



# Newsletter November 2025

N° 2025 - 09



## Anglo American Group of Provence

*Published by the AAGP / Editor : Michel PARISOT*

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

### Letter from the Board - November 2025

Autumn in Provence brings a big change to the countryside - violent storms followed by warm, barmy days and then the shock of the sudden glacial bite of the mistral. Sometimes the beauty of this ever-changing backdrop takes our breath away, as it did to our membership secretary Lish Goergen, when she spotted a family of deer in her garden. She shares this with us on the front cover. Thank you for this wonderful snapshot of Provence. If you have images of your life here, please do share them for future cover pages.

This year's AGM was very well attended with around 60 people present, as was the annual Welcome Party both with a very good number of new members and more recent joiners. We said goodbye and thank you to Karen Watson and Brigitte Ponsart, our two outgoing board members, and welcomed new board member Jean-Louis Morgenthaler as our new social events co-ordinator (many people will already know Jean-Louis through his contributions as our French conversation group leader). He will be eased into this new role by associate board member Cheryl Wright, who has been making every big AAGP event run smoothly with her calm, good-humoured nature for the last year! We would like to express our enormous gratitude to Cheryl for organising this event and for all the work she does behind the scenes, making everything look so seamless!! The position of secretary remains open, but we hope to fill this very shortly.

The AGM and Welcome Party open the AAGP year, and we can now enjoy a series of events scheduled for the coming months.

#### **The Board 2024/2025 :**

President : **Julie WRIGHT**, Vice President and Small Groups Coordinator : **Jane STORR**, Treasurer : **Kathleen-Carmel KING**, Secretary : **Vacant**, Newsletter Editor : **Michel PARISOT**, Social Events Coordinator : **Jean-Louis Morgenthaler**, 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**.

In lieu of a Beaujolais evening this year, the wine season opened earlier than usual with an organised visit in English of the Terre de Mistral domain, near Rousset. Our thanks go to Trevor White for organising this.

We round off “L’Année Cezanne” on the afternoon of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, with a talk from the prominent US scholar and author William Adams entitled Cezanne at Château Noir. We are very privileged to welcome AAGP member William, who will share his knowledge on Cezanne’s fascination for Château Noir, the domain at the foot of the Sainte Victoire which inspired many of his works, and then so many other artists, writers and creative thinkers. Details of William Adam’s work are in this Newsletter, and reminders of the date, times and venue will be sent out on the OneList - an event not to be missed!

Next, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November, we have our fabulous Folk Evening & Singalong at Aix Les Platanes with the AAGP group E2G. A great new selection of songs has been chosen, along with some old favourites, and places are filling up fast. So, sign up now if you don’t want to miss out.

At the time of going to press we don’t yet have confirmation on the Thanksgiving event open to AAGP members via “La Table des Amis”. Information will go out on the OneList closer to the date.

And finally, save the date for a lunch and talk with the actress and author Carole Drinkwater on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December in Aix. More details of this event organised by Timothy Molyneux and Katrina Donaldson will be posted in due course.

You will find all the information you need to attend these events in this month’s “What’s On” and “Looking Ahead” pages later in your Newsletter.

Enjoy the month and I look forward to seeing you at November’s events!!

*Julie Wright, President, on behalf of the Board.*



## AAGP BOARD VACANCY

The position of **Secretary to the Board** is vacant.

This interesting position is open to all AAGP members, new as well as long standing-ones (all nationalities welcome and in fact this is the ideal role for someone who would like to use and develop their English in a fun but professional environment). Each board member shapes the nature and direction of the AAGP.

For more information and a full description, contact Julie Wright by email at [julieprovence13@gmail.com](mailto:julieprovence13@gmail.com), or phone her at 06 99 81 69 06.

## What's on in November 2025

***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.*

**2 - Sunday 10:30**

### PETANQUE

**Venue : Boulodrome de Puyricard, intersection avenue Jacques de Régis & blvd de Carelle**

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 Littell*

*06 76 39 15 52*

*[deannalittell@gmail.com](mailto:deannalittell@gmail.com)*



**3 - Monday 12:00**

## **LUNCH IN MARSEILLE**

**Venue : Bistro O'Prado**

1 boulevard Périer, 13008 Marseille

Metro ligne 2 : arrêt Périer ou bus B1: arrêt Périer

<https://restaurant-bistrot-o-prado.foodjovy.com/>

Please let me know if you are coming by Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Brigitte*

[bibik@free.fr](mailto:bibik@free.fr)



**3 - Monday 14:30**

## **PLAY READING GROUP**

Our November Reading will start at 2.30 pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November; information on script and venue will be sent to readers nearer the date.

