



inspire
& be inspired

Hrvatsko udruženje profesora engleskog jezika
Croatian Association of Teachers of English

NEWSLETTER

HUPE Newsletter No. 9 • November 2015



EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to another issue of the HUPE Newsletter. We hope to give you food for thought and plenty of reading for the long winter evenings. Have fun reading it.

HUPE is looking forward to the 24th Annual HUPE Conference in Šibenik. Hope to see you all there. The most up-to-date information is, of course, on our website, www.hupe.hr.

We are proud to announce that HUPE has recently joined the SEETA (South Eastern Europe Teachers Associations) community. For more information on the online events visit their website at www.seeta.eu.

In this issue's **HUPE Branches** you can read about the workshops held in Osijek, Rijeka, Slavonski Brod, Split, Varaždin and Zagreb.

If you want to find out what is happening at the conferences abroad, read the reports from Belgrade, Manchester and Uherské Hradiště in our **International Conferences** corner. In case you would like to attend a conference yourself, take a look at the **Upcoming Events**.

We all know that you do lots of interesting activities and projects with your students. In this issue there is a new section called **A Sneak Peek into Our Classrooms**. If you want to share your examples of good practice you are welcome to send them to hupe.newsletter@gmail.com. For a start, you can read about *The Week of the Republic of Ireland* by Davorka Nekić and *European Day of Languages* by Lidija Branilović and Dijana Kirić.

If you would like to contribute to the Newsletter on a more regular basis, please contact us. We would like to have you on board!

We are also pleased to announce that HUPE is issuing a call for article submissions for the next HUPEzine. The deadline is November 20th.

We invite you to send your stories, comments, or reviews to hupe.newsletter@gmail.com.

Yours,
Dajana

24th ANNUAL HUPE CONFERENCE

Hotel Ivan - Solaris Beach Resort Šibenik, Croatia

8-10 April 2016

Join the association with over 400 enthusiastic English teachers and enjoy the beautiful venue as well as remarkable plenary sessions and workshops.

All additional information will be available on www.hupe.hr very soon!



CALL FOR SPEAKER PROPOSALS

Dear HUPE members, colleagues and partners.
Call for Proposals for our 24th Annual HUPE

Conference is now open.
We invite you to share your knowledge, ideas and experience as you join us in networking with ELT professionals from Croatia and other countries.

The deadline for submitting your speaker proposal is Sunday 17 January 2016. Any proposal received after the deadline will be placed on the reserve list.

Become a HUPE member

Membership is open to anyone involved in the ELT industry.

Regular membership costs 100 HRK per year. Students, unemployed and retired members pay 50 HRK per year. Your membership is valid for 12 months from receipt of your form and payment.

Institutional membership depends on the number of teachers who want to become members:

- Up to three teachers - 250 HRK per year
- Up to six teachers - 350 HRK per year
- More than seven teachers - 550 HRK per year

Membership benefits

You can hear about and read up on the latest developments in ELT.

You can get a free subscription to HUPE Newsletters.

You can get IATEFL Issues from your local branch representative.

You can attend HUPE annual conferences at the reduced membership rate.

You can make contact with teachers world-wide on a one-to-one basis and get advice and ideas on how to teach students from a different perspective.

Teachers who are accepted as speakers at international conferences can apply for the Speakers Scholarship.

You can run for elections at one of the SIG committees or the HUPE Executive Committee.

You can participate at HUPE Branch or SIG meetings and workshops.

You can access new teaching ideas for tomorrow's lessons today.

HUPE is well connected to other organizations. It has become an IATEFL (International Association of Teachers of English) branch and is affiliated to TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages).

HUPE maintains contact with The British Council, the United States Information Service and other international associations, and takes advantage of any assistance they can provide in organising an event, making speakers available, or other useful services.

Through its Newsletter, web page and Twitter, we let our members know what, when and where something is happening. This is just a few of the ways that we try to bring services and benefits to distant members as well as those who have easier access to participate in the activities.

