

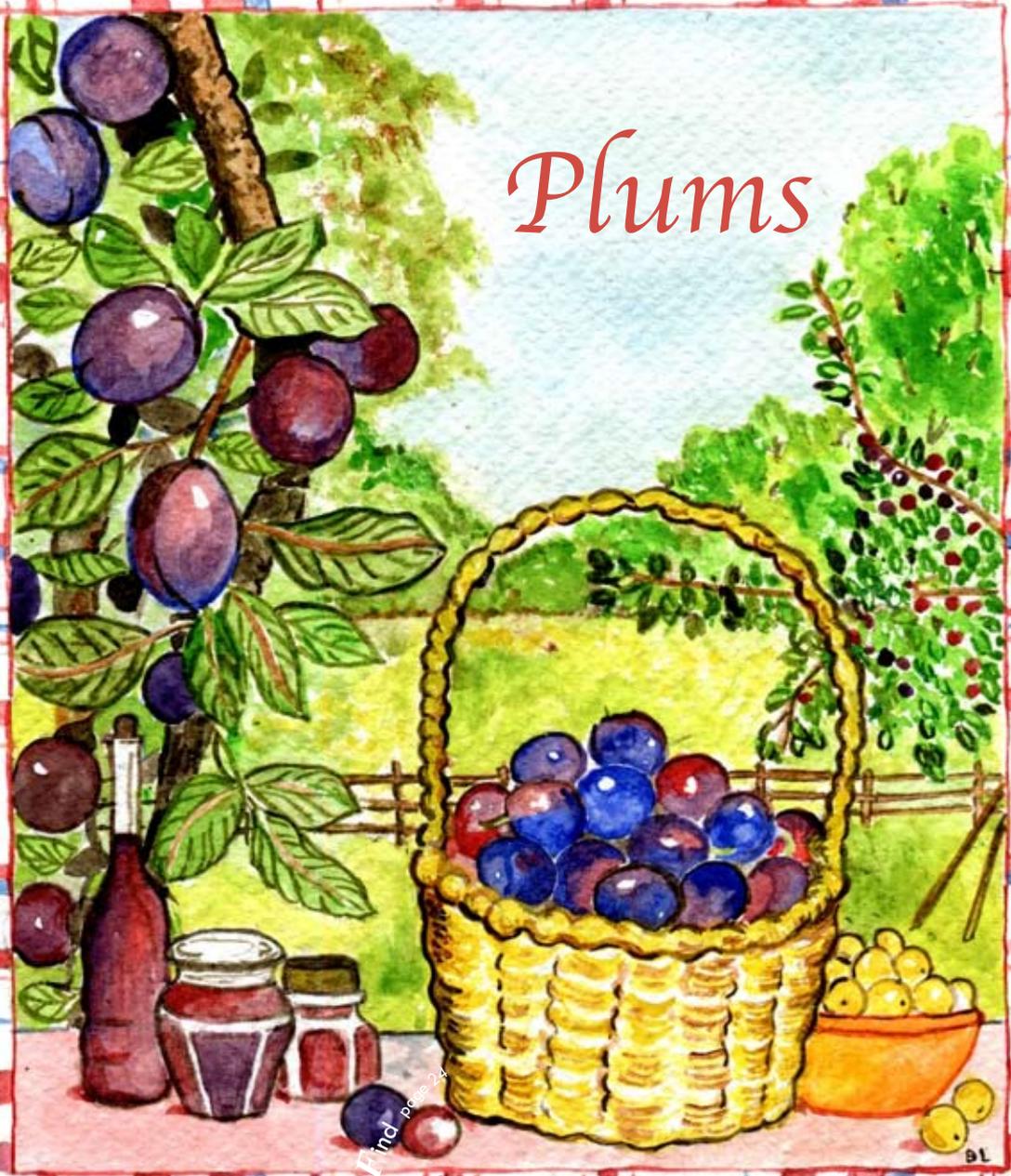
Issue 194

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# Central Brittany Journal

August 2020

## Plums



e Find page 24

BL

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**Cover: Plums**  
 Watercolour by Bethan Lewis  
 see article pages 32-33



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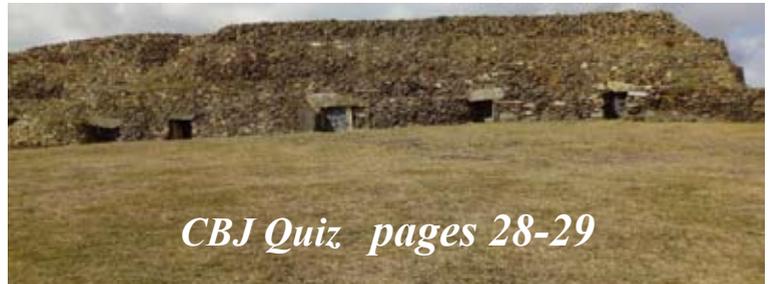
Monday 9:00 - 12:00  
 Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 - 12:00 14:00 - 17:30



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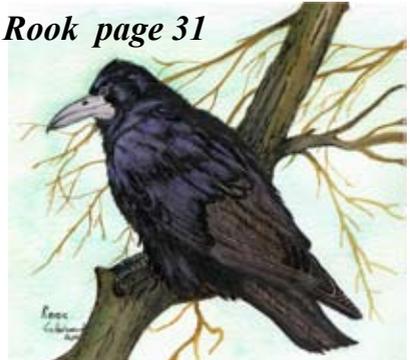
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## Plums pages 32-33



## Rook page 31



Brexit: Is your money, and your adviser,  
in the right place?

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# Contributors August

Carina Ogilvie		
Tax & Investment		p.12
Darren Milsom		
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Hetty's Kitchen		pp.27 & 30
Jon Chambers	August Quiz	pp.28-29
Roger Dawson	Wine & Beer	p.30
Jim Henderson	Rook	p.31
Melvyn Card		
Photo of the Month		back page

## Editorial

I have been receiving a copy of the Le Figaro newspaper most weekends since the beginning of the lockdown, and one thing that has been of ongoing interest is when the editorial staff ask one of the eminent French philosophers, who regularly feature in the paper, whether or not they think that Covid 19 will bring about the end of civilisation. Answers vary. Whatever the case, it does seem that the response to the virus has had a devastating impact upon the social fabric of local life, and that is a worrying development. So far, the Journal has still been able to play a role in bringing people together, testified by the range and diversity displayed once again in this month's issue, and, if possible, I would like it to continue and develop in that role.

Richard Griffiths makes the point in On and Off the Beaten Track (*page 22*) that "there is no substitute for personal" and, in keeping with that principle, the CBJ office is manned (with real people) from Monday to Friday mornings from 9 to 12. Everyone is welcome to get in touch, particularly with ideas for how to maintain and re-build a mutually-supportive society as anxieties about Covid, and other issues, continue to unfold. *GL*

## Central Brittany Journal

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Central Brittany Journal, B.P. 4, 22160 Callac, France. Editor: **Gareth Lewis** [info@theobj.com](mailto:info@theobj.com)

**Deadline for classified ads: 20th of the month.**

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# News

## Compassion Animaux Bretagne Charity Indian Banquet, 12th Sept

Compassion Animaux Bretagne plans to host a regular fund-raising 'Dining Evening' at La P'tite Pause, St Lubin, 22110 Kergrist-Moëlou, starting with an 'Indian Curry Banquet' on Saturday 12th Sept, at 7pm. Tickets for this evening to raise money for local refuges and animals in need are only 20€ a head with drinks extra.

Tickets to be purchased in advance as numbers are limited to 30 to allow for social distancing. In any event of the evening having to be cancelled a full refund would be given. Contact Linda at La P'tite Pause or message Compassion Animaux Bretagne's email [cabcompassion@gmail.com](mailto:cabcompassion@gmail.com) to make your reservation. Please note as in line with French regulations the wearing of masks will be mandatory and masks will be available to purchase at the door to support the charity.

Dates of further dining evenings (Italian Night, English Evening, French Cuisine Night, etc.) will be announced shortly, together with dates for Saturday afternoon quiz & games.

La P'tite Pause, St Lubin, 22110 Kergrist-Moëlou.

Profits will be used to support local animal refuges and animals in need.

## AIKB Kermesse

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

AIKB will be holding its annual summer fair again this year – the required covid safety measures in place around the site.

Browse around the stalls, which include gifts, craft, bric-a-brac, and plants. There will be food and drinks at the café and bar, music, and a grand raffle including a handmade patchwork quilt made by the AIKB textile group. The great second hand book sale, run by the library will also be there. Contact Maggie to reserve a stall on [info@aikb.fr](mailto:info@aikb.fr)

*Le Foirail, 22570 Gouarec. The grounds are in the centre of Gouarec near the Blavet, and the old railway station. 11am – 5pm. Free entry and parking.*



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**Hetty's Kitchen**  
**Lyonnais Potato Cake p.27**  
**American Macaroni Salad p.27**  
**Banana Chocolate Pots p.27**  
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8 What's On

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# What's On in August

## Sat 1 - Sun 9 August

1st August - 15th December

**Exhibition. Communications and Transmissions in the**

**Resistance, between 1940 and 1944.** Entry 6€. Open Tuesday to Friday, 10.30am to 1pm, and 2pm to 6pm, Sunday open 2pm to 6pm. Musée de la Résistance en Argoat, Pôle de l'Étang-Neuf, 22480 Saint-Connan. (see advert p.4)

**Throughout August.**

**Longere Yard Sale.** Dishwasher, fridge-freezers, washing machines, tumble drier, tables, chairs, 5pc suite, wardrobes, dressers, drawers, garden maintenance equipment. Pontivy / Baud. Tel. or email chatauranga7544@yahoo.co.uk 02 97 27 79 26.

