

Central Brittany

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Journal

July 2007

1€

ISSUE 37



Summer
in Brittany



TARTES & CHOCOLATES: QUINTON St Brieuc

The chocolate shop of Serge Quinton is one of the classiest in Brittany. Although the shop primarily sells chocolates (there is a range of up to fifty different kinds) there are also cakes, macaroons, toffees, and fruit jellies. Unusual combinations of spices, fruit, flowers and herbs flavour everything he makes, such as mandarin, bitter orange, lavender, basil, banana, rhubarb, lichi, and the flowers of buckwheat, poppies and violets!



The shop is in the centre of St Brieuc and has been there for twenty-eight years. Its chief speciality, invented by the owner, is pictured left: a delicious, crunchy chocolate made with butter using 'sel de Guérande'.

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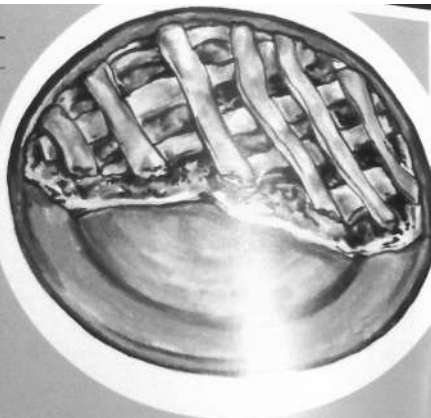
Treacle Tart

This classic recipe isn't particularly seasonal, but it's a treat at any time of year. This version is based on a recipe from a 1930s cook book, and is easy enough for a child to follow.

Ingredients:

- 10 oz plain flour (T80, if available)
- pinch of salt
- cold water (6-7 tablespoons)
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 4 oz butter or margarine
- 2 oz breadcrumbs
- juice of ½ a lemon
- golden syrup
- (a metal plate)

1. Sift the flour, baking powder and salt into a medium-sized mixing bowl. Add the butter or margarine to the flour, and cut into small chunks. Using the tips of your fingers, rub the butter into the flour, until the mixture looks like fine breadcrumbs.
2. Add a little water to the mixture and press the crumbs together with your hands. Keep adding water, a little at a time, until the mixture forms a ball of firm but supple dough. If you like, you can now refrigerate the pastry for half an hour to make it easier to work with.
3. Make the breadcrumbs by cutting some thick slices of bread and grinding them in an electric blender to make crumbs. (You can also do this with your fingers, but it takes more time.)
4. Roll out two-thirds of the pastry on a floured surface. Lay the upturned metal plate in the middle and cut round the edge using a sharp knife. Lay this circle of pastry on the plate and sprinkle with half the breadcrumbs. Now cover with 3-4 tablespoons of golden syrup. (Golden syrup can be made more runny, and therefore easier to work with, by gently heating the desired amount in a small saucepan.)
5. Squeeze the lemon juice over the syrup. Cover with the remaining crumbs. Roll out the rest of the pastry, and cut into strips about ½" wide. Brush the underneath of each strip with a little water, and stick onto the tart to form a lattice.
6. Bake in the oven at Gas Mark 6 for 15-20 minutes or until the pastry is golden brown, and coming away slightly from the edge of the dish. Serve hot or cold.



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Editorial

Once again, our little Journal appears to be bursting at the seams, this month it has been particularly difficult to find space for the all the contributions and material that we have received, perhaps this is due to the fact that Summer has arrived and that the pace of life has quickened - something that is reflected in the theme of this month's main article.

One contribution that particularly caught my interest is the letter from Michael Farrell on page 4 on the subject of passports. It is difficult to understand why anyone should have to experience such difficulties at the hands of people and organisations that they are themselves paying for, and which, in theory at least, are supposed to be helping to make life easier. With regards to passports, it is easy to understand how the idea originally came about, but one is now forced to wonder just how bad things will have to get before the wisdom of dividing the world up into different countries brought into question: if our current system brought peace, then I suppose that we would have to support it, despite all the annoyances of having to get passports, etc., but it seems to serve only to foster discord and misunderstandings and to keep the world permanently suspended on the brink of war. I have included the story of Ranjit Singh in this issue to remind myself that things have not always been this way.

On a lighter note, I am especially pleased to be able to report that this issue features another traditional Breton story - The Miller's Four Sons: the Breton Stories have been a particularly popular feature of the magazine and we hope to be able to collect them all together and publish them as an anthology in the near future. Wishing everyone an enjoyable and glorious summer...

GL

Central Brittany Journal

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Tel/Fax: 0033 (0)2 96 21 52 21

ISSN: 1767-6738

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Honey

Brittany is an area that is particularly well-suited to beekeeping: the mild, humid climate means that there are flowers available to the honey bees from the early Spring blooms right through to the ivy flowers in late October / early November. Central Brittany's main honey-yielding crops are chestnuts, hazelnuts and sweet chestnut - all of which yield exceptional-tasting honey, possibly because they are still growing wild. A well-managed Breton hive can easily yield 50 pounds of honey, and, in a good year, even more. Bees require hot, sunny weather when the major nectar-producing plants are in flower, in order to produce a substantial surplus, but, depending on the timing, periods of wet weather during the Summer months actually help to improve the honey crop because they can lead to a greater profusion of wild flowers, and a more abundant supply of nectar.

Beekeeping has never been an occupation for the faint-hearted - the sound of angry bees buzzing around one's head is guaranteed to get the adrenaline flowing, even when one is wearing the best protective clothing - but modern



beekeepers face difficulties that their predecessors could never have imagined. Over recent years, beekeepers have reported an increasing number of colonies that simply grow weaker and weaker and eventually die. Scientists attribute these problems to bee diseases, but the almost universally-held view of beekeepers themselves is that it is modern agricultural methods that are to blame. It is not simply that mechanised farming has decimated the wild-flower population, but it seems that the chemicals used by farmers create an environment that is toxic to bees. So far, this early warning provided by beekeepers that something has gone seriously wrong in the countryside, has gone unheeded by people at large.



HENNEBONT

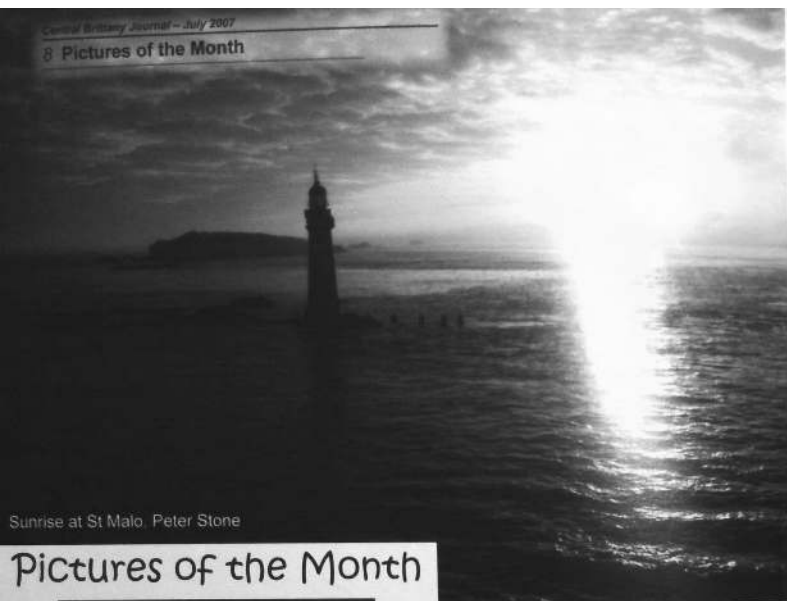


Hennebont, situated on the Blavet, ten miles upstream from where it enters the sea, was for many centuries one of Brittany's major ports and important military strongholds.

