



# British Association of the Var

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Association Loi 1901 No: W831001750

[www.baofthevar.com](http://www.baofthevar.com)

July 2014

Newsletter

No 146

## Summer Soirée



Incredibly the Summer Soirée at La Motte, being such a popular event and one of the main events of the BAV calendar, was fully booked several weeks in advance. It was one of the hottest days of the year and the warmth and conviviality of the occasion was equally matched. We thank Peter and Shirley for once again hosting the event and for the use of their garden.



Parallel with the general atmosphere of the occasion there was a boules competition for 16 pairs, using just 2 boules and scoring up to 7 only in order to finish in daylight. We would like to say that

the result reflected the skill of the boules group, but on the irregular service of the lawn luck was more in evidence. However we are pleased to say that the final game was wholly 'boules group' members and this was dominated by Marie-France and David Parkes, the winners on the evening.

The other 'winner' was the BAV which benefited in the sum of 520,83€ paid to the Welfare Fund.



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## Forthcoming Events

### Committee Meeting

7 July

### Quiz evening at Lac St Cassien

11 July

### Vendange Lunch at Lorgues

13 September

### Finance Seminar by Spectrum Group and Mike Lorimer at St Andreol, La Motte

8 October

### Commemoration lunch for WWI in Draguignan

10 October

### 10 pin bowling and Asian buffet lunch, Fréjus - November

### Christmas lunch at St Aygulf

6 December

## Lakeside Quiz Evening

Another quiz, this time in the evening in the east of the Var on the shores of the beautiful Lac St Cassien at the restaurant Les Arbousiers in Tanneron, with views of the lake. There is a beach for swimming and pedalos or canoes for hire during the afternoon. Bring your summer visitors to enjoy this unusual venue.

Friday, 11 July

Quiz at 17.30 followed by meal at 19.00

#### Menu:

Fish, chips and mushy peas  
OR

Spare ribs and chips

Cheesecake

OR

Crème caramel

WINE EXTRA - €9.50 50cl pichet

Price: €17 members, €19 non-members

Optional quiz: €5

Directions from the autoroute and Grasse /Draguignan road can be found in the June issue.

We need more teams to have a successful quiz so please sign up for this event. The deadline has been extended to 3 July. Come on you eastern Var members and guests - this is for you!

## Vendange Lunch

The annual Vendange Lunch will take place on 13 September at noon at Domaine St Marc des Omèdes, Chemin de Vaussiers, 83510 Lorgues and will cost €25 for members and €27 for non-members. The usual delicious buffet will be on offer and there will be Christmas cards and books available.

### The menu will be as follows:

#### Aperitif

#### Starter

Provençal Stuffed roast peppers

#### Main

Duck with ginger and lime dressing  
Poached Salmon with cucumber dressing.

Vegetarian quiche

Assortment of salads

#### Dessert

Range of homemade desserts.

This is always a popular event and numbers are strictly limited to 100, so book early to secure a place. A booking confirmation form will be sent out in response to the booking form, which must be brought to the event to gain entry.

If you are willing to be on the team of "Cookies" for this event, please contact Rob Flanagan - Tel: 04 94 47 22 58 or email:

[robertflanagan@hotmail.com](mailto:robertflanagan@hotmail.com)

*Please bring crockery, cutlery, and a parasol if you need shade. If you have any special dietary requirements please contact Rob, as above.*

GPS coordinates: N 43.48485 and E 6.38797.

From Draguignan on the D562 at the first roundabout on the outskirts of Lorgues turn left. BAV directions will be there. From the north/south/west go on to the D562 Lorgues by-pass to the roundabout after the Salles des Fetes and then follow directions as for Draguignan ie. Turn right at the roundabout. After approx 3km look out for 2222 Chemin de Vaussiers on the right and **new parking area** will be 100m further on your right, with BAV signs to Vendange Lunch.

