club**, a reminder that there are several new books available in the catalogue. You can view them at esperanto.org.uk/store/category/1-libroj/ then browse through the various categories. New books are added to the catalogue as they become available. Also, do not forget that the full list of available books and products can be found at: legacy.esperanto.org.uk/eab/bookcat.htm (the legacy website).

On the new website, there are 14 books which are outstanding value (all at £5 each). Some of these have proved very popular and have sold out already. They've been reordered.



Books available from EAB for just £5 each.

Esperanto Courses

We're quickly going towards the end of 2019 and it's been a bumper year for language courses with 5 sessions of *Lernu/Lernu Plu* already organised, including the recent week-end in early October, two *Post Plu*, the *Somerlernejo* in

August and the regular weekly courses for all levels in London.

Lernu / Lernu Plu in 2020

The first sessions of 2020 are already set and they will happen on February 29th, ending in March 1st. **Elizabeth Stanley** (*Lernu*) and **Harry Barron** (*Lernu Plu*) will be at EAB's headquarters leading sessions of our courses for new and progressing learners.

Both are experienced teachers with decades of Esperanto behind them; you'll be in good hands and learn lots! Book your place here esperanto.org.uk/events/lernu/

Keep up to date

Do not forget that for more information about the content of the courses, both correspondence and residential, and to keep updated about the dates of upcoming events, you can visit the relevant part of EAB's website at esperanto.org.uk/courses-and-events/

Courses in London

If you live in London, or have easy access to the capital, a varied programme of weekly courses is organised by the very active North London Club.

-Beginners' course (*komencantoj*), taught by Anthony Bodineau, aims to help people take their first steps in the language and runs on Thursday evenings.

-Intermediate course (*progresantoj*), taught by Anna Lowenstein, aims to prepare students for the B1 KER exam for the following year and runs on Tuesday evenings.

-Advanced course (*progresintoj*), taught by Renato Corsetti, aims to support students towards the B2 and C1 exams and also runs on Tuesday evenings.

In addition, the club hosts an outside speaker on the first Tuesday of every month, followed by a group meal in the centre.

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

Prize Winners

When the prize winners for the 2019 'Belartaj Konkursoj' were announced during the 2019 UK in Lahti, it was a pleasure to see amongst them the names of **Ariel Bonkorpa** and **Chris Lewis**. Both entered in the prose category and Ariel won equal 3rd prize with "*La plej granda tragedio*" while Chris got 2nd prize with "*Venko de tempo*".

Congratulations to both of them! And keep it up in the future. Surely a great incentive for others to follow suit? UEA said that this was a record year in terms of quantity of submissions, with 171 works coming from all continents apart from Antarctica..

KER Exam Success

EAB was again very happy to financially support successful KER exam candidates. The '*8a tutmonda ekzamentago*' took place on June 15th and London was one of the participating cities for the fourth year running. 11 people took part in London

this year, 7 at B1 level, 3 at B2 and 1 at C1. Before the start, they received the best wishes of London Mayor, Sadiq Khan Our thanks for the organisation prior to the day, and support on the day, to Renato Corsetti and Marteno Miniñ, who coordinated with the central exam board.

Congratulations for their hard work to all examinees: Ed Robertson (**C1**), Anthony Bodineau, John Greenwood and Anna Langley (all **B2**), Pablo Brasero Moreno, Simone Davis, Hannah Froemming, Julian Nagele, Alexander Ord, Elsa Puchaczewski and Maria A Schett (all **B1**).

Renato wishes to thank Marteno for his invaluable help, the London Club for the original idea to host a KER session in the UK, EAB for the financial help of successful candidates, Katalin Kovats and the central examination team for their hard work throughout the year.



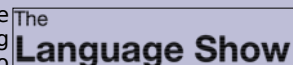
KER Diploma

The goal now is to beat this year's record number of 11 candidates and to at least overtake Beijing in China, which had 12!

What are you waiting for? Sign up now.

London Language Show

As previously announced, Esperanto will have a presence at The Language Show in London this year after a gap of a few years. EAB will have a stand staffed by local volunteers, all of which has been arranged. Many thanks to the local Esperantists who will be volunteering their time to talk to people about Esperanto.