HUPE Branches

HUPE Osijek Branch Report

The first HUPE Osijek Branch meeting in 2015/ 2016 took place on 17th October 2015 at The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek. 28 teachers attended the meeting. The workshops were run by our colleagues Lidija Obad and Antonija Šarić and HUPE Slavonski Brod Branch President, Mirta Kos Kolobarić.

Our first speakers Lidija Obad and Antonija Šarić started their workshop by providing us with a theoretical background for proverbs. For instance, thanks to them we all learnt what paremiology is. Then they illustrated what we had previously heard with many examples and interesting activities that can be used in the classroom.

In the second part of the meeting Mirta Kos Kolobarić presented one of her best practice examples. We were introduced to the stories of some of the most popular and probably the weirdest street characters from Dublin and got really nice ideas for creating our English lessons using these and similar stories.

For more inspiration join us at our next meeting!

Best regards,
Sara Salatić
Osijek Branch President



HUPE Rijeka Branch

The first HUPE Rijeka Branch meeting was held on 12 September 2015 at Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities in Rijeka. After a short presentation about our association given by the Branch president, Lana Kralj from Oxford University Press took over with her workshop titled Expand your lessons with digital tools within which she introduced tools such as Popplet, Dvolver and Voki. Rijeka branch members had a great time exploring them. Digital tools were followed by Rubrics for Teachers and Students designed to help teachers evaluate students' work like posters for example but also to help students understand what will be taken into consideration while forming the final mark. This excellent workshop was held by HUPE president Sanja Božinović.

That Rijeka branch members started the new school year big is the fact that even 22 members came which is the highest number of attendees in the last several years. Go, Rijeka! ☑

Still under the impression of the first branch meeting, I'm happy to announce the second meeting that is going to take place on 14 November. You're all invited! Spend your Saturday morning with us and let's have a blast!

Davorka Nekić, prof.
HUPE Rijeka Branch President



HUPE Slavonski Brod Branch 1st Meeting Report

The first HUPE Slavonski Brod Branch meeting in this school year was held on **October 22, 2015** at 5 p.m. The venue was Ekonomsko-birotehnička škola in Slavonski Brod.

We are proud to say that this time 19 teachers attended the meeting and I am sure they enjoyed the presented activities and materials and found them useful and applicable.

Our first speaker was **Marija Deanković**, a school librarian and an IT wiz, who presented an abundance of various IT tools that can be used to increase our students' motivation and enable them to learn independently, not only English, but also other subjects. The web resources presented in her workshop **IT tools** are all free of charge and user-friendly.

Frankopan Klarić shared with us his own and his students' experience of learning English in Bath in *Languages United* school. We thoroughly enjoyed his views on the course and activities organized for students there, as well as his impression of English food. Since this was a sort of IT-oriented meeting, it was only natural to have Slavenka Vuković-Bryan and Dan Bryan, the owners of Languages United, join us for a video conference to answer all our questions. That was really a new experience for many of us.

In her presentation **Shaping the Way We Teach English through MOOCs** Ivana Opačak talked about massive open online courses. The title of her presentation is actually the title of the course she took part in, run by University of Oregon. MOOCs can help us be better teachers, expand our knowledge of methodology, provide us with some new, creative activities and enable us interaction with teachers all around the world.

All in all, this meeting was a success. Hope to see so many colleagues at our next meeting in November!

Mirta Kos Kolobarić
HUPE Slavonski Brod Branch President

SPLIT BRANCH MEETING REPORT

The first HUPE Split branch meeting for the 2015/16 school year was held on 7/10/2015 at Obrtnička škola, Split.

Miranda Barac attended the KA1 Erasmus plus course 'Professional Development' from 10 to 21 August 2015 in London, UK as part of her school project - Erasmus + Key Action 1 Learning mobility of individuals. The course was organized by Oxford House College. She showed us activities and shared useful material on how to Teach English through British Life and Culture that we could experience on our own. As Miranda is Erasmus + KA1 and Erasmus + KA2 projects coordinator at her school, she shared her experience and we got useful information regarding both the challenges and positive sides of organizing and participating in such projects.

