



THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION OF THE UNITED STATES

Creating Global Understanding Through English

NATION'S CAPITAL AREA BRANCH

APRIL 2004

News & Announcements

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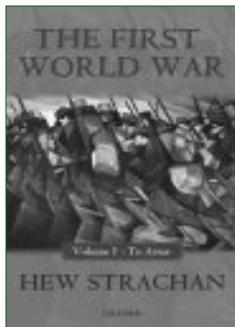
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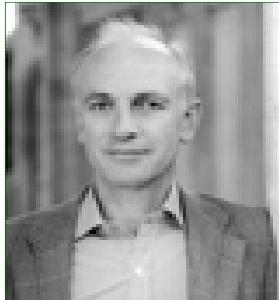
OXFORD HISTORIAN HEW STRACHAN REASSESSES WORLD WAR I An Event Co-Hosted by THE EISENHOWER INSTITUTE and Covered by C-SPAN

The ESU is delighted to join forces with THE EISENHOWER INSTITUTE and with C-SPAN2 for a gathering with one of today's most eminent scholars.



HEW STRACHAN is Chichele Professor of the History of War and a Fellow of ALL SOULS COLLEGE at the UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD. As editor of *The Oxford History of the First World War*, he's writing an authoritative three-volume history of the conflict, and is eliciting broad acclaim.

He'll be with us to present a concise survey of his topic, a dynamic and accessible account of "the war to end all wars." Eschewing a narrowly Anglo-American perspective, Professor Strachan brings a textured, global approach to a maelstrom that forever changed the way humanity viewed military action and its unpredictable consequences. Filled with vivid photographs and detailed maps, his readable guide to *The First World War* is destined to be the general reader's definitive resource on a pivotal chapter in modern history.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

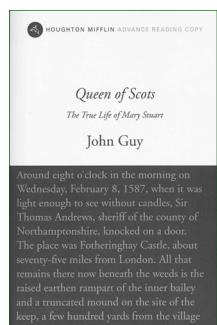
**Luncheon 12:00 noon
Program 12:30 p.m.**

**1526 NEW HAMPSHIRE NW
ESU & WNDC Members \$30**

CAMBRIDGE SCHOLAR JOHN GUY REVISITS MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS A Revelatory New Biography Draws upon a Trove of Newly Discovered Sources



A Renaissance scholar who consults for the BBC and is the author of several books, among them a best-selling narrative about *Tudor England*, has unearthed an archive of previously unexamined records (among them the secret communiqués of Elizabeth I's spies and a stash of Mary Queen of Scots' own letters) to disclose that an English monarch's rival for her throne was a full political and intellectual equal to her more celebrated cousin. Through JOHN GUY's pioneering research Mary emerges as an emotionally intricate woman and an adroit diplomat, maneuvering ingeniously among a dizzying array of factions - the French, the English, a cadre of duplicitous Scottish nobles, and a band of religious zealots who sought to control or dethrone her. After a successful career as Provost at the UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS in Scotland, Dr. Guy is now a Fellow in History at CLARE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.



Queen of Scots

The True Life of Mary Stuart

John Guy

Around eight o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, February 8, 1587, when it was light enough to see without candles, Sir Thomas Andrews, sheriff of the county of Northamptonshire, knocked on a door. The place was Fotheringhay Castle, about seventy-five miles from London. All that remains there now beneath the weeds is the raised earthen rampart of the inner bailey and a truncated mound on the site of the keep, a few hundred yards from the village.

*SEE THE BACK PANEL FOR DETAILS ABOUT THESE AND OTHER ATTRACTIONS,
AS WELL AS FOR AN ORDER FORM THAT CAN BE USED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.*

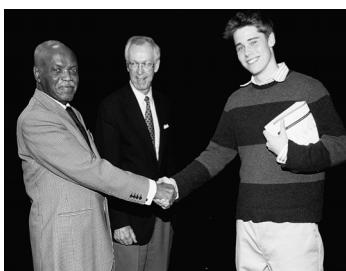
Recent Highlights

ANOTHER INSPIRING AND SUCCESSFUL REGIONAL SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION

One of the English-Speaking Union's most popular and edifying activities is its annual **SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**. In 2004 thirty-four students from public, private, and parochial schools around the metropolitan area participated in a contest that took place at THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE on Monday, March 1. As in the past, major funding for this stellar event came from THE MORRIS AND GWENDOLYN CAFRITZ FOUNDATION, whose generosity permitted the ESU to offer hearty receptions at both sessions (lunch in the afternoon, and a buffet supper in the evening) free of charge.

