



British Association of the Var

Putting people and social needs together since 1998

Association Loi 1901 No: W831001750

www.baofthevar.com

December 2014

Newsletter

No 151



The Committee of the British Association of the Var, and the Newsletter Team, send their best wishes for a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year to all members.



Visit to Musée de l'Artillerie, Draguignan



Well worth a visit, at least the 22 members and friends thought so and we recommend personal visits. We enjoyed VIP treatment with the Curator giving a guided tour in his very French English with an interesting and at times humorous discourse. His welcoming speech described us expats as adopting a French attitude with Gallic gestures, complaining and looking miserable.

Having been introduced to some very old and big cannons we spent time looking at one whose development was the best of its kind and won a technological race between France and Germany. This happened between 1884 and 1934 and was a reminder of a similar race between the USA and Russia, the space race. The gun in question is a 75 mm field gun introduced in 1897.

For the first time gunners could sit and take aim and quickly reload the gun firing at a rate of 20 rounds per minute and mastering the recoil problem normally associated with firing previous models. This was achieved with a hydro-pneumatic chamber that dampened the recoil and returned the barrel to the firing position. At the same time new ammunition was available for this gun. Not pleasant but effective. These high impact shells detonated with a time delay. There were also shrapnel shells, smoke shells, incendiary and toxic shells. These were detonated in the air at a fixed distance. This gun was the pride of the Republic and is still used to fire 21 rounds after a presidential election.



The tour was followed by an excellent presentation by Andrew Buchanan on the subject of the discovery of an Argyll and Sutherland Highlander lost during the battle of Loos during WWI. This was briefly described in the September Newsletter.



The group then went on to lunch at the restaurant "Au Vieux Figuier" in Draguignan where Rob Flanagan, Chairman of the BAV presented a cheque in the sum of 5000€ to the Royal British Legion, represented by Andrew Buchanan, for the assistance of British former service men and women in the Var. At the lunch Michael Wharton and Maria Bell read a couple of moving poems regarding the Great War and Michael also read a poem written by Ann Mitchem's granddaughter.

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Forthcoming Events

Committee Meeting
8 December

Christmas lunch at St Aygulf
6 December

Lunch at Cotignac
16 January

AGM in Le Muy
18 March

Christmas Lunch

(reminder for those who have booked)

Hosted by the St Aygulf hotel on 6 December at 12 noon. The hotel is on the coast road, on the right as you approach St Aygulf from Fréjus.

Lunch in Cotignac

Our January event will take place in the centre of the pretty village of Cotignac at the Hostellerie de Cotignac, 2 Cours Gambetta, where we shall have lunch at 12 noon at a cost of 23€ for members and 25€ for non-members, including a glass of wine.

Menu

Demi homard
ou

Duo de saumon et foie gras

Grenadin de veau au poivre vert
ou

Cuisse de canard à l'orange

Fromage sur lit de salade

Nougat glacé
ou
Gâteau du jour

Please send your payment and booking form as usual, before 10 January 2015.

Parking may be available in the small square adjacent to the Hostellerie, otherwise there is a large parking area in the Place de Boules.

Coffee Morning – Cotignac

A coffee morning was held on a gloriously hot autumn day on 17 October at the delightful home of Bill and Jean Naisbitt amid wonderful views across the local countryside. Those who attended also gained from Bill's comprehensive gardening tips. About 20 members attended and were confronted with an impressive array of delicious cakes and pastries.

We are pleased to report that the event raised a grand total of 265€ from donations and the sale of books and Christmas cards. Our thanks go the Bill and Jean for hosting this event.

If you would like to hold a similar event at your home in the New Year please contact us at chairman@baofthevar.com.

Montauroux - Coffee Morning

Having enjoyed a wonderful Indian summer in the Var, members were confronted on 4 November with some of the worst weather that could be thrown at them when going to Sandie and Geoff Docherty's coffee morning. However, there was a very good attendance with members and friends having the opportunity to browse the BAV books and purchase Christmas cards.

Our thanks go to Sandie and Geoff for hosting this event which raised a handsome 255€ from donations and sale of books and cards. chairman@baofthevar.com.

Membership

If you have not returned your Membership renewal form this will be the last Newsletter you will receive. We hope you will stay in membership and contribute to the welfare and social programme. If you have decided to leave us and have not told us why, it would be helpful to know the reason.

