

Issue 208

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Central Brittany Journal

October 2021



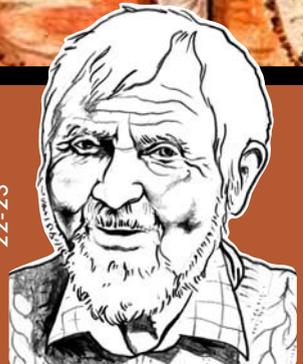
Tim the Gardener
20-21



Sparrowhawk 33



Pierre Kerboeuf
22-23





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'Autumn: Vole with hazelnuts'
Watercolour by Bethan Lewis

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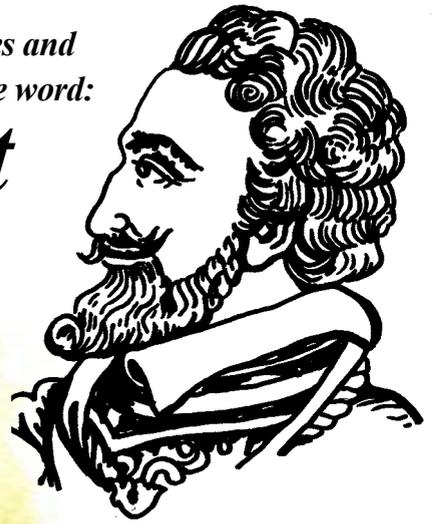
Monday 9:00 - 12:00
Tuesday - Saturday
9:00 - 12:00 14:00 - 17:30

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Letters & Photos
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Estate planning in France. Will the right money go to the right hands at the right time?

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4 Art & Culture / Letters



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Letters & Photos



Goldfinches

Last winter I was able to take pictures of goldfinches on the railings in front of our lounge window, and on the EDF power line outside the bedroom window. The pictures are unedited; I was just lucky. At one stage there were 20+ on the terrace.
Ian Griffiths

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Editorial

September proved to have been the busiest month that we have had on the Journal for a while, with things getting particularly hectic as the deadline for the October issue approached. There have been times over the past few months when things have been strangely quiet, and it has been a relief to go back to having difficulty trying to fit everything in. Apologies to anyone whose contribution got squashed in the crush!

I have been reading articles in the press commemorating the ten-year anniversary of the Occupy Wall Street movement, which have involved much agonising about why all popular movements for change, and the creation of a better world, always seem to end in failure, police repression, a sense of disillusionment, and a return to the same old system grinding on. I have always thought that this is because the movements fail to address the issue of how ordinary people can gain their livelihoods without doing harm to others or to the world in which we live. Which is why the Journal has always supported the idea of local, human-scale economic activity, and why I am pleased to see it picking up again after a period in which it had been smothered by an unprecedented, and unsustainable, level of government 'support'. *GL*

Central Brittany Journal

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Letters: letters@theobj.com Whats On: whatson@theobj.com

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

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6 Bridge Puzzle / La Route de Lin

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La Route du Lin

The cafe / bookshop, La Route du Lin, is situated in an old weaver's cottage, on the edge of the Lac du Drennec in the Monts d'Arrée. It has been open since 2016, and is designed to be a haven from the frenetic pace of modern life, in the fulfillment of an idea cherished by owner Caroline Vaultier during the time that she worked as a psychologist in the city of Tours.

The site includes a bar, a bookshop / reading room, a range of local products for sale, a terrace, gardens, and a picnic area. The bookshop specialises in titles relating to the environment, nature, and the rediscovery of forgotten country knowledge. Caroline's partner, Jean-Pascal Briant, is responsible for the cooking: food is available all day, and the menu is focused on local, seasonably-available produce. There are also rooms available for an overnight stay.

La Route du Lin, Brézéhan 29450 Commana. Open: Wednesday - Sunday 11am - 9pm
laroutedulin@gmail.com 02 98 15 64 06



Bridge Puzzle 33

Trading Losers

NS Vulnerable : Dealer South

W	N	E	S
			2♣
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

♠ J 6
♥ J 8
♦ 9 7 6 5 4 2
♣ 9 7 5



West leads two top hearts and continues with the Q♥ when his partner completed high low showing two cards in the suit. How do you play?

♠ A K Q 5 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ A K
♣ A K 3

Solution page 28

Bridge puzzle contributed by Dan Lewis,
buildingmatters@yahoo.co.uk

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Hetty's Kitchen
Plum & Pear Chutmney - 28
Chicory, Pecan & Blue
Cheese Salad - 31
Boeuf en Danube - 31
Caramel Oranges - page 32

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8 What's On

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NEW ADVERTS: OCTOBER

Art Workshops	p.4
Garden Festival	p.4
General Builder	p.44
Lee Bright Carpenter & Joiner	p.44

NEW. Pieds dans l'Plat associative cafe,
Callac. Every 1st Saturday of the Month
(starting Saturday 2nd October.
Open Mike !!

Saturday 16th October 4pm
Meeting to discuss initiatives for local
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Sewing afternoons "Doigts de fées". knitting, dressmaking, embroidery, sewing, crochet... come and share your skills or learn from others. Tuesday afternoons 2pm-5pm. Loguivy Plougras La Convergence des Loutres (the old girls' school) 10 route du Dresnay, 22780, Loguivy-Plougras. More info 06 15 21 73 38.

What's On in October

Fri 1 - Sun 3 October

Saturday 2nd October

Veterans Breakfast 10.30am. Call 02 96 24 77 43 to book.
La P'tite Pause, St Lubin 22110 Kergrist Moëlou.

Sunday 3rd October

"Painting Flowers", Watercolour Workshop with Joris Munier.
Salle des fetes, Kergrist-Moëlou. 10€ per person, including materials. To book a place call 02 96 29 02 72.

Sunday 3rd October

Foire aux Courges. 10am-6pm. Artisan and farmers' market.
Local and organic producers from all over Central Brittany. Textiles, plants, fruit and vegetables, foodstuffs, cosmetics, books.
Pederneq village centre.

Sunday 3rd October

Mushroom Ramble with Michel Sibérl. Meet 10am at the Salle des fetes. Kergrist Moelou. Free entry.

Mon 4 - Sun 10 October

Monday 4th October

Respect, starring Jennifer Hudson and Forest Whitaker. Starts 8.30pm. Rostrenen Cinema.

Wednesday 6th October

Sale at the Secours Populaire, Callac. 1.30pm to 4.30pm. Rue Louis Morel, behind the library.

Wednesday 6th October

Kerrys Angels Fundraiser Cream Teas and Afternoon Teas.
1.30pm and 3.30pm. Call 02 96 24 77 43 to book in. La P'tite Pause, St Lubin 22110 Kergrist Moëlou.

Tuesday 12th October

Dune directed by Denis Villeneuve and starring Timothee Chalamet. Starts 8.30pm. Rostrenen Cinema.

Wednesday 13th and Monday 18th October

Stillwater, directed by Tom McCarthy and starring Matt Damon. Starts 8.30pm. Rostrenen Cinema.

Mon 11 - Sun 17 October

Saturday 16th October

Vernissage of artist Valérie Dechaume's exhibition. Unique mix of collage, words and sewing, with touches of watercolour. From 6pm. Pottery - Atelier 'Douar ha Tan'. 30, rue du Guic 22810 Belle Isle en terre / Benac'h. 07 85 19 97 31.

Sunday 17th October

Rock and Blues concert with Rozedale, 5.30pm. 16€ at the door. La Grande Ourse, St Agathon, Guingamp. Contact 06 59 15 18 32 or www.ourse.fr

Mon 18- Sun 24 October

Saturday 20th October

Friends that Breakfast 10.30am Call 02 96 24 77 43 to book. La P'tite Pause, St Lubin 22110 Kergrist Moëlou.

Thursday 21st October

After Love, directed by Aleem Khan and starring Joanna Scanlan. Starts 8.30pm. Rostrenen Cinema.

Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th October

Garden Festival, Château de Pommorio, Tréveneuc 10am-6pm, 5€ entry, under 16s free. fetedesjardins.com

Sunday 24th October

No Time To Die (French title: Mourir Peut Attendre), directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga and starring Daniel Craig and Léa Seydoux. Starts 8.30pm. Rostrenen Cinema.

Mon 25 - Sun 31 October

Wednesday 27th October

Soldiers Charity Fundraiser Curry Evening. 5.30pm. Call 02 96 24 77 43. Pause, St Lubin 22110 Kergrist Moëlou.

Friday 29th October

Curry Sauce Heaven Curry Night. Bar le Pommier, Landeleau. 4 courses, 15€. 7pm. To book contact 02 96 21 53 47 or curry-sauce-heaven@hotmail.com.

