THE ENGLISH LIBRARY NEWSLETTER
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VOL 4 ISSUE 11

THE LIBRARIAN

A Message from the President

Hello everybody

Last month's newsletter was about new beginnings in September. Here is another new start.

The editorship of the newsletter has been handed over to Adrian after Alan's resignation last month, so we have a new editor and a slightly new format. Many things stay the same along with some other topics which we hope you will find interesting.

Let's start with cookery. I know there are a lot of skilled cooks out there, and many gourmets who like to sample the finished products. There is a page just for you, to share your favourite recipes and discover alternatives or try something new that you hadn't thought of before.

And of course, there is the Galloping Gourmet page in which you can pass on recommendations of restaurants you have visited and enjoyed.

If you look at the bottom of the pages you will see an invitation to give your contributions. This is a newsletter for, and importantly, from all library members, so you are encouraged to join in and help make the newsletter a community resource, of interest to all. Send articles please to … editor@abav12.fr.

Sue

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JUNGLE DRUMS



It's your Library!

Opening Hours
Tuesday 10:00–12:00
Thursday 10:00–12:00

Large variety of books to choose from

Tea & coffee available

Drop in for a chat

Remember to visit your website abav12.fr for the latest library news

HELLO AND THANK YOU:

I must thank Alan for editing 'The Librarian' for the last four and a half years, now it's my turn. The format has changed further, continuing Alan's sterling work migrating from Publisher to Word, unfortunately enforced by Microsoft's decision to 'terminate' Publisher. Hopefully you will find it cleaner looking and easier to read.

As Alan said last month, "None of this would have been possible without our merry band of regular contributors" – please would each and every one of you continue to support the library by continuing to contribute – those contributions are highly valued by all.

Also, a massive personal thanks from me to Alan for helping me pick up the reins by giving me a very detailed handover session – I couldn't have done it without you!

Adrian

QUIZ SEASON RETURNS II:

Quiz season is back, the second quiz will be in the Meeting Room of the Hotel Fleurines at 18.00 on Friday 27th November.

Congratulations to the "Evil Genii" for their close win at the Halloween Quiz.

To book your place (members only I'm afraid, so why not sign up), send Sue an email at colandsuereeve@gmail.com.

NEW IN THE LIBRARIAN:

You may have spotted some new content:

Don't forget: A selection of useful reminders about what's going on this month.

Techie's Tips: a (hopefully) long-running series of plain-English tips for everyone who would rather use the internet than understand it.

Cookery Corner: members' favourite recipes, starting with a warming Flemish stew.

Household Hints: the clever little tricks that make life easier.

and more …

Send your reminders, recipes and hints to editor@abav12.fr.

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JUNGLE DRUMS

DON'T FORGET:

Frost Lag outside taps and pipes, and protect the water meter from frost: if it freezes and you hadn't protected it, the water service can charge you for a new one.

Monthly payments To pay next year's Taxe Foncière by monthly direct debit from January, sign up on impots.gouv.fr by 15 December.

Processionary caterpillars Pine processionary caterpillars can be on the move from now until spring. Their hairs cause painful reactions, and dogs are badly hurt if they sniff or lick them: keep pets and children away from the nose-to-tail lines, and never touch them or the silky nests in pine trees.

Taxe d'Habitation Second-home owners: Taxe d'Habitation notices arrive in November, with payment due in mid-December.

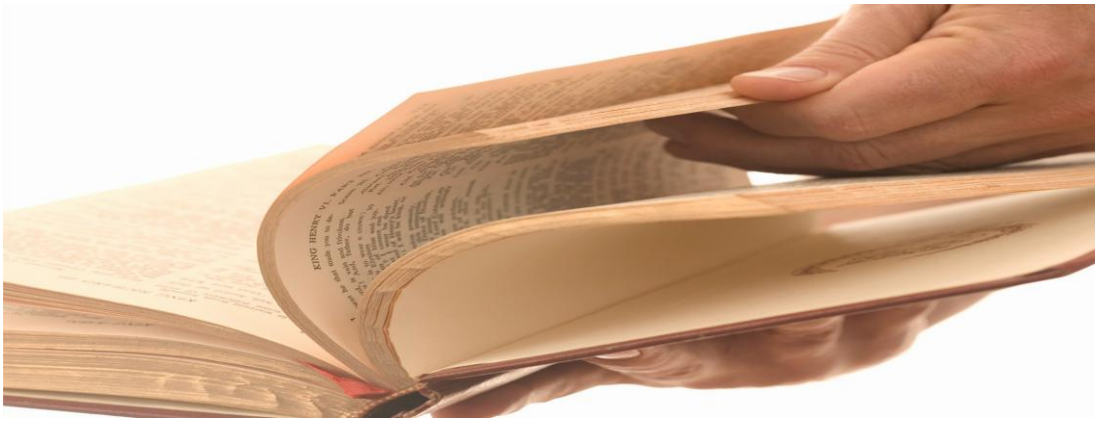
Wild boar on the roads Wild boar and deer cross the roads at dusk and dawn, more so in the hunting season. Slow down on country roads after dark, and if one crosses, expect more to follow.

Winter tyres The winter equipment rule is now in force until 31 March in mountain areas, including eastern Aveyron, the Aubrac, the whole of the Cantal and the Lozère: four winter or all-season tyres (marked with a mountain and snowflake), or snow chains or snow socks in the boot.

SOCIETY CONTACTS:

- **BRIDGE:** lesley.sharrock@gmail.com or pellalean@gmail.com
- **NEWSLETTER:** editor@abav12.fr
- **MEMBERSHIP / MAILING LIST:** membership@abav12.fr
- **QUIZ BOOKINGS:** colandsuereeve@gmail.com

BOOK REVIEW



"The Visit" by Neill Tully

Set in 1963 against the backdrop of President Kennedy's visit to Ireland this is a novel of suspense and character.