In the second part of our meeting, I explained what the European Language Label (ELL) is and I presented the eTwinning project called ACTION ENGLISH which was awarded with the ELL by Agency for Mobility and European



Union Programmes. The colleagues were also introduced to the ELL application form and which standards projects have to meet in order to get the label. In the end, the new HUPE Split branch president, Branka Šegvić, introduced herself.

Though more than twenty colleagues registered for the meeting, the meeting was attended by 8 people.

Alenka Miljević



HUPE Varaždin Branch report

Lidija Branilović, HUPE PR

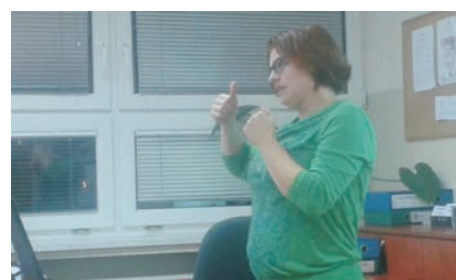
The first HUPE Varaždin Branch meeting was held on November 6, 2015 at III. Osnovna škola Čakovec. There were two workshops done by our dear friend and colleague Sandra Vida from IATEFL Slovenia.

The first one was 'How Wiki saved my ass' and the teachers saw how the use of modern technologies and social networks can save their lessons because our students are into them.

The teachers participated actively as Sandra was just one step ahead..

The second workshop dealt with music. Using music in the classroom is much more than pure listening, singing and / or gap filling. It can be used for shorter or longer period of time; it can be used for revising and presenting; it can be used for serious work or simply to have fun (while doing serious work).

Next, there were president elections and the new HUPE Varaždin Branch president is Adela Tompoš from Orehovica primary school in Međimurje. You can contact her via hupe.varazdin@gmail.com for any additional information.



The First HUPE Zagreb Branch Meeting

The first meet meeting of HUPE Zagreb was held on 25 September 2015 at 7 p.m. at Centar za strane jezike, Vodnikova 12. The meeting was attended by 38 teachers.

At the very beginning I introduced myself and invited everybody to contact me in case they have a workshop or a presentation they would like to share at our meetings.

The first workshop was given by Ms Borka Lekaj Lubina. It was a very useful journey on how to prepare lessons for your special education learners. Since special education is an integral part of the educational system, this workshop was very much needed. Several strategies which teachers can apply were given and practised.

Ms Trišnja Pejić held the second workshop. She presented how the texts of the songs can be exploited in the classroom. The lyrics are there not only to spice up the lesson, but also to provoke certain questions and develop critical thinking. We practised different activities and were quite amused and sometimes sad. Some singing naturally happened along the way while looking at the bright side of life on a very rainy night in Zagreb.



Lana Duka Zupanc
HUPE Zagreb branch president

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

A TASTE OF 21ST CENTURY TEACHING 15-16 MAY 2015 SINGIDUNUM UNIVERSITY



When I first found out about the decision that I would be the one who was going to represent HUPE at ELTA conference in Belgrade I was really happy and excited. The excitement grew even more when I realised that I would be the first HUPE representative ever at the ELTA conference in Serbia.

The preparation for my visit to Serbia went excellent. The ELTA international coordinator Katarina Ristanović was more than helpful and friendly and organised everything for me so when I arrived in Belgrade my room was waiting for me. As I was in Belgrade one day before the conference, I decided to use the time and went to the city. Moreover, I had the opportunity to see one of the popular plays „Unosno mesto“ at Jugoslovensko narodno pozorište. The decision where to go and what to watch was made easier by the fact that a famous Serbian actress Jelisaveta Seka Sablić played one of the roles. I couldn't have imagined a better start of my visit.

The conference was held at the Singidunum University. Singidunum was the name of the old ancient city which became Belgrade. The conference started with the plenary session by Deborah Healy who talked about *Intelligent Use of Technology in the Classroom* and through some examples of good practice she showed us how to achieve it. I always find the most useful and interesting workshops or talks those where the speaker is rather showing real examples than just talking about how to do something. Other plenary speakers were Rob Dean, Pedro Moura, Hugh Dellar, Paul Dummett,

Biljana Radić-Bojanić and Rakesh Bhanot. There were 8/9 workshops in every slot so there was a great choice and something for everybody to choose.