November

Saturday 6th November

Veterans Breakfast 10.30am Call 02 96 24 77 43. La P'tite Pause, St Lubin 22110 Kergrist Moëlou.

Sunday 7th November

The Blues Brothers. Rock and blues concert followed by the film (English with French subtitles), 4.30pm, 10€ at the door. Callac Cinema. Contact 06 59 15 18 32 or www.ourse.fr

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Subscribe - page 13

The LTA Drama Group

At last the sun has come out! No, I do not mean it has stopped raining, it means that the Group is back in action and planning for future productions. Unfortunately, this does not mean we can present our traditional January pantomime, the Covid restrictions have not given us enough time to put one together to our usual standard. But, bear with me and I will explain.

Our intention is to produce a variety show possibly the second week in December, an exact date yet to be confirmed. After our first club meeting we sent people away with instructions to decide on their contribution. A wide choice of acts includes songs, poems, dances, monologues or even to reprise a role from past productions. All of these can be worked on at home saving precious time and stress with no necessity to learn lines. Just come along to drama meetings and show us what you've got! Already someone has come up with a very funny "playlette" probably 10-15 minutes in length. We are also hoping for musical interludes of carols, and a general sing song to get you all in the Christmas spirit. So that's a start, and research is ongoing to find a play to produce next summer.

It has been such a long hard struggle to get back to something approximating normality. We have been holding monthly committee meetings via video links, culminating in holding the first AGM in two years, and then our first Tuesday night drama meeting. Times have changed, of course; a number of our members have returned to the UK, and will be very much missed. Ill health and advancing years have also depleted our acting stock, and recruiting new members is high on our list!

We don't ask people to be experienced actors, just to be enthusiastic and have fun, so please do think about coming along one Tuesday night. Contact details for our President and Secretary are given below.

You don't even have to come along with the intention of going on stage if the thought frightens the life out of you. (Many husbands know that feeling!!). We want to encourage people who are just needing something to get them out of the house, who can help back stage, sew costumes, do hair and make-up....I can promise you will make a load of new friends if nothing else, and like I already said, have fun, and I think we are all sadly in need of having fun.

Our Tuesday night meetings are held in the hall at the rear of the College of Notre Dame in Gouarec from 6.30 to 8.30. Hope to see you soon!

Tina Alexander

Further information can be obtained by emailing our President, Patsy-Anne Odams at patsy_odams@yahoo.com; or our Secretary John Alexander at john.alexander@orange.fr;

Spotlight on Brittany:

October: Spotlight on Brittany hears from some multi-talented people this month. Polyglot Diarmuid Johnson describes his place in the Celtic world and introduces us to his writing, and Lydia Fischer plays us just one of the many musical instruments that she masters. She's looking for others to join her in a band, by the way, and she explains the sound she's looking for. Amateur archaeologist Rob Gwener gives us a tour of the latest neolithic site to be explored in central Brittany, and to round off our jaunt, we hear from passengers on the Napoleon Express. To find out where this is to be found, join us at Radio Kreiz Breizh on Wednesdays at 14h00 and Saturdays at 12h00 (102.9Mhz-106Mhz), or on Radio Bro Gwened (101.7Mhz-92.6Mhz) on the first Wednesday of the month at 14h00 and the third Sunday at 09h30. 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
www.spotlightonbrittany.fr

2021 Poppy Appeal

Wreaths, crosses, and poppies (including the new enamel ones) are now available from Kate Curtis. She can either supply direct from stock, or for larger quantities, place an order with HQ.

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12 Popular Phrases and Sayings

Popular phrases and sayings using the word: *Cut*

To Cut and run has its origin in nautical terms, meaning to escape – run away. Recorded in 1704 and in general use by 1861. When a ship wanted to make a quick getaway, instead of the lengthy process of hauling the anchor, the ship's cable was simply cut. This was possible in the days when the anchor was attached by a rope rather than the later chain.

To Cut off your nose to spite your face – meaning to perform a self-defeating act. This seems to have been a remark made to Henry IV of France in 1593 by one of his own men upon Henry's willingness to sacrifice the city of Paris for objecting to his enthronement. It appears to have taken a further 300 years for the phrase to be in general use.

To Cut no ice with someone – meaning to make no impression whatsoever – American slang in origin from 1895.

To Cut the mustard – meaning to have the ability to do what is necessary to succeed. Another American phrase from 1900 when "mustard" meant the real thing – the best or the genuine article in slang terms, which may have contributed to its coinage. However there is also the theory that the phrase is a mishearing of **Cut the muster** which is a military phrase meaning well turned out both in appearance and timeliness.

To Cut to the chase – meaning to cut out the unnecessary chit-chat, and get to the point; would appear to

have its origins in the film industry when for varying reasons a film running too long would be cut to the finale which in early films was often a chase. Thus the phrase went from film editing to being in popular use but not till the 1990's.

To Cut and come again – take a cut and come for another if you like, a colloquial expression for 'there's plenty of it, have as much as you like'.

The Cut of his jib – the contour or expression of his face. A nautical phrase. The cut of a jib or foresail of a ship indicates her character, hence a sailor says of a suspicious ship, he does not like the cut of her jib.

To Cut a dash – to make a show, to get one's self looked at and talked about for a showy or striking appearance. Here dashing means flamboyant.

To Cut your wisdom teeth – when someone does or says something silly, the remark is made to them that they have not yet cut their wisdom teeth, or reached the years of discretion.

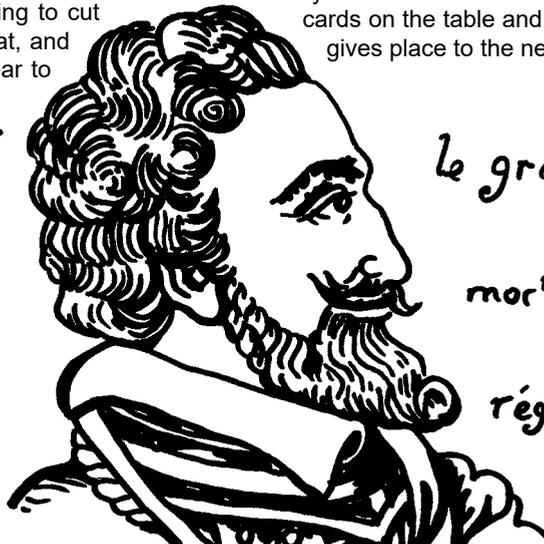
Cut out – Left in the lurch, superseded. In cards, when there are too many for a game, such as whist, it is customary for the players to cut out after a rubber, in order that another player may have a turn. This is done by cutting the cards on the table and the lowest turn up gives place to the new hand.

By the way

HENRI IV

Né en 1553

Aven. 1589



le grand.

mor' en 1610

rég' 21 ans

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Acting Chaplain: Rev Jeremy Cross,
e-mail: jandscross@aol.com, tel: 02 97 93 27 24
Churchwardens:
Chris Wilson 02 97 72 19 29 and Janet Lageveen 02 98 99 63 14

It is hoped that in the near future we will be able to resume services at all of our Worship Centres but in the interim we have provisionally planned for the following mix of live and online services. Please check our website at www.churchinbrittany.org for any changes that may be made to this schedule.

Services from Ploërmel will be live streamed each Sunday and a recorded version of the service will also then be available on the Facebook page to watch at any time.

able on the Facebook page to watch at any time.

HUELGOAT (Holy Communion services held in the parish church, Huelgoat)

3rd – Worship via Zoom 10am
10th – Harvest Festival - Holy Communion 2.30pm
17th – Worship via Zoom 10am
24th – Holy Communion 2.30pm
31st – Chaplaincy Zoom service 10am – Archdeacon Peter Hooper preaching.
For more details contact:
Henk Lageveen 02 98 99 63 14 ccb.huelgoat@gmail.com

PLOËRMEL (in the Chapel at 14 rue Général Dubreton)

3rd – Holy Communion 11am
10th – Harvest Festival/Climate Sunday – Word and Worship 11am
17th – Holy Communion 11am
24th – Holy Communion 11am
31st – Chaplaincy Zoom Service 10am – Archdeacon Peter Hooper will be preaching
For more details contact:
Chris Wilson 02 97 72 19 29 chrisebeau@gmail.com

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

3rd – Harvest Festival - Word and Worship 10.30am
17th – Holy Communion 10.30am
31st – Chaplaincy Zoom Service 10.00am – Archdeacon Peter Hooper preaching.
contact redon@churchinbrittany.org

ROSTRENEH

Word and Worship services in the salle paroissiale, 4 Rue Joseph Pennec, Rostrenen. Holy Communion services in the Chapelle du Collège de Campostalat, 5, place du Bourg Coz, Rostrenen (off Rue de la Marne)
3rd – Worship via Zoom 10am
10th – Harvest Festival – Holy Communion 10.30am
17th – Worship via Zoom 10am
24th – Holy Communion 10.30am
31st – Chaplaincy Zoom service 10am – Archdeacon Peter Hooper preaching.
For more details contact:
Linda Doidge 02 96 13 42 71 lindadoidge@gmail.com

Clubs & Associations: For a free entry on the Church and Community page, please send information to: info@theobj.com / CBJ, BP4, 22160 Callac

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CBJ Quiz October 2021

Set by *Jon Chambers* Target: 30 points.