**Disabled access only** – turn left into main drive to Domaine St Marc, opposite 2222 Chemin de Vaussiers

## "What's On" Guide

Zenith Oméga, Toulon: 0892 700 840

[www.zenith-omega-toulon.com](http://www.zenith-omega-toulon.com)

Opera House, Toulon: 04 94 93 03 76

[www.operadetoulon.fr](http://www.operadetoulon.fr)

Draguignan Theatre: 04 94 50 59 59

[www.theatresendracenie.com](http://www.theatresendracenie.com)

Forum Theatre, Fréjus and Centre Culturel, St

Raphaël: 04 94 95 55 55 [www.aggloscenes.com](http://www.aggloscenes.com)

### July 2014

**4 Jul Grimaud**, Concert by naval band from Toulon. 04 94 55 43 83

**4-5 Jul Tournettes**, grounds of chateau. Jazz Festival. 20h30 and 22h30. Free. 04 94 39 98 14

**4-7 Jul St Raphaël**, various venues and times. Jazz Festival. [www.saintraphael-jazz.com](http://www.saintraphael-jazz.com)

**6 Jul Fréjus**, Le Clos des Roses. Croc et Swing – outdoor jazz concert, bring your own picnic. €20 includes half bottle of wine. Booking essential. 04 94 52 80 51

**6 Jul Lorgues**, Chateau de Berne. Jazz picnic. 04 94 60 43 60

**6 Jul Le Thoronet**, Abbaye. Les Voix Animées – Dutch sacred music. 18.45. €20. 06 51 63 51 65

**6, 13, 20 Jul St Maximin-la-Ste Baume**, Basilique. Organ concert. 18h00. Free. 04 94 59 84 59

**7 Jul Gassin**, Eglise. Festival de chorale en Provence – Ukrainian youth choir. 04 94 55 22 00

**10 Jul Ste Maxime**, cinema. Manon Lescaut, Puccini – opera film. 14h30. €19.80

**10 Jul La Garde Freinet**, rue St Jacques. Classic car rally. 19h00. 04 94 56 04 93

**11 Jul St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume**, Jardin de l'Enclos. Gospel concert. 21h30. €28. 04 94 59 84 59

**12 Jul Cotignac**, boulodrome. Country and western day – cars, dancing, concerts. 9h00-18h00. Free. 04 94 04 61 87

**12-14 Jul Fayence**, Grand Jardin. Salon des Antiquaires. 8h00-17h00. €6. 04 94 76 11 11

**13 Jul Fréjus**, Cathedral. Organ recital. 21h00

**14 Jul All areas**. Fête nationale – dances and fireworks.

**15 Jul St Maximin**, parvis de la Basilique. Misa Tango (Little Jazz Mass) – L'Ensemble CAD Vocal. 21h30. Free. 06 80 32 10 73

**15, 22, 29 Jul Grimaud**, centre ville. Festival les Grimaldines.

**18 Jul Mazaugues**, Théâtre de Verdure. Classical piano concert. 21h00. 04 94 72 04 21

**18 Jul Ramatuelle**, Eglise. Romanesca – concert 2 guitars. 21h00. €12. 04 98 12 64 00

**18 Jul Montferrat**, Salle Jean-Paul Carletti.

Festival de Musique Ancienne – musical based on Moilère play. 21h00. €20. 04 94 39 06 77

**18 Jul Les Arcs**, Château Ste Roseline. Dracenuits Musicales - piano and cello concert. 20h00. €30. 04 94 99 50 30

**18 Jul Fayence**, Théâtre de Verdure. Misa Tango (Little Jazz Mass) – L'Ensemble CAD Vocal. 21h30. €14. 04 94 85 00 35

**18 Jul St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume**, Jardin de l'Enclos. 60s spectacular – music and dance. 21h30. Free. 04 94 59 84 59