Michael and Peter

Desperate to Stop?

call Alcoholics Anonymous

24 hour helpline –

08 20 20 02 57 aa-riviere.org

"What's On" Guide

Zenith Oméga, Toulon: 0892 700 840

www.zenith-omega-toulon.com

Opera House, Toulon: 04 94 93 03 76

www.operadetoulon.fr

Draguignan Theatre: 04 94 50 59 59

www.theatresendracenie.com

Forum Theatre, Fréjus and Centre Culturel, St

Raphaël: 04 94 95 55 55 www.aggloscenes.com

December 2014

3 Dec Salernes, Cinéma la Tomette. Chicago Blues Festival – film. 21h00. 25€

5 Dec Grimaud, Place Vieille. Fête des Lumières. 18h30. Free. 04 94 55 43 83

6-7 Dec Rayol-Canadel, Domaine du Rayol. Fête de l'Hiver – garden festival. Free. 04 98 04 44 00

6-7 Dec Fréjus, Le Clos des Roses, RD37. Marché de Noël. 04 94 52 80 51

7 Dec Lorgues, Château de Berne. Journée des Saveurs d'Hiver. 04 94 60 43 60

12 Dec St Raphaël, Salle Félix Martin. Pop and soul concert. 21h00. 13€. 04 98 11 89 00

13 Dec St Raphaël, Salle Félix Martin. Blues/rock guitar concert. 20h30. €18. 04 98 11 89 00

13 Dec St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume, Le Croisée des Arts. Couer du Cordue – mediterranean music and dance. 20h30. 15€. 04 94 86 18 90

14 Dec Lorgues, Eglise St Victor. Ensemble Chorale de Lorgues – concert.

14 Dec Draguignan, Salle Malraux. Adventi Voci – concert. 17h00

14 Dec St Raphaël, Basilique Notre Dame. Concert de Noël – Esterelencos choir.

14 Dec La Garde Freinet, Chapelle St Eloi. Advent concert – L'Ensemble Vocal "A Piacere". 17h00.

16 Dec Draguignan, cinéma Chabran. Alice in Wonderland, Wheeldon – ballet film. 20h15. €20

17 Dec Carcès, Château. Concert "Farandole"-carols and other music, by Camerata Vocale. 19h30.

19 Dec St Raphaël, Palais de Congrès. Chamber Orchestra of St Raphaël – homage to Czech composers. 20.30. €26. 04 98 11 89 00

19-20 Dec St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume, La Croisée des Arts. Spectacle de Cirque. 20h30. 15€. 04 94 86 18 90

20 Dec Lorgues, Espace Mitterand. Concert de Noël – Ensemble Choral de Lorgues et CAD Vocale. 20h45. Free. 04 98 10 27 76

20-22 Dec St Tropez, Salle Jean Despos. Salon du Chocolat. 10h00-20h00. Free. 08 92 68 48 28

21 Dec Montauroux, Cinéma. Casse-Noisette (Tchaikovsky) – ballet film. 16h00. 20€. 04 94 50 40 30

21 Dec Régusse, Eglise St Laurent. Misa Tango – CAD Vocale. 17h00. Free. 06 80 32 10 73

26 Dec Les Arcs, Café de la Tour. Fish and chips - book by previous Monday please. 12h00. €12.50. 04 94 73 30 56

27 Dec-4 Jan Fayence, Le Grand Jardin. Salon des Antiquaires. 10h00-18h00. 6€. 04 94 76 11 11

Christmas markets throughout December in many towns and villages.

Emergency contacts:

Medical help/SAMU	15
Police/Police Nationale	17
Fire and accident/Sapeurs Pompiers	18
SOS – all services (calling from a mobile)	112
BAV Welfare phone	06 42 86 49 01
EDF English speaking number	05 62 16 49 08
Orange English speaking No.	09 69 36 39 00

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the British Association of the Var: Jeff David from Roquebrune-sur-Argens, Alan and Janice Johnston from St Aygulf and Lorraine Strong from Cotignac.



The ONLY French and UK qualified Tax & Investment consultants based in the Var

At first glance, it would appear that we have no shortage of competition, however, if you look closely, you will realise that we are the only company based here in the Var. You may also notice we are one of the very few British "certifié" (French qualified) advisers in the whole country.

