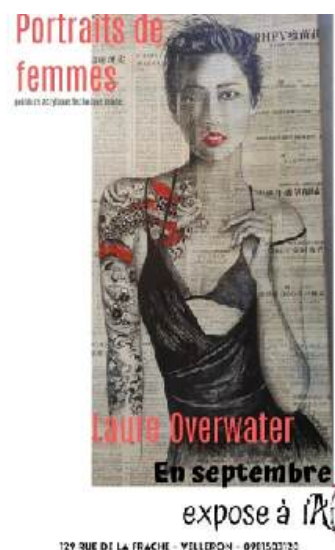


FRANCO-BRIT NEWSLETTER

September 2024

OUT & ABOUT

Come and enjoy Laure Overwater's exhibition at the Art Broc Café in Velleron.



Enjoy a prestigious concert in Vaison la Romaine conducted by the talented Bisser Kostadinov. Some of our members sing in this choir!



If you hear about any local events which could interest other members, please don't hesitate to share the news by sending it to: info@francobrits84.fr

Welcome to the September newsletter. We have planned a new season of activities and outings and look forward to meeting all the members who joined us recently. In 2025 we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the association, there will be many surprises and special events throughout the year!



The highlight of last season was the day out to the Camargue in June. The committee wanted to thank members for their support over the years so the day trip was partly subsidized by the association. We left early in the morning by coach and sang holiday songs, led by Elisabeth Stoddart. On arriving in les Saintes Maries de la Mer we boarded a boat which took us deep into the Camargue. This was followed by an excellent lunch and a trip on a 'petit train' which led us into another part of the Camargue. Everyone agreed that it was an excellent day out. Many thanks to Monique d'Hooghe and Beata Baran for all the organizing involved, to Elisabeth Stoddart for leading the singing - and a big thanks to Les Cars Arnaud for their patience and excellent programme.

This year, the traditional Franco-Brit Fête de la Musique took place in Monique d'Hooghe's spacious garden. Monique set up a small stage and various members and guests played and sang. Many thanks to all who participated and who generously brought delicious dishes to share. A big thank you to Monique and Jean-Michel for their generous hospitality.

On Saturday, July 20th Laure Overwater kindly hosted an evening of festivities in her beautiful garden. The 'Saturday Night Fever' event had to be postponed at the last minute and Laure kindly offered to step in with an alternative to avoid disappointment. Only those who had already enrolled in 'Saturday Night Fever' were invited to avoid confusion. Many thanks to Laure for offering to host this event, it was much appreciated by the participants.

Jazz in the Luberon



Please reserve before September 24th: 07 77 22 93 42

Items for sale

If you have any items for sale, you can present them on the website blog or in this column please send an email with photos: info@francobrits84.fr

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Carole Harris has the following items for sale:

- Scaffolding for gardening or painting/decorating. 1.6m 50.00€
- JVC television
Model no 1t32fd100
32 inch screen
Black
Perfect working order
approximately 4 years old
50.00€ ono
Reason for sale: present of a new television
For more information please phone:
04 90 83 64 82

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

<https://www.cocoonessence.com>

Anyone for Boules!

There was a very well-attended boules evening on July 11th followed by an evening meal at the Bistrot de la Gare in Loriol on the Via Venaissin. You can read all about it in two blog posts on the website. Following the success of this event, more boules meetings will be held in different locations. All suggestions are welcome. Many thanks to Beata Baran for this initiative.

Association Day

The Franco-Brit stand was yet again well attended with many people showing an interest and asking to be kept informed of our activities. Members also dropped by to say hello. A special thank you to Alison & Nigel Skinner who devised a form making it relatively easy to read the email addresses. This year, only two introductory emails bounced back and the correct addresses were easily deduced afterwards. We did however regret being placed right under the loudspeakers, this made communication difficult at times... A big thank you to Peter Guillery for helping to set up and take down the stand, and to all those who spent time talking about the association to passers-by.