**19 Jul Montauroux**, Chapelle St Bathélemy. Piano recital. 20h30. €18. 04 94 40 93 08

**20 Jul Tourtour**, église St Denis. Missa Tango – CAD Vocale. 21h30. Free

**20 Jul Les Arcs**, Château Ste Roseline. Dracenuits Musicales – piano and cello classics and jazz. 21h00. €20. 04 94 99 50 30

**21 July Figanières**, Eglise St-Michel. Festival de Musique Ancienne – Rameau, chamber orchestra. 21h00. €20. 04 94 39 06 77

**22 Jul St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume**, Place Jean Salusse. Indonesian and Moldavian choirs. 21h30. Free. 04 94 59 84 59

**23 Jul Mazaugues**, Théâtre de Verdure. Life of Franz Liszt – piano and words. 21h00. 04 94 72 04 21



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23 Jul **Les Arcs**, Château Ste Roseline. Dracenuits Musicales – a night at the opera. 20h00. €30.

04 94 99 50 30

23 Jul **Claviers**, Eglise St-Sylvestre. Festival de Musique Ancienne – 17<sup>th</sup> century music and poetry. 21h00. €20. 04 94 39 06 77

24 Jul **Callas**, Eglise Notre Dame de l'Assomption. Festival de Musique Ancienne – French Renaissance songs. 21h00. €20. 04 94 39 06 77

26 Jul **Tanneron**, Place du Village. Chamber Orchestra of St Raphael – concert. 20h30. Free. 04 93 60 71 73

29 Jul **St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume**, Parvis de la Basilique. Jazz concert. 21h30. Free. 04 94 59 84 59

29-31 Jul **St Raphaël**, Jardin Bonaparte. St Raphaël chamber orchestra concerts. Free. 04 94 19 52 52

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## Committee Members

**Chairman - Rob Flanagan**

[chairman@baofthevar.com](mailto:chairman@baofthevar.com)

**Secretary - Michael Wharton**

[secretary@baofthevar.com](mailto:secretary@baofthevar.com)

**Treasurer - Lesley Honeywell**

[treasurer@baofthevar.com](mailto:treasurer@baofthevar.com)

**Welfare Coordinator - Ann Mitchem**

[welfare@baofthevar.com](mailto:welfare@baofthevar.com)

**Events Secretary - Kevin Bell**

[events@baofthevar.com](mailto:events@baofthevar.com)

**Publicity -**

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[webmaster@baofthevar.com](mailto:webmaster@baofthevar.com)

**John Lloyd**

[John1@baofthevar.com](mailto:John1@baofthevar.com)

## Important non-Committee Members

**Membership Secretary - Peter Rowson**

[membership@baofthevar.com](mailto:membership@baofthevar.com) 04 94 \*\*\*\*\*

**Newsletter Editor – Shirley Rowson**

[newsletter@baofthevar.com](mailto:newsletter@baofthevar.com) 04 94 \*\*\*\*\*

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## New members

We welcome Andy and Cath Morgan of Villecroze to membership of the British Association of the Var.

**Desperate to Stop?**

**call Alcoholics Anonymous**

24 hour helpline –

08 20 20 02 57 [aa-riviere.org](http://aa-riviere.org)

## Chairman's Report

When we are arranging events we always try to accommodate different culinary tastes but it is rarely possible to give details of anything other than the set menu. Certainly at the Vendange lunch where we cater for ourselves we try to provide a reasonable choice for vegetarians. If therefore you have a particular dietary requirement this can often be accommodated given reasonable notice. So, when booking, please do let Kevin Bell know of your requirement in order that we can make enquiries with the restaurant in good time. Equally, if you would need transportation or are single and are concerned about coming to an event alone and 'fitting in' please let us know in advance.

