



Newsletter November 2023

N° 2023-09



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Michel PARISOT

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

Letter from the Board - November 2023

Usually when writing the letter for November, we talk about cozy get togethers around an open fire or wrapping up warm to enjoy a walk in the autumn leaves. However, this year (at the time of writing in mid-October), we are enjoying days at the beach and swimming in the sea and pools. I am sure that winter is on its way, eventually!

At the end of September, we had a record number of attendees at our AGM with over 40 members present and 55 voting members (with the proxy votes). We welcomed Karen Watson as the Board Member for Social Events as Cheryl Wright has stepped down but has agreed to continue as the Associate Board Member. Caitriona Macklin has stepped down as an Associate Board Member and Catherine Bourdoncle is now responsible for coordinating (not organising) activities such as rambles and excursions. So, if you have any ideas for an activity, please contact Catherine. Many thanks to Cheryl and Caitriona for their hard work and a warm welcome to Karen. The minutes and reports will shortly be posted on the AAGP website (in the Members Section).

Following on from the AGM, we had our Welcome Party, which saw a mix of current and new members enjoying getting to know each other. Please see the write-up towards the end of this newsletter.

Looking forward, we have lots going on this month:

- On the 6th November, the Bereavement Support Network will be giving advice on 'getting our affairs in order'. This is a free

The Board 2022/2023 :

President : Christine WEST, Vice President and Small Groups Coordinator : Jane STORR, Treasurer : Kathleen-Carmel KING, Secretary : Brigitte PONSARD, Newsletter Editor : Michel PARISOT, Social Events Coordinator : Karen Watson, Membership Secretary : Elizabeth GOERGEN, New Member Welcome and Special Projects : Elaine BLANC, PR and Website : Jane WILLIAMS,

Associate Members 2022/2023

Library : Sue BOUTIER, Newsletter : Sharon LIGHTOWLERS, Social Events : Cheryl WRIGHT, Marseille : Brigitte KRAUS, Activities coordinator : Catherine BOURDONCLE.

seminar but you must sign up beforehand as numbers are limited.

- On Friday 17th, we celebrate the arrival of the Beaujolais Nouveau, kindly hosted by Karen Watson at her home in Peynier this year.
- Saturday 18th sees the first of our biannual Folk Evening/ Singalongs with the talented E2G at the Brasserie Les Platanes in Aix.
- On the 19th will be the annual book sale held at the AAGP library - volunteers to help out will be much appreciated.
- Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Mas de Fauchon this year on Sunday 26th November.

Please do sign up early and make your payment (where necessary) as numbers are limited, especially when it is a subsidised event.

Details of all these events, including a family ramble, and the more strenuous hike, can be found if you read on in this newsletter.

Of course, we have all our regular weekly and monthly activities so please do get involved and perhaps try something new.

Last but not least, you will have received, with this newsletter, your 2023/2024 Members Directory - please note the change of password for accessing the members section of the website.

Best wishes

Chris West (President) on behalf of the Board.

Obituary

We are sad to announce the death of long-time member John Simpson
Our condolences to his wife Claudine and their family

The One List

The Board has received several complaints re the mis-use of the One List. This is a reminder of its uses and rules of use:

The One List is an e-mail contact list for the AAGP members and can be used for:

- ◆ Sending out information issued by the consuls
- ◆ Event organisers can update/change arrangements
- ◆ Members can send out information about local events
- ◆ Members can offer for sale household items
- ◆ Members looking for recommendations if NOT found on the Recommendations List (see AAGP website)
- ◆ Job vacancies from members or non-members that could benefit AAGP members, but contacts must go through a member.