On the second day of the conference our dear colleague Snežana Filipović was so kind and took us on a walking tour of Belgrade. I could have tried ice-cream in the most famous ice-cream shop in Belgrade but I was so nervous expecting my workshop that I had to skip it.

On Saturday afternoon, after the tour without ice-cream, it was time for my workshop *eTwinning International Projects in the EFL Classroom*. The reason why I had chosen this topic was that Serbia became a part of eTwinning society so I thought it would be of practical use to share my knowledge and experiences. The workshop was attended by 16 colleagues. I gave some practical advice on how to register on the eTwinning platform and how to create and start a project. I showed some concrete examples from various eTwinning projects with the emphasis on how to use videos made by students for different purposes and tasks and discussed the methods and skills developed by those activities. Now, a few months later, some colleagues who attended the workshop have contacted me. We are working together on some projects and my dear colleague Danka Kezunović from Bosnia and Herzegovina has even become a real eTwinning ambassador.

As the HUPE slogan is INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED I would say: "Mission accomplished!". A taste of 21st century teaching is still present but I'll definitely have to go back to Belgrade to taste that famous ice-cream in the company of my dear colleagues and friends from ELTA Serbia.

Alenka Miljević



IATEFL 2015 Wrap-up

Report by Ivana Kirin and Marinko Uremović

We had the honour to represent HUPE at the 49th Annual International IATEFL Conference and Exhibition which took place in Manchester, 11-14 April 2015.

The event started with an Associates' Day on 10 April 2015 where representatives of different associates across the world were invited to interact and network with global counterparts. The day began with a warm welcome by IATEFL



President Carol Read and SIG representative George Pickering. We were also warmly greeted by Les Kirkham, the outgoing IATEFL associates' representative. We also had the pleasure to meet Lou who will replace Les Kirkham in the following years. As a treat at the end of the day, we had a pleasure to listen to David Crystal who gave a talk *World Englishes: Where next?*

The venue Manchester Central (a railway station in the past) is an award winning and modern facility that could house such a huge event. About 2,500 delegates from more than 100 countries from all over the world joined the IATEFL annual event and were offered about 500 speaker sessions. Conference facilities with the exhibition space was a perfect place for the participants to mingle, share ideas and learn from each other. It is situated in the centre of Manchester, so we could explore Manchester itself on our way there.

The conference itself was amazing and offered a number of opportunities for learning and networking. The conference programme offered a wide variety of talks and workshops. It sometimes proved difficult to choose which one to attend. We were very pleased that our workshop was selected to be included in the programme too. We talked about *Teaching Culture Teaching Critical Thinking* and are happy to say it was well attended and interactive.

Beside work, the conference provided us with chances to relax and mingle with delegates from all over the world. British Council hosted a reception at a marvellous Victorian landmark of Manchester: The Town Hall. Other events included International Word and Music Fests, Pecha Kucha, International Quiz Night, enlightening theatrical comedy Mrs. Hoover's Singlish and the famous storyteller guru Andrew Wright Storytelling Evening.

Finally, the next conference was announced. It will take place in Birmingham, 12-16 April 2016. It will be the first one organized by the new president, Marjorie Rosenberg. We wish all the best to the organizers and hope the 50th IATEFL Conference will be a complete success.

2015 Shades of ELT

Uherské Hradiště, the Czech Republic, 4-6 September 2015

The 10th International and 14th National Conference of the Association of Teachers of English of the Czech Republic.

Can you think of a better way to gain piles of useful ideas and the beginning of a new school year than to attend an ELT Conference?!

I was fortunate enough to be given an opportunity to benefit from such an experience.

The conference 2015 Shades of ELT was held at Univerzita Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně: Fakulta technologická, in a lovely Moravian town of Uherské Hradiště.

After freshening up at the hostel, located just next door to the venue, I was eager to listen to the first plenary speaker Graham Hall and his talk on *Tradition, innovation and change: teaching in theory... and in practice.*

In his talk Mr. Hall claimed that the relationship between theoretical ideas and what really happens in the classroom is not straightforward and that different approaches to language teaching and learning complement and contradict each other in complex ways. Rather than offering straightforward solutions, theory offers us an array of possibilities which we may or may not use in the classroom in accordance with our own professional knowledge and experience.

