



ITI-LRG Newsletter



Issue 31

www.iti-lrg.org.uk

November 2012

Editorial

Hello and welcome to the November issue of the LRG Newsletter. Although it is nearly the end of the year, there is still plenty to look forward to as we will be holding our AGM and Christmas Party in December. See the enclosed booking form for further details and don't forget to book your place! There are also events in the pipeline for 2013, including an EU Translation Workshop and a Meet the Client event.

As you know, this is my last issue as Newsletter Editor. It is a great pleasure to introduce Lina Molokotos-Liederman, who will be taking over from me after this issue. I'm sure that she

will do an excellent job of producing the Newsletter.

This issue of the Newsletter includes a review of the successful guided London walk that took place in September and an interesting article by Membership Secretary, Daniela Ford, on her recent travels to Qatar.

See you at the Christmas party in December. Enjoy the Newsletter.

Rosemary Harvey, Editor

LRG membership subscriptions due!

Membership renewals are due at the beginning of the year.

With this issue of the Newsletter, you should have received a renewal notice. Please don't forget to renew your membership!

Forthcoming LRG Events

LRG AGM and Christmas Party

Thursday, 13 December 2012

Function room at the Devereux Pub,
Devereux Court, Essex Street, nr
Strand, London, WC2R 3JJ

Nearest tube: Temple or buses to The Strand

This year's AGM and Christmas party will take place at the Devereux pub, which many of you will already know from previous networking and CPD events. We look forward to a strong turnout at the AGM.

In keeping with treasured LRG tradition, the Christmas party buffet will - of course - include mince pies and mulled wine. We hope that it will be a good way to round off a successful year of events.



Please see the enclosed form for more details of how to book your place. Booking closes on Wednesday 5 December. £14 per person for LRG members; £19 for non-members.

EU Translation Workshop

Friday, 1 February 2013

1.45pm for 2pm (ending 5.30pm)

Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU

Nearest tube: Westminster, Waterloo, Victoria; bus 507 from Waterloo or Victoria, stop: Millbank

Another opportunity to work on EU texts with John Evans, Language Liaison officer at the EU Commission in London.



John will cover French, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish, and Ann Pattison will be facilitating the German group.

There will also be information on tendering for EU freelance work and staff options as a translator or interpreter and some background to the in-house tools used by translators in DGT.

Europe House has a first-class conference room with full PA/AV facilities; catering will be by Plum Duff. Tea/coffee and light refreshments will be served.

NOTE: numbers will be strictly limited to 40. This is sure to be a popular event so early booking is advised.
This event qualifies for 3 hours' CPD.

Acknowledgement: The EU Translation Workshop is being hosted and co-organised by the European Commission Representation in the UK. It will be led by John Evans of the European Commission. The cost of registration covers refreshments and administrative overheads.

Cost of registration: LRG - £15; non-LRG - £25; Students (limited places) - £5.

How to book - an Eventbrite booking form will be set up in late December; full details will also be on ICE, in the Jan/Feb issue of ITI Bulletin, on the London Regional Group website (www.iti-lrg.org.uk) and circulated via the LRG Yahoo group.

Meet the Client: a joint LRG / University of Westminster event Seminar for LRG members, non-members and students
Wednesday, 13 March 2013
5pm to 8.30pm
University of Westminster, Regent Street, London



Another in this series of very popular events designed to bring freelance translators and interpreters and translation and interpreting companies together.

A panel of translation company representatives will talk about what they look for in a translator or interpreter, how they evaluate CVs, their relationship with their panel of freelance service providers, and the specialist skills they value. After short presentations by each of the 4 translation/interpreting company representatives, there will be a Q&A session during which participants will be able to engage the representatives on all aspects of the freelance contract.

This event is suitable for translators and interpreters at all levels: students, new entrants to the profession and experienced practitioners alike.

Past events have been very informative and helpful in bringing work and service providers together.

Fyvie Hall is a large, comfortable venue, with full PA/AV facilities. Refreshments will be served at the start of the evening and during a mid-evening break.

Please reserve the date now: a booking form will be posted to Eventbrite early in 2013. Further details will also be posted to the LRG website (<http://www.iti-lrg.org.uk/>), to ICE and circulated via the LRG Yahoo group.

The event is open to LRG, non-LRG members and to students. This event qualifies for 3 hours CPD. Please note: this event is supported by the National Networks for Translation and for Interpreting

*Costs to include refreshments:
LRG members: £15; non-LRG: £25; Student: £5.*

Review of LRG Events

Guided London Walk 20 September 2012

Our walk began at the Blackfriar pub in, appropriately, Blackfriars. Roger Bone, our guide, set the scene evoking the wine shops of the Romans, in this most ancient part of the city, before the arrival of the beer-drinking Anglo-Saxons. Rather surprisingly, the marble-lined pub interior represented a fine example of Art Nouveau. On the wall was a photograph of

poet John Betjeman who had successfully led a campaign to secure the preservation of the pub.