Esperanto to be used in Unesco Choir Festival

In September 2020 UNESCO is due to organise in Tolosa (Spain) an International Choir Festival whose four official languages are set to be English, French, Spanish and **Esperanto**.

The festival organisers invite choirs from anywhere in the world to either participate or, for the majority of choirs, to send videos of one of their songs for it to be played at the festival. Songs can be sang in any language but the lyrics need to be translated in one of the four working languages of the festival.

UEA believes this is a great chance to contribute to the goals of the United Nations and Unesco, while at the same time to show to the general public the value of the International Language Esperanto.

The more people know about the festival, the more Esperanto choirs contribute and send in their video, the better the potential of Esperanto will be shown.

If you are in a choir, know someone who is, or know of a choir which could create a three-minute video of a '**Song for peace**' (in any language but with the text translated into Esperanto), get in touch with François Lo Jacomo, representative of UEA at Unesco (francois@lojacomo.eu) or with Trezoro Huang Yinbao, UEA's vicepresident responsible for relations with Unesco (trezoro@qq.com).

Rico

NOTES FROM THE TRUSTEE MEETING IN JULY

Many years ago, the trustees' working weekend took place in June to coincide with the time when a trustee who lived abroad would be in the UK. The downside of this approach is that it means that newly elected trustees often have to wait a couple of months after their election before they meet all their colleagues and start work. That's not ideal, and so over the last several years, we've moved the working weekend, a report from which you will have read in the previous issue of *Update*, to much closer to the AGM.

This creates a gap of six months between the working weekend and our winter meeting, usually held in October. That seems too long to go without seeing each other and updating on various projects in real time, and so for the last couple of years we've had a stop-gap meeting in the middle of the year. And that's how we came to be in Barlaston on a summer's day.

Treasurer

Clare Hunter kicked off the meeting with several updates in the few months which had elapsed. She informed us that the very generous legacy which Vivienne Isherwood had left us in remembrance of her sister, Kathleen Hopkins, had been invested in a fund which is designed for income-generation and which aims for a return of 5% per year. The trustees then signed off an investment policy which Clare had drawn up and previously circulated.

Clare reported that the charity had received two small donations from local groups: the one in Bournemouth had recently closed, whilst the group from Barrow-in-Furness had ceased printing its newsletter, *De Maro al Kamparo*, and so kindly donated the money from its publishing fund. We're going to use that to print some material for The Language Show, which we'll be present at in November. Clare further informed us that she had received notification that EAB would receive a legacy from the estate of Kenneth Dawes.

Prior to the meeting, Clare had circulated income and expenditure figures for the year so far. The group noted that expenditure was broadly in line with forecasts, although the legacy from Vivienne Isherwood meant that suddenly there was a very noticeable surplus. Don't misinterpret that figure as meaning we've stopped spending money when you see the accounts next year; this was unplanned income and so wasn't factored into things when Clare set out the budget last year.

Office

Viv O'Dunne reported on developments at Esperanto House. You'll have noticed that *Update* now comes in a paper envelope. We made the switch from plastic having followed up from Bill Walker's suggestion at the AGM that we look into using compostable materials. That proved not to

be possible for us but we hope that providing them in another material which will biodegrade if thrown away is an improvement.

Along similar lines, we're going to move away from serving students at our courses bottled water. We know that it looks better than using jugs but we're conscious that the wider world is becoming more aware of unnecessary use of plastic, even if it's intended for recycling after use.

Education

We looked over course attendance, noticing that attendance at sessions of *Lernu* had been poor compared to a few years ago. We're running more sessions now than we did back then, so we're going to cut back on sessions next year, increasing again if the numbers appear to pick up. It's always been the case that we experience cancellations nearer to the event or people not turning up even though they'd confirmed before but we're not sure what we can do about that.

The trustees noted that for an educational charity, we don't have much of an educational component at our



annual conference. That's a fair point, so I'm going to look into adding something appropriate in Leicester. I also thought that the discussion circle run by Tyron Surmon at Dover was a very handy way of getting lots of attendees actively participating at the event, so I'll have to look at doing something like that again.

In the last *Update*, I asked whether anybody might be interested in joining an online group. I reported on take-up in the meeting, which is currently six. I'm afraid the first book we're working on isn't very good: fortunately, it's a short one! Let's hope the second one will be better. If you think you might want to join in, please get in touch (tim.owen@esperanto.org.uk) and let me know.