Answers page 40

I: General Knowledge & Current

Affairs

- 1 The smoky yellowish-brown quartz called cairngorm is found mostly in which country?
- 2 With the ‘unchurching’ of America and elsewhere, growing numbers of people now describe themselves as SBNR. What do these letters stand for?
- 3 Which armed service has the motto *Per ardua ad astra*?
- 4 Who led the UK’s much derided (and not quite world-beating) Track and Trace system last year?
- 5 A saccade is a sudden movement of which part of the human body?
- 6 Of what is aerolithology the study?
- 7 Which North African country became the last to phase out leaded petrol in August? Clue: It’s the largest country in Africa
- 8 Which composer wrote symphonies called *The Schoolteacher*, *The Philosopher*, and *The Palindrome*? Clue: He wrote over 100 others
- 9 If American states were all placed in alphabetical order, which ones would be first and last? ½ pt each
- 10 Which national leader was pelted with stones on a campaign trail last month?

II: History & Geography

- 1 Naftali Bennett is the Prime Minister of which country?
- 2 What are the largest and smallest US states by area? ½ pt for each
- 3 Brazil is by far the largest South American country by land area. Name the second largest ...
- 4 ... and third largest.
- 5 The Battle of Rorke’s Drift was fought in which War?
- 6 Georgetown is the capital of which South American country?
- 7 Which king tops the list as the longest reigning monarch in history?
- 8 Together, the Dominican Republic and Haiti form which island?
- 9 Which sea lies off the western coast of Italy ...?
- 10 ... and off its eastern coast?

III: Quick on the Draw (4-3-2 or 1 point(s), according to number of question parts needed.

One attempt only)

- 1 Which culinary dish: a) originates from Savoy and the Aosta valley; b) may take its name from the Arpitan word for potato; c) is sometimes embellished with a splash of white wine; d) uses Reblochon cheese, lardons, potatoes, onions, and cream?
- 2 Which film: a) was made in 2004 and stars Geoffrey Rush; b) was based on a book of the same name by Roger Lewis; c) also starred Miriam Margolyes and Stephen Fry; d) is about a troubled English comedian?
- 3 Which play: a) was first performed in 1970 and won the Tony Award for best play in 1971; b) was written by the brother of better-known playwright Peter; c) was filmed twice, in 1972 and 2007; d) features just two characters, Milo Tindle and Andrew Wyke?
- 4 What branch of music and art: a) takes its inspiration from altered states of consciousness; b) was at its peak in the 60s and 70s; c) was primarily generated by people under the influence of peyote and LSD; d) etymologically, consists of two components – the Greek words for ‘soul’ and ‘revelation’?
- 5 Which city: a) was besieged for seven months by Alexander the Great; b) was later destroyed by him for having defied him for so long; c) is situated in the Lebanon; d) is mentioned in the title of a play by Shakespeare?
- 6 Which boat: a) was powered by sail and oar; b) was used by the Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans; c) carried 170 oarsmen, with 85 on each side; d) takes its name from the Latin for ‘three bands of oars’?
- 7 Which archaeological site: a) means ‘belly hill’ in Turkish; b) comprises more than 20 stone enclosures; c) dates from at least 11.000BC and is rewriting prehistory; d) is humanity’s oldest-known structure?
- 8 Which country: a) is Europe’s 12th largest by area, immediately after the UK; b) has a language which most closely corresponds to Latin; c) roughly coincides with the Roman province of Dacia; d) was

CBJ Quiz *continued.*

- the birthplace of playwright Eugene Ionesco, pianist Radu Lupu, and tennis ace Simona Halep?
- 9 Which mythological river: a) is both a deity and a river; b) marks the boundary between Earth and the underworld; c) converges with the Acheron, Lethe, Cocytus, and Phlegethon at the centre of the underworld; d) is the goddess daughter of Tethys?
- 10 Which Monty Python member: a) was born in South Shields, County Durham in 1943; b) went to school in Wolverhampton; c) starred in the children's tv show Do Not Adjust Your Set; d) wrote The Galaxy Song in The Meaning of Life and Always Look on the Bright Side of Life in Life of Brian?
- IV: Connections**
- 1 What is the northernmost underground station on the Northern Line?
- 2 Which historical novel by Dickens is set in the riots of 1780s London?
- 3 Which football club, founded in 1874 and currently 11th in the EFL Championship, play their home matches at Ashton Gate?
- 4 Which two-word, hyphenated term is defined by the Collins English dictionary as: 'something that is hurried and disorganised, especially when things happen very quickly'? Clue: The first word has 6 letters, the second, 7
- 5 Which former cricket umpire and Yorkshire batsman wrote a 1988 autobiography called From the Pavilion End?
- 6 Which country finished second in the 2020 Summer Olympics?
- 7 Which Anglo-Saxon noblewoman, who died at the end of the C11, is most famed for riding naked through the streets of Coventry?
- 8 What kind of legume did Heinz first introduce in its Peckham factory in 1905? Clue: It's baked
- 9 Who are the first two people mentioned in the Bible?
- 10 What is the connection? Bonuses: Give the everyday meanings for answers 1-9 (to Londoners and others)



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Limericks

Governments' Handling of the Pandemic

*There was an old man called Whitty,
Who peddled his favourite ditty,
But we looked at the facts,
Then called for the axe,
'cos the truth was not nearly so gritty!*

Harry H.

*Some states claim it's human life that matters
One death, and the families it shatters
But there is a financial link
With our health care on the brink
Longer lockdowns leave economies in tatters*

Gerard Dunmoore

*Invest in people and save lives
Or give to mates and/or their wives
Giddy-up track n trace
What an awful disgrace
While voters stand by and Johnson connives*

Gerard Dugdale

*Boris dithers and lacks any steel,
And with covid, he's asleep at the wheel.
As the death toll expands,
He's got blood on his hands,
'Just ignore it!', he blusters with zeal.*

Darren Milsom, Plourac'h

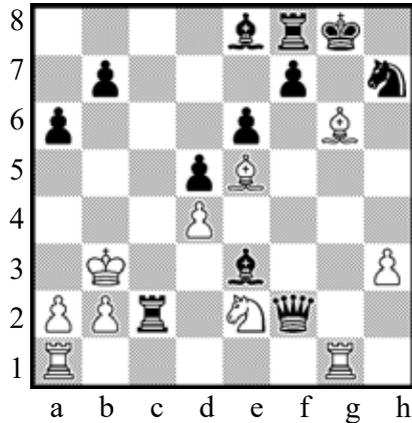
*Macron wants to stop the infection,
He's rolled out better rates of injection.
Jabbed kids masked at school,
And health-passes the rule,
We're so glad he leads our protection.*

Darren Milsom, Plourac'h

Chess Puzzle

White to play and win

Hint: White has a choice between 7 discovered checks, but which one works?