Much of the old town was destroyed by bombing during the second world war, but a substantial section of the city walls remain, together with the Medieval castle.

Hennebont was besieged in 1342, during the Breton War of Succession, and is famous for the defence put up by Joanna of Flanders, widow of Jean de Montfort, who herself put on armour to lead her troops, and urged the women of the town to 'cut their skirts and take their safety into their own hands'.





Sunrise at St Malo. Peter Stone

Pictures of the Month



Above: Wreck on the Trieux Estuary, Brian Collis
Left: Canal at Chapel Le Pitié, Mags Burton, Mellionnec



Please send photos for picture of the month to Wendy at: info@thebj.com or to: CBJ, BP4, 22160 Callac

Help with Identification?

I live on the site of an old watermill & enjoy amateur photography. I have loads of dragonflies & damselflies. I have attached a couple of photos & wondered if you or readers could put a name to them!!
Don Howard

Please send replies to: info@thebj.com



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Tea Shop Review: Hennebont *Pâtisserie Bernard*



This pâtisserie is in the centre of the historic town of Hennebont, overlooking the magnificent entrance into the church. Attractive lights hang from the ceiling, and cakes and Breton specialities such as pommé and kouign amann are displayed on the counter. Chocolates made on the premises are displayed in a glass cabinet, and there is also a selection of sandwiches.

Five tables stand in a corner of the shop, and customers can watch people coming in and out, as well as having a good view of the town through the three big arched windows. The coffee is particularly good and cheaper than in most places, at just 1€.

Pâtisserie Bernard Chocolatier - Glacier - Salon de Thé, 22 place Foch, 56700 Hennebont, 02 97 36 22 13

Jazz Festival Châteauneuf du Faou



The third Châteauneuf du Faou Jazz festival is due to take place on the 4th and 5th August. The festival has sprung from 'Good Time Jazz's' popular monthly Jazz sessions held at Bar Tal Ar Pont (next one July 8*), and has now grown into a major local attraction drawing large numbers of both French and English people.

It is much more informal than many other Jazz festivals: people are welcome to stroll from venue to venue, glass in hand, enjoying the beautiful scenery along the banks of the River Aulne, where most of the venues are sited. This year, the major attraction is gypsy guitarist Biréli Lagrène who is a genuine star of world jazz.

Tickets: 10€/7€ Sat. night, 12€/9€ Sun. all day, 20€/15€ weekend. Under 15s free. Details from tourist office 02 98 81 83 90 or 02 98 73 25 48.



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Hogweed

Hogweed is a plant much-loved by insects and much detested by gardeners.

It is certainly true that its tall, bristly stems, sometimes reaching to nine feet, and its poisonous sap which can cause a person's skin to blister, do not make it a plant well-suited to

gardens, but in marshes, hedgerows and meadow

land, it is perfectly at home, and is

always surrounded by a cloud

of flies, bugs, hoverflies and

butterflies who are

drinking the

nectar from the

flowers.

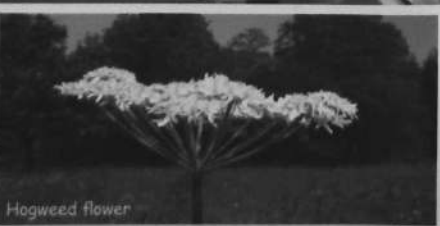


Hogweed leaf

Anyone chopping down or pulling up hogweed plants should do so with caution. If the sap comes into contact with a person's skin, and the area is exposed to sunlight, large blisters will appear, which, when gone, will leave a scar which can last for years. It is advisable to have your arms and legs well covered when strimming, and if you are weeding them out of vegetable and flower beds to wash your hands afterwards.



Here are some of the strange insects to be found on the hogweed plant. Can you see 6 striped shield bugs on the dead leaf at right?



Hogweed flower

News & Services

Charan Anand To Visit Carhaix July 24th 7.30pm

Mahatma Guru Charan Anand was a popular figure in London in the early 1970s when his ready smile and simple wisdom captured the hearts of the hippy generation. Charan Anand has spent most of the thirty years that have passed since that time travelling the world in the service of his teacher, Prem Rawat. This Summer, he is undertaking a tour of the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, and France. The French part of the tour is due to include events in Paris, Montpellier, Avignon, Marseille, and Bordeaux, and will finish with an event in Carhaix in the Hotel Noz Vad on July 24th. It is a public event and everyone is welcome to attend.

Charan Anand's tour is subject to last-minute revision; anyone wishing to attend the event on the 24th should check details beforehand: up-to-date information will be posted on the CBJ website, www.thebj.com, or ring the CBJ office: 02 96 21 52 21

Brittany Walks

In response to popular demand, Wendy Mewes has included a short, easy walk, in the July programme of 'Brittany Walks'. It is scheduled for July 31st and takes in some of the finest scenery in the Monts d'Arrée. Anyone wanting to join the walk should meet in the car park of Ferme des Artisans (on D785, 4kms north of Brasparts, near Mont-St-Michel/Menez Mikel) 2.30, July 31st. Wendy reports that 'there is a nice mix of French and English walkers now, and everyone is very welcome'. More info: www.brittanywalks.com

Anzac day April 25th

Catherine and Rodney Curtis organised an Anzac tea party in St Aignan, on Anzac Day this year. The event, which was sponsored by Anzac biscuits, raised 907.11€ for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Catherine and Rodney would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion. More info: 02 97 39 60 69

Rik's Bar

Rik's Bar, Ste. Brigitte will be closed for holidays on Saturday 30th June for one week - opening again on Saturday 7th July. Further details regarding Rik's bar can be found on www.riks-bar.com

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Vieilles Charrues: Carhaix Volunteers



Preparations are now well-advanced for this year's Vieilles Charrues festival in Carhaix. Every year over four thousand volunteers take part to help make the festival a success. Myriam Le Gall and Céline Kergonnan help coordinate the work done by the volunteers which ranges from working a shift on one of the on-site bars or food stalls or directing traffic, to welcoming festival goers and helping backstage. More info: Vieilles Charrues Office Carhaix, next to the sports ground.

Animal-powered agriculture

Gaëlle Leprévost is pioneering the cause of returning to animal-powered agriculture in Brittany. She points out that animals fit in perfectly with a well-rounded, diversified, mixed crop and livestock family farm, and that, for the right people, they still represent the most exciting, efficient and rewarding renewable motive power source available to agriculture.

Horses and mules have been in use for thousands of years in agriculture and have proven themselves to be both reliable and eco-friendly. Gaëlle is currently involved in taking her pony 'Mister Pop' round local schools to show children that there is another way to farm - 'one that is respectful to the earth'.

Gaëlle is hosting an open day at her farm/riding stables on July 1st, where there will be horse riding, demonstrations and refreshments.