**Saturday 1st August**

**Veterans' Breakfast Club.** La P'tite Pause, St Lubin. 10am. Telephone 02 96 24 77 43 to book, or e-mail lapetitepause060617@gmail.com. Any enquiries telephone Remy Savigar on 02 98 99 77 11.

**Sunday 2nd and Tuesday 4th August**

**Perfect Ten (French title: L'Envolée).** Rostrenen Cinema.

Directed by Eva Riley and starring Frankie Box and Alfie Deegan. Starts 8.30pm. In English with French subtitles.

**Sunday 2nd August**

**Madame Butterfly, by Puccini.** Originally performed at Glyndebourne in 2018. Special screening in Callac cinema. Refreshments will be provided. Starts 8pm. Entry 15€, 12€ for children under 16. Lasts 3 hours with interval.

**Saturday 8th August**

**Grand Bagpipe Concert** in the Moustoir stadium, Lorient.

Starts 6pm. Entry 16€, free for children under 7. Tickets on sale only through FIL online ticketing. Strict health measures will be enforced. Doors open at 4.30pm.

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## Mon 10- Sun 16 August

### Saturday 15th August

**Festive Wool Day.** Stalls, demonstrations, food, refreshments. Free entry. Bulat Pestivien village centre.

### Sunday 16th August

**Vide Maison.** In L'Enfer, Le-Cloître-St-Thegonnec, 29410. Starts 10am and crêpes made on site. Tel. 07 77 05 19 39.

## Mon 17- Sun 23 August

### Tuesday 18th August - Tuesday 15th September

**Exhibition** of drawings from Tim the Gardener's new book 'Une Année avec la Terre'. Cafe-bookshop 'le Temps qu'il fait', Mellionec. Inauguration of expo & book signing on **Tuesday 18th August**, at 6pm. Music and refreshments. More info contact Samuel on 02 96 21 55 97.

### Saturday 22nd August.

**Curry Sauce Heaven Curry Night.** Faouet Gite Complex, 22160 Chapelle-Neuve (10mins from Callac). 5 courses, 15€. 7pm. To book contact 02 96 21 53 47 or curry-sauce-heaven@hotmail.com.

### Sunday 23rd August

**AIKB Kermesse.** Stalls, food and drinks, music, raffle. The required covid safety measures will be in place for the safety of all. Le Foirail, 22570 Gouarec. The grounds are in the centre of Gouarec near the Blavet, and the old railway station. 11am – 5pm. Free entry and parking. Please contact Maggie to reserve a stall on info@aikb.fr

### Sunday 23rd August.

**Craft and Nature Market,** Loc-Envel, 22810 (nr Belle-Isle-en-Terre). Local artisans present a variety of craft products, including soap, felt hats, knives, baskets, bird boxes, etc. 10am-6pm. Free entry. Food and refreshments.

## Mon 24 - Mon 31 August

### Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th August

**Plant fair,** Village of St-Antoine, 22480 Lanrivain. 10am-6pm. Food and refreshments on site. Entry 2€ / free for under 12s. www.lieux-mouvants.com. (See ad p.4)

## September

### Saturday 12th September

**'Indian Curry Banquet'** in aid of animals in need. La P'tite Pause, St Lubin, 22110 Kergrist-Moëlou. Masks will be mandatory and will be available to purchase at the door. Tickets 20€ to be bought in advance. Contact Linda at La P'tite Pause or message cabcompassion@gmail.com.

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**CBJ Boot Sale update - page 11**

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Sunday 9th Aug. TRIO LO'JO

Friday 14th Aug. MOJO MACHINE

Thursday 27th Aug. SOPHIE CAVEZ et BALTAZAR MONTANARO

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Quelven - 56310 GUERN 02 97 27 75 92

**Ch'ty Coz café-brocante, Bulat Pestivien.** Every Friday, from 6pm. Food served on the terrace, and a 'cocktail of the week'. (Annual closing 17th-30th Aug)

## CENTRAL BRITTANY JOURNAL ONLINE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The Central Brittany Journal Online Business Directory provides a quick and easy way to get in touch with CBJ advertisers when you are online.

Each current advertiser has a page giving details of the services provided plus contact details, and a simple form that allows you to send a message directly to their email address.

The directory is regularly updated, and run from the CBJ office (02 96 21 58 40 mon-fri 9-12).

[www.thecbj.com/business-directory/](http://www.thecbj.com/business-directory/)



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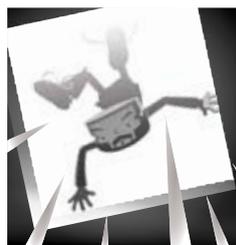
## Spotlight on Brittany: August

There's a world of contrasts in this month's Spotlight on Brittany, as we explore the ways of sheep and wolves. We meet Adèle Lemercier, one of the very few women sheep shearers in France, who talks about her work here in Brittany, and we find out what her friend Marion Delisle does to some of the fleeces from these same sheep. Both these ladies have organised the wool market at Bulat-Pestivien on the 15th August. At the opposite end of the food chain, the wolves from the sanctuary at Lescouët-Gouarec sing to us, and Martin Chamot tells us about their rehabilitation in the woods of Coat Fur. For a spiritual component, Wendy Mewes talks to us about her relationship with the Breton landscape and some of the special places in Brittany, described in her new book, *Wayfaring in Brittany*. All this can be heard by tuning in to Radio Kreiz Breizh on Wednesdays at 14h00 and Saturdays at 12h00 (102.9 Mhz-106Mhz), or Radio Bro Gwened (101.7Mhz-92.6Mhz) on the first Wednesday of the month at 14h00 and the third Sunday at 9h30. More simply perhaps, you can listen anytime to this month's programme, and others from the archive, by following the links on our website: [www.spotlightonbrittany.fr](http://www.spotlightonbrittany.fr)

## CBJ Boot Sales

We still do not have a re-start date for the CBJ boot sales. Discussion with the local mayors is ongoing, but, as readers will be aware, regulations have become more restrictive over the course of the past few weeks – when we had been hoping that they would start to be relaxed.

Info: [www.thecbj.com](http://www.thecbj.com) / 02 96 21 58 40 (mon to fri, 9-12)



**James Baxter**  
DESIGNER & ILLUSTRATOR

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# Tax & Investment



## Becoming a full-time resident in France

We come across many people who have homes in both France and the UK and enjoy spending time in each of them. This can give you the best of both worlds, but you need to be careful as it can cause complications when it comes to tax residence – the country which has taxing rights over your worldwide assets and income.

The UK and France have different criteria for determining tax residence and, where necessary, ‘tie breaker’ rules come into play. You need to be clear on where you should be paying tax each year and vigilant about following the rules correctly. If you get it wrong and pay tax in the wrong country, sorting it out later can be complicated, stressful and costly.

### Lockdown and tax residence

This year’s extraordinary circumstances, with lockdown and border closures, have resulted in many people spending more time in a country than they intended. We have clients who are normally tax resident in the UK but got stuck in France for months, and vice versa.

The good news is that the main test for tax residence in France is not time based – i.e. in most cases you are only considered tax resident if your main home – your foyer – is in France. The French tax authorities confirmed that a stay in France due to the Covid-19 lockdown, or a travel ban imposed by the country of residence, would not in itself cause an individual to become tax resident.

In the UK, HM Revenue & Customs specified that being unable to leave the UK because of border closures or quarantine could be treated as an ‘exceptional circumstance’, potentially giving you an extra 60 days in the UK. However, this will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### Preparing for residence in France

Interestingly, we’ve received enquiries from people who had previously only seen France as a holiday home. But after spending the lockdown months here, they realise that they enjoy living in France and want to make it permanent, or at least start spending more time here than the UK. They have been asking us for advice on applying for full-time residency; how to prepare for being tax resident in France and what other financial planning changes they would need to make.

There are a number of wealth management issues you need to consider, and the earlier you start your planning the better. Take holistic financial planning advice covering residence, domicile, taxation, estate planning, pensions and investments. Carefully plan for the cross-border implications, to make your move from being UK tax resident to French tax resident as seamless and tax efficient as possible.

Of course, you need to be legally settled in France before the end of the year to beat the Brexit deadline. Acting now will make things easier later and give you peace of mind.

*Catrina Ogilvie, Blevins Franks  
05 49 75 07 24 / niort@blevinsfranks.com*

*The tax rates, scope and reliefs may change. Any statements concerning taxation are based upon our understanding of current taxation laws and practices which are subject to change. Tax information has been summarised; an individual is advised to seek personalised advice. Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com)*

## NEW ADVERTS: AUGUST

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# CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

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Chaplain: Pastor Robin Adams. Mobile 07 80 56 26 32 or [pastor.robin@churchinbrittany.com](mailto:pastor.robin@churchinbrittany.com)  
Churchwardens: Chris Wilson 02 97 72 19 29 or Janet Lageveen 02 98 99 63 14

**English services are held in four different locations and all are welcome, but please note that the following services may be amended due to the current situation so please check the website for up to date information.**

**HUELGOAT** (Second and fourth Sundays in the Parish Church, first, third and fifth Sundays in the Salle Paroissiale diagonally opposite the church))

**9th** – Ninth after Trinity – Holy Communion 2.30pm

**23rd** – Eleventh after Trinity – Holy Communion 2.30pm

For more details contact:

Henk Lageveen 02 98 99 63 14 [ccb.huelgoat@gmail.com](mailto:ccb.huelgoat@gmail.com)

**PLOËRMEL** (in the Chapel at 14 rue Général Dubreton)

**9th** – Ninth after Trinity – Holy Communion 11am

**23rd** – Eleventh after Trinity – Holy Communion 11am

**30th** – Twelfth after Trinity – Holy Communion 11am followed by Annual Meeting.

Sunday morning services at Ploërmel are normally followed by a shared lunch.

For more details contact: Chris Wilson 02 97 72 19 29.

