



AGM at St Andrews

The AGM and Convention this year started with a talk by Guy Thatcher *A Journey of Days* chronicling his 700 km walk along the Pilgrims' Path to Santiago di Compostella. This fascinating story can be revisited via his eponymous book available through www.guythatcher.com

An excellent lunch was catered by Sharon Phillips of Christ Church Cathedral and followed by the meeting.

President's Report

The Branch membership is holding its own which is not the case unfortunately in the rest of Canada in contrast to the global expansion of the ESU. We had had a good season program-wise, thanks to the efforts of Joyce Wright. SHOP had thrived despite smaller representation by participating schools. The Sladen Shield being completely filled up, had been retired and is now permanently held by the Nepean High School which had fielded the most winning competitors. In its place, the Barbara B. Young Award had been instituted in honour of Barbara Young in recognition of the many years that she had so successfully run the SHOP program. Barbara presented the Award to this year's winner from Lisgar Collegiate. The combination of Fanny Collet from Ottawa U. and John Campbell as the SHOP judges had worked well. On top of which we had just heard that our sponsorship of Fanny for an ESU Scholarship to attend a Shakespeare seminar at Oxford University in the UK, had been successful. Don also recognized the outstanding performances of young musicians who had entertained us. As to the "Words at Work" initiative discussed at last year's AGM, to ensure its long term viability, sponsorships are required and to this end, the intention is to draft a "sales" document.

The ESU profile was heightened through collaboration with the Multicultural Arts in Schools and Communities (MASC) program and with the University of Ottawa International Seminar on "Wartime Shakespeare" and through increased advertising of our events.

continued on page 2, column 1

Shakespeare Scholarship

If you were at SHOP last November you will remember Fanny Collet, one of the Judges. As a result of close cooperation between ESU Ottawa and ESU Canada, Fanny was awarded a scholarship by ESU HQ in London, to attend a week-long course on Shakespeare at Stratford-upon-Avon. The course is open only to students whose first language is not English. The scholarship covers everything except travel and the Ottawa Board voted to extend it by \$500 to help with travel costs.

Don Macpherson, joined by Harold McIlquham and John Wright, presented Fanny with her cheque.

As this is being written, Fanny is in England. We will hear all about her trip on her return.

Two New ESU's

The two latest ESUs are Malta and Turkey, both launched this summer. Joyce and I took a two-week vacation to attend both events.

Malta was launched on May 28th in the presence of the British High Commissioner to Malta and the Maltese High Commissioner to the UK. The ceremony in Istanbul took place in the garden of the British Consulate, hosted by the Consul General.

In both places the Organizing Committees had arranged programs for the international visitors. The contrasts are obvious - Istanbul is a city with a population of nearly 13 million and Malta is an island with about 400,000 people. The similarities are in the enthusiasm for the work of the ESU and the preparation and early achievements of the new members.

Both places are steeped in history. A briefing talk in Malta covered 4,000 years of conquest and reconquest and its vital role in WW II. In Istanbul the history is in the buildings - Topkai Palace, the Hagi Sophia and the Sultan Ahmet Mosque known as the Blue Mosque being prominent.

Illustrated diaries have been placed on the ESU Canada web site, www.esu.ca, under the "Launches & Meetings" tab.

John Wright

continued from page 1, column 1

At the National AGM, President John Wright challenged Branches with a number of possible ways to advance the objectives of the ESU. We will seek to respond in some measure to that challenge in 2010-2011

Directors 2010-2011

Don Macpherson paid tribute to Brian Hull for his contribution as President and, more recently, as Vice-president. Brian chose to step down but all the remaining Directors agreed to continue.

Directors are elected at an AGM and positions are elected or assigned by the Board at their meeting immediately following.

President: Don Macpherson
 Treasurer: Greville Price
 Secretary: Graham Booth
 Membership Secretary: Kate Booth
 Events Coordinator: Margaret Turnbull
 Telephone Coordinator: Betty Campbell
 Director, Comms and Mktg: Harold McIlquham
 Director, Program Committee: Joyce Wright
 Newsletter Editor: John Wright
 Director: Allan Higdon

Strawberry Social

Rena Waddell invited everyone to her home for a Strawberry Social on June 19th. As we drove up the rain stopped and the sun came out to welcome us.



About 25 members enjoyed the berries and the chance to sit and chat. Two members are of particular note - a slimmer version of Brian Hull, making his first appearance at an ESU event since undergoing major surgery in January (everyone was pleased to see how well he looks), and Margaret Lossing who was a member some 30 years ago and has just returned to Ottawa. Margaret and her daughter, Susan Baldwin, are now our newest members.