More info: Gaëlle Leprévost, Domaine des Chimères, Kergonnan, 56110 Le Saint. 06.18.58.19.21
domaine.des.chimeres@wanadoo.fr

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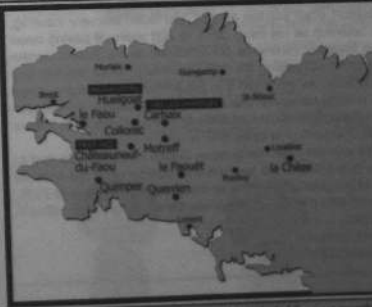
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13 Friday
Fest Noz, Carhaix (29) Kerampuilh. begins 9.00 pm.
14 Saturday
Fest Noz, Quimper (29) Begins 9.30 pm.
15 Sunday
Fest Noz, Colflore (29) Ste-Marguerite. Begins 9.00 pm.
16 Monday
Fest Noz, la Chèze (22) Salle des fêtes. Begins 9.00 pm.
19, 20, 21 & 22
Festival des Vieilles Charrues, Carhaix (29) Kerampuilh. see www.vieillescharrues.asso.fr and What's On section for more info.
21 Saturday
Fest Noz, le Faouët (56) Begins 9.00 pm.
27 Friday
The Ragamuffins play jazz at the bar L'Homme au Chapeau, Huelgoat town square. 7 pm - 10 pm.
29 Sunday
Fest Noz, le Faou (29) Harbour. Begins 9.00 pm.
AUGUST 4 & 5
Fest Jazz, Châteauneuf-du-Faou (29) Starring Biréli Lagrène. See page 9.



If you would like any musical events to be included for next month, please contact: info@thebj.com

Letters

Passports

The British Embassy passport offices should justify the double cost of the passport abroad to that of a passport in Britain. Our passports were due for renewal, so we downloaded the forms from the British Embassy website in Paris at the end of March 2007. The cost of two passports was 284€ plus a stamped addressed registered envelope for 5.28€, they also asked for a telephone contact number in case of problems.

Two weeks later the original passports were returned with a form stating that the cost was now 370€ plus the registered envelope – the increase being due to the recent Budget.

We rang the number on the form to find out why the cost was double that in the UK (£66.00 per person), and why the package had been returned instead of a telephone call or letter asking for the extra money. We rang the number numerous times over the next week, but could get no reply. A friend gave us a different number which was answered by an unhelpful person who refused to give her name: we were told this was the cost and we had to pay it.

We rang the passport office in the UK, but they could not help and gave us the telephone number of the Home Office: no joy. 'Not their problem - ring the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 0044 (0)207 271500.' The Foreign Office said that they could not deal with the problem, but would pass on complaints to the embassy in Paris – and the embassy would contact us (a roundabout springs to mind). Nobody did contact us – we never really thought they would.

After two weeks we phoned the embassy and spoke to a pro-consul, her answer was that the extra cost was to cover administration – they are not subsidized and you cannot expect the British taxpayer to supplement the cost of your passport when you live abroad. We found this very insulting, as between us we have close to 100 years of paying taxes and National Insurance contributions to the British system – and are still paying tax on our pensions. As for the returned passports, we were told that the embassy has no provisions for holding passports that cannot be processed; we were left wondering why a contact number had been asked for if there was no intention of using it.

We wonder how many other British citizens have had to pay this extortionate amount and wonder what the cost will be to 'ex-pats' when the new bio-passport comes in at £100. Comments please, or better still phone the Foreign office in London.

Yours sincerely
Michael J Farrell

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Illtud

Following the article St Illtud in this month's edition of the CBJ, I wondered if you might be interested in hearing a bit more about this special Saint?

The Vale of Glamorgan was my home for almost thirty years and I used to do historic treasure hunts around the area where many ancient sites are to be found.

The church in Llantwit Major is dedicated to Saint Illtud and marks one of the oldest religious sites in the UK. God has been worshipped at this beautiful spot for over 1500 years.

St Illtud came to Llantwit Major around the year 500, and established a church on the banks of a small stream, near the coast, but not actually visible from the sea. The church enclosure or 'llan' also included a monastery and a school.

From Llantwit Major, converts set out and established fifteen churches in Wales dedicated to St Illtud, and another seven in Brittany.

Llantwit was famous for its school which has led to its description as a fifth century university. It attracted many notable students, including Samson and Gildas, who wrote one of the first books on British History, and Paul Aurelian. Thus the bond between Llantwit Major and Brittany was firmly established.

Sadly, nothing remains of the original buildings except some grassy mounds, but the importance of Llantwit Major as a school, a monastery and a mission centre is unchallenged. The name 'Llantwit Major' is derived from 'Llanilltud Fawr' – the great church of Illtud, and enduring reminder of Illtud's life and work, which is celebrated each year on the 6th November.

I am enclosing photocopies of stone memorials which are at Llantwit Major, and, having seen them myself on several occasions, I can honestly say that they are remarkable.

Regards
Sandy Aathan

Integration

Your common sense article on integration was very refreshing, it expressed a view that I am sure many Bretons would agree with. We look forward to living, working and contributing in our own small way to Brittany in the future.
King regards
Marie Ridley

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left: Illtud or Samson cross, west face, Llantwit Major
right: Houch Cross, Llantwit Major



Mr. Biznuz

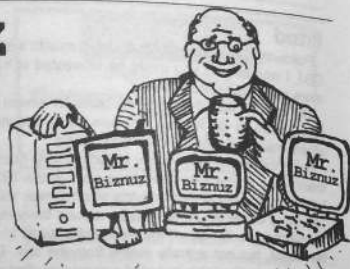
Last year I was seriously inconvenienced by the Mercedes garage in Carhaix, that I had been using for many years, closing down due to lack of work, and I had a similarly traumatic experience this month when I travelled to St Brieuc to visit my favourite art supply shop in the city centre. To my horror, this long-established business had also shut down. After making enquiries with other shop keepers in the town centre, the general consensus of opinion was that the business had closed because the owners could not afford to keep paying the social charges of all the staff that they employed - and most of them seemed to think that they too would soon be out of business unless the new president did something radical to improve the business climate.

I was struck by how this prevailing atmosphere of pessimism illustrates one of the key factors to business success - and that is realising when, and how, to run in the opposite direction from the rest of the herd.

People often imagine that in order to make money in a small business, you have to have a remarkably innovative idea, but in reality, success more often than not comes from being able to recognise something that ought to be blindingly obvious, but which, for some reason, escapes popular notice.

It is well documented that every year for the past ten to fifteen years, at least a thousand families have moved from the UK to Brittany. It is the accepted wisdom that these people ought to learn French - 'You are in France, so you ought to speak French' is a phrase that has regularly greeted English speakers for many years - and the local authorities invest heavily in trying to encourage new arrivals to take up a study of the French language.

There are some businesses, however, who have made a few basic calculations: a thousand newcomers, each of whom arrives with an



average monthly income of 1500€ per month, represents one and a half million euros worth of new money available to the local economy per month. The main qualification for getting a share in this wealth is simply being able to explain products and services to customers when they arrive on your premises: in theory, one might agree that these customers ought to speak French, but in practice, if someone is able to speak a little English to them, a business that everyone thinks is inevitably drifting towards bankruptcy - due to the burdens of taxation and regulation - suddenly starts to become very profitable.

In addition to monthly income, many newcomers arrive with substantial sums of money from property sales in the UK, and they are often keen to invest this money in property renovation: this investment is acknowledged to have amounted to billions of euros over the past twenty years.

Of course, businesses that are thriving do not advertise the source of their wealth - why encourage new competition? - and one is therefore always more likely to hear bad business stories than good ones, but now is perhaps a good time for local businesses that are in difficulty to re-evaluate their attitude to non-French-speakers living in their midst, and then, maybe, we will be spared the shock of seeing some of our favourite shops disappearing without trace.

Ranjit Singh (1780 - 1839)

Previous issues of the Journal have carried stories of sage kings of Brittany, such as King Arthur and King Judicaël. This has raised the question 'Do other regions of the world have a tradition of sage kings, and did they all live in the distant past?'

Ranjit Singh was born in India, and at the age of twelve became ruler of the kingdom of Punjab (now in Pakistan). The region was in a state of chaos, but Ranjit Singh restored peace and order, and he soon won the affection of the people. He was short in stature, and could only see out of one eye, but such was his enthusiasm for life, and his kindness to one and all that he was often described as shining as brightly as the sun.