Rules:

- ◇ Make it clear in your email title the subject of the content e.g. car for sale, concert in Trets...
- ◇ Do not send multiple emails on the same subject to re-advertise items, events or services on a regular basis.
- ◇ Keep initial email simple with just one photo. Interested parties can then request more information/photos directly.
- ◇ The One List must **NOT** be used to advertise the business of a member or non-member (use the paid ads in the newsletter)
- ◇ The One List must **NOT** be used to advertise or sell on behalf of non-members/third parties (use the paid ads in the newsletter)
- ◇ Replies must be sent to the requester and NOT the whole One List email group (**do NOT 'reply all'**)

And finally, and most importantly, PLEASE be polite. If an email doesn't interest you or someone has a different opinion to you, take a deep breath and delete. Please do not reply and certainly DO NOT 'reply all'.

What's on in November 2023

Important : All activities will be organised to comply with the health regulations applicable on the day. Participants are required to comply with the regulations at all times.

Cancellation policy for paid events: Any cancellation **after** the specified deadline date will **NOT** be reimbursed unless a suitable replacement has been found.

5 - Sunday 10:30

PETANQUE

Venue : Boulodrome de Puyricard

The Boulodrome de Puyricard is on avenue Jacques de Régis (towards la route du Seuil)

Join us for some fun *pétanque*. No skills required.

Gilles will be in charge of the group, but please answer by e-mail to Deanna if you are attending.

Deanna

06 76 39 15 52

deannalittell@gmail.com

Gilles



6 - Monday 14:30

PUTTING YOUR AFFAIRS IN ORDER

Venue: AAGP Library, Mairie Annexe, Pont de l'Arc

Putting your affairs in order - something that you have probably thought about doing and yet, for one reason or another, have never got around to. If the time to change has arrived, come and listen to this presentation by the Bereavement Support Network of France to help you:

Put together that key folder with all the necessary information needed including:

* Your wishes - end of life and burial

- * Medical Preferences
- * Will and Power of Attorney
- * Specifics and differences in France
- * Emotional preparation

It is the greatest gift you can leave your loved ones.

This will be hosted by Sarah Delcourt and Sandra Carruthers from the BSN.

You need to sign up in advance - reservations taken by email only to christine.west64@gmail.com

Maximum of 30 members only. Please sign up early to give an idea of numbers.

Chris West

6 - Monday 14:30 AFTERNOON TEA

Venue: Maison Geney,

38 rue Caissarie, 13002 Marseille

Bus n° 49 - arrêt Caissarie Beauregard or métro arrêt Vieux-Port

<https://lefooding.com/restaurants/restaurant-maison-geney-marseille-3>

<https://www.instagram.com/maisongeney/>

Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday, November 1st.

E-mail: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus

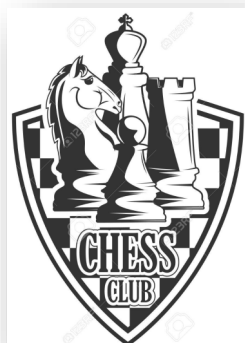
8 - Wednesday 14:00 to 17:00 CHESS CLUB

Venue: Chez Gilles Dreyfus

18 allée Rosaki—13090 Aix-en-Provence

(D 14A Route de Puyricard)

Bus stop : ATTENTION : for people coming by bus, our



bus stop, Rosaki, on bus number 11 is NO LONGER in service.

People will have to exit at the next bus stop which is FUSAINS; the stop is about 250 yards from Rosaki.

There is no sidewalk and I prefer you give me a call when you're there and I'll come to pick you up. Come & join,

All levels welcome, bring your chessboard, please let me know if you are attending

gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com

06 75 59 82 43

Gilles Dreyfus



9 - Thursday 10:30 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

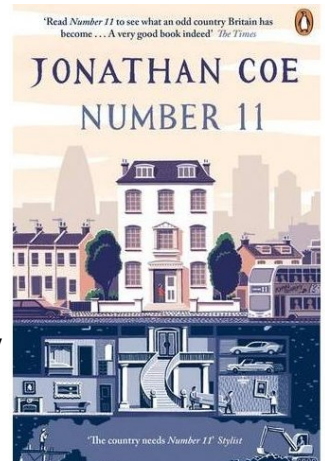
Venue: Home of Eleanor Sheil, 10 impasse du Garagäi, Trets
Number 11 by Jonathan Coe—Presented by Michele Duguet-Pic

Number 11 explores the changing social, economic and cultural landscape of the United Kingdom in the early 21st century. It points to the hundreds of tiny connections between the public and private worlds and how they affect us all. It's about how comedy and politics are battling it out and comedy might have won. It's about living in a city where bankers need cinemas in their basements and others need food banks down the street.

