

British Association of the Var

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Association Loi 1901 No W831001750

www.baofthevar.co



March 2019

Newsletter

NO 201

Important AGM details

Thursday 15 March 2019

It is **very important** that those members intending to attend the AGM return the Booking Form accompanying this Newsletter.

Location: Les Pins Blancs, 2469 route de Draguignan, 83490 Le Muy

Parking is in the area inside the gates or continue past this area to additional parking.

The hotel is located at a roundabout on the Draguignan to Le Muy road close to Chateau Ste Roseline.

Schedule for the morning

10h30 - Registration

with coffee, orange juice and croissants available for members

11h00 AGM commences

AGM documents, which will be distributed 14 days prior to the meeting, will include the Agenda and proxy voting slips for members unable to attend.

Nominations for committee are now closed.

12 approx end of the meeting

Members can then stay for lunch if they have booked.

Please indicate on the reservation slip whether you are staying for lunch and send your payment of 20€. There will be a set 3 course lunch of Salade Gourmande,

Escalope Milanaise sauce aux champignons, Brioche perdue avec compotée de fruits exotiques et glace vanille.

ALL MEMBERS must complete the Registration Form prior to the Meeting.

ONLY MEMBERS can attend and no membership subscription renewals or membership applications will be accepted on the morning of the AGM.

Annual General Meeting – an important meeting in the life of our Association.

I hope you will be able to attend the AGM. It is an important meeting when the audited accounts are presented and, subject to a vote, accepted. This year the Chairman and other committee members stand to be elected. Following receipt of the papers, if you have questions then these must be put in writing. Under the item "Matters of interest" the Chairman may raise topics for discussion.

Rule 6

"Questions concerning the minutes and reports can only be made in writing and lodged with the Secretary not less than 7 days before the AGM. That is by 8 March. An appropriate person will answer. Any proposals from Members during the meeting cannot be put to the vote until the Chairman has been able to discuss with the proposer and determine if the proposal can be put to the next AGM or at a general meeting. The purpose is to safeguard the association from passing illegal or unworkable solutions.

Michael Wharton, Hon. Secretary

secretary@baofthevar.com

BLEVINS  FRANKS

Is your tax and financial planning
up to date for 2019?

Forthcoming Events

AGM
15 March

Quiz and walk in Salernes
5 April

Hog Roast in Cotignac
16 May

Bookings should not be regarded as confirmed unless you receive a confirmation from Peter Holdway, Events Coordinator.

Advance notice of a Hog Roast Luncheon at Le Grives

**4813 Chemin le Grives,
83570 Cotignac
on 16 May at 12 noon.
25€ members, 27€ non-members. More details next month.**

AGM

The **AGM** will be held on **15 March 2019** at 11.00 with coffee served at 10.30 at

Les Pins Blancs (formerly Orée du Bois),
2469 route de Draguignan, 83490 Le Muy.

Parking is in the area inside the gates or continue past this area to additional parking. The hotel is located at a roundabout on the Draguignan to Le Muy road close to Chateau Roseline. Lunch will be available by pre-booking on the usual booking form. Please indicate your attendance on the booking form.

It will be **20€** for 3 courses as follows:-

Salade Gourmande

Escalope Milanaise sauce aux champignons

Brioche perdue avec compotée de fruits exotiques et glace vanille.



www.baofthevar.com

See the Latest News and Forthcoming Events on our BA website

Walking Tour & Quiz Followed by Lunch Salernes on April 5th

Meet in the square in the centre of **Salernes**, by the boulangerie, at **10am on 5 April** for (buy your own) coffee. Then take an enjoyable stroll around the village searching for answers to the questions you will have been given.

After the stroll we will take the short drive to

**L'Etoile du Sud,
1140 route de Draguignan,
Quartier Pelcourt, Salernes
83690 Salernes**

The restaurant is just outside Salernes, on the - road to Draguignan, and we will be dining on tagine or cous-cous (pick on the day) followed by dessert. The meal includes wine but excludes coffee. Cost : 17€ members, 20€ non-members. You are recommended to wear flat shoes for the walk and numbers are limited so please get your bookings in early.

Benefits for BAV members

(Please show your membership card)

Lei Cigales, Route de Draguignan, Villecroze
04 89 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.

