



Newsletter

European IFYE Alumni

June 2012



Someone is already there....

Read more about:

Executive committee report 2012
Updates Conference Kungälv 2012
New IFYE alumni club in Austria

Fantastic Formosa! Taiwan exchange
Summary Country reports

Greetings from the President – Martyn Quayle

I hope you have enjoyed some good Spring weather as we have in the Isle of Man but towards the end of April, we endured some extremely cold weather with even a little snow. Hopefully, we will be blessed with some good weather in late May/early June for our annual invasion of around 40,000 people coming to the Isle of Man for the TT Motorbike Races. Visit www.iomtt.com for more details. This year, I have registered for the 'Homestay' scheme whereby Manx residents accommodate many of the TT fans in their homes during the fortnight of the TT Races. My home is right in the middle of the countryside and the family farm and it has been brilliant to see a few hundred sheep and lambs in the adjoining fields. I have had a bit more time to study them this year and it has been a wonderful sight to see the lambs having the time of their lives, frolicking and gambolling in the fields.

In recent weeks, I was able to fit in another week's fantastic skiing and catching up with some Swiss IFYEs. My friends and I have already booked another week in March next year.

This year marks the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth who enjoys the title of 'Lord of Mann' and is also Patron of the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs and there are many special events organised throughout the UK and the Commonwealth of Nations. We were visited by their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of Wales/Duke of Cornwall and his wife, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. They had asked to meet up with Farmers and Fishermen and it was a very successful visit. It's great that the traditional industries of farming and fishing are recognised in this way.

Everyone is looking forward to later on this year when the Olympic Games will be hosted by London on behalf of the United Kingdom.

By the time you read this, our family will have experienced the sadness of a Funeral, and the joy of a Christening and a Wedding – all within the space of 3 weeks. When I mentioned this to a member of the family, the response was 'That's life' which of course it is.

Our thoughts turn to the forthcoming 54th IFYE Conference to be hosted by Sweden from 21st – 28th July and recalling the wonderful World/European Conference held there in 2003, I know the Swedish IFYEs will have been working tirelessly to ensure we have another memorable conference. More details are contained within this Newsletter. Apart from the fun and friendship, we will also have the serious business of our Annual General Meeting so I hope you will familiarise yourselves with the Agenda ahead of the AGM.

I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones in Sweden.

Kindest regards

Martyn Quayle (Isle of Man)



European IFYE Alumni

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Deadline next issue:
1. September 2012

Greetings from the Editor

When we started to have four editions of the Newsletter rather than two some was worried that we would not have enough news to publish and things to write about. I certainly not say that we have the flashiest news, but with a great deal of help from our members we have managed to tell stories from exchanges in earlier days and in exotic countries. This time you can read about Norwegian IFYE Kirsti Rø's exchange to Taiwan in 2012. Our contact members have shared stories about their national IFYE activities. In this edition you can read news from Northern Ireland and Austria. An updated version of the programme for this summer's European conference in Sweden is also to be read, so get ready to go royal! I hope to see many of you in Kungälv.... Reports say that there still are a few beds available, so if you haven't booked yet....!!

For the first time we publish the Executive committee report in the Newsletter, this is the same document that is presented for the Annual General Meeting, so for all of you who not are attending the conference this year you can still be informed. We have also worked on a presentation to explain all the accounts/funds of the organisations, to make it easier to follow fiscal presentations and discussions in the future.

We have also summarised some of the information collected in the annual Country reports which shows the number of exchangees the last four years and which countries the different countries exchange with. Thanks to the members of the executive committee and especially Sally Young who have contributed in making many of the texts in this newsletter. Let me also mention Dorothy Wilson who has been special reporter on Diamond jubilees. Thanks to all for your help with this Newsletter!!

