



Newsletter November 2024

N° 2024 - 09



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Sharon LIGHTOWLERS

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

Letter from the Board - November 2024

A warm “hello” to everyone and I’d like to thank all those who voted for me and have since sent many kind words of encouragement. Thank you to Chris West, of course, and all the board members who have built up such a loyal team and have been so welcoming as I find my feet in this new role.

This year’s AGM was very well attended, as was the annual welcome party where we got a chance to chat to some of the new members and exchange ideas on forthcoming events with members who have been active with us for many years. We thank Karen Watson for finding this new venue for us and putting together such an excellent evening!

For me, the role of the AAGP is to inform, to support, to bring together and to entertain the English-speaking community of our region. To this end, I’m very pleased to say that we have some excellent events scheduled for the month of November, in addition to our regular monthly activities.

We start off on Monday 4th November, with Trevor White’s talk on the upcoming exhibition of the photographer Steve McCurry at the Caumont Centre. Next, on Saturday 16th November, we have our Folk Evening and Sing-along at Aix Les Platanes with the AAGP group E2G. Places for this event fill up fast so sign up now to reserve your place.

The Board 2023/2024 :

President : Julie WRIGHT, 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

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

Sunday 17th November is the AAGP annual English book sale held at the Mairie in Pont de L'Arc between 9.30am and 4pm. Donations of good quality books and DVDs can now be made before the sale and the library team welcomes help before, during and after the sale. Last year the sale was a runaway success bringing in huge numbers of people. So please do come along, tell your friends and let's make this year's book sale even bigger than last year's!

And finally, we have the Beaujolais Nouveau evening on Friday 22nd November which long-standing members Margaret and Wolfgang Niemann have generously offered to host at their home in Aix. Again, places will go quickly so be sure to sign up soon.

You will find all the information you need to attend these events in this month's "What's On" pages later in your Newsletter. In the "Looking Ahead" section, we already have a date for the annual Quiz Night in 2025!

However, and with much regret, there will be no Thanksgiving Dinner this year and we sincerely thank Mary Lou McHugh and Bob Keltz for their contribution over the years to this event. We are now looking for someone to take on the organisation of this popular annual celebration, so please come forward if you feel you would like to be involved. This event is an important one in our calendar and it's certainly not one we wish to let go.

Have a great month and don't hesitate to get in touch with me directly at julieprovence13@gmail.com if you would like to share your thoughts on how you would like to see the AAGP move forward or if you would like to get more involved in our activities. We have lots of ideas and projects in the pipeline, but your ideas and support make all the difference.

Julie Wright (President) on behalf of the Board



What's on in November 2024

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)

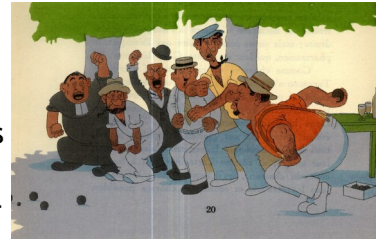
Join us for some fun *pétanque*. No skills required.

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



4 - Monday 12:00

LUNCH IN MARSEILLE

Venue : Restaurant Les Danaïdes, 6 square Stalingrad, 13001 Marseille

Métro ligne 1 : Arrêt Réformés

<https://marseille.love-spots.com/adresses/ou-manger/restaurants-marseille/198669-les-danaïdes-1898.html?fbclid=IwAR260dQIZg0G-2lTY1qQMCC5OD4ant3ocCqlWPcYSgWlpv6lXP1-UKQ4dfg>

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, October 31st

Brigitte Kraus

bibik@free.fr

4 - Monday 15:00

ART CLUB TALK AT AAGP LIBRARY

Venue : Mairie Annexe, place Sextia Conca, 75 route des Milles, Aix-en-Provence

Trevor White has kindly agreed to give a talk to AAGP members on the work of Steve McCurry* at the AAGP Library, Mairie Annexe, place Sextia Conca, 75 route des Milles, Aix on Monday 4 November at 3 pm. Some parking is available near the building or check times for buses 7, 14 and 10 from Aix centre.