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.

AVIVA

Assurance et Epargne long terme

Luc de Bardonnèche
Agent Général de l'Aviva 07002860

VIDAUBAN

04 94 73 00 11
aviva-vidauban.fr

**Health insurance
Car - House - Travel**

Local insurer - English fluent - Friendly advice

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

Chabran Theatre, Draguignan: 04 83 08 30 30
www.culture-dracenie.com

Forum Theatre, Fréjus and Centre Culturel, St Raphaël: 04 94 95 55 55 www.aggloscenes.com

Mar 2019

2 Mar Montauroux, cinema. Opera film – The Daughter of the Regiment (Donizetti). 18h55

2 Mar Cotignac, Salle de Grainage. Country music and dancing. 19h30. 04 94 04 61 87

8 Mar St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume, La Croisée des Arts. Concert "Malted Milk" – blues, soul. 21h00

9 Mar Lorgues, Espace F Mitterrand. Georgian National Ballet. 20h45. 15€. 04 98 10 27 76

9 Mar Ste Maxime, Le Carré Gaumont. Ballet - Phantom of the Opera. 20h30. 28€. 04 94 56 77 77

10 Mar Vidauban, Place Georges Clemenceau. Classic car show. 9h00. 04 94 73 08 75

10 Mar Montauroux, cinema. Ballet film – Sleeping Beauty (Tchaikowsky). 16h00

16 Mar Ste Maxime, Le Carré. Female jazz singer. 20h30. 24€

20 Mar St Antonin, Chez Penny & Grove Balaam, 16, Chemin de La Nate, St Antonin 83510. Tel: 04 94 80 35 17 or 06 12 31 69 10. Travelling Book Swap with coffee and biscuits. 10h00-12h00. Email Mim Kayfor exact directions or follow the balloons! (mimi4opp@gmail.com)

22-24 Mar Grimaud, Complex Sportif des Blaquières. Salon de la Vie Autrement (Bio). 9h45-18h00. 3€

30 Mar Montauroux, cinema. Opera film – The Valkyrie (Wagner). 18h55

AGM 15 March 2019

You should now have received your AGM papers and proxy voting form. If, as I hope, you are able to attend please return the booking form in this Newsletter even if you will not be taking lunch. If not attending, then please exercise your right to vote by using the proxy voting slip. It is not necessary to vote for every item, for example not last year's minutes if you did not attend. Proxy voters are counted for the purpose of assembling a quorum and votes counted together with the votes of those actually attending so it is important that you vote.

Michael Wharton, Secretary.

Péage discount

Road users in France will now be entitled to a 30% discount off their péage payments if they make at least 10 return journeys on the same road in one month. New season tickets under the new system were made available from February 1 2019. One million people stand to benefit from the change. Overall, from February, standard péage charges have risen by between 1.8% and 1.9%, due to pre-standing contract agreements between the State and the contracted péage companies. In response to this, and in the context of the ongoing gilets jaunes grievances, the péage companies were requested to make "an effort [to] take into account the concerns of the French people over their buying power".

This is not the first time that péages have come under the spotlight since the gilets jaunes' protests began. In December, motorway company Vinci Autoroutes said it would be sending retrospective bills to all road users who passed through its péages for "free" after being "waved through" by gilets jaunes protesters blockading the booths at the time. After an outcry, the company was forced to back down, but said it had suffered "several dozen million euros-worth" worth of damage on its péages due to the movement.

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Chairman's Report

Once again, I would draw your attention to the AGM on 15 March. This usually serves to give an interesting insight into the workings of the BAV Committee. Please note that a booking is required for lunch and otherwise please advise us if you intend to come so that we know how many to accommodate. Each year votes are necessary on the day and this year will be no different except that consideration of a change in the Internal Rules and Regulations will be required and, more importantly, three of the Committee stand for re-election. The Statut of the BAV states that the Committee will comprise a maximum of 8 people. It also states that one third of the 8 will be required to stand for re-election each year. Clearly, mathematically this does not work but we have, each year, interpreted this as 3 members of Committee. In addition individual members of Committee are required to stand for re-election every 3 years.

