



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Sharon LIGHTOWLERS

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

A big “Hello” to everyone reading this and here’s hoping I’ll get to meet at least some of you at our forthcoming AGM and new members welcome party on Friday the 10th October. It will be an opportunity to review our work, activities and finances over the last 12 months, and, most importantly, a chance to catch up with friends and to welcome most recent members. It also marks the end of my first year as President and it really is a great opportunity for me to listen to members’ views so that we can adapt our structure and events to reflect members’ needs more fully. Check the OneList for any last-minute places if you haven’t already booked!!

My role, with the help of a very dedicated board, is to inform, to support, to bring together and to entertain the English-speaking community of our region. Keeping this in mind, I would like to draw your attention to a very important message from the British Consul General in Marseille regarding the new European Entry/Exit System (EES). Full details can be found in this month’s Newsletter, immediately after this message.

To improve communications, our website is currently being upgraded. It is a source of so much useful information, specifically the “Recommendation List”, which is carefully updated each year. It should always be the first port of call when looking for a professional service (doctor, plumber, lawyer, gardener, etc.) before sending out a message on the OneList. From next month the Newsletter will feature a new section known as “Top Tips” in which members can recommend a service, person, event that they would like to share with other members. We’ll be requesting your personal “Top Tips” via the OneList over the next few weeks.

The Board 2024/2025 :

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**.

The upgrading of our website will include new information compiled by members who have acquired expertise by dealing with life in France. Based on real life experience, a member has put together detailed information and procedures to follow when an estate must be wound up in France for a foreign national. This is just one example of how we can pool and share our knowledge and an illustration of how the website can be a great reference source.

In terms of entertainment there are plenty of events in the pipeline, our biggest one being the Folk Evening & Singalong at Aix Les Platanes with our very own AAGP group, E2G, on the 15th November (save the date). We also have plans for Thanksgiving and a Beaujolais evening, which will be revealed nearer the time.

Small group activities go from strength to strength, with the creation of a new modern poetry group, while the AAGP gourmet lunches are making a tentative return. One-off events, such as the visit of the Memorial of the Débarquement & the Libération de Provence in September, are always over-subscribed, and I would like to thank all those who give their time and energy to plan and organize these events. Your efforts really are appreciated.

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

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. Don't forget to send photos and images you would like to see on our front cover. All contributions are very welcome.

Hope to see you at the AGM!!

This month's front cover photo of the Memorial museum's arial map taken by Deanna Littell.

Hope to see you at the AGM!!

Julie Wright, President, on behalf of the Board.

Important Update - New EU Entry/Exit System (EES) -

Message from the British Consul General in Marseille to AAGP President

"The European Union's new Entry/Exit System (EES) will become operational on 12 October. You can find official details here: [EES - European Union \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu) and [EU Entry/Exit System - GOV.UK](https://gov.uk)

We've updated our [Living in France - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) guide with key information about the EES. Under this new system, non-EU nationals, including UK nationals visiting the Schengen area, will be required to create a digital record at the border. This includes submitting biometric data (fingerprints and a facial image).

However, UK nationals with rights under the Withdrawal Agreement will be exempt from EES registration, provided they hold the correct documentation. To qualify for exemption, UK nationals residing in France must present a valid residence permit. Renewals of Withdrawal Agreement beneficiary residence permits are currently being processed by local Préfectures.

We would greatly appreciate your help in sharing this information with your members and the wider British community in your area. The Living in France Guide outlines what British nationals need to know, including accepted documents and exemptions. Notably, residents in France with children under 18 must apply for a DCEM card to exempt their children from EES registration. Instructions for applying are available in the "Passports and Travel" section of the guide.

We'll continue to update our [France travel advice - GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) and share updates via our social media channels:

X (formerly Twitter): @UKinFrance

Facebook: British Embassy Paris



Our Deputy Head of Mission has also posted a helpful video on [Facebook](https://facebook.com)

Additionally, the [British Community Committee of France \(britishinfrance.com\)](https://britishinfrance.com) has included EES information on their website.

Thank you in advance for helping us raise awareness. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions. "

What's on in October 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.

3 - Friday 10:30–12:00

FRENCH CONVERSATION

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

French Conversation takes place every other week. We will meet on Friday, October 3rd, 17th and 31st, from 10:30 to 12:00.

Don't worry about your level of French. We'll do our best to make everyone feel comfortable. Please let me know if you are coming 48 hours before.

