

**PRINCIPAL
POINTS**

As you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter, we have had a busy and stimulating year so far. The summer in Broadstairs and Penzance was fantastic, with brilliant weather for most of our high season period (although those who came in certain weeks in August might question that!). At this time of the year, though, we remember that KSE has never just been a summer school. We are busy all year round.

For example, during the academic year, September to July, we have a steady stream of school groups here in Broadstairs. These groups now come from seven or eight different countries, giving us an international mix in most weeks. School groups are very rewarding for all of us as we know that the students get so much out of their stay, in terms of communicative ability, developed confidence and an insight into British culture and go back to school with renewed enthusiasm for their English lessons.

We also teach business people year-round, run special courses in Broadstairs, Penzance and in other countries, deliver teacher training courses and spend a lot of time on professional development and the production of new teaching materials.

So, we have very few quiet weeks which, I have to say, we are grateful for! If your students have been with us this year, thank you for your continued support. If they weren't, well, we hope to work with you next year!

andy.flraig@kentschool.co.uk

**LILLE MUSIC BUSINESS
WORKSHOP**

Earlier in the year Philip, Andy and Dave P visited Lille to deliver a specialist course "A record company simulation." Dave P explains. . .

After an evening of gastronomic delight, including champagne, stuffed tomatoes, paté, veal and cake (amongst other things), Andy, Philip and I made our way to the Lycée Prive Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle to deliver a specially-designed one-day business course.

The course ran from nine o'clock in the morning through to the late afternoon. It consisted of a series of connected authentic activities – all using English. The trainees spent the day making executive decisions, planning marketing strategies, tracking the progress of their products over the course of a year's sales and then making adjustments to their marketing plans to take into account the successes and failures of their monthly sales. The trainees were very enthusiastic about the prospect of running a record company and by the end of the day we had a "winner", the group that had made the most profit over the course of the "year". The facts and figures behind all of the decision-making were a direct result of my experience in the music business in the 1980s, which I hope gave the experience a feeling of authenticity.

**INTERNET RESOURCES
FOR ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TEACHERS**

This was the title of a seminar led by Andy, with Kevin's technical assistance, in Catania in the spring. The idea was to show teachers what

resources were available for them and their students on the internet.

The seminar covered a number of areas, looking first at how teachers could trust the materials (many of them free) that they found on the net, suggesting a number of criteria which could be applied, and moving on to look at examples of good and not-so-good materials.

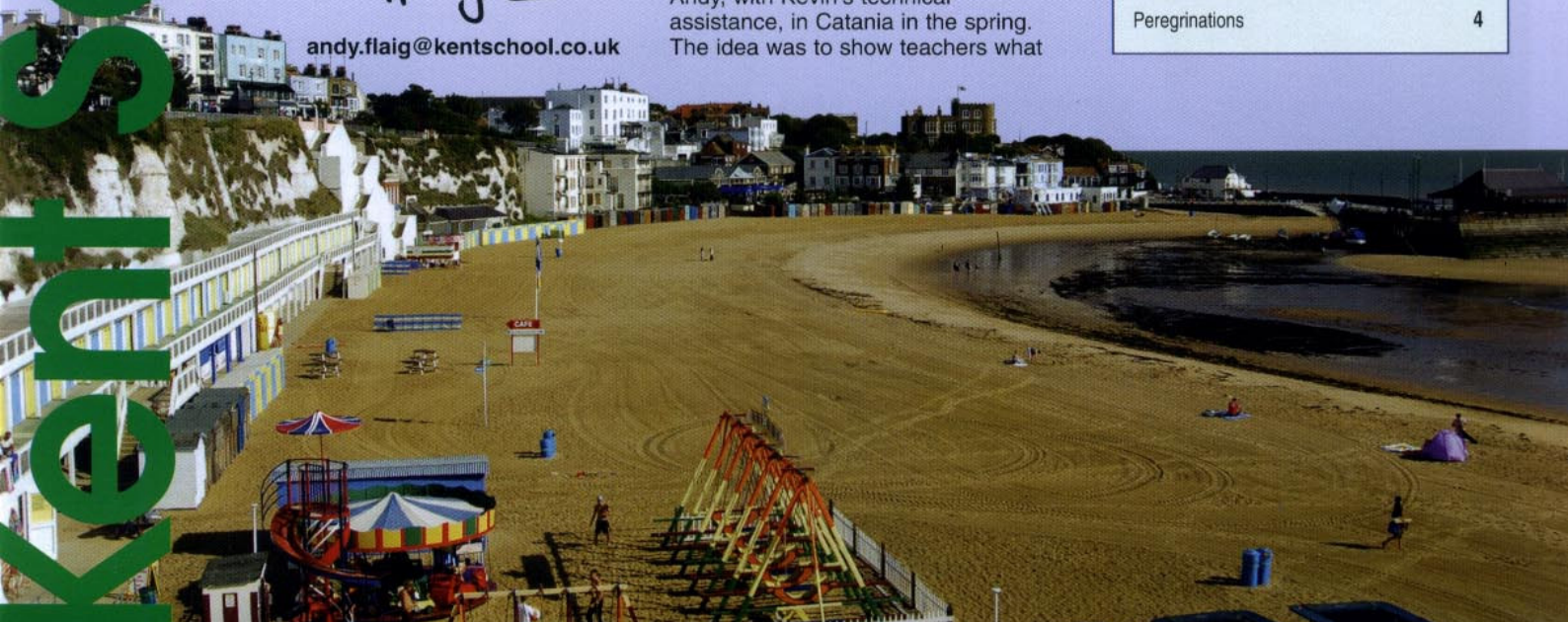
Part of the seminar dealt with different forms of e-learning. The buzz words here were "synchronous" and "asynchronous".