Allan Massie, critic for *The Scotsman*, concluded that "one should be grateful for any novel which, like this one, is devoted to the great cause of cheering us all up, no matter how indignant the author may often be."

Join us for continuing conversations over lunch. Bring your own picnic lunch. If you are carpooling, please don't forget a 5 euro donation for the driver to show your appreciation.

Let Nancy, Eleanor and Michele know if you plan to attend the Thursday gathering by Tuesday, 7th November.



Nancy Ceridwyn
Michele Duguet-Pic
Eleanor Sheil

07 81 84 61 29 nancy.ceridwyn@gmail.com
04 42 96 58 77 michelepicduguet@gmail.com
04 86 31 33 88 elsh1958@gmail.com

Nancy Ceridwyn

9 - Thursday 14:00

BOWLING

Venue: Bowling Le Bras d'Or,

23 bd. Charrier, Aix-en-Provence

Join us for some fun bowling. No prior skills required. We usually play two games. (10 euros including shoes). Please email me or call 24 hours before.

Gilles Dreyfus

06 75 59 82 43

gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com

Gilles Dreyfus



9 - Thursday 12:15

LUNCH IN AIX

Venue: 29 Miollis, 29 place Miollis,

13100 Aix-en-Provence

Traditional French bistro on the eastern edge of the city center on the Place Miollis. Under new management. Near the new Tribunal Judiciaire. Closest underground parking is Parking Carnot by the Convention Center.

Please reserve your spot with me by Tuesday, November 7th, preferably on the AAGP Facebook page (see events section).

Valerie Belon

07 49 75 93 49



12 - Sunday 10:00

RAMBLE : Through the Vineyards of Puylobier

Departure Point : The Vignerons du Mont Sainte-Victoire winery in Puylobier village

This ramble was originally planned for last December but was unfortunately cancelled due to rainy weather. November though is probably the best month to admire the changing colours of the vines as we wander through the vineyards of Puylobier.

This very pretty and easy hike starts at the Vignerons du Mont Sainte-Victoire winery in Puylobier. The path meanders through the vineyards where we

will discover the different grapes used to make the excellent local wine: Cinsault, Syrah, Rolle and Grenache. En route we will enjoy panoramic views of Sainte-Victoire mountain and the Arc valley. Our ramble takes us to the retirement home of the Foreign Legion where we will have our picnic in the grounds. There is a shop and small museum there which can be visited in the summer season. We will then have a short walk back to the village and our cars.



The walk presents no difficulties and is suitable for children and dogs (with leads as we will walk through the village and private grounds).

3.5 hours + picnic, 12 km, 150m climb. We will start at 10am so that we can arrive at the Foreign Legion in time for a lateish lunch.

Directions from Aix - allow 40 minutes

Take the D7N east from Aix. After Les Bannettes, turn left D578 towards Puylobier. The Vignerons du Mont Sainte-Victoire winery is on the right as you enter the village. After the winery there is a large car park down on the right and there are also spaces opposite the winery.

43.31.29 N, 5.40.18 E

43.5247, 5.67180

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING. Cherylwrightfr@gmail.com

Cheryl Wright

12 - Sunday 18:45

CINÉ CLUB

Venue: Chez Deanna & Gilles

18 allée Rosaki – route de Puyricard (D114A) - Tel. 06.76.39.15.52

THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL is a 1982 British romantic adventure film set during the French Revolution. It is based on the novel of the same name by the Baroness Emma Orczy (1905). The film stars Anthony Andrews as Sir Percy Blakeney/the Scarlet Pimpernel, Jane Seymour as Margaret St Just, the love interest, & Ian McKellen as Chauvelin, the antagonist.