The Neighbourhood Networks were established by Auriol Langen and have been a great success with new members often coming along plus other interested non-members. These are useful vehicles for discussing a variety of issues as well as meeting friends. Discussions at present always include TV reception but also many local problems, requirements for a range of tradesmen, discussing health issues etc. It may be of use in certain cases for the local NN representatives to contact the others in order to broaden the response to some issues. Equally, it may be appropriate for the NN representative to contact Shirley Rowson, the Newsletter Editor, with a view to broadening the discussion in the newsletter on a particular subject. If you need books at the NN meetings then, given notice, we can arrange to pick up a small selection from the store.

Finally, the newsletter is your paper so please let us have any ideas that you may have for articles.

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## Christmas Already?!

We are pleased to announce that, this year, for our Grand Christmas Lunch, we will be joining forces with VIAC as we have a number of joint members. We will again be hosting the lunch, this time for 60 people, at Hotel St Aygulf at midday on Saturday 6 December so please put this in your diaries. The cost will be 32€ each for members and 34€ for guests.

## Summer Sales

2014 sales dates for summer in Var and Alpes Maritimes are 25 June to 28 July.

## July Gardening Tips

The month of July in the garden :

The beautiful rose blooms will rapidly diminish. It is important therefore at this stage to cut the dead rose heads and to do this 2 leaves under the flower head. In this way it will stimulate re-growth of new shoots. This treatment applies also to flowering shrubs which should also be treated with copper based spray which is indispensable to protect the wood.

It is also time to cut back climbing plants and fix them back solidly.

Pull all weeds in the lawn and ensure that you cut the lawn higher than normal in order to avoid water evaporation.

Laurent Blanc, Le Savoir Vert, Traverse Du Moulin, Villecroze.

06 84 42 84 84     [laurent.blanc83@wanadoo.fr](mailto:laurent.blanc83@wanadoo.fr)

## Late arrival of June Newsletter

The Newsletter team apologises for the late arrival of the postal version of the June Newsletter, due to circumstances beyond our control. Our aim is to get this to you before the start of the month and we usually achieve this.

## MEMBERS' GROUPS

### The Azur Photography Group

The tranquil and picturesque backdrop of the Brague National Park near Biot provided the setting for our latest visit. In what has turned out to be an extended exercise in exploring the use of



some less familiar camera settings, equipped with tripods and various camera-related impedimenta, we made our way to a small waterfall inside the park.

The chosen location provided the opportunity to photograph moving water and try to capture the various effects that could be achieved by altering features such as aperture and shutter speed. In addition, the bright sunlight and dappled shade we experienced in the woods added to the challenges we faced.



For more details please contact Mike Harper

[Mike Harper](mailto:Mike Harper)

[\\*\\*\\*\\*\\*@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:*****@yahoo.co.uk)

### Painting Group



Please contact Stella for details of the next painting day.

[Stella](mailto:Stella)

04 94 \*\*\*\*\*

### Happy Boules



The boules group meets every week on Mondays at central Var locations and has boules at 10.00 followed by lunch. 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](mailto: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](mailto:Rob Flanagan)

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## AUTHORS IN PROVENCE

### Edith Wharton

The American novelist was raised in Massachusetts by wealthy parents. She became well known as a gifted writer, landscape gardener and interior decorator and was respected and admired by East Coast society. One of her best friends was Henry James but her meeting with F. Scott Fitzgerald is described by the editors of her letters as "one of the better-known failed encounters in American literary history". Her marriage was an unhappy one, and her husband spent time with younger women until she finally left him and came to Europe. She was a regular visitor to Europe, and came to France permanently just before the First World War, to live in Paris where French people were amazed by how perfectly she spoke their language. From Paris she launched herself tirelessly into charitable work for refugees, and incredibly for a civilian and a woman at that time, she managed to get to the Front several times, and to report on it.