My presentation *Spice it up digitally* followed. I talked about digital tools that can help introduce some of the key skills for the 21st century schools. The tools in question are Skype in the classroom, Quizlet, Blendspace and Edmodo, and the key competences they aim to develop are Digital competence, Communication and Collaboration and Learning to learn competence.

Being scheduled for Friday afternoon was encouraging because although I was a bit tired after the travel I savoured the idea of enjoying the rest of the conference and socializing, stress relieved and unburdened by stage fright.

It was not easy deciding what to listen to on Saturday. There were plenty of great topics and professionals to pick from but after breakfast choices had to be made.

I decided to listen to Russel Stannard talking about Key tools that can impact on teaching and learning. He talked about some of the simple technologies that really impact our teaching and learning that even the most technophobic teachers would find useful.

After that I enjoyed David Fisher's workshop for young learners: *Creating Scenes with students. How and why.*





Mr. Fisher introduced to us some new games and activities taken from the world of drama which release a lot of creative energy while simultaneously providing valuable grammar and vocabulary revision for young learners.

Later on I was rather interested to hear what the difference between an English teacher and maths teacher is. The question was opened by Mr. Fisher who expanded the discussion by demonstrating a number of less traditional activities that can be used in the language classroom.

My professional development for the day ended with a treat, Russel Stannard's a double session in IT lab: *Tools that encourage collaboration and sharing*. This was a hands-on session with opportunities to use and work with the tools. The social programme for the night was the entertaining and pleasurable **The Proposal by A. P. Chekhov** performed by David Fisher's theatre group - The Bear Educational Theatre.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Sunday sessions and the closing ceremony because I had to rush home and back to school.

Much to my surprise I discovered that the Czech Republic is not only famous for its beer but also for the wine. Our hosts took us to wine cellars in the well-known **Vinohradská street**, to enjoy the delicious Moravian wine followed by traditional meals.

I enjoyed the conference immensely and felt truly welcomed due to the efforts and the hospitality of the organising committee.

Suzana Anić-Antić
International Coordinator

ABELTA What is it all about?!

Lidija Branilović, HUPE PR

ABELTA is an Alliance of Balkan English Language Teachers' Association whose main purpose is building bridges between ELTAs in the Balkan region. This region is mainly within the ex Yugoslavian countries and the teachers' associations coming from them: IATEFL Slovenia, HUPE Croatia, TETA Bosnia and Herzegovina, ELTA Serbia, ELTAM Montenegro and ELTAM Macedonia.

The aim is to make a sort of network where all the associations included will be able to share information and all the news in a simple and easy way. Also, there is a Facebook group ABELTA where all the newsletters from different associations are provided.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/716768141776224/?fref=ts>

RELO Office Hungary supports the idea of such networking and wishes all the participants to submit as many ideas for this project as possible.

The HUPE representatives for the first round of meetings are going to be Sanja Božinović, Davorka Nekić and Lidija Branilović, but the idea was born some time ago when our colleagues Marinko Uremović and Ivana Kirin first started talking about it with our Slovenian partners as well as other TAs in the region. There were several meetings so far (in Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary) and the work continues. HUPE Newsletter will keep you up to date.



A SNEAK PEEK INTO OUR CLASSROOMS

UNITED IN DIVERSITY

The Week of the Republic of Ireland
October 19th 2015 - October 23rd 2015
Davorka Nekić
HUPE Rijeka Branch President

*Your feet will bring you
where your heart is.
(Irish proverb)*

On October 19th two 6th class pupils, **Valentina Alinčić** and **Roberta Vučinić** opened the Week of the Republic of Ireland in both English and Croatian language.

With the last words of the opening speech the national anthem The Soldier's Song started. They heard it for the first time ever...and it was in Irish, not English.

The guided tour was led by a 6th class pupil **Vanja Vučinić** dresses like a little leprechaun, a tiny and witty creature from the Irish legends.