As we moved north east from Blackfriars towards the church of St Andrew by the Wardrobe, Roger drew our attention to the tangle of alleyways. After the Great Fire of London, plans had been drawn to replace them with broad thoroughfares. However, the English Civil War had left both Crown and Parliament short of cash. As a result, today we can still wander

among medieval streets in the heart of the City. The site of the Wardrobe, once the king's storeroom, is now a quiet residential square.

Our next pub, on St Andrew's Hill, was thought to have been frequented by Shakespeare. However, the Cockpit also attested to historic customs 'more honoured in the breach'. A round inner space overlooked by a viewing gallery was once the site of cock fighting. This barbaric practice continued after others, such as bear baiting, had been abolished as, we were told, it was considered 'aristocratic'.

Our tour proceeded to St Paul's Cathedral. That elegant dome was ever a symbol of London, of England, beloved temple of the nation. Or was it? Roger explained that St Paul's was originally rejected by the London populace who did not appreciate its fancy foreign architecture and obvious reference to St Peter's in Rome. The latter was the result of pressure from the French king on England's merry monarch, and secret Roman Catholic, Charles II.

The popularity of the cathedral only began to grow when it became the resting place of Admiral Nelson. The body of the

hero of Trafalgar was sent home in a barrel of brandy, or rather half a barrel of brandy as sailors had apparently found ways of siphoning off the preserving medium and using it for their own purpose. This revolting anecdote gave rise to the phrase 'tapping the admiral' which means 'taking a small quantity of strong liquor'.

Our final pub of the evening was Williamson's Tavern, hidden away in a courtyard close to the ancient route of Watling Street. The pub claims to hold the oldest excise licence in the City. Monarchs William and Mary dined there, perhaps when celebrating the success of the Glorious Revolution. Their portraits are among many lining the walls. There were interesting beers on tap including the refreshingly sour 'Urban Dusk' produced by a North London microbrewery.

The evening ended with an excellent curry at the Rajasthan, close to the Monument. Thanks to our knowledgeable and enthusiastic guide Roger Bone, we had experienced so many centuries of history in one evening.

Michelle Homden

LRG News

Email address changes

Remember to let Membership Secretary Daniela Ford know if you change your email address so that we can keep our records up-to-date. This will ensure that you don't miss any important announcements or issues of the Newsletter.
Daniela: dford@softrans-ltd.com

New LRG members

We welcome the following new members who have joined the LRG since May:

Martin O'Brien, Devorah Karp, Tess Appleby, Anna Useli, Laura Bennett, Cristina Boscaino, Alexander Gansmeier, Laura Pastondi, Michelle Homden, Marta Stelmaszak, Gwen Clayton, Louisa King and Katharine Mears.

If you are interested in taking over either of these fun, voluntary roles, please get in touch with:

- Peter Linton (peter@lintononline.co.uk); or
- Pamela Mayorcas (translation@mayorcas.eu).

Being Minutes Secretary or Events Secretary means that you will be involved in all aspects of LRG business. Both are an excellent way to get to know more people within LRG and ITI, to raise your profile and earn valuable CPD points.

You will be given full details of what is involved.

Committee vacancies

The following LRG committee members will be stepping down at the end of the year.

- The Events Secretary
- The Minutes Secretary

LRG Success at the London Language Show
Olympia Exhibition Centre, Kensington, London
Friday 19 - Sunday 21 October 2012

The London Regional Group came up trumps at this year's London Language Show. Members of the Group, together with a couple of very public-spirited volunteers from other parts of the country, ran the ITI stand, spending three full days, helping visitors with their enquiries, handing out literature, giving advice based on their own experience as translators and interpreters. All volunteers are to be thanked for their commitment, enthusiasm and giving of their time.

We were immensely grateful for the help and support provided by Elizabeth Dickson, ITI's Admissions Officer, who was able to answer very specific enquiries about eligibility for the various membership grades.

The stand was extremely busy, on all three days, something noted by the Show organisers who were pleased to see the professional level of visitor attracted to the Show. Many visitors were established translators or interpreters.

On the Saturday, LRG was offered use of the Professional Networking Suite. We organised a "speed dating" and networking event with free chocolate bars as a draw! The Networking event was an opportunity for translators and interpreters to meet fellow professionals, for newcomers to meet people with experience of starting up in the business and an opportunity to discuss the issues of the day and share news and information.

According to feedback from the show organisers, it was one of the busiest networking events to take place that weekend. Visitors were asked to respond to and share their ideas on two questions: what is the best thing, what is the worst thing about working freelance?

Some of the positive aspects identified were: flexibility, choosing what work to do, variety.

The negative aspects were: lack of financial security, dealing with customers, isolation.

On the Sunday, LRG celebrated another first with a seminar, 'A day in the life of a translator', presented by Elizabeth Dickson, Philippe Galinier, Kari Koonin and Lina Molokotos-

Liederman. The panel explained what daily life is like for translators, provided some guidance as to how to get into the profession and how to develop the necessary skills and how to develop one's market. All four speakers managed, skilfully, to fit a huge amount of vital and relevant information into a very short timeframe. Inevitably, there was a big rush of enquiries to the stand, after the seminar.