In 1792 during the Reign of Terror of the French Revolution, a secret league of brave Englishmen are rescuing French aristocrats from the guillotine. The leader of this secret society is a mysterious English nobleman known only as the Scarlet Pimpernel, whose signature sign is a humble wayside flower.

In society he poses as the wealthy & foppish but seemingly empty-headed Sir Percy Blakeney. but he also has plans to rescue the young Dauphin, son of the former king of France, from prison.

Join us for pizza, popcorn & seeing that often what goes around comes around.

Please R.S.V.P. as places are limited.

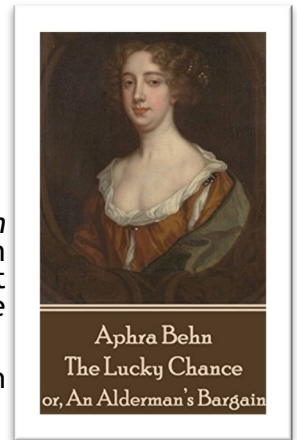
Deanna & Gilles

13 - Monday 14:30 PLAY READING GROUP

The November play will be *The Alderman's Bargain* by Aphra Behn. The reading will start at 2.30 pm on Monday 13th November; information on script and venue will be sent nearer the date to those who wish to read.

Please email marcdympna@gmail.com if you wish to take part.

Dympna Donnelly



17 - Friday 19:00 BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU

Venue: Exceptionally Chez Karen in Peynier.

Address and directions to follow on booking.



As Caitriona is unable to host the Beaujolais Nouveau night this year, I have offered to host the Beaujolais Nouveau night. As usual, we will compare several bottles of the 2023 Beaujolais Nouveau, along with cheese and charcuterie. **Note that this is on the Friday night, not the usual Thursday!**



As usual, this fun and informal event has limited places so please email to reserve your place by Sunday 12th November! Cost will be 12 euros a head to be collected on the night.

Email: karen.watson3@gmail.com

Karen Watson

18 Saturday 17:30

FOLK EVENING & SINGALONG

Venue: La Brasserie des Platanes,
2112 route de Sisteron, Aix-en-Provence



Elaine, Michel and Rod - E2G - welcome you back to Brasserie des Platanes, for the next AAGP Folk Evening and Singalong !

Just a few minutes north of Aix centre, the brasserie is a friendly informal venue with plenty of free parking close-by and easy access from Aix town centre and the A51.

As usual a meal will be served during the intermission and wine will be served throughout the evening.

We have lots of new songs and as usual we cover as many of your « old favourites » as possible.

Booking opened on **Saturday 21st October** and will close **Saturday 11th November** or when all places are taken. A reminder will be sent out on the One List.

Please remember that places are limited, so book early to be sure of your place.

Booking is by email to Elaine at eda.blanc@orange.fr before closing date latest. All instructions for payment and other necessary information will be sent when your email reservation is received. All questions to Elaine at the same email address.

Cost per AAGP member is 20 euros which includes wine, the buffet meal and of course the music and song sheet ! Non-members accompanying members will pay full price of 30 euros each. As usual, numbers are limited, so be sure to book early to reserve your place.

We hope you will join us for another fun evening of music, song and good company.

E2G - Elaine, Michel and Rod

19 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE:

The Sainte-Victoire

We shall meet on the carpark opposite the Relais Cézanne bar restaurant on the main road in Le Tholonet. If the bar is open, we can start with coffee etc. before moving on. If not, we shall proceed directly in as few cars as possible in the direction of the Sainte-Victoire mountain and park at the Pont de l'Anchois carpark.