Solution page 41

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

*The Government hasn't kept an eye on the ball,
Causing millions of workers to rely on the dole,
Constant vacillation,
Never facilitation,
Causing confusion and a pandemic free-for-all!!*

Cyril Young, Saint-Nicolas-du-Pélem

*The pandemic should be under control,
But governments did fairly well on the whole,
Variants and selfish folk will still prevail
While vaccines and masks keep us out of jail,
So with future pandemics – we know how to thole.*

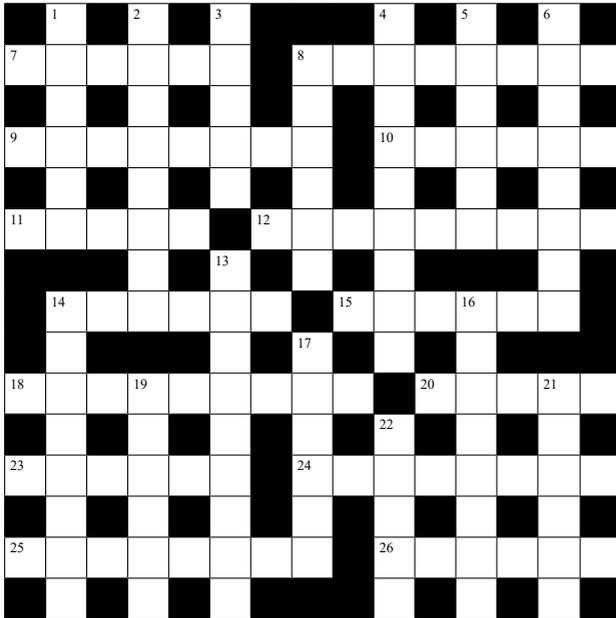
Jim Henderson, Carhaix

November Limerick Challenge: Applications for Residency Delays

Please send limericks on this theme by the 20th October to: info@theobj.com CBJ, BP4, 22160 CALLAC

Prize Crossword

October *Dave King*



Across

7. Controls game with leftie serve (6)
8. Crazy cleric corrupts us in part (8)
9. Offered to watch over floundering deer (8)
10. Quite a sight that French tower, I've heard (6)
11. Rear small bird (5)
12. Usually a user of creams, but she ran out (9)
14. Something aggravating about cross-dressing? (3,3)
15. Us bad 'uns deserve this grub! (6)
18. Passes on very easily (5,4)
20. Pines for bird? (5)
23. Small seal gets in difficulty (6)
24. Muck one's shifted into subterranean sites (8)
25. Cake from recipe of 2001, pecan mixture (8)
26. Revival that came back to haunt us? (6)

Down

1. Stop being strict about period of self-denial (6)
2. Translated as "plastered" (8)
3. See, we're above, crossing river to wrest control (5)
4. Strolled along, keeping in a south to south-easterly direction, one gathered (9)
5. Strike choice off menu? (6)
6. Team not assumed to be of star quality (8)
8. National winner raised to make a killing (3,3)
13. Get the measure of tricky Dicky's art! (9)
14. Engineer sees rail, and figures it out (8)
16. Vetted an arrangement, causing relative amount of rancour (8)
17. Journalist involved in bringing up bad news of the country (6)
19. Hothead off to mend his trousers (6)
21. "Double entendre" says French expert (6)
22. Having a horse on board ship comes with some drawbacks (5)

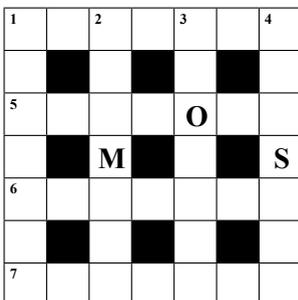
Solution September Prize Crossword:

Winner Sept. prize crossword: *J. Redfear, Gouarec*

Twenty euros to the first correct solution drawn from the hat for the October prize crossword. Please send completed solutions to: Prize Crossword, CBJ, BP4, 22160 CALLAC, by 20th Oct.



The 'Little Toughie' *Jim Henderson*



Clues Across

1. Pack horse or mule (7)
5. Personal satire (7)
6. Amatory literature (7)
7. Nuclear engineering device (7)

Down

1. Prominent (7)
2. Broken or torn piece (7)
3. Radioactive metallic element (7)
4. Pillage (7)

The following numbers of letters are required to solve this puzzle – a few have been inserted already to help you get started

A – 7 C – 3 E – 2 H – 1 I – 2 K – 2 L – 1 M – 4 N – 2 O – 4 P – 2 R – 3 S – 2 T – 3 U – 2

Solution in the November issue. Solution September Little Toughie page 51

Exploring the Worlds of Beer and Wine

"But there's nothing so lonesome, so morbid or drear; than to stand at the bar, of a pub with no beer",

Dan Sheehan Gordon Parsons, 1944

"Most people hate the taste of beer – to begin with. It is, however, a prejudice that many people have been able to overcome." Winston Churchill

"OH NO! THE PUB'S GOT NO BEER!" (PART 1)

As British beer crises go, 1917 and 2021 are right up there. In what is fast becoming the biggest crisis to hit UK brewers since Lloyd George's beer crisis rampaged through the nation in 1917 (more about this in PART TWO of this article), the shocking news of the British CO₂ crisis of 2021 is out, screamed across the headlines of the nation's tabloids: "Beer is in short supply in British pubs!" Yes, it's true – the great British pub is running dry even as relaxed COVID restrictions are attracting all but the most risk-averse beer aficionados back to their favourite watering holes.

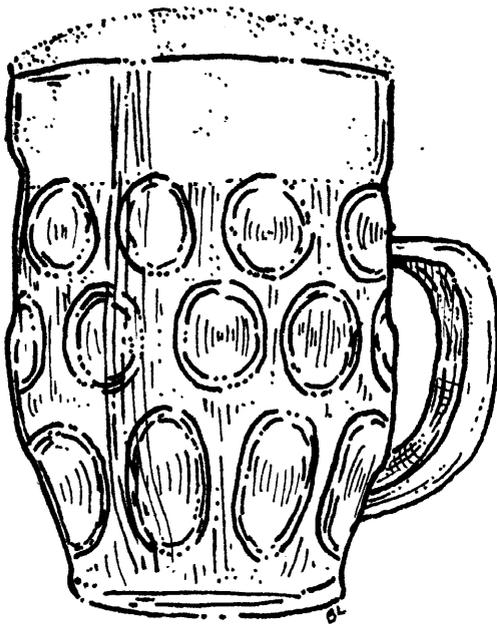
As reported in The Telegraph newspaper under the heading "Beer shortages hit Wetherspoons after supply chain issues": beer supplies at a number of JD Wetherspoon locations have been hit as the pub chain became the latest casualty of the UK's supply chain crunch. The hospitality giant, which has 872 pub locations in the UK and Ireland, apologised after some pubs were forced to put signs up warning customers that their favourite beers were "out of stock". The pub chain confirmed that it has seen supplies of Carling and Coors beer impacted by the supply chain disruption ... "

"How" I hear you ask, "could a tragedy of such proportions befall the great British pub?" The surprising answer is "fertiliser"! What has fertiliser to do with brewing our favourite tippie? Well, both commercial breweries and home brewers use carbon dioxide to carbonate their beer, in other words make it fizzy. CO₂ is a by-product of manufacturing chemical fertiliser, and fertiliser is in short supply due to record prices for natural gas causing the fertilizer companies to shut down factories. Of course you guessed that, right?

According to the Cucumber Growers Association, fruit and vegetables will also be impacted by the shortage of CO₂. Not to be outdone, meat producers are calling on the government to step in to protect the food supply chain by forcing CO manufacturers to co-ordinate their operations to minimise supply disruption. Indeed, the British Meat Processors Association, describing the situation as "undoubtedly a crisis", are, at the time of writing, in emergency talks with the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. As the Association's chief executive, Nick Allen put it: "This has come as a huge shock, it has happened so quickly. I think everyone is outraged in the industry that these fertiliser plants can shut down without any warning whatsoever and suddenly take something which is so essential to the food supply chain off-stream just like that. We really need government to step in now and actually do something."

However, while lesser minds are whinging about the effect of CO₂ shortage on meat and vegetable supplies

we, the beer lovers of the world, know that a far more serious knock-on effect is the massive disruption in supplies of our favourite carbonated beverage. Responses to this disaster are coming in thick and fast from the nation's brewers. James Calder, Chief Executive of the Society of Independent Brewers, responding to reports of forthcoming beer shortages from the global brewers, says that the UK's small, independent brewers are ready and waiting to fill the supply gaps: "Amid fears of taps running dry, pubs, bars and restaurants



Tax & Investment

New forced heirship rules in France

France's long-standing Napoleonic code was created to protect the bloodline. Children are protected heirs and must inherit 50-75% of an estate (depending on the number of children). These rules apply to your worldwide estate if you die as a habitual resident of France.

Brussels IV

Since 2015, however, the European succession regulations 'Brussels IV' allow foreign nationals to elect for the law of their country of nationality to apply to their assets on their death, rather than that of their country of residence. Nationals of many common law countries (such as the UK and US) can therefore avoid forced heirship rules and choose to leave children out of a will.

France's new succession rules for French assets

The French Constitutional Council approved new legislation in August which will affect the forced heirship rules applied on French assets.

Under this, if French assets pass according to the provisions of a country which does not impose forced heirship rules – such as England and Wales – the protected heirs can make a claim for the share they would be entitled to under the French rules.