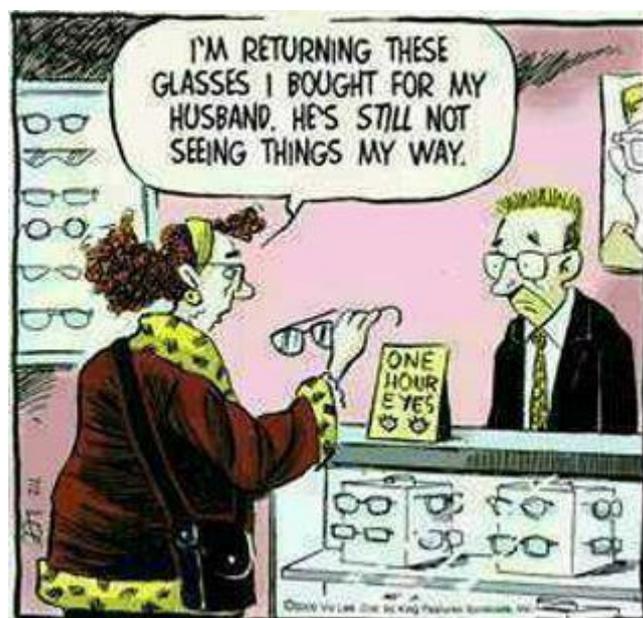
If anyone feels tempted to contribute in a future newsletter; don't hesitate to sharpen your pencil or send me a great picture or two!

Hilde W. Riser (N)

ALL LIFETIME MEMBERS!!!

**HAVE YOU MOVED LATELY AND REMEMBERED
TO UPDATE US WITH YOUR NEW ADDRESS?
PLEASE UPDATE US ON E-MAIL**

***ON OUR WEB SITE YOU WILL FIND MINUTES
FROM AGM (JULY 2011 AND EARLIER YEARS)
AND CONTACT MEMBERS MEETING, COUNTRY
REPORTS AND NEWSLETTERS 10 YEARS BACK.***



Executive committee: 2011-2012

President: Martyn Quayle, Isle of Man
First Vice President Gerhard Steinberger, Austria
Second Vice President Anette Nilsson, Sweden

Treasurer: Norbert Winkler, Austria
Secretary: Sally Young, Scotland
Newsletter editor: Hilde W. Riser, Norway

Executive Committee Report 2012

(To be read out at Country Meetings prior to the Annual General Meeting)

We have decided to publish the report in the Newsletter so all members and attendants on the AGM in Kungälv have plenty of time to read it before the conference.

The 53rd European IFYE Alumni Conference was held at Metsäkartano, Finland from 23rd – 30th July 2011. It was a wonderful relaxing week full of new experiences and entertainment, held in the heart of the countryside alongside a lake. Our grateful thanks and appreciation are extended to our Finnish hosts who provided a wide-ranging programme in such a peaceful location.

The Executive Committee has worked well as a team and met for the mid-term meeting in January in Vienna, Austria at the home of Gerhard Steinberger's family. We had a lengthy agenda, many discussions and decisions made, and amongst many items, the following should be of interest:

- Country Reports for 2011 are available on the www.ifye.org website. All Contact Members are requested to submit a report of their Country's exchange trips and IFYE activities.
- The guidelines in the Blue Booklet have been reviewed and minor amendments have been made to the Responsibilities of Contact Members; the Executive Committee Job Descriptions and; the Recommended Guidelines for Organising a European IFYE Conference. The updated version will be published on the website prior to the AGM.
- Executive Committee Manual - A series of templates and procedures are being produced to help provide continuity for future committee members.
- A letter of introduction to European IFYEs in 2011 was sent out by the 1st Vice President via e-mail and is on the website.
- New Baby IFYEs at Conferences – Following feedback from them, it has been agreed that new IFYEs be formally introduced to Members by the 1st Vice President.
- The 1st Vice President represented the Association at the European Rally held in Slovenia in August 2011.
- Promotion of attendance at IFYE Conferences - It has been noted that Macra na Feirme (Republic of Ireland) attend the European Rally and have an IFYE exchange programme but do not attend IFYE Conferences. Contact has been made with them to promote the IFYE organisation, membership and our European conferences.
- Silver Pins and Pendants - Following the decision at the 2011 AGM, new stocks have been ordered.
- Silver and Golden Certificates – An updated design has been approved.
- Finances – The Executive Committee have reviewed all finances and are satisfied that no increase in membership fees is required.
- Accounts and Budget - Following last year's AGM, the Committee is pleased to have arranged for additional explanatory information to be provided to Members ahead of the AGM, for your convenience and to aid understanding of the accounts.
- Membership statistics – The current number of Lifetime Members stands at 264, Annual Members at 49, and Overseas Membership at 7.
- 60th Anniversary of IFYE European Conferences in 2018 – The Executive Committee recommends to this year's AGM, that a sub-committee be formed to prepare a special 60th anniversary of conferences report.

It remains an ongoing honour, privilege and pleasure to serve as your President, and I express my thanks and sincere appreciation to you all for your support, and my particular thanks to all Members of the Executive Committee for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm.

