



Finns United



The Newsletter of the Finnish School in Manchester

Issue 5 January 2005

Events

Pubi-ilta – Pub evening

Let's get together on **Saturday 12th February** to sample some fine wines and Continental and British beers at the Metropolitan Pub in West Didsbury. The Metropolitan is worth seeing for its beautiful architecture alone, and attracts a mixed crowd from students to older people. The address is 2 Lapwing Lane, Didsbury, M20. (The pub is at the junction of Burton Rd and Lapwing Lane. Buses 41 and 43 from town centre, get off at Palatine Rd / Lapwing Lane). **Time: 7pm onwards. Welcome!**

Childrens' Film Festival

To celebrate spring and Finnish culture, we are organising a film event after the normal school hours on **Saturday 14th May**. The day will comprise children's short films in Finnish language, a buffet and perhaps a film or two for the adults as well! Watch this space!

Friendship Circle Training & Church Service

Those involved in the Friendship Circle, or wanting to find out more, are invited to attend a training day on **Saturday 21st May**. For more information, please contact Marjatta Srabonian, tel 0161 975 0567. On **Sunday 22nd May**, there will be a Church Service and Nyytikesti (Jacob's Join) at the school from 1pm onwards.

Summer Excursion – Kesäretki

This summer we are heading for the East coast to visit Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay. Whitby is known for its excellent seafood, fantastic views of the North Sea and it's links with Dracula and Captain James Cook! It is believed that Cook was the first

European to reach the shores of Australia. His ship can be found at Whitby harbour. Perched dramatically on a cliff above the harbour are the impressive ruins of Whitby Abbey, believed to be inspiration for Bram Stoker's Dracula – the author himself used to live in the town! About ten kilometres away is Robin Hood's Bay. It can be reached from Whitby by a coastal path, or by bus. Robin Hood's Bay is a picturesque village with a small beach. Legend has it that this is the spot where Robin Hood escaped his enemies, hence the name. Highly recommended!

The trip will take place on **Saturday 18th June**. We will hire a coach and the trip will take most of the day. More information will be made available nearer the time.

KIRJA-ARVOSTELUJA BOOK REVIEWS



Lapsille:

Mauri Kunnas: Herra Hakkaraisen Numerot, Otava

Hauskasti piirretty kirja opettaa mukavalla tavalla numerot 1-20 perheen pienimmille! Ikäsuositus kolmesta vuodesta eteenpäin (tekstiä ei ole paljon – pääpaino on kuvituksella).

Aino Havukainen ja Sami Toivonen: Tatu ja Patu Helsingissä Otava

Tatu ja Patu matkustavat Helsinkiin tapaamaan Jori-serkkuaan. Huumorilla höystettyä kirjaa on aikuisenkin ilo lukea! Pojille tapahtuu monta kummellusta, kun he seikkailevat Linnanmäellä, Korkeasaarella ja Olympiastadionilla. Mainio kuvitus!

Aikuisille:

Sinikka Nopola: Se on myhästä ny, WSOY 2004

Nopola kuvaa hämäläisarkea huvittuneena, mutta lämmöllä. Hämäläistä pariskuntaa edustavat Eila ja Rampe, joiden ajattelutapaan saimme tutustua jo teoksessa 'Ei tehrä tästä ny numeroo'. Eila ja Rampe ponnistelevat elääkseen mahdollisimman viksusti. Likka ponnistelee elääkseen mahdollisimman näkymättömästi. Ote Likan matkapäiväkirjasta kuvaa hyvin tätä: "Mää kävin Virentsessä ja Roomassa. Mää näin melko laajalti Italiaa ja keskityin aika paljo museoihin. ... Kun mää tulin kotio, tää mun likkakaverini kysy, syntykö uusia kontakteja. Ei syntyny, mää sanoin. Se oli kaikin pualin onnistunu matka."

Heli Laaksonen: Sekaherelmäpuu (kolumnei) Kustannusosakeyhtiö Sannakko 2004

Ja ettei varsinais-suomalaisiakaan unohdeta.. Heli Laaksonen kirjoittaa värikkäällä Laitilan murteella kielenkäytöstä, ihmisistä, ja hauskan itseironisesti omasta elämästään. Teksti voi olla vaikeaa seurata, jos ei ole joutunut murretta puhuvien länsisuomalaisten kanssa tekemisiin! Laaksonen toteaa: Olin suvel juantamas *Savolaisen huumorin päivä*. Voitte uskota kui vääräs paikas paikka mää tunki itten oleva. Mää oli heihi verrattunas kankki ja vähäsanane ko Jopo. Ajatteli siin miälesän, et jos täsä maas järjestettäis *Varsinaissuomalaisen huumorin päivä*, see olis mailma lyhkäsin tilaisuus.'