Children could therefore challenge the parent's will and seek for compensation, including estranged children who had no contact with the parent for decades. The compensation mechanism, however, only applies to French assets.

In summary, the new rules apply where:

- the deceased individual was either habitually resident in, or a national of, an EU country; or
- the children were habitually resident in, or nationals of, an EU country; and

- the law applied in the will does not include any forced heirship/protected share for children.

This legislation is likely to come into force before the end of 2021, affecting succession from that day onwards.

It seems contrary to the European succession regulations which override the domestic French legislation, so could potentially be challenged in the European Courts. There are also outstanding questions on how the rules would apply, for example, with the law of Scotland.

Does this impact you?

Many British expatriates have used Brussels IV to avoid France's forced heirship rules. If you have, for example, chosen to leave children out of your will, they could potentially claim for their protected share of your French assets.

If you wish to retain flexibility of disposition of assets at death, it is now more important to minimise the value of the assets held in France.

Estate planning for France

Even before this development, we recommend you take specialist advice before using Brussels IV as electing for UK law may have consequences you are not aware of. Also watch out for high succession tax rates (up to 60%) if you leave assets to distant or non-relatives. In any case, there are steps you can take to avoid some of these problems created by France's succession regime.

Estate planning in France is complex, but professional advice and advance planning will make things easier and help ensure the right money goes to the right hands at the right time.

*Dave Lamont, Blevins Franks
rennes@blevinsfranks.com*

Summarised tax information is based upon our understanding of current laws and practices which may change. Individuals should seek personalised advice.

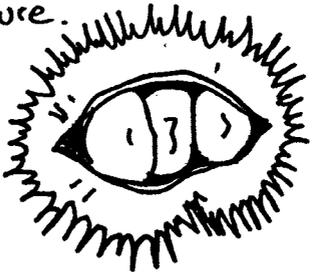
Exploring the Worlds of Beer and Wine *continued.*

should look beyond mass-produced beers from the globals and speak to their local independent breweries. Being local they have the flexibility to brew and get beer directly into venues ... and are producing some of the best beers anywhere in the world ... a hugely diverse range of styles from lagers and pale ales, to porters, stouts and of course, cask real ale. ... Distinct, quality local beers could prove more popular with customers than your original offering of global beers which are available anywhere. Small independent breweries ... offer customers a great-tasting local lager, craft ale, IPA or stout."

Roger Dawson

*rogeralan.rd@gmail.com <https://brittanywineandbeer.vistaprintdigital.com>
(Part 2 of this article will appear in the November edition of CBJ)*

Chestnuts are the little end of year bonus from Nature.



After all the hard work in the garden, and all the losses to mice, slugs and birds...



...chestnuts are the freebie I didn't have to do anything for.



Every tree is different.



Some have large nuts, others small, some produce early and others quite late.



I will be roasting my chestnuts in a pan over an open fire.



Tim the Gardener

Nuts:

Chestnuts

We planted our first chestnut soon after arriving in Brittany, over twenty-five years ago – simply planting a nut collected from a nearby tree. As is almost always the case when planting in a new garden, I soon realised that the location was wrong, and was forced to move it (at least once). Happily, it forgave the ill treatment that it received, and has grown rapidly, yielding an ever-increasing crop of chestnuts each year, making the original planting a gamble that has paid off handsomely.

For some reason, the size, taste, and profusion of nuts (or fruit) obtained from a tree, is determined by that tree, and is not influenced by the origin of the pollen that fertilised each female flower on the tree; when the nut grows, the resulting tree has its own properties producing its own distinct type of nut, determined by the genetic mixing of its two parent trees.

That is why grafted chestnut trees are sold in tree nurseries: they are guaranteed to give a specific type of nut. However, I have not had unqualified success with grafted chestnut trees, and have reverted to planting the nuts in a little tree nursery, and transplanting the seedlings to appropriate places on the banks around my small fields. I will allow the trees that produce the best nuts to grow to maturity, and will coppice the others at the same time as coppicing the other trees on the bank.

I have found that chestnuts coppice particularly well in the Breton climate; they grow fast, make straight poles, and the wood is weather resistant and good for a variety of uses. Now that Ash Dieback is starting to affect the local population of ash trees, chestnut can be used to replace ash trees on the banks.

Hazelnuts

Hazel trees have traditionally underpinned the Breton rural economy – mainly because they provide an abundant supply of easily-accessible, sustainable energy, but at this time

of year they also yield an abundant supply of nuts. The unusual weather this summer has meant that the crop has arrived a little later than usual, and nuts are still to be found on the trees.

Big-nut varieties of hazels (cob nuts, etc.) are available from tree nurseries, they are not grafted, but propagated vegetatively, and grow almost as vigorously as wild specimens.

Walnuts

As well as chestnuts, I also planted walnuts when I moved to Brittany. One resulting tree is growing well, but has not yet yielded any fruit. Walnut trees take a notoriously long time to mature (a period of 30 years is often cited) and my particular tree took a long time to become established, given that it was planted in a quite inhospitable spot. I also have some grafted trees that have grown well, and have already started to yield.

Using a Sickle

The job that I am really looking forward to is cutting round the banks. It is a job traditionally done in late autumn, when the birds' nests are empty and the little creatures have found homes underground. Cutting the plants at the end of the growing season means that the banks remain tidy throughout the winter and early spring – and next year's spring and summer flowers have a chance to blossom without being overrun with brambles or ferns.

The best tool for the job is the sickle. This is one of the oldest agricultural tools in existence, and is used by small-scale farmers across the world. It has stood the test of time because it is almost perfect for the job that it is designed to fulfil, and it is a tragedy of modern life that people have lost touch with how to use it (one sickle will last you for most of your life, it has no working parts to go wrong, and requires no fuel – so there is no commercial incentive for big companies to promote its use).

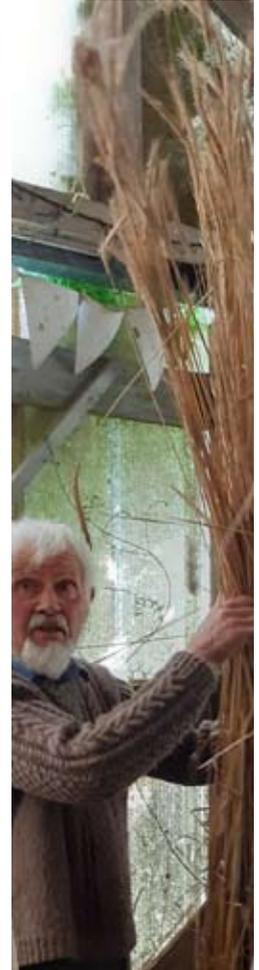
However, new sickles are readily available from garden centres, and old ones in good condition can be found at vide greniers. New sickles are generally not sharp enough for serious use, so time has to be taken to give them a keen edge, and, when cutting, vegetation should be kept in place with the help of a forked stick.



Pierre Kerboeuf: a Passion for Gardening.

Pierre Kerboeuf has been a well-known fixture of local life in the St-Brieuc area for as long as most people can remember. Now ninety years old, he began his gardening career shortly after the war, and progressed to become one of the first market gardeners in Cote d'Armor to adopt organic growing techniques, selling his produce on local markets. His philosophy has always been that everyone has an equal right to good food, no matter what their income, and he always sold his produce at the same price as produce grown with the aid of chemical fertilisers and pesticides - even if it meant that he had to work a little harder to earn a little less than some of his contemporaries. He still grows crops for his extended family and has also made a collection of traditional tools to help keep alive the memory of traditional farming techniques, that were still standard practice when he was young.

Facing Page, clockwise from top left: a hand-propelled hoeing machine; removing the seed heads from linen plants prior to retting; in the past, Breton farmers grew varieties of rye that could reach three metres in height; each job had its own specific set of tools; a shaving-horse that Pierre still uses when making replacement tool handles; during his time as a market gardener, Pierre developed his own implements for his tractor.



Local Wildlife Artists, Martyn Bednarczuk and Janice Stubbs



Above: Janice puts finishing touches to a wild boar head, sculpted by Martyn; below, Janice specialises in painting farm animals, dogs, and wildlife.

Martyn and Janice moved to Brittany two and a half years ago, and since then have spent most of their time renovating their run-down property, and have only recently completed the conversion of an old barn into a working studio. This means that they are now able to resume their work as creative artists: Janice paints farm animals, wildlife, and dog portraits in watercolours, with commissions completed ready-framed and mounted.

Martyn is a member of the Master Carvers Association, London, working in wood, stone, bronze, and other sculpting materials. He has a background in architectural carving, interior and exterior, and specialises in sculpting wildlife.