In the past, there have been no nominations for members to join the Committee and there is simply a hand vote to re-elect Committee. Ironically, I have had to 'press gang' members into coming on to the Committee when we need additional Committee members. However, this year we have at least 4 people standing for the 3 places on the Committee and therefore the possibility of losing at least one existing member of Committee subject to a formal vote at the AGM. All 3 of the Committee up for re-election have performed critical functions within the Committee with John Lloyd and Michael Wharton (our Secretary) having joined when I first became Chairman and have closely supported me during my term of Chairmanship.

Michael has an in-depth knowledge of the documentation associated with the BAV and I have very much relied on his support. Both have been very active in various capacities, not least, in dealing with important welfare cases. Peter has been a more recent 'recruit' but has fitted in well to the role as Events Coordinator and has not only coordinated but has arranged many events. I am

British Association of the Var Welfare Coordinator

Pauline Holloway

0494702557

0677531013

Chris Gaskell

0494508762

welfare@baofthevar.com

very grateful to these 3 Committee members for their work on the Committee and services (much of which goes unnoticed by members) to the BAV. As most of the Committee have specific roles it would be necessary for any incoming Committee member to assume one of these positions. In order to endeavour to have a fair election each candidate has been asked to write a synopsis of themselves for members to consider and these synopses will be in the AGM papers.

Newsletter Index

A member recently enquired which year and month a certain article appeared in the Newsletter, and we were able to tell him as there is a comprehensive index of all articles. You can find this on the website www.baofthevar.com by going to "Newsletter Archives" section and clicking on the link under the table of dates.

Hour Change

A reminder that clocks go forward
1 hour on 30 March.



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MEMBERS' GROUPS

The Azur Photography Group



A very big thank you to Ian Powell for his fascinating talk and presentation of how to photograph drops of liquid falling into a bowl. The patterns produced were extraordinary and provided a different way of creating abstracts.

The most impressive thing to me was the trial and

error in establishing the rig needed to take the photographs and create the desired effect. It was an object lesson in patience, research and use of scientific knowledge. I doubt whether there is another member of our group who could achieve what Ian did, but his example will, I hope, inspire others of us to use our

We also now have our programme for the year up to midsummer and look forward to some exciting meetings, tutorials and outings. photos.

Alastair ROSS

Boules / Lunching Group

We are still playing Monday mornings at 10. 00. So please contact me if you wish to join us. Contact Robert Flanagan



Golf group



With people being away and the weather being mixed, there have been no get-togethers recently and normal service will probably not resume until March. I will be circulating a summary of the golf rule changes brought in this year

as they affect amateurs like us. There is a list of those interested in playing and if there are any other members, male or female, who would like to join in, please contact

Blake Long at

Cost of a driving licence in France

According to a study by French consumer watchdog UFC-Que-Choisir there is a large disparity in the amount people pay to get their driving licences depending on where you are in the country, as well as on how quickly the final driving test is passed and, of course, on which driving school you use. However the report also says the average price across the whole country is €1,804. A total of 30 percent of French people spend between €1,200 and €1,500 while 6 percent pay more than €2,000. The bulk of the expense is taken up by driving lessons, which cost an average of €1,000 and account for over 60 percent of the total cost. Prices varied between €900 and €1,300 for the obligatory 20 hours of driving practice, depending on department and driving school.

On top of that there is an average of €42.80 spent on extra driving practice, with 17 percent of French people doing additional hours before taking their test. There is also the additional cost of taking the theory test, although this is far from the most costly part of getting a driving licence. The price varies between €20 euros to learn the theory online and €150 - €300 for group classes with a trainer and whatever training you choose, you must then add €30 on top for taking the exam.

So make sure you obey the law and don't risk losing your licence.

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 77 53 10 13
EDF English speaking number	05 62 16 49 08
Orange English speaking number	09 69 36 39 00

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.

Changes for drivers in 2019

Drivers in France should be aware that certain things are going to change on the roads in 2019 that could affect them. Here's what you need to know.

Cost of breaking down on a motorway to rise

France has set base rates for the cost of having to call out breakdown services if your car grinds to halt on the autoroute and those costs will rise slightly in 2019. If you break down or have an accident on the motorway in France the price of calling out help and the towing of your car will be at least €126.93. The cost rises if the intervention lasts more than 30 minutes or if the car has to be towed to a garage over 5km away. The cost also goes up by 50 percent if the breakdown occurs between 6pm and 8am as well as on weekends or public holidays.