**REDON** (Eglise St Charles, 10 avenue Gaston Sébilleau, Redon)

**2nd** – Eighth after Trinity – Holy Communion 10.30am

**16th** – Tenth after Trinity – Word and Worship 10.30am

Contact [redon@churchinbrittany.com](mailto:redon@churchinbrittany.com)

## ROSTRENEN

Word and Worship services in the salle paroissiale, 4 Rue Joseph Pennec, Rostrenen, Holy Communion services in the Chapelle du Collège de Campostat, 5, place du Bourg Coz, Rostrenen (off Rue de la Marne)

**9th** – Ninth after Trinity – Holy Communion 10.30am

**23rd** – Eleventh after Trinity – Holy Communion 10.30am

For more details contact: Linda Doidge 02 96 13 42 71 [lindadoidge@gmail.com](mailto:lindadoidge@gmail.com)

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# Pi and Maths

Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to the diameter, and is approximately 3.14 to 1. Like many other things in life, we are all blissfully unaware of how important it is to know this – try guessing how much water is needed to fill a paddling pool, or measuring out a precise 400m running track, let alone calculating a space rocket's orbit. Pi (thought to be an abbreviation of periphery) is useful in the prediction in the spread of a virus – such as Covid 19 – as well as the distribution of resulting deaths, and is essential in many areas of technology.

The ration has been calculated more and more precisely throughout various civilisations of mankind and is referred to twice in the Bible, which gives an approximation of 3 to 1. Artisans such as wheelwrights needed guidance as to how much wood, or iron, was required for their craft. The Greek scholar, Archimedes, spent a lot of time improving the accuracy of pi; in fact, it is reported that when he was killed by Roman soldiers in 212BC, he was engaged in trying to refine his pi calculations.

Pi has been represented by the mathematical symbol  $\pi$  since 1706, and was widely adopted three decades later when the famous mathematician, Leonhard Euler, started to use it. It is an irrational number i.e. it cannot be written as an exact fraction (22/7 is an approximation), and its decimal expansion will never settle into a repeating pattern (unlike 1/11, for example, which is 0.090909...). Furthermore, it is one of the few transcendental numbers known – that is, an irrational number that cannot be described by an equation with a finite number of terms.

So pi is a very special and rare number that has been challenging maths nerds for centuries. Before the adoption of our modern Arabic number system, the Greeks and the Chinese used ever-more-accurate physical measuring methods, but their accuracy never extended beyond 6 decimal places. Calculus finally came to the rescue, and the pi hunters had quickly proved its decimal expansion to 70 places by 1700. A century later, they had reached 140 places, and 526 by 1874 – a record which stood until July

$\pi = 3.141592653589793238462643$   
 $3832795028841971693993751058$   
 $2097494459230781640628620899$   
 $8628034825342117067982148086$   
 $5132823066470938446095505822$   
 $3172535940812848111745028410$   
 $2701938521105559644622948954$   
 $930381964428810975665933446$   
 $128475648233786783165271201$   
 $909145648566923460348610454$   
 $3266482133936072602491412737$   
 $245870066063155881748815209$   
 $209628292540917153643...$

1946, when pencil and paper were used for the last time in reaching 620 places.

Rudimentary calculators through to supercomputers have massively increased the discovery rate to such a level that in 2016 the 20 trillion mark was smashed – that is 20 and twelve zeros. If printed out in the CBJ, it would take up the space of several million issues of a thousand pages each: try finding Tim the Gardener in that lot.

Of course, there is no practical need to be this accurate – in fact by using pi to just ten decimal places, one can calculate the circumference of the Earth to within a few millimetres. But practicality is not always the aim here – pi is a fun number to use. Poems (or piems) can be devised whereby the number of letters per word in order is determined by pi (with zero being represented by a ten-letter word). Indeed, entire books have been published within these constraints. For example:

CBJ – a euro. A local directory of useful stuff  
 3 .1 4 1 5 9 2 6 5

Worldwide tournaments have been held to see who can memorize pi to to the most decimal places; in 2006, a retired Japanese engineer was filmed reciting pi to 100,000 decimal places. It took him sixteen and a half hours. Most of us can't remember our phone numbers.

Pi day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14), and especially at 1:59 ( $\pi = 3.14159...$ ). Incidentally, Albert Einstein was born on March 14th. Talking of Ein-

**Is Pi Wrong ?**  
 Some mathematicians suggest that if we use the calculation of the circumference (c) as  $2 \pi r$  ( $2 \times \pi \times$  radius) why not use a different symbol representing  $2 \pi$ , such as tau (symbol  $\tau$ , another Greek letter) producing the simpler equation of  $C = \tau r$ .

**Puzzle:** Imagine there is a rope around the Earth's equator (say 40,000 kilometres). How much longer would the rope have to be so that it is one metre off the ground all the way round ?

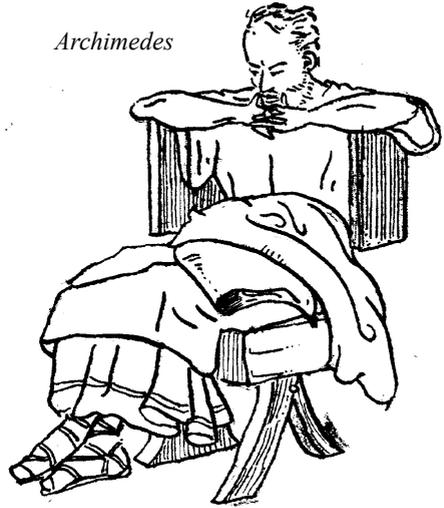
*answet page 54*

stein, he used  $\pi$  to describe the geometry of space and time in his general relativity equations.

So pi is an intriguing number – it exhibits randomness, yet is not random in itself. The business world loves the uniformity (or non randomness) of its randomness. That is to say, the frequency of the occurrence of the digits 0 to 9 as spread out randomly in the known decimal expansion of pi is statistically normal – more or less equal. And this randomness is used by commerce to generate secure ciphers, data protection encryption, and to test computers. Moreover, the decimal expansion is now so large that, in theory, anyone could find their own birth date, telephone number and bank details somewhere within it.

In conclusion, pi is a concept which holds many

*Archimedes*



secrets. Mathematicians have been baffled and intrigued by it, we all need it, and we all rely on its random numbers. And if it's good enough for Kate Bush to name a track 'pi' on her 2005 Aerial album, it's good enough for me.

*Darren Milsom*



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# Limericks

## Greeting with Kisses

*I just can't recall but I know you,  
Should it be one kiss or two?  
Decision, left or right?  
We could be here half the night!  
I suppose a limp handshake will do!!*

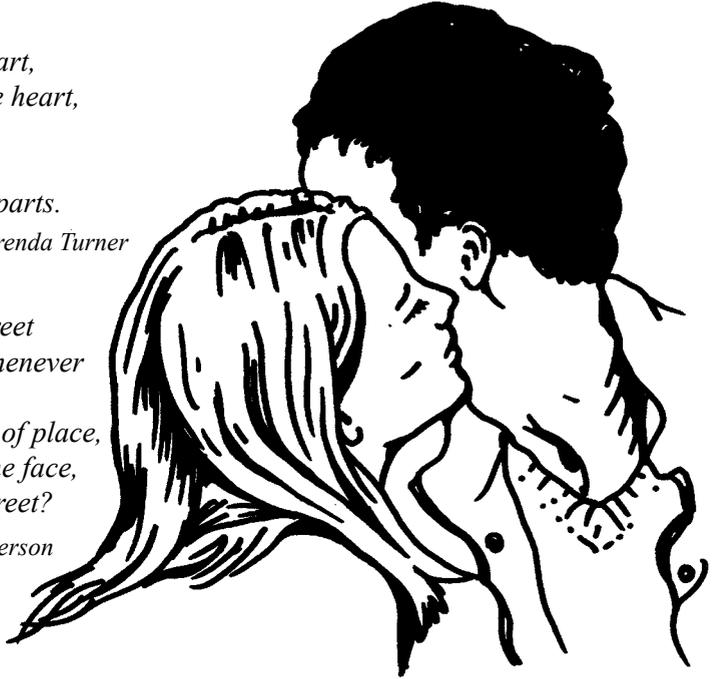
Cyril Young

*Meeting with others two metres apart,  
Not that easy sharing stuff from the heart,  
And greeting with kisses,  
Is something one misses,  
But clearly not worth the risk it imparts.*

Brenda Turner

*When Covid is over how will we greet  
Our friends and our neighbours whenever  
we meet?  
As kissing will surely be most out of place,  
With so many contact points on the face,  
Will hand to wrist be safe and discreet?*

Jim Henderson



### September Limerick Challenge:

Please send limericks on the theme of:

### Lockdown - good or bad for dieting?

by the 20th August to: [info@theobj.com](mailto:info@theobj.com) / CBJ,  
BP4, 22160 CALLAC

## The 'Little Toughie'

Jim Henderson

1		2		3		4
	■		■		■	
5						
	■		■		■	
6						
	■		■		■	
7						

### Clues Across

1. Sunken (7)
5. Mechanism (7)
6. Controlling prices (7)
7. Constant (7)

### Down

1. Hamstring (7)
2. Immature (7)
3. Duration of flight (7)
4. Flags (7)

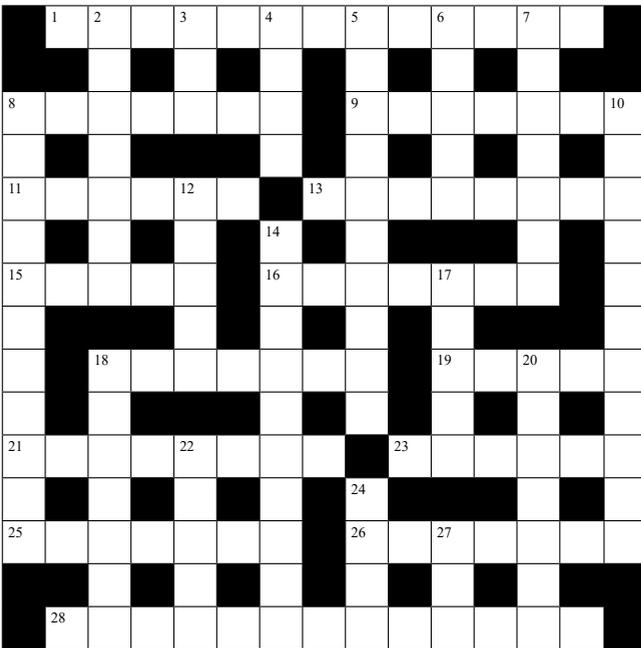
The following numbers of letters are required to solve this puzzle:

A – 3; C – 2; D – 2; E – 5; G – 3; I – 4; L – 2; M – 1; N – 7; O – 2; P – 2; R – 2; S – 3; T – 1; V – 1.

