

*Founded
1989*



*French
Association
3035*

July 2020 Newsletter

*Events, activities, news
and reports for members*



Bee – Nouvelle Aquitaine
Photograph by Steve Marshall

Times they are a changing – little by little progress is being made and social distancing meeting is becoming the new norm.

In this month's newsletter you will see the beginnings of new movement in the Group – but not yet enough to herald the return of the 'Calendar' ! However, hopefully we can put some firm dates in hand by next month.

Read the 'Upcoming Events' and note them on your own calendar; read the reports on past video events, see if you can help out with urgent requests from Members, at the end of the events and check your answers for last month's Cryptic Letter Quiz. We have added a short Word Quiz for this month. Answers to be published in the August Newsletter.

Enjoy the peace and the sunshine and keep well and when you are ready and able, come and join in the events planned.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Photo Group
On Zoom

Tues 7th July

2.00 pm



The next meeting of the Photo Group will be concentrating on the theme of light source. If you are attending, please let Steve Marshall know in advance and he will send you an invitation - and don't forget to forward two photos on one of the following themes:

- A light source within the picture – candle, moon, etc.
- Still Life - an object or collection thereof
- Inspiration from one of the Old Masters paintings shown by Anthea at the last meeting.

Book Library Wed. 15th July 2.00 – 4.00 pm Scillé
Joyce Roberts



Held at Joyce's every other month and otherwise at another willing member's home, in order to make our vast library of books readily available to GT members to borrow, July's Library Club will be at Joyce's house. There is plenty of space to view the boxes of books and social distancing and the usual precautions will be adhered to,

We would ask that all members who are in possession of a box of books please attempt to attend if possible to ensure a turnaround of books for all members.

Northern Walk Fri 31st July 10.30 am Echire Leslie and Neil Ritchie



Back in March, before we were so rudely interrupted, the GT Northern walk was scheduled to be a 90 minute stroll (approx 6 kms then, wouldn't you say) along the banks of the River Sevre. This is now going to mark the July resumption of GT ambulatory activities.

Some things are as before. The meeting point will be the visitors' car park at Chateau Coudray-Salbart, [Chemin de Salbart,79410 Echire](http://www.coudraysalbart.fr).

You will find a map and GPS coordinates at www.coudraysalbart.fr (more detailed directions if you need them can be obtained via the contact details below)The only shorter walk option on this occasion is to turn around part way and retrace your steps, although I suppose the bold and fearless can opt to swim across the river.

There are no toilets anywhere on this walk, but your guides will bring a mobile lav in the shape of their camper van and there are plenty of trees and hedges to hide behind for those who don't mind an al fresco toilet break. The major difference this time is that it is proposed that the midday nosh-up will be a picnic so participants will need to bring chairs and a table if you want one a of course some food and drink to consume. If anybody prefers a restaurant they will need to book this themselves and if you want advice on those in the vicinity use the contact details below.

Chateau Salbart will be open on this day so anybody wanting to complete their outing with a visit to an ancient monument will be able to do so. See the website mentioned above for further info.

GT Bar-B-Que This popular event will be taking place this year – probably late August/early September. Full details will follow in the course of the next few weeks, when the necessary preparations and precautions have been analysed and acted upon! Watch this space.

Southern Area Walks The walks in the Southern half of the Region will commence again in September – again please watch this space for further details.

REPORTS ON RECENT EVENTS

Second Reading **3rd June 2020**
Circle



On Zoom

Report by Helen Horton

The Second Reading Circle have once again gone into the virtual meeting room known as Zoom and we have been given a virtual insight into their book review.

On Wednesday 3rd June, six member of the Second Circle book club met, online, to discuss *The Mystery of Henri Pick* by David Foenkinos, the first on the Walter Presents library . The general consensus of the group was that this is a good summer read, quite entertaining but if you are looking for depth then this is probably not the book for you. It was acknowledged, however, that some nuances may have been lost in translation and no one had read it in it's original (French).

The plot, set in the small town of Crozon, in Brittany, centres around a novel discovered in the local library, the special feature of which is a collection of manuscripts that have been rejected for publication, a concept based on the Bibliotheca Non Grata. The seemingly unlikely author of said novel is the, now deceased, local Pizzeria owner whose only previous known writing had been notes to his daughter when in her teens and a tenuous link to Pushkin, a copy of whose writing is mysteriously found in the late pizza parlour owner's possession. The discovery of this hidden 'masterpiece' is made by a young editor and her aspiring, although struggling, journalist partner whilst holidaying in Brittany. The subsequent twists and turns of the plot take the reader on a curious journey which gives an interesting insight into the publishing industry's role in constructing the found masterpiece as a best seller.

The Interweaving of a disparate set of characters is imaginative, although as individuals, they lack depth, presenting more as cardboard cut-outs; and the descriptive passages, in places, are similarly bland. Overall, however, as a pastiche of a mystery writing genre *The Mystery of Henri Pick* is entertaining and worthy of the category 'books to read on a long flight' – that is, if anyone is actually going anywhere at the moment!!

