



Newsletter October 2023

N° 2023-08



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Sharon LIGHTOWLERS

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

Letter from the Board - October 2023

Autumn is here with cooler mornings and evenings but we're still enjoying warm summery days and spending time outside and making the most of this time of year.

At the time of writing, our AGM and Welcome Party is still ahead of us but hopefully many of you will be or were in attendance and enjoyed meeting up with old friends and making new ones. A fuller write-up will be in the November newsletter and also posted on our website.

On Saturday 14th October, we have our annual quiz night at the Moulin de l'Arc at Trets. If you haven't put together your team, or been recruited onto a team and want to join in, please contact Lish ASAP. Our compères will be Mandy and Richard Hudson, flying in especially for your entertainment and enjoyment.

On Friday 20th October, there will be an excursion to the historic Villa Noailles in Hyères. Prior to the visit, a lunch will be organised. Many thanks to Deanna Littell for organising.

Full details of all these events along with all our regular monthly activities can be found in the following pages - please keep reading!

Unfortunately, the annual book sale planned for 1st October has had to be postponed. It will hopefully take place in November.

Looking ahead, we will enjoy our annual Thanksgiving celebration towards the end of November. Date and venue to be confirmed. On 6th November, the Bereavement Support Network will present 'Putting your affairs in order' to be held in the AAGP Library and in

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 : Cheryl WRIGHT, 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 : Caitriona MACKLIN, Marseille : Brigitte KRAUS, Support : Catherine BOURDONCLE.

the evening of Saturday 18th November we will enjoy the musical talents of E2G at our biannual Folk Evening and Singalong at the Brasserie Les Platanes in Aix.

Please do show your support for all our activities and events and remember to sign up and make any payment before the deadline.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the AAGP website activity and become one of the webmasters, please contact Tim Williams at webmaster@aagp-provence.com or 06 72 82 72 77 - all details in the following article.

One final reminder, hopefully everyone has now paid your annual subscription and sent your insurance confirmation yellow paper back to Lish. Thank you.

Chris West (President) on behalf of the Board.

BECOME ONE OF OUR AAGP WEBMASTERS.....

The webmaster for AAGP is the person who creates the website, creates pages to place online, uploads everything to the web, monitors and updates the web pages, troubleshoots where/when issues arise and deals with all aspects of the online AAGP Newsletter. The webmaster team works as directed by the AAGP Board and advises the Board on internet issues.



Currently there is one webmaster and an assistant but we need another webmaster to share the load, bring new creativity and ensure there is cover throughout the year.

Routine activity is the monthly update of the web pages to reflect the new Newsletter, Calendar and list of new members - these are created by other teams in the AAGP and the web team reformat as necessary to make them suitable for placing on the website. Normally this takes between 1.5 and 4 hours - this could be split and work rotated to keep the approach fresh.

Additional activity involves adapting web pages to changing requirements, placing AGM minutes on the site, creating new pages for new or changed activities and reviewing the entire online AAGP presence to keep it current, interesting and relevant.

The software packages used at present are XARA (website design),

Filezilla to move files to and from the web servers, MS Office (mainly Word, Publisher) to view, modify and create text, a PDF reader or editor to help with reviewing pages, Windows Paint to re-size photos and other work as necessary. The use of XARA is purely because the current website was written using that package but it could be changed if there were a better way; no knowledge of web programming languages such as HTML, Java etc. is needed.... but if a volunteer had that knowledge, we could put it to good use.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the AAGP web activity and become one of the webmasters, please contact Tim Williams at webmaster@aagp-provence.com 06 72 82 72 77

The Board



What's on in October 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.

1 - Sunday 10:30

PETANQUE

Venue : Boulodrome de Puyricard

The boulodrome de Puyricard is avenue Jacques de Régis (toward 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 email to Deanna if you are attending.

Deanna

06 76 39 15 52

deannalittell@gmail.com



1 - Sunday

LIBRARY BOOK SALE POSTPONED

Unfortunately a family emergency with a library team member has caused us to reluctantly decide to postpone the book sale. We plan to re-schedule it in November after the school holidays. If you want to donate books and can't keep them until then, bring them in. Please check the calendar on the library site to check on days we will be open since we'll be shorthanded for a while.

