



NEWSLETTER

December 2013

With Christmas just around the corner and many offices starting to wind down, we thought we would spread some festive cheer in this edition of the Burravoe Translation Services newsletter and have some internationally-themed Christmas fun! Don't forget to enter our 'How well do you know Father Christmas?' competition for a special 10% discount for 2014!



MEET THE TRANSLATOR

Meet Kris, one of our regular translators. We asked him a few questions about how he got into translation work and what he likes most about it.

Tell us a little bit about yourself and how you got into translation work

I started life as a trainee accountant before joining the Army (Intelligence Corps) and subsequently gaining an interpretership in German. After 12 years I transferred to the civilian side of the Ministry of Defence, working as a liaison officer between the British and German security authorities. Based in Germany for 23 years before returning to England as Head of Admin at the newly formed Joint Doctrine and Concepts Centre in Wiltshire.

Somewhere along the way I picked up an Open University honours degree in mathematics/economics, as well as a qualification in Teaching of English as a Foreign Language and a degree standard knowledge of Spanish.

The work I did in Germany involved a great deal of translating work in addition to the face to face work of oral reporting and attendance at meetings; latterly the emphasis was on translating in particular technical areas, hence the general move into translating work.

Do you specialise in any particular areas of translation?

In the past twelve months I have worked on a variety of documents, including a tender document for the supply of equipment for a major rail project and an ongoing tax audit of a pharmaceutical company, which has required large amounts of translating time. There has certainly been a marked call recently for translations of a legal and insurance related nature.

What do you enjoy most about translating?

The most enjoyable thing about translating is the mental stimulation it provides; being able to unravel complex constructions and render them into coherent English structures is particularly satisfying (when it works!). Another aspect is the flexibility that my job provides in terms of working hours, especially where longer, non-urgent assignments are concerned. There is, of course, always a requirement for more urgent jobs working to a tighter deadline: then it can be a case of evening/overnight work, or very early mornings, as required.

What makes a good translator?

Beyond the obvious need for proficiency in whatever language, a good translator needs patience and tenacity. Time management skills and the ability to strike up a rapport with clients also figure highly.

JUST FOR FUN

These lyrics have been translated into Japanese and back into English again using a free online translation tool.

Can you work out which Christmas songs they came from and what the original lyrics were?

"Bob Bell to go laughing all the way open field of horses on a sled in the snow dashing good twin tails bright laughter and to sing a sleighing song tonight do what fun ghost ring"

"Din-Don, Bell ringing is also expertly cheerful: Ding Dong! The sky is really singing Angel and riv ' n. At the end of the Gloria, Hosanna Excelsis!"

"Sitting on the ground in all angels of the night they herd down the sheep owners, and shone around shining glory and around the glory were"

"We are all like figgy pudding we are all we like delicious puddings such as figgy pudding of all so bring it here! Good news brings us with your relatives. I wish Merry Christmas and happy"

"If you were handsome pretty Queen New York City bands play to end and they more Sinatra swings, we sang all the drunks out laughing so hard they kissed the dance corner"



Santa 'legs' it back up the chimney!

Question: What do you get when you give a number of departments a bag of materials, 4 days and a simple brief?
 Answer: An abundance of competitiveness, copious amounts of team spirit, bags of festive cheer and some interesting interpretations of Father Christmas!
 The Brief: Using the materials below (as a minimum) make a Father Christmas!
 The Materials: - 1 x pair of red trousers - 1 x piece of paper - 1 x bag of cotton wool - 1 x roll of Sellotape - Coloured pens
 View the other entries for the Father Christmas competition on Burravoe's Facebook page:



Spread the festive cheer!

Have you and your colleagues dressed up in festive jumpers this year? Perhaps decorated your office? Maybe you too have held a Father Christmas building competition? If so, we'd love to see your pictures!
 Share them with Burravoe on Facebook and Twitter, and if we aren't already following you or haven't yet liked your page, just let us know and we'll make sure we spread some festive cheer in your direction!



Burravoe's entry into the company Christmas Santa building competition

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FATHER CHRISTMAS?

Can you identify which countries use the following names for Santa...

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Pere Noel | Kanakaloka |
| Papai Noel | Mikulas |
| Viejo Pascuero | Babbo Natale |
| Dun Che Lao Ren | Hoteiusho |
| Kerstman | Julenissen |
| Joulupukki | Swiety Mikolaj |
| Pere Noel | Ded Moroz |
| Weihnachtsmann | Jultomten |

OUR GIFT TO YOU
 Send in your answers to translations@burravoe.com to receive 10% off your next translation with us during January 2014



REMINDERS FOR YOUR 2014 DIARY

FRIDAY 24th JANUARY 2014
 South East Business Show

Millennium Conference Centre, Effingham Park, Gatwick

VISIT US ON STAND 11

WEDNESDAY 14th MAY 2014
 Kent 20/20 Vision Live
 Detling Event Centre

VISIT US ON STAND 157

We look forward to seeing you there!
 Wishing you a very Merry Christmas & a prosperous 2014!



We translate all languages, all document types and all subject areas

To discuss your next translation project with a member of our team, or for a no obligation quotation, please contact Burravoe Translation Services.

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