There are two linked narratives: one written in the first person and the other in the third person. Sergeant Jim Field heads up the police station in New Ross, Wexford. He is about to turn 40 and the preparation for the visit is the most onerous duty he has yet had to take on (although compared to modern day visits of Trump, it's nothing).

The other strand features Patrick Hatten a young man whom everyone seems to dislike and whom no one is prepared to help.

The two strands run parallel as Field was responsible for taking Patrick's father to an asylum, an act for which he has felt guilty ever since as Sean Hatten died there leaving young Patrick rudderless. Patrick's mother has also died and his brother left for England long ago leaving Patrick alone in the cottage and the remains of what was once a sizeable farm. Field's guilt means he is always trying to help Patrick.

Patrick is filled with rage, grief, loneliness and resentment but he has skills his father taught him. He can track, hunt and blend into nature is a remarkable way as well as knowing every inch of the surrounding countryside.

His greedy neighbour, Casey, is the rich town bully – sure that he can get his way by exerting pressure on everyone including Field. He manages to acquire Patrick's land and the scene is set for violence and revenge. This creates the tension that drives the novel's plot to the end.

Sergeant Jim refuses to bow to the illegal tactics and bullying of Casey but he knows that he is alone in trying to protect Patrick especially as he knows that he does pose a threat. He needs to prevent a disaster that would end badly.

Against that plot are set other characters in an Ireland that has vanished (or one hopes it has). Much of the writing is lyrical descriptions of the countryside and portrayals of the relationships between people.

EM

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Already on the shelves:

Percival Everett: "James"
A delightful imaginary sequel to Huckleberry Finn, featuring the slave Jim.

Percival Everett: "Erasure"
A black intellectual writes dense books which don't sell. In fury, he writes a vicious parody in street language, using a pseudonym. To his horror it is nominated for a prodigious prize.

Frederick Backman: "My Friends"
His best yet, about childhood friendship.

Minette Walters: "The Players"
This brilliant crime writer has turned to historical novels. 1685 and James 2nd wants revenge for a failed rebellion. Do not miss!

Anne Tyler: "Three Days in June"
Mum has serious reservations about her daughter's forthcoming wedding.

Mick Herron: "Clown Town"
The latest Slough House novel.

Mick Herron: "Down Cemetery Road", "The Last Voice You Hear". "Why We Die", "Smoke and Whispers"
The Zoe Boehm novels in order. A likeable kick ass private detective.

Bernard Minier: "The Frozen Dead", "Don't Turn Out the Lights"
Four books from this French bestseller have now been translated to English. Two more are arriving soon. Seriously scary!

Books coming soon:

Bernard Minier: "Night", "Songs for Drowned Souls"
Two more cases for Toulouse based Commandant Martin Servaz. Heart stopping crime stories.

Louise Penny: "The Grey Wolf", "The Black Wolf"
How can you go wrong with Inspector Ganache? In a hunt for international terrorists, it is said that these books reflect our current geo-political crises.

John Boyne: "The Elements"
This author gets better each time. Using Water, Earth, Fire and Air, he looks at different perspectives of crime, The enabler, the accomplice, the perp and the victim.

William Shaw: "The Red Shore"
Met detective Eden Driscoll seeks clues to his sister's disappearance. This is a two-parter. "The Burning Shore" is in hardback until May. Sorry.

A plea to members. Book suggestions are very welcome. However, hardback books don't fit on several shelves and they are more expensive. Can you check that your choices are already in paperback form? Thanks.

LS

MEMBERSHIP

Time to renew

Membership of the English Library runs with the calendar year, from 1 January to 31 December, and the new year's subscriptions fall due in January:

€10 per person

€20 per family

Your subscription keeps the library going: new books on the shelves, the quiz nights and socials, and The Librarian in your inbox. One payment covers the whole year, January to December.

To renew your subscription simply visit the library on a Tuesday or Thursday morning in January where the library volunteers will be happy to help you with your payment.

Alternatively, why not come to our "Mince Pie and Coffee" morning on December 15th and pay your dues then.

Any questions simply contact membership@abav12.fr.

Thank you for your support.



FEAR WORSE THAN THE REALITY

One of the problems of maturity is that we seem to spend more time in doctors' surgeries, consulting rooms and hospital departments. My life is a bit more complicated because I'm diabetic. Every few years, I undergo a full cardiac appraisal.

In early 2026, my GP gave me a letter for the checkup and told me to arrange an RDV with a cardiologist. Villefranche hospital were booked until August, but put me on the waiting list. The Cardiac Centre in Rodez was next on the agenda. From previous experience, phoning was pointless and with diesel shortages from the Iran war, car journeys restricted. In June, I had to visit Rodez, so called in.

'Our next batch of appointments starts on the 20th. Please call us.'

I tried, but found only a message in rapid French that I did not understand, then the line cut. In the car, over to Rodez, appointment made for August.

Five days before my Rodez date, I was surprised and delighted by a call from Villefranche with a slot, which I politely declined.

At Rodez, I was seen exactly on time, given an ECG and then an examination by the cardiologist. He asked all kinds of questions, dictated a letter to my GP, then said he was making an RDV with Rodez hospital for a stress test. One of his receptionists, a charming and helpful lady, made the arrangements for September, then gave me all the documentation. Fortunately, my slot was at 8.30am, so there would be spaces in the normally jammed car park.