JeanLouis

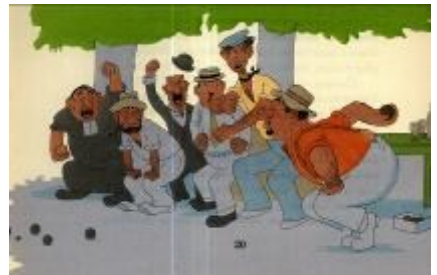
jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr

06 61 86 53 54

5 - Sunday 10:30

PÉTANQUE

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



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

6 - 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

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, October 2nd.

Brigitte Kraus

bibik@free.fr



6 - Monday 14:30

PLAY READING GROUP



Our October reading will start at 2.30 pm on Monday 6th October; 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.

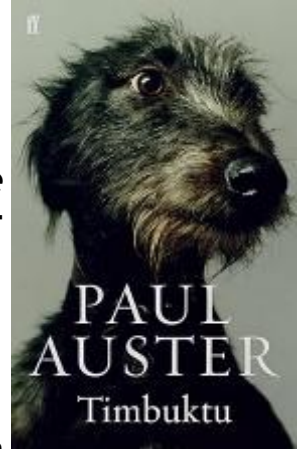
Dympna Donnelly

9 - Thursday 10:30

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

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

Timbuktu by Paul Aster presented by Angie Pyman



Mr Bones, canine sidekick of Willy G Christmas, a brilliant, troubled, and altogether original poet-saint from Brooklyn, New York. Together, Bones and Christmas sally forth to Baltimore, on a last great adventure in search of Willy's beloved mentor, Bea Swanson - who used to know him as William Gurevitch, son of Polish war refugees. But is she still alive?"

Email your reservations by October 6. After 14 registrations, a waiting list will be started.

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

Angie Pyman 06 72 40 46 41 angiepyman@gmail.com

Nancy Ceridwyn

9 - Thursday 14:00

BOWLING

Venue : Bowling Le Bras d'Or, 23 bd. Charrier, Aix-en-Provence

Join us for some fun bowling. No prior skills required.

We usually play two games. (14 euros including shoes).

Please email me or call 24 hours before.

Gilles Dreyfus - 06 75 59 82 43

gilles.dreyfus@gmail.com



10 - Friday 18:30

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and WELCOME PARTY

Venue : Mercure Beaumanoir Hotel, rue Marcel Arnaud, 13100 Aix-en-Provence

As you will have seen in the September Newsletter, and on the OneList, the Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 10th October at 6.30 pm, followed by the Welcome Party at 7.30 pm at the Hotel Mercure Beaumanoir (formerly Novotel), Aix. This is the same venue as last year.

As for every club and association run by volunteers, it is very important that as many members as possible attend the AGM and vote, so please do come along, ask questions, offer ideas, meet the board and volunteer your help. Details of how to vote by proxy will be posted on the OneList.

The WELCOME PARTY following the AGM gives new members the opportuni-

ty to meet existing members and chat to board members in an informal setting over a glass of wine and canapés.

The AAGP will be subsidising the Welcome Party, with members contributing 15 euros each. While this event is mainly for members, any non-members wishing to attend will pay the full amount of 45 euros. There is no charge if you wish to attend the AGM only.



Please RESERVE NOW, URGENTLY to cherylwrightfr@gmail.com, giving the names of people attending. I will then send you details of how to pay online or by bank transfer plus details of the venue.

DEADLINE for reservations is 1st October.

Hoping to see as many of you as possible there!

Cheryl Wright

cherylwrightfr@gmail.com

12 - 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 Saint-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 am.

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

12 - Sunday 18:45

CINÉ CLUB

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

REBECCA is a 1940 American romantic psychological thriller directed by Alfred Hitchcock. It was Hitchcock's first American project & his first under contract with producer David O. Selznick. The screenplay was based on the 1938 novel of the same name by Daphne du Maurier.



The film stars Laurence Olivier as the brooding, aristocratic widower Maxim de Winter and Joan Fontaine as the young, never-named woman who becomes his second wife.

The film is a gothic tale, shot in black and white. Maxim de Winter's first wife, Rebecca, who died before the events of the film, is never seen. However, her reputation, and recollections of her are a constant presence in the lives of Maxim, his new wife & the housekeeper, Mrs Danvers, played brilliantly by Judith Anderson.

Rebecca was released to critical & commercial success. It won 11 nominations at the Academy Awards & won two -- Best Picture & Best Cinematography.