If you are looking for the very best financial advice, why look any further?

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Seniors targeted

Gendarmes from Draguignan have warned that three bogus policemen have been trying to gain access to the homes of older people in our area, who may be too trusting. This also applies to electricians, plumbers and other trades. Always ask for ID, do not allow them access to your home (use a safety chain even if you have an entryphone) and if you are not expecting a visit ask the person to make an appointment to call back. Then note the car or van registration number and call the number on the card to verify the caller's identity, or alert the Gendarmerie if you are suspicious.

Sweeping health reforms to come

Patients will no longer have to pay GPs directly in part of a package of around 50 healthcare reforms that also introduces heavy fines or jail for promoting binge drinking, a dedicated GP for under-16s to combat obesity and learning disorders, plus measures to reduce smoking.

The introduction of "*tiers payant*" in 2017 is intended to allow patients to see doctors and get quicker treatment, while cutting costs. The system, which is already used by people with a "*carte vitale*" in pharmacies, will be opened to patients on the *Aide à la Complémentaire Santé* benefit from next year and across the board in 2017. It means the doctor is paid the €23 fee directly by the *Assurance Maladie*, improving efficiency and allowing better monitoring of GPs charging higher fees. GPs say this will make patients less responsible and have voted 95% against the move but a poll showed it was welcomed by 66% of people.

Patients will also get their own digital medical records in a move that dates back 10 years but has been widely ignored by practitioners. The *dossier médical personnel* will be controlled by the *Assurance Maladie* and used to avoid duplicating tests and procedures. .

“Quotes”

I don't need you to remind me of my age. I have a bladder to do that for me.

Stephen Fry

Membership renewal letters

The Membership Secretary has received some complaints from members about the high quality paper used for the renewal letters, no doubt due to their concern about misuse of BAV funds. We can reassure you that this was the result of an error by the printer, who then waived the bill completely, so we are in fact better off.

Vendange Lunch Financial Report

We are delighted to report that (subject to any late claims from Cookies) this year's Vendange lunch raised in the region of 1320€ towards the Welfare Fund. This is significantly more than in recent years and includes the receipt of 295€ from the raffle kindly donated by Barclays Bank at Fréjus. We also raised 185€ from the sale of books and cards and made a major saving by not hiring a van as a result of Lindsay Phillips arranging for the tables and chairs to be provided by the Mairie of Lorgues, for which we are grateful.

We did, of course, raise the price of the tickets for the first time in many years but we hope that the quality of the food has shown a major improvement recently and we certainly did not hear any complaints concerning the increase in cost. After all, a lunch with aperitif with tapenade, 3 courses, coffee and wine at 25€ in such delightful and unique surroundings is extremely reasonable! Many thanks once again to all cookies!.

The Bereavement Support Network of the Var (BSN)

This organisation exists to support not only the bereaved but also those who are terminally ill, and their families and friends. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from our confidential, free support, then please contact: Sandra - 04 94 84 64 89 or 06 32 35 31 24 info@bsnvar.org or www.bsnvar.org for further information.

January Sales

The official dates for the sales in the Var are 7 January to 17 February.

MEMBERS' GROUPS

The Azur Photography Group



Making an early start to accommodate the demands of the timetable, the group set off from Nice on the 'Train des Pignes' to Entrevaux. The

destination chosen for this visit is a medieval village situated in the narrow gorge formed by the River Var and offered both a spectacular train ride on the narrow gauge railway plus the prospect of photographing a village whose streets and buildings have little changed in over 500 years.

For those of a more active disposition, the challenge of ascending the steep cliff-face by the zig-zag path to the famous Citadel was available. However, on reflection it was probably better to have attempted the climb before rather than after a very enjoyable lunch at one of the local restaurants. In all a very full but satisfying 'away day' and an opportunity to explore part of the Nice hinterland.

For more details, please contact Mike Harper:
*****@yahoo.co.uk

Painting Group



Please contact Stella for details of the next painting day.

Stella 04 94 *****

Happy Boules

The boules group meets every week on Mondays at central Var locations and has lunch at 12.00 followed by boules. Whilst not formally being a BAV event, the lunches are extremely friendly and informal, typically with 10-16 people and at modest prices of 14-16€ plus wine.

If you would like to join us or find out where we are meeting (announced at the beginning of the week) please contact chairman@baofthevar.com You will be assured of a friendly welcome and you may even want to try playing boules, spare boules are always available.