<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/AAGP>

The Library Team

6 - Friday 14:00

OUTING IN MARSEILLE

<< Varian Fry, un Américain à Marseille 1940-1941
>> guided tour IN FRENCH

Venue: Starting near Marseille St Charles station

Duration of the tour : 2 hours

Price : 12 € per person



Métro : Gare St Charles

<https://www.babelio.com/auteur/Jean-Pierre-Cassely/177944>

<https://www.varianfry-france.fr/>

Please let me know ASAP if you are coming as the list of participants is nearly full.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus

8 - Sunday 10:30

RAMBLE

Venue : La Couronne : Parking Traverse de la Pointe Riche, chemin du Sémaphore

GPS N43° 19.888 & E05° 03.145

To get to the car park you have to wind through the village and I think, in October, there'll be plenty of room there. It's at the top of the steps that lead down to the big beach called **Plage du Verdon**.

We'll walk from there to the beach and chapels of Sainte-Croix, one standing and another that's a ruin. The ramble hugs the coastline offering fantastic views. There are fossils embedded in the rocky path and you can see the remains of the quarry, now underwater, whose stones built a lot of Marseille.

The ramble is not more than 7 km, it's stony and there are steps to climb, here and there, so appropriate shoes are called for. It's impossible to get lost and there are bathing opportunities along the way, or on the big sandy beach above which is our starting point. Bring a picnic.

This is a ramble that we used to do with Jan and Chris Maile, they introduced us to it and made us ramble fans, we miss them.

We plan to set off at 10:45

Please let us know if you're coming. email: Maryk3486@gmail.com

Mobiles: Pierre 06 80 20 18 63 Mary: 06 74 67 04 30

Mary & Pierre Falconnier

8 - Sunday 18:45

CINÉ CLUB

Venue: Chez Deanna & Gilles

18 allée Rosaki, route de Puyricard (D14A)

Tel. 06 76 39 15 52



THE SLENDER THREAD is a 1965 American drama film starring Anne Bancroft & Sydney Poitier. This was the first feature length film directed by future Oscar winner Sydney Pollack.

Sidney Poitier plays Alan Newell, a psychology student who works nights at a Seattle crisis center. One night a call comes in from a desperate woman named Inga Dyson (Anne Bancroft) who has attempted to overdose on sleeping pills. As Alan tries to keep her on the line, Detective Judd Ridley (Edward Asner) & Dr. Joe Coburn (Telly Savalas), a psychiatrist, both become involved in this increasingly tense situation. While they try to determine Inga's location in order to save her, time is quickly running out.

This film was inspired by a Life Magazine article based on a real event. It was noted for the physical tracing of the call through several hand switching systems available at the time.

Join us for pizza, popcorn & a real cliffhanger.

Please R.S.V.P. - as usual, places are limited.

Deanna & Gilles

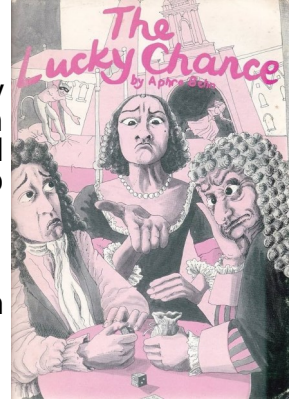
9 - Monday 14:30

PLAY READING GROUP

The October play will be *The Lucky Chance* by Aphra Behn. The reading will start at 2.30 pm on Monday 9th October; 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



11 - Wednesday 14:00-17:00

CHESS CLUB

**Venue: Chez Gilles Dreyfus
18 allée Rosaki – 13090 Aix-en-Provence**

D 14A route de Puyricard—Bus stop : Rosaki on bus number 11)

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



12 - Thursday 10:30

BOOK DISCUSSION

GROUP

**Venue: chez Catherine Pernet, 6
rue Mignet, Aix-en-Provence**

The Tortoise and the Hare by Elizabeth
Jenkins

Presented by Catherine Pernet



“Apart from war, what could be more interesting than a marriage?” opens Hilary Mantel’s introduction to this month’s selection. Author Elizabeth Jenkins introduces us to Imogen, the beautiful wife of barrister Evelyn Gresham. She is facing the greatest challenge of her married life, a mini war. Their neighbour Blanche Silcox, competent, tweedy, middle-aged and ungainly - the very opposite of Imogen - seems to be vying for Evelyn’s attention. And to Imogen’s increasing disbelief, she may be succeeding - for in affairs of the heart the race is not necessarily won by the swift or the fair.