I read both the instructions and the doctor's letter. From the latter, I found there had been an anomaly in the ECG, but I could not find out what it meant. My last stress test had involved a bike on which the specialist gradually increased the resistance, but medical tests have moved on. Now the patient is injected with Dubotamine, which simulates stress, then monitored by ultrasound. This didn't sound at all pleasant, and not knowing if the ECG blip was serious, having to wait a month to find out set my nerves jangling. I also had to cease my beta blockers 48 hours before and if my glaucoma eye drops contained this drug, as some do, stop those as well; they don't.

Once again, I was seen immediately, wired to the ultrasound and given Dubotamine via a drip. I could both feel my heart accelerating and see it on the screen, but it was not in any way uncomfortable. The specialist sounded my heart with a sonic probe. This stress part took just a few minutes, followed by further examination once the Dubotamine antidote had been administered. Huge relief – I was 100%!

I asked about the ECG and the meaning of 'onde rabotée'. One wave, 'onde', was flattened, which could indicate a problem, but was not a reliable indicator. After 20 minutes, my blood pressure was checked, the canula removed and it was all over. Throughout, it was a professional and friendly service.

And that car park? We arrived at 8am to find spaces everywhere. When we departed at 9.30, it was standing room only…..

NW

LETTERS & OPINION

FESTILITT 2026 - a review.

I have already reviewed several of the books which featured at this year's festival. On the Sunday morning each author was asked to talk about a writer who has inspired them in a session called "Coup de Coeur". We had four authors who contributed to the festival: Lara Marlowe (journalist), Niall Williams (novelist), David Lambert (multiple genres and Felicity Cloake (travel and food journalism and now fiction).

Lara read from her book "How good it is I have no fear of dying" based on her interviews with a young Ukrainian female army Lieutenant. Lara explained how the book had come about and how it had taken her a long time to make it happen. The book is very moving and brings home the desperate reality of Ukraine's fight to keep Russia at bay.

Her choice of inspiration was Apollinaire's poem compilation "Alcools" which has accompanied her through many war zones. She said reading it before bed soothed her mind.

Niall Williams talked about his novel "The time of the child" which is set in a fictional village in West Clare, a place Niall says he never wants his imagination to leave. When choosing his Coup de Coeur he discussed it with his wife who asked:

"You're not going to talk about Great Expectations, are you?" "Well alright, no", replied Niall

"You're not going to talk about Anna Karenina, are you?" "OK, no", said Niall

In the end he chose Richard Flanagan's "Question 7" which is a non-fiction work that blends memoir, historical narrative and literary reflection. He said he agreed to an Australian book tour only if he could visit Tasmania in an attempt to meet Flanagan. He succeeded.

David Lambert talked about being part Trinidadian and part Irish and how that has informed his writing about the Caribbean in his novel "The house in Bacolet". He was highly entertaining and can do all the accents and patois.

His choice for inspiration was WG Segbald a German author who has never written dialogue in any of his books and who, like Henry James, is a lover of long paragraphs. David uses dialogue to create his characters and plots so this was an interesting contrast.

Finally we heard from Felicity Cloake who is now writing fiction (which she finds easy to do) as well as travel and food journalism. Her fictional work "The underdog" reflects her very witty style as well as satirising the upmarket London restaurant scene.

Her author choice was Dervla Murphy's "Full tilt" citing Dervla's intrepid nature and ability to talk to anyone. I think Felicity has taken on her mantle.

It was a wonderful weekend with lots of energy and inspiration. Next year is the 15th anniversary and we are making ambitious plans. Watch this space.

EM

EDITOR'S NOTE: Letters and opinions are their writers' own views. Agree or disagree, but please keep replies polite and brief.

REGULAR FEATURES

Gallivanting Gourmets

The Gourmets visit: L'Auberge Sanvensa

L'Auberge Sanvensa, also known as Auberge de Marian, is a very friendly and popular bar and restaurant in the village of Sanvensa, on the D911 between Villefranche-de-Rouergue and La Fouillade. It also hosts live music in the evenings. You'll find it at Le Bourg, 28 Route de Villefranche, 12200 Sanvensa. It's open Monday to Thursday from 7am to 9pm and on Friday from 7am to 1am, but closed at weekends. Food is served at lunchtime only; in the evening it's a pub.

Do book: it's very popular with local workers, and when we turned up on a Monday lunchtime without a booking we were turned away! You can call on +33 5 65 29 82 02, or visit https://auberge-sanvensa.e-monsite.com/ (prices are out of date).

At lunchtime the auberge serves home-made dishes and local produce in generous portions. There's one set menu with no choice: take it or leave it. Our meal started with vegetable soup, brought to the table in a tureen for us to help ourselves. A smoked salmon salad came next, then a medium-sized steak, cooked to our liking, with green beans. The cheese board and bread were also help yourself. For dessert we had panna cotta with berries and a crème brûlée. A quarter of wine is included, and coffee is available, though we were too full for it. The whole meal costs €16.50 per person.

Simple, good food, delicious and plentiful, and Marian is a very welcoming hostess. Highly recommended.

GG aka ASKS

Household Hints

My husband is a bleeder. For those of you fortunate not to have seen the effects of taking cortisone steroids and blood thinners, they make the skin paper thin. A light knock causes technicolour bruising; a slight scrape releases copious amounts of blood. A serious fall? Well, imagine cleaning down an abattoir.

Of course, most of the blood ends up on clothing, especially shirts and jeans. Curiously, cleaning bloodstains is no longer a problem, thanks to a helpful hint from a dishwasher repairman some years ago.

The technician asked which detergent products we used in both the dishwasher and the washing machine. At the time we used those compressed tablets which were convenient and easy to use. Yes, the guy shook his head and sucked his teeth, as they do. Not good, we were told, especially for your fosse septique as they can cause clogging. Not great either for the machines themselves. Who knew?

So, we followed the recommendation and changed to liquid products. Since then, I've found you can reduce the dosage by about half and still get good results.

