



INTERSTENO ENEWS **100** | JUNE 2022

## Table of contents

- President's message .....3
- New face in Maastricht..... 4
- BIVR AWARENESS WEEKEND 2022 - 29 July-2 August .....5
- 8th season of the radio show about shorthand “Palabras dibujadas”/“Drawn words” .....6
- Interviews with a new and young stenographer and with a retired stenographer.....7
- Self-taught stenographer.....8
- Shorthand courses and books about shorthand.....9
- Thesis project of an Argentine stenographer ..... 10
- International congresses in Bolivia ..... 11
- Netherlands has typed! ..... 12

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## President's message



My dear Intersteno Friends,

There is still more than a month to go before our conference in Maastricht will take place. More than 250 participants have now registered; not as much as we normally may greet, but enough to make good competitions and a good congress.

Unfortunately, due to restrictive COVID 19 measures, participants from China, for example, cannot participate. Nevertheless, representatives of 21 countries are present at the congress; a good number, given the circumstances in which some countries find themselves.

The most recent conference program can be found at <https://www.intersteno2022.org/program.php>.

I wish you a lot of reading pleasure and I hope to meet many of you in Maastricht.

Should additional information about the conference be disseminated, this will be done via e-flash.

I wish everyone a good summer holiday and I wish those who come to Maastricht a good journey!

The next e-news will appear at the end of September 2022. The deadline for submitting articles and activities for the Event Calendar for September e-news is the 10th of September, to be sent to [marlenerijkse@intersteno.org](mailto:marlenerijkse@intersteno.org).

*Rian Schwarz-van Poppel*  
*Intersteno president*

## New face in Maastricht

*By Bernadett Berencsi and Anita Dobos*

This year our Association (Magyar Gyorsírók és Gépírók Országos Szövetsége; MAGYOSZ) organized a national competition e.g. for shorthand, text production and text correction for students. The competition was held in April. Of the 268 text production competition work, 250 were successful, of which 123 were flawless.

A young talent also took part in this competition. He is Marcell István Muhel, who achieved a really excellent result! He got 1st place in the national text production competition!

He studies in Szeged and he attends the Szegedi SZC Kőrösy József Közgazdasági Technikum. His teacher is Imréné Krizbai (Ildikó) whose student has previously participated in an international typing competition in Vienna.

Ildikó – who is a very kind teacher, but of course she is also very strict in preparing for the Intersteno world championship – ‘ordered’ four training sessions a week for Marci. And not just for Text Production but Note Taking too!

Their goal in the future is to participate in as many national and international competitions as possible. They are really persistent in their objectives. We are sure there will be lots of practice too.

We hope Marcell will continue to achieve good results at Intersteno congresses and world championships as well!

Good luck, Marci, in Maastricht too! 😊



Marci and his teacher

## BIVR AWARENESS WEEKEND 2022 - 29 July-2 August



Here at the British Institute of Verbatim Reporters (BIVR), we have put the final touches on our summer BIVR Awareness Weekend 2022 and we are ready to welcome folks with open arms (or an elbow bump, whichever you'd prefer!) in the trendy city of Bristol.

We have an exhibition. We have excursions. We have education.

And, like Intersteno's 53rd Congress being held in Maastricht, we are positively delighted to be able to meet up in person in a room which isn't a Zoom room. For those who are unable to, however, we are also offering remote attendance for the workshops, which range from stenography software training to bookkeeping tips & tricks. We have social events planned for the evenings, as well as prizes for the quiz on the Saturday night. And so much more!!

For more information on the complete programme and how to register & pay, please see the link below:

[M ANNOUNCEMENT-BAW-2022-SEMINARS-RATE-CARD.pdf \(bivr.org.uk\)](https://www.bivr.org.uk/M-ANNOUNCEMENT-BAW-2022-SEMINARS-RATE-CARD.pdf)

See in you Bristol! And/or Maastricht!

