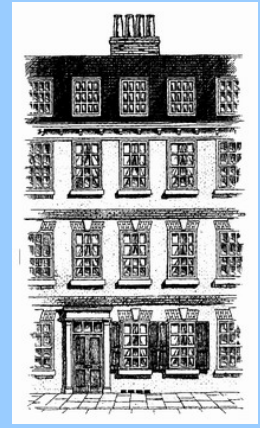


The English Language Centre



Alumni Newsletter – Issue 2, October 2007

Alumnus n. (pl. alumni; fem. alumna, fem. pl. alumnae). A former pupil or student of a particular school, college or university.

A Message from Hugh and Judy

Dear Students,

We have enjoyed a very busy summer here at the school – our busiest so far – with students from 38 different countries!

One of the highlights of the last few months was that ELC reached the finals of the prestigious Yorkshire Tourist Board ‘White Rose Awards’ for our customer service. As you know, we care very much about the service we provide, and so we are delighted that this has been officially recognised.

It has been wonderful to hear from so many of you since our last newsletter. Please do keep sending us your news!

With our very best wishes, Hugh and Judy



Hugh and Judy sampling delicious Korean food during a visit this year

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▶ White Rose Awards Nomination

We were thrilled to reach the finals of the annual Yorkshire Tourist Board 'White Rose Awards'. These awards recognise excellence in tourism and hospitality across the Yorkshire region, and ELC was short listed in the fiercely contested category of 'Outstanding Customer Service'. Everyone at the school is very proud of this achievement!



Judy MacDermot, Hugh MacDermot, Nick Milner, Jeannette Bollen-McCarthy and Sally Astbury attending the awards ceremony

▶ Exam Success

We are delighted that between June and September Jose Andre, Maria Medzhidova, Elena Talikova, Welwitschia Carvalho, Marco Costa, Ivandro Teixeira, Majd Ghozey, Kamuran Yesilkaya, Onder Tutsoy, Paulo Faria, Paulo Benge, Sultan Binhizan, Ludmylla Spornyk, Feras al Hasoun, Ozcan Arslanoglu Ozden Isbilir, Waleed Mlafekh, Guo Zheng Li, Feras al Hasoun, Fan Yang, Kristina Podrezova, and Munira al Habsi all received their IELTS qualification, with scores ranging from 5 to 7. Also Yeon Taek Kim achieved his FCE. Congratulations to everyone for all their hard work!

▶ New Technology

We have improved the facilities in the school yet again. The PCs in the self-access computer room have all been replaced with new models, complete with flat screen monitors. Of course, students are still free to link into the wireless network in the Multi-media Centre if they prefer.

▶ Nationalities



In the past four months we have been very pleased to welcome students from 38 different countries!

These were Algeria, Angola, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Netherlands, France, Germany, Hungary, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan,

Korea, Kuwait, Latvia, Libya, Mexico, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and Venezuela.

▶ Staff News

We were all sorry to say goodbye to Linda Hoyle, who left the school for a career change. But we are also delighted to welcome two new members of staff, Anna Barrett who takes over as Registrar and Sue Smith our new Front of House Co-ordinator. We also have a new full-time teacher on the staff, Laurence Koster. Laurence taught English in Sri Lanka, Spain and Turkey before returning to the UK in 2006. They are all very much part of the team already!

▶ Students Out and About

As always, we have had a very busy social programme running throughout the summer.



Students have been all around the region, including excursions to Castle Howard, the National Mining Museum, and York Brewery. Closer to home, evening activities have included theatre visits, pub nights and of course a cinema trip to watch Harry Potter!

Alumni News

This section of the newsletter is all about our past students. We love to hear from people who have studied here in the past, and find out what they are doing now – in their studies, career or life in general! We also love to hear our students' memories of York.

Since the last issue of the newsletter in May we have been very pleased to hear from:

Alumni 2005

Tae Won Lee (South Korea)

Tae Won has returned to South Korea, and is currently working for a city gas company in Seoul. He has kept in touch with friends from ELC York, and was involved with a reunion of Korean and Japanese ELC Alumni in Seoul (see picture below). The Korean students have now promised to make a return visit to Japan. Tae Won remembers how friendly both teachers and students were during his time at the school.



ELC Korean and Japanese Alumni in Seoul –
Sunny, Haruko, Ayako, Taewon, Jane, John, Kaori, Dana

Alumni 2006

Václav Jung (Czech Republic)

Vaclav has many recollections of his time at the school, and remembers enjoying every minute. He was encouraged by his time at ELC to continue studying English, and he still enjoys it!

Gabriella de Vito (Italy)



Gabriella is back in her hometown in Italy, and is training to be a lawyer. She has two years to complete before she qualifies. She remembers York as 'the best time of her life', and has wonderful memories of her host family, the teachers, the 'big family' of staff, and her fellow students.

Ren Zhuhua – Jane (China)

Jane is currently working as an English Teaching Researcher in Dongguan Education Bureau, Guangdong, China. She hopes to be able to visit us again some day, and has fond memories of the school, particularly Judy's kindness.

Silvia Benegiamo (Italy)

Since leaving ELC Silvia has returned to school in Milan, and is now in her fourth year. She remembers an amazing time in York, particularly the experience of meeting people from different countries, many of whom she has kept in contact with. This also gives her the opportunity to continue to practise her English!

Alumni 2007

Yeon Taek Kim (South Korea)

Yeon Taek remembers an unforgettable time in York!

Salah Hasan (Libya)

Salah has returned to Libya, and is married to Asma. They have two children, a son Serag, and a daughter Maream. He is now continuing his studies, and has started an English Language course in Tripoli.

Simona Bonfanti (Italy)



Simona loved ELC, and hopes to return next year!

We also heard from:

Mariana Irabien Sauri (Mexico), Waheed Ahmed Gabaga (Libya), Victoria Garcia Tunez (Spain)

We want our newsletter to be all about our past students, so please keep sending us your news! This is a great way to tell your old classmates what you have been doing, and of course find out about your friends.

Please send us your news, and we will include it in our next newsletter (January 08). This could include:

- ▶ ‘Where are you now?’ – Tell us what you’ve been doing since you left ELC and where you are studying or working.
- ▶ Exciting things that have happened to you since you left us – for example have you got married, or had a baby?
- ▶ Memories of your time in York.

Send your news and photos to jeannette@elcyork.com. Please include your name and nationality, the dates you attended ELC, and where you live now. Don’t forget to send us your photographs and we will include these too.

We can’t wait to hear from you!

Lost Friends

▶ Lost Addresses

Have you lost the address of a friend from ELC but would like to contact them?

If so, please send your name, your contact details and who you would like to contact to jeannette@elcyork.com. You can also include a message if you would like to. If we have their correct details, we can then tell them that you would like to contact them.

▶ Reunions

If you would like to organise a reunion, we are happy to publicise it here. Tell us where and when the reunion will take place, and of course don't forget to send us your photographs afterwards!

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