Martyn and Janice's work can be seen at Pierre Cazoulat's hunting and fishing shop in Callac (by the traffic lights), or visit their websites:

www.martynbednarczuk.co.uk

www.janicestubbsart.com

Contact: janice123stubbs@gmail.com



Letters & Photos



Marbled Newt

Regarding the unidentified “Amphibious Creature” on page 25 of the September 2021 issue; I believe it is a Marbled Newt.

Please see the following identification at:
<https://outsidetype.com/15-types-of-newts/>
and scroll down to the 4th newt.

Ian Griffiths



Cooling Off

During the hot weather in August, a woodpigeon decided to cool himself off, in our fountain/birdbath. We don't see that happen very often. *Patricia Hebblewhite*

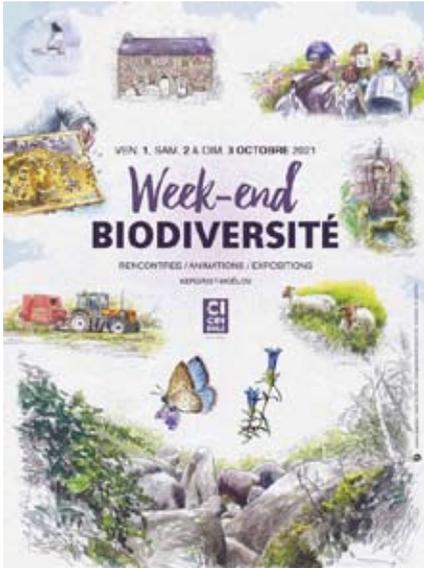


Garden Festival

Château de Pommorio,
Tréveneuc
Sat.23rd & Sun 24th
October
fetedesjardins.com



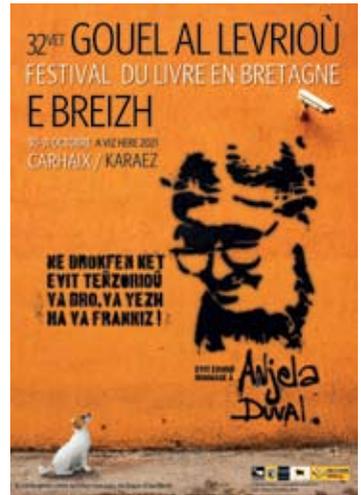
Temple of Mars. Gallo-Roman site of Haut-Bécherel – Corseul, *Melvyn Card*



Week-End Biodiversity Kergrist-Moëlou
Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd Oct. *see What's On page 8*

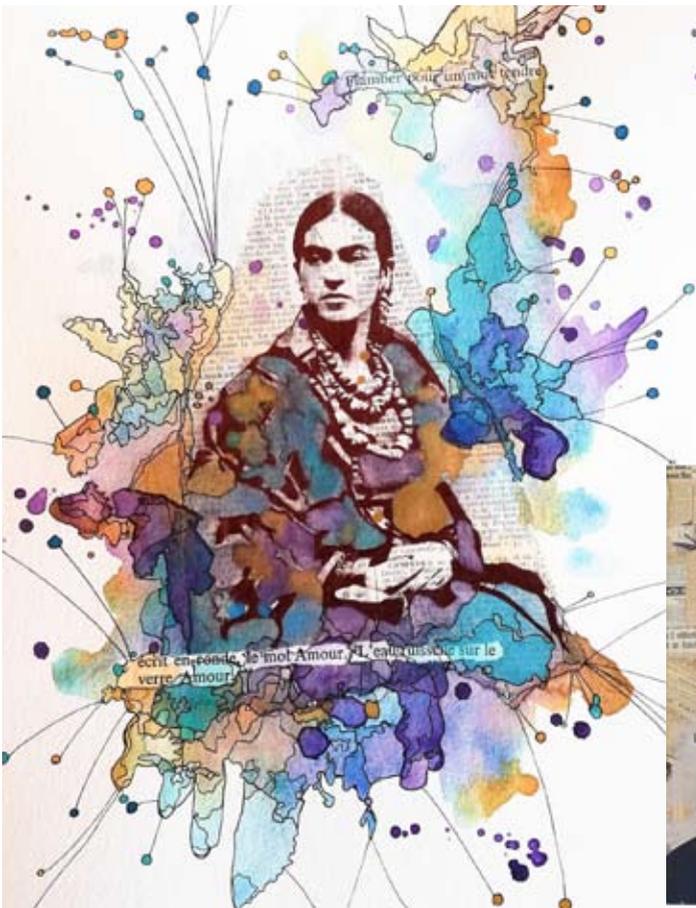
32nd Breton Book Festival Carhaix 30&31st October

Honouring the work of the paysan poet, Angela Duval



"Ne drokfen ket evit teñzorioù va bro, va yezh ha va frankiz !

I would not exchange for any treasure my land, my language and my liberty !



Exhibition Valérie Dechaume Belle Isle en terre

16th October - 31st December

Unique mix of collage, words and sewing, with touches of watercolour. Vernissage Saturday 16th October, from 6pm.

Pottery - Atelier 'Douar ha Tan'
30, rue du Guic
22810 Belle Isle en terre / Benac'h
07 85 19 97 31





Expos reportées ..

Les nains d'AGIR reportent les expositions prévues de septembre et octobre en raison de l'obligation qui leur est faite de demander un pass sanitaire au public .
Cependant, leur atelier reste ouvert à tous les curieux, amateurs, chercheurs ou passants.



Foire aux Courges

Sunday 3rd October 10am-6pm.

Craft fair and farmers' market.

Local and organic producers from all over Central Brittany. Textiles, plants, fruit and vegetables, food-stuffs, cosmetics, books.

Pedernek village centre.

Agir Glomel

The art exhibitions scheduled for October have been postponed until pass sanitaire restrictions have been lifted. The studio is still open for anyone interested or who is in the area.

Letters & Photos

Butterflies

This year we have an extraordinary amount of butterflies. The plants that attract them most is the sedum and also the flowers of the mint. Hugh Poulain

Did the government handle the pandemic badly or well?

That is something only history and time will tell.

*We've heard terrifying statistics every single day,
With masks, lockdowns, quarantine and isolation
all the way,*

*Let's hope and pray the vaccinations work and lead
us out of this hell.*

"La Taupiniere"



Music Win Tickets



Blues-rock band Rozedale play La Grande Ourse, St Agathon, near Guingamp, at 5.30pm on Sunday 17th October, and will be promoting their recently-released new album. A similar duo, Richard and Linda Thompson, released a number of albums in the 70s and early 80s. To have a chance of winning a pair of tickets, answer the following question:

Richard Thompson was a founding member of which British folk rock band in the 60s and 70s?

Text answer with name and number to 06 02 31 29 41 by Saturday 9th October, when the draw will be made.

Callac Cinema plays host to a Blues Brothers evening on Sunday 7th November with a concert followed by the film shown in English with French subtitles. It all starts at 4.30pm. The film boasts a stellar cast with many great appearances. To have a chance of winning a pair of tickets, answer the following question:

Simply name one of the actors who played Jake or Elwood Blues in the film.

Text answer with name and number to 06 02 31 29 41 by Saturday 30th October, when the draw will be made.

September Win Tickets: +Rock Club (answer Marshall), no correct entries; Lowland Brothers (answer Iron Maiden), winner Sam Hutchins, Maël Pestivien



Hetty's Christmas Gifts Get-Ahead Plum and Pear Chutney

- 1 kg plums, stoned and quartered
- 750g firm pears, peeled, cored and diced
- 750g sharp apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 500g onions, peeled and diced
- 250g dates, stoned and chopped
- 250g raisins
- 500g brown sugar
- 600ml cider vinegar
- Pinch salt
- 2 tsp chilli flakes (optional)
- Spice bag: a 20cm/8" square of muslin tied up around 50g fresh root ginger, sliced, 2 tsp mustard seeds and 2 tsp black peppercorns)

Put all the ingredients and the spice bag into a preserving pan or stockpot and bring to the boil slowly, stirring occasionally. Simmer the mixture gently (uncovered) for 2½-3 hours, stirring regularly so the mix doesn't catch on the bottom of the pan and burn.

It is thick enough when a wooden spoon is dragged through the chutney and the pan base is revealed for a few seconds.

Pot up into warm, sterilised jars with vinegar-proof lids and seal. Store in a cool, dark place for two months before using.

Solution

Bridge Puzzle 33 page 6

Trading Losers

You are South, playing in 4♣. West leads two top hearts and continues with the Q♥, ♠ 7 3 when his partner completed high / ♣ 10 8 4 low, showing two cards in the suit. How do you play?