As a friend of Paul Bourget who took up winter quarters every year in his Villa du Plantier in the district of Costebelle, Edith Wharton had been a regular visitor to Hyères, a reputed winter resort, since 1895. In 1927, she decided to buy a place of her own to live in Hyères and chose the Castel Sainte-Claire, dividing her time between her residence in Saint-Brice near Paris and the Castel Sainte-Claire in Hyères until her death in 1937. When she was in Hyères, Edith Wharton wrote, walked in the surrounding countryside and welcomed a steady stream of visitors, but she also took time to work on laying out the estate gardens, a task to which she dedicated a great deal of passion and which was admired by all. She is most famous for the novels "The House of Mirth", and "The Age of Innocence" (the latter written in Hyères), both describing the rich society life of New York before the First World War. The style is full of irony and gently mocking, as she analyses the way this society is slowly running out of steam. In addition there were several travelling chronicles such as "The cruise of Vanadis" (the original text of which is stored at the media library of Hyères).



Couvent Sainte Claire was built in the XVIIth century and mostly destroyed during the Revolution. It was replaced by Castel Sainte Claire, built in 1849 in a neo-Romanesque style by Olivier Voutier (1796-1877), a sailor and archeologist who discovered the famous Venus de Milo (now in the Louvre). The city of Hyères bought the estate in 1955. It is now the seat of the *Parc National de Port Cros, Conservatoire Botanique National de Porquerolles* and hosts a botanical garden, which is open to the public. See:

[http://www.hyeres.fr/parcs\\_et\\_fontaines.html](http://www.hyeres.fr/parcs_et_fontaines.html)

#### British Association of the Var Welfare Coordinator

**Ann Mitchem**

04 94 70 74 55 or 06 43 86 49 01  
[welfare@baofthevar.com](mailto:welfare@baofthevar.com)

### 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

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No pour plus voir la vraie pollution

## Driving Regulations

A reminder about requirements for drivers in France, whether resident or visiting.

### What to carry in the car

- Driving licence
- Vehicle registration document (this must be on your person and not left in the car, otherwise the insurance is invalid)
- Motor insurance certificate
- Photographic ID (driving licence or passport)
- Warning triangle – must be placed at least 50m behind the car in case of breakdown
- Reflective jacket – must be carried inside the car and put on in case of emergency
- Disposable breathalyser kit – but there is no longer a fine for non-compliance
- Set of replacement bulbs for headlights
- GB sticker or Euro-plates (for British cars)
- Headlamp converters in place at all times (for British cars)
- Snow chains if using snow-covered roads
- Kitchen sink – sorry, not yet compulsory!

### Some regulations

- Alcohol limit is 50mg per 100ml of blood, compared to 80mg in the UK. If you are over the limit there will be a fine and your car may be impounded. Any insurance normally used to get you home will be invalid.
- Speed limits: Motorways - 130km/h dry, 110km/h wet. Dual-carriageways – 110km/h dry, 100km/h wet. Main roads – 90km/h dry, 80km/h wet. Urban areas – 50km/h.
- Speed cameras: radar cameras at roadside; mobile cameras in unmarked cars; two-way fixed speed cameras that photograph the front and rear registration plates.
- Speeding fines: sliding scale depending on amount of excess speed. Fines and deduction of points. EU licence holders exceeding the limit by more than 40km/h will have licence and vehicle confiscated on the spot. Sat-nav systems which warn of the location of speed cameras are forbidden in France, with a possible fine of up to €1500.
- Seatbelts are compulsory for driver and all passengers. Child car seats are determined by weight, not height as in the UK. Children up to the age of ten must have a suitable car seat or restraint.
- Parking. Contrary to popular belief, parking on the pavement and the central reservation, in bus laybys, on pedestrian crossings, in front of entries or garage doors, and by yellow lines on the kerb is not permitted.

*We all know how well the locals observe these rules so we should follow their example!*

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

### Escoffier Museum and Renoir's house

Musée Escoffier de l'Art Culinaire, 3 rue d'Escoffier, 06270 Villeneuve-Loubet

This delightful gem is hidden in the old centre of Villeneuve-Loubet in the family house of the famous chef, Auguste Escoffier. It has been recently updated and houses exhibitions of his life and work, part of which was spent at the Savoy in London, including antique cooking equipment and utensils and menus from famous events. There is also a floor devoted to incredible spun sugar work. Escoffier is credited with being the "Godfather" of gastronomy, and invented the current hierarchy of chefs in use today.