Our thanks to Rena with strong hints that we would like to be invited back next strawberry season.

Incidentally, the Education Fund benefitted significantly from the event.

(Sur)Real Headlines

“Include Your Children When Baking Cookies”
 “War Dims Hope for Peace”
 “Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half”

President's Notes

.Since the last issue of ThE-SUrvey, Branch members have enjoyed the National and Ottawa Annual General Meetings, the splendid Strawberry Social hosted by Rena Waddell and where we welcomed our newest members. Summer came and now the days are shortening and we are returning to business. Not that the summer was entirely spent in idleness; the Board, and particularly Program Director Joyce Wright, have been mapping the events for the Fall, details of which are in this issue.



During my time as your President, I have written or spoken of steps that the Branch could take to expand our role as “An Educational Charity Working for Youth” through the development of new programs of service and/or the revitalization of formerly successful ones. Not only would we be fulfilling our mandate but would ideally be raising our profile in a way that would gain new members. But, as we all know, in organizations such as ours, to deliver good programs requires people and money and the attraction of people and money requires good programs, with the breaking of that “chicken or egg” cycle often being a lengthy process.

In the near future, however, we hope to have documents ready to enable us to launch a more focussed fund-raising effort aimed at both individuals and potential corporate sponsors. To do so will require what we might call a “Ways and Means Committee” to plan the approach. If you would be interested in participating in that Committee please call me or any of the Board members. Alternatively, we will be calling some of you to ask for your help

Don Macpherson

Credit Cards

Putting difficulties in the way of anyone wishing to donate or pay for events is not in our best interests but we do not (yet) have sufficient volume to warrant setting up a credit card account. Cheques, please.

Shakespeare the Seer

In 1599, Shakespeare anticipated the solar powered calculator. He wrote, “It is the bright day that brings forth the Adder” (Julius Caesar, Act II, Scene 1).

Special Event - St. George's Dinner, April 30th, 2011

Fall Program

Please use the reservation sheet to make your bookings

<p>Speakers Circuit</p> <p>Fanny Collette</p> <p>October 5th</p>	<p>As noted on page 1, Fanny Collet was awarded a scholarship to a Shakespeare study course in Stratford-upon-Avon. This is the first time a Canadian has been given a place on the course so we look forward to hearing all about her trip and how much it meant to her. Fanny's ambition is to direct opera so the opportunity to learn stagecraft from seasoned Shakespearians was an exciting prospect when we last spoke to her.</p>	<p><u>Date:</u> Tuesday, October 5th <u>Time:</u> 11:30 for Noon <u>Place:</u> Army Officers' Mess 149 Somerset Street West <u>Cost:</u> \$25 members or guests <u>Closing date for reservations:</u> Friday, Sept. 24th</p> <p>Please note the earlier than usual closing date. We have to give numbers to the Mess on Monday afternoon, 27th September.</p>
<p>"Where There's a Will"</p> <p>(Shakespeare on the Platform)</p> <p>November 23rd</p>	<p>There will be a little bit of an edge to our Shakespeare competition this year. Nepean High School will be making a determined effort to regain the top spot after being displaced by Lisgar in 2009. For us this means an even higher standard of competition. Light refreshments will be served after the competition.</p>	<p><u>Date:</u> Tuesday, November 23rd <u>Time:</u> 6:00 for 6:30 pm Please be in your seats no later than 6.15pm. <u>Place:</u> Ottawa Public Library Laurier Entrance <u>Cost:</u> No charge (Donations only) <u>Closing date for reservations (we need the numbers):</u> Friday, Nov. 19th</p>
 <p>December 5th</p>	<p>After a little bit of trial and error we seem to have found the ideal arrangements for our Christmas Luncheon. The one o'clock start seems to suit and the menu and the entertainment will follow our established 'tradition'; turkey with the trimmings and Christmas pudding. Jim Brough and some young musicians will entertain us. Come in good voice! Our thanks to ESU and Rivermead member Bill Terry for sponsoring us.</p>	 <p><u>Date:</u> Sunday, December 5th <u>Time:</u> 12:30 for 1:00 <u>Place:</u> Rivermead Golf Club Lower Aylmer Road <u>Cost:</u> \$45 members <u>Closing date for reservations:</u> Friday, Nov. 19th</p> 

Vegetarian? Allergies?

We can make arrangements for vegetarian meals and omission of allergy triggering ingredients. Let Margaret Turnbull know when you are booking and, please, do not leave it until the day.

Royal Commonwealth Society Events

We have been invited to join RCS members at their events this fall. For the Barbecue the contacts are S. Sirjoosingh (613-829-2540) and C. Givogue (613-234-3405). Cheques to: Royal Commonwealth Society, PO Box 8023, Station T, Ottawa ON K1G 3H6.

