



# NEWSLETTER

## July 2024

European IFYE Alumni



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## Greetings from the President

Hello everybody,

The 64th European IFYE Conference is about to start in Cloppenburg, Germany. The German organizing team has worked hard to find a great location and put together a great program. More about this and maybe already a little insight in this newsletter from the German organising committee.



I am looking forward to a week with you in peace, harmony, good humour, lots of happy faces and hopefully nice weather. We have certainly ordered sunshine and pleasant temperatures, but we must expect that nature will do what it wants and that it may get wet. Another major event in Germany is already over and has caused some long evenings for soccer fans and brought them a new European soccer champion. I also followed part of the tournament and was thrilled by the atmosphere in the stadiums.

Some have already been on their summer vacation and for some it is still to come. Everyone can use time to relax and unwind from professional and private "stress". Whether the vacation is spent away or at home is not important, what is important is that you take time for things you enjoy doing, for your friends, family, and fellow human beings.



My friends and family are also important to me and due to my job, I spend a lot of time away from them. Of course, you make "new friends" but it will never be like it is with your old friends at home. Where you understand each other without a word being said and a glance is enough to know what the other person is thinking and wants to do. Celebrations and parties are just as much a part of life as rest and relaxation. I can relax well, for example, with homemade pizza and cool conversations in convivial round, where fun is not in short supply, and everyone is cheerful and has a smile on their face.



Finally, I would like to wish you a wonderful summer. The school vacations have already started in most countries or are just around the corner and many students are enjoying or looking forward to the time without the stress of school. The main holiday season is also upon us, and I wish you a wonderful and relaxing vacation with your loved ones.

Enjoy the time.

Here's to a beautiful, relaxing, and happy summer.

See you on July 27, 2024, in Cloppenburg at the 64 European Conference.

Andreas

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## Are you ready for the conference?

### News from the German organisation team

We are on the finishing line! Only a few days left and we will welcome many of you at the Catholic Academy in Stapelfeld (Cloppenburg) for this year's IFYE conference.

Look forward to a week of great excursions in Northern Germany, learn about our traditions and have fun with our activities.

Meet old friends and make many new ones.

Bring a good mood and good weather (!!!) and - to all those who have not yet told us their arrival time - write us an e-mail to [registration@ifyegermany.de](mailto:registration@ifyegermany.de)

See you soon, we look forward to seeing you!

Greetings from the 2024 organizing team and all German IFYEs



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## A small pre-conference gathering in Luxembourg



Alan Duncan visited Luxembourg for two days before continuing on his trip to the conference in Germany. While staying at Danielle Nesar's place, a small get-together with a couple other IFYEs from Luxembourg ended in an evening full of great food, laughter and... whisky.

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## News from Finland

*written by Heli Aaltonen*

### **Annual IFYE meeting**

Greetings from Finnish IFYEs!

Finnish IFYEs had their annual official meeting in the end of the April. Finnish IFYEs have chosen a new board:

Hanna Taala (chair),

Jenna Järvenpää (vice chair),

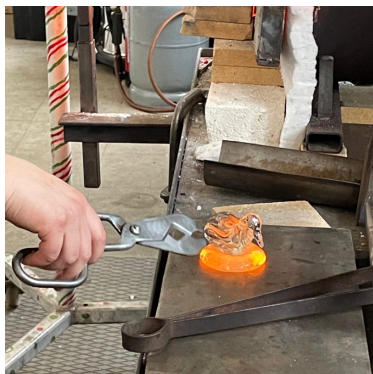
Saija Salonen(secretary),

Merja Pietarinen (treasurer),

Heli Aaltonen (contact member),

Emma Maaranen and Elina (youth members)

We discussed the cooperation related to the IFYE-exchange with Johanna Pölkki of the 4H-association. Twentyone Finnish IFYEs got to know the glass village of Nuutajärvi. It is the oldest still running glass village in Finland. Glass has been manufactured in Nuutajärvi since 1793, longer than anywhere else in Finland. The Glass village is the home of the largest community of independent glass designers and glassblowers with their own shops, studios and galleries in Finland. We enjoyed making our own glass birds. Some of us got to know the Nuutajärvi manor. Of course we heated a sauna in the meeting!



### **Invitation to our 60th Anniversary**

Finnish IFYEs celebrate in the 5th of October our 60th anniversary in Mänttä Club. The program includes for example an anniversary dinner, Ifye-song by Casio Kvartetti and the band Urho Tuhkanen and Unehtumattomat. Some of you visited the Mänttä Club at the Finnish IFYE-conference. You are all warmly welcome. Mänttä Club is designed by the Thome brothers. The Mänttä Club building was completed in 1920 as an event venue for G.A. Serlachius. Mänttä Club is an integral part of the Mänttä town's history and holds many stories from the past decades. Mänttä Club has been used as an event venue, a meeting place for many notable people, a stage for wrestling matches and even as a war time hospital.

Stay tuned in facebook [Suomalaiset IFYE:t/](https://www.facebook.com/SuomalaisetIFYE:t/) Finnish IFYEs and instagram [@ifyefinland](https://www.instagram.com/ifyefinland)



## Congrats to...



**Jenna Järvenpää**

*IFYE from Finland to Taiwan, 2018*

&

**Heikki Hyyti**

Jenna and Heikki got married on  
24th February 2024.

**Kelly Gibbs**

*IFYE from England to Northern  
Ireland and Scotland, 2014 & 2016*

&

**Matthew Renals**

Kelly and Matthew got married on  
4th May 2024.



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Deadline next issue: 30th September 2024

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**European IFYE Alumni Association**

web address: [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu)

e-mail: [newsletter@ifye.eu](mailto:newsletter@ifye.eu)

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