



Adult Refugee Programme

adult refugee programme newsletter autumn 2010

Dublin Zoo Trip

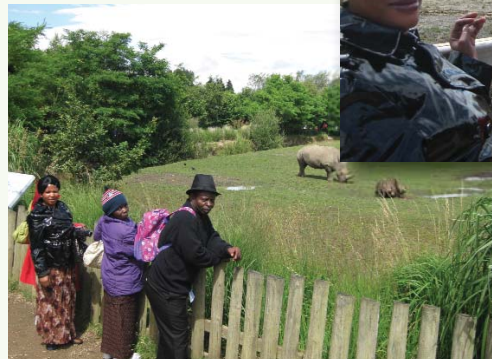
The group of Congolese in both Monaghan and Carrickmacross took a trip to Dublin Zoo on the 16th July. It was a beautiful day and everybody was excited to see and learn about animals from all over the world.

When we arrived we visited the big cat enclosure first. Some of the animals were familiar to the group such as the wild African hunting dogs and the lions.

We proceeded to the Antarctic enclosure where the Sea lions caused great excitement and amazement.

In the African plains the group again saw familiar animals from their own country such as the Zebras, Giraffes, Elephants, Rhinos and Hippos. Some of the group had never seen these animals in Africa and it was a real treat to see the animals up close.

We finished the day with some farm yard animals that we see in Ireland on a daily basis. The experience was of great educational value. We also took a trip to see where Mary Mc Aleese, the President of Ireland lives in the Phoenix Park. Everybody really enjoyed the day and they learned a lot about different animals of the world.



UPDATES!

NEW ARRIVALS The ARP is delighted to welcome Laois VEC on board. A class started in Portlaoise in mid September. Classes also started in September in Castlebar and Ballyhaunis.

AN ARP YEARBOOK The ARP intends bringing out a Yearbook before Christmas. The Yearbook will include pictures of all ARP classes and tutors, as well as a selection of contributions from Programme participants. All classes will be contacted over the coming weeks to arrange 'the picture'.

NEW TO THE WEBSITE Following the success of the recent World Cup Competition on the Adult Refugee Website, we have decided to incorporate competitions as a weekly feature on the website. Every week there will be a new competition related

to the English language – anagrams, word searches, crosswords. Students can go online to access the competition and send their answers to arpireland@gmail.com. There will be a monthly draw which will take place at the ARP head office in Dublin to choose the winner.

The resource section of the website which is only available to tutors has also been updated to include a library book list, an art resource pack, and also the latest administrative details. If tutors are unaware of the login name and password to can email arpireland@gmail.com and it will be forwarded onto them.

We hope you all continue to use and explore the website and we look forward to receiving lots of stories and pictures from around the country over the coming months.

www.adultrefugee.ie

City of Galway VEC marches south along the shores of Galway Bay to conquer Dunguaire Castle

Well, we didn't march so much as board a luxury coach early on a glorious June morning. All aboard, dressed in our summer finery, we sang our way south along the shores of Galway Bay. Our destination, Dunguaire, a 16th-century tower house, near Kinvara.

The castle bridges 13 centuries of Irish history, from skirmishes, battles and sieges that characterise its colourful past, through to the literary revival of the early 20th century. Dunguaire Castle is situated in the picturesque fishing village of Kinvara on what is believed to be the site of the royal palace of the legendary King of Connacht, Guaire Aidne mac Colmán. He was progenitor of the Hynes clan who built and retained ownership of the castle until it was transferred to the Martin Fitz Oliver's in the 17th century. Later, in the early 20th century, it was purchased by poet Oliver St. John Gogarty who established it as the meeting place for the leading figures of the Celtic Revival and played host to such luminaries as W.B Yeats, Lady Gregory, George Bernard Shaw and J.M. Synge.

Armed with cameras and joie de vivre we were led by an able guide through the ancient rooms, history and tales of darker days of Dunguaire castle. Our tour gave us an insight into the lifestyle of the people who lived there from 1520 to modern times. Ascending a narrow, dark and well worn stone staircase, with only a weak beam of daylight as our guide, we intrepid travelers eventually alighted onto the roof of the tower house. Ghosts of battles, royalty and poets past notwithstanding the combination of sunshine, scenery and swans below us was *nearly* enough to inspire this crew to prose, poetry and well, a cry for provisions! It was time for lunch.

On foot, the now famished forty followed the narrow, winding road into the village, eventually reaching the quayside which



Best dressed of the day.

hosts the famous traditional music and turf boat festivals; Cruinniú Na mBád and Fleadh Na gCuach.

We continued our journey to a traditional Irish hostelry where we feasted on a banquet of soup and sandwiches. Coffee in the sun drenched garden followed until we reluctantly boarded our modern day iron horse and headed north where the weary warriors were, once again, free to roam the medieval streets of Galway city.