Solution in the Sept. issue. Solution July Little Toughie page 51

# Prize Crossword

August *Darren Milsom*



**Across**

1. Reconditioned turbo ran clean and green (6,7)
8. Reptile can keep an eye on things (7)
9. War game lead story gets unfair treatment (3,4)
11. Macron is acting like a gambler somewhere back here (6)
13. Too many actors putting location under a cloud (8)
15. Spilled paint is out of place (5)
16. Put name down for second go in tennis (7)
18. Val Doonican travels to Etna, and I can't be there (7)
19. Beaten by one of the group at some stage (5)
21. Italian suppository? Oo-er matron! (8)
23. Cost includes first name of number one son (6)
25. See animal waste time in captivity below (7)
26. Strange to see rum sort put on a pedestal (7)
28. Witness protection needed for angry analyst? (5,8)

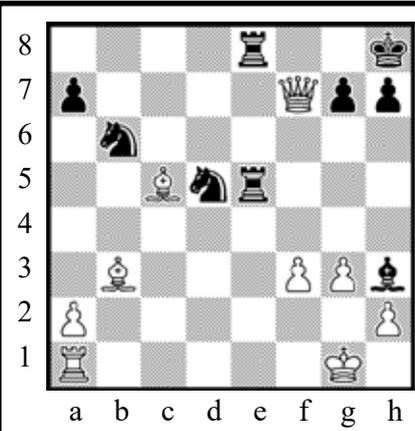
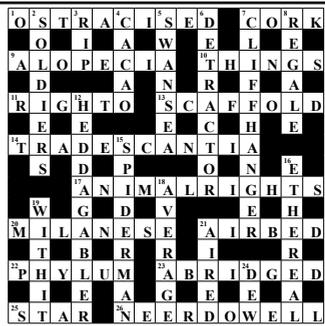
**Down**

2. Travelling men in Asia have forgotten (7)
3. There's a Transylvanian type that can hit you for six (3)
4. Grass bug (4)
5. Exchange just over a dollar to see international X factor (10)
6. RAC drags vehicle to London landmark (5)
7. Grave mistake in A&E means mean result (7)
8. Copy cat can fly? (7,4)
10. Kids in playground emulate train whistle (3,3,5)
12. Province of birth (5)
14. Holiday hoedown puts teenagers in a spin (5-5)
17. Will catch you tearing back and forth (5)
18. Salesman could reinvent and take drug with Bordeaux (7)
20. Never involve a French one or you'll get upset (7)
22. Seven at sixes and sevens given half a chance (5)
24. Coming up for air and a song (4)
27. Descend on foot (3)

**Solution July Prize Crossword:**

*Winner June prize crossword: Anne Welby, Dinan*

*Twenty euros to the first correct solution drawn from the hat for the August prize crossword. Please send completed solutions to: Prize Crossword, CBJ, BP4, 22160 CALLAC, by 20<sup>th</sup> Aug.*



## Chess Puzzle

**White to play and win**  
This is the same game as last month just 6 moves further on.

Hint: finished  
No sacrifice is needed, one quiet move and black is

*Solution page 48*

*The Knight in Shining Armor, Huelgoat Chess Club, chrisandmalbody@yahoo.co.uk*

# COMPUTER BOB

## Hiding Windows File Extensions is a Security Risk

Microsoft hides file extensions in Windows by default even though it's a security risk that is commonly abused by phishing emails and malware distributors to trick people into opening malicious files.

A file extension is the letters immediately shown after the last period in a file name and is used by the operating system to determine what program is used to open, view, and utilise the file.

For example, the file 'report.txt' has an extension of .txt, which is associated with the Windows Notepad program to open and view its contents.

By default, Microsoft decides to hide file extensions in Windows so that a file named 'report.txt' is simply shown in File Explorer as 'report'.

The original reason for this was probably to make it less confusing to users, but regardless of the reason, it is a security risk that attackers abuse.

You will be familiar with many common file extensions such as .doc (Word documents), .pdf (Adobe documents), .mov (QuickTime media files) and, perhaps most famously, .mp3 (music files). And yet it is likely you can't name many modern types now because, yes, Microsoft now hides them by default to simplify the end user experience. And that's dangerous.

With file extensions disabled a file can be associated with an icon which can make it look like a PDF file even when it is actually an executable i.e. ".exe". This is not to say strange PDFs you receive via email cannot be a risk, but receiving executables disguised as PDFs should definitely raise more alarms. If you click on them you will be executing code that you were not expecting.

I strongly suggest that users enable the showing of all file extensions in Windows 10 so that they know exactly what type of file they are interacting with.

To enable file extensions in Windows 10, please follow these steps:

1. Search for 'Folder Options' in the Windows 10 Start Menu and when 'File Explorer Options' appears, click on it.
2. When the File Explorer Options screen appears, click on the View tab and scroll through the Advanced settings until you see an option labeled "Hide extensions for known file types". Now uncheck the option.
3. Now press the Apply button followed by the OK button and the File Explorer Options screen will close.

Now all files displayed on the desktop, in folders, or in File Explorer will display a file extension.

*If you need any help with the above, or any other problems you may be having, feel free to email me and I will do my best to help.*

*Email: [info@computerbob.fr](mailto:info@computerbob.fr)*

### *Popular phrases and sayings explained: EYES*

**All my eye and Betty Martin** – meaning nonsense. This expression is probably from the 18th century when there was an actress of renown whose name was Betty Martin. It appears that her favourite expression was "My Eye" and her name was co-opted for popular use.

**To be the apple of one's eye** – meaning to be what one cherishes or holds most dear. The pupil of the eye has for a long time been known as the apple because of its supposed round solid shape. To be deprived of the apple is to be blinded and lose something valuable.

**Don't fire until you see the white of their eyes**

– suggesting not to use up your ammunition – metaphorically speaking – before it can be effective, or, wait until you are up close to a problem before beginning to deal with it. A military quotation apparently from the American War of Independence.

**The eyes are the windows of the soul** – meaning that a person's eyes can tell us a lot about the person. Has appeared in many forms in literature from Plato to the present day

**In my mind's eye** – In my perceptive thought. The eye sees in two ways – without – and – within. When we look at anything without, the object is reflected on the retina as on a mirror, but in deep contemplation the inward thought "informs the eye"

**In the twinkling of an eye** – Immediately – very soon.

# William's War: Part 20

*The war diaries of William Fredrick Spinks, edited by Hilary Bridewell.*

*Summer 1915 - continued*

It was interesting to see the Indian troops when they were in rest-billets, during the summer period. The light and warmth made the exile from their loved India easier to bear. Some of the Sikhs were fine physical examples of man-hood and to see their muscular bodies glistening in the sun, their beautiful teeth and long, well-kept hair, of which they seemed so proud, filled us with admiration. They always appeared ill-adapted to the khaki uniform which they had to wear, and they walked rather clumsily in the army boots. They revealed their fine poise and lithe movements when, for recreation and bodily ablutions, they discarded European attire. To keep the skin soft and clear, they made much use of oil.

For their games they were fond of running, and wrestling. They would sit for hours, on their haunches, chanting some plaintive melody to the accompaniment of native drums and flutes which had a dirge-like sound. They would smoke the "hookah", a pipe with a long flexible stem, the smoke being filtered through water. The stem they would pass one to the other, each man taking a few "draws". Sometimes they used a pipe which was merely a bowl and placed in the closed hand, which acted as the stem, the smoke was drawn through by the man placing his closed hands to his lips. I tried to do it, but made no success whatever. They were very patient folk and would carry heavy burdens over awkward ground, without murmur. We were very often to be found round their billets, asking them for some of the fruit, figs, dates, raisins they received for rations. Their bread too, was an item many of us liked. "Japatees" (Chapatti's), they were known as, and they were cakes made from Indian flour, unleavened, sometimes cooked on a hot plate of iron, and by others fried in goat-fat. Eaten with curry, they were very nutritious and tasty.

In August we were reviewed by General French

(he was latter made Earl of Ypres on the 5th of June 1922) – the whole of the Lahore Division and, of course, we felt a certain amount of pride to have that honour bestowed on us. We had not enough experience of war then, to understand that when a "Big Gun" inspected you, that there was something in the wind. Some rumours were broadcast to the effect that as we had been such good soldiers in holding the line while the New Armies were at home training, that we were to be relieved and sent home on Garrison Duty. But as all rumours end, so did this one.

Somewhere about this time, we machine gunners were sent to a little school at an old chateau close by the Church at La Couture. There we went through a course of instructions and machine gun drill. We were first introduced to the Vickers machine gun here. The Officer in charge one day in his lecture told us there were to be corps of machine gunners who would not be attached to a battalion, but would work with the division. We could not imagine then that the war would be changed in the coming year, and that all battles we had been in would appear as mere skirmishes, compared with the Somme, Arras etc. We thought he was merely romancing to us.