A distinguished panel of judges ~ attorney, aspiring playwright, and Shakespeare Theatre trustee Stephen Black (who has successfully defended Richard III before the U.S. Supreme Court), ambassador and Howard University professor E. R. Braithwaite (author of *To Sir, With Love*), teacher and administrator Celia Josephs (former head of The American Friends of Sadler's Wells), Shakespeare Theatre education director Dawn McAndrews (a key player in the company's outreach to regional schools), *Cable in the Classroom* executive director Peggy O'Brien (author of *Shakespeare Set Free*), and retired Montgomery County instructor Lee Viccellio (inaugural winner of the Washington ESU branch's annual Shakespeare Teacher Award for study in Great Britain) selected twelve finalists from the opening round in the afternoon, and then narrowed the field to three prizewinners during the evening session that followed.

Thanks to the generosity of Steve Hubbard and his colleagues at National Geographic Society, every entrant received a beautiful *Atlas of the World*. And thanks to a kind donation from Mrs. Alexander C. Liggett, the top three competitors earned copies of *Speak the Speech: Shakespeare's Monologues Illuminated* (a Faber & Faber book by Rhona Silverbush and Sami Plotkin) and monetary awards of \$500, \$300, and \$200.

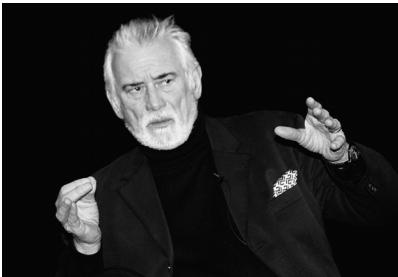


Finishing in first place was Jesse Swenson, a student of Scott Carneal at Sandy Spring Friends School in suburban Maryland, who advanced to the **NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION** on Monday, April 26, at the Mitzi Newhouse Theater in New York's LINCOLN CENTER, where he'll

do *Sonnet 33* and a Benedick speech from *Much Ado About Nothing*. First Alternate was last year's winner, Lindsay Tanner, a student of Elaine Russ at Langley High School in Fairfax County, Virginia; Second Alternate was Jordan McCraw, a student of Kelly Newman at Montgomery Blair High School in Montgomery County, Maryland.

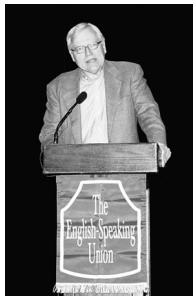
The other nine finalists were Scarlett Birmingham, a student of James Marvin at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes High School in Alexandria, Virginia, Calvin Cyrus, a student of Ginny MacNemar at Northwest High School in Montgomery County, Maryland, Libby Dorot, a student of Greg Cummings at The Bullis School in Potomac, Maryland, Danny Kinka, a student of Mary Y. McCary at Quince Orchard High School in Montgomery County, Maryland, Michelle Lorica, a student of Ellen Case and Judy White at Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Maryland, Justin McCoy, a student of Annie R. Harding at Roosevelt High School in the District of Columbia, Gavin Schmidt, a student of Michael D'Anna at Colonel Zadock Magruder High School in Montgomery County, Maryland, Tunde Somade, a student of David Stewart at High Point School in Prince George's County, Maryland, and Becky Webber, a student of Jennifer Hoover at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Additional winners during this year's festivities were Tricia Veneziani of Northern High School in Calvert County, Maryland, who received a \$4,000 stipend as the ESU's recipient of the **SHAKESPEARE TEACHER AWARD FOR 2004** to study for three weeks this summer at the Globe Theatre in London, and Kate Riley of The Shakespeare Theatre's Academy for Classical Acting, who received the \$2,500 **WALTER L. WRIGHT III AWARD** to further her preparation for work in the dramatic profession's standard repertoire.



ESU President A. Graham Down served as master of ceremonies for both sessions. Among the other notable participants in the proceedings were actor Keith Baxter, who is playing the title role in The Shakespeare Theatre's stellar production of *Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2*, Bob McClure, the ESU's 2003

recipient of the Walter L. Wright III Award, Catherine Weidner, program director for the Academy for Classical Acting, managing director Nicholas T. Goldsborough of The Shakespeare Theatre, and poet Jon Parrish Peede, counselor to chairman Dana Gioia at the National Endowment for the Arts, who spoke about several of the NEA's ambitious and much-praised Shakespearean initiatives. Mayor Anthony Williams issued a proclamation for the day, commending the ESU for all that it is doing to promote effective use of English and congratulating the organization for its efforts to perpetuate the legacy of the greatest poet in any of the world's languages.