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 and Catherine know if you plan to attend the Thursday gathering by Tuesday, October 10.

Nancy Ceridwyn 07 81 84 61 29 nancy.ceridwyn@gmail.com

Catherine Pernet 06 71 96 34 86 cpernetmolloy@hotmail.com

Nancy Ceridwyn

12 - 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



13 - Friday 18:30

EVENING DRINK IN MARSEILLE

Venue: Les Réformés Rooftop

125 La Canebière, Marseille 13001

Métro : Les Réformés

[https://fr.gaultmillau.com/
restaurants/les-reformes](https://fr.gaultmillau.com/restaurants/les-reformes)

<https://www.lesreformes.fr/>

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, 6th October.

email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus



14 - Saturday 18:30

QUIZ NIGHT

**Venue: Domaine du Moulin d'Arc,
1604 route de Rousset, 13530 TRETS**

It's time again for one of the most popular (and competitive!) events on the AAGP calendar... The one and only mighty QUIZ NIGHT!!

Once again we have managed to persuade our very own Quizmaster, Richard Hudson, to come back to Provence to challenge our grey cells with a brand new quiz of eclectic questions presented in a number of different formats, ranging from music and video clips to printed questions, photos and pictures.



The evening includes a meal with wine and is open to members and non-members. The meal consists of a main dish of slow-cooked lamb shank with vegetable tian and honey jus, followed by fresh fruit tiramisu. The cost is 25 euros for members, 35 euros for non-members. Please let Lish know if you have any dietary requirements.

This is a team game. Participants can either make up their own teams of 8 people in advance, or take pot luck and be allocated a place on a team. It is to your advantage to try and have a team of mixed ages and nationalities for the best chance of success. Once you have formed your team, give the team a name and nominate a leader who will reserve your place with Lish Goergen and collect team members' payments for their meal.

This is a very popular event, so **DON'T DELAY!**

AS SOON AS YOU HAVE FORMED A TEAM, RESERVE YOUR PLACE BY CONTACTING LISH GOERGEN ON 06 86 73 43 19

Cheryl Wright



15 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE

Venue: Sainte Baume

We shall meet on the village square in Nans-les-Pins and from here proceed in as few cars as possible to the starting point of the hike; (a 5-minute drive from the village square). On foot we shall follow the Huveaune riverside through woodlands until we reach the "Grotte de la Castelette" which is one of the sources of the Huveaune river. From there we will take a path which will lead us up to the "Hostellerie du Plan d'Aups", which is a famous site dedicated to Sainte Marie-Madeleine. We will have our picnic in this area, using the possibility to have coffee etc. at the *hostellerie*. There is also a shop for pilgrims and tourists wishing to buy souvenirs and/or books. We will then take the same route to go back down to the cars.

Count about 4 hours hiking time and a change of altitude of about 300 metres. There are no particular difficulties along the way so dogs and children used to hiking are welcome. Bring plenty of food and drinking water and wear proper hiking gear. On this last point I would add that it would be prudent to sport sufficiently warm clothes because we will reach an altitude of about 800 metres.

All those wishing to come are invited to call me the day before between 18h and 20h on 06.60.61.08.65 just to make sure that this venue complies with all the regulations prevailing on the date.



Roderick MACLEOD.

17 Tuesday 12:00

LUNCH IN MARSEILLE

Venue : Restaurant L'Arôme

9, rue des Trois Rois, Marseille 13006

Métro : Réformés or Notre-Dame-du-Mont

<http://www.marseille-en-bouche.fr/2016/03/l-marseille.html>

<https://guide.michelin.com/fr/fr/provence-alpes-cote-dazur/marseille/restaurant/l-arome508665>

Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday, 11th October.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus



20 - Friday 12:00

EXCURSION

A Century of the Avant-Garde



Guided visit in English to the historic **VILLA NOAILLES**-Hyères (83)

A century ago Charles and Marie-Laure de Noailles received as a wedding present a vast piece of land above the town of Hyères on which they decided to ask a young architect Robert Mallet-Stevens to build them an interesting house. It would become their secondary residence and one of the most famous spots of patronage of the 20th century.