- Laura Linkomies

Anna Kortelainen: Virginie! Albert Edelfeltin rakastajattaren tarina (Tammi 2002)

Albert Edelfeltin syntymästä tuli kesällä 2004 kuluneeksi 150 vuotta. Tätä juhliitaan muun muassa Suomen Ateneumissa, jossa vielä tammikuun loppuun asti on esillä juhlanäyttely

tästä yhdestä Suomen kuuluisimmasta taiteilijasta.

Taidehistorioitsija Anna Kortelainen, joka on tehnyt väitöskirjan Edelfeltin 1870- ja 1880-lukujen tuotannosta, kertoo kirjassaan *Virginie!* toisenlaisen tarinan Edelfeltistä. Tällä kertaa paaosassa ei olekaan itse taiteilija vaan nainen, joka poseeraa monessa Edelfeltin 1880-luvun taulussa. Mutta kuka tämä nainen oikeastaan oli?

Kortelainen lähtee etsimään *Virginie*tä niiden johtolankojen avulla, joita hän löytää tutkiessaan Edelfeltin kirjeenvaihtoa. Tärkeän tietolähteen muodostavat myös arkistot, joihin kirjoittaja tutustuu mm. Pariisissa ja Genevessä. Kirja alkaakin mitä mielenkiintoisimmalla väitteellä siitä, että taiteilija sai kaksi lasta kaunis-kasvoisen rakastajattarensa kanssa. Kun *Virginien* etsintä etenee, lukijalle alkaa piirtyä silmien eteen kuva 1880-luvun Pariisista, sen taiteilijapiireista ja arkielämästä. Juuri naisen elämää ja asemaa 1800-luvun Euroopassa kuvaavat luvut ovat mielestäni kirjan antoisin ja mielenkiintoisin osuus.

Kirjan edetessä monet johtolangat häviävät, mutta sitten tarina taas ryöpsähtää eteenpäin uusien tiedonmurusten avulla. Myös kirjailijan oma elämä nivoutuu kertomukseen mukaan. Kortelainen tekee itsepin-taisesti töitä ratkaistakseen *Virginien* arvoituksen.

"Usein nainen katoaa historiaan nimettömänä, pelkällä isänsä tai miehensä nimellä tai vain etunimellään", kirjoittaa Anna Kortelainen. Niin paljon historiaa on kirjoitettu miesten äänellä, heidän avullaan, heitä varten. *Virginie!* on kunnianhimoisen ja ehdottoman mielenkiintoinen kirja naisesta, jonka tarina ei ehkä ole ollut ainut laatuaan 1880-luvun Pariisissa, mutta joka nyt yli 120 vuotta myöhemmin herättää eloon tuon ajan kaikkine värisävyineen.

Virginie - a story of a mysterious muse

Albert Edelfelt (1854-1905) is one of Finland's most beloved artists. He was one of the leading figures of the so-called Golden Age of Finnish Art around the turn of 19th and 20th centuries. The painter was also a great admirer of the Parisian lifestyle and while living there he painted numerous portraits of beautiful Parisian women.

Now one of the muses who fuelled Edelfelt's inspiration has done the same thing to a Finnish arts historian, Anna Kortelainen. While writing her doctoral thesis on Edelfelt, she became interested in a beautiful woman called *Virginie* who posed for the painter in the 1880's. Wanting to solve the mystery of *Virginie*, Kortelainen leaves no stone unturned when following the story of Edelfelt and his muse to France, Switzerland and finally to a little town near the Pyrenees.

Virginie! is a fascinating book to read. What begins as a story of a young French girl grows into an interesting, yet easy-to-read study of European women's life in the late 19th century.

- Tuuli Töyli

FINNISH MUSIC



As always, Finnish music is well represented at the Bridgewater Hall. In the spring, look out for the following dates:

2nd February 2005: Sibelius, *The Dryad* and *Symphony no.6*, which is often described as the most perfect and polished of Sibelius' symphonies.

28th April 2005: Susanna Mälkki conducts music by Ravel, Berlioz and Colin Matthews.

12th May 2005: Sibelius: *Symphony no 1*

19th May 2005: Sibelius: *The Oceanides*

We also warmly welcome the following groups to Manchester:

Apocalyptic

6th February 2005

Manchester Evening News Arena (venue to be confirmed). The heavy cello trio is touring Britain both alone and as support band for Germany's Rammstein.

Nightwish

18th February 2005

Stylish operatic heavy band from Kitee are on their 18-month world tour, and will play at the Manchester Academy.