During his forty-year reign thousands of people came to live in Punjab; Ranjit Singh abolished capital punishment, and there was complete freedom of speech. All religions were treated equally, and the Maharaja himself celebrated the different festivals of all his subjects. When he passed away, in 1839, his kingdom fell under the sway of the British, but he is still remembered by the people of Punjab, where many stories are told of his wisdom and great heartedness. This is one of those stories:

Once Maharaja Ranjit Singh was travelling home, when he passed by a village. A crowd of little boys were gathered about some mango trees, and they were throwing stones up at the fruits to knock them down. None of them noticed the King, and one boy accidentally struck him with a stone. Seeing what they had done, all the boys ran home to their parents.

The Maharaja sent one of his guards into the village and told him to call together all the little boys. When the villagers heard this command they became very afraid. What was going to happen to their sons? The mother and father of the boy who had struck the King were particularly frightened.

"Alas, how will the Maharaja punish our son?" they said to each other.

When all the children were assembled the king ordered them to form a line. Next he turned to his treasurer and said: "Give to each one of these children 51 rupees."

When the villagers saw what was happening they were filled with amazement. "O Maharaj," they said, "we were very afraid, because we thought that you were going to punish our children."

"My dear friends!" said King Ranjit Singh. "When a man strikes a tree with a stone, he receives fruit in return. I am a human being, but why should I give punishment in return? Today these were all the rupees I had with me, and I gave you them all. I only wish it had been more."



Summer in Brittany

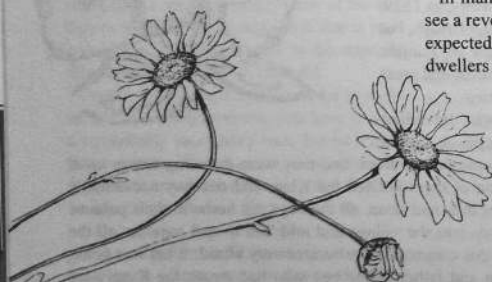
Central Brittany has never had the classic ingredients associated with the world's most popular holiday destinations - hot sun & sandy beaches - but, even so, there are a certain number of discerning people who consider Summer in Brittany to be as near to perfection as anything to be found anywhere on earth.

It is the abundance of Nature that makes Brittany so special; it is an abundance that is brought about by a combination of warm weather and prolific rainfall, and it comes to fruition during the Summer months when the countryside is almost swamped by vegetation and wildlife.

Many of the people who visit Brittany have memories of idyllic Summer days preserved from their childhood, and they recognise the value that green fields, wild flowers, bird song, and the buzzing of insects can make to the quality of life.

In fact, it may be easier for people who have spent a few years in a busy, urban environment to appreciate the natural beauty of the Breton countryside, than for people who have spent all their lives in the country, and, perhaps, imagine that they are missing out on something important by not being surrounded by all the sights and sounds of a modern city.

In many parts of Brittany, it is possible to see a reversal of the roles that one could have expected to be played by long term country-dwellers and people who have recently arrived



Top right: An apple tree gives shade in an overgrown cow field. Literally hundreds of butterflies and other insects find a home in this meadow, where, on a sunny day, the noise of crickets and grasshoppers is almost deafening.

Far right: Undergrowth grows sky-high in the Summer months in Brittany. The foxgloves that line this path are over six foot tall!

Right: Traditional Breton roses climbing up an oak frame. There are hundreds of old varieties to be found in abandoned gardens and close to stone houses. Their abundant flowers, sweet scent, resistance to illnesses and exceptional beauty make these traditional varieties highly preferable to modern ones.





from a city: people who move here from busy, built-up areas often choose to manage their land without the use of chemicals and are happy to keep some of their land in a wild state, and do what they can to provide protection and suitable habitats for wildlife.

To people who have been trained in the methods of modern agriculture, this may appear to be a slightly idiosyncratic approach to land management but it does, in fact,

represent very good news for the countryside as a whole.

It is the greenery and the overwhelming presence of Nature that makes Summer in Brittany unique, and in order for this to be preserved, Nature has to be given the respect that it deserves.

Sonnet XVIII

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou growest;
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

William Shakespeare

Top left: A cow in a grassy meadow.

Top right: This stag was caught unawares one early morning whilst grazing in a field. Here it is licking its back close to the safety of some trees, where it can quickly run for cover.

Middle Left: An ox-eye daisy glistening with early morning dew. These meadow flowers can be seen growing all through the Summer.

Left: Flowering grasses are a classic feature of hot days and sunshine. On a dry day, the plants will let fly clouds of pollen into the winds, giving grassy fields a misty appearance when a breeze blows. It is only when the grasses flower that one can see how many different types of grasses there are. The leaves are all similar, but the flowers are spectacularly different.

THE MILLER'S FOUR SONS

Once upon a time there lived an old miller who had four sons. He was poor and found it hard to feed them, and one morning there was nothing left but a crust of bread. The miller called the boys to him and said:

"My children, ill fortune has fallen on our house, and I no longer earn enough to feed you. Share this crust of bread, then go into the square field yonder and set out, one from each of the corners to seek your fortunes.

The miller's sons obeyed their father's orders and set out from the four corners of the square field, after promising to meet each other there again in two years time.

After a while, the eldest boy came to a town. He stopped to rest, and began to play about in front of the house of a tailor. The man saw him, and came out of his door.

"You are not from these parts, my boy," he said. "Where are you going?"

"To seek my fortune, and earn my bread," said the boy.

"Come with me," said the tailor, "and I will teach you my trade."

The boy was pleased to find work so soon, and he gladly followed the tailor.

The miller's second son walked a long way, and then, feeling tired, lay down on the ground to rest. As he lay there a hunter passed by with his dogs. The man was shouting and calling, and the boy grew frightened and began to cry.

"Don't be afraid," said the hunter, "I don't wish you any harm. Why are you crying like that?"

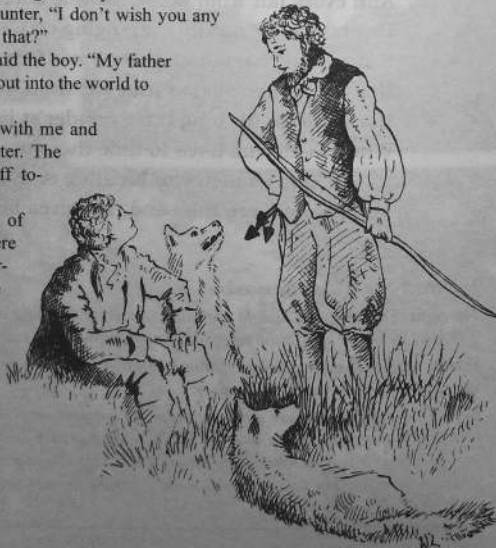
"I am a poor miller's son," said the boy. "My father cannot feed me, and I have set out into the world to seek my fortune."

"If you like, you can come with me and learn my trade," said the hunter. The boy agreed and they went off together.

The third son met a band of robbers, who asked him where he was going, and why he carried so few belongings. The boy explained that his father had sent him out to seek his fortune because there was no food left in the mill.

"Come with us," said the robbers, "and we will teach you our trade."

"I don't want to learn the trade of a robber," said the boy.



"Oh no," said the thieves, "robbers like us are honest folk, and even if we sometimes catch fools or simpletons, we never kill anyone."

So the little boy went along with them.

The miller's fourth son walked some way, and then climbed onto a high rock to rest. As he lay there, he saw an astrologer, who was using his eyeglass to look at the weather.