From this point we will start our hike, taking the red-marked easy path which will take us up to the summit. There are no particular difficulties along the way so dogs and children used to hiking are welcome. Bear in mind however that the summit lies at an altitude of about 1,000 metres where winter conditions may prevail. We shall have our picnic lunch at the summit where there is shelter (if required) and then take the same path back down to the Pont de l'Anchois carpark. Please bring plenty of food and water wearing proper hiking gear for winter temperatures. Total hiking time is about 5 hours.

All those wishing to come are requested to call me the day before between 18h and 20h when I will know for sure if the hike complies with all the rules and regulations.

For any further information please call Roderick MACLEOD - 06 60 61 08 65

Roderick McLeod

19 - Sunday 9:30 - 16:00

ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Venue: Salle des Anémones, behind the mairie annexe, Pont de l'Arc



Our annual book sale, postponed last month, will be held Sunday November 19th in the room just under the library at Pont de l'Arc. We'll have all kinds of books and some DVDs at very low prices, and as usual will have coffee and tea available. Please spread the word - everyone is welcome.

If you have DVDs and/or books in good condition you would like to donate, let us know. If you have time to lend a hand, here's a link to sign up: <https://framadate.org/MVsiEJ1FOlLxwSN>, or send an email.

The library team

library@aagp-provence.com / <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/AAGP>

24 - Friday 13:00 LUNCH

Venue: Restaurant

La Cantinetta, 24 cours
Julien, 13006 Marseille

Métro : arrêt Noailles or Notre
-Dame-du-Mont

[https://
restaurantlacantinetta.fr/](https://restaurantlacantinetta.fr/)

[https://fr.gaultmillau.com/restaurants/la-cantinetta-restaurant-
marseille-ac8f3n2](https://fr.gaultmillau.com/restaurants/la-cantinetta-restaurant-marseille-ac8f3n2)

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, 17th November.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus



26 - Sunday 12:15 - 16:00 THANKSGIVING LUNCH

Venue: Mas de Fauchon, 1666 che-
min de Berre, 13760 Saint-Cannat

Time -12:15 for aperitif, 13:15 for dinner

Cost: 50 € for members and 20€ for their children 12 and younger, 76€ for
guests and 30€ for their children 12 and younger.



Price includes aperitif, dinner with dessert, wine, coffee and water.

Space is limited so please make your reservation as soon as possible by sending a check, payable to the AAGP, to Michel Parisot, 5 rue Emmanuel Brunet, 13080 Luynes or a bank transfer using the AAGP RIB (please request this from Kathleen King treasurer@aagp-provence.com). Please specify the number of members and their children, and guests and their children and the ages of all children.

Please note that you will have a reservation **only** after Michel has received your check or confirmation of your bank transfer (which must include your name and the event). Email expressing a desire to attend will **not** result in a reservation.

Reservations will close on November 18th, and beyond that date, money will not be refunded as the AAGP will be charged the full amount for your place.

We hope that you will join us for this joyous celebration!

With all best wishes,

Mary Lou McHugh, Bob Keltz, Kathleen Lambert, Michel Parisot

27 - Monday 14:00

BOOK CLUB

Venue: chez Brigitte Kraus

99 cours Lieutaud, 13006 Marseille

Métro : arrêt Castellane or Notre Dame du Mont -
Tram T3 : arrêt Rome Dragon

Tea, coffee, soft drinks, home-made cakes and biscuits for 5 euros.