The talk will introduce us to the work of Steve McCurry* in preparation for the winter Exhibition 'Steve McCurry : Regards' which will run at the Caumont** Centre d'Art, 3 rue Joseph Cabassol, Aix-en-Provence from November to March.

Reservation details for this free-of-charge talk were published on the One-List in mid-October.

<https://www.helloasso.com/associations/anglo-american-group-of-provence/evenements/talk-on-steve-mccurry-exhibition-at-the-caumont>

* Steve McCurry is an American photographer, freelancer, and photojournalist. His photo, Afghan Girl, of a girl with piercing green eyes, has appeared on the cover of National Geographic several times. McCurry has photographed many assignments for National Geographic and has been a member of Magnum Photos since 1986. <https://www.stevemccurry.com/>

**Further information is available on the Caumont website <https://www.caumont-centredart.com/> and ticket reservation <https://www.caumont-centredart.com/en/tickets>

Dympna Donnelly



7 - Thursday 12:15

LUNCH IN AIX (French Crêperie)

Venue : La Crep'Sautière, 18 rue Bédarrides, 13100 Aix-en-Provence

Great place for a chilly and affordable November lunch. Delicious savory galettes and dessert crêpes. Authentic crêperie. You'll feel like you're in Normandy, because this is the real deal - a full and varied menu and great accompanying drink options, including cider.

Please reserve your spot by using this SignUp Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094DADA82DA2FA7-52226544-lunch#/>

Valerie Belon

SMS 07 49 75 93 49

11 - Monday 14:30

PLAY READING GROUP

Venue : 605 Ave Max Juvenal, Aix-en-Provence



Our November play will be hosted by Dympna Donnelly and Marc Schiethart at 605 avenue Max Juvenal in Aix.

Reading will start at 2.30 pm on Monday 11th November; information on script and venue will be sent to signed-up readers nearer the date.

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

Dympna Donnelly

12 - Tuesday 10:30

MORNING COFFEE

Venue : Café Massena - 1 avenue
Jules Cantini, 13006 Marseille

Metro ligne 1 ou 2 : Arrêt Castellane

[https://www.facebook.com/massenacafe/?
locale=fr_FR](https://www.facebook.com/massenacafe/?locale=fr_FR)

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, November 8th.

Brigitte Kraus

bibik@free.fr



13 - Wednesday 14:00

CHESS CLUB

Venue : Chez Gilles Dreyfus, 18 al-
lée Rosaki, route de Puyricard (D
14 A), Aix-en-Provence



Bus stop : "Rosaki" on bus number 11 is NOT in service anymore. You can get off either the stop before called Residence Beaufort, or the stop after called Fusains; both stops are about 300 yards from Rosaki.

Come and join. All levels welcome, bring your chessboard.

Please let me know if you are attending.

Gilles Dreyfus

gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com

06 75 59 82 43

14 - Thursday 10:30

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Venue : Home of Mary Falconnier, 6 allée Jean Tena, Lot. Le Grand Pin, St.-Victoret 13730

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Presented by Mary Falconnier

Back in 1961, women wore shirtwaist dresses and joined garden clubs and drove legions of children around in seatbeltless cars without giving it a second thought. At the same time, Elizabeth Zott, a brilliant chemist, works with an all-male team at Hastings Research Institute who take a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans, the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with - of all things - her mind. True chemistry results.

Like science, life is unpredictable, which is why, a few years later, Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show, *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ('combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride') proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because, as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

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

Let Nancy and Mary know if you plan to attend the Thursday gathering by Monday, 11th November.

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

Mary Falconnier 06 74 67 04 30 Maryk3486@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

16 - Saturday 17:30 for 18:00

FOLK EVENING & SINGALONG

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

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



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 artists and new songs and we will also cover as many of your « old favourites » as possible. Watch out for new songs from Joan Baez and Bob Dylan as well as « newcomers » Sonny & Cher and Tom Paxton!