"Who are you, my child?" asked the astrologer.

"A poor child who has left his father's home because there was no more bread," said the miller's fourth son.

"Come with me," said the astrologer, "and I will teach you my trade."

At the end of two years each brother had finished his apprenticeship and they wanted to return home to their father's mill, as they had agreed.

The brother who was with the tailor went to him and said:

"Master, I am going to see my father."

"In all the twenty-five years that I have been in this trade, I have never seen anyone who worked better than you, my lad," said the tailor. "I am well satisfied with you, and I am going to give you this needle, which stitches up anything, and can go through iron as easily as cloth."

The second son, who was with the hunter, went to him and said:

"I am going to go back to my father. I have been with you for two years - I hope that you have no reason to complain of me."

"No indeed," said the huntsman, "in all my born days I have never seen a better marksman than you. I will give you a bow and arrow which always hits its mark."

The third son, who had stayed with the robbers said:

"I am going home to my father. I have been with you for two years, and I hope that you have no cause to complain of me."

"No indeed," they said, "but if you leave us, you will tell the soldiers where we are hidden."

"No, I will not," he said. "I would never betray someone whose bread I have eaten."

"You are such a good thief," said the robbers, "that in all our days we have never met anyone so quick and nimble as you. Here is a sword which we will give to you: in the handle is a ladder, which will allow you to climb up wherever you want."

The fourth son, who was with the astrologer said:

"Master, I am going back to my father."

"Be on your way, my child," said the astrologer. "In twenty-five years I have never known anyone who could foretell the weather like you. I will give you an eyeglass, which will allow you to see as far as you please."

The four brothers set off along the four roads they had taken, and met in the middle of the square field.

"We must hurry back to the mill, to see if our father is still alive," they said. "The poor man was old when we left, and he may well be dead."

However, when they drew near the mill, they saw the sails turning in the wind.

"Thank God," the boys cried. "Our dear father is still alive."

They rushed to meet him, and the old man welcomed them home with joy. He wanted to know what they had learnt and what had befallen them."

24 Breton Story: The Miller's Four Sons

The eldest said:

"I learnt the trade of a tailor, and my master said he had never found anyone so skilful. He gave me this needle which can stitch iron as easily as cloth."

"Very good," said the miller. "And what did you do?" he asked his second son.

"I learnt how to be a good huntsman, and my master said that in all his born days he had never met a better shot. He gave me a bow which never misses its mark."

"The hunter's trade is for idlers and good-for-nothings," said the miller.

"No father, money can be earned by selling what one has shot," said the second son.

"What trade have you learnt?" said the miller to his third son.

"That of a thief."

"I want nothing to do with you," cried the old man.

"No, no, Father, I have never killed anyone, although I have waylaid more than one simpleton. Thieves are more honest folk than you think. They have given me a sword, with which I can climb where I will."

"And you, little one, what have you learnt?"

"How to be an astrologer."

"At least that is an honest trade."

"Yes," said the fourth son. "My master said that he had never known any better at understanding the sky, and the weather, and he gave me an eyeglass, which will show me whatever I choose."

"Well, well," said the miller, "I want to see if my children are as quick and clever as they say."

Some way from the mill there was a tree, and in that tree there was a sparrow's nest that was so well hidden in the branches that it could not be found.

"Tell me what is in that tree?" said the miller.

The astrologer took his eyeglass, put it to his eye, and said:

"I see a sparrow's nest, and the bird has four eggs which she is sitting on right now."

The thief unscrewed the handle of his sword, and, climbing to the top of his ladder, he lifted up the bird so gently that she did not know she had left her nest. The huntsman broke the eggs into fifty thousand pieces, the tailor sewed them back together with his needle, and the thief returned them to the nest, put back the bird, and replaced the nest in the tree, so fast that the sparrow never even noticed.

"Very good, my children," said the miller. "I see you are skilful fellows. Now the King's daughter has been carried off by a dragon, and is on a rock in the middle of the sea. You must try to rescue her."

The four sons took a boat, and set sail towards the place where people said they would find the rock. When they espied it, the astrologer looked through his eyeglass and said:

"At the moment, the dragon is asleep. He is holding the King's daughter in his claws."

The boat drew closer to the island, and the thief unscrewed his ladder, and climbed up to the King's daughter; he lifted her out from between the dragon's claws without awaking the dragon, then they hurried back down to the boat. Soon the rock was left far behind, and they began to think they had escaped when they heard a voice overhead.

"Where is the King's daughter? Where is the King's daughter?"

The astrologer took his eyeglass and said:

Breton Story: The Miller's Four Sons 25

"The dragon is flying after us, and will soon catch us up."

The huntsman set an arrow to his bow, and when the dragon came within reach, he shot it dead. However, the dragon's huge body fell down onto the boat and smashed it into more than a thousand fragments.

Then the tailor took his needle and sewed it back together. In the blink of an eye, the boat was once more floating on the water, and no one could have told where it had been broken.

The four brothers took the Princess back to her father, the King. She was to marry the man who saved her, so the brothers drew lots to see who would become her husband. The tailor came out the victor, and after the wedding the King gave the miller's other three sons enough wealth to make them as rich as Princes.

They returned home, and their father said to them:

"When I die, I will leave the yard, the house, and the mill to the laziest of you. Tell me each in turn what you would do to earn the name of the laziest man in the world?"

The son who was a thief said: "If I was dragged through the sea all day behind a boat, and in the evening I found a good fire at which to warm myself, I would fall down on the ground and make no effort to go over to it."

"As for me," said the hunter, "if I were dragged all day through ice and snow, and at night I was set down at the door of a house, in which there was everything I needed to change my clothes and get warm, I would let myself drop down at the door, and stay lying there."

"I would be about to climb the scaffold to die," said the astrologer, "and I would have a knife in my hand to cut the noose, but I would not put myself to the trouble of opening it, and I would let myself be hung."

"You have won!" cried the miller, "you shall have the mill, the house and the yard, because without doubt, you are the laziest."

Soon after this the miller passed away, and that is the end of the tale.

Adapted from a traditional Breton Story ©2007 Bethan Lewis



20 months in Brittany: Ray Haines



Ray Haines moved to Brittany in October 2005 and since then has experienced some of the ups and downs that are common when moving from one country to another. In the UK, Ray worked in the Nissan factory in Sunderland, and he and his wife supplemented their income by high-quality property renovation. Having made careful enquiries, they decided that it would be feasible for Ray to leave his job in the UK and to make a living through buying a house in Brittany, renovating it, and selling it on. Their first purchase was in Corlay (22) and all went well - a sensitive loft conversion and internal renovation doubled the value of the property - until they discovered that a little-publicised change in the French tax law coming into effect in January 2006 meant that they could not sell the property without having to pay substantial capital gains tax.

This prompted a change of plan and Ray started looking for work - he soon realised that there was little prospect of finding a full-time job, but found that there was plenty of work available from local people for someone with his property maintenance skills. A trip to URSAFF in St Brieuc resulted in him joining the 'Cheque Emploi Service' scheme and this tided him over the next few months. Once again, however, local tax rules caused him difficulty - the 'Cheque Emploi Service' scheme works well for French pensioners - because they are able to reclaim costs on their tax form - but for anyone else, it can prove to be an expensive way of employing someone.

Ray soon realised that, in particular, if he wanted work from second-home owners and people moving to the area, he would have to set up in business on his own account. He is now registered to complete non-structural building work, including painting and decorating, internal work, modernisation, and property maintenance.

His business is tailored to suit local demand in the area around Corlay and his aim is to provide high quality work at a below-average cost.

