



Newsletter May 2026

N° 2026 - 05



Anglo American Group of Provence

Published by the AAGP / Editor : Michel PARISOT

Distributed only to AAGP Members.

Letter from the Board - May 2026

The long warm evenings are finally here. Our cover page image, taken by AAGP member Michel Philippart, of a sunset over St-Cyr-sur-Mer perfectly captures the beauty of such evenings.

Very soon, on Saturday 9th May in fact, we shall be hosting one of our most popular AAGP evening events - the unmissable Folk Evening and Singalong. Held, as usual at the Brasserie des Platanes, just a few minutes north from central Aix, the venue provides easy access and parking. Details have already been circulated on the OneList. This event is always oversubscribed - so reserve now by emailing Elaine Blanc at eda.blanc@orange.fr. Bookings close 4th May.

Don't forget, too, that at the very beginning of this month, Sunday 3rd May, the AAGP library team is holding a book sale at our library in Pont de l'Arc. There is always a huge selection of good condition pre-loved books to suit every interest and taste. Pop along between 9.30 and 16.00 and get great tips from our dedicated library team.

On the afternoon of Monday 18th May between 2.30 pm and 4.30 pm, we have the privilege of welcoming AAGP member and published author, Janice Nagourney, who will host a presentation entitled "French Deception: How We Lie to Others - and to Ourselves". There is more information on Janice's work in this newsletter. This presentation is free for AAGP members, but numbers are limited and filling up very fast. Please email me at julieprovence13@gmail.com if you would like a place so that I can keep track of numbers.

The Board 2025/2026 :

President : **Julie WRIGHT**, Vice President and Small Groups Coordinator : **Jane STORR**,
Treasurer : **Kathleen-Carmel KING**, Secretary : **Patricia BURKHARDT**, 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**.

Looking ahead into June we have the AAGP Art Exhibition, organised by board member Michel Parisot. It will take place over the 6th, 7th and 8th June at the *mairie annexe* at Pont de l'Arc. We have an incredible 21 participating artists. Full details will be circulated again via the OneList but note the dates now. An "apéro" offered by the AAGP for this event will take place on Saturday 6th June from 5 pm onwards.

And finally, no AAGP year is complete without our annual "Summer Event"! This year we shall be holding a summer buffet and barbecue on Sunday 14th June between 12 noon and 4 pm. Details on the venue and booking date are in the Looking Ahead section. Thanks to good membership numbers and very prudent budgeting, we are delighted to announce that this event, which will include fine food and drinks, will be opened to all AAGP members free of charge. Full details will be circulated in due course - so save the date now.

To comply with our statutes, we ask that anybody interested in acting as our Board Secretary come forward and express this interest in writing before 31st May 2026. Patricia Burkhardt was nominated by the Board to carry out this function after the departure of our previous secretary, but this was after our last AGM. In line with our statutes, Patricia will be officially voted in by members at the AGM in October. Should a member wish to be considered for the role, however, we remind them that the deadline is the end of this month.

I'm personally inspired by the number and variety of events and activities that so many AAGP members regularly attend. It's particularly encouraging to see many new members coming to events, too. Thank you once again for all your support, and, of course, I would like to say a huge thank you to my fellow board members, associate board members, and all those who work behind the scenes putting everything together (including this newsletter!!)

Mille mercis

Julie Lichtlé-Wright, on behalf of the board

What's on in May 2026

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 9:30–16:00

BOOK SALE

Venue : AAGP library - behind the *mairie annexe* at Pont de l'Arc, 75 route des Milles, CD9, Aix-en-Provence

We are planning another book sale, inspired by a recent series of large donations, again in "our library" room, this time on a Sunday. You will find an especially wide selection of books for children and teens as well as fiction and non-fiction for adults at our usual low, low prices.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept any more donations for this sale.

Cathy Kirby for the library team

3 - PÉTANQUE

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



7 - 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



9 - Saturday at 17:30 for 18:00 start

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 **John Denver, Joni Mitchell and Jim Croce** as well as newcomers **Billy Joël, Linda Ronstadt and Ben Harper**.

A hot and cold buffet meal (with some new recipes!) 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 May 4th**, 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 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, songs and good company!

E2G - Elaine, Michel & Rod

10 - Sunday 18:30

CINÉ CLUB

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

Is the Frank Capra film that launched the screwball genre.