As to the blood-stained clothing, here's a shout for Ariel Ultra Detachant liquid.

Bloody marvellous!

LS

Garden Corner

The weather is great, the soil is warm and moist so you really should spend some time in the garden. There is no real urgency at this time of year, so you can spend time pottering. Two jobs you might like to do: sow some broad beans, and pick up leaves.

Broad beans sown at this time of year will give you a very early crop next year. I am not a great fan of broad beans, but young and fresh from the garden, when there is not much else, makes them a worthwhile crop. If I have too many I freeze them and turn them into broad bean soup, which really is my preferred way to eat them.

Leaves on the grass and paths we do pick up, as they make a mess of the grass and the paths become slippery. Make a big pile and leave them to rot down. On a dry day, mow the grass: the mower chops up the leaves, and mixed with the grass they rot down more quickly. I can never have enough leaf mould, so we will actively collect leaves from alongside the road. Don’t worry about leaves in the flower beds, unless you have iris or plants like lavender. For those, it is a good idea to remove the excess leaves, as they hold too much humidity, which these plants do not like.

If your garden suffered from the scorching hot summer sun, think about planting a few more small trees to give shade. It is really difficult to get information about tree roots, as you really don’t want to plant a tree which needs a lot of water or takes water from the surrounding soil and plants. Avoid the whole *Prunus* family (cherries, plums), as they tend to be shallow rooted and do just that. I can recommend *Cercis siliquastrum* (the Judas tree), *Koelreuteria*, olives, *Quercus ilex* (the evergreen oak) and *Arbutus unedo* (the strawberry tree), though it is very slow growing. I am about to try *Melia azedarach*, which I have seen growing in a garden near here. We are going to need more shade if we intend to profit from our gardens in summer. The alternative is a pergola of some kind with some climbers.

MG

COOKERY CORNER

Carbonade Flamande – Flemish stew 'my way'

2 onions (finely chopped)

1 kg beef (for bourguignon/à mijoter)

3 tablespoons flour

Salt and pepper

Big splash of red wine vinegar

440ml can Guinness

1 litre beef stock (+ water to top-up)

1 tablespoon brown sugar

2 carrots (in rings)

2 bay leaves

2 sprigs thyme

Butter

Pre-heat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4.

Sauté the onions in butter then set aside.

Trim most of the fat off the meat, cut it into small cubes, coat with seasoned flour and sauté in butter until browned all over. Add the vinegar and cook for two minutes, stirring. Return the onions to the pan with the meat, and pour in the Guinness. Stir and bring to the boil.

Add the stock and sugar and bring to the boil.

Add the carrots and herbs.

Put it all in a casserole and into the oven for 3-4 hours. Keep an eye on it and top-up with water if required.

Traditionally served with chips (fries), but it also goes really well with crushed new potatoes or mash. Go healthy, add a green veg.

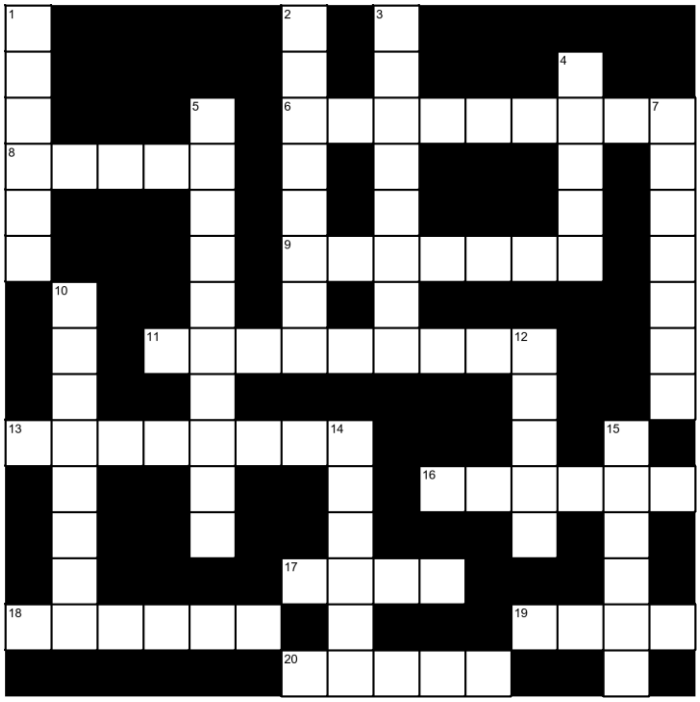
Freezes well.

AS



MIND GAMES

Crossword



Across

6 Great seabird; or a heavy burden (9)
8 Rogue; the jack in a pack of cards (5)
9 Blotting out of the sun or moon (7)
11 French All Saints' Day, 1 November (9)
13 Shellfish that clings to a ship's hull (8)
16 Sweet drink of the gods; bees gather it (6)
17 Thin fog (4)
18 Source of wise advice, as at Delphi (6)
19 Long-billed wading bird of ancient Egypt (4)
20 Many-headed monster of Greek myth (5)

Down

1 Guy caught with the gunpowder (6)
2 Region of Belgium whose fields grew poppies (8)
3 It keeps the rain off (8)
4 River of a great 1916 battle (5)
5 Red wine whose nouveau arrives this month (10)
7 Navigator's instrument for measuring the sun's height (7)
10 Glass bottle for serving wine or port (8)
12 Ceasefire, like the one at Christmas 1914 (5)
14 Model of a person, burnt on a bonfire (6)
15 Sticky oatmeal gingerbread from the North (6)