New all-seeing 'turret' cameras

In 2019 the French state will deploy its latest weapon to crack down on all kinds of driving offences including speeding. They are called "turret" cameras or radars *tourelles* in French.



Over the next year some 6,000 turret cameras will be deployed in France with the aim of reducing the number of road deaths and injuries

although they should also prove a nice little booster to the government's coffers. That is if the 'yellow vest' protesters don't destroy them all as they have been doing with most other speed cameras in recent weeks. The difference with ordinary speed cameras is that the "turrets" have a superior camera meaning they can pick up all kinds of driving offences, not just speeding or jumping red lights. They can detect if a driver is wearing their seat belt or using their mobile phone at the wheel and they have a range of around 100 metres. It is estimated there will be around 60 of these new cameras in each department across France by the time they have all been rolled out in 2020.

Car insurance to rise slightly

There will be a slight rise in the price of car insurance in 2019. The rise has been put down to the increasing cost of repairing damaged cars which will be added on to customers' bills by insurance companies. Experts believe the rise will be between 1 and 2 percent.

Motorway tolls to rise steeply

Motorway tolls are another item of road "furniture" that have been targeted in recent yellow vest protests with many set ablaze or destroyed by other types of vandalism. And protesters might have more reason to target them in 2019 given that the price of tolls is set to rise steeply. Part of the reason for the rise is to cover the losses caused by the violent protests.

A rise of 1.9 percent was announced by the government last December although it waits to be seen whether the hike will be implemented with the government fearful of sparking more protests.

Incentives for exchanging cars to increase

From January the financial incentives given to car owners who exchange their old polluting vehicles for new greener ones will double for those on modest incomes. The grant or prime as it is called in French will rise from €2,000 to €4,000 for the 20 percent of households on the lowest incomes and for those drivers on low incomes who have to drive more than 60km a day to get to and from work. The prime rises to €5,000 for those who buy 100 percent electric or hybrid vehicles.

Penalties for polluting cars to rise

To help finance the grants that will be paid to drivers who change their old cars for greener models the French government is to increase the financial penalties on polluting cars. Car owners whose vehicles emit 117 grams of CO2 per km will have to pay an extra €50 a year.

And finally ... uninsured drivers

If you're one of the hundreds of thousands of uninsured motorists in France, beware. From January 1st, the French police will have access to files that make it easier for them to detect uninsured vehicles on the road. Motorists driving without insurance face fines of up to €3,750 which can be accompanied by additional penalties such as the suspension or cancellation of a licence and even the confiscation of the vehicle.

Special celebrations

Could you please let the Editor know of any upcoming 80th or 90th birthdays, or any 25th, 40th, 50th 60th wedding anniversaries well in advance so they can be included in the Newsletter.



Buying a used car

A new website should take most of the risk out of buying a second-hand car in France.

The HistoVec site, launched by road safety authority Sécurité Routière, tracks the history of vehicles on the road, such as any past insurance claims, ownership changes, its technical characteristics and whether it has previously been stolen, to help buyers decide if their next car, motorcycle, truck or HGV, is safe to drive. The free government site is intended to cut the number of fraudulent sales, after a study by the Direction Générale de la Répression des Fraudes in 2015 revealed that half of all used vehicle sales involve some level of fraud. Potential buyers, through the seller, are provided with reliable information before they decide to buy a used vehicle.

Over the past three years, the Ministry of the Interior has condemned several thousand vehicles that have been sold to unsuspecting buyers following poor or incomplete repair work. From the end of the first quarter of 2019, the site - a government pledge in January 2018 - will include mileage information recorded at the most recent CT test. The administrative status certificate, which must be issued at the time of the transaction and attesting that the vehicle is neither stolen nor seriously injured, is also accessible via the platform. It cannot yet trace the past of some older cars registered before 2009, when the new vehicle registration system (SIV) was launched. For those older vehicles, a special call number has been set up.