There was a session which looked at ways in which teachers could tap into what the net has to offer in circumstances where their schools do not have tremendous resources ("But my school has only one computer!") and time devoted to materials which could be found for the development of the four skills.

The session ended with participants putting their questions to Dave, a very entertaining chat-bot. A Powerpoint presentation with lots of links to the resources discussed can be found on our website (kentschoolofenglish.com/catania).

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TEACHING THE TEACHERS – HORSES FOR COURSES RATHER THAN COURSES FOR HORSES

Teaching English as a foreign language is a special skill and needs special training. That's something we're proud to do at KSE in conjunction with Trinity College, London, and through our on-going training programme of observations and seminars. Dave Parsons writes. . .

Our June Trinity CertTESOL course was a great success, with everyone passing with flying colours. Several trainees bit the bullet and stayed on through the summer, jumping in at the deep end and putting their theory into practice in our classrooms.

One, Damien, returned to Germany, where he teaches, but will be back again in November wearing his group leader's hat.

We plan one or two courses per year, the next being pencilled in for February 2007. We must be gluttons for punishment!

Another string to our bow is our programme of continuing professional development. This involves regular observation of teachers in the classroom and in-service training seminars on various subjects. Recent topics have included: error correction; exploiting classroom resources fully; and using music in the

classroom. We always make the observations constructive and it seems, on the face of it at least, that the teachers appreciate our efforts. Unless they're just pulling our legs, or the wool over our eyes!

The above article contains 11 idiomatic expressions (not including pencilled in) - why not see if you can find them?

The answers are listed on the last page.

For definitions and explanations of the origins of these and many more idiomatic phrases visit: www.phrases.org



Anne Chadwick - CertTESOL candidate

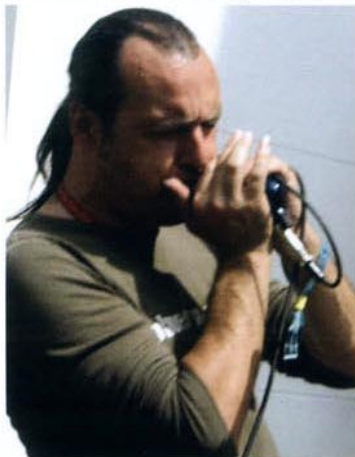


Paul Ruocco - CertTESOL candidate

FOLK WEEK

Did you know that Broadstairs hosts a major international, music and dance festival every August – Broadstairs Folk Week? Nigel Feist, KSE's very own musical maestro, explains.

Being a local musician, this is my favourite week of the year. Folk musicians gather from all over the world to celebrate in our charming seaside town. Folk Week begins on a Friday and this year I played in the Tartar Frigate, by the harbour, in my duo Open Harp Surgery. On Saturday, we were supposed to play in the new Westwood Cross shopping centre but I'm afraid bad weather stopped play! Then Sunday was in the Dolphin with my band Broken Biscuit. Tuesday and



Nigel blows out his brains

Wednesday saw me playing five gigs with Australian guitarist Roland Chadwick. Friday I compered a show in the Folk Marquee, introducing some friends of mine who I stayed with in New Orleans. Then Saturday was the finale, a show in Broadstairs Pavilion with my new band The Blues Academy. After all that I was glad to return to KSE for a rest!! Now I'm looking forward to entertaining you at a 'Folk Songs' evening next time you visit us.

