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# Bulletin !

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An informal look at life in this part of France and a selection of things to see and do

# Thought for the month:

Keep your face always towards the sunshine and the shadows will fall behind you

Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

Some *vide-greniers/brocantes* in this area  $[\pm = stalls expected]$  '53' = area

Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sainte-Suzanne (53)	Les Puces Suzannais, ±50
"	Ambrières-les-Vallées (53)	v-g / brocante in <i>Place du Marché</i> , ±75
"	St-Fraimbault-de-Prières (53)	grand v-g in <i>Place de l'Eglise</i> , ±250
	Juvigny-le-Tertre (50)	v-g, ±75
	Pleurtuit (35, near Dinard)	v-g du Clos Breton, ±80
Sat. 9 <sup>th</sup>	St Michel-des-Andaines (61)	v-g / braderie at <i>Prieuré St Ortaire</i> , ±50
$W/e 9^{th}/10^{th}$	St Benoît-des-Ondes (35)	v-g on the sandy seashore, $\pm 150$
Sun. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Evron (53)	v-g in <i>le Foirail Parc Expo</i> , ±200
	St-James (50)	v-g, centre ville, $\pm 150$ (see also p.2)
	Notre-Dame du Touchet (50)	v-g, ±75
Thurs. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Lassay-les-Châteaux (53)	annual grand v-g, centre ville, $\pm 150$
دد	Tinchebray (61)	v-g in the Champ de Foire, ±150
	Domfront (61)	v-g / braderie, throughout the town
	St Germain-en-Coglés (35)	v-g in rue de Lecousse, ±50
Sat. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mortain (50)	v-g / braderie, centre ville ±50
W/e 16/17 <sup>th</sup>	St Michel des Andaines (61)	v-g / braderie at Prieuré St Ortaire, ±50
Sun. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Granville (50)	brocante / Marché aux Puces, ±150
دد	La Frenais (35)	v-g in <i>terrain des sports</i> , ±150
Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mesley du Maine (53)	v-g, ±150
Sun. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Mézangers (53)	v-g, ±150
"	Buais (50)	v-g in <i>terrain de foot</i> , ±50

Visit www.brocabrac.fr as it is being constantly updated with brocantes / vide-greniers

Special dates / public holidays:

Thurs. 14<sup>th</sup> *Fête Nationale ('Prise de la Bastille 1789')* 

#### Eating out

*La Camillane*' hotel/restaurant at 5 rue du Bocage in St Mars-sur-la-Futaie (53) changed hands about a year ago, and the new owners have breathed new life into the business. There is a very good value 3-course *midi* (buffet *entrée*, choice of 3 *plats*, dessert, wine or cider included, for 12,30). My lunch was beautifully cooked, and served by the cheerful and welcoming owners. For bookings for more than 10 people, they will use the large restaurant, otherwise lunches are served in the smaller, cosy side restaurant. 02 43 05 32 37

#### Les Jardins des Renaudies

Events in these lovely gardens in Colombiers du Plessis (53) www.jardinsdesrenaudies.fr:

 $\circledast$  on Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup>: the opening of the '*labyrinthe de maïs*' (maize maze) with 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> of maze to get lost in! Also, this evening from 21h30 to midnight there is a spectacle of lighting in the gardens and the maze.

 $\circledast$  Local artists have a new Exhibition for the month of July. A selection of watercolours, pastels and acrylics for sale or just to admire. Come and have a browse - and a cup of tea and cake at the Tea Rooms on Fri., Sat., and Sun afternoons.

#### Atelier dance orientale (oriental dance workshop)

On Mon. 11<sup>th</sup>, 18h-20h, in the *salle polyvalente* in Lesbois (53) you can have fun and learn the basics of Turkish style belly-dancing with dancing teacher Ms Jae, who speaks both English and French. Free (with thanks to the *mairie* in Lesbois for allowing the use of the *salle polyvalente* free of charge). For more info, tel: (0044) 796 8855970.