Rob Flanagan

Committee Members

Chairman - Rob Flanagan

chairman@baofthevar.com

Secretary - Michael Wharton

secretary@baofthevar.com

Treasurer - Lesley Honeywell

treasurer@baofthevar.com

Welfare Coordinator - Ann Mitchem

welfare@baofthevar.com

Events Secretary - Kevin Bell

events@baofthevar.com

Publicity -

publicity@baofthevar.com

webmaster@baofthevar.com

John Lloyd

John1@baofthevar.com

Important non-Committee Members

Membership Secretary - Peter Rowson

membership@baofthevar.com 04 94 *****

Newsletter Editor - Shirley Rowson

newsletter@baofthevar.com 04 94 *****

Bumper crop for wine growers in Provence

Vineyard owners in Provence have reaped the benefits of the favourable meteorological conditions this year. The season has seen one of the best harvests in recent years. According to the Interprofessional Wine Council of Provence (CIVP), the wine harvest in the region has been excellent this season, with an increase of 11.2% on 2013 due to the weather: a wet and mild winter followed by a warm and dry spring, and hot weather in August and September. Furthermore, the recent rain showers followed by strong winds have kept mildew at bay, whilst the Indian summer this October has allowed the grapes to mature well.

Rosé is responsible for 88% of the annual wine production in the Provence and Var region, with red wine accounting for 8% and white wine 4%. Over the past 20 years, sales of rosé wine have tripled in France as well as abroad, particularly in the US.

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AUTHORS IN PROVENCE

Guy de Maupassant 1850-1893

French writer Guy de Maupassant, one of France's best short-story writers, was born near Dieppe. He began studying law in 1869 but interrupted his studies to volunteer for the army during the Franco-Prussian War. In 1871, following the war, he went to Paris. Gustave Flaubert, a good friend of Maupassant's mother, became his mentor, introducing him to the most prominent writers of the time, including Emile Zola and Henry James.



Gravure © L'illustration - Sygma

In 1880, Zola edited a collection of six short stories about war. He selected an exceptional story by Maupassant called "*Boule de Suif*", which distinguished the young writer immediately. Maupassant produced some 300 short stories, six novels, and several nonfiction books in 10 years. He drew on his own experiences in the army, and later the civil service, to write vivid, detailed stories about the military and bureaucracy, as well as class injustices, in a distinct style that influenced Zola's own writing. Maupassant's major works include *A Life* (1883), *The Rondoli Sisters* (1884), *Bel Ami* (1885) and *Le Horla* (1887).

He enjoyed visiting the Var and sailed his own yacht *Bel Ami* along the coast from Menton to St Tropez on several occasions between 1882 and 1890, one of which featured in his novel "*Bel Ami*". In another novel, "*Sur l'Eau*", he states: "The bay of Agay forms a pleasant, sheltered area, enclosed on one side by red rocks, overlooked by the semaphore at the top of the hill, and continuing towards the open sea and the Ile d'Or, so named because of its colour; on the other by a line of low rocks, and a small headland with a lighthouse to signal the entrance. [...] And a pretty river plunging into the valley from the Esterel named Malinfermet, which is as full of oleanders as a ravine in Africa." His love for the area was summed up thus: "Of all the coastline of the Midi, this is the area I love the most. I love it as if I was born here, as if I had grown up here, because it is wild and colourful and because it has not yet been poisoned by the Parisians, the English, the Americans, the men of the world and the flashy foreigners."

Maupassant contracted syphilis in his 20s, and the disease resulted in hallucinations, suicidal impulses, and insanity in his 40s. He died in an asylum in 1893.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Committee, Membership Secretary and Newsletter team wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year wherever you are. We will be pleased to see many of you at the Christmas Lunch in the St Aygulf Hotel where we are joining members of VIAC. At the time of writing it appears that we are going to be well over-subscribed and we are endeavouring to increase the capacity.

We are now all busy preparing for the AGM in March 2015 as arrangements have to be made well in advance following a strict timetable involving production of accounts, auditing, meeting the bank, production of documents etc. Please ensure that you have renewed your membership as otherwise you will, of course, not be eligible to vote or attend the meeting. We did feature a front page article in the newsletter last month requesting members to put themselves forward to join us on the Committee but regretfully, despite the focus on this and numerous previous pleas, we have received no approaches. Whilst proposals for Committee membership can be made closer to the date of the AGM it would be of assistance to us to know of any proposals well in advance.

