

# FRANCO-BRIT NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2022



## OUT & ABOUT

### *Brocante and bric-a-brac*

\*Carpentras: every **Sunday** from 8am in the town centre carpark just behind the tourist office.

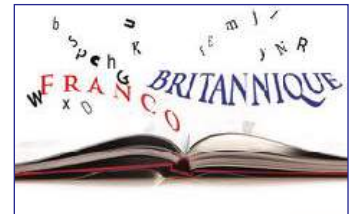
\*Isle-sur-La Sorgue, famous for its antique shops, has a vast 'brocante' every **Sunday** in the town centre from 8am. Excellent items at reasonable prices.

\*Villeneuve-les-Avignon **Saturday** 'brocante' in the main carpark from 8am to around midday.

**W**elcome back to the Franco-Brit newsletter...

For the past year, there have been so many restrictions and so many changes, it was impossible to plan events a long time ahead... You were kept up to

date with the events we did manage to organize thanks to emails and the website. Now that restrictions are gradually being lifted we can start planning ahead again and the newsletter is back. Many thanks to all those who have continued to support us throughout these difficult times. We are pleased to welcome many new members and hope you all have many occasions to meet each other.



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The Tuesday conversation group got off to a very good start in September. This year Anita, helped by John Elmhirst, organizes the sessions with very structured activities. Regular participants are sent emails with a summary of the work done and work to prepare for the following session. Many thanks, Anita and John, for all the work and enthusiasm you put into this group...

In January the traditional 'galette des rois' was adapted to the restrictions and we met in Clavel's tea shop. About 20 members participated and it was the occasion for members to receive their copy of the first Franco-Brit calendar.

In February there was an impromptu event. Members were invited, at very short notice, to come and have a drink at the 'Bistrot de la Gare' in Loriol on the Via Venaissia and arrive on foot, by bike or by car... Despite the short notice this event was very well attended and similar events will be suggested from time to time.

Monique continues to organize 'zoom apéros' and we are happy to see Anne & Craig Owens again - on our computer screens..... Even though face-to-face meetings are possible now, the « zoom apéros » give members the opportunity to keep in touch if they live far away or do not wish to go out much. Many thanks Monique for the excellent way you run these sessions.

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Looking for an original gift?  
Consult Genevieve Casy's  
on-line exhibition:

[Virtual Exhibition of the  
Paintings of Geneviève](#)

Laure Overwater also has  
paintings for sale and will be  
exhibiting shortly.

For enquiries, send an email  
to [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr)

## SERVICES

French banking in English:  
mortgages, investments,  
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requirements.

Contact the Service  
Anglophone at the Banque  
Populaire Méditerranée.

**Robin Boxall** (BPMED)  
will be happy to advise you.



Robin BOXALL  
Customer Adviser - English speaking service  
Cellule Anglophone

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133 Avenue Pierre Sémard - Bât D - CS 50333 - 84027 Arles Cedex 1

**O**n Saturday, March 12th there is a guided tour of Pernes les Fontaines orgnized by Raina Pavlova, followed by an optional tea in a bookshop with a tea room and a garden: « **Le petit Prince a dit** », 157 quai de Verdun Pernes les Fontaines Tel: 04.90.29.77.90.

<https://www.lepetitprince-pernes.fr/>

Elodie will be our guide. Some of you will remember her from the guided tour of Seguret in September 2019... Guided tour: **8 euros for members, 10 euros for none members. Refreshments to be paid at the tea shop.**

For more information, send an email to [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr)

**O**n Thursday, March 24th we are planning to go to Aix en Provence to visit the Caumont museum for the exhibition: “Trésors de Venise, la collection Cini”. , followed by an optional lunch and a stroll around Aix.. If you are interested please send an email for further details: [franco.britsven@gmail.com](mailto:franco.britsven@gmail.com) Booking is essential

[www.caumont-centredart.com](http://www.caumont-centredart.com)

3, rue Joseph-Cabassol 13100 Aix-En-Provence

**S**cottish dancing: Anne-Mie and Alain have kindly organised free Scottish dancing lessons in the MJC of Carpentras. No prior experience is necessary - just a lot of energy!!! Sessions take place on Thursday afternoons, at 2.30 pm on the first floor of the MJC in Carpentras. For insurance purposes, it is necessary to be a member both of the Franco-Brits and the MJC of Carpentras (Fee for the MJC : 26 euros). For more details send an email to [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr) and it will be forwarded to contact Anne-Mie:

**P**rintemps Anglophone. The Franco-Brits have been invited by the theatre « Chapeau Rouge » in Avignon to participate in the «Printemps Anglophone » which will take place in various venues from March 17th to May 29th. This year our participation will be modest - two play readings in Carpentras on **Monday April 4th and Friday April 22nd** and maybe a third play-reading in May. More details later.

