

# EABNetNews

June 2007

Editor; Eric Walker

*Any contributions or comments please send to  
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Dear Readers,

This will be a short issue this time, partly because I am just off to the Baltic International Esperanto holiday at Mielno in Poland and also it is short because I did have a comment that the last couple of issues have been too long. I must agree that I put some items in at great length when it would have been better to just briefly mention the item and give a www for anyone interested to see it in full. However I will still include a few jokes etc. If no-one else laughs at them I do myself.

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## **Future Events.**

### **14-17 September. Internacia Amikeca Renkontiĝo-Aylesford, Kent.**

This agreeable long weekend (Friday to Monday takes place in the unique surrounding of 'The Friars' near Maidstone. Although ancient buildings and a tranquil atmosphere, the accommodation and the food is excellent. The cost for the four days is €139.50 (O.A.Ps €136.50) if sharing a twin bedded room or £145.50 in a single room. Please register by 15th August to Anica Page 7 Hampton Great Holm, Milton Keynes, MK8 9EP. Tel: 01908 564 004. A non-returnable deposit of £13.00 is required with your booking.

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When possibly the first English-Esperanto Dictionary appeared in about 1909 a reviewer in the Manchester Guardian wrote " excellent so long as zealots do not get hold of it ....."

About 20 years ago when visiting Russia I was presented with an excellent book explaining Russian Grammar. When I say excellent I mean that it presented the subject in what seemed to be a graphic and simplified manner. But the book had 240 A4 sized pages and I thought no way am I going to try to learn a language for which one needs 240 pages to explain its grammar, I prefer to stick with

Esperanto and its 16 rules.

However what's this? 'Plena Manlibro de Esperanta Gramatiko' 696 pages. 696 pages? My God! What happened to Zamenhof's simple helpingvo with its 16 rules? Well, maybe the pages are small. let's see 235 mm by 165 mm that's just slightly larger than A5 size. Well, let's be thankful for small mercies. Still, almost 700 pages of A5. Yes, the zealots have certainly managed to take over.

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## Fractured Inklisch (4).

In a Paris hotel lift.: Please leave your values at the front desk.

In a Hotel in Athens: Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11am daily.

In a Yugoslavian hotel: The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid.

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## A message from Tim Owen of JEB

Saluton al ĉiuj:

Daniel White tre diligente preparis la 3-an eldonon de nia ĵurnaĵeto. Ĝi elŝuteblas de: <http://tinyurl.com/2t76yf>

Hello everyone:

Daniel White put in a lot of effort to produce the latest (third) issue of our newsletter. It is available for download from:

<http://tinyurl.com/2t76yf>

Tim

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A message from Renata Corsetti.

Please go to the UN website at

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/ga10592.doc.htm> for an announcement about 2008 as the International Year of Languages.

Bv viziti la TTTejon de UN,

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/ga10592.doc.htm>, por legi anoncon pri 2008, la Internacia Jaro de Lingvoj.

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## Brita Kongreso de Esperanto 2007

La ĉi-jara brita kongreso okazis en Letchworth, 4-7 majo, 2007. Letchworth estas la unua gxardenurbo en la mondo, fondita de Ebenezer Howard, kiu estis ankaŭ esperantisto. Aliĝis al la kongreso iom pli ol 80 homoj, sed ne ĉiuj ĉeestis samtempe, do plejofte videblis cx. 50 kongresanoj. Antaŭ precize 100 jaroj okazis en Kembriĝo la 3-a Universala Kongreso, kiam la kongresanoj ekskursis al Letchworth; ĉi-jare la kongresanoj (de la brita, ne la universala) ekskursis inverse, de Letchworth al Kembriĝo. Dum la unua vespero Arturo Sly, prezidanto de la LKK kaj dum multaj jaroj enloĝanto de la urbo, parolis pri Ebenezer Howard kaj lia kreaĵo, la ĝardenurbo.