ARP Tutors - Ruth Kelly, Pascal Murphy, Diane Keane & Brendan Moriarty



Everyone smiles in the Sun.

A Report on the Year from ARP – Clare VEC

Clare VEC ARP classes

Clare VEC had two ARP classes in 2010 and the group syllabus for one class was based on the Cutting Edge Pre-Intermediate course. This provided the sequencing and grading of items to be taught. Much supplementary material of a cultural and local nature was added. All students were successful in the FETAC Level 4 ESOL module (EF0164).

As part of the ARP programme in 2009/10 students were given the opportunity to do a course on Cultural Studies FETAC Level 4 (GI0036). The course proved to be very suitable in that participants researched aspects of their own cultures and compared them with Ireland. Topics such as: music, sport, political systems, food and traditional festivals were popular. Students liked the freedom it gave them to write about their own cultures and at the same time research topics and make comparisons with Irish life and culture.

ARP students also undertook a course on basic gardening at the Clare VEC allotment. Many from Eastern Europe and Africa proved to be excellent gardeners and the course became "English for Horticulture" more than a gardening course. As 2010 was such a good year in the garden excellent crops of broad beans, runner beans, peas, potatoes and cabbage have been harvested.

'The Music of Sounds'

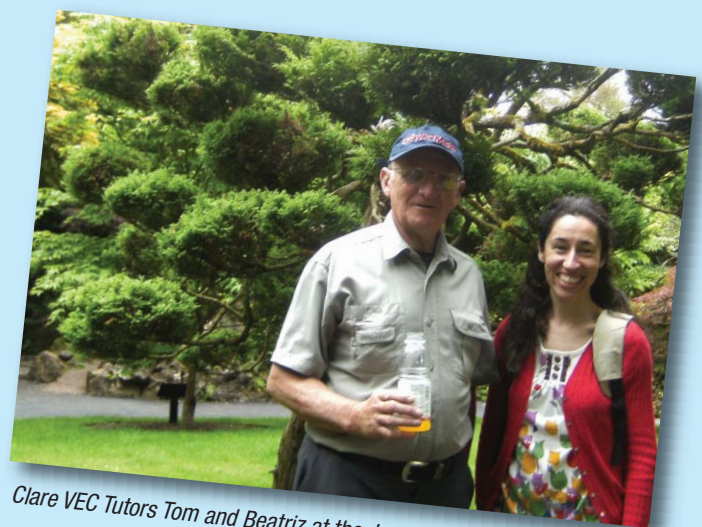
My name is Beatriz. I am one of the tutors in the ARP programme in Ennis. My own experience learning the language has informed my approach to teaching it and pronunciation has always interested me. Learners of English will have to carry out most communicative tasks orally. Therefore it is essential that they achieve a certain level of competence or listening to them will become an arduous exercise. With that in mind I delivered a pronunciation module last year. We met once a week for two hours. Learners from both ARP groups attended, although it is more suited to the most capable individuals. Introducing the IPA (international phonetic alphabet) helps learners realise the existence of sounds that they may not be aware of, or even hear, unless someone points them out. Materials such as "Ship or Sheep", "English Pronunciation in Use" and "Pronunciation Games" have proved to be valuable resources. Even more valuable were the generous contributions of my colleagues, Tom and Margaret, who would pop in for a while to read a piece of poetry to the learners. The atmosphere in class was always very relaxed as my intention is that learners discover the beauty of the language, its sounds, its music but in a lighthearted manner. Coming to grips with the sounds and intonation patterns of English is anything but easy so it is important to make it fun.

Trip to the National Stud and Japanese Gardens

In June we ventured up to Co. Kildare with a group of 28 students from our ARP classes. It was a glorious day. On arrival we were told a guide would give us a tour of the stud so we are now well versed on stallions, mares, breeding season and just about anything on equine matters. The Japanese Gardens proved to be a very relaxing, peaceful place to spend an hour and learners were encouraged to note the varieties of plants and trees and their names in English.



Tom (tutor), Aziza, Pelaheya, Tea and Beatriz (tutor) at the Japanese gardens, Kildare.



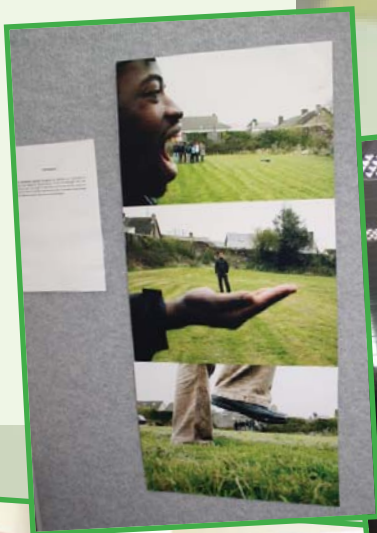
Clare VEC Tutors Tom and Beatriz at the Japanese Gardens.

