



ITI-LRG Newsletter



Issue 16

www.iti-lrg.org.uk

January 2008

Editorial

A happy new year to you all – and welcome to the January issue of the LRG Newsletter.

At the December AGM, two new members joined the Committee and, boosted by this injection of new blood, we launched into 2008 with renewed energy and enthusiasm – and are now pleased to be able to present you with a packed calendar of events for the spring and summer!

However, first of all, we are kicking off our events programme with the January meeting, which aims to answer your questions on the Chartered Linguist status and how to go about obtaining it. The meeting will take place in the upstairs room of the Blue Posts Pub on Rupert Street – usually the venue of our Committee meetings.

It is a small and cosy room – so, if you haven't yet booked your place, do it now or it may be too late!

In March we have two events: the first is an old favourite, the 'Meet the Client' evening (see write-up below), and the second is the Interpreters' Conference, an all-day event, which Yilmaz Düzen is organising with his usual indefatigable enthusiasm.

For May we are planning a workshop on 'Creative Writing for Translators', run by Ann Pattison, lecturer in Translation Studies at Westminster University. See page 2 for more details on this.

I very much look forward to seeing you at any or all of these events! And there are more in the pipeline – see back page for an overview.

Betti Moser

Forthcoming LRG Events

Tuesday, 29 January 2008
6.30 for 7pm:

Chartered Linguist - what is it all about?

Venue: upstairs room, Blue Posts Pub, 28 Rupert Street, London W1D 6DJ
(nearest tube: Piccadilly Circus or Leicester Square)

Alan Wheatley, ITI General Secretary, and Amanda Conrad, ITI representative on the joint ITI/CIoL committee setting the criteria for admission as Chartered Linguist, will present the new Chartered Linguist category and provide information as to how people might work towards and apply for Chartered Linguist status.

The meeting will take place in an informal setting and there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions. However, please note that numbers are limited. Please book now to avoid disappointment!

Food and drink are available at the downstairs bar, before the event.

The event is free to LRG members (£5 for non-members). For further details and to book, please contact: pamelamayorcas@compuserve.com.



Wednesday, 19 March 2008
6.30 for 7pm:

'Meet the Client' evening

at the University of Westminster, Fyvie Hall,
309 Regent Street, London W1B 2UW
(nearest tube: Oxford Circus)

This is the third 'Meet the Client' event organised by LRG – following its sell-out success last time (in February 2006) now at a bigger venue.

Representatives from four translation companies will explain what they are looking for in freelance translators and describe some of the dos and don'ts of approaching translation companies for freelance work.

Companies represented this time will include Atlas Translations, Choice Translations (tbc), Comtec and Dora Wirth Languages.

The event is free to LRG members, (£5 to non-members). Please note, however, that booking is essential!

To book, please contact our Events Secretary, Fiona Franks, at ffranks01@googlemail.com. Please book by 14 March.



Saturday, 29 March 2008
10.30am to 4.30pm:

LRG Interpreters' Conference

at the University of Westminster,
309 Regent Street, London W1B 2UW
 (nearest tube: Oxford Circus)

The conference will give a complete overview of interpreting work. Speakers will be drawn from the full spectrum of the interpreting world – from conference and business interpreting to diplomatic interpreting, interpreting for the tourism industry, health interpreting and, of course, police & court interpreting. There will also be a session on interpreters' aids and gizmos.

The conference fee for the whole day, including lunch and refreshments, is £15 for LRG members, £25 for non-LRG members. For further details and to book, please contact Yilmaz Düzen at mail@yilmazduzen.com. Deadline for bookings is 20 March!



Saturday, 17 May 2008
2.00 (for 2.30 start) to 5.00pm:

Creative Writing for Translators

(venue to be announced)

This workshop will give you the opportunity to practise the craft of writing and show you how this can improve the quality of your translations. Writing is like a muscle that has to be exercised: the more you write, the better your writing will be!

Ann Pattison, a freelance translator and writer, as well as a lecturer at the University of Westminster, will teach us some of the tricks of the writer's trade. If time allows, there will be a hands-on session in which you will be encouraged to write to a stimulus.