For the other events please contact Joy Tilsley (613-747-7318 or rcsca@magma.ca).

Barbecue - Friday, September 3rd, 5:00 pm at Andrew Haydon Park. The cost is \$18

Buffet Luncheon - Wednesday, September 8th, 12:15 pm at The Host India Restaurant, 622 Montreal Road. The cost is \$20 plus tax, service and drinks.

Commonwealth Conversation - Thursday, November 4th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Residence of the Australian High Commissioner. Cost \$5. Light refreshments.

Kiwanis Music Festival - Fund Raiser

October 2nd, 7 pm - Shenkman Centre, Orleans

Jim Brough, our "resident pianist" is President of the Kiwanis Music Festival and one of the organizers of the fund raiser. It will feature Anita Pari, stars from several TV shows and a silent auction including a Baby Grand owned by John Diefenbaker's secretary. The cost is \$80. Light refreshments will be served. Look for media ads.

National Report

A regular Ottawa Branch event used to be a **film luncheon at the British High Commission**. The change of government in the '90s brought about a change in the type of videos available and the event was dropped. After the UK elections, we now have two friends on the government benches in the House of Lords, Lord Hunt and Lord Watson. I received this note from Lord Hunt, "I completely agree with you about the need to restore the catalogue of available videos, and I have mentioned this to my colleagues in the Coalition Government and will continue to do what I can to help."

ESU Canada working with Graphic i d, has developed a **line of clothing with ESU logo**. This includes hats, shirts, vests and rain jackets. Graphic I d has found Canadian manufacturers for all items, offering high quality at reasonable prices. The catalogue is shown on our web site.

We have **3 students at events in the UK** this summer. As well as Fanny Collet, Ethan Chess (St. Paul's, Winnipeg) and Jordyn Benattar (Branksome Hall, Toronto) represented Canada at the International Public Speaking Competition. We understand that, although they did not win, they did well.

The **2010 International Council** meeting in Albania (October) will be of greater than usual significance. The constitution does not fit well with the expansion outside the original members (Commonwealth and USA) so it needs attention.

A domestic issue that needs attention is **insurance**. Venues are asking that users carry the burden of insurance when on their premises. We are looking into the issue.

"**THE-SURVEY**" is published for the enjoyment and information of the Members of the Ottawa Branch of the English-Speaking Union of Canada.

Please mail your requests for tickets to our events to:

Mrs. W. R Turnbull (Tel: 613-226-6529)

Our address is: **Box 23079**

Ottawa ON K2A 4E2

Poetry Corner

In **Martin Wickham's** absence (at his daughter's wedding in Mexico) I thought to look for early Canadian poetry. I found one by Archibald Lampman (a favourite of Martin's), *The Story of an Affinity*, but at over 2,200 lines it would not quite fit this space. Next, I stumbled on poems in newspapers and selected two.

The Montreal Herald provides the overture, with an 1812 poem:

Conscience (Anon)

"Tis not the gilded palace, nor the dome,
In fretted work magnificently gay,
Which gives morality the peaceful home,
The cheerful moment, and the tranquil day;
Tis something more than palaces can give,
Or fretted dome, or pageantry supply;
Tis what instructs the wisest how to live,
And shews the proudest how they ought to die,
Tis confidence, trembling at the voice of God,
That inly whispers to the high and low;
Which points religion to the blest abode,
And bids her triumph in the midst of woe.
For all is woe beneath yon splendid orb;
An aching void replenish'd ill by mirth;
A thousand sorrows all our joys absorb,
And half our raptures perish at their birth,
Then who can trust the visionary ray,
And live regardless of a world to come?
Or who prefer ambition's short liv'd day,
To that which gives an everlasting home?"

For a happy ending, **A Happy Christening**, also anonymous, which appeared in the Quebec Mercury in July, 1806.

Thomas weds - and four months barely pass o'er his head,
When his spouse (god be thanked) of a boy's bro't to bed.
'Now what shall we call him, my dear?' said his wife,
'Let me think,' answered Tom - 'Call him Courier, my life,
For he's travelled a journey of nine months or more,
To my joy and delight, in the short space of four!'

John Wright

Charitable Donations

The Educational Trust of ESU Canada is a registered charity. Donations have to be made to ESU Canada to qualify for tax relief. Donations made in the name of **Ottawa Branch** will be used only for Ottawa projects.

Gifts or bequests of securities are exempt from capital gains tax on the donor and recipient.

The charitable registration number is 119231546RR0001.