This month's book is *The Unicorn* by Iris Murdoch

<https://www.complete-review.com/reviews/murdochi/unicorn.htm>

<https://www.radiofrance.fr/franceculture/podcasts/le-pourquoi-du-comment-philosophie/pourquoi-faut-il-encore-lire-iris-murdoch-4794660>

Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday, 23rd November.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Please note that the books for the following months are :

December : *H for Hawk* by Helen McDonald

January : *All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy



February : *Mango & Mimosa* by Suzanne St Albans

March : *How to Stop Time* by Matt Haig

April : *The Motion of the Body Through Space* by Lionel Shriver

May : *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett

June : *French Braid* by Anne Tyler

Brigitte Kraus

29 - Wednesday 10:00 to 11:30

MORNING COFFEE IN SAINT-RÉMY-DE-PROVENCE

Venue: La Maison de Bon Café, 4 boulevard Mirabeau, 13210 Saint-Rémy-de-Provence

This meetup over coffee is co-hosted by AAGP member David Carpita and/or Sue Poole from La Table des Amis de Provence as a joint venture of these two non-profit associations.



It is also market day in Saint-Rémy, another good reason to attend. Free parking all day at Liberation just 300m walking distance from the venue.

No need to email or phone, just drop in.

David Carpita



LOOKING BACK

WELCOME PARTY/AGM Friday 29th September

Following the excellent attendance at the AGM, the annual Welcome Party was held immediately after in the next-door room at the Best Western Le Galice hotel.

There were many usual faces and we welcomed several new members for the evening. It was great to catch up with everyone after the summer holidays in such a convivial atmosphere.

Thank you to Cheryl for organizing the event, and ensuring that the wine was flowing along with an assorted selection of food.



QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 14th October



SMALL ADS NOVEMBER 2023

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Are you grieving for a loved one and needing to talk? The Bereavement Support Network supports the bereaved, the terminally ill and/or their carers, face to face in the Var and Aix-en-Provence and by telephone elsewhere in France. Call us between 07:00 and 23:00 on 04 94 84 64 89 or 06 24 50 22 74 ;
email: info@bsnvar.org

REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT

Need assistance to sell or purchase a property in Aix and surroundings? I'll be pleased to help you in your real estate project. Competitive service, dynamic local network, widespread advertising and a unique *interlocuteur* !Contact : 06 18 46 84 77 – email : veronique.morvan@iadfrance.fr

Professional associations (English speaking)

Cancer Support France provides emotional, linguistic and practical support for English speaking people in France touched by cancer. They are also able to provide information on existing residency applications for UK nationals resident in France prior to 31 December 2020.

Tel: 08 00 24 02 00

Email: helpline@cancersupportfrance.fr

Website: <https://cancersupportfrance.org>

SOS Helpline France for English speakers (similar to Samaritans)

Tel: 01 46 21 46 46 (3pm to 11pm daily)

Website: <https://www.soshelpline.org>

The Samaritans: UK based with overseas lines (not free):

Tel: 00 44 330 094 5717 or 00 44 8457 90 90 90

Email: jo@samaritans.org

Counselling in France - a website which includes a range of English (and other languages) speaking therapists and counsellors all over France.

Website: <https://www.counsellinginfrance.com>

Red Cross Helpline in English

Tel : 07 86 28 11 99 open 09:00-17:00 Monday to Friday.

Email: English-helpline.st-lois@croix-rouge.fr

Regular events

Bridge

On Tuesday 14:00
Contact Lish **GOERGEN**

Library

Wednesdays and Saturdays 9:30 - 11:30
Maison des Associations, Mairie Aix-Sud
75 route des Milles, Pont de l'Arc.
For more information, refer to :
www.aagp-provence/library.php

Useful

Contact the editor :
newsletter@aagp-provence.com

To advertise
smallads@aagp-provence.com
See website for terms and conditions

Website
www.aagp-provence.com

*The member's version is only accessible by password which is in the Members' List Booklet
The AAGP is not responsible for the contents of any published advertisements, nor for the quality of goods, services or products being offered for sale or otherwise.*

Look before you book !

If you are planning an event, please contact our calendar coordinator FIRST to check that your date doesn't clash with another event.

Important

The civil liability insurance held by AAGP does not exempt participants in AAGP activities from holding personal civil liability insurance valid in France.

Ramble along the coast - 8 Oct 23