The workshop is free to LRG members (£10 to non-members). Prior booking is required – participants will be asked to do some preparation work beforehand! To book, please contact Betti Moser, betty@apriltext.co.uk, by 2 May.



Review of LRG Events

Nick Rosenthal's IT Update – 26 September 2007

Nick Rosenthal, Director of Salford Translations, gave an update on some of the changes taking place in the world of technical authoring, in a talk held at the University of Westminster.

Despite being sleep-deprived as a result of having been up all night wrestling IT issues of his own, Nick gave a lively and insightful briefing on some of the latest IT developments with special relevance to the translation industry, such as content management systems, XML workflows, DITA and DocBook.

As Nick explained, whilst these are particularly significant for the world of technical documentation, they are increasingly also affecting other areas. XML, for example, initially impacted the field of technical translation, but is now being used as a publishing tool for film scripts, tourist guide books and a host of broader publications, so there is a growing need for a wider range of translators to have an understanding of these formats.

Lest we be daunted by the prospect of such a technical agenda, Nick gave us encouragement at the outset in the form of a humorous video clip featuring a Norwegian monk of former times trying to fathom how to use a new kind of technology – a book! We were bucked up by the thought that, although new developments may seem overwhelming at first, they can all be mastered in due course.

Nick rounded off his talk with some tips for further education in these areas, for example, the events organised by the UK chapter of the Society of Technical Communication (STC).

So it was that we were considerably wiser by the end of the evening than we had been at the beginning and, having whetted our appetite with these tasty morsels of information, Nick made the welcome suggestion of repairing to a local hostelry to wash them down and continue the discussion.

On behalf of all the participants I should like to thank Nick for generously giving up his time for a most enlightening and entertaining update.

To keep abreast of some of these technical issues consult Nick Rosenthal's blog at www.salftrans.co.uk/blog/oversetter.htm

Patricia Healey

LRG Dines Out at the Hilton – 2 November 2007

On Friday, 2 November 2007, the LRG held its dining-out event at the Hilton Olympia. The date was strategically chosen to coincide with the London Language Show, just a short stroll away.

In the plush and sophisticated surroundings of the bar, situated on the first floor, we were able to sit back and enjoy an aperitif before settling down for our tasty and well-presented meal. The starters included tomato and mozzarella salad with balsamic



Diners at the LRG Dining-out event enjoying their meal.

dressing and grilled artichoke salad with sun-dried tomatoes. For the main course, we had a choice of three mouth-watering meals – chicken, salmon or moussaka. For desserts, we had a selection of ice creams and fresh fruit, though I opted for the Valrhona chocolate cake. Mmmmm... naughty, but nice! All for £25, including a glass of wine.

I have always found the LRG dining event particularly enjoyable. In a relaxed and enviable setting one can meet colleagues, discuss all manner of topics and make friends. For example, I sat opposite Lorna Sandler, who had lived in Istanbul – where I was born – in the late 1950s and early '60s and she told me all about how it was back then. What fascinating lives we interpreters and translators live! The world is our oyster!

Yilmaz Düzen

LRG AGM – 6 December 2007

The 2007 AGM and Christmas party took place at the Cock & Lion Tavern, a pub recommended to us by a former LRG member and friend of the landlord.

After some preliminaries (approval of the 2006 minutes, appointment of a minute taker etc), Betti Moser reviewed the events LRG had run over the past year, which were:

- Peter Linton's talk on web-based translators' forums at Westminster University in January;
- Cate Avery's CV workshop at the Edgar Wallace Pub in March;
- a report from the ITI Anniversary Conference in May (given by Betti, as recipient of the LRG's conference grant, assisted by Pamela and Peter);
- the Interpreters' Event in June, with the launch of ITI's new PCI membership category – see Yilmaz's write-up in the September Newsletter;
- the pub crawl in July, held along the Thames riverside in Hammersmith and popular despite inclement weather;

- Nick Rosenthal's talk at Westminster University in September – see write-up on opposite page;
- a dinner at the Kensington Hilton, organised by Bob Symonds and Lanna Castellano, coinciding with the LLS and attended by 16 members and guests – see write-up above;
- the December AGM and Christmas party.