While staying in this village, I chanced to be standing near to the Church one evening, when in the tower the bell softly tolled for Benediction. It seemed as if it had tired of hanging silently there so long that it must send its voice abroad to those of the villagers who had been born within its sound and who were still living as long as they could in their old homes. Yet it must not be heard by the Germans – (the trenches were about 3 miles away) for fear of bringing a shell into the Church. The day would never return when it would ring out its full sonorous tone; because in 1918 the Germans advanced and all this countryside was devastated and laid bare and the bell fell when the tower collapsed through gun-fire.

**One-eyed** – An expression of contempt such as "I've never seen such a one-eyed town" meaning poverty stricken, mean or unpleasant.

**To make someone open his eyes** – To surprise someone very much and make him stare with wonder or admiration.

**Eye opener** – Something that furnishes enlight-

enment, or food for astonishment – also a strong mixed drink, especially a morning after pick me up.

**Up to the eyes** – Wholly, completely as "up to the eyes in work", very fully occupied or "mortgaged up to the eyes" – to the last penny available.

*By the way*

# Tim the Gardener

*At this time of year focus in the garden tends to shift to harvesting.*

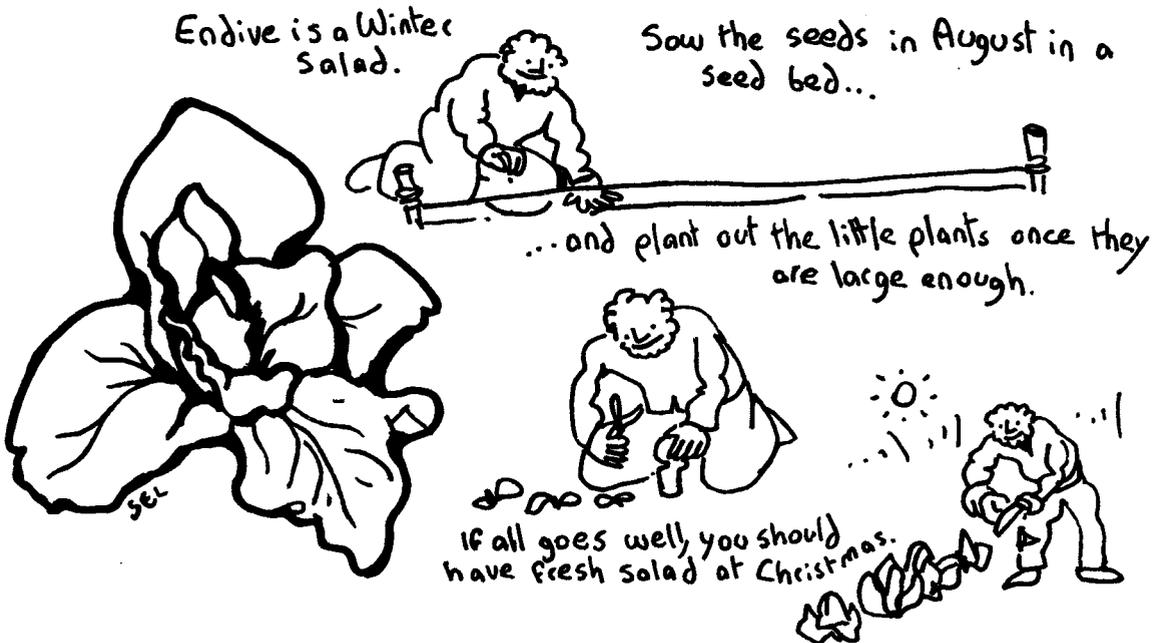
**Potatoes:** Early on in the year, I was worried that I might not get any potatoes at all; the wet, cold weather that we had in April caused signs of blight to appear on some early plants during May, and then almost all the plants in one of my potato patches caught a late frost. Fortunately, I had two separate potato patches this year, and the second patch escaped the frost, even though it is on slightly higher ground. The hot dry weather in June seemed to arrest the progress of the blight, and I am now looking at quite a large potato crop. The next question is how best to conserve the crop for use throughout the winter. The ideal is to leave the tubers in the ground, where they can ripen in their own time, and then to lift them in the autumn, and to then transfer the healthy ones directly into a clamp. The problem with this (particularly in a chemical-free organic garden in which wildlife is free to roam) is that you can lose a large proportion of the crop to mice and voles, which are happy to build nests underground, amidst the plant roots, and to quietly eat their way through the tubers one by one. Wireworms can also be a problem, particularly if you're using your po-

tato crop to break in rough ground. To avoid these problems, the crop can be lifted now, and stored in a temporary clamp, and then sorted later in the year before going into winter storage.

**Shallots and Onions:** Shallots, onions, and garlic should be taken up as soon as the tops die back, and before they become overrun with weeds. The bulbs should then be laid out in the sun until they are thoroughly dry. If the weather turns bad, this may involve taking them in and out of the shed over the course of a few weeks, and it is a good idea to lay the bulbs out in wooden crates to make the task easier.

**Seeds:** This year, many of us experienced the trauma of not being able to get the seeds we needed when we needed them, due to the shops being shut. This made me more careful than usual to leave a few plants of each crop to go to seed - lettuces, cabbages, spinach, carrot, beetroot, etc. Now is the time to keep an eye on these plants, and to harvest the seeds as soon as they become ripe. Otherwise, you can be sure that the birds will beat you to it. The seeds should be dried, and stored in a mouse-free environment (I now use glass jars), and carefully labelled.

And, of course, don't forget to plant a little salad for the winter...



# Stirring Up a Hornet's Nest



*Another extract from an abortive journal I no longer keep. This one is imprinted on the memory and will never be forgotten. This episode happened before we fully migrated to France and never looked back, when our house was still a second home and we still had to continue as performing fleas for a living. It occurred in August 2009.*

When we finally arrive at the house we enter to rain that begins as we approach from the village. It is too damp to try and unload everything apart from some essentials. The day is set to be dreary with rain spitting down vertically. Nevertheless we are happy to be here; our first priority is to put the kettle on. We then sit down to rest and sip our tea. I try to read yesterday's Guardian, bought on the ferry to Roscoff and not really looked at apart from reading the headlines and a quick rummage through the inner pages. It enters my mind that I am still cold and the house feels damp from lack of use, although one priority was to start a dehumidifier upstairs on the landing.

Although it is August we agree it is a good idea to light the wood burner, an ancient insert model that still manages to give off a good heat. There is dry wood and kindling in baskets beside the burner so I set to. Unfortunately, I have to go outside twice, once to find a bucket and next to empty the bucket of ash from our last visit at Easter. The sports section of the Guardian becomes paper sticks. I never read this section due to a congenital disinterest in sport of any kind. A couple of ripped up wine boxes add body to the foundation of the fire; we must have drunk the contents on our last visit, and left the boxes for this purpose – a cabernet sauvignon and a merlot. On the trip to the shed I pick up some more kindling. This was added to the mix to be topped by one charred log and a fresh one. A couple of fire lighters set alight amongst this melange begins a classic blaze that looks as good as it begins to feel. Forgetting tea, we pour a couple of large glasses of red to cheer us up and sit to relax in front of the welcoming flame. Soon I add another log, though the fire has begun to be too hot for any kind of August.

This was about the time the first hornets dropped down the chimney, popping like popcorn, and one giving a plaintive buzz before expiring with three others on the flat black top of the woodburner.

We paused in shock at this manifestation – realise that hornets (the large European version, called frelon in France) had nested in the metal lining of the flue and had dropped through a gap in the seal. The corpses are left to the heat on the metal top of the burner. We had experienced these insects before, and knew they had a penchant for resurrection after apparently being dead. A couple more fly out and head for the front door – our only door – which is closed. Each is dispatched by a frantic flailing of a plastic fly swatter followed by consumption of two large glasses of red wine.

Should we stoke the woodburner and fry others who might still be there? This could provoke further appearances, and our wood supply this time of year is scant. Didn't we bring sure-fire cement with us last time? Yes, and it is sitting conveniently in the store room on top of a cupboard. A small trowel is all that is needed to apply this grey-black material round the rim of the pipe, and a torch to see what the heck I am doing. The cement does the job, and I can return to being a crash-test dummy, dry out with another glass of wine and celebrate our return to France.

After a while Lynn says that she can hear music quite clearly but I hear nothing. The instruments are a fiddle and bombard that play traditional Breton music as found at Fest Noz. It comes from the corner between burner and window. I wonder why it seemed important to light a fire when we arrived. Did it celebrate our coming, our heeding of a direction to light a fire in the hearth, or both? There has never been a repeat hornet infestation, though I'm told when the music plays again from time to time.

*James Bell*

# On and Off the Beaten Track

## No Substitute for Personal

**Y**ou will probably have heard of CRM and will know what this consulting jargon means. But does not quite. Like so much in our topsy-turvy world, it is not quite what it seems. An initialism that conceals meaning. “Customer focused relationships” (more jargon) are not something I generally associate with any organisation that relies on call centres to conduct its business. Not like a corner shop would. However, ultimately the software that enables the unfortunate call centre operator to understand whether the hapless client is calling for X or Y corporation, and thus is able to respond accordingly, classifies as Customer Relationship Management, defined by Wikipedia as “data analysis about customers' history with a company to improve business relationships with customers, specifically focusing on customer retention and ultimately driving sales growth.” Or perhaps not, unless there is no choice.

Twenty years ago, when I worked in marketing and communications for an IT consultancy, CRM and call centres were a profitable market. Probably still are. Everyone gained, except perhaps the customer. Then, rapid improvements in communication technology led to exporting some centres to India and China – and how that last is now coming back to bite us – where you could hire someone with a degree in astrophysics for peanuts and set them to answering banal questions on the “help-desks” of big organisations: “Yes sir, the on/off switch is on the large box and is indicated by a pictogram intended to designate a switch.” “No, madame, globalisation means the words “on” and “off” are not universal, unlike Covid 19.”