Leah Willersdorf  
President

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## 8th season of the radio show about shorthand “Palabras dibujadas”/“Drawn words”

*By Jorge Bravo-Diana Campi-Azat Ambartsoumian*

In March of this year we started the 8th season of the shorthand radio program “Words Drawn”, which is broadcast on the radio of the Argentine Library of Congreso which can be heard on its website [www.bcnradio.com.ar](http://www.bcnradio.com.ar) and this year also in Spotify-Palabrasdibujadas.

As always, the main sources of our work are the “Palant Collection”, a stenographic collection that belongs to the National Congress; own material and, also current articles that have to do with shorthand. We always emphasize the history of shorthand but also its present and projection into the future. We conduct interviews, we publicize courses and congresses, both in our country and in other countries. This year, in addition, we start with a new section that we call “Curiosities” (which have to do with shorthand, of course).

We will try to make a summary of the most important things that we have done in the first programs of this year. We can mention the following points:

- **HISTORY:** We published articles published in different magazines of the "Palant Collection", both in Argentina and in other countries. We will mention some, by way of example: “The acquisition of shorthand speed. Intellectual and psychological factors” (Italy), “Shorthand and oratorical style” (Argentina), “Shorthand and vocation” (Brazil), “Evolution of shorthand (Argentina), “Utility of shorthand” (Mexico); “The heroism of the people of Madrid narrated by two stenographers”, an interesting account by the stenographers Martí and Jaramillo about their experience on May 2 of 1808, on the occasion of the entry of the French troops into Madrid, etc.

Then, thanks to the collaboration of Carmel Taylor, from Australia, we are getting to know the history of shorthand in that country.

- **PRESENT:** In order to learn about the use of shorthand and stenotype, in the program we refer, in particular, to the following:

- The article that was published in many newspapers in many countries about the decryption of a letter written by Charles Dickens in shorthand, known as the “Tavistock Letter”. The prize for those who deciphered the text of the letter was offered by the "Dickens Code Project", run by the University of Leicester and the University of Foggia (Italy). Specifically, the prize was 300 pounds sterling. The call to decipher what the letter said expired on December 31, 2021. The secret was revealed and in February 2022 the result was known, awarding a first place and a second place.
- The article published in 2021 in the United States “Robinson stenographer earns national recognition, certification”. Specifically, we refer to Karyn Valeriano. She’s earned her Certified Realtime Captioner certification that acknowledges her high quality work in real-time writing in both broadcast and Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) situations. To earn certification, candidates must complete a captioning workshop and a skills exam including real-time dictation of 180 words per minute on literary matter.
- We also talked about the article “Shorthand: Get it and set yourself apart from the crowd”, written by James Mitchinson, editor of the Yorkshire Post, where he talks about the importance of shorthand in journalism and the activity of the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ). In addition, we mention Daniel Prince and Padraig Whelan, two students of sports journalism degrees and students of the NCTJ, who received the "Ryman Shorthand Award" for the results obtained in shorthand at the seminar that took place in London.



## Interviews with a new and young stenographer and with a retired stenographer

*By Jorge Bravo-Diana Campi-Azat Ambartsoumian*

On the other hand, we had the pleasure of interviewing Alejo Dalesandro, 19 years old, who has just won the public contest to work as a stenographer in the Legislature of the province of Santa Cruz, in the Argentine Patagonia, who was a student of Professor Claudio Araujo in Buenos Aires.



Alejandro D'Alessandro (19 years old) junto al profesor Claudio Araujo y a Jorge Bravo, del equipo de PALABRAS DIBUJADAS – Y Alejandro D'Alessandro en la Legislatura de Santa Cruz, donde ganó el concurso para ser taquígrafo

On the other hand, we also interviewed the stenographer Amalia Mehaudy, from the province of Santa Fe (Argentina), now retired, who told us about her experience and anecdotes after a long career as a stenographer and as a teacher in different legislative bodies, in professional associations , etc.



## Self-taught stenographer

*By Jorge Bravo-Diana Campi-Azat Ambartsoumian*

We had the opportunity to interview the young Gerardo Mamani, from Buenos Aires (Argentina), 16 years old, who learned shorthand without a teacher, self-taught. His story is very interesting because he did not know what shorthand was. Reading the book “Dracula”, in which shorthand is mentioned, he wanted to know what the word “shorthand” meant. After learning what it was, he wanted to see a shorthand book, bought it, and began to study on his own. In this way he studied the Larralde system, the most widespread shorthand system in Argentina today.