♠	J 6	♠	10 9 8 4
♥	J 8	♥	6 3
♦	9 7 6 5 4 2	♦	Q J 8
♣	9 7 5	♣	Q J 6 2

The opposing hearts are divided 6-2. Six trumps are missing.... 48.5% for a 4-2 division and 35.5% for a 3-3 division. Given that West has six of the eight missing hearts it's also more likely that trumps will be divided 4-2 than 3-3 and that East holds the majority.

If you ruff the Q♥ low you will be overuffed and will still have a club loser. If you ruff high you will promote a trump trick for East.

The solution is to trade a loser: play a low club allowing the Q♥ to hold the trick. You will now be able to ruff a club low in dummy whilst maintaining your four top honours to draw the opposing trumps.

If West continues with another ♥ discard another club and ruff cheaply in hand. You will then be able to ruff the second club round in dummy rather than the third round as East may have been discarding clubs too.

FLYING THE COLOURS

Holidaying in Brittany in August and combining a spring clean of our lovely little Breton cottage, (after a long wait for Covid restrictions to subside) with some leisure time to our favourite places, by chance we noticed a poster for the appearance of the Patrouille de France at Perros Guirrec on the 26/7 August 2021. Always being keen on visiting airshows, my wife and I headed off to the coast on the 27th August.

We found that hundreds of other keen visitors had the same idea, and we were very lucky to acquire a parking place quickly. Plenty of gendarmes were in attendance, as well as armed army personnel, patrolling the beach and promenade.

The show commenced at 15.00hrs with a parachute display team skilfully controlling their landings onto the beach, with plenty of bright colours adding to the spectacle. The Patrouille de France made their appearance at 16.00hrs in their own unique way, surprising the very large crowd. The skilful pilots gave an amazing display, which lasted over half an hour. The bay was a superb stage for the exciting aircraft manoeuvres. The red, white and blue smoke streamed through the air making some amazing patterns.

I was able to capture some great photos and have included a few here.

Hope you like them as much as I do.

Keith Dixon

Photographs © Keith Dixon 2021



On and Off the Beaten Track

The cost of aging

In June, we were able to discuss the day-to-day impact of Covid 19 on hospitals with a friend who is head of emergency services in a large establishment on the Loire. She said that although their caseload was lighter than in some areas, precautions against transmission of the infection and actual staff infections put the personnel under immense additional pressure. Despite being ultra-careful, she caught the malady, as did her 84-year-old partner (Gerard, a retired doctor and my first and oldest friend in France). Happily, both recovered, but it brought home to us rather more directly the risks and stresses to which the medical profession has been exposed on both sides of the channel. And the risks to the elderly in particular: Gerard slept for ten days solid.

Which brings me onto the subject of aging. I'm increasingly aware that a number of friends who have died recently are younger than me. So, the question of what happens if you get to the point where you cannot cope at home starts to loom large. Neither of us wishes to be a burden, either to each other, or our children, so a serious decline inevitably will mean residential care.

My 93-year-old mother-in-law has been in sheltered, but independent accommodation in Lancashire for the past four years, supported by daily carers. A sudden deterioration meant that she has had to move to residential accommodation. We spent several days trying to find a place in a nursing home with an overall "good" Care Quality Commission rating. (You cannot reserve a place in advance.) Although there is generally a shortage of homes, we found quite a few with the required rating in the right area, but no vacancies. After three days working the phone and the internet, we finally succeeded.

To move in, she required a negative Covid test within 72 hours, so Lancashire "swabbing service" – which sounds more like a band of matelots on a person-o'-war – tested her on a Thursday afternoon with a view to her moving on the Friday. 24 hours later no result had arrived, so the move was postponed till Monday. A further test was taken on Saturday morning, but due to the difficulty of administering it to her, the result was inconclusive. On Monday morning, the result of the original test had still not arrived.

Thus, at the age of 93 she has had two Covid tests in 48 hours. Stressful or what? All the king's horses and the very helpful social services department were unable to get the swabbers to extract their digit. Contrast that to a friend's recent experience over here. He was travelling to the UK and therefore required a PCR test. He booked it in Ploërmel and had the result four hours later. Even if the EU-wide/French vaccine rollout started shambolically, not only have they now caught up, but round here testing is a class act.

As for finding a place, in the 13 years we have lived in Brittany, several of our aging neighbours have moved into an EPHAD (Etablissement d'Hébergement pour Personnes Agées Dépendantes) at short notice. It has always been possible to find somewhere within a reasonable distance from the person's home. (Of course, this is anecdotal and may not be the case elsewhere. And in comparing the French and English systems, I'm probably comparing eggs with bananas.)

In 2017, the UK's Competition & Marketing Authority produced a report that analyses the structure and challenges of social-medical care.* One cannot criticise the Johnson government's aspiration to "fix" social care, but a cursory glance at the report makes me think it will cost rather more than the money to be raised from the recent National Insurance increase. The French funding model is complicated (and I don't fully understand it), but it is noticeable that residential care here costs much less than in the UK, where it seems to average £52,000 per annum.

Nonetheless, the French system seems to work – for the moment. A website called www.ephad.com, which among other things explains how you can invest in EPHADs and gain a reasonable return with tax advantages, is less optimistic. It predicts that 500,000 new places will be needed by 2025. Given the universal nature of the problem, it does make one wonder how much we could all learn from each other – if we tried.

* www.gov.uk - Care homes market study: summary of final report

Richard Griffiths, rpf@orange.fr

Hetty's Kitchen

Chicory, Pecan and Blue Cheese Salad *(for 4)*

- 1 firm but ripe pear (or a sweet apple)
- 4 small heads of chicory
- 1 stick celery
- 50g dried cranberries
- 100g pecans, roughly chopped
- 80g blue cheese (Roquefort for preference) chilled
- 1 tbsp snipped chives or spring onion greens

For the blue cheese dressing:

- 50g blue cheese at room temperature
- 20ml tepid water
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp white wine or cider vinegar
- Generous grind of black pepper

First make the dressing. In a bowl, beat the cheese until soft and creamy. Whisk in the water and vinegar until smooth, then drizzle in the olive oil while continuously whisking. Season with only pepper as the cheese is usually quite salty. Set aside.

Quarter the pear lengthways and remove the core. Finely slice each quarter. Place in a salad bowl with the chicory, celery and pecans, then crumble in about two thirds of the chilled blue cheese with the dressing. Toss gently then scatter over the remaining crumbled cheese and top with the snipped chives.

Serve with toasted garlic bread.

Boeuf en Daube *(for 4-6)*

- 2 tsp juniper berries
- 2 tsp black peppercorns
- 6 cloves garlic
- 1 kg braising beef, cut into 4cm/1½" cubes
- 2 tbsp grapeseed oil
- 2 sprigs thyme (or 2 tsp dried)
- 10g fresh parsley (or 2 tsp dried)
- 2 sprigs rosemary (or 2 tsp dried)
- 1 bottle red wine
- 2-3 tbsp plain flour

- 60g butter
- 2 medium to large onions, chopped
- 2 carrots, cut into 2cm rounds
- 3 sticks celery, chopped
- 2 large tomatoes, seeds discarded, roughly chopped
- 200g smoked lardons (alouettes for preference)
- 2 bay leaves
- 500ml beef stock
- 250g button mushrooms
- Nutmeg
- Salt and pepper
- Extra parsley to serve

Pound the juniper berries, peppercorns, a good pinch of salt and three cloves of garlic in a mortar and pestle (or use a sturdy bowl and the end of a rolling pin). Rub the mix into the cubes of beef with the oil and pour enough red wine over it to just submerge the meat. Tie the fresh herbs together and submerge too. Cover and leave overnight in the fridge. (Recork the remaining wine and save it!)

Remove the beef from the marinade with a slotted spoon and toss in the flour to coat well. Heat a flameproof casserole and melt all but a tablespoon of the butter. Brown the beef in batches and lift out on to a plate.

Melt the remaining butter and toss in the carrots, celery, onion and alouettes. Cook, stirring, over medium heat for 10-15 minutes until the onion has softened, then add the remaining garlic, crushed, the tomatoes and bay leaves. Stir for a couple of minutes.

Return the beef and any juices to the pan, together with the marinade, herbs, stock and the remainder of the bottle of wine. Bring to a gentle simmer, cover and leave to bubble very gently for an hour.

Preheat the oven to 180°C/160° fan/Gas 4.