As has been stressed previously we simply will not be able to properly service the welfare of British people in the Var if we do not have a Welfare Coordinator and similarly we may not have any financial control if we do not have a Treasurer.

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VISIT PROVENCE – places to go in the Var and beyond.

La Mortola – Hanbury Botanic Garden, Latte, near Ventimiglia

A classic estate on a promontory overlooking the Mediterranean. Conceived by Sir Thomas Hanbury, the great British philanthropist who gave Wisley to the RHS, this garden is filled with rare and unusual plants, fountains, pergolas and statues. The site is dramatic and the plant collection exotic. It is a botanic garden for the acclimatization of plants from various parts of the world, taking advantage of its ideal position and the particularly mild climate.



Thanks to the collaboration of botanists, agronomists and landscape designers - mostly foreigners - a great collection was planted, rare in Europe, with over 5800 species of ornamental, fruit and medicinal plants, with its landscaping creating a happy harmony



between buildings, gardens, terraces and archaeological items. It is best understood as a coastal woodland garden of a type which is common in Cornwall and is very popular with plant-loving gardeners. The garden is managed by the University of Genoa.

Hanbury Botanic Garden
Corso Montecarlo 43, Mortola Inferiore,
Ventimiglia
+39 0184 229507

Serre de la Madone Garden, Menton



Located in the heart of Menton, a town in southeast France with the lemon as its symbol, the Serre de la Madone garden is renowned for its rich variety of plants.

Now listed as a historic monument and completely restored, this magical place is a must-see.

Created in 1924 by Lawrence Johnston, an American passionate about botany and

architecture and famous notably for having designed Hidcote Manor in England, the Serre de la Madone is today one of the most beautiful places to visit in the Alpes-Maritimes region, and belongs to the *Conservatoire du Littoral*, or French coastal protection agency. Exotic, it is a little corner of paradise; the stuff of dreams for lovers of rare exotic plants due to the incredible variety of flora spread over seven acres of land.

Between fountains, ponds, statues, pergolas, plants from all over the world and grand staircases, the charm of the place is not slow to take



effect. It provides a setting that gives one the impression of being in another world, where peace and pleasure are the watchwords. On site, about twenty spaces called "green rooms" are landscaped and available to visit: the gardener's path, the orange grove, the court of honour, the hothouse, the mandarin courtyard or the Augustus Caesar alley... The site is vast and has many treasures to discover without delay!

Serre de la Madone

74 Route Gorbio, Menton

Tel: 04 93 57 73 90 www.serredelamadone.com

British TV in France

Thank you for the continuing feedback to the articles I have written regarding this subject.

The new Astra2G satellite will hopefully have been successfully launched on the

28th November by the time you read this. It is expected that further changes to the satellite channels may occur early 2015 as there is usually a freeze on any changes prior to the scheduled TV Christmas period. The Astra satellite signals continue to be very strong down here and thankfully many of you can still get some British TV on your smaller dishes.

Some of you using Filmon for British TV via the internet have been reporting problems with freezing during popular programmes. Hopefully they may sort this but if not, other internet options are available with many companies now offering tailored solutions specifically for those living outside the UK.

Rob Ward

French customs that confuse the Brits

Shouting at strangers: If you see two people in the Metro shouting at each other, or two motorists who have got out of their cars to shout at one another, this likely doesn't mean they will come to blows. Shouting in public, at someone who has bumped into you in the street, or even at your husband or wife, is not a big deal and is merely a way of letting off steam for many French. It may not be pretty, but it's arguably better than keeping it all bottled up inside.

Money talks: While it's changing for the younger generations, the French really don't feel comfortable talking about the apartments you or they own or how much you earn or how much you spent on your car. Even if you are very rich, showing it is disapproved of in French society. The taboo may partly stem from the ideal of social equality in French culture (although in reality there is as much class division here as in many other countries).

Tu trouble: The English language makes life far simpler by having just one word for "you". The poor French have to pick their way through a minefield as they decide whether to use the informal "tu" or the formal "vous". It's even trickier for foreigners. The golden rule is to err on the side of caution and go for "vous". And develop sneaky techniques to get the other person to say "you" first so you know how to reply.