You will have gathered by now that I am underwhelmed by call centres. I’m not criticising the unfortunate grunts condemned to low-grade, frontline defence in the commercial trenches, taking a bullet for management self-isolating in bunkers. (Have you ever tried to speak to someone really senior about an intractable problem?) Most do their best and have to bear the wrath of frustrated clients who have just been told that their waiting time will cost 30c a minute and they have just waited ten minutes to speak to someone, before being abruptly cut off and having to start the whole process again. Last month, I discovered that our phone bill was up by 20€ because of calls to premium lines as I tried to return a greenhouse I had bought online during the confinement.

Then there is the law of unintended consequences, in this case leading to the dark side: so-called “telemarketing”, a thorny subject that has cropped up in this magazine periodically. Having had some thankless experience of cold calling in the 1990s, I used to try to be polite to these unfortunates. Their soul-destroying work does not even offer the possibility of the satisfaction of helping someone to resolve a problem, which at least a helpdesk does. Non-jobs to replace those in manufacturing that we have exported (along with a convenient chunk of our CO2 emissions). A workhouse e-treadmill of automated calls dialling ahead so that the salesperson can never catch up. I have never met anyone who was not driven nuts by them, or anyone who has ever bought something from an unsolicited call. But still they go on. Someone must.

By the way, I think I have finally cracked this tedious problem by transferring all incoming calls to my mobile after six rings. Apart from the fact that the mobile will identify the number if it is in my directory, France Telecom (a.k.a Orange) has a useful application that allows you to report and block malicious or telemarketing numbers – to me they are synonymous – and you can also block them on the mobile phone. I get a grim satisfaction watching 0973\*\*\*\* flashing away, knowing that I have outwitted them. For now.

And mentioning FT – could just as well be BT – returns me to when these reflexions started at the height of house arrest. On April 18th, our internet ceased to function. Unless my mobile is connected by wifi, it only works intermittently at home and that from the end of the garden. Consequently, I was forced to go elsewhere to report the problem and answer the questions posed by their vocal server, with which I established a friendly relationship being the only consistent voice I got. However, it was immensely frustrating and time consuming, as over the course of two months we had about six outages and countless hours lost. I was convinced that the problem lay outside with the cat’s cradle of aging copper wire and grime covered boxes.

Now in fairness to FT, with one exception, my call centre interlocutors were very good. After the first

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# Art & Culture

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## SENSEMANUFACTURE: New Art Gallery - Mellionnec



Armano and Marijana Jericevic have opened a new art gallery in the heart of the Breton countryside in Mellionnec. Visitors are welcome to view the art on display, to discuss art (and life), or to simply enjoy the ambiance. Croix Hinchou, Mellionnec. [sensemanufacture@gmail.com](mailto:sensemanufacture@gmail.com) / 02 96 26 56 96 Open 10am to 5pm

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## No substitute for personal *continued*

person resolved the problem only temporarily, the second upgraded my Livebox and had it delivered within three days. The third as good as told me that I was an idiot, a sentiment with which many might agree, but not one that I expect from a customer relationship operative. I was a bit shirty with him.

Enter our saviour. After a friendly exchange with the vocal server – it was its birthday – I recited the litany of woes when the lady stopped me and asked for a minute to read the file. I swear I heard a sharp intake of breath. A nice woman with Breton connections, she arranged for an engineer's visit in under two hours. He identified an external problem that someone else would come to fix. Someone arrived the following day and fixed it – on the 14th June – and so far we have had no problem until last Thursday. But then we discovered that the difficulty was across our sector, where I imagine the copper is also very old. (It's off again across the area as I write today. Twice in less than a week.)

In the end, I guess their software worked, but it would work a lot better if it generated a single point of contact until a problem is resolved. Continuing personal contact creates the client relationships which make the commercial world go round, not machines (notwithstanding my burgeoning relationship with the vocal server)!

*Richard Griffiths, [rpfg@orange.fr](mailto:rpfg@orange.fr)*

## Bridge Puzzle 19

### BBO Advanced Puzzle

Bridge Base Online features a free practice section in 'bridge master' where you can practice playing hands at different levels of difficulty from Beginner to World class. If you get it wrong you can replay the deal and the explanations are very clear.

This deal is level 3 – Advanced

West leads the Q♠ against 6NT. If the club suit plays for 6 tricks, South will have 13 top tricks. As the contract is 6NT South can afford to lose a club trick. South should try to guarantee taking 5 tricks in clubs.

♠ A 3 2  
♥ A K  
♦ 4 3  
♣ K Q 10 8 7 6



♠ K Q J  
♥ J 9 8 7 6  
♦ A K 2  
♣ A 2

**Solution page 53**

Bridge puzzle contributed by Dan Lewis, [buildingmatters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:buildingmatters@yahoo.co.uk)

## Saturday 15th August Festive Wool Day

Numerous wool-themed stands. Food and bar  
**.22160 Bulat Pestivien**



# Letters



## Pic Vert

This photo is of two green woodpeckers ("Pic Vert" or "Piver" in French). It was taken on 27th June; in the morning of the same day there were around 10 green woodpeckers on my lawn! I guess the whole family was there : the parents and the young birds coming out for their first flights.

Marie-Josée Conan

## Une Année avec la Terre

Exhibition. *A year in the Garden with Tim the Gardener*. 1st Aug-16th Aug Ch'ty Coz Cafe-brocante, Bulat Pestivien 02 96 45 75 74.

18th Aug - 15th Sept Cafe-bookshop 'le Temps qu'il fait', Mellionec. 02 96 36 40 90.



## Fête des Jardins

The autumn garden festival at the Château de Pommorio in Tréveneuc is scheduled to take place on October 24th & 25th this year. The theme is "Plants and shrubs for the garden birds".

As usual there will be a range of specialist nurseries represented, including producers of organic vegetable and fruit plants, plus workshops and conferences.

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



## Amour Des Animaux Bretagne



Louis and Bobby Lloyd have set up a new animal-rescue association called 'Amour Des Animaux Bretagne' which works closely with 'L'amour des ânes 29' to provide care for neglected or abandoned animals.

Louis hopes that the association will be able to take on an educational role, and that it will soon be able to welcome visitors to the site.

Amour des Animaux Bretagne aims to work with other small rescues in the region and in Normandy to pool resources and information.

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



**Tim the Gardener** potatoes, shallots & onions, collectig seeds, winter lettuces. *page 20*

## Black Bees In the garden

Officially, Carpenter Bees are found in southern and Central Europe – but I have seen more of them on my sweet pea blossom this year, than ever before.

They are about 25mm to 30mm long, glossy black all over, with sparse black hairs. The opaque wings are dark brown with a lilac-coloured sheen. They are a wonder to see with large black eyes and covered with pollen. *Brian Noel*



# AIKB Photography Club Continues Holding Club Meetings During Lockdown

In these unusual times, lockdown caused the AIKB Photography Club to cancel all of its indoor and outdoor meetings earlier this year. However, it was deemed important to continue keeping in regular contact with the club members, so that when life returned to some sort of normality everyone would still be in communication with one another.

The club committee decided to hold weekly meetings using Zoom; this worked very well, but it did take a little while to adapt to a format that was so different from the normal club meetings. The club competitions / challenges also re-commenced, using a slightly different format, with on-line entries being placed on the club's personal Flickr site, and voting also taking place on-line. A new way of participating in the club activities started to evolve.

With the winner of the Challenge choosing the theme for the following challenge there were some interesting choices. The first of which was "The sky's the limit", then "Turned out nice again", followed by "Water", "My Favourite Black and White Photo" and finally "Flowers". After every two-week challenge the members would discuss their own entries, and other members would suggest improvements or adjustments to the photograph. All of which helped to encourage and stimulate everyone's interest in photography. Other subjects which have been discussed on previous Zoom meetings were



the techniques of "Stacking", how to photograph water, how to photograph flowers and plants, and what equipment members may need to get involved in Macro photography and Night photography.

The club Zoom meetings and Challenges are very well supported and members are enjoying the chance to further develop knowledge of photography. Despite social-distancing and some members still self-isolating, the club has been able to continue and to thrive.

*If you would like to join in the club meetings, all new members are welcome. Please contact the Club Secretary – Evelyn Whittington: aikb.hopmg@gmail.com*

*Above: Christine Riddiough's winning entry in the Black and white Challenge*

*Left: 'Lily', by Don Taylor – June's Challenge 'Flowers'*

# Hetty's Kitchen

## Lyonnaise Potato Cake *(for 6)*

*You can make this a day ahead. Keep it in the tin and cool. Reheat in the oven at 180°C/Gas 4 for 30 minutes*

- 4 large baking potatoes
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 tbsp crème fraîche (not low fat please!)
- Grated nutmeg

Heat the oven to 200°C/Gas 6.

Scrub, pierce and microwave the potatoes for 10 minutes, then transfer to the oven for 30 minutes. When cool enough to handle, cut in half and scrape out the flesh into a bowl and mash well.

While the potatoes are cooking, fry the onions in oil and butter over gentle heat until golden and caramelised – about 30 minutes.

Grease and line a 20cm/8" loose bottomed cake tin.

Mix the beaten egg and crème fraîche into the mashed potato then stir in the onions and season well with salt and pepper plus a good grating of nutmeg.

Tip into the tin, level the top and bake for 45 minutes at 180°C/Gas 4.

Take out of the oven, cool for 5 minutes, then turn out on to a serving plate.

Serve in wedges with a salad for a light meal or as an accompaniment to pork chops or a roast.

## American Macaroni Salad *(for 8)*

- 1 cup\* mayonnaise
- 60ml cider vinegar
- 2 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 1 cup finely diced celery
- 1 cup diced red pepper
- ½ cup grated carrot
- ½ cup chopped spring onions (or ordinary ones)
- 2-3 tbsp diced jalapeno peppers
- 450g uncooked macaroni
- 1 tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp plain Greek yoghurt
- 6 slices smoked streaky bacon, cooked until very crisp

Whisk together the first six ingredients in a medium sized bowl.