THE OTHER END OF THE TELESCOPE OR LIFE AT THE SHARP END

KSE Director of Studies, Sue Wall, highlights the mutual benefits of work placements. . .

As English becomes ever more important in the world of international trade, more students want the opportunity to gain work experience in an English-speaking country. This year KSE has arranged courses for students from L.B. Alberti, Turin and Peter Roza Secondary School, Budapest to prepare them for work placements in local companies. The school itself has been happy to offer work placements to many students. Among these, Martina, Andrea, Lorena, Eva, Katia and Giulio from Italy and Amanda from France worked in both the Accommodation Office and

DOS's Office. From Hungary, Szuzanna, our laminating expert, and Emese helped us to restock our ever-increasing banks of material. Christiane and Deborah from Germany spent several weeks in the height of summer carrying out numerous invaluable duties for the Operations Office.

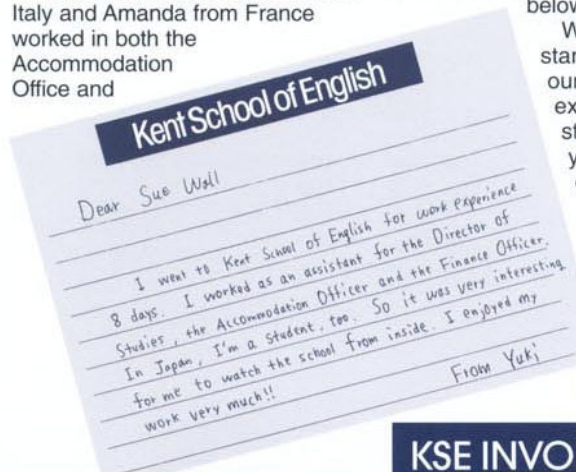
Some of these students had followed the preparation courses at KSE, while others came through agencies or personal contacts with the school. All the students found the experience to be very useful as they could practise their English in real situations. Our most recent placement was Yuki (her letter is below).

We are already starting to plan for our next work experience students, so if you, or someone you know,

would like to be considered for a placement at KSE, please contact Sue Wall, Director of Studies via: enquiries@kentschool.co.uk



Yuki, our Japanese work placement student



The Kent School website is constantly being updated and improved. Why not visit the following pages?
<http://www.kentschoolofenglish.com/podcasts/podcasts.htm>
http://www.kentschoolofenglish.com/study_zone/links.htm

e-NEWSLETTER FOR TEACHERS

In addition to the 'regular' KSE newsletter (an example of which you are reading at this very moment) we plan to launch a series of regular e-mail only newsletters designed particularly for teachers of English. If you would like to receive these newsletters, which will contain articles of interest to teachers, sample lessons and useful links to resource websites, please contact us with your email details at: enquiries@kentschool.co.uk

KSE INVOLVEMENT IN THE CLIL PROJECT

In October, Chris led a workshop in Pordenone, Italy, designed to help teachers who are not specialist teachers of English to teach content subjects using English as the language of instruction. Typical subjects offered in this mode are mathematics, physics, history, biology and philosophy. KSE's objective was to make the teachers aware of techniques used in teaching English as a foreign language and to help them to transfer them to their own lessons.

CLIL - Content and Language Integrated Learning - is an educational approach in which

non-language subjects are taught through a foreign or second language.

A successful CLIL lesson should combine elements of the following principles: content - progression in knowledge and skills related to a defined curriculum; communication - using language to learn whilst learning to use language; cognition - developing thinking skills which link concept formation and language; culture - exposure to alternative perspectives and shared understanding.

The approach has been adopted by several European countries.

AMBASSADORIAL AMBITION

"I'd like to be a Hungarian ambassador," declared Petra Birincsik, 16. The student from Eger, 150km north-east of Budapest, revealed her amazing ambition as she chatted to Philip Carter about her experiences at KSE.

Learning English is very important for Petra. She has been having intensive English lessons at school back in Hungary and will soon be studying maths, geography and computer and information technology through the medium of English.

Petra thinks her course at KSE has really helped her. "My speaking has improved and we are always talking in class," she says. Her class has included students from Hungary, Italy and Germany. She loves the KSE lessons: "It's easier to learn if the teacher is sympathetic. KSE teachers don't behave like teachers, they're really friendly!"