Awkward conversation: Want to strike up a casual conversation with the gentleman at the bus stop as you wait for your ride? Fancy a chat with someone at the bar, or the woman in the queue with you at the town hall? Probably best avoided, as the French are generally a lot less comfortable with talking to random strangers than other nationalities.

Mister polite: In Britain or the United States it might be entirely normal for the bank clerk, your doctor or a car salesman to address you by your first name. In France, where formality rules the roost, it's almost unheard of. *Monsieur, Madame* or *Mademoiselle* are the norm, even if you've known each other for decades.

Bonjour: Every interaction in public must begin with a clear "bonjour", even if you are just asking directions or looking for something in a shop. In

other words, it includes the questions you'd prelude with an "excuse me" in the UK. Failure to do so puts you at risk of being reminded by a police officer, shop assistant or person in the street, that "We always say 'bonjour' before anything," or in extreme cases, a waiter refusing to serve you.

Manly 'bises': France has gay marriage and is a largely gay-friendly country, but many of those men you will see pecking each other on the cheek are probably not gay. French men often kiss their male relatives or close friends instead of shaking hands.

Happy, happy, happy new year: Sometimes for weeks (or longer) after the New Year you'll be expected to wish "bonne année" (Happy New Year) when you run into a friend or colleague you are seeing for the first time that particular year.

Soup recipes

CARROT, ORANGE AND FETA SOUP



1 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, finely chopped
4 carrots, peeled and chopped
1 garlic clove, crushed
600ml vegetable stock
Juice of 1 orange
2 tbsp chopped fresh tarragon, or frozen
100g feta cheese, crumbled

1. Fry the onion, carrots and garlic in a large pan over a medium heat for about 5 mins, to soften not brown.
2. Add the stock, orange juice and tarragon and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer gently for 6-8 mins, until carrots are soft.
3. Reserve about a quarter of the diced vegetables and blend the rest. Return puree and vegetables to pan and heat until boiling. Add some crumbled feta before serving.

SERVES 6

**British Association of the Var
Welfare Coordinator
Ann Mitchem**

04 94 *****or 06 *****

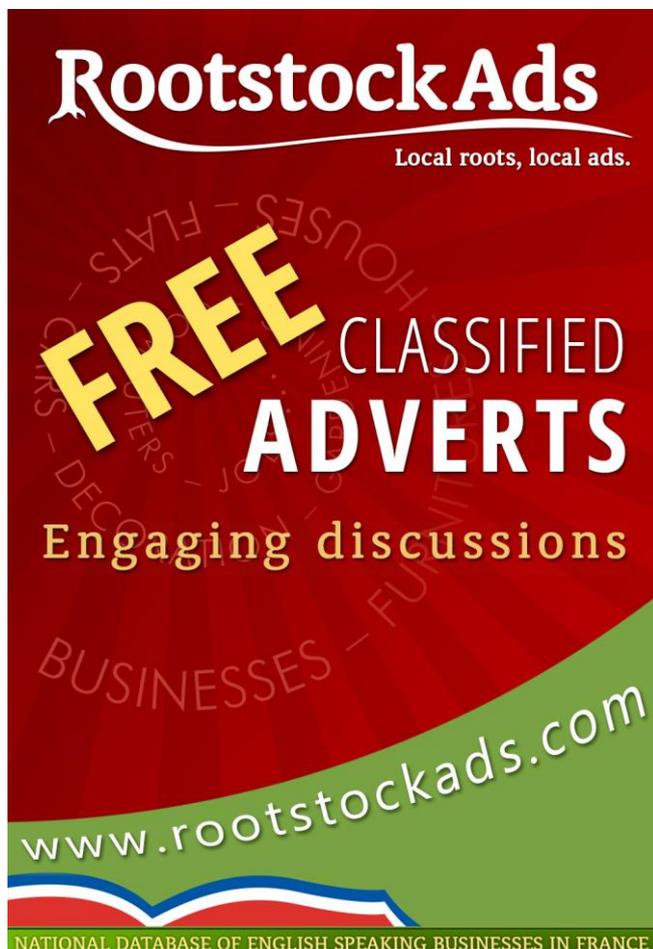
welfare@baofthevar.com

Driving Licences

Many of us moved out to the Var in the early 2000's. The English driving licence photo card that you rely on and receive with the paper copy of the driving licence is only valid for 10 years and so you may not have noticed that your licence has expired. If this is the case, it is not possible to renew the licence if you reside in France and so you would need to apply for a French licence.