Photographs by Bill Sanda

Coming Attractions

AN ORIENTATION SESSION ON THURSDAY, APRIL 22, FOR NEW TUTORS IN ENGLISH

ENGLISH IN ACTION is a much-admired tutoring service that has long been provided by the branch of the English-Speaking Union that represents the Nation's Capital area. Over the years it has enabled hundreds of newcomers to acquire conversational proficiency in a tongue that can be exceedingly difficult to master. EIA now flourishes as never before, and as a consequence it is in constant need of additional tutors to work with those who wish to take advantage of the opportunities it makes available.

Under the usual format an ESU tutor meets once a week with another adult for an hour or so of enjoyable give-and-take at a mutually convenient time and location. It's by no means unusual for tutors and their charges to develop lifelong friendships and significantly enhance one another's appreciation for diverse cultures. And because EIA pupils are expected to have a basic grasp of English before they apply for instruction, tutors are not required to possess formal teaching credentials.

In an effort to introduce new volunteers to EIA and its rewards, explaining a fulfilling program to those who may be unfamiliar with it, Diana Nicholson, who directs its many activities, has kindly offered to host an informal gathering on **Thursday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m.** in the apartment (723) where she and her husband Peter reside at **4600 Connecticut Avenue NW**, a short walk from the Van Ness station on Metro's Red Line.

Light refreshments will be served, and EIA stalwarts will talk about the successes they've helped facilitate. As they do so, they'll respond to questions about how to make such endeavors even more fruitful. To reserve for this event, you may either call Mrs. Nicholson at (202) 966-3921 or communicate with her by e-mail at afromdc@msn.com.

RECEPTION MONDAY EVENING, MAY 10, AT THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

We're pleased to announce that, in a generous gesture to help benefit such initiatives as ENGLISH IN ACTION, the ESU's annual SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION, and the various cultural exchanges and research fellowships that reinforce vital links between the two sides of the Atlantic, Ambassador and Lady Manning have invited members of the English-Speaking Union, The Shakespeare Guild, and guests from several related organizations to a reception in their beautiful residence at THE BRITISH EMBASSY.

This event will take place on **Monday, May 10, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** at **3100 Massachusetts Avenue NW**. Admission for constituents of the English-Speaking Union or The Shakespeare Guild will be \$75; admission for non-members will be \$85. Because proceeds from the evening will support the educational and cultural activities of the ESU, all but \$40 of the price for each reservation will be tax-deductible.

In what is bound to be a memorable occasion, this soirée will give the branch a venue to recognize a number of its recent honorees. It will also feature an eloquent tribute to the legacy of Sir John Gielgud, whose centenary is being celebrated this month in London, by actor Keith Baxter. Mr. Baxter played Prince Hal in *Chimes at Midnight*, a famous Orson Wells film that starred Sir John as King; he's now captivating audiences in the role his venerable mentor once enacted, and doing so in a superb two-part *Henry IV* at The Shakespeare Theatre.

Numbers for this special occasion are strictly limited, so those who'd like to attend are urged to register by May 3, if possible. Parking will be available in the Embassy compound, and guests will be asked to present photo identification upon arrival.

ESU'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON SATURDAY, MAY 15, AT PHI BETA KAPPA

Thanks to the hospitality of executive director John Churchill and his colleagues at the PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY, from whom the English-Speaking Union now rents office space, the branch of the ESU that serves the Washington metropolitan area will hold its ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 2004 in a renovated Victorian mansion that now houses the administrative quarters for one of America's most prestigious associations.

This get-together will commence at **10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 15**, at **1606 New Hampshire Avenue NW**. In all likelihood the formal proceedings will occupy about an hour, and they'll be followed by an informal buffet at \$20 a person for those who'd like to linger and socialize over a light luncheon repast. The primary purpose of this get-together is to review the branch's accomplishments over the last twelve months, outline plans for the year ahead, and elect directors to fill several board slots that are due to become available in the near future.

A NOMINATING COMMITTEE, headed by Patricia Plaskett, will be receiving suggestions until **Sunday, April 25**. Members with ideas or names to proffer should contact Audrey Pendergast, the Committee's secretary, who can be reached by phone at (703) 356-8265 or by e-mail at apenderg@juno.com.