Bargain Basement

Dog/child gate barriers

2 dog/child gate barriers, metal and extendable. SAVIC make, going free. Contact Chris Gaskell at ***. Can deliver within reasonable distance of Flayosc.

Office furniture

We have used office furniture which is no longer needed: metal filing cabinets for hanging folders, Ikea Signature office furniture, flip chart, stackable plastic boxes for papers, etc. Those interested please call: ***. To be collected from Le Muy.

Desperate to Stop?
call Alcoholics Anonymous
24 hour helpline –
08 20 20 02 57 aa-riviere.org

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the British Association of the Var: Ian and Frances Henson from Cavalaire-sur-Mer; Pollyanna Morrish, Jan Dempster-Jones and Karen Lazard from Seillans.

**Please let us have your Advertisements,
Articles and Reports for the
April issue by
Friday 15 March
All contributions to:**

newsletterbav@gmail.com

or to Shirley Rowson, ***

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 service.

Political quote

We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office. **Aesop**

Obituaries

We are sorry to report the deaths of the following BAV members: Beryl Whittaker of St Maximin-la-Ste-Baume and René-Paul Molineaux of Lorgues. We send our condolences to their families.

Committee

Chairman - Rob Flanagan
chairman@baofthevar.com

Secretary - Michael Wharton
secretary@baofthevar.com

Treasurer – Blake Long
treasurer@baofthevar.com

Welfare Coordinator –Pauline Holloway
welfare@baofthevar.com

Events Secretary - Peter Holdway
events@baofthevar.com

Publicity – Sandie Docherty
publicity@baofthevar.com
webmaster@baofthevar.com

John Lloyd

john1@baofthevar.com

Welfare Assistant – Chris Gaskell

Important Non-Committee Members

Membership Secretary – Peter Rowson
membership@baofthevar.com 04 94 50 38 46

Newsletter Editor – Shirley Rowson
newsletter@baofthevar.com 04 94 50 38 46

PACS v. Marriage

Whether you choose to enter a PACS (pacte civil de solidarité or 'civil union') or go the whole hog and get hitched in France, it's best to first find out what each scenario would mean for you and your partner. The PACS only exists in France and was introduced back in 1999 as a way of giving same-sex couple similar rights and benefits to those given to



married couples. Of course, since 2013 same-sex couple have been able to marry in France but that hasn't

stopped people, including heterosexual couples choosing to become pacsé instead. In fact back in 2008, 40 percent of PACS unions were dissolved so that the same couple could then marry but each system has advantages and disadvantages.

Here's what you need to know.

The basics

You can get out of a PACS union more easily than a marriage. Divorcing in France can be a lengthy, complicated and expensive process involving lawyers but if you are pacsé all you need to do is send an official letter off to your local court to inform them of your decision.

If you are PACS you don't have the same inheritance or adoption rights (more on that below). You can declare joint taxes, receive the tax benefits of being in a couple, transfer rental contracts between partners, and employers must take PACS into account for time off work for births, deaths, and holidays. The usual rules for being married, such as not already being married to someone else, not being related, not being of sound age and mind, also apply to the PACS. In order to become either pacsé or married you must already be living together.

Adoption rights

In France, only married couples can jointly adopt a child. That means that if you are pacsé and would like to adopt, you only have access to individual adoption which means only one of you would officially be the child's parent. In fact, adoption isn't all that easy for couples who are married, with the rules stipulating that a couple must have been married for more than two years or over the age of 28 before they apply.

Health Insurance

In terms of social protection, and particularly health insurance, pacsé couples are considered to be the same as married couples.

Pensions

On the other hand, your partner would not be entitled to your pension in the event of your death if you are pacsé rather than married even if you have children together. Meanwhile a spouse or divorced former spouse is entitled, on a means-tested basis, to a portion of the deceased's pension.

Taxes

When it comes to both income tax and wealth tax pacsé couples are treated the same way as married couples.

Inheritance

One of the biggest differences between a PACS union and a marriage in France is that if you are married, even in the absence of a will, the surviving spouse is automatically entitled to a share of the deceased's inheritance. On top of that, the surviving spouse has the automatic right to continue living in the family home. However for the surviving person in a pacsé union there is not automatic right to any of the above. Instead you would have to have written a will stipulating those conditions if that is what you would like to happen. That means that if you are pacsé then the surviving partner is not as protected as they would be if you were married however you can easily get around this by writing a will.