When her father threatens to annul her marriage to a fortune-hunting playboy, spoiled heiress Ellie Andrews (Claudette Colbert) hops a cross-country bus to New York, where she plans to live happily ever after with her new hubby. Romantic complications soon arise, however, when she's befriended by fellow passenger Peter Warne (Clark Gable), a brash and breezy reporter who offers his help in exchange for her exclusive story.

Winner of all five major 1934 Academy Awards - Best Picture, Actor, Actress, Screenplay and Director. A legendary romantic comedy that's still as enchanting as ever. Come for pizza, popcorn & find out that love can be zany too.

Please **R.S.V.P.** as places are limited. & note, **back to summer time.**

Deanna & Gilles - 06 76 39 15 52



11 - Monday 14:00

BOOK CLUB

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

This month book is *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich. Please let me know if you are coming by Monday, May 4th.

Please note the books for the rest of the year : June : *Dear Life* by Alice Munro.

Brigitte - bibik@free.fr

The logo for the Book Club features the word "Book" in a large, bold, teal font and "Club" in a large, bold, pink font. The text is set against a grey, stylized diamond shape that has a white outline and a slight 3D effect.

15 - Friday 10:00 to 11:30

FRENCH CONVERSATION

Venue : Le Café des Artistes, 35 place François Villon 13100, Aix-en-Provence

Our *plat du jour* will be another role-play activity: you're at a restaurant ordering for lunch, beginning with « bonjour ». Participants will take on the roles of a client and a waiter or waitress. As usual, fun is expected.

Please let me know if you are coming 48 hours before.

Jean Louis jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr 06 61 86 53 54



17 - Sunday 10:00

HIKE

Venue : Sentier Marcel Pagnol/Le Garlaban

We shall meet at the "Bar de la Boucle" which is close to the war memorial at the entrance of Les Camoins. This village is located near

the Marseille-Valentine shopping area and lies between Eoures and La Treille (where there is, by the way, a cemetery worth visiting). From Les Camoins we will take as few cars as possible to the car-park on the D44 between Eoures and Aubagne. From there we will hike to the summit of the Garlaban (altitude 714 metres). The path rises gently and there are no particular difficulties, so children used to hiking and dogs (on a leash) will be welcome. Please wear however proper hiking gear and bring plenty of food and water.

We will have our picnic lunch at some appropriate point along the way and then return to the car-park, taking the same path. Expected hiking time is about 4 hours in all.

All those wishing to come are invited to call me the day before between 18h and 20h on

06 60 61 08 65, at which time I will know for sure if this venue complies with all the regulations prevailing.

Many thanks.

Roderick MACLEOD.



18 - Monday 14:30 to 16:30

PRESENTATION BY JANICE NAGOURNEY

French Deception: How We Lie to Others - and to Ourselves

Venue : AAGP library, Pont de L'Arc, 75 route des Milles, CD9, Aix-en-Provence

Janice Nagourney - an American AAGP member with a fascinating life in France and abroad, will share some of her rich life experiences with us and how this led her to create the *French Deception Series*.

The *French Deception* series begins in the rarefied world of high-end art, before descending into theft, betrayal, and murder.

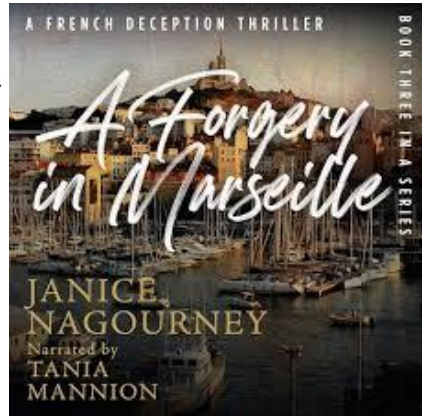
From Paris to Lyon, Marseille, and Toulouse, the story culminates in Montenegro—unfolding a trail of revenge, fractured memory, and a

troubled search for identity.

As past and present collide, one truth becomes unavoidable: no one escapes what they've tried to bury.

A little background information on Janice:

After many years in Paris, Janice felt the pull of something new—a change of light, of rhythm, of life. Within months, she was boarding a TGV bound for Marseille. Same country, yet worlds apart: Paris, the cool, refined elegance of the north; Marseille, the sun-drenched, golden heartbeat of the south. At the same time, Janice immersed herself in the distinct charms of Lyon and Toulouse, two cities brimming with architectural beauty and cultural depth.