Word Search: Remembrance

W	N	T	S	L	M	T	C	H	B	U	G	L	E
A	N	S	R	T	R	E	N	C	H	E	S	E	M
E	R	D	S	T	N	W	M	E	M	N	R	L	M
B	S	F	T	O	H	I	R	O	N	R	E	E	O
S	P	L	T	T	S	E	S	R	R	T	D	V	S
A	N	A	A	E	G	R	C	P	T	I	N	E	I
E	P	E	R	I	C	V	E	T	E	R	A	N	S
H	R	M	M	A	H	S	L	I	Y	E	L	L	N
W	E	E	I	E	D	E	L	P	D	D	F	M	R
T	N	D	S	H	T	E	I	E	C	L	P	O	P
T	A	A	T	E	C	N	E	L	I	S	O	G	V
A	E	L	I	P	V	D	V	N	L	F	P	S	D
P	R	S	C	L	T	N	E	C	B	E	P	E	S
M	P	S	E	E	C	U	R	T	I	E	Y	O	H

The words read across, down or diagonally, forwards or backwards.

Armistice
Bugle
Cenotaph
Eleven
Flanders
Medals
Memorial
Parade
Poppy
Regiment
Reveille
Silence
Soldiers
Somme
Trenches
Truce
Veterans
Wreath

MIND GAMES

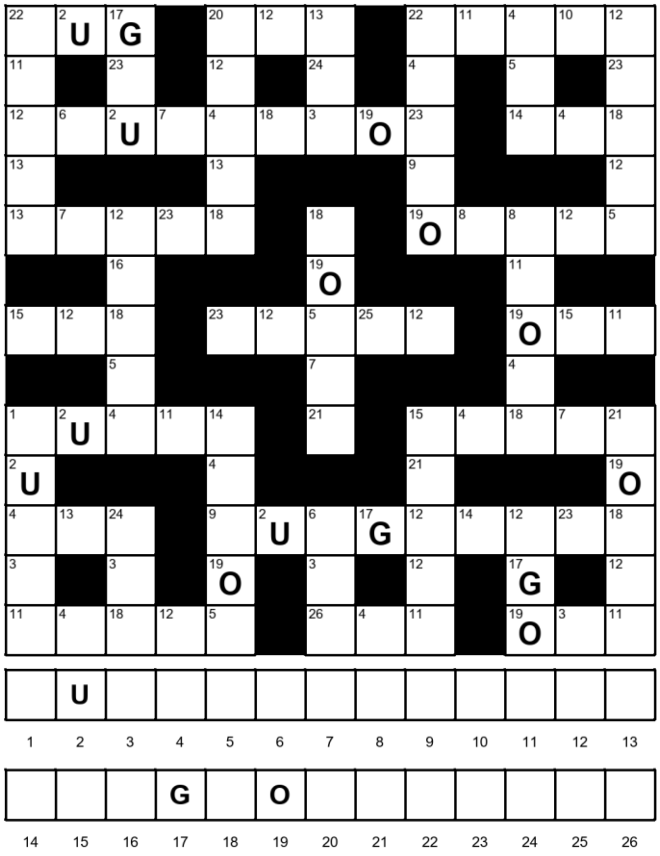
Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 × 3 box holds the numbers 1 to 9.

			5	7			6	4
			2				5	
	5				3		7	
1				2		4		7
		8		3		9		
3		2		9				5
	1		9				2	
	9				2			
2	3			4	7			

Codeword

Each number stands for a letter. Three letters are filled in to start you off: work out the rest. Every letter of the alphabet is used.



Last Issue's Answers

The answers to this issue's puzzles will be in the next issue.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Did You Know?

Have you noticed the trees changing colour? A leaf is green because it is full of chlorophyll, which the tree uses to make its food from sunlight. In autumn the days grow shorter and colder, and the tree stops making chlorophyll. As the green fades, the yellows and oranges that were hiding in the leaf all along begin to show. Some trees, such as maples, make bright new reds as well. Then the tree seals each leaf off and lets it fall, so it can rest through the winter.

In France, 1 November is la Toussaint, All Saints' Day. It is a public holiday, and children have two weeks off school around it.

French Words of the Month

la Toussaint – All Saints' Day
l'arbre – tree
le gland – acorn
l'écureuil – squirrel
le vent – wind
la flaque – puddle

Joke Box

What did the acorn say when it grew up?
Gee, I'm a tree!

How do trees get on the internet?
They log in!

What do you call a bear with no teeth?
A gummy bear!

Riddle

In spring I am green and I dance on a tree,

In autumn I turn red and gold, as you'll see,

Then I let go and I twirl to the ground.

What am I?

Answer next issue.
Last issue's answer: this is our first riddle!

Draw It!

Draw a busy squirrel hiding acorns for the winter, with the leaves falling all around. Ask a grown-up to send a photo of it to editor@abav12.fr, and we may print it in a later issue.

Bookshelf

Autumn Story by Jill Barklem – the mice of Brambly Hedge are busy gathering food for the winter when little Primrose wanders off and gets lost.

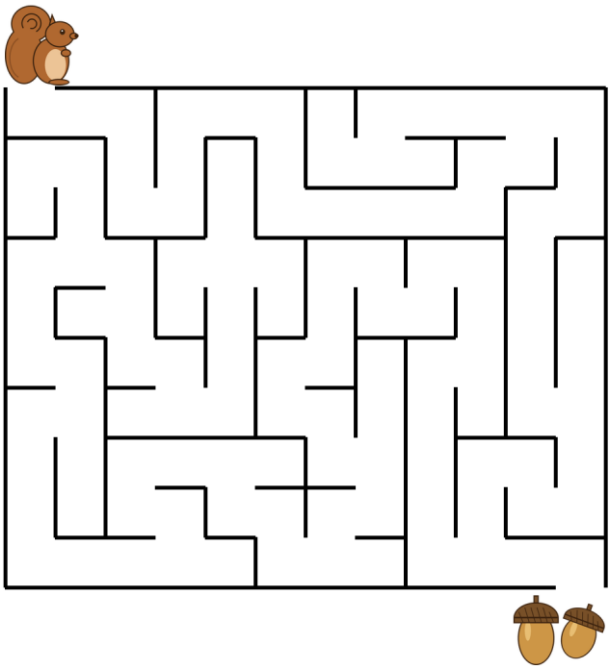
The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson – a clever mouse takes a walk through the deep dark wood and tricks a fox, an owl and a snake.