In addition, the LRG helped organise a volunteers' rota to man the ITI stand at the London Language Show in November.

Sadly, none of the planned cultural events, such as organised visits to exhibitions, museums, theatres etc, had taken off. Since Lucy Errat, the Cultural Events Organiser, had now stepped down from the Committee, an appeal was made for anyone interested in taking on this role to come forward. However, so far, no-one has.

Treasurer's Report

The LRG Treasurer, Oliver Walter, stated that LRG accounts were healthy, with overall assets currently standing at almost £4,000. He therefore recommended that the membership subscription should remain at £10 for 2008. Membership totalled around 124 and 2007-subscriptions amounted to £1,170. See overleaf for the full accounts in more detail.

Plans for 2008

Events already fixed for 2008 included:

- the January event on becoming a Chartered Linguist;
- a 'Meet the Client' evening on 19 March;
- Yilmaz Düzen was organising his fourth Interpreters' Event – a whole-day affair, now scheduled for 29 March;
- a 'Creative Writing for Translators' workshop, run by Ann Pattison;
- the July pub crawl;
- the December AGM and Christmas party.

Other suggestions included the possibility of a garden party to be hosted by Yilmaz at his South Woodford home. A number of further events were suggested and discussed briefly, though many still relied on volunteers willing to organise them.

Sarah Venkata having stepped down from her post as Dining-out organiser, Lorna Sandler volunteered to give this a go.

As the LRG accounts are in very good shape at present, it was agreed that events organised by LRG should be free to members, wherever possible. The LRG Committee would also discuss the possibility of once again offering a grant to attend the ITI Conference in spring 2009, and was planning to produce another printed LRG Members' Directory in 2008.

Committee Elections

The following Committee members were re-elected unanimously:

- Betti Moser (Joint Chair, Newsletter Editor)
- Pamela Mayorcas (Joint Chair, ITI Liaison)
- Oliver Walter (Treasurer)
- Daniela Ford (Membership Secretary)
- Yilmaz Düzen (Interpreters' Representative)
- Peter Linton (Website & eGroup Manager)
- Julia ten Elsen (Publications Printing & Distribution)

Joining the Committee as new members were:

- Fiona Franks (Events Secretary)
- Marzena Grzyb

Brian Wolfe, Kim Sanderson, Lucy Errat and Sarah Venkata had stepped down from the Committee for personal reasons. The Committee expressed its gratitude for all their help over the past years.

Other Business

Pamela Mayorcas introduced Rachel Malcolm, the new ITI *Bulletin* editor, who had been invited to the subsequent LRG Christmas party. She also reported on the ITI Networks & Regional Groups Conference in Oxford, which she had attended as LRG representative.

Bill Chilcott then reported on some matters raised at the ITI Council. He suggested that the LRG might wish to propose its own ITI Council representative – although, in a way this we already have one, as Yilmaz Düzen is a member of ITI Council.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Joint Chair Betti Moser, who plays such a leading part in the LRG.

Lorna Sandler / Betti Moser

LRG Financial Report for 2007

Particulars	Income £	Expenses £	Balance £	Notes
Net assets at 01.12.06			3,815.80	
SUBSCRIPTIONS 2007	1,170.00			
<u>EVENTS 2007:</u>				
- Receipts 2007	1,075.00			
- Venue hire and catering costs		983.51		(incl. Terminology Workshop 2006 and Christmas Party 2006, but <u>not</u> including Sept. 2007 event)
- Speakers' fees and travel reimbursements		127.83	(-36.34)	
<u>ADMINISTRATION:</u>				
- Postage & stationery		56.42		
- Printing & photocopies		732.19		
- Cttee member expenses		53.79		
<u>Miscellaneous:</u>				
- Conference grants		150.00		
- Bank interest	18.53			
Totals	2,263.53	2,103.74		Surplus in 2007: £159.79
Net assets as at 01.12.07			£3,975.59	

Diary Dates

Thursday, 28 February 2008, 9.30–16.30

Putting our Heads Together: a Forum Devoted to the Editing of Translations

at the British Council, 10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN

This event, which is organised jointly by the Arts Council England, the British Council, the Translators Association of the Society of Authors and the British Centre for Literary Translation, will bring together publishers, editors, copy-editors (in-house and freelance) and translators to explore the following issues:

- Is editing a translation different from editing an original English text and if so, how?
- Should the editor know the source language?
- Who should have the last word?
- What should and shouldn't translators and editors do?