Stir in the celery, red pepper, grated carrot, spring onions and jalapeno peppers. Mix well and chill.

Cook the macaroni in a large pot of boiling salted water for 8-10 minutes. Tip into a colander but don't rinse it! Shake frequently to help it to drain well, then tip into a bowl. Toss the macaroni frequently with a fork to help it cool down and prevent it sticking together.

Once it has reached room temperature, pour over the dressing and stir well. (Please don't be tempted to add the dressing while the pasta is still warm or you end up with a bowl of very greasy and unappealing salad!) Cover with cling film and chill for at least four hours or preferably overnight to allow the dressing to be absorbed.

To serve: Mix 1 tbsp mayo and 1 tbsp yoghurt and stir into the salad to refresh it. Check the seasoning and adjust if necessary.

Transfer to a serving dish and garnish with some chopped green spring onion stems or fresh chives and crumble over the crispy bacon.

## Banana Chocolate Pots *(for 6-8)*

- 4 very ripe bananas
- 250ml thick cream
- Good pinch of salt
- 75g brown sugar
- 250g finely chopped dark chocolate (min.70% cocoa solids)
- 60g blanched hazelnuts
- 1 tbsp brown sugar

Mash the bananas well then stir in the cream, salt and sugar.

Heat very gently in a pan, stirring constantly, until steaming.

Take off the heat and tip in the chopped chocolate. Stir until the chocolate has dissolved completely. Whizz with a stick blender, then strain into a jug.

Divide between 6-8 small glasses or little pots. Cover with cling film and leave to cool. Chill when at room temperature.

Toast the hazelnuts in a dry frying pan, then blitz them in a food processor with the tablespoon of brown sugar.

When ready to serve, sprinkle some of the chopped hazelnuts on top and put the remainder in a small bowl for people to help themselves to extra.

# CBJ Quiz

August 2020.

Set by *Jon Chambers*

**Target: 25 points. Answers page**

## I: General Knowledge & Current Affairs

1. Which anti-car politician has just been re-elected Mayor of Paris?
2. Which classical composer celebrates his 250th birthday this year: Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven?
3. The 200th anniversary of which Romantic poet's death is commemorated next year: Wordsworth, Keats, or Byron?
4. Which sport is most closely associated with the music 'Soul limbo'?
5. Who was Ancient Rome's 'philosopher emperor': Marcus Aurelius, Augustus, or Nero?
6. Which Italian composer, credited with the film scores *Cinema Paradiso* and *A Fistful of Dollars*, died last month aged 91?
7. The first black footballer to be picked for England (but then withdrawn from the team) was Jack Leslie. For which English south-coast team did he play?
8. What is the first letter of the Arabic alphabet?
9. Which two islands bookend Napoleon's life? (½ point for each)
10. Who is the new taoiseach of Ireland, replacing Leo Varadkar in early July?

## II: Science & Nature

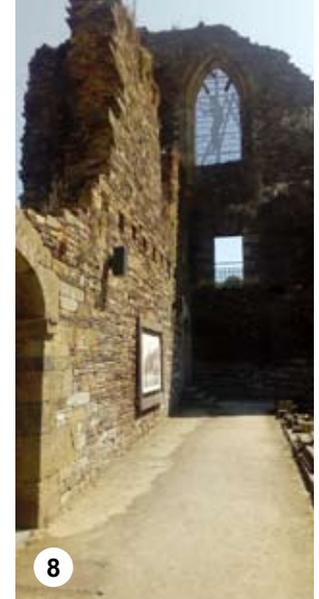
1. The peony is most closely related to: the rose, oak, or gooseberry?
2. Which planet is nearest to the sun?
3. Which two elements combine to form 'laughing gas'?
4. Which blood group is called the 'universal' donor?
5. Jupiter has the most moons in the solar system. Which planet has the next highest number?
6. Helium is the first. What is the second noble gas in the Periodic Table?
7. Who devised the Periodic Table?
8. In maths, what is an angle of over 180 degrees called?
9. True or False: Iceland lies on a destructive plate margin?
10. Which bird is known in French as a *Grive muscienne*?

## III: Landmarks in Brittany

1. Where is the statue of this British film director (the bird on his shoulder is part of the statue)?
2. This marina is tucked away near which modern city in Finistère?
3. Where is this coastal town (in Morbihan)?
4. Identify this former quarry, active during the Roman period, near Mellionnec.
5. A viaduct in the middle of ... ?
6. Prehistoric burial chamber in northern Finistère, dating from 4,800BC.
7. A worker-village at a foundry in central Brittany dating from 1623.
8. An abbey, founded in 1184, now hosting regular events in the creative arts.
9. Estuary near which publicly-owned chateau?
10. Historic *lavoirs*, near which picturesque town in northern Brittany?

## IV: Connections

1. Which C19 Russian novel, written by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, first appeared in serial form in the periodical *Russky Vestnik* in 1879-80?
2. First written in 1977, which three-part composition by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt exemplifies his *tintinnabuli* theory?
3. Who designed the plane that flew four times on 17 December, 1903, near Kill Devil Hills?
4. Who were the offspring of the god of War, Mars, and the princess Rhia Silvia? They were born, according to Roman myth, in 770BC and founded the city of Rome.
5. How are the German philologists Jacob Ludwig Carl and Wilhelm Carl better known?
6. Which Japanese Electronics Company, founded in 1908 and with Headquarters in Nagoya, manufactures printers, laptops, label printers, fax machines, and sewing machines?
7. In the victorious England World Cup Wining team of 1966, who wore the shirts numbered 5 and 9? (½pt for each)
8. How were Edward VIII and George VI related?
9. According to *The Book of Genesis*, who were the world's first murderer and murderee?
10. Connection?



# Exploring The Worlds Of Beer and Wine

*My only regret in life is that I did not drink more wine.*  
Ernest Hemingway

## Do Wine Kits Make Good Wine?

If you enjoy a nice glass of wine you have probably asked yourself questions like “Will wine from a wine kit taste as good as wine from the supermarket?”, “Would making wine save me money?”, “Is it difficult to do?” and “Does it take a lot of expensive equipment?”. After all, we'd like to know what's a realistic expectation before investing our time and money in DIY wine, right?

As with all good questions, there is no single, simple answer. Some kits make very good wines that exceed commercial wines in a similar category, especially when equalised on a cost basis – home wine makers have none of the heavy overhead costs of the commercial winery to worry about!

The technology involved in producing the wine juice concentrate in wine kits, and therefore the quality achievable, has advanced enormously in the past few decades and there is increasing recognition that kit wines do compare favourably with good commercial wines. A necessary caveat is that, despite there being many objective criteria, judging wine ultimately comes down to subjective choice. Add to this the fact that, whether it's wine made at home or at a winery, price is no guarantee, even if we may tend to get what we pay for. The quality of wine can be all over the place at just about any price point, whether it's made in the home or commercially.

When it comes to an enjoyable, everyday vin de table, cheaper kits will be perfectly adequate, while at the other end of the spectrum, top-of-the-line wine kits using a single-grape variety, such as cabernet sau-



vignon for red wines or chardonnay grapes for white wine, are almost always superior in taste complexity and other characteristics to a blend of unidentified grapes. Another good indicator of quality is the amount of grape juice concentrate that is provided with the kit: some have as much as fourteen litres of concentrate and accordingly require less water to be added, making a better quality of must for the yeast to work with in turning it into wine.

Some kits also provide additional ingredients such as the actual grape skins and oak chips to enhance the character of the finished wine and produce remarkably authentic examples of famous regional wines such as a refined Bordeaux claret, a light Californian quaffing wine or a big, robust Argentine malbec.

There are many other factors that the budding wine maker can control in order to improve the final result, from simply following the instructions closely to storing the wine for a few weeks or months before drinking. Timing is, if not everything, certainly an important factor in creating a quality wine.

Roger Dawson

[www.brittanywineandbeer.vistaprintdigital.com](http://www.brittanywineandbeer.vistaprintdigital.com)

[rogeralan.rd@gmail.com](mailto:rogeralan.rd@gmail.com)

### **Pink Fizz** *(One serving)*

*A glass of something to celebrate seeing friends and family again!*

- A few fresh mint leaves
- 30ml Calvados
- 20ml apple juice
- Squeeze of lime juice
- Pinch brown sugar
- Chilled sparkling rosé cider or rosé champagne

Bruise the mint leaves slightly and drop into a jug.

Add a few ice cubes, then the Calvados, apple juice, lime and sugar. Stir until the sugar has dissolved.

Strain into a wine glass or flute and top up with fizz.

**Bon appétit**

## Birds to See in Brittany: Rook

French: **Corbeau freux**

Breton: **Frav du**

**W**e are fairly large birds of the same family as crows, but we are more gregarious, with an inclination to co-exist with man. Our feathers are black, often showing as bluish purple in bright sunlight. Our legs and feet are generally black and we have a grey-black bill. As adults, we have a bare area of whitish skin between the bill and the eyes which distinguishes us from other members of the crow family.

In general we are lowland birds found in cultivated countryside which has at least a few groups of tall trees in which we can build our colonies – known as rookeries. These consist of 50-100 nests with 10-15 in one tree. Solitary nesting is not common among rooks. Nests are a massive structure of twigs, growing with

age as old nests are added to year after year. Mud, turf or dung is used to consolidate the nest, which has a deep cup, formed of hay, straw, moss and sometimes wool. The female starts to lay in late March, and a clutch contains 3-5 eggs incubated by the female for 16-18 days while the male supplies the food. The female keeps the young covered for a further 10 days and the male feeds the whole family. The screeching young remain in the nest for 4-5 weeks, then spend a week on the edge of the nest before flying off. Rooks nest once a year.