See <http://fondation-escoffier.org> for details of opening hours, prices and access.

Renoir Museum, chemin des Collettes, 06800 Cagnes-sur-Mer



The Renoir museum is placed in the heart of a beautiful estate planted with olive and citrus trees offering a breath-taking view down the Cap d'Antibes. It was the retreat and final home of the painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir, who moved to Cagnes in an attempt to improve his arthritis. The museum's collection - painting, sculptures, artist's studio and furniture - constitute the testimony of Renoir's last 12 years of life spent in Cagnes-sur-Mer. The Renoir Museum and the whole Collettes estate fully reopened their doors on July 2013 after being closed for significant renovation work. You can now visit a completely renovated site (accessible for disabled visitors) featuring two additional rooms: the kitchen and the hall on the ground floor, where a set of 17 sculptures is displayed as well as 2 new original canvases.



See : [www.cagnes-tourisme.com/en/culture-and-discovery/renoir-museum/history.html](http://www.cagnes-tourisme.com/en/culture-and-discovery/renoir-museum/history.html)



[www.baofthevar.com](http://www.baofthevar.com)

See the Latest News and Forthcoming Events on our BA website

## New rights for customers

The **Loi Hamon** is now on the statute books, although parts of it are still awaiting a decree, and this introduces many new consumer rights. Some of the highlights are listed below:

**Insurance** – you can cancel home or car insurance policies at any time after one year, rather than the current requirement which stipulates one specific time of year.

**Guarantees** – when you buy a product the legal guarantee will be two years instead of six months.

**Restaurants** – they will be required to state on menus if dishes are made in-house or bought in.

**Cold calling** – companies can no longer hide their number when calling. The *Pacitel* list, which is supposed to protect you from cold callers but has proved ineffective, will be replaced by a new, free *liste anti-prospection* which has more teeth.

**Car parks** – from 1 July 2015 charging will be by the quarter-hour, rather than the hour, to encourage people to move on.

**Online buying or telephone sales** – there is now a fourteen day cooling-off period instead of seven.

**Glasses** – ophthalmologists must now provide on the prescription the measurement of the gap between the pupils, which glasses providers require, making it possible to buy glasses in more outlets and reduce the price.

**Contracts for services** – all firms with contracts that have a “tacit renewal” system must now send a letter or e-mail warning of the renewal date and the right to cancel.

**Class action** – not previously available in France, this allows a group of consumers with the same complaint to take legal action jointly through a consumer group.

## 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](mailto:info@bsnvar.org) or [www.bsnvar.org](http://www.bsnvar.org) for further information.

## 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.



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Mike Lorimer - Orias No. 07032481





10 years ago, Pippa Pawlik had the great fortune to buy a small house in **Seillans**. She was a professional violinist and viola player for much of her working life, but for the past 20 years has been deeply involved in the promotion of music in Europe, working with individual artists, festivals, and record companies, and most recently with the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich and David Zinman, their music director.

## Who's Who in the Var – Pippa Pawlik

It had always been my dream to put on a performance of Bach's masterpiece, the B minor Mass – a work as wonderful for the players and singers as for the listeners. Seillans has a beautiful Romanesque Church so, with the encouragement from my friend and partner, Jonathan Barker, we put the show on the road!

I coaxed my professional musician friends and a handful of good amateurs to come and have a busman's holiday in France in order to make up the orchestra. I assembled a good choir, made up mainly of my friends, and friends of people from France, UK, Germany, Switzerland and Holland – who paid to come for a musical holiday in August.

I invited the wonderful Errol Girdlestone to conduct, as he had conducted an *a capella* programme the year before, and was a terrific friend and supporter, plus he lived nearby. He continued to conduct the choir for several years after that.