#### Rendez-vous des Artistes in Saint-James (50)

On Sun. 10<sup>th</sup>: a gathering of painters, musicians, with a *marché du terroir, vide-greniers*, and entertainment around the town. *www.saintjamestourisme.fr* 

# Musée du Poiré in Barenton (50)

La Maison de la Pomme et de la Poire, at 'La Logeraie' in Barenton, was created in 1983 by the *Parc Naturel Régional Normandie-Maine*. The *Musée du Poiré* is open from 25<sup>th</sup> June until 31<sup>st</sup> Oct., and you can discover the different varieties of apple and pear trees, the various stages of cider-making and the bee-hives. Animals are admitted on a leash. Open daily 10h-13h & 14h-18h. For more info: *www.normandie-tourisme.fr* 

*Corso choréographic* – International Carnival in Carelles (53)

On Sun.  $10^{th}$  from 12h to 18h, the village of Carelles comes alive for this popular annual carnival. After the election of 'Miss Mayenne' (13h-14h15) in the presence of Miss France, the grand musical procession begins at 14h30 with many beautifully decorated floats, over 450 musicians and dancers from around the world, which is enjoyed by around 5,000 people each year. At 21h will be a variety show, under canvas. Entry:  $8 \in$  (under 14s free) which includes the optional evening show. [Advice: it is a good idea to take fold-up chairs, as there is limited seating]

#### Beside the *plan d'eau* (lake) in Saint Fraimbault (61)

The café/snack bar beside the lake is now open on weekends and fête days (until Sept.) 11h30 to 20h. You can buy chips, crêpes, ice creams and cold drinks (including cider & *poiré*), or take a picnic. There is also crazy-golf ( $2 \in$ ), pedalos, horse & buggy rides, games for children, family fitness circuit.

Also, every Friday evening from  $3^{rd}$  July to the end of Aug., there is an accordionist from 18h to 23h, and you can dance beside the lake. Entry is 6€ which includes a *crêpe* and a bowl of cider. No need to book, just turn up. *www.saint-fraimbault.com* 

#### 38th International Festival of Folklore

From 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, Domfront (61) comes alive with shows and parades, dance, music, traditions & folklore. Organised by *'le Trou Normand'*, there are many troupes of entertainers from France, Mexico, Portugal (Torredeita de Viseu) and the USA (the Cripple Creek Cloggers from Tennessee). Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup>: in the afternoon will be music in the streets of Domfront; at 21h a show in Ceaucé (61); Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 14h, 5 troupes entertain with their traditional dances, songs and costumes, in the Salle André Rocton in Domfront, tickets 5€. More info: *www.ville-domfront.fr* 

#### Cheese of the Month : Bethmale

*Jean Faup Fromagerie* is now in the hands of the fifth generation in a family of producers who have made artisan cheeses in Caumont, Ariège, since 1904. Their speciality is *Bethmale*, made from a unique mix of cow and goat's milk. The product is well known in the Pyrenées, with its history dating back to the time of Louis VI in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, but it is less common elsewhere in France. The milk is heated to 33°C and the cheese is left to ripen for 3 to 4 months in a humid cellar. It is perfect as an end of meal treat and goes well with Loire wines or a local Ariège rouge.

#### Exhibitions

§ Until 31<sup>st</sup> July, 14h to 18h at the *Musée Bernard Chardon* in Lassay-les-Châteaux (53): *Le langage des couleurs* (the language of colours). Free entry. For more info go to *www.museebernardchardon.com* 

§ Until 13<sup>th</sup> Nov., at the *hippodrome* (race-course) in Bagnoles-de-l'Orne (61): an exhibition of postcards '*Festival Normandie impressionisme*' showing scenes of life in Bagnoles at the turn of the century. *www.bagnolesdelorne.com* 