Despite all the difficulties, he and his wife are pleased that they made the move to Brittany, and consider their present life to be almost stress free when compared to the one they left behind in the UK.

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Solutions to French Word Quiz: Cars and Driving

Words: Shock absorber - Amortisseur; Brake - Frein; Brake light - Feux de freinage; Brake pad - Pastille; Steering wheel - Volant; Windscreen - Pare-brise; Windscreen washer - Lave-glace; Windscreen wiper - Essuie-glasse; Oil change - Vidange; Catalytic converter - Pot catalytique; MOT test - Contrôle technique; Log book - Carte grise; Fan belt - Courroie de ventilateur; Headlight (main beam) - Phare; Dipped headlights - Feux de croisement; Hand brake - Frein à main; Side lights - Feux de position; Gear box - Boîte de vitesses; Tyre - Pneu; Warning triangle - Triangle de signalisation; Salting - Saupoudrage; To indicate - Mettre son clignotant; To overtake - Dépasser; To sound one's horn - Klaxonner; Rear-view mirror - Rétroviseur

Phrases: 1 - C; 2 - H; 3 - A; 4 - A; 5 - B; 6 - G; 7 - D; 8 - F

French Word Quiz: Cars & Driving

solution, page opposée

Words:

Shock absorber	Plaquette de frein
Brake	Carte grise
Brake light	Feux de croisement
Brake pad	Bande d'arrêt d'urgence
Steering wheel	Pare-brise
Windscreen	Vidange
Windscreen washer	Feux de position
Windscreen wiper	Contrôle technique
Oil change	Klaxonner
Catalytic converter	Stop
MOT test	Triangle de signalisation
Log book	Phare
Fan belt	Frein à main
Headlight (main beam)	Amortisseur
Dipped headlights	Mettre son clignotant
Hand brake	Boîte de vitesses
Side lights	Dépasser
Gear box	Accotement
Tyre	Salage
Warning triangle	Frein
Verge	Lave-glasse
Hard shoulder	Pot catalytique
Salting	Volant
To indicate	Rétroviseur
To overtake	Essuie-glasse
To sound one's horn	Courroie de ventilateur
Rear-view mirror	Pneu

Phrases:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. To check the oil | A. Au point mort |
| 2. In gear | B. Je suis tombé en panne |
| 3. Not in gear | C. Vérifier le niveau d'huile |
| 4. To change gear | D. Faire vérifier le parallélisme de ses roues |
| 5. My car has broken down | E. Changer de vitesse |
| 6. I have run out of petrol | F. Vérifier le gonflage des pneus |
| 7. To have one's wheels aligned | G. Je suis tombé en panne d'essence |
| 8. To check the air in the tyres | H. En prise |

E. A. Q. #33



Q: You did an article about networking computers but failed to mention wireless networks? Why is that? Is the technology too modern for you?

A.: The IEEE 802.11 specifications that rule Wireless Local Area Networks (WLAN) appeared in 1997 so this isn't so "modern". "Wi-Fi" was a brand name adopted by the Alliance that oversaw the implementation of the standards that enable wireless devices to communicate with each other. The term has become generic.

I left Wi-Fi out last time because I'm only allowed so much space each month and try not to over-complicate things. Anyway, it gives me something to write about now. So, that's two questions answered, but what about Wi-Fi networks?

Each computer in the network must be fitted with a Wi-Fi enabled device. These can be PC cards that go inside your tower or PCI cards that slot into the side of a laptop. USB devices, called "Dongles" because early ones had droopy aerials, do the same thing, are easier to install and cheap to buy. Typically, they cost about €20.

To create a proper network one needs a Broadband connection and a Wi-Fi modem/router. Cheaper ones cost about €60 but some ISPs provide them for a monthly fee. Orange "Livebox" is an example, but this does other things as well if you can configure the thing at all!

The great advantage of Wi-Fi networks is that there are no wires. The system is highly portable. One can sit in the garden, living room or W.C. and surf the Internet but don't try it in the bath!

You may remember seeing an Intel advertisement for "Centrino" where a chap sat in the middle of a football pitch. It's just as well there wasn't a game going on and there were serious questions as to whether it really did work. That's part of the downside.

The range of these devices is dependent on many factors. Although they are supposed to work up to 100 metres out of doors many things can block the signal. House walls and furniture, even a refrigerator or fish tank will disrupt the relatively

weak signal. My own system functions up to 20 metres away from the router. It works for me.

Because transmissions are in the 2.4GHz range many other devices can interfere. Cordless telephones, Bluetooth devices, even microwave ovens can disrupt the signal as can other nearby networks. Not a problem where I live but something to consider in town.

Setting up a Wi-Fi network is actually fairly simple. Each device comes with drivers provided by the manufacturer. Install the drivers, plug in and follow the instruction. It takes but a few minutes. That's if everything goes to plan.

Your device might see the network but may not connect. It has to be "configured". Windows XP with Service Pack 2 has a simply utility for this. Despite having a bug that was introduced with SP2, it usually works well. Each hardware manufacturer provides his own utility. Few are easy to configure and most have the really annoying habit of disabling the Windows utility, thus making life more difficult.

Then there are the security and possible health issues, but I'll save that for another time.

Like so many things in the modern world, Wi-Fi networks are great when they work but they can be very frustrating when they don't. You have been warned.

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Please send technology questions to:
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or leave a message at the CBj office
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Website Workshop

Last month we looked at Blogging, this month we'll discuss Adobe Flash

Q - Who is Adobe?

A - Adobe was founded in 1982 by Charles Geschke and John Warnock. Adobe is one of the major software companies in the world - to give you an idea, the company has over 6,000 employees and income for 2006 exceeded 2.5 billion dollars.

Adobe's roots are based in the printing industry where they were able to successfully adapt and succeed with new and emerging technology, culminating in where they are today - as leaders in digital communication software. Adobe's core technology is how most people will recognise them - PDF documents. Although the Portable Document Format is now 14 years old, its strength and reach is demonstrated in the 400 million computers the free Adobe Reader can be found on around the world.

Q - Does Adobe sell other products?

A - Yes, they have quite a collection; Photoshop - the professional industry standard for digital image editing and creation, InDesign - page layout and desktop publishing, Premiere - digital video and audio editing, After Effects - motion graphics and visual effects tool for digital video, ... the list goes on. For a comprehensive product catalogue, visit Adobe's website at www.adobe.com.

Q - ...and Flash?

A - Yes, Flash. Flash is an interactive, web-based animation program that can help you build web pages or elements within a web page. Currently, Flash is the most significant technological step towards turning the web into an interactive 'television' as it far exceeds what HTML can do because it works well with animation, interactivity and sound.

For some excellent examples of Flash, try:
www.above-magazine.com
www.sunseekerboats.co.uk

www.djh-graphics.com/new/flash.html
www.nille.net

Q - So how does Flash work?

A - Flash creates interactive presentations called 'movies' - and they really are very much like a movie as they use the same linear, time-motion construct. Flash movies are embedded into a web page similar to images, but the HTML page will be used to hold the Flash movie rather than have it as part of the HTML. Movies can be set to take up the whole screen or just occupy a small portion of a web page - maybe as a banner or advertisement.

Q - Do I have to wait for the whole 'movie' to download before I can view it?

A - Flash utilises streaming to get over the bandwidth bottleneck. Streaming is a technique used for transferring data - usually video, animation or sound, by sending small 'packets' of data that it re-constructs on your computer. When Flash has enough data to buffer the file - which is usually about 10 seconds or so - it then starts to show you the animation (or whatever) by or playing it on your computer screen.