On behalf of the Executive Committee

Martyn Quayle

Martyn Quayle (Isle of Man)
President

Statistics – Countries and Exchangees

Over the last years we have tried to systematically collect information on the number of exchanges and which countries the exchange is between the actual year.

Here there are some figures on the number of exchanges over the last years

ANALYSIS OF EXCHANGES								
Year	2008		2009		2010		2011	
Country	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out
Austria	9	10	---	---	8	14	3	14
Denmark	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
England & Wales	13	20	11	20	10	17	12	17
Estonia	---	---	---	---	4	5	---	---
Finland	10	10	32	16	7	13	10	12
Germany	6	5	3	7	4	4	3	5
Isle of Man	0	0	0	0	---	---	---	---
Luxembourg	7	2	4	0	---	---	---	---
Northern Ireland	---	---	4	10	12	7	6	3
Norway	---	---	9	1	6	4	7	2
Scotland	11	12	11	13	11	13	14	7
Sweden	---	---	---	---	2	5	2	5
Switzerland	19	20	11	23	19	20	16	21
Wales	6	7	7	8	9	18	8	11

--- Country Report not provided

Exchanges by Country in 2011 & (other exchanges available)

Austria	England & Wales	Finland	Germany	N. Ireland	Norway	Scotland	Sweden	Switzerland	Wales
England	Australia	Canada	Finland	Australia	England	Eire	Northern Ireland	Australia	Canada
Finland	Austria	Germany	Norway	Canada	Northern Ireland	Wales	Switzerland	Cameroon	Finland
Canada	Canada	Russia/Carelia	United States	United States	Scotland	Ulster	United Kingdom	Costa Rica	Holland
The Netherlands	Germany	Scotland	Estonia	Austria	Wales	United States	United States	England	Scotland
Scotland	New Zealand	Switzerland		New Zealand	Australia	Australia	Australia	Estonia	Ulster
United States	Northern Ireland	United States		Norway	Austria	Austria	Canada	Finland	United States
Luxembourg	Norway	Taiwan		Scotland	Costa Rica	Canada	England	Latvia	Northern Ireland
Switzerland	Scotland	Austria		Wales	Germany	Eire	Germany	Northern Ireland	Serbia
Estonia	Sweden	Latvia			Switzerland	New Zealand	New Zealand	Scotland	
	Switzerland	Northern Ireland			Taiwan	Norway	Scotland	South Korea	
	France	Russia			United States	Switzerland	Taiwan	Taiwan	
	Ulster					Ulster	Wales	United States	
								Austria	
								Canada	
								New Zealand	
								Norway	
								Sweden	



EIFYEA Bank Accounts and Funds

Bank Accounts:

The Association holds two accounts: an account whose income is based on stocks and shares and a general current account, both are held by the UBS AG bank in Switzerland.

(1) UBS Lux Strategy: The account was opened with the aim of earning income from interest. The value of the fund is linked to the stock market therefore, the value of the fund and the interest earned varies on an annual basis depending on the rises and falls of the stock market.

(2) UBS General Account. The account provides instant access to the Association's capital.

Funds:

The Association has four funds. The separate fund, each with a different purpose, ensures that the priorities and income and expenditure of each fund can be monitored and reported to the General Assembly individually. The funds are split between the two bank accounts.

(1) Lifetime Members Fund

Location of the Fund: The fund is held in the UBS Lux Strategy and UBS General Account.

Purpose: The fund holds the one-off Lifetime Membership fee paid by IFYEs who are Lifetime Members of the Association.

Income: The fund's annual income is solely reliant on the membership fees received from the varying number of new Lifetime Members that join the Association in that year.

Expenditure: The fund pays the cost of printing and posting the Lifetime Member's Annual Conference Report and earlier the printing and postage cost of their newsletter. The ratio of Annual Members to Lifetime Members is calculated annually and the Executive Committee's Mid Term Meeting expenses are split, in the same ratio, and subtracted from the Lifetime Members and the General Account funds.

Report to Members: A budget, to indicate the anticipated change to the Lifetime Members Fund is presented at the Annual General Meeting, for approval by the General Assembly.

(2) Development Fund

Purpose: The fund was established in 1988 to support new IFYE programmes; free membership for IFYE's from former Eastern European countries; special events and; material produced by the Association.

Location of the Fund: The fund is held in the UBS Lux Strategy and UBS General Account.