Join us for pizza, popcorn & find out all about Manderley.

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

Deanna & Gilles

06 76 39 15 52

13 - Monday 12:00

LUNCH

Venue : Restaurant La Femme du Boucher, 10 rue de Village, 13006 Marseille Metro ligne 1 ou 2 : arrêt Castellane ou tram T3 : arrêt Rome Dragon

Plat du jour : 25 €

Entrée ou dessert + plat : 31 €

Entrée - plat - dessert : 35 €

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

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

Brigitte

bibik@free.fr



17 - 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 the 3rd.

Jean Louis

jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr

06 61 86 53 54

17 - Friday 12:00 to 14:00

DISCOVER ASIAN FOOD LUNCH

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

This month, we're exploring the rich and aromatic world of Parsi cuisine!

Originating from the Persian community that settled in India in the 7th century, Parsi food is a delightful fusion of bold flavours and warm spices—perfect for cozy autumn days.

Details on the OneList early October.
Lunch spots limited to 10 participants.



Dee

gayatripotdar@yahoo.com

19 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE

Venue: Sainte Baume

We shall meet on the village square of Nans-les-Pins and from here proceed on foot on a path which passes by the ruins of the old (8th century) village before reaching the banks of the Huveaune river. We will then follow the riverside through woodlands until we reach the "Grotte de la Castelette", which is one of the sources of the 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 the worship of saint Marie-Madeleine. We will have our picnic lunch in this area, using the possibility of having 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 return to where we left the cars.

Count on 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 water and wear proper hiking gear for autumn weather.

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



23 - Thursday 11:00

MODERN POETRY GROUP—new activity

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

In this newly formed Modern Poetry Group, we aim to discover and discuss poetry written from 1914 to the present day. This could include poets like Carol Ann Duffy, Billy Collins, Seamus Heaney and Simon Armitage.

Our first meeting (25 September) will have chosen a theme for this second meeting. I will email all members of the group beforehand. There are currently 12 members of the group, which is a good number, but would anyone else interested please contact me directly.

Angie Pyman

angiepyman@gmail.com

06 72 40 46 41

23 - Thursday 14:30

AFTERNOON TEA

Venue : Lilou's cake and bakery, 29 rue du Dr Fiolle, 13006 Marseille

Metro ligne 1 ou 2 : arrêt Castellane ou bus 41 (en direction du Rond-Point du Prado, pas dans l'autre sens) : arrêt Paradis Fiolle



<https://www.instagram.com/lilouscakeandbakery/?hl=fr>

Please let me know if you are coming by Thursday, October 16th.

Brigitte

bibik@free.fr

27 - Monday 14:00

BOOK CLUB

Venue : you will be informed of the location before the date.

This month book is *Vinegar Girl* by Anne Tyler

Please let me know if you are coming by Monday, October 20th.

Please note the books for the rest of the year :

November : *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

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](#)

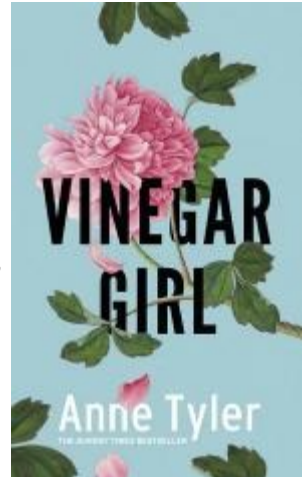
April : *The Sentence* by [Louise Erdrich](#)

May : *Dear Life* by Alice Munro

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

Brigitte

bibik@free.fr



29 - Wednesday 10:00 to 11:00

MORNING COFFEE IN SAINT REMY-DE-PROVENCE

Venue : La Maison du Bon Café, Saint-Rémy-de-Provence

This meetup over coffee is hosted by AAGP member David Carpita and/or Sue Poole from La Table des Amis de Provence.

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

No need to email or phone, just drop in.

David Carpita



31 - 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 the 3rd.

JeanLouis

jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr

06 61 86 53 54

CARD PLAYING

The October session of this activity is in « Looking Ahead”

LOOKING AHEAD-SAVE THE DATE

November 7th, Friday 18:30

CARD PLAYING

Venue : Le Darius, 115 avenue Giuseppe Verdi, Aix-en-Provence

We are moving our **October** card-playing to the first week of November, as there are a few conflicts for October 31st, Halloween. So we will have two dates scheduled in November.