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. Booking has already opened on the OneList and will close on **Monday November 11th**, or before if all places are taken. A reminder will also be sent out on the OneList.

Please remember that places are limited, so be sure to book early to reserve 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.

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

E2G - Elaine, Michel and Rod

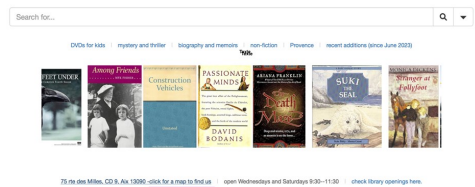
17 - Sunday 9:30–16:00

USED BOOK SALE

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



Anglo-American Group of Provence library
Welcome to the AAGP library



The library team is holding our annual used book sale on Sunday November 17th from 9:30 to 4, with hundreds, if not thousands, of books and DVDs at our usual very low prices. In addition to our bargains, we will be serving coffee and tea to help keep you browsing.

The sale will take place in the room just below our library - behind the town hall offices at Pont de l'Arc. There's a link to a Google map on our library page on the AAGP Website Members section ("[click for a map to find us](#)").

If you have English books (in good condition! Chemistry books from 1974,

for instance, not welcome) and you would like to donate, could you bring them to the library during library opening hours (Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30)?

If you have some time to help us either before, during or after the sale, you can sign up with a link I will send on the OneList.

The event is open to all book lovers, so spread the word.

For the library team

Catherine Kirby

kirbyleg@gmail.com

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

17 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE

Venue : Calanques "Titou Ninou"

We shall meet on the carpark of the "Décathlon" sports shop, chemin du Roy d'Espagne in the south quarters of Marseille, and from there proceed in as few cars as possible to the starting point of the hike.



The path leads through a forest, passing by the "Fontaine de Voire" and then upwards towards the "Col de la Selle" where there is a commanding view over the city on one side and the calanques on the other side. We will then continue up another path as far as the "Plateau de l'homme mort" (altitude 350 metres approx.) before taking an unmarked path to the "Belvédère de Titou Ninou". This is a flat ledge near the top of the cliff where there is a stunning view over the islands off the calanque coast, and we can enjoy our picnic lunch at this spot. We will then return to the cars either via the same itinerary or via a steep but more direct path. This can be decided when the time comes.

There are no particular difficulties along the way so dogs and children used to hiking are welcome. Total hiking time is about 5 hours. Bring plenty of food and water and wear proper hiking gear. For any further information please call Roderick MACLEOD on 06 60 61 08 65.

All those wishing to come are requested to call me the day before as from 18h when I will know for sure if this venue complies with all the rules and regulations. Please note that I will not be able to answer immediately such calls because I will already be "on air" at the AAGP singalong evening, but I will duly register messages and either call or text every participant early the next morning.

Many thanks.

Roderick

19 Tuesday 14:30

AFTERNOON TEA

Venue : 7-VIE-EST-BELLE Café, 9 rue Caisserie, 13002 Marseille

Metro ligne 1 : Arrêt Vieux Port; bus 49: Arrêt Place Bargemon

<https://www.7vbcafe.fr/>

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, November 14th.

Brigitte Kraus

bibik@free.fr

21 Thursday 12:00 to 14:00

‘DISCOVER ASIAN FOOD’ LUNCH

Venue chez Dee, 66 chemin de Rapine, Aix-en-Provence

Come taste a dish perfect to set you up for the winter - Hainanese Chicken



Rice - an all-time favourite dish from my second home - Singapore !
Poached chicken and rice served with a chilli garlic and ginger sauce and
an aromatic bouillon - everything you need to warm you up in autumn.
Lunch spots limited to 10 participants - email Dee at ga-yatripotdar@yahoo.com to reserve. Details on the OneList early November.

Dee

22 - Friday 18:30

BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU

Venue : chez Margaret & Wolfgang, 38 avenue Philippe Solari, 13090 Aix-en-Provence



The 'release' of the Beaujolais Nouveau is recognised internationally as a great excuse to have a party !

The AAGP will be celebrating this on the Friday 22nd evening.

