



Newsletter September 2023

N° 2023-07



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Michel PARISOT

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

Letter from the Board - September 2023

Welcome back to all our existing members and a warm welcome to all our new members, perhaps recently arrived in Provence. We hope you enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful summer both here in France and further afield.

As you are aware, we are a member to member group in that we rely on the ideas and the actioning of these ideas from our members. So, if you have an idea for an activity, event, excursion or would like to host an event such as a pot luck lunch or organise a family ramble, please do let us know. We will provide the help and support needed to get it organised. Just contact one of our very friendly and approachable board members.

As well as all our regular monthly activities which will be starting up again, we have several other events to look forward to, so please put the dates in your diary now. This year, we will be combining our AGM and Welcome Party into a one evening event on Friday 29th September at the Best Western Hotel/Galice in Aix - slightly earlier than in previous years. Please try to attend both as this is your chance to have your say and/or respond to the reports made by your Board Members. All details in this Newsletter.

The next National Theatre showing has been organised for the evening of 14th September - *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. Read into your newsletter for full details.

Looking further ahead into October, your library team has organised the annual book sale for Sunday 1st October. On Saturday 14th October, the popular annual Quiz Night will take place. And on Friday

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.

20th October an excursion to the Villa Noailles in Hyères has been organised. Lots to whet your appetite and many thanks to our dedicated members who have taken the time and effort to organise these events.

As it's the first newsletter of the AAGP year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Small Group organisers for their hard work in tirelessly organising and leading their activity each month. The Aix Book Discussion Group has been led by Kathleen Lambert for many years and the size of this group is proof of what a fantastic job she has done. However, she has decided to hand over the reins to Nancy Ceridwyn. Nancy, I know, will continue with the great work Kathleen has done. Thank you to both Kathleen and Nancy for your dedication and support to the AAGP.

It's that time of the year, so if you have not already paid your annual dues (45 euros), please do so NOW and please don't forget to complete and sign the enclosed slip to confirm that you have civil liability insurance valid in France. This needs to be returned to Lish by snail mail or email. All details are in the next pages.

Best wishes to you all for a great AAGP year and hope to see many of you at our AGM and Welcome Party.

Chris West (President) on behalf of the Board.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2023/2024

I hope you have all had a good summer and are ready for another AAGP year of fun. You will find a yellow dues request slip with this Newsletter with all the details about payment.

Please fill it in, **SIGN** it and return it with your cheque for **€45** before September 14th.

If you have already paid or are going to pay by bank transfer, please send me the form anyway.

Email will do, to membership@aagp-provence.com

We need this for our insurance policy.

Please remember-no dues by **September 14th**, no October magazine unless you contact me first.

If you are changing address or not rejoining, please let me know.

Thanks

Lish Goergen – Membership



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 September 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.

3 - 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

Calling all Chess Players

New Group Start-up

4 - Monday 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

7 - Thursday 12:15

LUNCH IN AIX

Venue: Drôle d'Endroit, 14 rue Annonerie Vieille, 13100 Aix-en-Provence

(French Bohemian)

Aptly named, as this lovely café is hiding in a back alley of Aix center (behind Provence Photo Video) and can be a little hard to find. This casual French restaurant has a bohemian vibe serving homestyle meals made with carefully sourced produce.



Please reserve your spot with me by Tuesday, September 5th, preferably on the AAGP Facebook page (see Events section).

Valerie Belon

SMS 07 49 75 93 49

8 - Friday 12:00

LUNCH IN MARSEILLE

Venue: Le Mousse - 30, rue de la Paix Marcel Paul, 13001 Marseille

Métro Vieux Port, exit Quai des Belges, then 500 m along the Quai de Riveneuve or cours d'Estienne d'Orves

<https://le-mousse-restaurant.eatbu.com>



Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, 1st September.

Brigitte Kraus Email: bibik@free.fr

10 - Sunday 18:45

CINÉ CLUB

*Please note time 18:45 - at request of
Marseille group, who have a long trip home.*

Venue: Chez Deanna & Gilles
18 allée Rosaki, route de Puyricard (D14A)

Tel. 06 76 39 15 52

THE TALK OF THE TOWN is a 1942 American comedy-drama film directed by George Stevens, starring Cary Grant, Jean Arthur & Ronald Colman. The screenplay was written by Irwin Shaw & Sidney Buchman from a story by Sidney Harmon. The picture was released by Columbia Pictures. This is the second time that Grant & Arthur were paired in a picture.

