

*Founded  
1989*



*French  
Association  
3035*

## **July 2021 Newsletter**

***Events, activities, news  
and reports for members***



**Flowers at La Fleche by Sally Warden**

### **From the President:**

*With the Covid restrictions easing and our starting to return to normal activities we would like to remind members that we encourage friends and visitors to join us, a practice we have long encouraged.*

*To potential members we offer two complimentary events, but should they wish to continue to enjoy our membership benefits then we request that they join and pay the appropriate membership fee.*

*We encourage new members from outside the Deux-Sevres, this includes members from overseas who may visit France from time to time'*

*Towards the end of summer we are going to organise a central location 'summer' event. If anyone within 15 kms of St Maixent L'Ecole would like to host this event please contact the Newsletter Editor a.s.a.p. The committee will help you with the organization and setting up.*

*Lastly, we would like to welcome **Peter Murray** to the GT Committee as our new Southern Coordinator and new members **Julia and Ian Burley** from St Sauvant and **Karen and Paul Beresford** from St Aubin le Cloud*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fine Wine	Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	19.45 hrs	Chez Moulesdale
Photo Group	T.B.C.	14.00 hrs	
Reading Circle 2	Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	10.30 hrs	Chez Helen – La Bourse
Southern Walk	Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30 hrs	Montjean

- **Next Committee Meeting** **Wed 7<sup>th</sup> July**
- **Final Copy Date May Newsletter Items** **Mon 26<sup>th</sup> July (gtnewsletter79@gmail.com)**
- **for publication on** **Fri 30<sup>th</sup> July**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Fine Wine Tasting - Wed 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 - 19.45 hrs - Keith Moulesdale



As things start to get back to some sort of normality Wine and Lunch club are looking to kick things off with our Fine Wine tasting event, which we had to postpone from November last year.

It will take place on the evening of Wednesday 30th June 2021 at Diane and Keith's home, 19:45 hrs for a 20:00 hrs prompt start!

The cost is €10 per head, including nibbles and of course four fine wines. There is a limit of 10. **SOLD OUT!**

Second Circle    Wed 21<sup>st</sup> July    10.30 hrs    Chez Helen – La Bourse    Lesley Ritchie

We welcome new members. We are currently 6 women and 2 men, with a few other less regular attendees. We meet in each others houses approximately once a month for a discussion about all sorts of books.

**If interested please contact Lesley Ritchie**

In July we are reading “**The Frequency of Us**” by **Keith Stuart**, a BBC 2 Between the Covers book club pick.



In Second World War Bath, young, naïve wireless engineer Will meets Austrian refugee Elsa Klein: she is sophisticated, witty and worldly, and at last his life seems to make sense . . . until, soon after, the newly married couple's home is bombed, and Will awakes from the wreckage to find himself alone.

No one has heard of Elsa Klein. They say he was never married.

Seventy years later, social worker Laura is battling her way out of depression and off medication. Her new case is a strange, isolated old man whose house hasn't changed since the war. A man who insists his wife vanished many, many years before. Everyone thinks he's suffering dementia. But Laura begins to suspect otherwise . . .

## Request from your Southeren Coordinator



If anyone would like to organise a future walk, please contact Peter directly

Peter would also like to start offering longer walks from September in a central location to the Deux Sevres (to start with) please contact him if you have any suggestions or you would like to orgaize one.

### GT Southern Walk - Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 10.30 hrs Montjean – Linda and Peter Bains.

The route of the walk will be relatively level and be some variation on the walks we have done in the past depending on weather and mud conditions. It will leave from and return to the restaurant. Walking will start at 10:30 am and lunch will be at 1pm.

Lunch wil be at le Relais de la Peruse Montjean .

The 4 course lunch including wine will cost 15€.

At the moment the restaurant is limited to 20 people but their is every chance this will increase later.

Car parking is available opposite by the tennis court. The bar will be open in the morning for non-walkers.

The renovated Salle des Fetes is reopening in July so there should be decent public toilet facilities, probably better than in the bar ?

Please contact Peter or Linda to book your place.