Please email [marcdympna@gmail.com](mailto:marcdympna@gmail.com) if you would like to sign up.

*Dympna Donnelly*



**7 - Friday 18:30**

(this is the October session)

## **CARD GAMES**

**Venue : Le Darius, av. Giuseppe Verdi**

Please join us for easy-to-learn and fun card games. We are playing twice this month to make up for all the missed games in the summer and early fall (for second game see Friday 28<sup>th</sup>).



We will play our old favourites and maybe introduce a couple of new ones this month.

Please let me know by October 30<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend the first games, so I can notify Le Darius of the number of participants.

Paula Mullineaux

07 68 53 38 22

[pmullineaux@comcast.net](mailto:pmullineaux@comcast.net)

**9 - Sunday 18:45**

## CINECLUB

**Venue : Chez Deanna & Gilles,  
18 allée Rosaki, route de Puyricard (D 14 A), Aix-en-Provence**

**THE YOUNG PHILADELPHIANS** is a 1959 American legal drama film directed by Vincent Sherman & starring Paul Newman as Anthony Judson Lawrence.

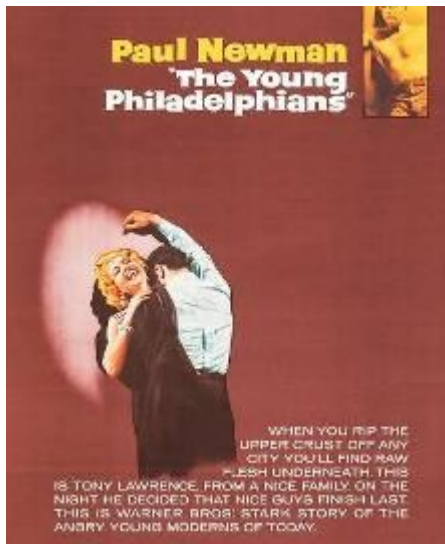
A young lawyer from the wrong side of town tries to break into Philadelphia society. He inherited his father's name but not his fortune. He is pushed by his single mother to upward mobility & has the power and privilege of Philadelphia's social elite. Based on the best-selling novel *The Philadelphian* by Richard Powell.

Anthony Lawrence, an ambitious tax lawyer grabs all he can from life's silver platter. The young lawyer knows the right words, the right friends & how to get his way but surprises everyone by risking everything to defend a friend accused of murder and proving his friend's innocence. Robert Vaughn scores strongly as a blue-blooded outcast & received an Academy Award nomination for this film. The trial holds the city spellbound in one of the most compelling courtroom scenes ever written.

Join us for pizza, popcorn & to meet the ambitious, and scandalous movers and shakers of *The Young Philadelphians*.

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

*Deanna & Gilles* - 06 76 39 15 52



**10 - Monday 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 Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Brigitte*

[bibik@free.fr](mailto:bibik@free.fr)



**10 - Monday** (time and venue to be given later)

## **CEZANNE'S WORK AT CHATEAU NOIR**

We are delighted to announce a special talk by US scholar and author (and AAGP member!) William Adams. On Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, William Adams will present his recently published book, *Cezanne at Château Noir: The History of a Fascination* (Éditions Hervé Chopin). He will discuss Paul Cezanne's important work at Château Noir and the subsequent contributions of the generations of painters and writers who followed in his footsteps at this remarkable site in Le Tholonet. So, save the date - as we are privileged to be able to round off the Année Cezanne with such a renowned speaker. This is a "Save the Date" message. The talk, which will take place in Aix, is free to AAGP members and full details will follow shortly.