The reason it buffers the data is because the flow coming in from the Internet is usually not a constant one and it is one way to ensure (or as close as possible to it) a smooth, uninterrupted flow - much like the anti-shock technology used in personal CD players.

Malcolm Wearing

Next month: The Amazon.com story

Malcolm can be contacted on malcolm@practicalnet.com
www.practicalnet.com

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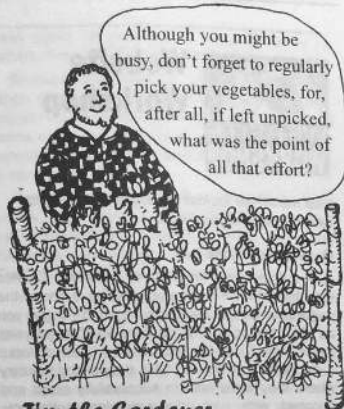
www.thebj.com

Tim the Gardener: July in the Garden

So far, this has not been a good year in the vegetable garden - many crops started off well in the warm weather in early Spring, but since then it has been much wetter and slightly colder than usual. Conditions have been particularly difficult for crops such as carrots and chicory which grow from small seeds: their seedlings are very vulnerable for the first few weeks after germination, and this year they seem to have suffered badly at the hands of the snails that have proliferated in the warm, damp conditions.

Early July is still not too late to make a late sowing of these crops: if the soil remains damp during the first few weeks of the month, and the seedlings get off to a good start, they may even catch up with plants sown a couple of months earlier.

Another problem is the early appearance of potato blight. This disease kills back the tops of the potato plants preventing further development of the crop; it does not usually appear in Central Brittany until some time in July but this year it could be seen in some gardens from as early as May. Even plants that were affected early on will probably have produced some potatoes, and it is probably advisable to dig these up: it is true that potatoes store better in the ground than in a



Tim the Gardener

store room, but if the crop is relatively poor, one does not want to risk losing any of it to mice. If you dig up the potatoes on a day when the soil is wet and sticky, it is best to spread them out and allow them to dry for a couple of days. They can then be put in wooden crates and stored in a cool, dark, mouse-proof shed or outhouse. The secret of storing potatoes over the Summer months, is to keep them as cool as possible, and it is therefore not advisable to bring them into the house until you want to use them.

Stop Press

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Animals cont'd page 32

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32 Classified Advertising

Animals continued from page 31

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Caravans for Sale cont'd page 34

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Building & Property Maintenance cont'd page 33

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34 Classified

Caravans cont. from page 33

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See also: Computers, page 48

Gardening cont. from page 34

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Technology Services 35

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Health & Beauty
cont. page 42

What's On

Every Wednesday and Friday English Book & Video exchange at Carolann's, Carnoët. (Dagonally opposite Carnoët church). Weds. 10.30 am - 4.30 pm. Fridays 10 am - 2 p.m. AND NEW EVENING Mondays 6 pm - 9 pm. If you don't have books to swap, we have hundreds of titles from 1€ each. Tea and coffee available. There is now a children's corner where your child can watch a video while you browse. Tel: Carol or Paul on 02 96 21 54 62

Rendez-vous des Celtes in Plussulien now has a regular 'Moules Breton' with cider and cream on Fridays, as well as Fish and Chips. These are to order only and must be ordered by Wednesday evenings. Tel: 02 96 24 04 26

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP home group, meeting regularly in the Cotes d'Armor / Finistère area. All welcome. For more details contact Darren and Petra Franklin on 02.96.43.06.85 or Roy & Melanie Johnson on: 02.98.78.11.01.

Every Sunday afternoon until October Art and Sculpture exhibition at the Chateau de Kerinaouët, between Tregunc and Pont Aven. Gardens, park and tea room all open. Free entry. More info: www.chateaubretagne.info or tel: 02 98 50 19 68. First Sunday of every month there is a free concert of classical music there, starting at 4.30 p.m. Followed by afternoon tea.

Second Friday of every month "Soirée Française" evenings. Come and join us (8 pm) in a relaxed atmosphere at the Hotel Noz Vad, Carhaix. Contacts: George Turnbull & Pam Chapman. Tel: 02 98 99 48 90 e-mail ghturnbull@fastmail.fm

Gourin Cricket Club July fixtures
1st July: Vendée C.C. vs C.C. l'Oust at Fontaine Couverte; 8th July Gourin C.C. vs Le Moulin C.C. at Le Saint 2 pm. (5 kms from Gourin); 22nd July C.C. l'Oust vs Gourin C.C. at Quily 2 pm. 29th July C.C. l'Oust vs Le Moulin C.C. Quily 2 pm. (10 kms from Josselin.)
Contact details don.smith@aliceads.fr or 02 96 28 59 17.

Sunday July 1st
Concert of Classical Music for Violin and Harp at the Church in Laniscat. 8.30 pm Anne Morgant - harpist - teaches music in Saint Malo and Dinan. Veronique Daverio - violinist - once solo violinist with the Mexico Philharmonic, now teaches at the Ecole Nationale de Musique in Saint Brieuc. Works by Villa-Lobos, Paganini, Debussy, Ravel and Mozart amongst others. Tickets. 8€ in aid of the restoration fund for the Abbaye de Bon Repos.

Wednesday July 4th
'Peace begins with every single human being. That's where peace begins.' DVD of Prem Rawat speaking in Miami, USA, earlier this year. Noz Vad Hotel (access at side of hotel). 8 pm start. Lasts approx. 1 hour. Refreshments available. Please tel: 02 96 21 55 97 if you would like more information.

What's On Continued page 38
www.thecbj.com

Poppies Restaurant

Mael Carhaix July

Friday nights from 7 pm

July 6th: Curry night

July 13th: Chinese night

July 20th: Curry night

July 27th: Chinese night

Tel: 02 96 24 66 23

Au Rendez-Vous Des Celtes Restaurant

Under new ownership

What's On in July

Fish and Chips evening Fridays at 6 pm

Quiz night 4th Tuesday in every month

Darts & Skittles 2nd Tuesday in every month

Closed Wednesdays.

Plussulien 02 96 24 04 26

Garage Sale / Vide Grenier.

Saturday July 21st &

Sunday July 22nd.

10 am - 3 pm.

Household, bric-a-brac, boys' clothes 1-3 years, many as new. Baby accessories, even cuddly toys. Everything must go. (Under cover if needed).

Kerscramail, 22160 Duault

Directions: on the D11 from Duault to Callac, turn right at the house with the blue shutters.

Signed from here.

Tel: 02 96 21 54 35

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Places to Eat



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Traditionally-made pasty and chips 7€
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Botaval, 29270 Clédén Poher
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Mael Carhaix 02 96 24 66 23
(closed Mon.) Outside parties catered for
Friday nights - theme night

Places to Eat see also:
Le Moulin Blanc p. 2
La Girelle p. 12



Au Rendez-Vous Des Celtes

Village Pub & Restaurant

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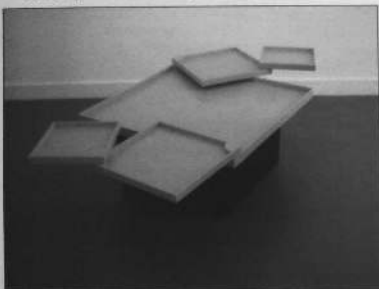


phone: 02 96 21 52 32
email: orxon@les-fous.com

PLACES TO EAT

Exhibition of Contemporary Furniture: Dinan

Sat. July 7th to Sun. July 15th



Organised by the association of Breton Furniture Makers, this year's exhibition will be held at the Anglican Church, rue Broussais, 22100 Dinan. Admission is free. The theme is the square, and work from 14 contributors will be on display.