Also, remember Hanoi Rocks??! They have gigs at the beginning of February in London, Nottingham and Dudley. For more information, see www.finn-guild.org.

Kesäleirit kutsuvat! Summer camps!



Kesälukioseura järjestää Suomessa kesäleirejä 7-18 -vuotiaille ulko-suomalaisille. Kurseja löytyy taideleireistä Suomen kielen intensiivikursseihin. Kurseille pitää ilmoittautua 1.4 mennessä. Osallistumismaksu, noin 280 euroa, sisältää opetuksen, täysihoidon, retket, opetusmateriaalin ja tapaturmavakuutuksen. Lisäinfoa saa Leena Kirkiltä, puh. 0161 428 5341, tai www.kesalukioseura.fi.

Study Finnish in Finland

Finn Guild is organising an intensive Finnish language course near Turku 6-11th August 2005. The course, which is suitable for beginners, intermediate and advanced adult students, will take place at Paasikiviopisto. The venue is located in the beautiful archipelago of Turku, in Kaksikerta. Full board and tuition cost £335 for Finn Guild members. For more information, phone 0207237 7736, or see www.finn-guild.org.

Study weekend-Brighton

There is also an opportunity to brush up your Finnish in the UK. A Finn Guild intensive Finnish language study weekend will take place in Hassocks, near Brighton, 27-29th May or 27-30th May 2005. Price: £195 (residential) for Finn Guild members, £140 (non-residential). Study groups will be organised on four levels. To book, please see the contact info above.

Wanted:

Secretary

We urgently need to appoint a new Secretary for the School, as Johanna is unable to continue in this role.

This is a key role within the school. The enthusiastic volunteer will be required to take and distribute the minutes of committee and AGM meetings (at least twice a year), as well as some other minor secretarial duties. If interested, please contact Jenni asap at jenni.viitanen@bolton.gov.uk

Carpenter

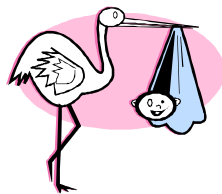
We would like to have a bookcase built for the purpose of finding a permanent home for the school's books and DVDs. Is there a cabinet maker out there who could help? The school is able to pay a small fee for the work. Materials should be first-class. For more information, please contact Leena Kirk, tel 0161 428 5341.

Suomitavaraa

Tiesitkö, että Suomiseuran kotisivujen kautta voi tilata kaikenlaista suomitavaraa kirjoista viireihin ja videoihin? Myös lahjatarvotteita on tarjolla, esim. Suomi-koruja, tekstiilejä ym. Elokuvien ystävät: sivujen kautta voi ostaa myös uusia suomalaisia DVD-filmejä, jollet onnistu saamaan niitä käsiisi Finn Guildin kautta. Käy tutustumassa Suomi-kaupan antiin osoitteessa www.suomi-seura.fi.

Did you know that you can order Finnish products, such as jewellery, textiles, books and DVDs, via SuomiSeura? Check out the link above!

Congratulations!



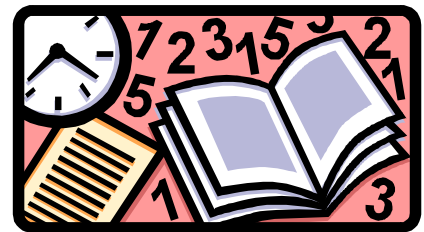
Congratulations to Tiina and Pasi Turpeenniemi, who received the Christmas present of a lifetime when their baby boy was born just before Christmas. Hermanni decided to arrive three weeks in advance, but weighed a respectable 3.2kg (around 7lbs) and was 51cm long. He has already made his first outing to the Finnish School and we'll be enrolling him in the pre-school group in no time at all!

"We could have danced all night ... and day!"

Both the Independence Day Party and the Christmas Party were well attended and enjoyed by everyone. We had hired the upstairs of the Cornerhouse for our Independence Day celebrations, and after the solemn Maamme-laulu, we were treated to Finnish pop music, drinks and nibbles.

At the Christmas party, good food, carols and wonderful performances by students of all ages and abilities ensured the festive period got off to a good start.

Many thanks to the organisers of both parties, and to everyone who helped to make them a success!!!



School Dates

29th January 2005
12th & 26th February 2005
12th & 19th March 2005
2nd, 16th & 30th April 2005
14th May 2005

Time: 10am to 12noon

Location: St Mary Magdalene's Church, 44 Moss Lane, Ashton-under-Mersey, Sale, M33 6GD.

Cost: Adults: £35 (spring term) £30 (autumn term), Children: £8/term, Families: £10/term. Student prices available.

New members welcome at any time. No need to register in advance - just drop on by!