WATCH OUR EVENTS ON YOUR COMPUTER

On **Friday, February 13**, we hosted a luncheon at which Jane Dunn, who has been described by London's *Sunday Times* as one of Britain's finest biographers, offered a dual portrait of Elizabeth I of England and Mary Queen of Scots. C-SPAN2 covered the event, and the network aired it twice during the weekend of **February 21-22** in the *Public Lives* showcase it provides during prime time on its popular *BookTV* service. We're pleased to note that many of those who missed the gathering, or wanted to experience it again, have done so in recent weeks by clicking the "Watch" button on C-SPAN's web site for BookTV.org. For a link to that button, go to our **Calendar** section at www.esuwdc.org. The network also offers videotapes of Ms. Dunn's lively remarks about *Elizabeth and Mary*.



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1604 New Hampshire Avenue NW Washington, DC 20009-2512

Since 1920, when it originated in response to a parallel organization that had been established two years earlier in Great Britain, the English-Speaking Union of the United States has sought to foster social and cultural cohesion through the resources and traditions of a language that has become increasingly indispensable as a means of international communication. Through a diverse array of offerings, many of which are shared with audiences around the world through radio and TV, the national capital's ESU endeavors to advance a noble mission.

Rewards of Membership

As we approach the end of ESU's 2003-4 season, we invite you to join THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION or renew an existing affiliation if you haven't already done so. The ESU now girdles the planet, with a stately London address at Dartmouth House, and those who belong to any of its local, regional, and national associations are nourished by a vibrant global network.

Through a diverse assortment of edifying events, and through such initiatives as an annual SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION for secondary-school students, a variety of awards to facilitate work in academic and artistic settings, and a tutoring service for those who aspire to better command of a tongue that is not native to them, the Washington branch of the ESU is dedicated to extending an incomparable heritage. To help preserve this legacy, supply the information requested in the Order Form at right and submit it, along with a check or credit-card order, to executive director John F. Andrews at 1604 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009-2512. You can reach Mr. Andrews by phone at (202) 234-4602, by fax at (202) 234-4639, or by e-mail at esuwdc@msn.com.

ASSOCIATE (Individual \$35, Dual \$45)

*Event notices, local and national
ESU newsletters and other publications*

SUBSCRIBER (Individual \$75, Dual \$100)

*All ASSOCIATE-level benefits plus 1 coupon
for a regular ESU event (that is, an
event priced at \$40 or less)*

CONTRIBUTOR (Individual \$125, Dual \$150)

*All SUBSCRIBER-level benefits plus 1 additional
coupon to be used at a regular ESU event*

DONOR (\$250)

*All CONTRIBUTOR-level benefits plus 2 additional coupons
to be used at regular events and 1 coupon for a special
occasion (that is, one priced at more than \$40)*

BENEFACITOR (\$500)

*All DONOR-level benefits plus 4 additional coupons to be used at
regular events, 1 additional coupon for a special occasion,
and recognition in selected print materials*

Reception at the Westchester Residence Of Branch President A. Graham Down

From 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, A. Graham Down, president of the branch of the ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION that serves the Nation's Capital region, will host a festive buffet reception at his new residence in the storied WESTCHESTER complex. This informal get-together will take place in unit 152B at 4000 Cathedral Avenue NW. It will be catered by Diana and Peter Nicholson, and it will give members of the ESU and their guests a chance to greet one another as they relish one of the most elegant leafy vistas in the Washington area. The cost for this relaxing social occasion will be \$20 a person. Ample parking is available at no charge on the premises.

PATRON (\$1,000)

*Free admission for 2 persons to all regular events,
4 coupons for use at special occasions, and
recognition in selected printings*

SPONSOR (\$2,500)

*All PATRON-level benefits plus free admission for up
to 4 additional guests at all ESU gatherings*

UNDERWRITER (\$5,000)

*All SPONSOR-level benefits plus free admission for up
to 8 additional guests at all ESU gatherings*

Order Form

I wish to renew or enroll in the English-Speaking Union at the \$_____ level. I wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the ESU of \$_____ to support its educational and cultural endeavors.

For April 28, please reserve ____ spaces at the \$30 member rate, ____ spaces at the \$35 non-member rate.

For May 5, please reserve ____ spaces at the \$30 member rate, ____ spaces at the \$35 non-member rate, ____ spaces at the \$10 Program Only rate.

For May 10, please reserve ____ spaces at the \$75 member rate, ____ spaces at the \$85 non-member rate.

For May 15, please reserve ____ spaces for lunch at \$20 per person, ____ spaces at no charge for the Annual General Meeting only.

For May 23, please reserve ____ spaces for the ESU reception at a price of \$20 per person.

My check for \$_____ to The English-Speaking Union is enclosed.

Please charge ____ MC ____ Visa _____ (_____/______).

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone, Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Visit us online at www.esuwdc.org.