We all have a shared aim: to publish a translation that best captures the author's voice and intention. Good communication between everyone involved, and insight into each others' tasks, roles and working conditions, can help us to achieve this aim.

Fee: £17.50 (incl. VAT). Refreshments and lunch will be provided. To book, please contact Sarah Baxter at The Society of Authors, sbaxter@societyofauthors.org, tel: 020 7373 6642.

Friday, 7 March 2008, 10.00–17.00

ITI Specialised CPD: Style Workshop with Chris Durban and Ros Schwartz

at the Goethe Institut, 50 Princes Gate, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2PH

Style matters: the ability to produce polished prose, no matter how uneven the original text, is one factor distinguishing top-end translators, able to command high fees, from bulk providers and bottom feeders.

Translators adopting this approach and honing these skills can develop rewarding, long-term relationships with loyal customers, charge higher rates and negotiate deadlines that suit them. Part of the challenge lies in winning clients' trust and having the confidence to see yourself as a writer rather than as a humble servant.

Participants in this practical workshop led by Chris Durban and Ros Schwartz will tackle different types of text where the emphasis is on stylistic quality. The nuts and bolts of good writing will be examined, along with concrete suggestions for raising client awareness of this essential added value.

Fee: £95 for ITI members, £120 for non-members. Price includes VAT, but excludes lunch. Arrangements will be made for lunch together in the on-site restaurant for those interested.

To book please contact the ITI office, development@iti.org.uk, tel: 01908 325255.

LRG membership subscriptions due!

Membership renewals are due at the beginning of each year.

With this issue of the Newsletter you should have received a renewal notice, together with your membership details, as currently held in the LRG database.

Later this year, we will be publishing a new LRG Membership Directory, which will be sent to all members, as well as to ITI Corporate Members – and therefore to potential work providers!

Please make sure that your details and your subscription are up to date!

Members who have not renewed by 3rd March will not be included in the new LRG Membership Directory!

New LRG members

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

Jochen Hahn, Natasha Lancaster, Isabel Nieto, Julie Roberts, Kamila Simms, Philip Slotkin.

LRG Events for 2008

Tuesday, 29 January 6.30 for 7pm	Chartered Linguist – what is it all about? Venue: upstairs room, Blue Posts Pub, 28 Rupert St, London W1D 6DJ (nearest tube: Piccadilly Circus or Leicester Square) <i>To book, please contact Pamela Mayorcas, pamelamayorcas@compuserve.com</i>
Wednesday, 19 March 6.30 for 7pm	'Meet the Client' evening Venue: University of Westminster, Fyvie Hall, 309 Regent Street (nearest tube: Oxford Circus) <i>Free to LRG members, £5 to non-members. For further information and to book, please contact our Events Secretary, Fiona Franks, ffranks01@googlemail.com</i>
Saturday, 29 March 10.30am to 4.30pm	LRG Interpreters' Conference Venue: University of Westminster, 'Old Cinema', 309 Regent Street (nearest tube: Oxford Circus) <i>Fee: £15 for LRG members, £25 for non-LRG members. Includes lunch. To book, please contact Yilmaz Düzen, mail@yilmazduzen.com</i>
Saturday, 17 May 2.30 to 5.00pm	Creative Writing for Translators Workshop run by Ann Pattison (venue tba) <i>Free to LRG members, £10 to non-members. For further information and to book, please contact Betti Moser, betti@apriltext.co.uk.</i>
Thursday, 3 July from 7pm	LRG Pub Crawl Details of this year's route will be in the next Newsletter. <i>Contact: Julia, j_tenelsen@yahoo.com or Marzena, marzena@prima-dom.pl</i>
Saturday, 19 July (time tba)	Yilmaz' Garden Party <i>For details and to reserve a place, contact Yilmaz Düzen: mail@yilmazduzen.com</i>

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

Committee Contacts

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