La ĉefa gastparolanto estis Renato Corsetti, prezidanto de UEA kaj profesoro pri psikolingvistiko en la Universitato de Romo, kiu faris la unuan en la *novstila serio* da prelegoj Buchanan (de la Universitato de Liverpool), je la temo "Lernu vian lingvon per lernado de alia lingvo" - t.e. pri *lingvokonscio*, la inspira ideo de nia projekto *Lingvolaĉilo* ("Springboard 2 Languages"). Tute kontraste estis alia eminenta gastprezentanto, la muzikisto Jomo kiu distris nin dum la Interkona Vespero kaj, je la morgaŭo (sabaton) kreis novan tutmondan rekordon por la eldonaĵo *Guinness Book of Records*, per kanti en 25 diversaj lingvoj en publika koncerto (en la ĉefa placo de la urbo). Aliaj steluloj de la kongreso inkluzivis Anna Lowenstein (*Kaŝitaj mesĝoj en infanlibroj*), Olga Kerziouk (*La Esperanto-kolekto ĉe la Brita Biblioteko*), Klarita Velikova (psikologo-sportistino el Bulgario), Paul Mensah (el Ganao) kaj Sally Phillips (*Memore al Bill Auld*). Vere, ne mankis enhavo !

La temo de la kongreso estis *Renoviĝo* kaj tra la programo troviĝis kompleto da kunsidoj pri tiu temo. De la Oficiala Malfermo, kion ĉeestis la loka parlamentano, Oliver Heald, tra incita prezento de Ian Fantom pri la plivasta kunteksto de esperanta informado; ĝenerala diskuto, prezidita de Renato Corsetti, gvidita de Brian Barker, pri la "Esperanta Influgrupo" (*Esperanto Lobby*); ege stimula prezento de Rolf Fantom pri *Strategio por Esperanto*; pluraj fakkunsidoj kaj laborsesioj; al la Oficiala Fermo kiam oni kunigis ideojn naskitajn de tiuj diskutoj, por *renovigi* la britan movadon. Nu, kio sekvos ..... ?

Dimanĉon okazis la jarkunveno de EAB kaj sesio kiam la komitataj

kandidatoj sin prezentis kaj respondis demandojn (iujn sufiĉe pikajn!) - de membroj. Entute, interesoplena kongreso kaj, kiel ĉiam, plej ĝojiga okazo por renkonti malnovajn amikojn kaj ĝisdatiĝi. Letchworth, kiun mi neniam antaŭe vizitis, estas beleta urbo; ankaŭ la vetero bonvole belis dum la semajnfino.

**David Kelso**

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## **Why English is so hard to learn (3)**

**There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.**

**They were too close to the door to close it.**

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*A note by the editor. I had said this would not be a long issue but here is the first of several articles on Esperanto and computers by Geoffrey King.*

## **Typing Esperanto is easy**

Some people get in a terrible tangle when it comes to typing Esperanto with the correct accents; yet there is no need for this. If your computer and the software on it are less than about 10 years old then you probably already have everything you need.

Confusion arises because different people use different word-processing programs which tend to work in different ways. On top of this there are different operating systems (Windows, MacOS, Linux, Solaris and more) which all have their own peculiarities.

What I am about to describe will suit the typical Windows user though some of it will apply elsewhere. It's worth noting also that although I'm concerned with Esperanto this information can also be useful for French, German and many other languages.

Whenever you are typing a language other than English, you will need to produce characters that don't appear on the standard keyboard. Some of this is very easy; you can produce the French/Spanish accents “á é í ó ú” simply by holding down the AltGr key as you type the letter. AltGr 4 will produce a “€” sign. Some others are more tricky to memorise. For example, if you hold the Alt key and type 0228 on the number pad (not the numbers at the top of the keyboard) you will usually get “ä”.

So far so good; these are very old tricks that have been built into more or less every word-processing program. When it comes to more exotic languages (which Esperanto still is for everyone but us) you will find that different programs work in different ways, so I shall have to describe the programs that I know one by one.

The oldest program that does Esperanto is **LocoScript**, which as been around for at least 25 years. I won't go into the pros and cons of LocoScript now; anyone who still has it will know that you can make a circumflex by typing CTRL U then the letter, and a breve (for the “ũ”) by typing CTRL S then the letter. LocoScript has a huge range of accents and oddities, and you can use it to put any accent on any letter; even combinations that don't really exist!

Almost as old, but still around and in many ways more convenient to use is **WordPerfect**. This can also do a big range of characters. To call up the menu of available characters type CTRL W. There are several pages of these; to get to the right one type 1,101. With a little persistence you can memorize the codes for particular letters, such as 1,101 for “ĉ”, 1,123 for “ĝ” and so on. Otherwise just pick the right one from the display.

