



- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia
- Austria
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- England & Wales
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- India
- Japan
- Korea
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lithuania
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Morocco
- Nepal
- New Zealand
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Sierra Leone
- Sri Lanka
- Tajikistan
- Thailand
- USA
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The heats for the **Schools Public Speaking Competition** will take place on Saturday 6th March. There will be heats in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen, so please do come along and watch. Almost 100 pupils will be taking part, speaking on the topic "Knowledge is Power". The Edinburgh and Glasgow heats will take place at the HSBC offices, and the Aberdeen heat will be at Aberdeen University. For times and location details please contact the office or look at the ESU Scotland website. The competition is generously sponsored by **HSBC**.



"Sherlock" violin

On 18th March we are holding a **Conan Doyle Concert** at the ESU to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's birth, featuring the "Sherlock" violin, made by local violin maker, Steve Burnett, from a tree from the garden of Conan Doyle's childhood home. We have heard the violin being played at the ESU and the sound is fantastic! The concert will comprise Scottish and classical music, played on the "Sherlock" by Feargus Hetherington, with readings from the works of Conan Doyle. The concert is generously sponsored by **Renew Physio**. Tickets cost £10 from the ESU office.



The **John Smith Memorial Mace** Debating Competition for Scotland took place at Glasgow University Union. For the first time it moved to a one-day event, and 20 teams of the best university debaters in Scotland took part. A day of great debating culminated in the final between three teams from St Andrews University and a team from Edinburgh University, debating the motion This House Would Ban Alcohol. After a fierce competition, Sebastian Osborn and Charlie Brown from Edinburgh University became the 2010 Scottish Champions. The competition is generously sponsored by **Baillie Gifford**.

The ESU is holding a **Fundraising Jumble Sale** on Saturday 10th April. We will have books, clothes, bric a brac, a tombola, cakes and tea and coffee. **We need your donations, please!**



EFL class



Our **EFL classes** are really busy this term with a wide range of nationalities coming to improve their English. Both the day and evenings classes are almost full, and we have just started an elementary class. The **International Coffee Mornings** are also proving popular with students and members.



Burns Supper

The **ESU Burns Supper** is always an eagerly anticipated event, and this year's did not disappoint. There were many humorous and enjoyable speeches, especially the Reply From the Lassies, given by Dorothy Grace-Elder. The event raised over £660 for ESU funds, and we would like to thank everyone who spoke. We would also particularly like to thank Tom and Anne Drake, Irene Smith and Evelyn Banna who all worked incredibly hard to prepare the delicious feast.



In focus...

Annika Grüber, one of our former EFL students and our current intern talks about her experiences of ESU Scotland...

My name is Annika and I have just finished my third semester as a student of American Studies at the University of Leipzig in Germany.

After I finished school in 2007, I came to Edinburgh and worked as an au pair for one year, mostly because I wanted to improve my English and I was not sure what I wanted to study. During this year I attended classes the Upper-Intermediate and the Advanced classes at the ESU. In the second half of my year I joined the Cambridge Advanced Exam class to help me prepare for the IELTS exam. I chose the ESU classes because I hoped to find friends and, of course, to become more confident with my English. I achieved both of those things.

Firstly, I met some of my best friends in Edinburgh during the classes. However, what was just as important to me was meeting people that were new in this country just like me and to be able to talk about the experiences we had trying to get used to the Scottish way of life. The ESU classes had the right atmosphere so we felt comfortable talking openly. Secondly, the classes also helped to improve my English and have confidence while talking to native speakers. I really enjoyed the tasks and my homework. At this point I realized this is what I wanted to do: English. I started to look for branches of study where I could study the literature and history of English speaking countries.

I chose American Studies and so far I am really enjoying it. This field of study gives me the opportunity to learn more about American history and literature which is something I have always been interested in. My university gives us the opportunity to do an internship in order to replace a course in the next semester. Of course it should be related to our studies. So, after doing a bit of research, I decided that I wanted to go back to the ESU and learn a bit more about what they do.

Now I am really looking forward to my remaining 5 weeks as an intern at ESU Scotland. During these weeks I will join the classes, the creative writing group, and the coffee mornings. Furthermore, I will be involved in the marketing, the general office administration, and in updating the website. The biggest project, though, will be the American Studies Library. After my first week I have an overview of the books that are available and, given my own experience, I know every American Studies student could use it. I will use the rest of my time to advertise the library and to make sure people are aware of the resource possibility they have here.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

■ Saturday 6th March
Schools Public Speaking Competition
 Generously sponsored by HSBC
Knowledge is Power
 Edinburgh heat 10.00am-3.00pm
 Glasgow heat 10.00am-3.00pm
 Aberdeen heat 10.00am-2.00pm
For details, please contact the office or look at the ESU website

■ Thursday 18th March, 7.00pm
Conan Doyle Concert
 Generously sponsored by Renew Physio
 23 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh
 £10 please book with the office

■ Thursday 25th March
 12.30pm-2.00pm
Edinburgh Branch Lunch
Andrew Stewart QC
Advocate Depute
Scots Law in the English-Speaking World
 Overseas House, 100 Princes Street, Edinburgh
£12 please book with the office

APRIL

■ Thursday 1st April
 6.00-8.30pm
Creative Writing Group
 23 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh

■ Friday 9th April
 10.00am-12.00pm
International Coffee Morning
 23 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, £2

■ Saturday 10th April, 10.00am
ESU Jumble Sale
 23 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh

■ Thursday 22nd April
Inspired? Get writing! Award Ceremony and Readings Day
 10.30-11.30am **Under 12**
 1.30-3.00pm **12-15, 16-18 years**
 5.30-7.00pm **Published and Unpublished adults**
 Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh

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