With spring in the air, we will be resuming our outdoor activities shortly: Qi Gong and walks...

**Qi Gong.** Now that the weather is more clement, Geneviève Casy & Georges are resuming their very popular Qi Gong sessions. The first session will take place on **Monday March 21st**, starting at **10.30am, in Geneviève's garden**, subject to the weather being fine... If you wish to reserve a place or have any queries, please send an email to [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr) and it will be forwarded to Geneviève Casy. Many thanks to Geneviève and Georges for this original initiative

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## items for sale

If you have any items for sale you can post them on the Blog.

<https://www.francobrits84.fr>

You can find quality organic beauty products and original gifts in this local company:

« Cocoon'Essence »

<https://www.cocoonessence.com>

**I**mpromptu meetings: following the success of the first 'impromptu outing' at the Bistrot de la Gare in Loriol, other meetings will be suggested. As these depend on the weather they cannot be planned too far ahead. If you are interested in walking or cycling occasionally please send an email to: [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr) . If you wish, we can put you in touch with each other so that you can plan outings when the weather permits

**T**he next « Let's Lunch » is programmed for **Friday March 11th** at the restaurant 'Sous la Robe' in Isle sur la Sorgue. 5, avenue des Quatre-Otages More details shortly.

On **April 1st** there will be a themed « Let's Lunch » : « Moules/Frites » in the restaurant « **La Plancha** » 571 Avenue J F Kennedy, Carpentras. There is plenty of parking space and if you don't like mussels there are plenty of other options available. **Booking is essential.**

**C**offee mornings: the next coffee morning will be on **Tuesday March 7th in Caromb** ( market day...) and another one is planned on **Monday March 14th in Bedoin**. Have a stroll around these markets and then meet for a coffee.

**Caromb:** « LA MIRANDE » 22 Place Nationale, 84330 Caromb

**Bedoin:** The café has not been chosen yet.

If you are interested in participating, send an email to: [info@francobrits84.fr](mailto:info@francobrits84.fr) - or just turn up!...

**T**he Franco-Brit Calendar. After many delays, the calendar was finally printed in mid-January. A big thank-you to the Mairie and their photocopying service for all their help and advice. The committee decided to offer a calendar to each member as a way of showing appreciation for your continuing support during these difficult times. Many calendars have already been distributed. If you have not received yours yet, please contact me at [franco.britsven@gmail.com](mailto:franco.britsven@gmail.com). Some of you asked for more details about the photos, so here are a few lines from the photographers of the winning photos in January, February and March.

**January - Raina Pavlova:** the photo was taken in the area of Suzette, a small village in the heart of les Dentelles de Montmirail. You can walk with pleasure in its small picturesque streets or stroll outside the village enjoying the view of the mountains around it. And you come to a place where an ancient cross appears. Behind it, in the distance, the Mont Ventoux is visible, the peak in the clouds. What a wonderful panorama!!!

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**February - Philip Riddle: « Swans at Blackford Pond », Edinburgh, February 2021.**

Blackford Pond is in south Edinburgh and is always lively with bird-life, especially ducks, coots and swans. Here we see Mum and Dad acting as ice breakers for their four cygnets as they search the water for food. The pair successfully breed every year but the youngsters are taken away at some stage - we know not where but it's certainly not to the butcher as the Queen owns all the swans in Britain and only Her Majesty, and the Fellows of St John's College, Cambridge, are allowed to eat swan.

**T**he photo « **Circus Carpet** » featuring in March was taken in Edinburgh by **Kate Riddle**. « There's a large, rectangular area of grass fronting Hermitage Terrace in Morningside, the part of Edinburgh we live in. Every spring it's transformed by the welcome appearance of these massed crocuses in purple, white and yellow - a cheering sign that winter is over at last! I took this photo with my phone and am delighted to have it included in the calendar. »

Introductions to the other photos will appear in the next newsletters. Winners - prepare your texts!

**T**he website is being updated and Josette Meyssard is now collaborating with Ulrich and Raina. More help would be welcome, please contact the webmaster, Ulrich Boes, if you wish to participate in this adventure: [webmaster@francobrits84.fr](mailto:webmaster@francobrits84.fr)

If you wish to help with the newsletter or make any contributions, please contact me at [franco.britsvn&-@gmail.com](mailto:franco.britsvn&-@gmail.com).

Hoping to see you at the various events.

Marie-Jacqueline Ballagh