Settling into life in Provence, Janice became an active member of the Anglo-American Group of Provence (AAGP), where she participates in the book club and enjoys a wide range of cultural and social activities—further deepening her connection to the region and its vibrant community.

Janice says, “My goal in writing the *French Deception* series was to tell a story that offers an authentic, unsentimental view of French society, where the protagonists’ adventures are seen through the prism of these four cities. Paris was a natural place to begin, but I wanted to inspire readers to go farther afield—to visit and experience the richness of the provinces.”

Places for this presentation are filling up very, very fast - so please email Julie Lichtlé-Wright at julieprovence13@gmail.com to confirm your place.

Julie Lichtlé-Wright

21 - Thursday 10:30

MORNING COFFEE

Venue : Café Joyeux, 14 place du Général de Gaulle, 13001 Marseille

Metro ligne 1 - Arrêt Vieux Port



<https://www.cafejoyeux.com/fr/content/131-cafe-joyeux-marseille>

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, May 15th.

Brigitte - bibik@free.fr

21 - Thursday 12:00 to 14:00

DISCOVER ASIAN FOOD' LUNCH

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

Gado-gado (literally meaning 'mix-mix' in Bahasa Indonesia) is a Malaysian/Indonesian salad that is just that - a mix of textures, colours & flavours that come together with a delicious peanut sauce !

The warm spring weather and the abundance of vegetables in the market makes this the perfect dish for May - cooked and raw veggies served with a side of spicy chilli oil. Lunch spots limited to 10 participants.



Email Dee at gayatripotdar@yahoo.com to reserve.

Dee

22 - Friday 18:30

CARD PLAYING

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

Come join us for an evening of card-playing; the games are fun and always easy to learn for newcomers.



Please let me know by **May 15th** if you plan to attend, so I can notify Le Darius of the number of participants.

Paula Mullineaux - 07 68 53 38 22 +1 240-602-7978

pmullineaux@comcast.net

27 - Wednesday 10:00 to 11:00

MORNING COFFEE IN SAINT-RÉMY-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



27 - Wednesday 10:30

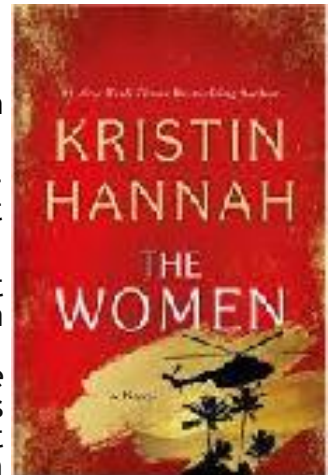
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Venue : Home of Patricia Burkhardt,

210 Parc Mozart, Bâtiment 5 Debussy, Aix-en-Provence

The Women: A novel by Kristin Hannah, presented by Jane Williams, Patricia Burkhardt and Hilary Collins

This is a historical novel where we meet Frankie, a shy and privileged 20-year-old from idyllic Coronado Island, San Diego. However, she starts to wonder if there's something more for her. And when one of her brother's friends mentions to her, "women can be heroes," it changes everything for Frankie. Her life of an army nurse during the Vietnam War and her homecoming after her tour is the central theme of the novel.



When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. From day one she realizes that she has been totally ill-prepared for the traumatic environment of a war zone field hospital in Vietnam. She grows up quick as she develops

her nursing skills and makes lifelong friendships. There's also a potential romance or two, however, that also brings their own complications. The second part of the book focusses on Frankie's return home. There is no hero's welcome for her, and she slowly realizes she is facing another type of war.

Email your requests to participate in the discussion to:

Hilary Collins 07 65 26 87 08 collinshilary@yahoo.com

Patricia Burkhardt 06 21 06 14 64 patricia.m.burkhardt@gmail.com

Hilary Collins

29 - Friday 10:00 to 11:30

FRENCH CONVERSATION

Venue : Le Café des Artistes, 35 place François Villon, 13100 Aix-en-Provence

Our *plat du jour* will be another series of sentences randomly selected from a novel to be read aloud so that participants can note what they understand. As usual, fun is expected.

Please let me know if you are coming 48 hours before.
Jean Louis - 06 61 86 53 54

jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr



29 - Friday 12:30

LUNCH

Venue : Brasserie O'Parc, 1 boulevard Michelet, 13008

Marseille— Metro ligne 2 - Arrêt Rond-Point du Prado

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

Please let me know if you are coming by Friday, May 22nd.