There was a desk at the very entrance with a Welcome sign in Irish as well as Oscar Wilde as a true representative of the Irish literature and a great figure to welcome all the visitors. There was a pot with shamrock - an obvious choice since it's the symbol of Ireland. We couldn't find a stag as the Irish national animal, but we managed to find a fawn whom we named Liam (meaning a strong-willed warrior). Although Liam is still a fawn, one day he'll grow up and become a beautiful Irish stag! The next in line to represent the magical Ireland was a little fairy named Órla (meaning a golden princess).



Photo 1 Vanja and her English teacher

After meeting Oscar, Liam and Órla, it was time to start our journey through Ireland with geography as the first stop. So pupils got the opportunity to find out that Dublin is its capital while there are other great cities such as Cork, Limerick, Galway and Sligo. They found out how similar Ireland is to our homeland and which two languages are spoken there. They were suggested to take lots of euros to buy their English teacher something nice if/when they go to Ireland.

The next poster presented the saddest event in the Irish history the Great Famine. Pupils were shocked when they found out how many Irishmen had lost their lives due to the mass starvation and how many had to leave their isle. And it

all began with the potato blight. The Emerald Isle became the isle left behind.

The pupils learnt that the Irish government is headed by the prime minister called the Taoiseach while the deputy prime minister is called the Tánaiste. There are also Seanad Éireann or the upper house of the Parliament called Oireachtas as well as Dáil Éireann or the lower house. They „met“ the president Michael D. Higgins as well.

Since we believe that the true power lies in women the following two posters were dedicated to the greatest women that have ever lived. And they lived in Ireland. There's Queen Maeve who started the Cattle Raid of Cooley just to steal a bull which belonged to her ex husband. Grace O'Malley was known as the pirate queen. Catherine Hayes was the most famous Irish soprano. Betsy Grey was and still is a folk hero in both Ireland and the northern Ireland. There's Annie Moore, the first imigrant to the USA. Lady Gregory co-founded two theatres while Maud Gonne is a woman responsible for Yeats' most beautiful verses (he proposed, she said no, he was hurt, she not so much...he wrote the most beautiful verses in his pain...for which he wasn't much thankful to Mrs Gonne...but we are because his poetry is definitely worth reading!). Lady Markievicz was one of the first women in the whole world to hold a cabinet position. And finally, the 21st century national hero is a young boxer Katie Taylor, the Irish, European, World and Olympic champion in 60 kg division! If you ever decide to study in Ireland, the top 5 universities are Trinity College, Dublin City University, University College Dublin, University College Cork and University in Limerick.

There are men in Ireland as well. We opted for James Hoban who designed the White House in Washington, DC, John Tyndall who studied the infra-red radiation and the physical properties of air and Ernest Walton, a Nobel Prize winner who artificially split the atom

There are so many sights worth seeing in Dublin that we simply had to make three posters. And even that wasn't enough to include all Dublin's landmarks. Children liked the National Leprechaun Museum very much because it's about leprechauns and all things inside are extremely big so visitors are actually as tinny as leprechauns. They were fascinated with Merrion Square after finding out how many famous Irish writers had lived there. There was Saint Patrick's Cathedral on one of the posters and they were very proud of themselves to remember that there are two cathedrals of the same name, one in the USA and the other one in Australia. Then they noticed Saint Mary's Church which is no longer the church but it has been turned into a restaurant and a pub. Kilmanheim Gaol was among the landmarks that drew their attention on the first sight because of the building itself. For those among you who don't know this it used to be a prison. Today it's a museum.



Photo 2 - Posters

The next in line were the posters presenting the notorious and the bright new film stars such as one of the best Bonds ever Pierce Brosnan and the man the older generations know for his role in Schindler's List while the younger ones know his from Batman, Liam Neeson. There's also Colin Farrell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers. The bright new stars are Evanna Lynch or famous Luna Lovegood from Harry Potter films, Misha Barton who made her name in The OC. There's Sarah Bolger who plays in The Tudors and Dominique McElligott who plays mostly in the independant films.