#### Horse show at La Michaudière - 'de la Terre à la Scène'

In July & August on Weds, Thurs, Sats & Suns at *la Ferme du Cheval de Trait* (farm of the draught horse) '*La Michaudière*' in Juvigny-sous-Andaine (61) at 15h15 you can watch 30 horses - including a Percheron (called Felix) and Normand & Breton Cobs - in the fascinating hour-long show "*de la Terre à la Scène*". (For the rest of the year see their website). Over the years 450,000 visitors have enjoyed this amazing spectacle. Adults  $12\notin$ , children ages 5-12: 5 $\notin$ , under 5s free (price includes the show and a farm visit, where you can also see the scarecrows in their 'Sunday Best'!). English spoken. Open at 11h, there is also an exhibition on site, a space dedicated to sculpture, and a restaurant. For more info go to *www.lamichaudiere.fr* 

#### Entertainment & Concerts

Sun.  $3^{rd}$  at 14h in the *Salle André Rocton* in Domfront (61): *Le Trou Normand* and 5 groups with an evening of entertainment (see also page 3). Entry: 5€.

Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 17h in *l'Eglise Sacré-Coeur* in Bagnoles de l'Orne (61): classical music with duo Natalia Ermakova (cello) and Eric Blin (classical accordion): Dvořák, Bach, Vivaldi. Free

Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> at 20h30 in *l'Eglise Notre-Dame-sur-l'Eau* in Domfront (61, the lower town): the quartet *'Amusiqueons-nous'* with works from Beethoven, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Rossini and Vivaldi. More info from *www.ot-domfront.com* 

Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> from 21h at café-concert *Chez Philippe* in Montenay (53) Great English Rock Night with 'Bullfrog'; fish & chips also available (see page 7)

Mon. 18<sup>th</sup> at 21h30 in *l'Eglise Saint-Sulpice* in Fougerès (35): concert by 'The Glory Gospel Singers'. Tickets 18 $\in$ ; ages 12-17 and the disabled: 14 $\in$ . *www.ot-fougeres.fr* 

Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> at *l'Imprevu* bar/restaurant in Ambrières-les-Vallées (53): concert by 'Atlantyka'. For more details contact Sandrine on 09 82 46 86 50

Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> at *la Fête du Poiré* in Mantilly (61) Breton folk band '*Les Passagers du Gawenn*' followed by rock/blues band 'Bullfrog' (see also below)

Organ recital in Bagnoles de l'Orne (61)

 $\square$  Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> at 17h in *l'Eglise Sainte-Madeleine* – organ recital by Yanis Dubois, with a selection of European baroque music. Free, with a collection.

Musical guided tour of Domfront (61)

Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> at 21h in the old town of Domfront at twilight, you will be entertained with music from the Middle Ages. More info: Tourist Office: 02 33 3853 97 or *www.ot-domfront.com* 

# *Fête du Poiré* in Mantilly (61)

Sat.  $23^{rd}$  from 20h, a dinner/dance (tickets:  $15 \in$ , under 12s:  $10 \in$ ). On Sun.  $24^{th}$  from 12h a meal under cover (*apéritif, entrée, plat* [*pot au feu, grillade* or sausage], cheese, dessert) - for tickets ( $15 \in$ , under 12s:  $10 \in$ ) phone Natalie/Chris on 06 77 29 20 14. This will be followed by music from '*Les Passagers du Gawenn*' (Breton) and '*Bullfrog*' (rock/blues). From 14h there will be many craft stalls and a children's entertainment corner. Free entry to the fête. More info from *www.ot-domfront.com* and *www.bullfrog.com* 

30th 'Festival autour d'un piano' at the Château de Carrouges (61)

☐ Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 20h45: Fanny Azzuro (piano) & Solenne Paidassi (violin) - sonatas by Schumann, Saint-Saëns, Prokofiev; ☐ Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> at 20h30: Jean Pascal Meyer - piano recital (incl. Mozart, Schmann, Chopin, Debussy). More info on these and other concerts from *www.odc-orne.com/festival-autour-piano* 

#### Soirée Irlandais & Moules Frites in Antrain (35)

Sat 16th – a Celtic evening with *moules frites*, entertained by Celtic group '*Sales Tiques*' and their dog, ending in a huge fireworks display. Tickets (prior reservation required: 02 99 98 31 45 or 02 99 98 43 78) Adults:  $20 \in$ , children  $10 \in$ .