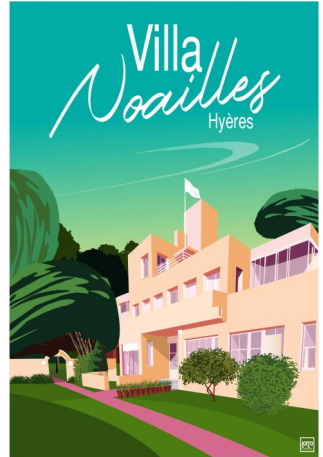
The house has welcomed many of the most significant artists of their time -such as writers Jean Cocteau and Louis Aragon, the sculptor Giacometti, poet André Breton and pioneering photographer Man Ray. Supported by the avant-garde thinking Noailles couple, many modern artists got their first chance to experiment. The house borrows from modernism in its functionality, emphasis on physical fitness, technology and the daring to take risks. There is a pool with sports area for morning gymnastics and a private sports professor was engaged to lead them and their guests in their exercises, complete with totally modern black and white gym outfits for everyone. We

shall be able to see this area on our tour, following its recent restoration.

These pioneers were able, by their well-placed largess, to shake-up the codes of their milieu in support of the avant-garde, between the two wars, and became perhaps the century's most famous *mécènes*.

The excursion will start with lunch at a nearby restaurant at 12:00, followed by a short drive to the villa for a guided visit in English at 14:30. The number for this group is limited to 20 persons. At time of writing, we are fully booked and have opened a waiting list. There is no charge for the visit.

The drive is about 1 1/4 hour from Aix. Restaurant details to follow to attendees, closer to the date



Contact : Deanna Littell by email - deannalittell@gmail.com

23 - Monday 14:00 BOOK CLUB

Venue : chez Brigitte Kraus

99 cours Lieutaud, 13006 Marseille

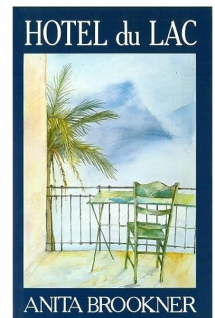
Métro : Castellane or Notre-Dame-du-Mont -

Tram T3 : Arrêt Rome Dragon

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

This month's book is *Hôtel du Lac* by Anita Brookner

[https://www.theguardian.com/books/booksblog/2009/aug/05/
booker-club-hotel-du-lac](https://www.theguardian.com/books/booksblog/2009/aug/05/booker-club-hotel-du-lac)



Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday, 18th October.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus



25 - Wednesday 10:00 - 11:30

MORNING COFFEE IN SAINT-RÉMY-DE-PROVENCE

Venue: La Maison du 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 Libération just 300m walking distance from the venue.

No need to email or phone, just drop in.

David Carpita



LOOKING AHEAD

Save the date

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.

Monday 6th November 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 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

Saturday November 18th 18:00

FOLK EVENING & SINGALONG

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

Elaine, Michel and Rod - E2G - invite
you to Brasserie des Platanes for the
next AAGP Folk Evening and Singa-
long !



Just a few minutes north of Aix centre, the brasserie welcomes us into its friendly informal atmosphere, with plenty of free parking available and easy access from Aix town centre and the A51.

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

Booking opens on **Saturday 21st October** and will close **Saturday 11th November** or before if 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.

A hot and cold buffet meal will be served during the intermission and wine will be served throughout the evening.

Cost per AAGP member is 20 euros which includes the buffet meal, wine and of course the music and song book! 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, once booking opens.

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

E2G - Elaine, Michel and Rod



SMALL ADS OCTOBER 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](mailto:info@bsnvar.org)

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 31st December 2020.

Tel: 0800 240 200

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

French conversation

In Aix

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

Painting Group

Sign up to receive our monthly
information and workshop dates

Michel PARISOT

mitch131pari@gmail.com



Useful info

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.

LOOKING BACK