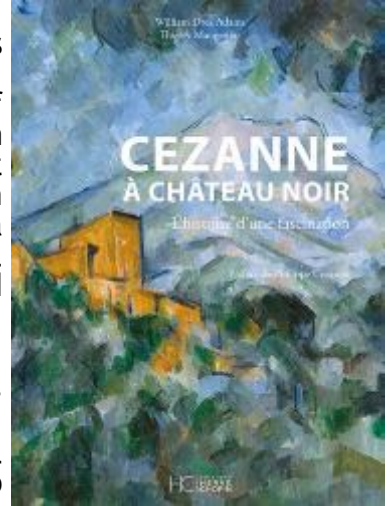
### **About the author:**

In 2014, President Barack Obama selected William Adams to serve as the 10<sup>th</sup> Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in

Washington. D.C. As Chair of NEH, Adams guided the federal government's support for research and public programs in the human sciences, serving museums, libraries, universities, and historic sites across the country.

After prestigious scholarships and studies which took him to Paris and, after completing his doctorate from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1982, William taught philosophy and social science at Stanford University, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Santa Clara before being elected President of Bucknell University in 1995. In 2000, he was elected president of Colby College in Waterville, where he served for 13 years.

On retiring in 2019, he resumed his research and writing and began a book project on Merleau-Ponty and the painter Paul Cezanne. His research took him to Puylobier, the small village near Aix-en-Provence, where he and his wife, Lauren Sterling, purchased a home in 2015. A few years later, a serendipitous meeting with the French writer Thierry Maugenest led to the village of Le Tholonet and the rich history of Château Noir.



*Julie Wright*

**13 - 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 (14 euros including shoes). Please email me or call 24 hours before.

*Gilles Dreyfus - 06 75 59 82 43*  
[\*gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com\*](mailto:gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com)



**14 - Friday 10:30 to 12:00**

## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

**Venue : Le Café des Artistes, 35 place François Villon, 13090 Aix-en-Provence**

French Conversation takes place every other week, from 10:30 to 12:00.

You needn't worry about your level of French. We'll do our best to make everyone feel comfortable and enjoy a friendly conversation. Please let me know if you are coming 48 hours before.

*Jean Louis*

[jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr](mailto:jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr) - 06 61 86 53 54

**15 - Saturday 17:30 for 18:00 start**

## **FOLK EVENING & SINGALONG**

**Venue : La Brasserie des Platanes, 2112 route de Siste-ron, 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 Donovan, Pete Seeger, and Dire Straits, as well as newcomers Ed Sheeran and Bruce Springsteen and two “new” Irish folk songs.

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 songbook! 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 10<sup>th</sup>**, or before if all places are taken. A reminder will 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](mailto:eda.blanc@orange.fr) before closing date. 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*

## 16 - Sunday 10:00

### HIKE

**Venue : Calanques "Titou et 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 et Ninou". This is a flat ledge near the top of a cliff where there is a stunning view over the islands off the calanque coast, and we can enjoy our picnic 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 (perhaps) cold weather. 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 and folksong evening. But I will register messages and either call or text every participant early the next morning.

Many thanks.

*Roderick*

**20 - Thursday 14:30**

## **AFTERNOON TEA**

**Venue : Maison Léon - 24  
rue St Suffren - 13006 Mar-  
seille**

Metro ligne 1 ou 2 : arrêt Cas-  
tellane ou tram T3 : arrêt Cas-  
tellane



[https://www.instagram.com/maisonleon\\_marseille](https://www.instagram.com/maisonleon_marseille)

Please let me know if you are coming by Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Brigitte*

[bibik@free.fr](mailto:bibik@free.fr)

**21- Friday 12:00 to 14:00**

## **DISCOVER ASIAN FOOD' LUNCH**

**Venue : Chez Dee, 66 chemin de Rapine, Aix-en-Provence**

This month, warm up with bold flavors from Kolhapur, a district in my home state of Maharashtra !

Cuisine from Kolhapur tends to be hot and fiery - due to a special spice blend made with garlic, onions and red chillies. I'll tone down the heat just enough to make the dishes perfect for cold winter days. Menu details on the OneList early November.



Lunch spots limited to 10 participants.

Email Dee at [gayatripotdar@yahoo.com](mailto:gayatripotdar@yahoo.com) to reserve.

Dee

## 24 - Monday 14:00

### BOOK CLUB

**Venue :** You will be informed of the location before the date.

This month's book is *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge.