His interest continued and through the Internet he learned of the existence of the “PALABRAS DIBUJADAS”/“DRAWN WORDS” program, which we do on the radio of the Library of Congress, and then he began to listen to each program. Then he wanted to see the Palant Collection, which is the stenographic collection that the National Library of Congress has in the “Special Collections” room. There we had the opportunity to meet Gerardo, to chat with him, to show him several shorthand books and magazines from different countries. Everything he told us seemed very interesting. That's why we wanted to interview him on the radio so that our listeners would know his story.



Gerardo Mamani, self taught stenographer (16 years old) on the day of his visit to the Palant Stenography Collection, with Azat Ambartsoumian, member of the Special Collections Room of the Library of Congress of Argentina and member of the PALABRAS DIBUJADAS team, and Jorge Bravo.

In short, we met a young man who is an example of the desire to study and to be better every day. He is an example of a young man who, thanks to his concerns and his desire to study, not only learned about Shorthand but also studied it and is already beginning to use it to write what his teachers say at school. Time will tell if his future is to be a professional stenographer or if he will use shorthand for his studies and for his personal life.



## Shorthand courses and books about shorthand

*By Jorge Bravo-Diana Campi-Azat Ambartsoumian*

This year in Argentina several shorthand courses began. For example, in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and in the provinces of Santa Fe, San Juan, Formosa, La Rioja, Tucumán, Santiago del Estero and Santa Cruz. In the city of Escobar (province of Buenos Aires) a course on Digital Shorthand is also being taught, using a Tablet; The classes are taught by the stenographer Patricia López, from the Escobar Deliberative Council, who has published the book "Digital Stenography: a novel and effective method for the stenographic record".

On the other hand, shorthand courses are being given in other countries, such as Brazil, Uruguay and Australia. In the case of Australia, Carmel Taylor teaches the Pitman Shorthand course at the University of the Third Age ("Check your shorthand while you train your brain"), the purpose of which is to contribute to mental stimulation.

Then, some books about Shorthand have just been published, such as the following:

- In Argentina: "Digital Stenography: a novel and effective method for the shorthand record", whose author is the stenographer Patricia López, from the Deliberative Council of Escobar (Province of Buenos Aires)
- In Australia: "A History of Shorthand in Australia – With pencial poised...", written by Carmel Taylor
- In Italy: The Sociocultural Association Gianni Galuppo and Gabriella Zanusso published the book "Fior da Fiore", with several articles by Gabriella Zanusso about Shorthand. Likewise, the book "Gabriella Zanusso – Autobiografía" has just been published, in which Gianni Galuppo has included the exchange of emails with our radio program "PALABRAS DIBUJADAS"/"DRAWN WORDS" as well as the text of the article we read on the radio and the transcript of that program.



## Thesis project of an Argentine stenographer

*By Jorge Bravo-Diana Campi-Azat Ambartsoumian*

As the final project of the Superior Technician in Management and Administration of Public Policies, the stenographer Natalia Ferreyra, from the province of Santa Cruz, in the Argentine Patagonia, presented and approved the project "Modernization Program in the Corps of Stenographers of the Chamber of Deputies", which consists of the following parts: Introduction, Statement of the Problem, Objectives, Methodological Framework, Theoretical-referential framework, Proposals and lines of action, Conclusions; Bibliography and Annexes.

To carry out her work, the stenographer interviewed the directors of Stenographers of the Argentine Senate and the Argentine Chamber of Deputies, Messrs. Jorge and Guillermo, respectively, as well as surveys of 34 parliamentary stenographers from the majority of the legislatures of each province from the country.

In the text of her work, she raises different "problems" and "solutions" and what actions should be carried out to face those "problems" and reach those "solutions".