We might not have these in the library, so get your parents to mail the editor to ask for them or any other books you would like.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Help the Squirrel Find the Acorns

Start at the squirrel and find the way through to the acorns.



Word Search: Autumn Days

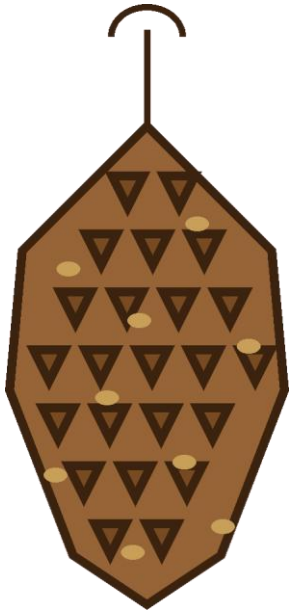
Find these words. They go across or down.

G	A	R	W	I	N	D	O
F	B	N	L	E	O	L	O
O	E	A	F	O	G	O	I
A	O	C	B	N	I	S	O
P	R	C	O	N	K	E	R
P	C	W	O	O	W	L	A
L	G	C	T	L	E	A	F
E	A	C	S	R	A	I	N

Apple
Boots
Conker
Fog
Leaf
Owl
Rain
Wind

Things to Make and Do

A pine cone bird feeder



You need: a big open pine cone, a piece of string, a small bowl of lard at room temperature, bird seed and a tray.

1. Tie the string tightly round the top of the pine cone, leaving a long loop for hanging.

2. Put the lard in a bowl and tip in some bird seed.

3. Squish them together with your fingers until the seed is well mixed in.

4. Over the tray, press the mixture into all the gaps between the scales of the cone.

5. Roll the cone in more seed so it is covered all over.

6. Ask a grown-up to help you hang it from a branch, away from where cats can reach. Watch from the window to see which birds come for their winter dinner!

TECHIE'S TIPS

Techie's Tip 01: Phishing & Trawling

Fake emails cast a very wide net. Here's how to stay off the hook.

Every day, somewhere in the world, a crook sends the same email to ten million people. It might claim to be from your bank, Amazon or the tax office. Almost everybody will ignore it, but the crook only needs a handful to bite. That's phishing: fishing, with a hook hidden in the bait.

I call the mass version trawling: drag an enormous net through the sea and see what comes up. Trawled messages are usually generic: "Dear customer", "Dear user", or no name at all. They often come from a company you've never dealt with, which is a giveaway in itself. If you don't have a Netflix account, Netflix isn't writing to say it's suspended.

Then there's the rarer, craftier cousin, known in the trade as spear phishing. Here the crook has done a little homework, perhaps from a Facebook post. They write to you by name and ask for something that sounds perfectly reasonable. These are harder to spot, which is why the habits below matter more than any checklist of spelling mistakes.

The good news is that nearly every phishing message, trawled or speared, has the same three ingredients.

Urgency. "Your account will be closed in 24 hours." "Your parcel will be returned today." Crooks want you clicking before you've had time to think.

A link or an attachment. The whole point is to get you onto a fake website that looks like the real thing, where you'll type in your password or card number, or to get you to open a file that makes mischief on your computer.

A request for something private. Passwords, card numbers, the code your bank has just texted you. Your bank, the tax office and Ameli will never ask for these by email or text. Never.

So what do you do with a suspicious message? Nothing clever is required. Don't click the link. Instead, go to the organisation's website the way you normally would, by typing the address yourself or using your usual bookmark or app, and log in there. If there really is a problem, it will be waiting for you. If there isn't, you've lost nothing.

On a computer, you can rest your mouse over a link, without clicking, and the real address it leads to appears at the bottom of the screen. If the message claims to be from your bank but the link goes to somewhere-odd.xyz, you have your answer.

And if you did click? Don't panic: very clever people get caught every day. If you gave card details, ring your bank straight away, and change any password you typed in.

Three things to do today:

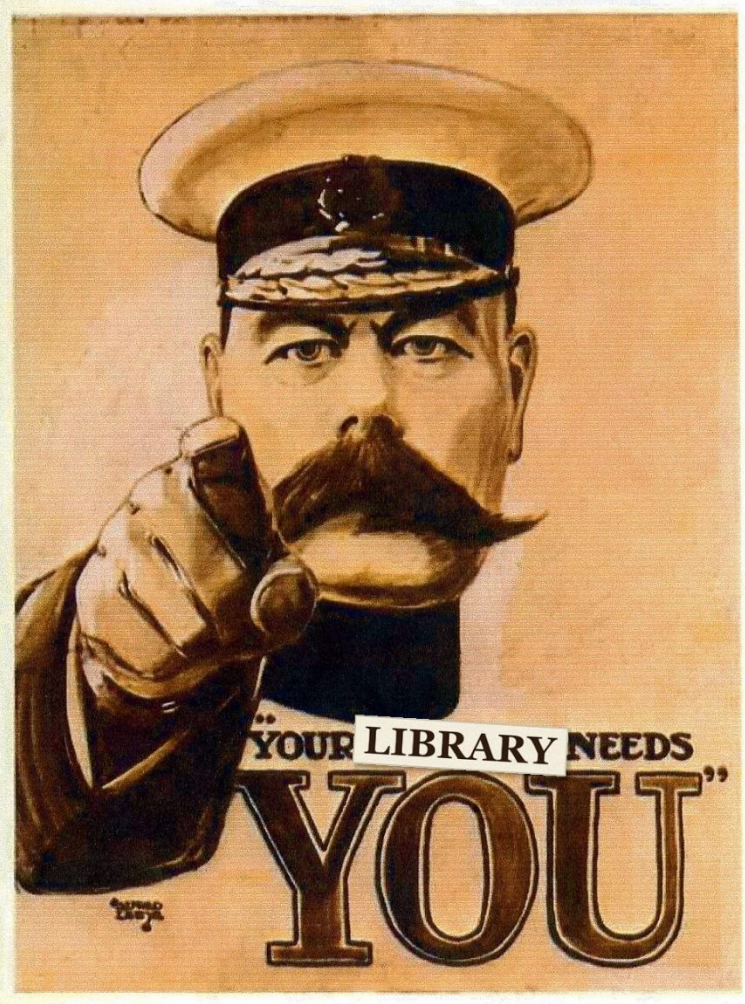
Make a habit of reaching important websites by typing the address or using a saved bookmark, never through a link in a message.

Forward suspicious texts to 33700, a free reporting number run by the phone companies. An automatic reply will ask for the sender's number.

Report suspicious emails at signal-spam.fr, the French spam-reporting service, or simply delete them.

Numbers in brackets, such as (05), refer to other Techie's Tips. To find one, go to abav12.fr, open Our Newsletters, and look for "Techie's Tip 05" in the list of contents.

YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU



The Librarian is sent out on the 1st of the month. If you have something for the next issue, please send it to editor@abav12.fr by the 21st of this month.

News and notices for Jungle Drums, an article or a story of your own, a letter or a reply to something you have read here, a favourite recipe, an event coming up or a small ad. Words directly in the email or as an attachment, photos as attachments, as large as they come.

For restaurants I would like the following information:

- the name and address
- the phone number and website, and whether to book
- the days and times it is open
- the price of the menus, and what you ate
- what you liked, and anything you didn't
- a photo or two, if you took any

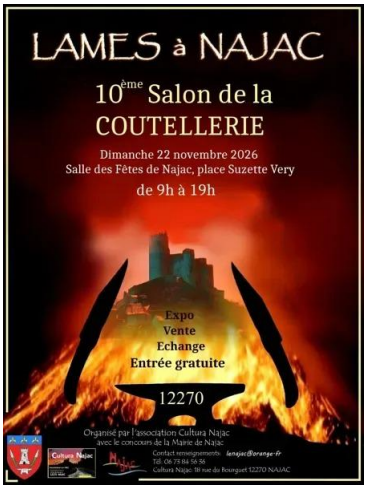
And for an event:

- what it is
- where and when
- the price
- how to book

WHAT'S ON



Sun 8 Nov, Saint-Antonin: Trail des 3 Rocs, 31 km trail, 15 km walk and children's races



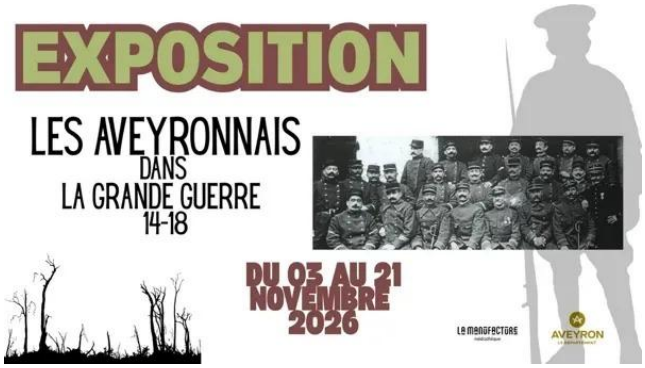
Sun 22 Nov, Najac, salle des fêtes: knife fair, 09:00–19:00, free



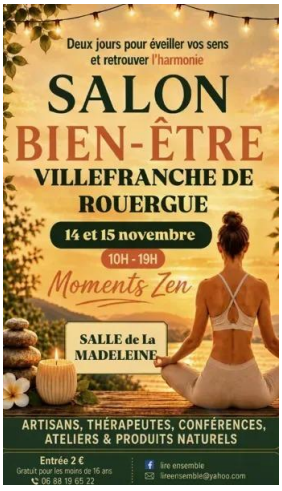
Sat 14–Sun 15 Nov, Vailhourles, salle des fêtes: Christmas market and book fair, 09:00–18:00



Sat 21 Nov, Savignac, salle des fêtes: duck dinner with the new wine, 19:00, €22



3–21 Nov, Villefranche, La Manufacture (médiathèque), 19 place Bernard Lhez: exhibition, the Aveyronnais in the Great War, free



Sat 14–Sun 15 Nov, Villefranche, Salle de la Madeleine: wellbeing and nature fair, 10:00–19:00, €2

WHAT'S ON

A pick of this month's sales and fairs, then some of the other things going on.

Vide Greniers and Brocantes for November

Sun 1	Capdenac-Gare, Salle Agora: vide-dressing, second-hand clothes
Mon 2	Villeneuve, Place des Conques: monthly fair
Sun 8	Martiel, salle des fêtes: champagne-cap collectors' fair, from 08:00
Sun 8	Limogne, Halle culturelle: baby goods sale, 09:00–17:00
Sat 14–15	Vailhourles, salle des fêtes: Christmas market and book fair, 09:00–18:00
Tue 17	Laguépie: monthly fair
Wed 18	Rieupeyroux, cinema car park: monthly fair, mornings

Other events in November

Fri 6–8	Villefranche, Chapelle Saint-Jacques: Solid'Art, charity art sale for the Secours populaire, pay what you wish
Sat 7	Villefranche, Théâtre des Bastides: "Voyage à Napoli", comedy, 20:45
Sat 21	Najac: Gaillac primeur and Beaujolais Nouveau evening, 19:00
Sat 28	Villefranche, Théâtre des Bastides: "Cache Cache", one-woman show, 20:45

Have fun!