#### Lest We Forget

72 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1944, Lt. Morton Eustis, an American officer of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of Tank Reconnaissance, was at the head of his platoon as they made their way towards Domfront. They came under heavy German fire near the Pont d'Egrenne, in Saint-Mars d'Egrenne (61) and Morton Eustis was killed. Every August there is a ceremony of remembrance at the monument to Lt. Eustis, beside the RN976, but this year, on 26<sup>th</sup> May, a ceremony was also held there as 4 members of his family had come from America to pay their respects, surrounded by flags and veterans. After a moving tribute and the laying of a wreath, the American National anthem, the Star Spangled Banner, was played.

#### Something for all the family - *l'Ange Michel* activity park

At this *parc d'attractions et de loisirs* at St Martin de Landelles (50, near St James: from A84, exit 32) there are over 30 attractions. Plenty of things to do for a whole day – aquatic park with rides for small (e.g. the Crazy Jalopy ride) and large (Tornado, *la Deferlante*); miniature train; carousel; pony rides, plus much more (see their website). Snacks and bar on site. Open in July & August daily, 10h30-19h; in Sept. weekends only, 11h-18h. *www.angemichel.com* 

#### Photo competition

The Tourist Office of La Ferté-Macé (61) is organising a photo competition with the theme "*les champignons sous un angle artistique*" (mushrooms from an artistic point of view). Rules and registration are available from the Tourist Office before 8<sup>th</sup> October. Categories: adults, and under 16s. *www.normandie-tourisme.fr* or *www.tourisme-lafertemace.fr* 

#### Monthly evening market in La Ferté-Macé (61)

On Fri. 1<sup>st</sup>, this monthly (until October) *marché du terroir et de l'artisanat* is from 16h-20h under the *marché couvert* (covered market). You will find regional products and hand-crafted items. Next markets: 5<sup>th</sup> August, 9<sup>th</sup> Sept., 7<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### *Fête des Remparts* in Dinan (22)

Every 2 years, Dinan revives its historical past and this is considered one of the most important medieval fêtes in Europe. On the weekend of  $23^{rd}/24^{th}$  you can enjoy a taste of the Middle Ages – tournaments, minstrels, artisan stalls, processions, concerts. For more info go to *www.fete-remparts-dinan.com*.

#### Our health : activity

Here's something to ponder :-

 $\odot$  A 7-min. walk works off 1 tablespoon of single cream (28 cals & 2.8g fat)  $\odot$ 

 $\odot$  34 mins. of walking in the park equals one chocolate mini roll (136 cals & 6.3g fat)  $\ominus$ 

 $\odot$  10 mins. of cycling equals one gin & slim-line tonic (77 cals)  $\odot$ 

© 4 mins. of running at a moderate pace of 10 min. per mile equals one ginger biscuit (50 cals & 1.7g fat) ⊕

© 26 mins. of walking uphill at 3.5 mph. equals 45g of cheddar (185 cals & 15.5g fat) ⊕

0 15 mins. of cycling equals a 175ml glass of icy cold dry white wine (116 calories) 0

# Bats - a protected species

Organised by the *Parc Normandie-Maine*, the *Centre Régional de la Propriété Forestière de Normandie* and the group *Mammalogique Normand*, a meeting was held recently to discuss the conservation of our local bats. Existing on earth for 55 million years, bats are classed as flying mammals and are a protected species. In Europe, all bats are insectivores; there are 1,300 different species, of which 24 are in France – 21 in Normandie itself. In this region can be found the Grand Murin, with a 40cm wing-span, and the common Pipistrelle which can eat 3,000 mosquitoes in one night - a good example of a natural insecticide! Some species have adapted to human activity but some haven't, which is why they are protected. It is forbidden to catch them, harm them, transport them or destroy their habitat.