Caring for the homeless

Every evening, the volunteers of the association Paola Solidarités in Fréjus-Saint-Raphaël cruise the area to distribute food to the poor and the homeless. Five homeless people are waiting in front of the centre for social action. Sitting on a bench, they wait patiently, but shivering for their only meal of the day. Bernard, a volunteer at Paola Solidarités for five years, is eager to serve them a slice of pizza each. A short moment of relaxation. David nods: "After this meal, I will go back to sleep in my little corner". Where? "Sheltered". Although talkative, he does not want to dwell on his situation because tomorrow a job interview could change his life. "Please don't take my picture. I don't want the employer to know how I live. "Thirty-nine people to feed at this stop. During each trip, Ottman Boukhourou, an employee for two years, records the number of people fed, which includes a lot of regulars. Sometimes some people are missing. (cont)

Someone asks "Where is Conrad?" A shadow replies: "He's been dead drunk for three days on the beach, between the Ferris wheel and the carousel."

Next stop: Saint-Raphaël SNCF station. In the twilight, three silhouettes emerge from thick blankets. There seems to be little interest in the volunteers, except one person who swears: "Paola Solidarités - I don't give a s**t. They only give us out of date products," complains the old man. That's not true, of course, but what's the good of arguing? "At a meeting with the other volunteers, we decided that we should stop trying with him," says Ottman. "He's always aggressive. It's no use, we just wanted to help him." All the homeless are served. Even their dogs are fed. Time is running out.



The association must go to other fixed points - nine or ten in the evening - and some sites where volunteers think they will find those do not come for help. In the car park of Port Santa Lucia, they stop behind a vehicle. Ottman knocks on the glass several times. No answer. "He's completely drunk, but we're still going to serve him food," explains the employee. The man with the grizzled hair somehow takes what is offered without really understanding what it is. Before leaving, Ottman taps his door. "You take care of yourself, okay?" He shows this kindness to each of the homeless, even when some of them turn on him.

In front of the motorcycle rental agency, Quad'n'bike, Andre is on his high horse. "Why did you ask me not to bring beer when I come to see you?" he yelled. Boots on his feet, gloves on his belt, backpack on his shoulders, nothing seems to impress the character. "I'll beat you up," threatens Andre. Ottman remains stoic. How can he stay so calm? "The desire to help," says Ottman. Suddenly the atmosphere becomes relaxed again, almost friendly. Andre calms down when his girlfriend joins them. Bernard finally manages to offer them food. "Will it be on-site or take-away?" and the tour resumes...

No waste at the bakery Romain Corretel. For ten years, members of Paola Solidarités have made a detour to this bakery, every night without exception. "We give them all our baguettes and pastries that have not been sold," explains Carine

Corretel. When they arrive, the unsold ones are already stored in bags. And that night, they leave with about sixty baguettes under their arms. "Sometimes we have nothing to give them, so they come for nothing," remarks Carine. "I give Ottman what I have left."

(St John's Anglican Church in St Raphaël supports this organisation both financially and with gifts of food and toiletries every month. If you would also like to help, please contact Alexandra Lewis-Smith ***)

Tax refund scam

People are being warned about dangerous emails as scammers are already trying to take advantage of the new prélèvement à la source (PAS) at-source tax. PAS started at the beginning of the month and the Gendarmerie of the Vosges says some people have now been receiving emails claiming to be from the official impots.gouv.fr website, asking them to click on a link to access a tax refund.

For a start, the tax office is unlikely to be offering anyone tax refunds (remboursement) at this stage, since the new system has only just started (not to be confused with an instalment of money related to tax credits which IS due for many people this month). However, what is more, the tax office never requires you to click links to obtain reimbursements - if one is due to you, it happens automatically via a bank transfer or a cheque in the post.

It is likely that such links are just aimed at getting you to put personal information into a fake website, whether it be bank account or card details, confidential passwords etc. The tax authorities never ask for such information by email. In the case of the emails the gendarmerie is warning about, other factors which should be a red flag include spelling mistakes and the fact that the link to click is said to only be valid for a short period, putting pressure on you to click quickly to avoid 'missing out'.