The most famous TV brands we could find are already mentioned The Tudors that deal with Henry VIII and his reign. There's Love/Hate about the criminal underground of Dublin. The Vikings are made in the Irish production as well. And finally there's Mrs Brown's Boys in which the main role of Mrs Brown is played by an actor Brendan O'Carroll.

After the film industry, we came to music or the legends such as The Dubliners and U2. But there's also one of the greatest vocalist ever - Sinéad O'Connor. There's a boyband that split several years ago Westlife and Ronan Keating, a singer who used to be a member of boyband Boyzone.

One of the greatest dancing attractions in the whole world - Lord of the Dance found its place on our walls as well.

After putting down our dance shoes, we came to the Magnificent Four as we have called them: Jonathan Swift famous for his Gulliver's Travels that, George Bernard Shaw who wrote Pygmalion, James Joyce with The Dubliners and Bram Stoker and his ever-inspiring Dracula.

The last in line was the poster about Saint Patrick's Day. It's celebrated on March 17th and people usually dress up in green. The symbol of Ireland is a shamrock which actually symbolised Christianity at the very beginning or more precisely the Holy Trinity.



Photo 3 Guided tours through the school corridors

There was a Powerpoint presentation about the Irish giant Finn McCool who wasn't so cool when he saw the Scottish giant Benandonner. Luckily for him, he had a clever wife who saved the day disguising him as a baby. If you are interested in the legend of the two giants, read „Finn McCool and the Giant Causeway“.

The British may have Jaime Oliver, but the Irish have Donal Skehan. And he's better looking than Jaime. If you want to try some traditional Irish dishes, you should follow Donal's recipes for Irish soda bread, Irish brown yeast bread, calcannon or the legendary Irish stew. When you make some, we promise to come!

There was a literary workshop held on Joyce's *The Cat and the Devil* as well as a film workshop on *The Magical Legend of the Leprechauns* which is based on the Shakespearean motive of love between „enemies“ like the one in *Romeo and Juliet*.

On the closing day, **Paul O'Grady**, the leader of Irish Maiden, the first school of Irish dances in Croatia came to our school and held a workshop which was a combination of the presentation about the Irish culture, singing and, of course,



dancing. We had a great time dancing the Irish dances.

Photo 4 Paul O'Grady's workshop

To finish in the Irish style:

*May your troubles be less
And your blessings be more
And nothing but happiness
Come through your door.*

European Day of Languages - celebrating diversity

Dijana Kirić, OŠ dr.Ivana Novaka Macinec
Lidija Branilović, HUPE PR

European Day of Languages was celebrated on September 28, 2015 in dr.Ivan Novak primary school in Macinec. We came up with an idea of making a video with our students. They made dialogues (introducing themselves to each other) in several languages: Croatian, English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Hungarian and Roma. You can watch it at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyhkbYRei2A&feature=youtu.be>

Also, the entire school watched the video and the posters which were presented in the school hallway and English language classroom the flags of many European countries, the famous children song written in many languages.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Topic: "Making Teaching Count!"
November 23-24, Vlorë, Albania

23rd IATEFL Slovenia Conference
March 3-6 2016, Terme Topolšica, Slovenia

BRITISH COUNCIL **webinars**

Keith Harding - From ELT to TLE: taking learning beyond the classroom

This webinar with Keith Harding looks at ways of making the most of the learning opportunities that lie beyond the classroom. The concepts of online learning, blended learning and the flipped classroom will be explored, in addition to more established ELT orthodoxies. Finally, Keith will offer a new approach and methodology: the 'Total Learning Experience' (TLE). The webinar takes place on **Thursday 26 November** at 11 am GMT. Find out [more](#)

New professional development webinars on EnglishAgenda

Join our series of new continuing professional development webinars in November and December on EnglishAgenda. On **Thursday 19 November**, Dr. Sandie Mourão will look at the teaching of English as a Foreign language in pre-primary education and share the results of a British Council ELTRA funded project which investigates the effectiveness of incorporating an English learning area into the children's play options.