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note the books for the rest of the year :**

**December :** *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

**January :** *How to Fly a Horse: The Secret History of Creation, Invention, and Discovery* by [Kevin Ashton](#)

**February :** *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

**March :** *The Plot* by [Jean Hanff Korelitz](#)

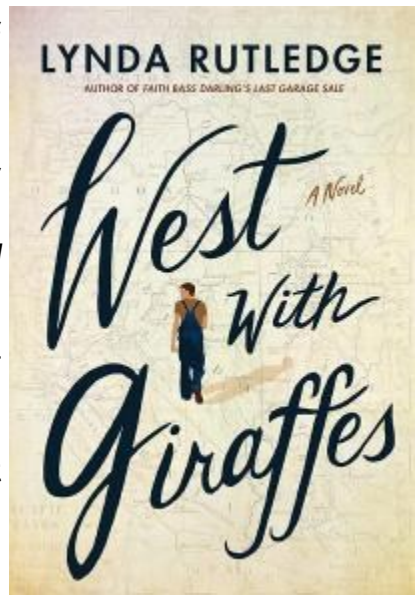
**April :** *The Sentence* by [Louise Erdrich](#)

**May :** *Dear Life* by Alice Munro

**June :** *Trespasses* by [Louise Kennedy](#)

Brigitte

[bibik@free.fr](mailto:bibik@free.fr)



**26 - Wednesday 10:00** (please note new day)

## **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

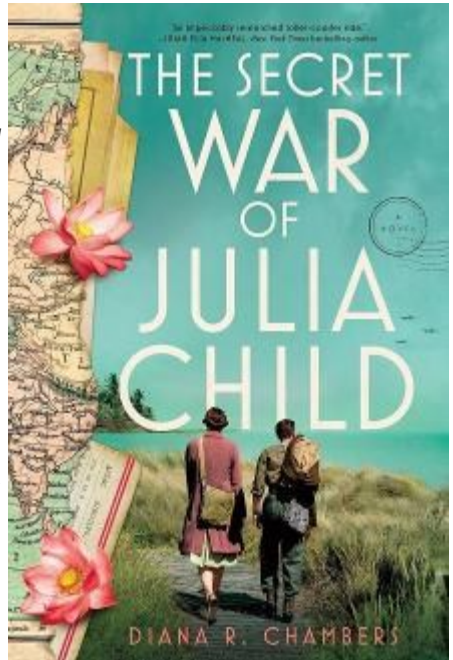
**Venue: Home of Angie Pyman, 4 rue Condorcet, Bât. Friedland 2, Aix-en-Provence**

*The Secret War of Julia Child* by Diana R. Chambers

The author will be interviewed by Lise Chevalier

Single, 6 foot 2, and thirty years old, Julia McWilliams took a job working for America's first espionage agency, years before cooking or Paris entered the picture. *The Secret War of Julia Child* traces Julia's transformation from ambitious Pasadena blue blood to Washington, DC file clerk, to head of General "Wild Bill" Donovan's secret File Registry as part of the Office of Strategic Services.

The wartime journey takes her to South Asia's remote front lines of then-Ceylon, India, and China, where she finds purpose, adventure, self-knowledge - and love with mapmaker Paul Child. The spotlight has rarely shone on this fascinating period of time in the life of ("I'm not a spy") Julia Child, and this lyrical story allows us to explore the unlikely world of a woman in a World War II spy station who has no idea of the impact she'll eventually impart.



Email your reservations by November 7 to Nancy, Angie and Lise. After 14 registrations, we will kindly put your name on a waiting list.

Nancy Ceridwyn 07 81 84 61 19 [nanacy.ceridwyn@gmail.com](mailto:nanacy.ceridwyn@gmail.com)

Angie Pyman 06 72 40 48 41 [angiepyman@gmail.com](mailto:angiepyman@gmail.com)

Lise Chevalier 06 20 80 18 15 [lise.chevalier@wanadoo.fr](mailto:lise.chevalier@wanadoo.fr)

We will now meet every fourth Wednesday in the month, with the exception of the December session which will be on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Nancy Ceridwyn*

**27 - Thursday 14:00**

## **MODERN POETRY GROUP**

**Venue : Chez Angie Pyman, 4 rue Condorcet, Friedland 4, 13100 Aix-en-Provence**

The theme for November is Flora & Fauna. Please let me know which poem you have chosen - title and author- by the previous Monday evening (24<sup>th</sup> November) and be prepared to introduce the poet briefly and to read the poem to the group.