You should delete any emails that look like this and if in doubt log in directly to your account on the impots.gouv.fr website to see if you have any message from the tax authorities there. You can also pass on details of the fraud at the site www.internet-signalement.gouv.fr or on a free telephone line 0 805 805 817

NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORKS

Cabasse, Carces, Correns, Cotignac and Le Val

Our next meeting will be on **Friday 29 March** at 10h.30 at the Café de Cour, Cotignac.

Contact: [Michael Wharton](#) ***

~ ~ ~

Entrecasteaux, Salernes, Tourtour and Villecroze

The Villecroze, Tourtour etc coffee morning will be on the last **Tuesday of the month**. Place to be announced later.

[Ann & Maurice Mitchem](#) ***

~ ~ ~

La Motte and Le Muy

We will meet on **Thursday 14 March** at the Bar des Cascades, La Motte, from 10am to 12 noon.

[Shirley Rowson](#) ***

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Les Issambres

We meet on the **first and third Tuesdays** of the month at 11.00 at L'Arpillon café next to Casino.

[Richard Tolaini](#) ***

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

We shall meet on **Thursday 21 March** from 10.30 onwards at the Cercle Philharmonique in the main square of St Maximin la Ste Baume. BAV members might be interested to see the imaginative work being carried out in our Place Malherbe. St Maximin is going to be a magnet for visitors, apart from being a fascinating medieval town, with many shops and boutiques. Wednesday market day is a must.

[Diana Andre de la Porte](#) ***

St John's for the Var St John the Evangelist Ave Paul Doumer, St Raphael

Holy Communion is held
every Sunday at 10h30
followed by refreshments and a monthly lunch

Revd Dr Tom Wilson
04 94 52 07 27

www.sjevar.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

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

We meet on the first Sunday of the month for Morning Prayer and on the third and 5th Sundays for Holy Communion. We also have a Bring and Share lunch afterwards

Enquiries please ring Rev Peter Massey at
0494 739337 or
Hilary Rost at **0494477067**

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The Committee meets each month to review all aspects of the BAV. If you have any items that you would like to be discussed please send an email to secretary@baofthevar.com. You will then be advised of the Committee's views following the meeting.

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip

When booking multiple events at the same time, attach separate cheques or make separate virement payments for each booking in order to facilitate the banking procedures.

Account details for virement payments: A/C name: The British Association of the Var.

IBAN: FR76 1910 6000 1208 3942 0000 088 BIC: AGRIFRPP891

BOOKINGS SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS CONFIRMED UNLESS YOU RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION FROM PETER HOLDWAY, EVENTS COORDINATOR.

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip
AGM (Members only) and optional lunch. 15 March

Lunch: 20€ members only

Venue: Les Pins Blancs, 2469 Route de Draguignan, 83490 Le Muy. 10.30

Names of those attending	Attending Y/N	Lunch Y/N	Value €
Donation to BAV Welfare Fund			
Payment by: Cheque	or virement	(please tick)	Total value paid

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: Peter Holdway, *** or if paying by virement please email slip to events@baofthevar.com

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip

Walk and quiz in Salernes. 5 April

Lunch: 17€ members, 20€ non-members

Venues: Walk – Salernes central square by boulangerie 10.00.

Lunch – L'Etoile du Sud, 1140 route de Draguignan, Quartier Pelcourt, 83690 Salernes. 12.00

Names of those attending	Member Y/N	Value €
Donation to BAV Welfare Fund		
Payment by: Cheque	or virement	(please tick) Total value paid

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

Email address: Phone No:

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To: Peter Holdway, *** or if paying by virement please email slip to events@baofthevar.com

British Association of the Var Reservation Slip

HOG ROAST. 16 May

25€ members, 27€ non-members

Venue: Le Grives, 4813 Chemin le Grives 83570 Cotignac . 12.00

Names of those attending	Alternative meal	Member Y/N	Value €
Donation to BAV Welfare Fund			
Payment by: Cheque	or virement	(please tick)	Total value paid

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

Email address: Phone No:

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To: Peter Holdway, *** or if paying by virement please email slip to events@baofthevar.com