A visit to the Vaucluse departmental archives

Peter Guillery organized an excellent visit to the Vaucluse departmental archives in the Chapelle Benoit XII, Avignon, on Thursday, September 12th, followed by a delicious lunch at 'Le Goût du Jour'. Places were limited to 20 and this event was booked out within days of being advertised. Many thanks to Peter Guillery for this initiative and all the work involved in organising this outing and many thanks to the guide, Laurent Carletti, who brought to life centuries of archives. For those who missed out, the archives organise visits regularly, the next one is on October 5th and there might still be places left. Please phone the archives directly if you wish to book a place for a future visit 04 90 86 16 18., The Archives will be moved to more practical but less atmospheric premises next year...

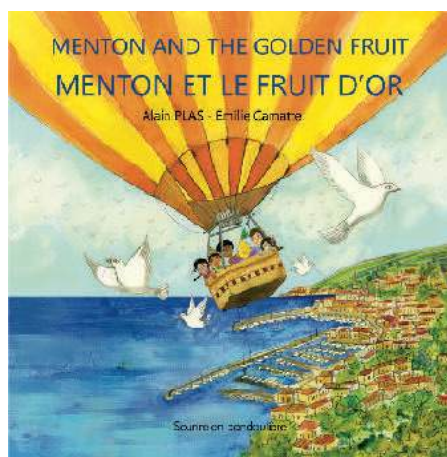
A bilingual children's book

If your children or grandchildren are bilingual or if you want to gently introduce them to French or English, this book is perfect. The story is set in Menton and is about a magic lemon. Translated by Marie-Jacqueline Ballagh.

Only 12€ (plus postage & packaging, if applicable)

For more information, send an email to:

franco.britsvn@gmail.com



Monique d'Hooghe's Wine Truck



There is still time to enjoy a Sunday morning apéro at Monique's wine truck at the market in Sarrians but

the season will soon be over. Come and enjoy fine wines and champagne in a friendly atmosphere. For more details, contact Monique directly:

06 27 19 29 66

monique-winetruck.com
moniquedhooghe@yahoo.fr

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Georges and Geneviève will resume the Qi Gong sessions on **Monday, September 16th**, from 10.30 am to 11.30 am, at the Château de la Roseraie or in the gardens of the Château, weather permitting. The sessions are free of charge and open to all members. Please send an email to info@francobrits84.fr if you wish to participate in the sessions. Many thanks to Geneviève and Georges for these invigorating sessions.

A light-hearted theatre workshop

A few members now meet regularly at the Château de la Roseraie on Monday afternoons to prepare short humorous sketches, in English and French, easily understood by non-native speakers. If this project interests you, please send an email to info@francobrits84.fr or just drop in at the **Château de la Roseraie on Mondays between 3 and 5 pm.**

Tuesday conversation group.

The sessions resumed on Tuesday 10th September at the Maison du Citoyen and we were pleased to welcome new members. More than just an opportunity to practice your French or English in a friendly atmosphere, these sessions have developed into a genuine exchange of ideas and experiences. Alison, John, Peter and Zsu take it in turns to suggest topics, and occasionally French participants offer to lead a session. All participants are welcome to come forward with suggestions. A wide variety of topics have been broached over the past year and it has been decided to continue this popular formula this year. Some participants have made written contributions to the conversation group. You will find some of these on the website in the 'activities' section. You can read these to get some idea of the subjects covered last year. Many thanks to the French volunteers who offered to lead a session last year and of course to Alison, John, Peter and Zsu for the varied topics they suggested and all the work involved in preparing the sessions.

Scottish dancing at the MJC

The sessions will resume on **Thursday, 19th September**, at the **MJC**. Why not try Scottish dancing sessions at the MJC on Thursday afternoons from 2.15 pm to 4.30 pm? Beginners are welcome and the sessions are free but members are asked to join the MJC association. Many thanks to Anne-Mie and Alain for this initiative and to the MJC for hosting this activity on their premises.

Carpentras Patrimoines is an association whose aim is to organize visits to historical buildings that are not normally open to the public. Although the visits are entirely in French they may be of interest to many of our members.

<https://carpentraspatrimoines.wordpress.com/>

A member has organized the following event in the Luberon on Wednesday, September 25th :

Franco-Brit Trails of Memory - A bilingual guided visit with retired Army specialist official of a few major landmarks and historical sites in WW2 Ventoux Maquis around Sault and Saint-Saturnin-lès-Apt including private castle and secret landing field to and from London. For more information send an email to: katherine.despax@orange.fr

Books galore

The association has kindly been donated a large number of books on divers subjects. If you are interested in thrillers and detective stories, please send an email to the association. Classics are available too.