FISH & CHIPS (at time of going to press)

Wed 4	Varen, Bar de Varen, 18:00–20:30
Fri 13	Villefranche-de-Rouergue, Chez David, Centre Commercial Carrefour, 18:00–20:30
Tue 17	Parisot, La Maison Café Bar, 4 place du Foirail, 18:00–20:30

Cod en Bleu: pre-order at cod-en-bleu.com or on 06 46 71 16 00

CINEMA

Films in English are shown in VO or VOSTF: the original language, with French subtitles. Programmes come out a week or two ahead, so check the cinema's site before you go.

English-language films (at time of going to press)

Sun 1	Capdenac-Gare, Atmosphère: The Social Reckoning (Aaron Sorkin), 17:30, VO
Tue 3	Capdenac-Gare, Atmosphère: The Social Reckoning, 18:00, VO
Tue 3	Figeac, Charles Boyer: Les Contrebandiers (Ethan Hawke, Russell Crowe), 18:00, VO

Also with subtitles

Thu 5	Villefranche, Le Vox: Les Nuits de Cabiria (Fellini), Italian with French subtitles, from this date

Programmes

- Villefranche-de-Rouergue, Le Vox, 16 bd Charles de Gaulle: cineazur.fr (mostly dubbed)
- Figeac, Charles Boyer, and Capdenac-Gare, Atmosphère: astrolabe-grand-figeac.fr (most English films in VO)
- Rieupeyroux, Espace Gilbert Alauzet: rencontresalacampagne.org, or 09 75 98 06 63 (English films subtitled)
- Decazeville, La Strada: decazeville.veocinemas.fr (several VO films a fortnight)

CLASSIFIEDS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Alan G. W. Mackay · ***Civil Funeral Célébrant***
English speaking. Dignified, personal, respectful, memories.
05 65 29 88 54
06 89 33 82 45
anglocelebrant@orange.fr

Andrew Whelan · ***Grass and hedge cutting***
Property maintenance and small renovation works, stonework and re-pointing.
07 68 68 33 48
andrew@artificer.fr
www.artificer.fr

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Tree and hedge cutting at competitive rates: pruning, reductions, felling, trimming and logging.
07 86 80 74 34
bennaismith@outlook.com

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Administrative and everyday support for English speakers in France: admin meetings, phone calls, translation and explanations.
06 32 61 19 68
contactamy.france@gmail.com

Creative design · ***Websites, logos, graphics***
Websites fully hosted and monitored, including ecommerce, blogging, gîte and rental bookings, and email.
will@outrighthosting.net

Jacynth Crozier · ***English–French translations***
Documents translated and meetings interpreted. Help with French administration and official letters. One-to-one French lessons or conversation.
06 30 31 13 00
contact@crozier-traductions.com
www.crozier-traductions.com

Justin Fairley · ***Garden maintenance***
Garden maintenance and small projects.
07 85 17 86 52
jvfairley@outlook.com

M & K Construction · ***English builders and renovators***
All types of building work: roofing, groundwork, carpentry, masonry, decorating. 40 years of experience. Free estimates.
06 73 29 90 95
mandkrenovation@gmail.com
Facebook: M & K Construction

Nicholas Powell · ***"D Origine" architectural salvage***
Salvage yard at 160 Rue de Jonquekkes, 46260 Limogne en Quercy.
06 20 55 10 40

So'Happy School · ***Learn French in Villefranche***
A friendly, fun atmosphere for all levels and ages. Qualified teacher, excellent OFSTED reports, 15 years' experience. Groups €18 per 1h30; individual lessons €22 an hour. Ask for Sophie.
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sohappyschool@gmail.com

The Writing Desk · ***Copywriting***
Your ideas turned into sharp, punchy script by an author and experienced freelance journalist. Great words and a fast service; ask for Nigel.
05 65 65 81 53
nigelnwild@hotmail.co.uk

DOMESTIC SERVICES

Ruth Patterson · ***Gardener and cleaner***
Gardener and/or cleaner available.
05 65 34 37 88
07 80 45 50 46

LETTINGS

Olive Tree Cottage, Martiel · ***Bed and breakfast***
Self-contained chambres d'hôtes for 2 adults, with a large pool and garden and ample parking. Book on Airbnb or direct.
05 65 29 44 96

CLASSIFIEDS

La Herradura, Andalusia · ***Holiday apartment***
Light and spacious 1-bedroom apartment, sleeps 4, large terrace, sea and mountain views. 7 minutes' walk to the beach and restaurants. Monthly winter lets. Lynne Harding.

facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089978104205
06 65 50 95 37
lafage.harding@gmail.com

Nerja, Andalusia · ***Apartment Aqua Marina***
Modern 2-bedroom ground-floor apartment, terrace, spectacular sea and mountain views. 3 minutes' walk to the beach, a short walk to the old town. Monthly winter lets. Lynne Harding.

facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090122020875
06 65 50 95 37
lafage.harding@gmail.com

SOCIAL

FripAffaires, Parisot (82) · ***Charity shop***
Raises funds for Médecins Sans Frontières and Restos du Cœur. At the Pôle Médical, next to the pharmacy. Open Tuesday and Wednesday 2–6pm, Friday and Saturday 10am–12.30pm. Donations gratefully received.