I was really pleased to be able to report that *Somera Esperanto-Studado* had taken place and that we'd had six successful applications on our bursary scheme from people who had never been to an Esperanto event abroad. You'll be able to read articles in *LBE* from two people who participated. Similarly, the numbers who participated in our subsidy scheme for the CEFR exams in London had been positive, with 10 candidates from our shores and even one coming over from France! Read more in the report on page 2.

Publishing, Library and Publicity

We moved to what proved to be the most exciting part of the day. (I know, this is a meeting so 'exciting' is a relative term! But we did really enjoy this section!)

Edmund Grimley Evans, who is compiling a complete collection of Marjorie Boulton's poetry, informed us that he'd tracked down some unpublished examples between meetings.

Everybody in the room seemed very impressed when we distributed some home-printed copies of a very popular book which Edmund and I have been working on together. You'll find out more in *La Brita Esperantisto*. Since the closure of the meeting, we've finished our proofing and have sent the files away for printing, so you'll all be able to pre-order in time for Christmas, don't worry!

This book is the first of a series of EAB publishing projects which will be coming out over the next couple of years, with Ian Carter and Ed Robertson following up with similar projects.

I was pleased to be able to report that collections of *Update*, *LBE* and *Esperanto en Skotlando* were with a binding firm. It takes a few years to amass enough copies to be bound but we were at that stage. I've since collected them and they sit proudly with their older siblings on the library shelves.

We'll be back at The Language Show in London in November. We've been away for a few years, after past experience indicated that it was an expensive weekend ideally for commercial firms with large budgets. But it's in new hands, so we decided to try again to see what might have changed.

Anthony Bodineau and his colleagues from the North London group will be our people on the ground. We noted, by the way, that we had budgeted for the event this year, assuming it would be in October as the previous years were. Our financial year ends on October 31, so it won't actually show in this year's accounts.

Clare highlighted that running our accounts on *meetup.com* had become more expensive following an increase in rates. The poorly performing pound has exacerbated the rise, since we're billed in dollars. We pay a monthly fee for each group we have, which we don't mind doing in order to get people using the language together. But we're also aware that a couple of groups aren't making regular usage of their accounts, so we'll probably need to monitor that.

Some of the trustees stopped on at Barlaston after the meeting ended with some volunteers, and a cataloguing weekend started. We'll be sitting down together again on November 2.