This is a simple and free procedure entailing the usual form filling, and the necessary forms are usually available from your local Mairie. A word of warning - if you have committed a driving infraction the French authorities are likely to have kept a record of this and, although you may not have received a deduction of points on your English licence, you may now have points deducted. An unhappy reminder of past events!

Finally, if you hold an English driving licence and propose to hire a car in the UK you will need to present the paper copy of the driving licence otherwise the hire company may refuse car hire or charge for verifying the licence.



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NATIONAL DATABASE OF ENGLISH SPEAKING BUSINESSES IN FRANCE

The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a red background. At the top, the text 'RootstockAds' is written in a white, stylized font with a white swoosh underneath. Below it, 'Local roots, local ads.' is written in a smaller white font. The middle section features the word 'FREE' in large, bold, yellow letters, followed by 'CLASSIFIED ADVERTS' in white. Below that, 'Engaging discussions' is written in a smaller white font. At the bottom, the website 'www.rootstockads.com' is written in white, and at the very bottom, 'NATIONAL DATABASE OF ENGLISH SPEAKING BUSINESSES IN FRANCE' is written in a small white font. The background has a green and blue wavy pattern at the bottom. Faint, semi-transparent text in the background lists various categories: 'FLATS - APARTMENTS', 'HOUSES', 'COFFERS', 'DECORATION', 'JOBS', 'FURNITURE', and 'BUSINESSES'.

Benefits for BAV members

(Please show your membership card)

Cigalon, Grand Rue, Flayosc 04 94 70 45 85. Offer: complementary espresso coffee at this fine dining restaurant.

Flayosc Co-operative - 5% discount available with the special BAV fidelity card. Full range of wines and sparkling wine available together with fresh cheeses, wine accessories etc.

Le Petit Romain, opposite Casino, Salernes 04 94 67 54 11. Offer: complementary espresso coffee at this popular restaurant with a menu de jour at 14.50€.

Lei Cigales, Route de Draguignan, Villecroze 04 98 53 02 88. Offer: complementary espresso coffee in this restaurant specialising in galettes and crepes with a separate menu du jour at 13.50€.

Nathalie and Fabrice Alric Antiquities, Place de l'église, Villecroze - Offer 10% discount on a range of antique style household furnishings and a larger discount on antiques.

La Provençal, Place Martin Bidoure, Aups. 04 94 70 00 24. Free espresso coffee with meal.

Le Grand Hotel, Place du Général Duchatel, Aups. 04 94 70 10 82. Free coffee or *digestif* with meal.

Les Trois Marches, 11 Cours Gambetta, Cotignac. 04 94 04 65 99. Pretty provençal restaurant. Free espresso coffee with meal.

Hotel and restaurant L'Orée du Bois, Quartier Ste Roseline, Le Muy. 04 98 11 12 40. Free coffee or tea with meal.

New York Break, 19 rue Picot, close to Place de la Liberté, Toulon. 04 94 98 69 14 or 06 42 65 08 21. Free drink with every meal.

Aviva Insurance, Vidauban. Luc de Bardonnèche offers various insurance discounts for BAV members – see his advert in the Newsletter.

Car registration at Draguignan Sous-Préfecture

Those of you who have sampled the delights of the above service will know that it is wise to go equipped with a good book and a flask of coffee to survive the long wait, and that it is no good turning up in the afternoon as they are closed.

However, from 1 October a new office has opened which is larger and more user-friendly, including access for the disabled, and is able to process 110 people per day, although this is still between the hours of 8.30 and 11.30.

NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORKS

Cabasse, Carces, Correns, Cotignac, and Le Val

We meet as usual on **19 December** at the Cafe de
Cour, Cotignac at 10.30

Michael Wharton

07 ***** ****@cam.ac.uk

Draguignan, Le Cannet des Maures, Les Arcs, Le Luc, Taradeau and Vidauban

Jim and Pauline North have hosted this meeting since
the inception of Neighbourhood Networks and have
now decided to take a rest. We thank them for their
contribution to the BAV in giving of their time and
effort. As no-one has come forward to take their place,
this group is in abeyance until further notice.