ARP Exhibition and Performance Day - Tuesday 25th May 2010

On Tuesday 25th May the Adult Refugee Programme held an 'Exhibition and Performance Day' which was officially opened by Minister of State, Mary White, TD.

The exhibition was arranged to provide a platform for the work of Programme participants and featured work from classes run by City of Waterford VEC, County Kilkenny VEC, County Carlow VEC, County Dublin VEC, City of Dublin VEC and County Monaghan VEC. The exhibition included photography, clay models, flower sculptures, paintings, dress making, hair braiding and a display of 'food from around the world'. There was also a fashion show and a variety of music, song and drama performances. In preparing items for the display and through learning more about techniques used, the English language proficiency of participants was enhanced.

The 'exhibition day' was a great success, attended by over 200 Programme participants from all along the eastern side of Ireland, giving people a chance to meet and exchange stories of 'settling in'. It is the intention to repeat the exhibition formula next year for Programme participants along the western side of Ireland.





Adult Refugee Programme in Dublin 15

Two new programmes for higher level students have started in west Dublin. The programmes are based in Parslickstown House, Mulhuddart, near Blanchardstown, where the first two groups of students are receiving intensive English lessons which should help them to get employment in the future.

The two courses each with 15 students from various parts of the world, are 15 weeks long and end at Christmas. They focus on English in the workplace, as well as in everyday life. Part of the courses includes the students devising their own CVs on computer and submitting folders for the FETAC level 5 qualification in English.

The tutors – Pat Hough and Tania Harada – are also new to the Adult Refugee Programme. A third course in Dublin 15, tutored by Michael Shiels, runs in nearby Coolmine; students there have consistently achieved FETAC level 5 over the years. The three classes are run by Co Dublin VEC, which hopes eventually to house them all under one roof.



Tutors Pat Hough and Tania Harada (front left and second left) with some of the students on the new ARP courses in Dublin 15.

LINGUINE WITH LAMB and YELLOW PEPPER SAUCE by MARIA

INGREDIENTS

- 4 Tbsp olive oil
- 280g /10oz boneless lamb Cubed
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1 Bay leaf
- 125 ml/4floz dry white wine salt and pepper
- 2 Large yellow peppers deseeded and diced
- 4 Tomatoes, peeled and chopped
- 250g / 9 oz dried linguine

METHOD

1. Heat half the olive oil in a large heavy-based frying pan.
2. Add the lamb and cook over medium heat stirring frequently, until browned on all sides. Add the garlic and cook for a further minute.
3. Add the bay leaf, pour in the wine and season with salt and pepper bring to the boil and cook for 5 minutes, or until reduced.
4. Stir in the remaining oil, peppers and tomatoes. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 45 minutes.
5. Meanwhile, bring a large, heavy-based sauce pan of lightly salted water to the boil. Add the pasta, return to the boil and cook for 8-10 minute, or until tender but still firm to the bite. Drain and transfer to a warmed serving dish. Remove and discard the bay leaf from the lamb sauce and spoon the sauce on to the pasta. Toss well and serve at once.

Serve and enjoy!



Tutor Michael Shiels, Maria, Ashura and other student on the course.

PILAU (SPICES RICE) by ASHURA

INGREDIENTS.

- RICE 3 CUPS
- ONIONS
- SALT 1 TBSP
- GARLIC 1
- GINGER 1 PIECE
- BLACK PEPPER
- CARDAMOM
- CINNAMON
- JEERA
- LAMB or BEEF 1/2 KG

METHOD:

1. Chop your meat into small pieces. Put into the pan, and than grate garlic, ginger with salt into your meat and then heat it. Until the meat is cooked well
2. Take the rice, and wash good.
3. Chop onions into small pieces.
4. Turn on the heat, put oil in the pan, wait until is hot, then pour the onions in the pan cooked until is brown.
5. Now put all your pieces like, blackpeper, cardamom, jeera and cinnamon into a pan. Pour 3 cups of water and meat into your pan wait until is boiling then add the rice in it for about 3 or 4 mints or until is cooked.
6. Turn off the heat. Pilau is ready.

Serve and enjoy!

Sligo ARP – A Trip to the Museum of Country Life, Castlebar

The Event:

On April 21st this year, three groups of adult learners at County Sligo VEC, along with three tutors, went by bus from Sligo Town to visit the Museum of Country Life in Castlebar. The groups involved were the Adult Refugee Programme learners, an ESOL Literacy group and an ITABE group, totalling 26 people in all. Despite these adults all being learners at Sligo VEC, they would not ordinarily meet. This social interaction was, therefore, a positive additional aspect to the trip. The group was split into two smaller groups once we got to the museum. Each group had a tutor to accompany them as well a museum guide, and in this way everyone got a full tour of the museum.