We still have some new games to introduce, or we may play ones we have already learned (and perhaps forgotten over the long summer break).

Please let me know by October 24th if you plan to attend, so I can notify Le Darius of the number of participants. New members are also welcome to join us!

Paula Mullineaux 07 68 53 38 22

pmullineaux@comcast.net

FOLK EVENING AND SINGALONG

November 15th, 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 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 songs and we will also cover as many of your « old favourites » as possible.

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 opens on **Saturday October 18h** and will close on **Saturday November 8th** or before if all places are taken. A reminder will be sent out on the OneList when booking opens.

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

LOOKING BACK

9 September

Excursion to the Memorial of the Débarquement & Libération de Provence, Toulon

Many thanks to Deanna and Gilles for organizing our enriching tour to Toulon on Tuesday 9th September to the Memorial of the Débarquement & the Libération de Provence.

Following our lunch rendez-vous point at The Taverne, place de la Liberté, alongside the Place Palais, all 21 participants caught the n° 40 bus up the hills above Toulon centre to then ride the *téléphérique* up to the top of Mont Faron, surrounded by astonishing views of the bay of Toulon and the forested park.

Following a brief welcome from a museum guide, each participant enjoyed proceeding at their own pace through the superbly organized and

presented exhibits with their bilingual titles in French/English, short videos and several audio stations. I cannot recommend this excursion highly enough.

Diane Envent

Further to this excursion, we heard from a longstanding member:

In the September Newsletter, an excursion to the *memorial of the débarquement et la libération de la Provence* was announced for September 9th. Since I now reside in the USA it was not something I could easily attend but I wished I could have.

Why? It so happens that the subject has been quite a close one for many reasons, among them the fact that I was a teenager living in Marseille when the landing took place and also for the fact that I wrote a book entirely consecrated to that event.

It might interest some members to know more about this book as unfortunately very little exists about that important event of World War II, particularly about what took place in the Marseille Bay.

In a few words, capturing the port of Marseille was the primary objective of the landing as the Allies needed very badly a harbor “*en eaux profondes*” to transfer combat troops on the European front. Had this failed, the whole landing would have been a failure. But it did not fail. Thankfully there was a five-day battle to capture the three Frioul islands (Pomègues, Ratonneau and If) and obtain the surrender of the German garrison there. And I think, unfortunately, I am the only writer who has talked about it.

By May 1945, more than 800,000 GIs had transited through Marseille to join the other Allied forces.

More about the book. It is in French and written under my pen name Serge Angeric; its title is “*La guerre en France: tome 3*”.

I would be very glad to answer any questions using my email address: Sergec10@gmail.com

Serge Ciregna





SMALL ADS October 2025

PLANNING A MOVE ?

We are there for you 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 or tel : 06 44 90 83 58

HOUSE FOR SALE :

Provençal house 162m² (with pool, maisonette and outbuildings) on 6,500m² flat wooded grounds in Pourrières 83910.

Located just 30 minutes from Aix-en-Provence and 10 minutes from Saint-Maximin-La-Sainte-Baume, this property is in a quiet environment with no overlooking neighbours. This characterful property combines authenticity, independence and immediate rental potential. Charming grounds with agricultural resources, possibility for keeping animals, great potential for families and tourism.

The spacious main house, built in the 1990s, has 4 bedrooms including 1 on the first floor with an office and reversible air conditioning. Living room with fireplace, separate kitchen, pantry, veranda and garage. 2 electric water heaters and central heating via a well-maintained oil-fired boiler.

The independent 22m² maisonette is ready to rent (tourism, student let, home office or use as a guest annexe). Fully equipped - bedroom, kitchen, shower & separate toilet and reversible air conditioning.

Swimming pool (11m x 4m) with jacuzzi (requires work).

Numerous natural and purpose-built outbuildings including a stone shed with new sauna and summer kitchen.

Double garage.

Surrounding land is NOT constructible (preservation area).

Total privacy.

40 olive trees in regular production (artisan oil).

Saffron planted for personal use.

Truffle oaks (uncertified) but with potential.

Fruit trees.

Existing chicken coop.

Photos upon request.

604.000 euros

Béatrice Desmulliez

Tel. 07 62 05 77 51



Commercial@123soleil.org



Regular events

Bridge

On Tuesday 14:00
Contact Lish GOERGEN

Library

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

Useful 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.

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 or through our email address 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

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



**Gourmet
lunch**



**Asian
lunch**