Offers to chairman@baofthevar.com

Entrecasteaux, Salernes, Tourtour and Villecroze

The Villecroze, Tourtour etc coffee morning will be on
the **4th Tuesday of the month**, place to be announced
later.

Ann & Maurice Mitchem

04 94 ***** *****@hotmail.com

La Motte and Le Muy

Twelve of us met on a damp and grey November
morning, successfully managing the change of meeting
date to the **second Friday** of the month (thank you all
for your excellent memories!) Next meeting will be
held on Friday 12 December, 10 am at the Bar des
Cascades in La Motte.

.Alexandra Lewis-Smith

04 94 ***** *****@bbox.fr

Les Issambres

We meet **every other Tuesday** at 11h00 at L'Arpillon
café next to Casino.

Richard Tolaini

04 94 ***** or 06 ***** *****@aol.com

St Maximin la Ste Baume, Brignoles, Brue Auriac, Mazaugues, Meounes, Neoules, Ollieres, Pourcieux, Pourrieres, Seillon Source d'Argens and Tourves

We shall meet on Thursday, **18 December**
Philharmonique in the main square of St. Maximin la
Ste. Baume. We have become a friendly group of
regulars, but there is always room for more.

Diana Andre de la Porte

04 94 ***** *****@wanadoo.fr



www.baofthevar.com

See the Latest News and Forthcoming
Events on our BA website

L'Oasis Christian fellowship LORGUES part of the Anglican Church of Lorgues with Fayence in the Var

Every 2nd Sunday at 11h30 at
Arc-en-Provence, 1801 Chemin des Pailles
and **every 4th Sunday at 11h30** at
Notre Dames des Anges Maison de Retraite

We have a Bring and Share lunch afterwards.

For details or directions **please contact**
Rev Peter or Shirley Massey 04 94 73 93 37 or
06 87 94 04 83

Congregation of the Ascension MONTAUROUX part of the Anglican Church of Lorgues with Fayence in the Var

You are very welcome to join us at
**The Presbytery, 37 Rue Ste Brigitte,
Montauroux**

We meet on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of
the month at **11h00** for Family Communion
We also have a Bring and Share lunch afterwards.
Please ring Hilary Rost at 04 94 47 70 67 or
Rev Peter Massey at 04 94 73 93 37 for details
21 December – Carol Service 11h00, followed by
mince pies and mulled wine
25 December Christmas Day service, followed by
lunch. Booking essential: 04 94 47 70 67

St John's for the Var St John the Evangelist Ave Paul Doumer, St Raphaël Rev Keith Bretel

Holy Communion is held **every Sunday at 10h30**
followed by refreshments and a monthly lunch.
14 December - Nine Lessons and Carols 10h30,
followed by mince pies and mulled wine.
25 December – Christmas Communion 10h30

Grimaud Village Church

Ecumenical service at Grimaud village church on
first Thursday of the month at 11h00 from
September to June.
July and August, service at Port Grimaud church on
first Sunday of the month at 17h00.
Please ring 04 94 60 87 05 for details
Carol Service – 19 December, 19h00, followed by
mince pies and mulled wine.
www.sjevar.com

**Please let us have your Advertisements,
Articles and Reports for the January issue by
Thursday 15 December**

**All contributions to:
newsletter@baofthevar.com**

or to Shirley Rowson,

***** 83920 La Motte

When booking multiple Events at the same time, please attach separate cheques for each booking in order to facilitate the banking procedures.

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip

LUNCH IN COTIGNAC

23€ members, 25€ non-members. 16 January 2015

Venue: Hostellerie de Cotignac, 2 Cours Gambetta, 83570 Cotignac. 12 noon

Names of those attending	Homard	Saumon	Veau	Canard	Gâteau	Nougat	Member Y/N	Value €
							Donation to BAV Welfare Fund	
							Total value of cheque enclosed	

Additional names overleaf Please add contact details below as an acknowledgement will be issued.

Email address:

Phone No:

Please return this slip with your cheque made payable to BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF THE VAR

To: Kevin Bell, *** 83570 COTIGNAC by 10 January.**

***Please Note:** We appreciate the support of our advertisers and encourage members to consider using their services; however, BAV cannot take responsibility for the quality of goods and services. Before taking action in response to articles about law and finance in the Newsletter, please take advice from a suitable qualified person.*