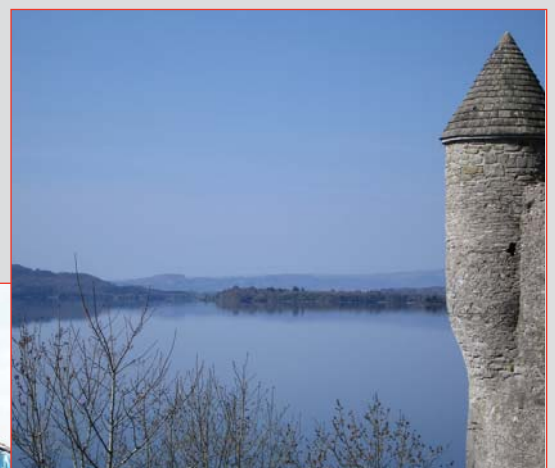
Also, everyone attended and took part in two workshops organised by the museum: a Butter-making workshop and Harvest Knots workshop. The former really got people talking and engaged in the art of making butter – a lot of the ESOL learners, for example, remarked that butter continues to be made in this way in their native countries, whereas some of the Irish learners could barely remember anyone churning butter at all. Everyone was asked to take a turn at the churning, which brings good luck as well ensuring that the butter is sweet, according to the workshop facilitator. One ESOL learner



Teachers and students are welcome visitors to the Museum of Country Life

spontaneously broke into a traditional song from his country, a song which is sung by someone in the village who needs a hand with a particular task. Overall, the Butter-making workshop was the highlight of the day, according to many of the learners.

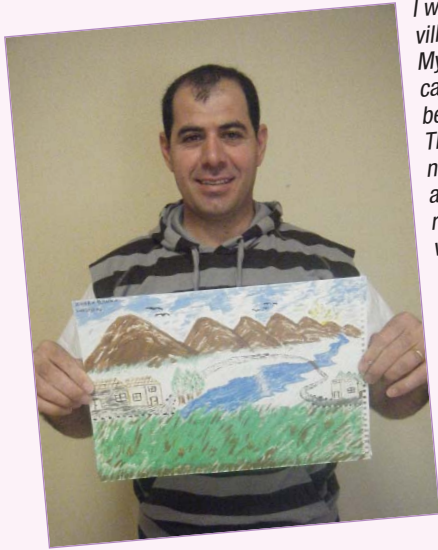
All three groups of learners thoroughly enjoyed the day out, and for a variety of reasons: the ITABE learners were intrigued to see how life was lived in their ancestor's times and could identify with turf-cutting, for example, as it was a part of many people's childhoods. The ESOL learners were equally intrigued by the many similarities between Irish culture and their own. The event did more for social integration than any slide-show or lecture could ever hope to achieve.



Museum View.

Students and Tutors thoroughly enjoy the day out

Kilkenny ARP – Stories through Pictures



I was living in the village in 1974. My village is called Tikife beside mountains. The mountains name is "Gude" and there is a river beside the village called "Djilh". I enjoyed painting. I put crows in the sky because Ireland has a lot of crows.

Ameen Banko – Kurdistan



In my picture there is a village called Singa. Singa is a small village on the Blue Nile. There is lovely grass and a lot of banana trees there. I made the huts from straw and felt. There are cows and horses eating grass and a girl carrying water from the river. The old grandfather is sitting as usual. In this village there is always sunshine. I loved making this village.

Sabri Mohamed – Sudan

In my picture there is a house. There is a kitchen and bedroom and living room. It is a big house. I put black lace material on the top to make curtains. The house was painted with black and yellow. I liked making the picture. It is a cool house.

Michael Paul Victor – Nigeria



In my picture there is a view of a place in Ireland. There are mountains beside the beach and a farm in the spring and summer. The sun is so sunny and the sky is blue. The animals come out to eat the grass with their family. At the beach the sand and the water is nice and warm to sit and swim and enjoy the holiday. The mountains are green and fresh. The sky has birds flying and enjoying the wind. I painted this picture from my dream. Also I wish Ireland had weather like this all the year, not only in the spring and summer time.

Yaowalak Phelan - Thailand



Castlecomer Discovery Park in Kilkenny

ARP Kilkenny visited the The Footprints in Coal Experience, a 45 minute tour through Castlecomer's past, an interactive multimedia display that took the visitors on a journey through time.

Castlecomer Discovery Park grounds consist of 30 hectares (80 acres) of mixed woodland on the banks of the River Deen which were once part of the old Wandesperde Estate.

There are 6km of themed woodland walks centred on two rainbow trout angling lakes.