There was a capacity crowd for this event and, again, LRG is extremely grateful to all four panellists for giving their time, both delivery at the show and the preparation work beforehand. The high quality presentation was very much appreciated by the Show organisers.

As proof of how delighted the organisers were, we have been invited to give the presentation again, at the 2013 London Language Show, possibly in a fully-fledged conference suite that will enhance the presentation and be more comfortable for panellists and audience. (18-20 October 2013.....reserve the date now!).

During meetings before the Show, LRG members were also able to provide some advice and guidance on programme and content and this was found to have been very helpful in ensuring the Show's success and relevance to visitors, up by 5% on 2011, with a total of 9,528 visitors.

Pamela Mayorcas

Eventbrite

LRG has started testing a new event booking system called Eventbrite – a website allowing us to organise online registration for events. We hope that it will make things quicker and easier for everyone. You will have the opportunity to try it when booking for future events (including the Christmas party).

ITI News and Events

News of forthcoming ITI events and CPD opportunities:

ITI Conference 2013 – Save the Date

The ITI Conference will take place over the weekend of Friday 17 / Saturday 18 / Sunday 19 May 2013. ITI is inviting interested parties to submit proposals for talks and panel discussions. In addition, it is also inviting proposals for a new innovation in the form of 3-hour, in-depth pre-conference

seminars/workshops to be held on Friday 17 May.

Details of the conference venue are currently being finalised. However, the venue will be London (provisionally in the area of Gatwick Airport).

Noticeboard

34th Translating and the Computer Conference and Exhibition 29-30 November 2012

1 Bird Cage Walk, London

A meeting point for translators, researchers and students in the translation and localisation field.

For more details see www.aslib.co.uk/conferences/tc_2012

Correction

The September issue of the Newsletter included an article by a new LRG member about her *pro bono* work with the Rainforest Association. Her name was incorrectly printed as Claire Simon, when it is in fact Claire Simon Camara Opaleye (or Claire Opaleye for short). Apologies for this mistake.

Three weeks in Doha, Qatar

LRG Membership Secretary, Daniela Ford, recently spent some time in Doha, Qatar. She has kindly written an article about her interesting experience there.

It all started on 6 June 2012, with an email from the Executive Director of TII (Translation and Interpreting Institute) at Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Doha, Qatar. She had met one of my colleagues from Imperial College in May in London this year and he had recommended me to her; they were looking for someone to teach Translation Technology to their students in their newly launched MA in Translation.

After many email exchanges we finally agreed that I would teach a mini-course on Trados for 3 weeks, starting on 7 October. The first day of the week in Qatar is Sunday so my first class was actually on a Sunday evening. The weekend here is Friday and Saturday. The course turned out to be not so mini, though, as I was teaching three 2-hour sessions per week over 3 weeks. The students (I only had 6 students as it was the first year of this new course) were all great and all passed the exam at the end. What an achievement! I arrived in Doha on Saturday, 6 October at midnight, business class with Qatar Airways, all paid for. The university had booked an Executive Studio in the city centre of Doha for me and arranged transportation to take me to the university and drive me back, all paid for by the university. And my salary is tax-free because there is no tax in Qatar. Nice!

Everything from day 1 here was an amazing experience. I met so many nice people, both Qataris and from all over the world (not many Europeans, though) and even managed to go on a desert safari and see the camel race track and training. They use robot jockeys during the races and they look really funny. I also went out to the souk (market) and had a meal with several colleagues from TII; everyone here has just been amazing.

If there is one thing I can recommend to anyone working as a freelance translator, it would be not to concentrate just on translating but to try to diversify, e.g. by going into teaching translation or translation technology as well. You will pass your knowledge on to the next generation and teaching can be extremely rewarding. And you never know what other opportunities await you round the corner! Apparently, TII wants me to come back next year— let's see what happens!



Daniela with 3 Qatari guides on desert safari in Qatar



Camel racing in Qatar – training session with Pakistani camel trainers and robot jockeys

LRG events programme for winter 2012 / 2013

<p>Thursday, 13 December 2012 6.30 for 7pm</p>	<p>LRG AGM and Christmas Party Devereux pub, 20 Devereux Court, Essex Street, London WC2R 3JJ The LRG AGM followed by the Christmas party. Not to be missed. <i>Cost: £14 for LRG members; £19 for non-members.</i> <i>Booking: please see enclosed form. No later than Wed 5 December.</i></p>
<p>Friday, 1 February 2013 1.45 for 2pm</p>	<p>EU Translation Workshop Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU Event hosted and co-organised by the European Commission Representation in the UK. <i>Price: £15 for LRG members; £25 for non-members.</i> <i>An Eventbrite booking form will be set up in late December.</i></p>
<p>Wednesday, 13 March 2013 5pm to 8.30pm</p>	<p>Meet the Client University of Westminster, Fyvie Hall, Regent Street Advice from a panel of translation company representatives. <i>Price: £15 for LRG members; £25 for non-members.</i> <i>An Eventbrite booking form will be set up in early 2013</i></p>

See www.iti-lrg.org.uk for the latest updates on forthcoming events.

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