We forage mainly on the ground, occasionally hopping around and probing the ground with our strong bills. We consume earthworms, insect larvae, snails, corn, peas and acorns. We certainly do take some seed corn which makes our status controversial in the farm economy; however, the fact that we also consume large quantities of corn pests, such as wireworms, means that corn production and rooks can and do thrive side by side.

Our most impressive group activities are our winter roosting assemblies, when a central rookery becomes the nightly gathering place for groups within a radius of several kilometres. They gather noisily on the trees at some distance from their destination and appear to wait for a full muster before making their next move. Hundreds of Rooks often accompanied by half as many jackdaws may have gathered. Suddenly, as if at a signal from an unseen conductor, the cawing and yapping ceases and the whole mass, in silence, swoops down to the ground. For a few minutes they hop and feed before the final flight into roost. This flight in itself can be a noisy affair before settling down to roost.

Country folk used to believe that we occasionally held a “parliament” in which a “criminal” Rook was condemned and pecked to death which gave us the reputation of attacking injured or otherwise abnormal companions.

It is often said that because of our habits we should be the best known of the four black crows that occur and should be worthy of a distinctive and unambiguous name, however we often have to share the name “crow” and this failure to differentiate does us no favours. The saying “as the crow flies” surely refers to our familiar flight-lines to and from our rookeries or winter roosts, and not to birds of the other species.



*Jim Henderson*

# Plums

Plums are believed to be one of the oldest domesticated fruits, and evidence has been found dating back to Neolithic times of plum trees having been grown around human habitations across Europe and Asia.

Over recent years, however, plums have lost out in popularity, to a certain extent, to fruits that are better adapted to modern food storage, transportation, and marketing techniques. Plums are best when eaten fresh, straight from the tree, and deteriorate relatively rapidly once picked, making them difficult to get to the shops in a good condition. Less work has been done by the scientific community on research and development of industrialised growing techniques for plums than for some other fruits such as citrus fruits, apples, and bananas, all of which can be made available in the shops throughout the year.

Thus, when one starts to engage with the world of plums, one is put in touch with an older, more gentle era than our own. Many of the most famous varieties can be traced back to the Middle Ages. Greengages, which are known as Reine Claude plums in France are reputed to be derived from a plum presented to Francois I, king of France in the 1500s, by the ambassador of the Sultan of Istanbul. Francois was married to Claude of Brittany, hence the name: Reine Claude.

Similarly, Mirabelle plums, that are now a speciality of the Lorraine region, are believed to have originated in the Middle East, and the d'Ente plum that is grown in the South of France and dried to make the famous prunes of Agen is believed to have been brought back to France during the Crusades. Damsons, of which there are many different varieties, were introduced into Western Europe much earlier, possibly in Roman times, but may also originate in the Middle East, possibly from the region of Damascus.

In truth all these plums are quite exotic fruits. They cannot generally be propagated by seed, by cuttings, or by suckers, but need to be grafted, and it takes more skill to graft a plum tree than some other fruits, such as apples, or pears. Furthermore, the more westerly parts of Europe are not particularly well adapted to these varieties which need cold winters and hot summers to give their best yield.

However, we do have a simpler plum tradition of our



own, which probably pre-dates Roman times. Variously known as wild plums, damsons, or bullace in old English, small, self-propagating plum trees were a staple of the countryside both in Brittany, and in the UK up until recent times. The fruits vary in colour from deep purple to



red, green or yellow, and in shape are smaller than commercial plums - but larger than sloes (to which they may be related). They are quite bitter right up until the day when they are completely ripe, when they suddenly become sweet, making them an ideal snack for anyone working in the garden, and a delight to children. They can be picked early for jam, plum tarts, and desserts.

Each village, or even each house in a village, could have had a slightly different variety, ripening at different times. Sometimes a wild plum tree can be found growing close to an old house, or farm building, in which case it could be seven or eight metres high, and may yield a substantial crop; other times they can be found growing amongst other trees on a

field bank. They sucker prolifically, with the suckers producing the same type of fruit as the parent tree. Wild plums are available from garden nurseries, but it may be preferable to look for a truly local specimen: the trees are relatively easy to spot in the hedgerows at this time of year. Generally, where there is a tree, there will be suckers growing close by, which can be collected and planted in a suitable spot later in the year.

Ambitious gardeners could also try grafting their favourite varieties onto some of these semi-wild root stocks, or could try grafting onto blackthorn, which is considered to be a relative of the domesticated plum, and grows well in Brittany.

# Modern Technology in Rural Brittany

**M**any of us Expats have made the jump by moving to France, and are now living the good life. We have lovely, more affordable houses, great French food, cheaper wine and generally a less stressed and more peaceful life. Many of us have opted for the peace and quiet of living in rural Brittany, in isolated cottages or small hamlets. Rural living



has many benefits on our health, well-being and security, but unlike the big cities, can have some drawbacks. Most of us French loving Expats still have the ability to watch UK TV from a satellite dish and decoder or digibox but many of us suffer from a very slow and unreliable internet connection, often because our houses are a long way from the local exchange. Despite promises from the Government that High Speed Fibre cable will soon be with us, it seems to be as slow as our internet to happen. Like your TV, it is now possible to get a High Speed internet connection from a satellite dish at your property. Using a two way Tria, (the head on the end of the dish arm) it's possible to get Fast internet speeds of upto 50Mbps download and upload speeds of upto 6Mbps.

The data limit is classed as "Unlimited" but may slow down at busy times once you have reached your chosen data level, but would still be very useable. One of the slight drawbacks is, because the signal is bouncing from a satellite in space, there can sometimes be a slight delay, not noticeable in normal use, but does make online gaming unadvisable, and whilst you can have a French or UK IP address, we wouldn't recommend



using the system for iPlayer etc as video

streaming can be data hungry, although occasional use is possible. The great news is, with the rental system, the equipment is FREE, you just pay 19.99 euros for carriage to France and the installation charge depending on you location. With the capable WiFi router, it is often possible to get the signal throughout your home. The system does not come with a phone, but it is possible to buy internet phones online. So with these new systems, you can now have Fast Internet access to emails, online shopping, Skype, Facebook and internet browsing in your French Rural Home.

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See **BUILDING & PROPERTY SERVICES** pp. 44-49, & 55

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**Cars - page 53**

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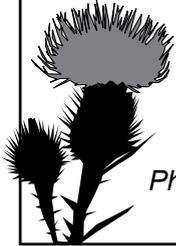


### Solution: Chess Puzzle *page 17*

1) Bf8, threatening Bxg7 mate means that white either gets checkmate or wins massive amounts of material.

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Watson European page 53

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## CBJ Quiz page 28

### I: General Knowledge & Current Affairs

- 1) Anne Hidalgo
- 2) Beethoven
- 3) Keats
- 4) Cricket
- 5) Marcus Aurelius
- 6) Ennio Morricone
- 7) Plymouth Argyll
- 8) Aleph
- 9) Corsica; St Helena
- 10) Micheál Martin

### II: Science & Nature

- 1) Gooseberry
- 2) Mercury
- 3) Nitrogen & oxygen

4) O negative

5) Saturn

6) Neon (Ne)

7) Mendeleev

8) Reflex

9) False (it's on a constructive plate boundary)

10) song thrush

### III: Landmarks in Brittany

1) Dinard

2) Brest

3) Vannes

4) Locuon

5) Morlaix

6) Barnenez

7) Les forges des Salles

8) Bon Repos

9) La Roche Jagu

10) Pontrioux

### IV: Connections

1) The Brothers Karamazov

2) Fratres

3) Orville and Wilber Wright

4) The twins Romulus and Remus, founders of the City of Rome

5) The Brothers Grimm

6) Brother

7) Jackie Charlton, Bobby Charlton

8) Brothers

9) Cain and Abel, respectively

10) Brothers

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Solution July Little Toughie

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	O		R		O		O			
5	D	R	A	F	T	E	D			
	I		N		S		D			
6	C	R	I	P	P	L	E			
	I		U		U		R			
7	L	A	M	P	R	E	Y			

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**Garage Torode:** The Garage will be closed to all new work this August, Pressing work commitments and summer holidays mean we are unavailable from the 3rd until the 31st, I am sorry for any inconvenience caused,

### Solution: Bridge Puzzle 19

#### BBO Advanced Puzzle see page 24

West leads the Q♠ against  
6NT. How should South play to  
guarantee taking 5 tricks in clubs? ♠ K Q 10 8 7 6

With careful play  
, South can take  
5 club tricks  
regardless of how  
the suit divides.

After winning the  
diamond lead, South should  
cross to the North hand  
and lead a low club off the  
dummy intending to pass it

if East follows small. When East has all 5 clubs (it would not benefit him to play the 9♣), South's safety play is necessary. South can unblock the A♣, and two dummy entries still exist to establish and cash the clubs. If on the club lead from dummy, East discards, South rises with the A♣. A club finesse is taken next. A club trick will be surrendered to West, but the contract will be secure. If the clubs were 3-2 or 4-1 an unnecessary trick might be lost in clubs. However, 5 club tricks will be certain as the A♣ K♣ and Q♣ will remove all of the defenders' remaining clubs.

Notice that leading the 10♣ from dummy on the first round of the suit would be an equally effective safety play.

♠ A 3 2	N	♠ 10 9 8
♥ A K	W	♥ 5 4
♦ 4 3	E	♦ 7 6 5
♣ K Q 10 8 7 6	S	♣ J 9 5 4 3
♠ K Q J		
♥ J 9 8 7 6		
♦ A K 2		
♣ A 2		

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## **Puzzle Answer: Pi and Maths** (Page 15)

Only about 6.28 metres. The radius would only increase by 1 metre – or 2 metres diameter increase – so as Circumference =  $2 \pi \times \text{radius}$ , the increase would be  $2 \pi (6.28\dots) \times 1$  metres. Or for the rebel mathematicians  $\pi$  metres.

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