It was almost by default that **Musique Cordiale** was born. We thought of the name, and through the Mayor of Seillans, met Jacques Leforestier, in charge of culture and Serge Leibovitz, President of the Tourist Office, all of whom became terrific supporters, and without whom we would not be where we are today. All the municipal buildings were at our disposal, including the Salle Polyvalente, and the church, plus a team of men in yellow outfits who were willing to move chairs and tables to anyway we wanted – mainly to the garden where we cooked meals for over a hundred people for a week - an exhausting but highly satisfying week was had by all!



The structure of the festival has now changed, and the emphasis is on combining professional players with nurturing young talent. There is an Academy for students aged 14 to 20 who work with tutors and are invited to play with the professional orchestra at the end of the week. We have a group of highly talented students from the Hochschule in Zurich, and from the Conservatoires in Lyon and Nice. Our particular relationship with the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester means we have many students from there, plus a good contingent from the London colleges.

We are now part of the 'Label' of the *Communautés de Communes* and perform in most of the *villages perchés*. This year we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> festival, and are performing Bach's B minor Mass, conducted by Graham Ross. Also on the programme is a fully staged opera, *The Barber of Seville*, conducted by Mark Austin and directed by John Savournin. There are three orchestral concerts conducted by James Lowe. We have mandoline players from the UK, pan-pipes from Geneva, and a young jazz trio from Holland. There are free lunchtime concerts every other day. Come and join us! See [www.musique-cordiale.com](http://www.musique-cordiale.com) for details.

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORKS

### Cabasse, Carces, Correns, Cotignac, and Le Val

No meetings in July and August.

*Michael Wharton*

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

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

We meet on the **second Friday of the month** at the Café de la Tour, Les Arcs at 10h30. You will find a warm welcome and interesting discussions if you care to attend. We make available a limited selection of popular English paperback novels.

*Pauline and Jim North*

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

### 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

On a very hot, early June morning, sixteen of our members met at our usual Bar des Cascades in downtown La Motte and the new proprietor of the cafe was surprised and delighted to welcome so many of us returnees and residents. We look forward to our next meeting on **Tuesday 8 July** at 10 am.

*.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 \*\*\*\*\*

### 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, **17 July** from 10.30 onwards at the Cercle 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

### 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.

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### 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**

[www.sievar.com](http://www.sievar.com)

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### 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

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### Le Pradon Congregation of the Ascension CALLIAN part of the Anglican Church of Lorgues with Fayence in the Var

You are very welcome to join us at

**Le Pradon Maison de Retraite Callian.**

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

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**. Please let us have your Advertisements,  
Articles and Reports for the August issue by**

**Saturday 15 July**

**All contributions to:**

[newsletter@baofthevar.com](mailto:newsletter@baofthevar.com)

or to Shirley Rowson,

\*\*\*\*\* 83920 La Motte

***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.*

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

**LAKESIDE QUIZ EVENING AT LAC ST CASSIEN**

€17 members, €19 non-members. Quiz €5. 11 July 2014

Venue: Les Arbousiers restaurant, 83440 Tanneron. Quiz 17h30, Meal 19h00

Names of those attending	Fish	Ribs	Cheese cake	Crème caramel	Quiz Y/N	Member Y/N	Value €
<b>Donation to BAV Welfare Fund</b>							
<b>Total value of cheque enclosed</b>							

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 3 July.

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip

**VENDANGE LUNCH AT LORGUES** €25.00 members, €27 non-members. 13 September 2014

Venue: Domaine St Marc des Omèdes, Chemin de Vaussiers, 83510 Lorgues. 12h00 Limit : 100 people

Names of those attending	Member Y/N	Value €
<b>Donation to BAV Welfare Fund</b>		
<b>Total value of cheque enclosed</b>		

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

Email address:

Phone No:

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