Looking for an original gift? Consult Geneviève Casy's online exhibition on our website: <https://www.francobrits84.fr>

If you wish to advertise any crafts, please send an email with photos: info@francobrits84.fr.

Upcoming events - Save the date!

« Let's Lunch »

This has now been scheduled for Friday, 20th September, at the Restaurant Brusco on the Via Venaissia in Jonquières. After lunch, those who wish can visit the 'arboretum départemental de Beauregard'. It's an interesting garden open to the public and free of charge, a couple of kilometres from the restaurant. There is limited parking in a lay-by on the route towards Sarrians. Please reserve by sending an mail to info@francobrit84 before September 18th.

For more information about this garden, please consult the website:

<https://www.vaucluse.fr › l-arboretum-departemental-de...>

Getting there from the restaurant:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/VyMKSYWBf9MHuX179>

Arboretum departementale

Wednesday, October 16th -A day out in Villeneuve lès Avignon

Peter Guillery and Auli Guiland have organized a day out in **Villeneuve lès Avignon on Wednesday, 16th October**, with a two-hour outdoor guided walking tour of the historic town in English in the morning, lunch at an Indian restaurant (optional) and a special two-hour indoor tour of the Chartreuse monastery led by Marc Pairet in French. Price: members - €14 all day, €7 half day, non-members - €19 all day, €12 half-day (these prices exclude lunch). Please send an email to info@francobrits84.fr if you wish to reserve a place.

A communal kitchen garden

The kitchen garden will soon be officially inaugurated. Meanwhile, we have been given a set of keys and the municipality prepared the land back in May. A watering system has been ordered and it is time to start thinking about sowing crops. The garden will be open to those who live in Carpentras and to all Franco-Brit members, wherever they live. Those interested have to apply by email, saying how much time, approximately, they can devote to tending the garden and what tasks they can do. There is a set of internal regulations, the aim is to have harmonious sharing of tasks and produce, each participant contributing to and enjoying a hopefully abundant crop - many hands make light work! There will also be social gatherings on the plot and workshops concerning gardening. Many thanks to Nigel Skinner for his invaluable advice and pertinent comments. For more information send an email to: franco.britsven@gmail.com



Come and sing!



Come and join Bisser Kostadinov's choir in Carpentras or have singing lessons in Isle sur la Sorgue



Disclaimer

The association cannot be held responsible for any services rendered by anyone whose contact details have been posted in a Franco-Brit newsletter.

Suggestions for new activities:

Franco-Brit Ciné Club

A few years ago we organized the occasional outing to the cinema, to see films in V.O. Beata Baran has suggested we resume this activity.

Geneviève Casy has suggested organising **Mah Jong sessions**. Please send an email to info@ if you are interested in participating in these sessions.

The Inguimbertine museum at the Hôtel Dieu is now open to the public and a guided tour is being planned.

IMPORTANT - the 2025 Franco-Brit Calendar

As previously mentioned, in 2025 the association will be celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the association. The Franco-Brit calendar will feature association events and personalities over the years. If you have any photos from the early years, we would be most grateful if you would consider sharing them for the calendar. Many thanks.

We are also planning a Brazilian event. Fabiano Silva will give a demonstration of Brazilian cooking and talk about Brazilian culture and we will then share the meal. This will take place in the Maison du Citoyen.

What's new on the website

Ulrich Boes is constantly updating the website. There has been a recent interest in getting access to the 'members-only' pages where photos of past events are displayed. All members are invited to contribute to the blog - don't be shy! Thanks, as always, to our webmaster, Ulrich Boes for his hard work and initiative. Please contact Ulrich if you would like to help with the technical side of the website.

Many thanks to the committee members for their enthusiasm and ideas, to Ulrich Boes for all his work on the website and to all those who suggest new activities and inform us of interesting events in the region. A big thank you to Peter Guillery for his patient proofreading suggestions, interesting blogposts and initiatives for new outings.

We regret to inform members of the recent passing of Clara Mowat. We offer our condolences to her husband, Ian Mowat, who was a very active member of the association for many years.

Finally, we look forward to seeing you at our events.

Marie-Jacqueline Ballagh