### Photo Group - Date T.B.C

At the last photogroup meeting we had an interesting discussion on copyright but no viable way forward was agreed. We moved on to viewing our challenge....to take pics of buildings. This followed the talk of the previous meeting on interesting buildings. The two main winners were Howard and Martin, who is happy to see his picture of a working farm building on the newsletter.

The next meeting was to be a photo shoot on the 28th unfortunately based weather forced it to be cancelled. No further definite arrangements have yet been made.

Please contact either Steve Marshall or Roger Amsden if you are interested in improving your photography, everyone is welcome.



Photograph by MARTIN HUGHES 1

### Photo Group – 24 May 2021 Report by Steve Marshall

Tim Carlyle presented on the subject of buildings and architecture, including tips on getting the best images.

It was reported that the GT Committee had decided two things:

- that individuals who live permanently in the UK and can therefore only join in the **Photo Group sessions via Zoom must pay the membership fee\***; and
- that from the end of June GT will no longer pay for Zoom.

We discussed copyright and the difficulties created by publisher's using photographs without permission. Steve said he had and would provide GT with advice on managing member's images based on his understanding of UK and French copyright law.

We looked at member's photographs on the subject of 'Landscapes'. The winner was Richard Hooker's Frosty Bench with Anthea Libby's Winter Lane a very close second. Runners up were Tim Carlyle's Beach and Howard Needs' Snow Scene..

The challenge for next time is up to four photographs of buildings and architectural features.

The next meeting will take place on Zoom at 1400 on 14 June.

### **Report on the Picnic, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June, L'Absie By Gloria Miles**

Just like an emerging butterfly GT has opened its wings in the bright sunlight to welcome in the remainder of 2021. Save that the weather was not kind and continued from where we left off in 2020!

Originally there were to be nearly thirty of us but due to the extended restrictions and relocation eighteen of us arrived for our picnic at Eric and Michele's, panniers packed to the full. Time of arrival - 12.30. On cue the first drops of rain were felt at 12.31.

Not to be deterred indoor facilities had been prepared and we repaired to the games barn for GT aperos served in our own glasses followed by our picnics.



Importantly it was wonderful to see old friends and welcome three new members Michele, Karen and Paul.

A raffle was run by Diane and Keith and €120 raised for Young Lives v Cancer [the new name of CLIC Sargent] following the recent, sad death of their grandson.

Lastly, we must say a BIG thank you to M and E for all their hard work in making the event rain proof and thoroughly enjoyable.

It was good to be back.

Photograph by Eric Hansford

### **Northern Walk Report     Friday June 25th     Fenioux     by Bob Seager**

In the Forestière de la Reculée the birds were gently tweeting – no, not that sort of tweeting – to each other, probably saying that it was about time the sun shone to dry out their nests after the rotten weather of the past few weeks. But what was that curious noise approaching – could it possibly be the creaking of 20 pairs of GT knees, some of them taking their first exercise since the dreaded lockdown had begun.

Louise had adhered to the first rule of walk organisation – the sun was shining gently, not too hot, not too cold, just right. After we had all gathered, well, nearly all, some of us having made a tour of the district to give our cars some extra exercise, we strolled off at a sedate pace through the wood land, making the occasional detour around muddy patches left from the recent excessive precipitations. One obstacle required a certain amount of agility, and most of us skipped



Photograph taken by Louise Tamblin 1

gaily over a fallen tree, but one of our number decided to do an imitation of Roy Rogers on it (you know who you are, Michelle).

After a pleasant easy walk, most of us repaired to the Café des Belles Fleurs in Fenioux, where we enjoyed a satisfying meal, a nice ending to our first tentative footsteps back towards what we all hope will be normality, and a precursor to many more such enjoyable events.

Our thanks go to Louise for arranging this outing for us.

## [NON GT](#)

### FRENCH RESIDENCY

ALTHOUGH THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021, IF YOU HAVENT DONE SO ALREADY - WE URGE YOU TO REGISTER AND APPLY FOR RESIDENCY IF THIS IS YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE.

#### 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](mailto: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](http://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.

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