Income: The fund income is generated from the sale of tombola tickets at the annual conference.

Expenditure: The fund pays the expenses sought by countries who have submitted a successful application to the Development Fund. The General Assembly determines if the application fulfills the rules of the fund and authorises expenditure from it.

Fund Rules: The fund rules were agreed by the General Assembly and are fully detailed in the Blue Booklet. The operation of the fund includes: (1) An application form must be submitted to the Association by the 01 May for consideration by the General Assembly. (2) A maximum of 25% of the total held in the Development Fund to be withdrawn in any one fiscal year. (3) When the Development Fund exceeds 15,000CHF the excess to be withdrawn and transferred to the General Account. (4) The General Assembly can authorise a maximum of 3750CHF be withdrawn from the account and allocated to Development Fund applicants in any one fiscal year. (5) The Development Fund may reduce below 15,000CHF if the sale of the tombola tickets is low. (6) The General Assembly agree the expenditure from the fund. (7) The funding applied for is paid to the applicant 12 months after the General Assembly agree to fund the application and; once the treasurer has received all receipts and a written report on the project.

Eligibility: The national IFYE Alumni organisation of member countries is eligible to submit an application to request funding from the account. The application will be considered against the funding rules noted in the Blue Booklet.

Report to Members: A budget, to indicate the anticipated income and expenditure to the fund, will be presented at the Annual General Meeting each year, for approval by the General Assembly.

(3) Sweden Fund

Location of the Fund: The fund is held in the UBS Lux Strategy and UBS General Accounts.

Income: The fund has no annual income. It was opened with a lump sum following the 2003 World Conference in Sweden.

Expenditure: Any purpose agreed by the AGM. Now the fund subsidises the cost of the conference fee for IFYE's attending the conference for the first time (a 'Baby IFYE').

Fund Rules: For the agrees purpose the fund rules were agreed by the General Assembly. and are detailed in the Blue Booklet. (1) A Baby IFYE can be offered 160 CHF towards the cost of attending the IFYE conference for the first time (2) Baby IFYE's must complete an application form to receive the grant (3) The General Assembly must agree any changes to the amount that a Baby IFYE can be offered. (4) The funding is given to the Baby IFYE at the first conference he/ she attends, in the currency of the hosting country. (5) At the General Assembly in 2011 it was agreed that the subsidised conference fee be offered until 2016, its future to be reassessed thereafter.

Eligibility: (1) IFYE's must attend a conference within the first three years of returning from their exchange trip (an IFYE in 2008 can receive the contribution in 2009, 2010 or 2011) (2) IFYE's must attend the conference for the full week (3) An IFYE can not claim the funding if the conference is held in their own country.

Report to Members: A budget, to indicate the anticipated income and expenditure to the fund, will be presented at the Annual General Meeting each year, for approval by the General Assembly.

(4) General Account

Purpose: The fund provides the working capital for the Association.

Location of the Fund: The fund is held in the UBS Lux Strategy and UBS General Accounts.

Income: The fund income is from the membership fees received from annual members and, the funds transferred from the Development Fund when it reaches its 15,000CHF limit.

Expenditure: The fund pays the costs associated with the Mid Term Executive Committee Meeting and the expenses of running the Association that are not eligible to be taken from any of the other funds.

Report to Members: A budget, to indicate the anticipated income and expenditure to the fund, will be presented at the Annual General Meeting each year, for approval by the General Assembly.

Austria formed an IFYE Alumni Club

Finally, 23 years after Alois Wolf, who has taken a lot initiative to IFYE Austria, went on exchange Austria formed an official Alumni club. For many years it had always been just a part of the National Landjugend (4H) but now we have our own club. We act with the same rights and duties like a district club of the Austrian Landjugend. The organisation - esp. of the exchange program itself - does still an employee of the National Landjugend.

The elections took place in March at the Outgoing Seminar which always includes the annual Alumni meeting. The following people have been elected unanimously as the first board:

President: Alois Wolf

Vice-president: Andreas Pölzl

Treasurer: Norbert Winkler

Secretary: Anita Eckerstorfer

Auditor: Stefan Starlinger



Fantastic Formosa

Letter to Norwegian 4H Alumni's from Kirsti Rø, IFYE to Taiwan in 2010

I will tell you about my journey to Taiwan, and I will try to describe how it feels to be far away for a long time. I will try to tell you all the stories that fall into my mind, but also what remains as important and less important incidents during three months on fantastic Formosa. Let us start with some information about my self. I am 26 years old, from Norway, I am a teacher in mathematics and science, and I am a 4H enthusiast. After five years at the university, I chose to do something different and not job-related. I chose to be an IFYE, and I chose Taiwan.