When a charming fugitive, a beautiful teacher & a stuffy law professor are forced to become roommates, their unconventional relationship is suddenly ***The Talk of the Town***, in this madcap romantic comedy.

When accused arsonist Leopold Dilg (Cary Grant) escapes jail, he hides out in the home of his old friend Nora (Jean Arthur). Posing as a gardener, Dilg teams up with Nora to convince her summer tenant, Supreme Court candidate Michael Lightcap (Ronald Colman), that Dilg was framed.

The zaniness never stops as the three of them dodge the cops, try to snag the real crooks & discover along the way that both men have fallen for Nora. But who has captured Nora's heart?

Come for pizza & popcorn & find out with ***The Talk of the Town***, a sparkling gem from Hollywood's golden age of comedy.

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

Deanna & Gilles



11 - Monday 15:00

PLAY READING GROUP

We will start our new season with a play written in 2014 which is very topical at the time of writing: the accession of a new king and the attempt to limit press freedom as a result of phone hacking scandals. An interesting comedy *King Charles III* by Mike Bartlett.



Reading will start at 3 pm on Monday 11th September; information on script and venue will be sent to signed-up readers nearer the date.

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

Dympna Donnelly

12 - Tuesday 14:30

AFTERNOON TEA

Venue: La Buvette du lac - Parc Borély,

av. du Parc Borély, 13008
Marseille

Bus n° 19 - arrêt Parc Borély

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

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100042166523831>

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, 7th September.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Brigitte Kraus



14 - Thursday 10:30 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Venue: chez Kathleen

**Lambert, 565 vallon des Lauriers,
Aix-en-Provence**

***Ports of Call* by Amin Maalouf**

Presented by Kathleen Lambert



In the opening pages, Ossyane, a young Lebanese man and Clara, an energetic Jewish woman, meet. But, don't expect this love story to go where you think. Amin Maalouf unfolds a tale of hopes, joys and disappointments, in which the deserving stumble and fall, the undeserving rise up - or is it the other way around?

Set in post-World War II as peace opens in Europe, war breaks out in the new-born state of Israel. From their home in Haifa, Ossyane is forced to go to Beirut. The border with Israel closes behind him and he becomes separated from his wife. The narrative within a narrative shows how the human will can struggle against overwhelming odds. The tribulations of star-crossed Muslim-Jewish lovers - Ossyane and Clara - keep the drama on edge.

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

Let Nancy and Kathleen know if you plan to attend the Thursday gathering by Tuesday, September 12th

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

Kathleen Lambert 04 42 21 08 07 kathleenlambert10@gmail.com

Nancy Ceridwyn

14 - 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



14 - Thursday 18:00 (exact time to be announced later)

NATIONAL THEATRE TRANSMISSION OF *THE CRUCIBLE*

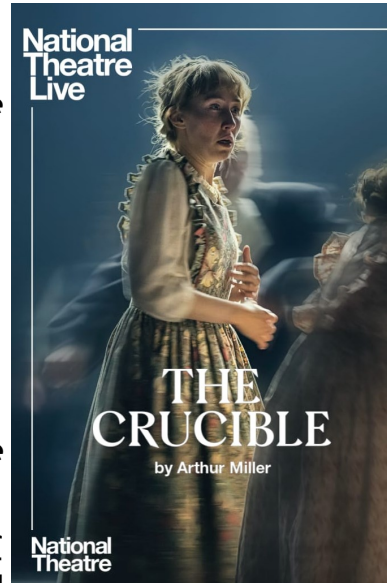
Venue: IAU lecture space, 2 bis rue du Bon Pasteur, Aix-en-Provence

SAVE THE DATE for the London National Theatre production of Arthur Miller's masterpiece *The Crucible* a dramatized and partially fictionalized story of the witch trials in Salem, Massachusetts.