But she admits her time in Broadstairs has been very busy and she hasn't had a minute to

spare. Afternoons and evenings have been spent on activities organised by KSE and led by KSE teachers. Petra has enjoyed playing volleyball and tennis, and she is very enthusiastic about the evening activities: "I loved the barn dance and karaoke." A high point of her visit was the trip to London. She says, "I liked Tower Bridge the best."

Petra believes staying in a host family has also helped improve her English: "They always ask me questions," she says. She has shared a room, with a German student. "We speak to each other in English and I am always explaining what I am saying." Petra finds her host family's Victorian house with its "traditional English sofas" very comfortable. And she says, "I love English food and I like English tea with milk."

Petra believes learning English will help her career and she would like to go to a British university. But in the meantime she says, "I'd like to come to an English school for a year."



Petra Birincsik from Eger, Hungary

MULTINATIONALS TRAIN FOR THE FUTURE WITH KSE

KSE has built up an impressive portfolio of business clients over the years and new names this year include Radison Hotels, Fujifilm, BASF and the Streit Group.

Stories of mergers, acquisitions and increasing globalisation dominate the business headlines these days. No-one in business can ignore the amazing growth and economic importance of China and India. For people working in business this means more and more global communication. International companies use English for external communication, and increasingly for internal communication too. This is where the Kent School of English can help.

KSE's Philip Carter says, "The Kent School of English has been helping business and technical people from around the world to develop their English skills for many years." Philip explained that there are a range of courses providing intensive tuition in small groups or, if appropriate, 1-to-1 coaching is also available. He added that, although the training was intensive the aim was to create an informal atmosphere: "Busy business people have enough to contend with so we aim to make our courses as stress-free as possible. If the students are relaxed and happy, they learn more quickly."

Philip and several other colleagues who have business

Songwriters get inspiration from the summer. . .

"Summertime and the living is easy. . ."; "Those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer. . ."; "We're all going on a summer holiday. . ."; etc., etc. Philip Carter explains why there's no "relaxing by the pool" for the staff at KSE. . .

While the school children of Britain take time off to enjoy the much maligned British summer (which this year was exceptionally good) we're busy welcoming friends old and new to our courses in Broadstairs and Penzance: (run this

summer by Barry and John W). KSE's summer of 2006 has been memorable in many ways. We have been glad to welcome groups from Serbia and China for the first time. Both stayed at our residential centre at Wellesley House. Nigel, ably assisted by Mark, planned and juggled dozens of different activity programmes each week, helped by glorious weather in June and July. The extensive fields and sports facilities at Wellesley House provided the perfect backdrop with Paul Ruocco, KSE's karaoke king, co-ordinating activities on the ground.



Penzance students preparing to stop a penalty!

IT'S AN ENGLISH THING

As you may be aware, there are some new 2006/2007 season KSE T-shirts on sale. However, demand has been so great that stocks have been depleted and some customers, regrettably, disappointed. But never fear! New stocks have been rushed in and now we are offering a mail order service, so that any students who missed the opportunity to buy this spectacular souvenir now have a "second bite at the cherry."

Email your order(s) to: enquiries@kentschool.co.uk stating quantity and size. Shirts come in s, m, l and xl. Don't forget to include your delivery address. The t-shirts cost £5.50

each. Postage and packing is £1.80 to Europe. Payment can be made by paypal via: www.kentschoolofenglish.com



Jessica models the new KSE t-shirt

COMPETITION CORNER

KSEBROADSTAIRS

Make as many words as possible from the above - minimum four letters, e.g. bride. No plurals, no proper nouns, no foreign words (unless used regularly in English). You can use a letter more than once only if it appears more than once, e.g. s

In the event of a tie the person with the longest word will be the winner. Closing date Christmas 2006.

Send your answers to: chris.mcdermott@kentschool.co.uk

For more information on adult and business courses visit the website at: www.kentschoolofenglish.com

A COURSE, A COURSE, MY KINGDOM FOR A COURSE

In 2007 KSE will continue to offer its successful programme of courses aimed at students up to 20 years old coming as individuals or in groups, who can choose either Student 15, Student 21 or Special Course options (see box below).

For adults the KSE "menu" offers a wide range of courses from one-to-one tuition and small intensive classes for business executives, to teacher training for non-native speakers, as well as

classes for special interest groups and for those who simply want to brush up their English.