For more info, contact: Leena Kirk on 0161 428 5341, e-mail christina_aro@yahoo.co.uk, or visit:

www.finnsunited.org.uk

Scottish-Finnish Society celebrates Finn-Guild's 40th

on Saturday 5th February 2005 at 7pm (doors open at 6.30) Concert by the Tuulia choir from North Carelia, followed by reception, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Finn -Guild. Venue: St Cecilia's Hall, Niddry Street, Cowgate, Edinburgh EH1 1LJ. Tickets: £10, available at the door or preferably by booking in advance on tel: 01968 675546 or by emailing [Mona Hislop](mailto:Mona.Hislop)

Will Wikipedia become the source of all knowledge?

"Www.wikipedia.org" is a website that allows any user to add and edit content. Wikipedia refers to a series of online "free content" encyclopaedias written collaboratively by contributors around the world. It is written by users themselves. In September 2004, there were over ten thousand contributors working on over one million articles in fifty languages.

The English Wikipedia is the largest in the world, it contains 446 997 articles (11th Jan 2005). To date, the Finnish Wikipedia only has 13 881 articles, but new ones are added daily. The English Wikipedia was launched in January 2001, whilst the Finnish encyclopaedia is much younger.

Now you have the opportunity not only to look for information contributed by other people, but also to add your personal

knowledge into Wikipedia, thus enhancing the total knowledge of the human kind.

It is very easy and quick to add to Wikipedia. If you feel nervous, both versions have a "sandpit" (hiekkalaatikko) where you can practise without actually changing any content. However, if you feel like taking the back seat, other good features in the Finnish version are the article of the month ("kuukauden artikkeli") and recommended articles ("suositellut artikkelit").

The random page (in both versions) is also likely to bring some amusement to even the hardest of knowledge finders among you. If you have doubts about the correctness of the information given, the *recent changes page* (*historia* in the Finnish version) will let you know the number of improvements made, and in many cases even details of what was changed.

The beauty of the system is that other people looking for information, or who are

generally interested in a subject, will be able to correct you and *vice versa*. More importantly, languages change all the time, and especially Finnish, which is only spoken by so many people, is in danger of being lost through time when more cosmopolitan languages take over. This is why it is important that we try and preserve it as much as we can by using it as much as we can. This is your chance to contribute to the cultural heritage of our time, without being an academic or a reporter etc. So give it a go and tell all your friends about it as well!

Perhaps at this moment in time, Wikipedia may not be the most accurate of encyclopaedias, but it surely will very soon be the biggest source of knowledge, readily available, in your own language. See the addresses below for the English and Finnish wikipedias, respectively.

www.wikipedia.org

www.fi.wikipedia.org

- Miira Riipinen

Lastenryhmä - childrens' group



Welcome to Tuuli Töyli who has taken over from Christina to lead the pre-school group. Tuuli has previously taught bilingual children in Sweden, and has already made friends with several of the children. Christina hopes to return to assist Tuuli in the spring - she is currently doing her teacher training and very busy indeed! In the meantime, Anna Alajoki has kindly promised to step in as assistant teacher. Thanks ladies, you are doing a great job!!!

PLEASE RETURN ALL BOOKS & DVDS!



Please could anyone who has borrowed books or DVDs from the library return them immediately? Our new librarian Miira urgently needs to carry out an audit of our stock. There will be no fines for late returns.

In order that as many people as possible can benefit from our small DVD collection, please could we ask that DVDs be borrowed only for the week(s) between school days - prompt return will ensure everyone gets a chance to enjoy the films! Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter!

Designs that may appeal...

"Design in Fine Metal", a retrospective exhibition by the internationally recognised silversmith Don Porrit may be of interest to those who appreciate clear lines and simple design. Porrit, who lives and works in Yorkshire, is exhibiting his designs at the Platform Gallery, Station Rd, Clitheroe (tel: 01200 443071). The exhibition runs until 19th February, Mo-Sa 10am-4.30pm. Porrit will be presenting a gallery talk on Saturday 19th February at 11am. £3 per person. Please book in advance.

CONTACT US!

FINNISH SCHOOL IN
MANCHESTER
St Mary Magdalene's Church,
44 Moss Lane, Ashton-under-
Mersey, Sale, M33 6GD.

Finnish Classes: Leena Kirk,
tel: 0161 428 5341 or
christina_aro@yahoo.co.uk

Events: Mari Pelkonen, tel:
0161 882 0067,
pelcoin@cwazy.co.uk.

Newsletter:
christina_aro@yahoo.co.uk;
laura_linkomies@hotmail.com;
m.riipinen@mmu.ac.uk

Website: Olli Aro,
olli_aro@yahoo.co.uk

www.finnsunited.org.uk