Always emphasizing the permanent in the training that the stenographer must have as a professional, the axis of his conclusion is that the work of the stenographer must tend to improvement, transparency and modernization since the diaries of sessions and the publication of the Parliamentary debates are the faithful reflection of history through the voice of its representatives, their passions, misunderstandings and motivations. Likewise, she considers that all citizens should have access to the final product of the stenographers' work, thus contributing to the transparency of parliamentary work.



## International congresses in Bolivia

*By Jorge Bravo*

On November 21 and 22 of 2022, the II International Meeting on Administration and Integral Parliamentary Management will be held in Bolivia, organized by the Association of Legislative Administration of the Argentine Republic (ASALRA) in which a panel about SHORTHAND will be developed, with the coordination by Jorge Bravo.

From November 22 to 25 of 2022, the XXVII International Congress of the Latin American Center for Administration for Development (CLAD) will be held in Sucre, Bolivia, in which there will be a panel on "NEW CHALLENGES IN THE STENOGRAPHER'S PROFESSION - TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY", in which they will present: Jorge Bravo (Argentina), who will also be coordinator and will make an introduction on the subject; Marilanja Pereira (Brazil), who will speak about the challenges of Brazilian parliamentary stenographers in carrying out their duties and Carlo Eugeni (Italy), who will speak on automatic speech recognition - between television subtitling and parliamentary reporting



## Netherlands has typed!

*By Joeke Spierings*

After three years, it was finally time again on May 21: the Dutch Typing Championship took place in the Education Experience Center in Utrecht, organized by the official country group Interinfo, the Central Bureau Typing Skills and publisher Instruct.



There were 17 participants in the Typing Proficiency 1 category (up to 12 years), 2 participants for Typing Proficiency 2 (13-17 years old) and 15 future champions in the 18+ category, including 7 Belgian guests.

### The games

Exactly at 10.30 am the go-ahead for the first competition text sounded: for 10 minutes nothing but the sound of lightning-fast fingers on the keyboards tick-tick-tick. With an average of 450 strokes per minute typed by 34 participants, the sound was made of 15,300 strokes per minute. That is no less than five fully typed A4 pages per minute! After the first text there was loud applause for the just delivered performance.

At 11 o'clock the go-ahead for the second text sounded. Again only the sound of clattering keys followed by applause.

Then the youth typed the relay race: three participants type a 10-minute text on one computer for 3:20 minutes. The tactics can be changed quickly when the signal 'change' is given: speed for everything. But here too mistakes are severely punished; for each mistake, according to international standards, 100 assessments are deducted. Accuracy is and remains very important. With no or few mistakes, you have more points (attempts) left. The 18+ category also likes this part of the competition and entered passionately, but out of competition.

The 13+ categories continued with the English text section. Also strict with this part: 200 strokes per minute and 100 strokes off with one mistake.

## The outcome

### Category 18+ Dutch

- Wendy Lempers (gross 6964/net 6167)
- Reinke Boerkoel (gross 4852/net 4652)
- Lotte Deb (gross 5767/net 4267)



Reinke, Wendy en Lotte

Wendy Lempers has undisputedly become Dutch Champion (again) with almost 700 attacks per minute (more than 11 attacks per second!). In second and third place two newcomers to the Dutch Championships: Reinke and Lotte. In addition to a trophy, these ladies also won an entry ticket to the World Championships in Maastricht in August, granting Wendy a long-cherished wish.

### Category 13 to 17 years

- Naomi Cutter (gross 4162/net 3962)
- Kenna Hailemariam (gross 3820/net 3620)



Naomi



Niene

### Category up to 12 years

- Niene Floothuis (gross 3770/net 3570)
- Steyn Bouwmeester (gross/net 3160)
- Romi van Meetelen (gross 3220/net 3120)

### Category 18+ Open

- Klaas Nollet (gross 5761 / net 5261)
- Yannick Germonpre (gross 5164/net 4864)
- Katja Germonpre (gross/net 4402)

Best school team (The best three participants from one trainer type the score for their school or institute).

- Spierings Training (8530)
- Els (8060) typing school
- computer (5230)

The organizers can look back on a successful competition day, thanks to all participants from home and abroad, their supervisors and everyone else who helped make the NK Typing 2022 possible.