Stir in the button mushrooms, cover and transfer the pot to the oven for 2 hours. The sauce should be thick, but in case it isn't, return the pot to the oven, uncovered, for a further half hour to reduce. Remove the fresh herbs.

Serve with rice (or mashed potato if you prefer). Grate a little nutmeg over and scatter with extra chopped parsley.

Hetty's Kitchen Continued overleaf



AIKB Photo Club Competition Winners: The Letter 'T'



AIKB Photography Club competition on the subject of "The letter T"

Right: First, Don Taylor with Tabby Kitten

Above: Second, Don Taylor with Teasel

Above right: Third, John Sullivan with Tortoiseshell Butterfly

See also: page 34



Caramel Oranges (for 6)

- 6 large oranges
- 1 cup (250ml) caster sugar
- 100ml Armagnac or Calvados

Thinly peel and reserve strips of zest from 3 oranges with a potato peeler. With a sharp knife, pare away the orange rind and pith from all the fruit and set the oranges aside.

In a pan large enough to accommodate all the oranges in one layer, place the sugar and 100ml cold water. Stir over low heat to dissolve the sugar.

Turn up the heat to medium and bring to a gentle boil. Cook for about 5 minutes without stirring until the syrup turns to golden caramel. Off the heat, stir in 100ml boiling water.

Over low heat again, stir for a couple of minutes to combine. Add the Armagnac and stir well. Then add the oranges and pared zest. Simmer very gently for 15 minutes, then lift out the fruit into a glass serving bowl. Scoop out the rind with a slotted spoon and discard.

Turn up the heat and let the sauce bubble and reduce for 5 minutes or so until very syrupy.

Spoon the syrup over the oranges. Cool and chill until ready to serve.

Before serving, Slice each orange across into quarter inch/5mm slices and reassemble each fruit with a toothpick holding the slices in place.

Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

Bon Appétit!

Birds to See in Brittany: Sparrowhawk

French: **Epervier d'Europe**

Breton: **Sparfell c'hlas**

We are small birds of prey found in preferred coniferous forests and in almost any form of woodland, as well as in open country where there is a scattering of trees. Our female birds are appreciably larger than our males, generally by up to 25%. The male has slate coloured upper parts with barred reddish cheeks and under parts. Tail and wing feathers are brown with wide grey and dark brown barring, while the female has darker upper parts, and whitish or slightly buff under parts with fine dark brown barring. Our long tail, wide rounded wings and barred rather than striped under parts distinguish us from other birds of prey.

Once a suitable site has been found, where small woods alternate with open country, then nesting can commence. The nest is built close to the trunk of the tree, usually a fork. We like to have a ready-made base for our nest and generally build on the old nest of another bird – possibly a member of the crow family or even on a squirrel's deserted drey. The nest is made from dry branches roofed over with green branches. Inside it is lined with small twigs, pieces of bark, needles, moss, hairs and maybe feathers. It can take several days to complete and the work is done by both parents. At the end of April or during May the female lays 4-6 eggs and incubates alone, while the male goes hunting and brings food. Incubation lasts for up to 35 days and the young fly at a further 26-28 days – feeding is done by both parents during that time.

We are fast agile fliers, with long periods of gliding along the edge of woods or above hedgerows and water courses, then three or four wingbeats and another long glide before suddenly pouncing on our prey, taking it by surprise. However if the prey escapes we rarely pursue it, generally flying and gliding on until we spot another chance to pounce on something else. As the male is smaller, he tends to go for birds such as Finches or Sparrows while the larger female takes on Thrushes and Starlings and even Ducks and Grouse.

In fine weather we can be seen soaring and diving in aerial displays high above the tree tops, but we never



SPARROWHAWK
JIM HENDERSON.
2021

Continued overleaf

AIKB Photography Club Welcomes Visitors to Exhibition

On a lovely warm Sunday in August, the AIKB Photo Club had the pleasure of ‘opening our doors’ to visitors, with a little exhibition on the day of the main AIKB Kermesse. The usual annual open competition not being feasible yet, due to Covid constraints, the Club chose instead to ask our members to choose our personal favourites.

Visitors – and there were a good number of them – were treated to a dazzling and colourful range of subjects, with nature, birds, animals, racing cars, aviators, abstracts, portraits, landscapes and more, all jostling for attention.

A special section was created to honour Brian Noel, our former Club President, who died earlier this year. Brian was a remarkable and tireless club member, a highly skilled photographer, and very generous with his time and advice to inexperienced members like myself. Twenty of Brian’s most beautiful photos were displayed, with a computerised display of many more at the welcome desk. With Brian’s photos, there were seventy-two prints altogether on show.

The Club has been able to meet again in person recently, at the Salle Polyvalente in Gouarec rather than above the main AIKB premises. Since Covid arrived on the scene, we’ve become used to meeting via Zoom. Despite its inevitable limitations, this has allowed us to keep in contact during those long months of isolation and restriction. It has been a real delight to be able to meet again, and to start doing practical work together. There are ideas in the pipeline for some training events, and for some long-delayed outings.

We currently meet every two weeks, and run an informal competition every four weeks, which we discuss at the following meeting.

Warmest thanks to all who provided photos, including Brian’s wife, Glenda. Thanks also to AIKB for providing display space, and all those busy little elves who volunteered to set up and take things down again.

Sheila Brelivet

To find out more about the AIKB Photography Club contact:

aikb.hopmg@gmail.com



Club Committee Members setting up the exhibition.

Birds to See in Brittany *continued.*

hover like similar birds of prey.

We have been a common bird of prey despite persecution by gamekeepers and farmers, until the use of chemicals in the 1950’s almost wiped us out. The chemicals, meant to protect crops from insect pests, were taken in by birds such as Sparrows, Finches and Tits and passed into our bodies. Fortunately for us the use of chemicals is now controlled and our numbers have recovered.

During the breeding season our alarm call is a harsh rapid “Keek,Keek,Keek” or “Kew,Kew,Kew” when someone or something nears our nest.

Jim Henderson

Classified Advertising 25 words 3€ / **Colour Classified** 5€

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Animals

See **ANIMAL WELFARE** p.42

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B & B / Gîtes

See **BED & BREAKFAST** p.52

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

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See **HELP & ADVICE** p. 10

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Garden Services

See **GARDENING** pp. 40-41

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See **HELP & ADVICE** page 10

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Vehicles For Sale

See **COLOUR CLASSIFIED** page 34

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Property pages 53 & 54

Colour Classified

page 54

Classified Advertising 25 words 3€

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I: General Knowledge & Current Affairs
Answers CBJ Quiz page 14

1) Scotland 2) Spiritual But Not Religious
3) Air force: Through adversity to the stars
4) Baroness Harding 5) Eye 6) Meteorites; ½pt for flying rocks 7) Algeria 8) Joseph Haydn
9) Alabama, Wyoming 10) Justin Trudeau

II: History & Geography

1) Israel 2) Alaska, Rhode Island 3) Argentina
4) Peru 5) Anglo-Zulu War 6) Guyana 7) Louis XIV 8) Hispaniola 9) Tyrrhenian 10) Adriatic

III: Quick on the Draw

1) Tartiflette 2) The Life and Death of Peter Sellers 3) Sleuth 4) Psychedelic 5) Tyre
6) Tireme 7) Gobekli Tepe 8) Romania
9) Styx 10) Eric Idle

IV: Connections

1) Barnet (Fair) = hair 2) Barnaby Rudge = judge
3) Bristol City = breasts 4) Helter-skelter = air-raid shelter 5) Dickie Bird = word 6) China (plate) = mate 7) Lady Godiva = fiver 8) Baked bean = queen 9) Adam and Eve = believe 10) Cockney Rhyming Slang

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More GARDENING ads on page 55

Firewood & Fuel page 43

**Solution: Chess
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 2) Rg7 mate

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Looking for a Home page 53

Removals

Watson European page 53



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Tim the Gardener 

Chestnuts, Hazelnuts and Using a Sickle

pages 20-21



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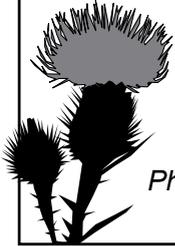



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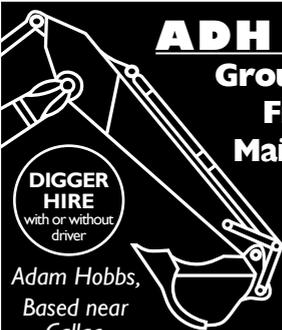
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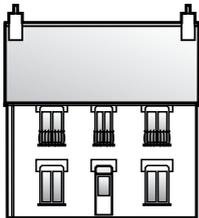
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