

Founded
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French
Association
3035

August 2024 Newsletter



I wonder how many of you have booked to go and how many, like me, will be watching on the television. I do remember from previous years that French and UK TV show different sports!

Either way, enjoy the event and may the sun shine on us all especially after the beautiful but the astonishingly wet opening ceremony.

A couple of weeks ago Annette and I went to a meeting organised by Reaction Theatre Group. This involved a number of local Anglophone Associations wishing to support other associations in the area of the Deux Sèvres and the Vendée in their fundraising events, to raise the profile of each organisation, to encourage support and new members and to pool ideas and resources. All groups wanted to encourage and increase French participation. Those present were : Reaction Theatre, The Funny Farm, Association Violet, CCSG, GT. If you belong to a group that might be interested in being included, please let us know.

At the end of this month's Newsletter you will find a couple of flyers to advertise GT, encouraging possible members to contact us.

We would appreciate it if you would print out a few copies and distribute in local bars/restaurants/shops or among your friends.

Calendar of Events

Reading Group.	Aug 28 11.30	Chez Yvonne, Le Retail
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The Bookbinder of Jericho by Pip Williams

When the men leave for the Western Front, Peggy and her friends must shoulder the burden at home.

As she moves between her narrowboat full of memories and the demands of the bookbindery where she works, Peggy's dreams of escaping for a new life feel ever more remote.

But the war brings people together in unexpected ways. New friends and lovers offer new opportunities but also present difficult choices – and Peggy must write her own story.

As always the meeting is followed by a bring and share lunch. Please contact Beverley if you plan to attend, letting her know what you will be bringing. New members are always welcome.

Wine and Lunch Club 10 Sept. 11.30 Sevret

Just a reminder: with rare exceptions this is always the first Tuesday in the month

The September meeting will be hosted by Dorothy and Alan at their home in La Maissonnière, Sevret. This is a rare exception: Second Tuesday!

The theme of the meeting will be wines from the South West of France. Food to be brought should be a starter, cheeses or a dessert preferably from that area but must at least be French. Contact Diane to discover which items are needed are covered and to avoid duplications. A small charge is made to cover the cost of the wines, usually around €3 -4.

We accept a maximum of 14 bookings on a first come first served basis, due to restriction on size of host's houses and the number of reasonable tastings from a bottle of wine, but in the event of over-subscription anyone who cannot be accommodated will be offered first refusal for the following meeting.

If you would like to book to join us or would like more information please contact Diane & Keith. You do not need so to be a culinary expert, it is just a fun social gathering with a lot of chat and lots to eat and drink so why not come along and give it a try?

Niort Horse-racing Sept 15 14h30

This is not a GT activity, but since some of us will be there we thought we would share the info. We haven't been for a few years - since Covid - but it has always been a fun afternoon, better when shared with friends.

Parking is free, entry for men €6, women and children free! There is a bar with snacks available and also a restaurant that you have to book the week before.

Betting is not obligatory but is cheap - a couple of euros I think. There are 5 races - this session is trotting - starting at about 2.30. This is NOT Ascot: dress for the weather, silly hats not required.

We often go for a meal afterwards - there is an all you can eat Asian restaurant not far from the hippodrome: Sunday evening it opens at 7pm, 19.90pp (not sure if that includes drinks or not)

GT Event Reports

Reading Group **June 26** **report by Beverley Lockett**

Before the Coffee Gets Cold by Toshikazu Kawaguchi and Geoffrey Trousselot

This was a marmite book - the room was split between those that liked the book and those that didn't. Interestingly there was also a split between those that listened to audio version and those that read it - reading it seemed to be easier because you could get to grips with the Japanese names and multiple characters.

Getting to grips with the characters and how they were all related was an issue and we discussed the fact that the translator's job is very hard and if it isn't done well then you can lose something of the original text, particularly the cultural aspects.

Against the book was that rules of time travel were repeated a lot and this felt forced and it felt a bit clumsy (though this could have been the translation). On the plus side of the book it was warm, it showed a community loving and supporting each other. The journey / story with the character who had Alzheimers was insightful and caring.

Words used to describe it:

Community
Compassion
Tenderness
Disjointed
Absurd
Timeliness
Repetitive

See a Marmite book!

GT Summer Event **July 21** **report by Suzette Jeapes**

We had an amazing time at the Annual GT summer event last weekend, despite a few showers. The atmosphere was fantastic! Everyone brought a

sharing plate and their picnic baskets, and we enjoyed a wonderful variety of food and drink by the river in Jilly and Dave's beautiful gardens...

The garden games were a hit, featuring Molky, Giant Jenga, Hoop the Leg, and our famous horse racing game! The horse racing raised a fantastic amount of €158 which was presented to Association Violet. Every centime going directly to support local disabled children.



Thank you all for coming! If you missed it this year, keep an eye on your newsletter for the 2025 date.

For more photos, see the Facebook page: GT Social Group Deux Sèvres

About @Association Violet:

Association Violet is dedicated to supporting children with lifelong disabilities and their families in the Deux Sèvres region of France. Through various fundraising events, they provide essential services, therapies, and equipment to those in need.

What3Words

This is an app for your smart phone which we find extremely helpful when seeking out rural venues.

Use the internet to read: <https://what3words.com/ways-to-use>.

It is to be recommended

Next Committee meeting ? though much communication via WhatsApp and email!
Next Newsletter will be early: August 23rd, as we are off on our travels yet again - retirement is such a challenge!

For walks in the Deux Sèvres take a look at www.tourisme-hautvaldeesevre.fr

Charities we support:

Cancer Support Deux Sèvres

Aims to improve the lives of people affected by Cancer in Deux Sèvres

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

Association Violet

Supporting Children living with lifelong disabilities - this is a local charity run by Suzette Jeapes, an active GT member.

Association Violet HQ – Moulin Poussard, Saint Pardoux Soutier or find them on Facebook

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.

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Flyer to print is on the next page!

- BOOK CLUB - WALKS & LUNCH - FINE DINING EVENINGS - BOWLING



get together has a variety of different monthly events. Something for everyone.

All our events are Member-Led and have various different locations around the Deux Sevres.

- if you have an idea for a get together and want to do it with other people, then let us know and an email will go out to other members to ask if they want to participate. Give as much info as possible like if there is a cost involved and the possibility of car-sharing.

Whether it be a night at the cinema, theatre trip, bowling or a monthly swim, golf game or day at the coast..... doing it with friends, old and new, makes it much more fun!

JOIN US for JUST €12 per couple/€7 per single per year

----- CUT HERE & pop in your envelope with your cheque L'ordre GET TOGETHER -----

NAME:..... COUPLE or SINGLE:
EMAIL@..... CHEQUE TOTAL: €.....

Send to: GetTogether: 18 La Revaliere, 79200 LeTallud or email us on gtnewsletter79@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Find us on facebook GT social group deux Sevres ~ or our website: http://www.gettogether-france.org/

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- HISTORY TALKS

- QUIZ NIGHTS

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