

Ni Festivalu!

18th – 20th January 2008
Wedgwood Memorial College

The 'festival' weekend is designed for Esperanto-speakers to 'do their own thing.' It is open to groups – federations, for example – to arrange their own programmes but to eat communally (and to relax afterwards in the pub) with members of other groups.

A weekend course, beginning at 17.00 on the Friday (dinner at 18.30) and finishing after lunch on Sunday. Take part in the yearly Theatre group *or* the new Study Circle

It should be noted that the weekend is for experienced speakers of Esperanto and not for beginners or those seeking tuition in the language.

'Ah! Perfekte! La fraŭlino ...'

Participants in the 2007 theatre weekend, the main feature of the winter 'Ni festivalu!' weekend in Barlaston, found simple lines – such as those in the title of this piece – sometimes difficult to deliver.

Therefore one of the aims of this winter's 'festival' is to concentrate on delivery, encouraging participants to think of the meaning of the lines they are saying and to invest them with appropriate emotion.

The principal play to be discussed, and which offers suitable scenes and speeches for special study, is Julio Baghy's *Sonĝe sub pomarbo*. In 2008 the play celebrates its 50th anniversary and so the weekend offers a chance to pay homage to one of the most significant Esperanto dramatists.

Owing to the length of the play it will be possible to study extracts only. These, however, have been carefully chosen to offer an overview of one of the principal verse dramas in the Esperanto canon.

Participants are also invited to bring with them short pieces of favourite Esperanto drama or verse by Esperanto writers (not translated from other languages) to present during the weekend.

Paul Gubbins

The first annual Study Circle

The Circle will discuss several social, political and philosophical themes during the w/end. This based on tried-and-tested themes, with notes, organised by Derek Tatton and which have created lively debate in the *Blue Mugge* Pub in Leek over the past two years.

The arrangements are simple and flexible. A minimum of six makes a viable number for each session; the following themes will be offered for this w/end:

Left and Right defined the 20th century - what next? (based on *Prospect* magazine survey of 100 writers and thinkers)*

'Bursting at the Seams' (based on 2007 Reith Lecture)

Humanism - Questioning God (based on notes provided by Bill Simcock);

Artificial Intelligence (based on Melvyn Bragg's 'In our Time')

Hysteria - the normal state of human beings? (based on MB's 'In our Time')

All discussions conducted in Esperanto. * An example of notes sent with this e-mail. For detailed background on the Leek Circle project see: www.weacircle.blogspot.com Circle co-ordinator Derek Tatton welcomes help translating the notes on the above into Esperanto (one side of A4 for each theme). Contact derektatton@btinternet.com

Notes on each of the above (in Esperanto) will be circulated to potential participants one week in advance of the NF w/end. Please indicate which **two** of the above themes you will commit yourself to attend (attendance at others then optional).

Derek Tatton

If you wish to attend the *Ni Festivalu* weekend, please book your place as soon as possible to ensure that the course has a viable number of participants 😊

Fees:

Single Bedroom:	£100.00
Shared Bedroom:	£93.00
Non resident:	£82.00

En-suite per room for weekend

Single	£10.00	Shared	£16.00
--------	--------	--------	--------

En-suite bedrooms are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Do not, therefore, pay the en-suite supplement in advance.

Further enquiries:

The Office Manager

Wedgwood Memorial College
Station Road Barlaston
Stoke on Trent
ST12 9DG

Tel: 01782 372105/373427 Fax: 01782 372393

E-mail: wedgwood.memorial@swann.stoke.gov.uk

www.sgfl.org.uk/wmc

SEMAJNFINO 'NI FESTIVALU'
Vendredo 18a de januaro – dimanĉo 20a de januaro 2008

Enrolment Form:-

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

I enclose a non-refundable deposit of £20

*Please make cheques payable to Wedgwood Memorial College. **Please pay the balance no later than three weeks before the beginning of the course. Should you enrol for friends, please give their name and address, together with room/diet requirements.***

I require vegetarian meals*

I will be non-resident*

I am student/unwaged/retired*

I would like an en-suite bedroom*
(*Please tick as appropriate)

I will attend: *theatre group/study circle/to work in Butler Library/to 'do my own thing'* (delete as appropriate).

Do you have any special dietary requirements? If so please state below.

If you have any special need (ie ground floor/first floor bedroom; loop system) please indicate below.