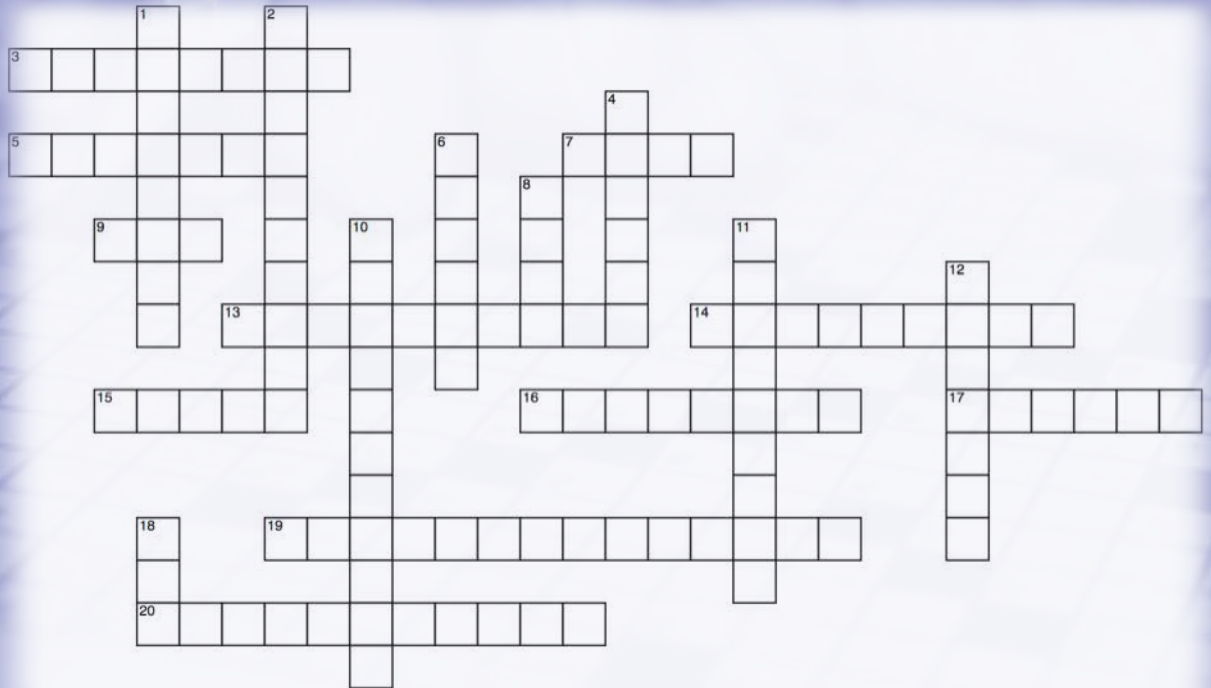
Tim Owen

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: okazoj por festi

Temas kaj pri publikaj ferioj kaj pri aliaj eventoj festindaj

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 (Surplaĝe):

Horizontale:

2. Bikin, 4. Fosil,
5. Bukcen, 7. Krem,
9. Sunombrel,
15. Sabl,
16. Glaciaĵ,
18. Plaŭd

Vertikale: 1. Azen,
3. Kastel, 4. Fuk,
5. Bankalson,
6. Ferdekseĝ,
8. Mar, 10. Nev,
11. Marstel,
12. Naĝ, 13. Tajd,
14. Sitel, 17. Ond

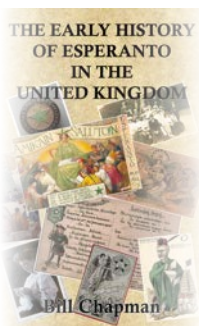
HORIZONTALA: 3. Je tiu tago, antaŭ dudek jaroj.. 5. Nova reĝo portas ion surkape 7. Oni ricevas nomon en preĝejo 9. Nova filo aŭ filino 13. Ni havos novan adreson 14. Sukceso ĉe universitato 15. Viro kaj virino, kune porĉiame 16. Mi ne plu bezonas labori 17. Komence de januaro 19. Havante tion, mi aĉetos aŭton 20. Sufiĉe da mono por la tuta vivo

VERTIKALE: 1. Jen la unuaj floroj! 2. Nun mi finfine plenkreskis 4. Tiam komenciĝis mia vivo 6. Ni havos sufiĉe por manĝi dumvintre 8. Kristana printempa festo 10. Kiam lando ne plu estas kolonio 11. Kristana vintrofestoj 12. Li aĉetas por ŝi ringon 18. Vikinga vintrofestoj

Esperanto in the UK

Bill Chapman's book on the yearly years of Esperanto on these shores has now been available for purchase for a few months. If you are interested in the history of Esperanto and have not had a chance to purchase your copy yet, you can now do so via EAB's website, too. **The Early History of Esperanto in the United Kingdom** is the result of Bill's passion for the 'movado' in the UK and of decades of curiosity and research.

The RRP is £8.95 and the book is available from EAB at a special launch price (£5).



Fundraising

Easyfundraising is a very easy way to raise money and help EAB whilst shopping online. 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, M&S, Booking.com, Argos and Aviva are part of the scheme, which has over 3,600 retailers in total, so it's well worth using.

Fundraising and Amazon UK

At the beginning of August 2019, easyfundraising.org.uk unfortunately withdrew support for shopping with Amazon UK for raising money for your

favourite Esperanto charity. If (like me) a lot of your online shopping is still done with the mighty 'Zon, you'll love another way to donate to EAB. Just head along each time to smile.amazon.co.uk instead. The first time you visit, you will be prompted to select a charity, so simply search for Esperanto-Asocio de Britio and select it. After that, 0.5% of the value of each eligible purchase will be donated to EAB. Just remember to ensure you go to smile.amazon.co.uk, and not the usual www.amazon.co.uk!

Damon Lord

And finally...

"Manĝu duone, piediru duoble, ridu trioble kaj amu senlime: jen la sekreto por longa vivo"
-Tibetan proverb-

**Ĝis la venonta!
Rico**

Deadline for the January 2020 issue:
1st December 2019



Esperanto
Association of Britain



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

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