**Photographic
Group**

June 2020

On Zoom

**Report by Steve
Marshall**



The Photo Group are currently meeting every fortnight via the Zoom network.

The June meetings were comprised of sessions on shutter speeds. This involved participants sending in photographs based on the fastest and slowest shutter speeds of the individual's camera to compare the different results obtained.



Flower in a Shower.

Comparisons were also made on how the Old Masters used light in their paintings and how this consideration could be used in photography today.

Based on the themes of presented over the month's discussions, pride of place on photographic contributions were given to Howard Needs – Poppy and Tim Carlyle –

**Lunch and Wine
Group**

Tues 23rd June

Le Tallud

Michele Hansford



On Tuesday 23 June, after a 3/4 month gap, the Lunch Club was once again able to meet in person. We were welcomed in very sanitary conditions by Keith and Diane and had the chance to try 3 very different wines of South West France along with some starters and desserts to match the region. It was so good to be able to meet up and chat in person and not to be separated by our computer screens! We will obviously have to get used to the new conditions but at least it is summer and we can gather outside and easily maintain our social distancing. At the moment the 'new normal' isn't too bad.

APPEALS TO ALL MEMBERS

The first appeal is from the Get Together Committee for information leading to the recovery of the GT Gazebo! It has not materialised from use last year and is now needed to be put in readiness for the GT BBQ. If anyone has knowledge of its whereabouts would they please let Martin know. Many thanks

THINGS TO PONDER

As you know, we have been giving you little tasks to challenge your grey cells during Confinement. The answers for the June Quiz are listed below and following on from that are a few Anagrams and Cryptic Clues for you to consider in your own time. Have fun.

Cryptic Letter Quiz for June - Answers

No.	Cryptic	Answer
0	24 H in a D	24 hours in a day
1	26 L of the A	26 Letters of the Alphabet
2	7 D of the W	7 Days of the Week
3	7 W of the W	7 Wonders of the World
4	12 S of the Z	12 Signs of the Zodiac
5	66 B of the B	66 Books in the Bible
6	52C in a P (WJ's)	52 cards in a pack – without Jokers
7	13 S in the USF	13 Stripes in the US Flag
8	18 H on a G C	18 Holes on a Golf Course
9	39 B of the OT	39 Books of the Old Testament
10	5 T on a F	5 Toes on a Foot
11	90 D in a R A	90 Degrees in a Right-Angle
12	3 BM (S H T R)	3 Blind Mice – See how they run
13	15 P in a R T	15 Players in a Rugby Team
14	3 W on a T	3 wheels on a trike
15	11 P in a F T	11 Players in a Football Team
16	12 M in a Y	12 Months in a Year
17	13 - U F S	13 - Unlucky for Some
18	8 T on an O	8 Tentacles on an Octopus
19	29 D in F in a L Y	29 days in a leap year
20	27 B in the N T	27 Books in the New Testament
21	365 D in a Y	365 Days in the Year
22	13 L in a B D	13 Loaves in a Baker's Dozen
23	52 W in a Y	52 Weeks in a year
24	9 L of a C	9 lives of a cat
25	60 M in an H	60 minutes in an hour
26	64 S on a C B	64 squares on a chess board
27	6 B to an O in C	6 bowls to an over in cricket
28	1000 Y in a M	1000 years in a millennium
29	9 P in S A	9 provinces in South Africa
30	100 C in a M	100 centimetres in a metre

Extra Things to Ponder in July!

ANAGRAMS

Sorting out and putting away	– 7 letters
A driver went astray but completed the course	– 7 letters
Possibly get Ray to go round	– 6 letters
Be all atremble, but brave it somehow	– 7 letters
Truce – it's a crime if one breaks it	– 9 letters
Couples from Paris	– 5 letters

CRYPTICS

English invader who could be obtuse	– 5 letters
Agree to study a dog	– 6 letters
Gymnastic animal	– 5 letters
Insect with a lot to learn	– 8 letters
Shorten a game of cards	– 7 letters
Now is the time to be generous	– 2 words 10 letters in total

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Lucie Rees 79400 St. Maixent L'Ecole

Non – GT News

Cancer Support Deux Sevres

aims to improve the lives of people affected by Cancer in Deux Sevres
CSDS direct number is 06 40 77 27 35
or contact Cancer Support France on freephone number 0800 240 200
or email Cancer Support France on helpline@cancersupportfrance.org
Cancer Support France will forward your details if you need local support

Emergency Phone Numbers

- 15** SAMU (Medical)
- 17** Gendarmes
- 18** Pompiers (Fire Service – also trained for Medical Emergencies)
- 112** European Emergency Number

Don't Forget to Download the 'In Case of Emergency' Leaflet off the Get Together website, gettogether-france.org, move your mouse to 'information', then click on 'Useful Links'. You will find the ICE leaflet at the top of the list. Why not keep a copy by your phone and in your car.