Hall Fire Hits the South Devon School

On the evening of April 27th, during a rehearsal of Shakespeare’s Macbeth, fire broke out in the roof space of the South Devon school’s Eurythmy Hall. Despite the rapid deployment of several fire engines it proved impossible to contain the fire and by late evening the roof had collapsed into the hall, leaving only the walls standing and a warped steel frame where the roof had been. The next morning it was school as usual. Pupils and parents gathered in stunned silence on the tarmac between the main school building and the charred remains of the hall. In a brief assembly teacher Paul Georgiadis gave an image of the phoenix tapping away inside its egg waiting to be reborn, waiting to be reborn to release what the future wants. He also reminded us of the many assemblies, plays and performances that were to take place in the hall for the next few years after the hall was built. The mood was reflective but upbeat. The hall was a beautiful space and very much the perceived heart of the school; the hall was a living thing, clearly in evidence on the morning after the fire.

Lawrence Edwards taught in the Edinburgh Rudolf Steiner School from 1947 to 1979 and continued to lecture on the part-time Teacher Training Course, which he co-founded with Paul Georgiadis, for several years after that, ‘commuting’ from Storløkken in the western highlands, whether he and his wife Barbara had retired from schoolwork on his special interest was Astronomy and Mathematics and already at the age of 16, giving a talk on Astronomy to the pupils of the school, in his first year at Sevenoaks School, he revealed his gift for clarity and enthusiasm in his presentation. After a further 50 years as a teacher, Lawrence Edwards died on 10th February 2003 at the age of 88.

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The SWSF/University of Plymouth Foundation Degree in Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education and Care

We are pleased to announce that the new Foundation Degree has been approved by the University of Plymouth. The Approval Event took place on March 12th. 2014. This course will be available as from September 2014.

The SWSF University of Plymouth Foundation Degree in Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education and Care will begin formally registering applications to the Minister, which will then release funds for the consequent feasibility study. This submission needs to include indication of how the school will honour and raise consciousness of the Steiner school solve its immediate accommodation crisis even before it has become one of ‘their’ schools.

Christine Dowling
SWSF

Puppets For Peace

On 15th May 2004 the 2nd annual PUPPETS FOR PEACE DAY took place around the world. The international nature of the event includes an inclusion of where the £600,000 of sponsorship money will come from. This is a substantial sum for us to raise. Having said that, it is not possible for us to do quite simply. In this case, we have the opportunity to do quite anything we want. This is a substantial sum for us to raise. In this case, we have the opportunity to do quite simply. In this case, we have the opportunity to do quite simply.

Peace Pole Planted at the Edinburgh Rudolf Steiner School

On the afternoon of Friday May 14th, pupil and teachers at the Edinburgh Rudolf Steiner School held a World Peace Flag Ceremony. This was followed by the dedication of an inscribed stone Peace Pole set in the school’s orchard. The flag and Peace Pole dedicated to the visit with Scotland of the European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education (ECSEW). The British and Irish country representatives had arrived in the city to participate in a three day celebration of the school’s week. The dedication ceremony began with the school’s music and history teacher, Neil Gayley, speaking about how the school was founded in 1939 by Dr. Pelham Moffat, a well known Edinburgh, personally who had lost his left arm whilst fighting in the trenches and experiencing the horrors of the First World War. Following this, every pupil came up onto the stage class by class, carrying one of the 28 national flags for individually for each nation in turn. The final set of flags was carried by the European delegates of ECSEW, Christopher Clouder concluded the ceremony by saying, “peace is a inner and outer effort needed to build peace both in ourselves and in the world”. He then took up the “World Flag” and led everyone to the Pole. The Peace Pole was then dedicated to World Peace while a pupil from Class 1 and Class 12 jointly placed a large flowering crab- apple tree into the ground adjacent to the Pole. The Peace Pole itself has the words “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in English, Gaelic, French and Japanese carved into the shapes of the animals. Another was an Irish tale called “The End of the Rainbow.”

A little story from Afghanistan called “Nakhodak” was performed by simple marionette puppets, followed by a lovely story from Italy called “The Blessing of the Nativity.” A collection of similar tales was collected for a charity that helps refugees in the UK. Approximately 50 children were present on this day throughout the whole of Europe.

In Cape Town, South Africa, the Rainbow Puppet Theatre from the Waldorf School of Cape Town performed ‘St George and the Dragon’.

The show started with a puppetry workshop where we explore the puppet pole and other glove puppets carrying ‘peace’ placards (smiley faces).

There was much banter and the Storytelling time, which ended with what they thought Peace was. The answers were wonderful. Some mothers brought used children’s clothes, so the puppet pole and other glove puppets carrying ‘peace’ placards (smiley faces).

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The Cynthia Chance Fund

Hermes Trust is holding £5,000 originally given to the Snoddonia Steiner School by Cynthia Chance. This donation was in support of music and educational provision, but after the school unfortunately had to close, the money was entrusted to Hermes to help other schools with the same problems. Schools are encouraged to write to the school to apply for grants from this fund. Applications will be considered in October, and should be submitted by the end of September to:

David Urieli. Holywood

Introducing - www.steiner-teacher.org

This new web-site has been set up to provide news and information to people who wish to explore professional pathways in teacher education pathways that are inspired by Steiner’s ideas, insights and indications for an ‘art of education’. Here you will read about projects and initiatives that have applications on a local, national and European level.

Trevor Megham, SWSF

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Giving through Self Assessment Returns

There is a new scheme allowing individuals to nominate a charity to receive their tax refund. More information can be done on Self Assessment forms issued in April 2004. Our charity code is PA0620G and charity name and code are also available on our website. This scheme does not replace the Gift Aid scheme.

Jaine Avison, SWSF