Then we come to the programs that most people have, the **Word** family. If you haven't got Word itself you may find you have the Windows Word Processor or at the very least good old bad old WordPad. With a little persuasion these can all produce Esperanto; but the necessary characters may be fairly well hidden. In Word, click on “Insert” (at the top) then, believe it or not, select “Symbol”. A display will appear, and if you scroll down to the “Latin Extended-A” set you will see the Esperanto characters and a lot of other weird and wonderful things. Click on the one you want, then on “Insert” (or hit ENTER) and Bob's your uncle. Incidentally, if you often use exotic characters other than Esperanto, you can set shortcuts which will produce them quickly.

Rather than mess around with all this, there are two things you can do which will really get things done. The first is (if you haven't already got it) to download **Open Office**. This is a very handy set of programs (Word-processing, Spreadsheet, Database and Presentations). If you're already familiar with the Microsoft equivalents, you'll soon master Open Office; and moving over from Word Perfect or learning from scratch is no great problem. You won't lose texts you already have as Open Office can read Word and Word Perfect documents too. It can also make PDF documents if you like that sort of thing. In other words, it can't sit up and beg or make you breakfast but it can do most other things. And it is completely *free of charge* which is a pretty good bargain. As well as Windows there are versions for Linux, MacOS and Solaris.

To see the available accents in Open Office Writer type ALT I then P (or click on “Insert” then “Special Character”). Click on the one you want and hit ENTER.

The finishing touch which will save you a lot of trouble is to get **Esperanta Klavaro (EK!** for short). You can find this at <http://www.esperanto.mv.ru/Ek/index.html> and a number of other places. Download only takes a few seconds and installation is simple. You can take the set-up exactly “as is” and it will work perfectly well. If you type in English as well (which most of us do) then it is a good idea to uncheck the “h” option on

the set-up screen (you'll see what I mean when you get there); if you don't do this you'll get unwanted “ĉ”s and “ĝ”s instead of “sh” and “gh” when typing in English.

Once **EK!** is running just type “cx” when you want “ĉ”, “gx” when you want “ĝ”, and so on, and the right letter will appear automatically. If you actually want “gx” just type “gxx” and all will be well. You can of course switch **EK!** on and off at will; the usual way of doing this is to type CTRL SPACE but you can set something else if you prefer. **EK!** does not work with WordPerfect or LocoScript but does work with anything Word/Windows and with Open Office. It also works with quite a few non-Windows programs (see [www.biblbut.org](http://www.biblbut.org) where it works with Net Objects Fusion).

One last word on *fonts* (letter styles). If you like to use all sorts of fancy fonts such as decorative fonts, script fonts, Gothic styles, chancery script, uncials or special fonts you've downloaded from here and there, you'll probably find they don't have Esperanto characters, and possibly no accented letters at all. You will be perfectly safe with Times, Arial, Verdana, Comic Sans, Thorndale and a good many others. Try it and see. It is important to set your font *before* you begin typing. As readers of *La Brita Esperantisto* may remember, changing the font of a text after you have typed it may have unpredictable consequences.

So, once you've got Open Office (or Word) and EK! that's all you need, for your own purposes. You can print what you've typed, you can send it as a letter, you can frame it and put it on the wall. If you want to send it to someone else, typically as an E-mail, or take part in an Esperanto message board or newsgroup, there is a little more to be done, as will appear in my next article.

Geoffrey King

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### **Operation Springboard reaches 'Times Educational Supplement!**

In the T,E,S, of May 18th 2007 is a good write up about how Esperanto is being taught in Scorton CoE Primary near Preston and at Bar Hill Primary at Cambridge. “The benefits are extraordinary” Mrs White, head at Scorton said. “ I hadn't realised they would do so much grammar. It has helped understanding in English and French.

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Alia grava kazo.

Amiko: Vi aspektas tre pale.

Doktoro: Mi ĉagreniĝas pri unu el miaj pacientoj.

Amiko: Ĉu serioza kazo?

Doktroro: Jes...li ne volas pagi la fakturon.

Well, I'm off to Poland now to an Esperanto holiday. No doubt many of you will be using Esperanto during your holidays this summer. Any anecdotes will be very welcome  
Eric.