Karen Wildau has managed to secure the comfortable IAU lecture space at 2 bis rue du Bon Pasteur in Aix on 14th September at 6 pm (time TBA).

Watch out for more detailed information on the OneList in September.

Dympna Donnelly & Karen Wildau



17 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE

Venue: Calanques – Chez Zé

We will meet at the "Chez Zé" bar restaurant at the end of the Chemin de Morgiou (just after the Baumettes prison in Marseille), where we can start off with coffee, etc. This establishment has two entrances for the public: one on the restaurant carpark and another at the starting point of the hikers "chemin forestier".

Our hike will take us up to the Col des Baumettes and then further along to the Col de Sormiou, where there is a commanding view over the Sormiou Calanque. We will then follow a footpath through a fairly shaded area including the "Cirque des Walkyries"



to the Calanque de Podestat where we will have our picnic lunch. If conditions are appropriate, we will be able to have a dip in the sea at this point, so a beach towel may be useful. Our return trip back to the cars will follow a shorter itinerary but count about 4 hours hiking time in all and a change of altitude of about 200 metres. There are no particular difficulties along the way, but at two points it is strongly advised to hold on firmly to a chain, which is fixed to the rock of the cliff, in order to proceed safely. Bring plenty of food and water and wear proper hiking gear.

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

Roderick Macleod

06 60 61 08 65

18 - Monday 14:00

MARSEILLE 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: *The Art of Resistance: My Four Years in the French Underground* by Justus Rosenberg.

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/36204081-the-art-of-resistance>

Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday, 13th September.

Email: bibik@free.fr

Books for following months :

October : *Hotel du Lac* by Anita Brookner

November : *The Unicorn* by Iris Murdoch

December : *H for Hawk* by Helen McDonald

January : *All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy

Brigitte Kraus



27 - 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



29 - Friday 18:00

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

+ WELCOME PARTY

Venue: Hotel Best Western Le Galice, 5-7 route de Galice, 13090 Aix-en-Provence – Parking available

We start the new school year with the AAGP's **Annual General Meeting**, taking place this year at the Best Western Hotel. Please do come along, meet the Board Members and hear their reports. This is the moment when you can ask questions, make suggestions and vote on important decisions for the future of our association. We are all volunteers and here is the opportunity for you to offer the group your support and help in running the activities. If you have any propositions for new groups or activities, this is an excellent time to offer them.

If you are unable to attend, please use the proxy voting form enclosed with this newsletter.

This year, leaders of the various Small Groups and activities will also be available to present their group, promote their activities and answer any questions you may have.

The meeting will be followed by the **Welcome Party**, a great social occasion in the form of a *cocktail dînatoire*, where we hope new members of the group will be able to meet long standing members, and where new and old friends can meet up again after the summer break.

This event is highly subsidised by the AAGP and limited in numbers. Members : 15 euros pp, children under 12 free of charge. Please contact me if you wish to bring any non-members (45 euros).*



Deadline for reservations is 22nd September 2023

To book this event, please send your name and age of any children attending by email to me at : cherylwrightfr@gmail.com

And send your payment either :

by cheque payable to AAGP with your name by POST to : Kathleen Carmel King, 52 av. Alexandre Philip, 13710 FUYEAU

by bank transfer, marking the payment "Welcome Party"

IBAN : FR76 1130 6000 1717 1902 2305 081

BIC : AGRIFRPP813

by bank card via this site : <https://www.helloasso.com/associations/anglo-american-group-of-provence/evenements/welcome-party>

(You will be asked if you wish to make a donation to the Helloasso site. There is no obligation to do so.)

* Please note that you are paying for attending the Welcome Party. Participation in the AGM ONLY is free of charge.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Cheryl Wright

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.

Sunday 1st October 9:30 - 16:00

ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

Venue: Mairie Annexe Pont de L'Arc (same building as the AAGP library)

The library team is planning on holding our annual used book sale on Sunday October 1st from 9:30 am to 4 pm, with hundreds, if not thousands, of books at our usual very low prices. You will find details in the October newsletter and on the OneList.

If you have English books (in good condition!) you would like to donate, please keep them until after September 15.