The choice has given me gratitude - I was grateful every single day in Taiwan. The Taiwanese people were hospitable, friendly, caring and interested in talking to me. They said «welcome to Taiwan» and «do you like Taiwan», and I said «thank you» and «yes». And then they gave me their beautiful smiles. They were genuinely excited about my stay in Taiwan, genuinely excited about my interest in their country's culture and history. They saw the benefits of a meeting between me and them, and the language challenges and culture differences were less important. People in Norway have something to learn from the Taiwanese friendliness.

As an IFYE in Taiwan, you are taken care of by the Farmers Association, who runs the local 4H clubs. They ensure that you get a host family, and they make your schedule. The schedule consists mainly of agriculture activities, and I therefore got the opportunity to study the growing of vegetables and exotic fruits. I visited a number of tea plantations, mushroom farms, and flower cultivations. Every region has its agriculture specialities, which I carefully studied. Further on, the schedule included 4H activities, such as visiting the local 4H club and national 4H camps. I was shown famous sights, sights that the regular tourists never see, traditional restaurants and tea houses. The program was full, and the camera was frequently in use, and the formalities were numerous.





Strangely, it is the Taiwanese culture of photo shooting, and all the formalities, that some times made me tired and missing home. In Taiwan, every one take photos of everything, especially they love to take photos of Norwegian girls with blond hair. This form of documentation has its reasons: it gives the local 4H clubs good reputation. Some times I had a feeling that the contents of the activities were less important, as long as they could take a photo and publish it in the 4H magazine. And some times you just get tired of smiling to the camera. The formalities included small meetings with managers in Farmers Association, say hello to friends of

the family, say hello to friends of the friends of the family and say hello to complete strangers. And last but not least, the formalities included accepting gifts, say something in poor Chinese, and introducing myself to a number of unknown people. It was nice, but exhausting, and a confusing and strange kind of culture. But it is culture. I met fantastic people with fantastic stories, and people who were interested in discussing similarities and differences between Norway and Taiwan. Not only «do you like stinky tofu», but also «what do you think is similar, and what is different, if you compare Taiwan and Norway». Those conversations made me think, ruminate. And I had many of them. I cried because I was sincerely happy. I met young people who played so lovely music that my eyes get wet.

I cried of gratitude for my host families. I cried over a surprise visit from Norway. I had my ups and downs. I cried because I had some hard times, mainly because of communication problems and culture barriers. It is impossible to describe all the feelings that swirls in you head when you try to fit into a different culture. Simply, you are different, in all possible ways: «Why is your face red, and your body pink?» and «have your weight increased in Taiwan» and «you are SO white». What is the best answer to all these questions? I guess it is a smile. It is perhaps harder when the communication stops. When you for the nth time of the day get the question «why you did not study agriculture», and nobody will listen to your explanation. You must learn how to handle those kind of episodes, and do not let it affect the mood.

Now I have told you everything, or hardly anything, about my stay in Taiwan. What I mean, is that this little story is not enough to get an impression about how it is to live in Taiwan for three months. You have to try it yourself, and you have to do it as an IFYE. And by the way, you are invited to drink some Taiwanese tea at my place in Trondheim, Norway. I have so much to tell you, so many pictures to show you, if you will listen.



Some can't wait 1 (Northern Ireland)

The following happy story was snipped from BBC on 1998 IFYE to Canada, John McCallister

"Ulster Unionist leadership candidate John McCallister played midwife on Thursday when his second child was born a week early.

The South Down MLA delivered the baby boy at home after his wife Jane went into labour a week early. Mother and 7lbs 10ozs Harry James are now doing well in Craigavon hospital.

The drama began about 07:00 BST and Mr McCallister said ambulance control talked him through the procedure over the telephone. The now father-of-two described it as "fantastic news". With no experience of delivering a baby, Mr McCallister had to depend on the voice at the end of the phone. "Jane went into labour and this baby was definitely coming," he said.

"The ambulance control said support the head, support the baby and the baby popped out and gave a wee cry. We're both delighted.

John McCallister told Talkback's Wendy Austin about his surprise delivery. "Baby Harry came very quickly, maybe not the most glamorous of settings being born on the bathroom floor, but he's arrived safe and well. "Maybe if I lose on Saturday, I can retrain as a midwife."