Please join us for a fun get-together with a selection of 'bojo wines' and a special 'cuvée de jus de raisin' for non-wine drinkers !

And of course a buffet of cheeses, cold meats and vegetarian dips.

Hosted by : Margaret, Wolfgang and Cheryl

Time : 18h30

The cost per person is 15€ - when you sign up, we will send you our bank details as well as directions, etc.

We have parking space, but car-sharing is recommended.

If you wish to join in, please contact Margaret at Marga.Ings@gmail.com

06 13 92 25 30

Looking forward to the party !

Margaret

27 - Wednesday 10:00–11.00

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 Barney Lehrer 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

27 - Wednesday 14:30

BOOK CLUB



Venue : Grande librairie internationale, 3 rue Vincent Scotto, 13001 Marseille

Metro ligne 1 arrêt : Vieux Port ou ligne 2 arrêt : Noailles; tram: T3 arrêt: Cours Saint Louis

This month book is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

Anne-Sophie Crespin, the bookstore manager, is kind enough to welcome us. In return, I ask you to have a drink. There are also biscuits if you want. And of course, English books for sale.

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, November 21st at the latest.

Please note the book for the month of December is Julian Barnes *The Sense of an Ending*.

Brigitte Kraus

bibik@free.fr

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.

Saturday February 15—evening

QUIZ NIGHT

Look out for information on venue and signing up, in your December and January Newsletters !

Lish, Valerie and Trevor



LOOKING BACK

WELCOME PARTY

Friday October 11th

The new venue for the AGM and Welcome Party at the Novotel Beaumanoir was an excellent choice. Well done, Karen.

The AGM blended seamlessly into the party with friendly members handing round drinks and eats. Many thanks !

The buffet was delicious and organised as different 'courses' - and very plentiful.

It was so enjoyable to catch up with old friends and also chat to some new members, and, of course, we were all eager to thank Chris for her great work and to welcome Julie.

Talking with participants afterwards, we all agreed that it is wonderful that the AAGP has continued to be a sort of warm haven in this changing world.

Thank you to all.

Margaret Ings



Professional associations (English speaking)

The Bereavement Support Network offers individual support, by phone or video, to English Speakers in France who are grieving, those who are terminally ill and to their carers. We also signpost people to resources, information and additional help. You can access us either by calling 06 24 50 22 74 (M-F, 9-5) or 24/7 at our website www.bsnvar.org

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

SMALL ADS NOVEMBER 2024

YOUR PROPERTY, MY COMMITMENT

Hello Members

My name is Magali, born in Provence, living in Aix for more than 25 years. I worked a long time for many students programs abroad (Vanderbilt, IAU, CEA, Wellesley in Aix.....)

Now I work for families who live in Provence half-time and need a trusty person in charge of their home. I have good experiences and a large and serious address book.

Maintenance, logistic.....all you need to ensure that your home will never be alone.

Contact mag.stratigeas11@gmail.com

Tel : 06 43 43 31 24

FAMILY HOUSE NEAR AIX-EN-PROVENCE

For rent NOVEMBER 2024 through JULY 2025 (dates negotiable, minimum stay 4 months) Rent : 1950 euros/month includes all utilities except heating fuel. The three bedroom plus home, 100+ square metres is in a gorgeous “ site classé “ on two hectares of land, a fifteen minute drive from Aix. It features three main bedrooms, a bathroom and a separate toilet and sink combo, a large living room/dining room with a wood-burning fireplace. There is also a sleeping attic with several beds, suitable for children or shorter-term visitors. Fully and tastefully furnished including linens, washing machine, microwave, TV etc., as well as many shelves of English and French language books. Meals can be taken on the sunny outdoor patio most of the year. Bus service to Aix is available nearby, but a car is necessary. For photos and more information, please send email to scm@northwestern.edu.

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

« *The members' 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.

Useful info

Contact the editor :

newsletter@aagp-provence.com

To advertise

smallads@aagp-provence.com

See website for terms and conditions

Important

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

Website

www.aagp-provence.com

LOOKING BACK