Brigitte - bibik@free.fr



LOOKING AHEAD - SAVE THE DATE



From Saturday June 6th morning to Monday June 8th noon

AAGP ART EXHIBITION

Venue : Salle des Réunions, Mairie Annexe, Pont de l'Arc, 75 route des Milles, CD9, Aix-en-Provence

Hello to all artists and art lovers! The AAGP is organizing over the weekend of June 6th, 7th, and 8th its second "art exhibition" for its

members, from established artists to complete beginners. Whether you **paint, sculpt, model, knit, sew, build, or practice any other craft**, you are invited to participate in this exhibition.

If you only wish to visit, please come and meet other members, exchange ideas, and perhaps discover new inspiration.

Over 15 of us have already signed up to display our paintings, art work and sculptures.

The exhibition will be held in the meeting room, ground floor, mairie annexe du Pont de l'Arc (where parking is easy Saturday and Sunday).

All questions at mitch131pari@gmail.com. I hope we will see you there! *Michel Parisot*



Sunday June 14th from 12:00 to 16:00

AAGP SUMMER BUFFET & BARBECUE

Venue : Restaurant LE NOMAD. 29, Chemin des Infirmeries, Aix-en-Provence.

Save the date! All information on this popular event and how to reserve your place will be sent to you via the AAGP OneList at the beginning of May. Reservations start beginning of May as well.

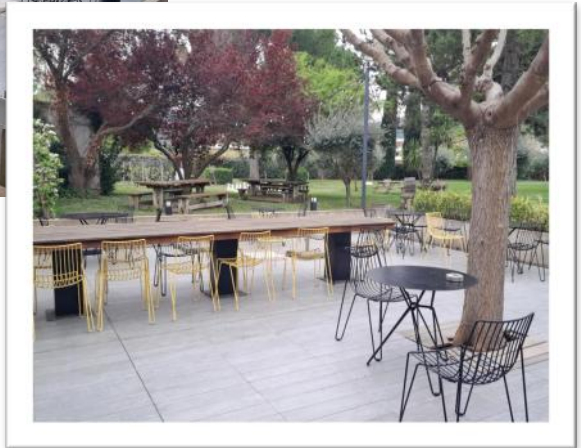


Restaurant LE NOMAD

Jean Louis

jeanlouis.morgenthaler@sfr.fr

06 61 86 53 54



Sunday September 6th in Luynes - 18h

Second OPEN MIC' NIGHT

Join for a drink, or practice and come one, come all!

Michel Parisot



LOOKING BACK

Great Quiz Night!

The Quiz Night on March 21 was a real success, with a lively and friendly atmosphere from start to finish.

Sticking to the theme of seasons and elements, the competition picked up pace as teams put their knowledge (and quick reactions) to the test.

There were plenty of laughs along the way, and just the right amount of friendly rivalry to keep things interesting and spark great fun. The dynamic atmosphere was expertly kept in check by Jean Louis, Lish, Jana and Joseph, our ever-composed MC, who skillfully navigated the lively crowd and ensured everything ran smoothly despite the rising excitement. A big thanks to all of them!





QUIZ NIGHT



SMALL ADS May 2026

RELOCATING ? Move effortlessly with your friendly experienced Belgian mover

Luxury Moving, Relocation and Art Storage (FD Platinum)

Luxury moving concierge services, luxury storage and art storage tailored for individuals and businesses worldwide.

Your local contact : jpdelahaye@yahoo.com or tel : 06 44 90 83 58

FREELANCE BUSINESS ASSISTANT REMOTE / HYBRID

Business Assistant available for administrative, marketing and HR work either on-site or remote.

Professional with over 25 years experience working for top level organisations such as Oxford University and Haines Watts Corporate Finance.

Email or telephone Stephanie Austin for more information

Email : stephaniempaustin@gmail.com

Tel. : 06 89 29 95 49

EVOLVE MINDS - PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY, ONLINE & IN PERSON

Hypnotherapy uses a relaxed, focused state to shift unhelpful patterns of thought and behavior - often more quickly than traditional therapies. It can help with anxiety, stress, phobias, low confidence, sleep difficulties and major life transitions.

Contact : Mei Yee Lam at Evolve Minds

Email : evolvemindsinfo@gmail.com

Website : evolve-minds.com/hypnotherapy

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

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"

email: 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

← QUIZ NIGHT

Chez Dee ↓