On **15 December**, Bríd Ní Chatháin will discuss how to improve reading comprehension for learners with dyslexia. She will explore some of the difficulties and suggest practical strategies and techniques for teachers who want to support struggling readers.

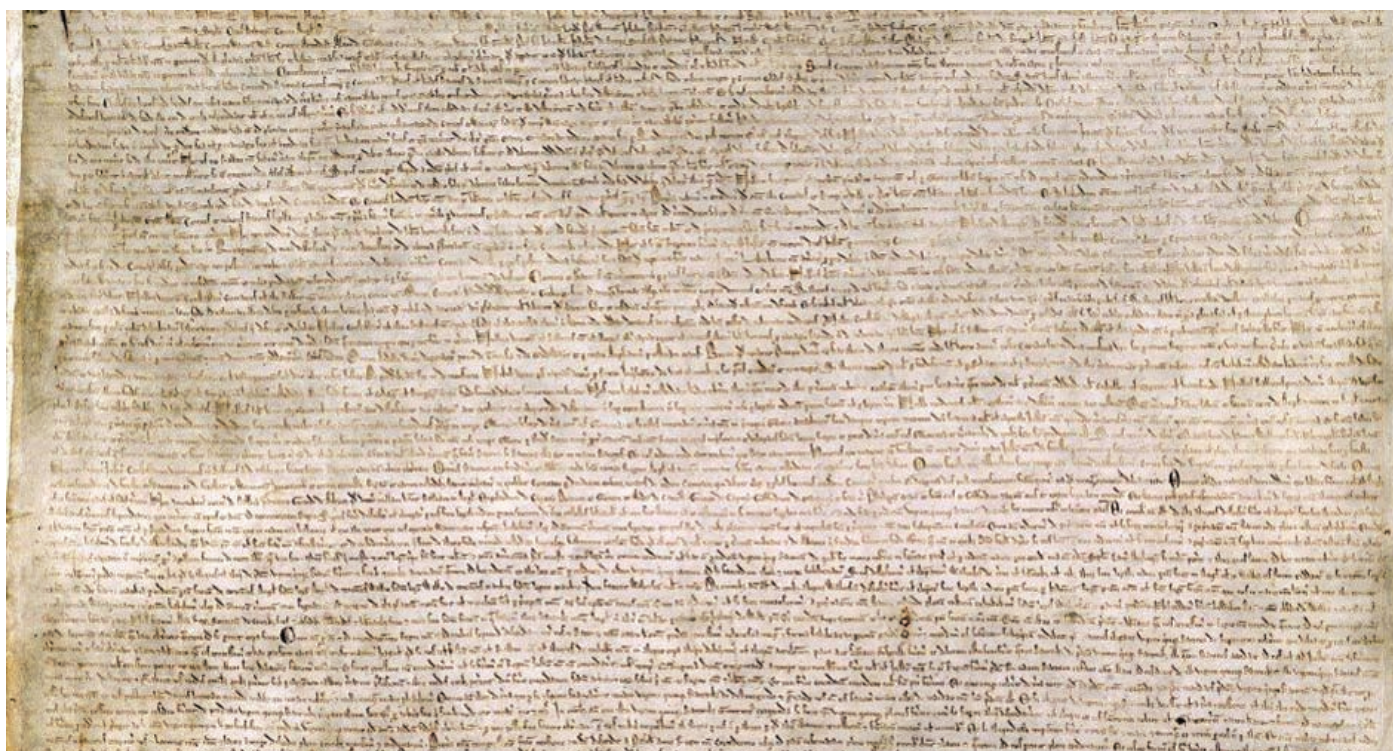
Find out more information and how to register on the [EnglishAgenda website](#).

Become a TeachingEnglish blogger

Would you like to have your own blog on our [TeachingEnglish website](#)? If you are a [registered user](#) on TeachingEnglish, you can write to teachingenglish@britishcouncil.org to become a blogger. **Find out more** about sharing what you do as a teacher and **visit the [TeachingEnglish magazine](#)** to see what other teachers are blogging about.

Exploring English: Magna Carta

A free online course starting on 30 November 2015



Improve your English language skills while exploring the Magna Carta.

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