All details of our 2007 programme can be found on our website:

www.kentschoolofenglish.com
or in our brochure, which can be requested by emailing:
enquiries@kentschool.co.uk

The headline is a misquote of a famous line from one of Shakespeare's plays. But which one?

See "Answers" below.

SOME EXAMPLES OF RECENT "SPECIAL COURSES":

- Flower growing (ILCO, Spain)
- Wine marketing and production (Saumur, France)
- English and golf (Reykjavik, Iceland)
- Soundscape (Acireale Magnasco, Italy)
- Engineering and TOEIC examination practice (AFPI, France)
- Record company simulation (Lille, France – delivered off-site in Lille).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Doris Frank, who brings the Mittelfranken Teacher Trainer group and the Treuchtlingen group to KSE, who was the winner of our Gunpowder Plot themed competition last time. Doris doesn't win the Booker Prize but she will be receiving a book prize!

DID YOU KNOW?

Incidentally, did you know that David Mitchell, who was shortlisted for the Booker Prize (Britain's most important literary award) for his novel *Cloud Atlas*, was once a teacher at KSE? More in our next newsletter.

Another famous writer from Broadstairs is Bruce Robinson, who wrote the screenplay for the highly-acclaimed British film, *Withnail and I*. He also wrote a book based on his experience of growing up in Broadstairs entitled *The Peculiar Memories of Thomas Penman*.

Oliver Postgate lives in Broadstairs and is famous (here at least!) for creating some of the best-loved children's TV characters of the 1970s - among them *The Clangers* and *Bagpuss* (why not do a Google search to find out more?)

John Buchan wrote *The 39 Steps* whilst staying in Broadstairs recuperating from an illness. To see more (and some pictures of the actual steps) visit:
http://www.undergroundkent.co.uk/39_steps.htm

BACK PAGE PICTURES

Top to bottom:
KSE teacher Philip and BASF's Pompeo Levanto

St. Michael's Mount, near Penzance, Cornwall

A group discussion at KSE
An English day as seen from a tree!

Work experience students
Philip teaching the teachers
Group visit to Dover Castle

ANSWERS

The eleven idioms in the article *Teaching the Teachers – Horses for Courses* rather than *Courses for Horses* were:

1. Horses for courses.
2. To pass with flying colours.
3. To bite the bullet.
4. To jump in at the deep end.
5. To wear his group leader's hat.
6. To be gluttons for punishment.
7. Another string to our bow.
8. To come to light.
9. On the face of it.
10. To pull someone's leg.
11. To pull the wool over someone's eyes.

The Shakespeare misquote: "a course, a course, my kingdom for a course" should read - "a horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse" and comes from Richard III, Act V, Scene IV.

PEREGRINATIONS

A brief round-up of KSE staff travels

In February, Chris taught teachers and students in Erlangen, Fulda and Munich.

In March, Chris and Dave S taught intensive weeks in schools in and around Lagonegro in Italy.

In April, Chris was one of a team who ran a weekend seminar for secondary school teachers in Dillingen, Germany.

In May, Chris and Nigel ran a workshop for teachers and taught students in Kaufbeuren in the Allgau, Germany.

Shortly after, Chris travelled to Bordeaux with Adrian where they ran English Days in schools. They then went to Brest to teach primary school teachers and students.

In October, Chris ran a workshop for teachers of subjects other than English (see the article on page 2—KSE Involvement in the CLIL Project).

Sue was in Germany in May/June SKT Testing at The Akademie, Dillingen and returned later in the month to hold primary school TT seminars.

Dave P spent a week in Latronico, Italy with Dave Smith – teaching a range of Scuola Media students. Visits to Poland and Estonia are on the cards for later in the year. Dave P was also part of a team that visited Lycée Prive Saint Jean Baptiste de la Salle in Lille to deliver a specialist course entitled A Record Company Simulation (see the article on page 1—Lille Music Business Workshop).

Philip was also part of the team that went to Lille. The third week of September saw Philip in France again (with Lewis, John W and Jon HA), in Auxerre with the engineering students at AFPI.

Adrian has been on his travels too this year—running English Days in France (Brest, Plabennec, Bordeaux, Nantes); Poland (Krosno); Ukraine (Kharkiv, Dripropetrovsk); Moldova (Chisinau), and Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Rostov-on-Don, Volgograd).

And last, but by no means least, Andy and Kevin went to Catania, Italy, to run a seminar about using the internet for language teaching and learning (see the article on page 1 – English and the Internet).

All in all it's been an interesting time!