As the fourth Thursday in December is Christmas Day, the group will meet on 18<sup>th</sup> December, when the theme will be Family.

*Angie 06 72 40 46 41*

*angiepyman@gmail.com*

**28 - Friday 10:30 to 12:00**

## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

**Venue : le Café des Artistes,  
35 place François Villon,  
13090 Aix-en-Provence**

All information as given for Friday 14<sup>th</sup>.

*Jean Louis*

*[jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr](mailto:jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr)*

*06 61 86 53 54*



**28 - Friday 18:30**

## **CARD GAMES**

**Venue : Le Darius, ave Giuseppe Verdi**



Please join us for easy-to-learn and fun card games. We are playing twice this month to make up for all the missed games in the summer and early fall.

We will play our old favourites and maybe introduce a couple of new ones this month.

*Paula Mullineaux*

07 68 53 38 22

[pmullineaux@comcast.net](mailto:pmullineaux@comcast.net)

## LOOKING AHEAD - SAVE THE DATE

### Thursday 16th December

Save the date for a lunch and talk with the actress and author Carole Drinkwater on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December in Aix.

More details of this event organised by Timothy Molyneux and Katrina Donaldson will be posted in due course.



# LOOKING BACK

## AGM and Welcome Party, October 10<sup>th</sup>

### Hotel Mercure Beaumanoir Aix-en-Provence

Although I have been living in Aix since last October 2024, I was officially welcomed last Friday at the Welcome Party for newcomers after the AAGP Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM was a revelation to me, of the dedication and generosity of people who offer their time and energy to offer a bouquet of social activities and services to AAGP members.



One of these social activities was the Welcome Party for newcomers after the serious work of the AGM was over. Cheryl Wright, our Social Events associate board member, organized a great reception accompanied by wine and very tasty canapés. Fun was had by all! The work for her was not just about selecting the wine and canapés. It was also the many hours of administrative planning and co-ordination that makes for a very successful social occasion.

Thank you, Cheryl, and a big thank you to all the board members for your tireless work for us your members.

*Patricia  
Burkhardt*





# SMALL ADS November 2025

## PLANNING A MOVE ?

We are there for you [www.fd-platinum.com](http://www.fd-platinum.com) has you covered with offices in France, the UK, the USA, Dubai and Hong Kong. Our free video survey allows us to provide competitive door-to-door rates. Your local contact : [jpdelahaye@yahoo.com](mailto:jpdelahaye@yahoo.com) or tel : 06 44 90 83 58

## DAY TRIPS ON WEEKENDS WITH "DECOUVERTE DE LA PROVENCE"

Every weekend "Découverte de la Provence" proposes day trips to various destinations in Provence e.g. Avignon & Pont du Gard, Monaco, St Tropez & Cap Taillat, Isle-sur-la-Sorgue etc. for foreign students of all ages from 18 to 80s and anyone else who would like to join !

Depart Aix centre 8h30 return to Aix around 18h00. An ideal opportunity for a relaxing hassle-free day out with no driving !

Cost per person : 35-40€, includes transport and George Tudose's amusing tour guiding / anecdotes - *en français*. For more info and to sign up : [www.decouvertedelaprovence.com](http://www.decouvertedelaprovence.com)

or contact [vivienne.hamill@gmail.com](mailto:vivienne.hamill@gmail.com)



## 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](http://www.aagp-provence/library.php)

## Useful

### **Contact the editor :**

[newsletter@aagp-provence.com](mailto:newsletter@aagp-provence.com)

### **To advertise**

[smallads@aagp-provence.com](mailto:smallads@aagp-provence.com)

See website for terms and conditions

### **Website**

[www.aagp-provence.com](http://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.

### **Ideas for organising a new activity or an excursion ?**

Please contact the board at least one month in advance of your event and before you advertise it.

### **Important**

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

## Professional services

**The Bereavement Support Network (BSN)** offers individual support by phone or video, to English Speakers in France who are grieving, those who are terminally ill and to their carers. BSN also signposts people to resources, information and additional help. Services and information can be accessed through our contact form on our website [www.bsnvar.org](http://www.bsnvar.org) or through our email address [info@bsnvar.org](mailto:info@bsnvar.org)"

email: [info@bsnvar.org](mailto:info@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:English-helpline.st-lois@croix-rouge.fr)