Escale Dedale



The Finistère-based trio ESCALE DEDALE have released a new CD which features songs in French, English, Breton and the Amerindian language. It can be ordered for 15 €, including postage. See www.boutiquedebretagne.com/Musique or www.tuchenn.com/escale

Saturday July 7th

The Les Historiques Association will organise the Fête d'Antan in Gouarec. From 10 am to 6 pm, the streets of Gouarec will be decked with a variety of stalls. Wander around to see all the exhibits and enjoy the part in the street banquet in the afternoon. There will be an opportunity to taste a variety of local specialties. The evening will end with a fireworks display. Entrance free.

Sunday July 8th

Bulat Pestival Vide Grenier. As usual the perennial 'English cake stand' will be there. Come along and buy a scone, Victoria sponge or a Chelsea bun. All monies raised are going towards new gates for the churchyard. This year as well as cakes and English language books, there will be two raffles, the local forge has designed and made a rose arch for us, and a popular local artist has donated an oil on canvas. Usual place opposite the church. For more information contact either Brenda 0296 457396 or Ruth 0296 457022

Tuesday July 10th - Monday July 16th

The 24th International festival of the Celtic Harp at Dinan. Courses, concerts and instrument makers exhibitions. For more information see <http://www.harpe-celtique.com/myrdhin/festival.htm> or tel: 02 96 87 36 69.

Saturday July 14th - Sunday July 22nd

The 84th Cornouaille festival, Quimper. 250,000 visitors each year. Traditional Breton singing, dancing, music and workshops. Also Breton dance championships. Plus Joan Baez concert Sunday July 22nd. See website for programme of events & more information: www.festival-cornouaille.com Tel: 02 96 56 36 60

Tuesday July 17th and Tuesday July 31st

Wild Walks - guided walks around Finistère and east Côtes d'Armor. Cost 3€. Walks last 2 1/2 hrs. **Tuesday July 17th** Plouezoc'h (5 km north of Morlaix) 2.30 pm. Meet by the church. A walk along the Dorduff estuary and Bay of Morlaix. Woodland paths and river/coastal scenery. **Tuesday July 31st** Monts d'Arrée 2.30 pm. Meet in car park of Ferme des Artisans (on D785, 4 km north of Brasparts, near Mont-St-Michel/Menez Mikel) N.B. A short and easy walk in the spectacular scenery of the landes

and fourbières of the Monts d'Arrée. Climbing up to the chapel on top of Menez Mikel for fantastic views is entirely optional! Please phone 02 96 24 15 19 for details or see www.brittanywalks.com

Thursday July 19th - Sunday July 22nd

The Vieilles Charrues pop, rock and traditional festival, Carhaix (29) - one of Europe's largest popular festivals, this year welcomes Charles Aznavour, Peter Gabriel from Genesis, Bryan Ferry, Sinéad O'Connor and many other singers and groups, traditional and modern. 26€/day. Reduction for 3-4 day pass. Under 8s free. See website www.vieillescharrues.asso.fr for ticket info, plus diary of events.

Sunday July 21st

Dik Banovich & Titti on harmonica. (Dr Blues), return to Riks Bar for another night of Folk, Rock & Blues. Free Entry. They start playing promptly around 9.00 pm, so be early and don't miss one minute! More details on 02 97 27 61 12 www.riks-bar.com

Tuesday July 24th

Public programme with guest speaker Chaman Anand and short DVD of Prem Rawat. 7.30 pm start. Noz Vad Hotel, centre of Carhaix. All welcome. Free entry. More info - see page 11 or tel: 02 96 21 55 97

Friday July 27th

The Ragamuffins play jazz at the bar L'Homme au Chapeau, Huelgoat town square. 7 pm - 10 pm
Friday July 27th to Sunday August 12th
Bulat Pestival. An exhibition of local artists at the Maison du Granite. Free entry. For more info please tel 02 96 45 73 96

Saturday July 28th Attention all Soul fans. You are invited to the second evening of Northern Soul and Motown at Bar Ty-Mad, St Mayeux (22). 8 p.m. till late. Contact Malc on 02 96 24 09 88 for more information.

Saturday July 28th and Sunday July 29th

The Medieval town, Hennebont, (near Lorient) relives life in the Middle Ages - During two days the city is transformed into a true medieval city with a large Medieval Market gathering 80 craftsmen all in costume. Plus performers and parades through the streets, procession, craft market, medieval songs, battles, jugglers, strolling players and after dusk show on the ramparts. More info: Hennebont Tourist office 02 97 36 24 52.

Saturday August 4th and Sunday August 5th

The 3rd Châteauneuf du Faou Jazz Festival see article page 9

Sunday August 12th

Garage sale at Landizes Bihan, Laniscat. Due to huge demand after successful April one. Space available for more people wishing to sell. Contact Molly 02 96 24 80 59



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"What's on.....Dr. BLUES"
see the 21st July
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July 21st - Harry Potter Launch Day! Come and get your copy of 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows'. Hogwarts tea at 4.00 pm; A prize will be given to the best costume!

Every Monday in July: 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm : French/English conversation group - meet for lunch and improve your French (place not guaranteed without a reservation)

Every Wednesday in July: 2 pm - 4 pm : Children's craft activities and playgroup

Every Friday in July: 5 pm - 10 pm: Come and enjoy Mur de Bretagne's lively summer market; reserve a table and watch the festivities in comfort

info@thematique.net
0296260135

Tuesday July 10th Christ Church Brittany C of E Diocese in Europe. Huelgoat Catholic Church 8.30 pm. Holy Communion with Hymns taken by the Rev. Hazel Door. Followed by light refreshments. All welcome

Sunday July 22nd Christ Church Brittany Boven Church near Rostrenen 10.30 am Holy Communion with hymns C of E. All welcome. For further details phone Robin or Laura Hillman on 02 97 51 74 26 or e-mail: kermoran@wanadoo.fr

For a free entry in the What's On column, please send details to cbj222956@aol.com CBJ, BP 4, 22160 Callac

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England, 0161 620 5423

Huelgoff lakeside house sleeps 7. Fully equipped. Ideal holidays or househunting. 340€ week. 800€ month. Tel: England 01288356675 or 07967901367 www.rentalbrittany.com

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3-bedroomed cottage, sleeps 6. Skins St Nicolas-du-Peleum. Beautifully furnished. Weekly from 300€ or longer rentals 650€ pm. See ref 480 at www.frenchaccommodation.co.uk Contact e-mail: maggie.parr@btinternet.com Tel: France, 02 96 29 78 69
England, 0161 620 5423

Holiday cottage. Centre of village close to Corlay. Available for short breaks and longer stays. Pets welcome. Phone Steve: 02 96 24 04 71 or email: steve.lesley@orange.fr

Callac (22). 3-bedroom cottage for holidays etc. All mod cons. Washing machine, dishwasher. Off road parking. Tel: 02 96 45 02 52 evenings

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BED & BREAKFAST 41

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42 Building & Property Services

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Classifieds contd. page 44

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44 Building & Property Services

Classifieds contd. from page 42

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50 Property

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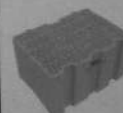
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The Valley of the Scorff

The river Scorff passes through some of the most beautiful and peaceful scenery imaginable, as it wends its way through Morbihan to the sea, near Lorient. The area around the forest of Pont Calleg is particularly striking: the



river banks are lined with spectacular oak trees and the sides of the valley abound with vegetation and wildlife.

The warm Spring and the rain in the early Summer seems to have been particularly good for frogs: in June the banks on either side of the river abounded in tiny frogs making their way into the woods.



ISSN 1767-6738



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