Mr McCallister and Strangford MLA Mike Nesbitt are both vying for the leadership of the party.

The election will be head at the UUP AGM in Belfast on Saturday 31 March."

BBC NEWS NORTHERN IRELAND

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29 March 2012 Last updated at 11:47 GMT 104 Share

UUP leader contender McCallister delivers baby

Harry is the second child for John McCallister and his wife Jane

Ulster Unionist leadership candidate John McCallister played midwife on Thursday when his second child was born a week early.

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Jane went into labour and this baby was definitely coming," he said.

Some can't wait 2 (also Northern Ireland)

Our always happy Contact member from Northern Ireland, Linda Steele couldn't wait for the summer and another European Conference to come and explored the main sights of Kungälv during Easter 2012...



Welcome to Kungälv 2012

Soon, very soon we will meet you all in Kungälv!

We are so excited, all this planning and it will soon be conference week, here comes a short version of the program.

Saturday 21/7

You can check in from 14:00 at the Nordiska folkhögskolan in Kungälv. During the afternoon the café/bar will be open. We will serve a meal during the evening. If you want to show your pictures from earlier conferences, bring them on a memory stick. Finland will show theirs later during the evening.

Sunday 22/7

Sunday starts with a Contact member meeting in the morning. After breakfast there will be a "get to know" walk in Kungälv. Lunch will be served and the afternoon will be spent at the Medieval festival at the Fortress, we might see the knight's fight. Back at school, dinner, photos and opening service.

Monday 23/7

Our West coast day! All 3 trips will go to the west coast, and visit one island each, Orust, Tjörn or Marstrand. The trips include different stops at interesting places. There will be country meeting during the evening.

Tuesday 24/7

It's time to explore Göteborg (Gothenburg). Like we did Zurich in 2008, we will use the local transport. Before IFYE "goes royal" there will be a contact member meeting.

Onsdag 25/7

The 3 different trips take us inland to explore more of Sweden. During the evening there will be time for country meetings and Wales will give us more information about the 55th conference in 2013.

Thursday 26/7

It starts with the raffle tickets drawing and then the AGM. After lunch there will be different things to do at the school, we will prepare for the midsummer celebration. You will taste a Swedish tradition "sju sorters kakor". BBQ for dinner.

Fredag 27/7

There will be different options for things to do. If you want you can have free time from after breakfast otherwise free time start after lunch. In the evening we have the farewell dinner and lots of goodbyes.

So a warm welcome to Sweden

Anette, Peter and Ann-Margreth



Congratulations!



Conny Schmitz (IFYE to Sweden 1998) and Claude Thilmany, Luxembourg, with a son, Max, born 26th February.

John (IFYE to Canada 1998) and Jane McCallister, Northern Ireland with son Harry James, born 29th March

Rachael and Eric Crozier (IFYE to Switzerland 2008), Northern Ireland on their wedding 27th April

Lyndsey Johnston (IFYE to USA 2008) and Robert (Robbie) Galway (IFYE to Canada 1994) both Northern Ireland on their engagement in April. Another IFYE matchmaking success... Salzburg 2010.



Diamond Wedding

Rudi & Vreny Mümenthaler 29 March 2012

Congratulations to one of our very special IFYE couples!

Rudi and Vreny were exchangees together in 1951 and married the following March. In 1958 they travelled to Brussels for the 1st European Conference. On arrival at the building where the meeting was to be held they asked where it was. Nobody knew, so they went away. They were on the ground floor; the meeting was on the top!

In the 1960s two returning Swiss IFYEs announced they had issued an invitation for the 1st Conference to be held in Switzerland. Asked how they were going to organise it, they replied: "Oh, we can't do it. Someone else will have to." Fortunately, for us that "someone" was Rudi.

Not surprisingly, Rudi was then elected as our second European President. He also made a significant contribution to both rural youth and agricultural education in Switzerland. Vreny enjoyed pursuing her considerable artistic talent.

Most importantly, they raised their family caring for and supporting each other, their children and grandchildren through both the happy and the sad times.

As they celebrate 60 years together, we IFYEs should reflect how much we owe them. Had Rudi, with Vreny's support, not accepted the challenge of organising that 1st World Conference the idea of holding IFYE world meetings might have fizzled out. And we might not now be looking forward to our 10th World Conference in Thailand.

So we send them our IFYE love - and many, many thanks.