Volunteers to help with various parts of the sale (before, during, after) would be very welcome.

Catherine Kirby

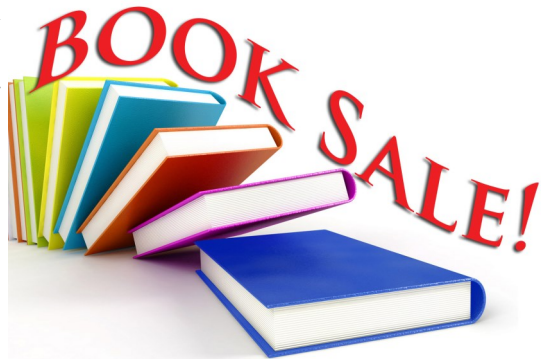
library@aagp-provence.com

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

Saturday 14th October 18:30

QUIZ NIGHT

**Venue : Domaine du Moulin de l'Arc,
1604 route de Rousset, 13530 TRET**



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.

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.

More information concerning price, etc. will be posted on the OneList and in the October Newsletter.

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

Friday October 20th 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 restauration.

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 short drive to the villa for a guided visit in English at 14:00. The number for this group is limited to 20 persons. Booking will be opened by September 10th and closed when full. There is no charge for the visit .

Drive is about 1 1/4 hours from Aix. More details to follow closer to the date.

Reservations after September 10th to Deanna by e-mail : deannalittell@gmail.com.

A reminder e-mail will go out on the onelist.

Deanna Littel

Upcoming AAGP Events for your diary :

All relevant information will be given in a future newsletter

Monday, November 6th (afternoon) : « **Putting your affairs in Order** » presented by the Bereavement Support Network

Saturday, November 18th (evening) : next AAGP **Folk Evening and Singalong**

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - Gilly Remembered

After the June meeting of the Book Group, we asked that a tribute to Gilly Kingsley be included in the September newsletter. Members of the Arts Committee and Gourmet Club were contacted, and we also received messages from the library and Ciné Club members.

In the late 1990s, following her retirement and with both sons living abroad, she decided to follow her dream to live in France. She moved first into an apartment-hotel in Aix, and it was at that time that she became acquainted with the AAGP.

Members have expressed their love of and admiration for Gilly, through numerous and varied reminiscences. She was a free spirit, who followed her passions. She was courageous and resourceful, and she had a kind heart. An eclectic lady with a great sense of humor, her enthusiasm for French life won many friends. It was always a treat to have meetings in Gilly's garden, where she loved her views of Sainte Victoire. She gave generously of her time and talent so that others could experience the cultural events from which she derived so much pleasure. She was extremely knowledgeable about classical music and theatre, and the Arts Club would probably not have taken shape without her. She was the spark that re-started the play-reading group and was considered "the godmother" of the Ciné Club. Her positive and cheerful attitude lasted to the end; she never complained through a long and painful illness.

We were privileged to know her; she was a special and much-loved person, whose impact went far beyond the AAGP.

Susan Stone

SMALL ADS MAY 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)

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](mailto:veronique.morvan@iadfrance.fr)

Follow me on fb : VerolMMO. Insta : vero.morvan_immobilier_aixprovence

Useful

Regular events

Contact the editor :
newsletter@aagp-provence.com

French conversation

In Aix

To advertise

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

Bridge

On Tuesday 14:00
Contact Lish GOERGEN

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.

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

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

Sunday 11th June

ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

What better way to finish off the year and start the summer than with the traditional AAGP garden party. A big thank you to Cheryl and THE team of helpers for the organization.



About 70 AAGP members gathered in their summer finery and hats at the Domaine du Moulin de l'Arc, which was draped in Union Jacks to mark the coronation year.

The Pimms flowed with the aperitifs, elegantly poured by a dapper Tim Williams and there was a lovely buffet lunch provided by the restaurant in welcome shade from the hot June sun. Some members chose to sit under the shade of nearby trees to keep with the 'garden' theme.



The best hat competition, which saw a number of impressive items of headwear, was won by Marilyn Campbell with a creative red, white and blue design, congratulations to her!

events in September after the summer break.

Karen Watson

Looking forward to the start of