Parc and gardens of the *Château de Bonnefontaine* in Antrain (35)

In this English-style landscaped park, 15km from Mont-Saint-Michel, enjoy a stroll amid gardens, huge trees, ponds and beside the river. More info: *www.bonnefontaine.com* 

#### Something you didn't know you didn't know . . .

The Millau Bridge, which is a UNESCO site, spans the river Tarn in the Aveyron at a height of 343 metres – the tallest in the world and 23m higher than the Eiffel Tower, including the antenna! It is 2,460 metres long – almost the distance between the *Arc de Triomphe* and the *Obélisque de la Concorde* and weighs 36,000 tons – 5 times more than the Eiffel Tower.

# Mediæval banquet in Fougères (35)

On Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> from 18h15 at the Château de Fougères – a mediæval banquet, where you can 'wander along the corridors of time'! Tickets:  $16 \in$ , 5s-10s:  $10 \in$ , under 5s free. More info *www.ot-fougeres.fr* or the Fougères Tourist Office (02 99 94 12 20)

# Planète en fête in Brecé (53)

On  $2^{nd}$  &  $3^{rd}$  in Brecé, a weekend to bring awareness to and encourage protection of the environment. There will be exhibitions, music, entertainment for children, a *marché bio* with 25 local producers, walks, and 120 stalls with ideas and products to help us protect the environment. Free entry. *www.planete-en-fete.fr* 

# *Musée des Tisserands* in Ambrières-les-Vallées (53)

In the midst of genuine  $18^{th}$  century houses in *place Billard de Veaux*, you will learn about the history of the weavers: their origin, know-how and daily lives which contributed to the prosperity of Bas-Maine before this region became Mayenne in 1790. Grown in the  $17^{th}$  &  $18^{th}$  centuries, hemp was used to make clothes, ropes and sails, and today is still used in various industries, including paper and food processing. The loom which was installed in the cellar of these dark and damp houses was the most valuable asset of the weavers. Open  $1^{st}$  July until  $31^{st}$  Aug., daily (not Mon.) 14h30-18h30. Entry:  $3 \in , 6s-14s: 2 \in ,$  under 6s free.

# Treasure hunt in Lassay-les-Châteaux (53)

On Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> *l'Assoc. Culturelle* is organising a *Chasse au Trésor*. In teams of 3 to 6 you can re-live the age of the chevaliers and search around the heart of this mediæval village. Tickets:  $5 \in$ , 12-18s:  $3 \in$ , under 12s free. Info & reservations: 06 38 52 50 87

# Performance of 'Macbeth' in Lassay-les-Châteaux (53)

On 3 nights - Fri. 15<sup>th</sup>, Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> & Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> - at 21h in the forecourt of the château, this play guarantees plenty of atmosphere with its wonderful location and costumes. In French, with particular phrases in English. Tickets are  $16 \in (14 \in \text{ for parties of } 10 \text{ or more})$ , under 18s: 12 $\in$ , under 6s free - available from the Lassay bureau of the Vallée de Haute Mayenne Tourist Office: 02 43 04 74 33

# Visit to the monastery at Fontaine-Daniel (53)

On Thurs. 21<sup>st</sup> at 15h, you can arrange to visit this orthodox monastery where there is a garden of aromatic and medicinal plants and a chapel, and you can also discover the works of the monastic craftsmen. As places are limited, you need to reserve your place at the Mayenne Tourist Office at Quai Warblingen, Mayenne town, 02 43 04 19 37. Free.

#### *Moules frites* ' in Gorron (53)

On Saturdays  $2^{nd}$  and  $23^{rd}$ , both at lunch time and evening in the Bar de la Mairie (next door to the Gorron *mairie*) you can enjoy '*moules frites*', eat in or take away. Possibility to sit outside if the weather is kind! Starter and dessert also offered. Reservations required to Melanie – 02 43 08 04 59, or call in. You will be assured of a very warm welcome.

# Fête des Plantes at the Château de Creully (14)

On the weekend of  $23^{rd}$  &  $24^{th}$ , this *Fête des Plantes* is held in the park of the mediæval Château de Creully (east of Bayeux). Exhibition and sale of rare and interesting plants; also garden *déco* and produce. More info at *www.fetedesplantes.fr* 

# Découverte (discovery) de la Baie du Mont-Saint-Michel

Daily from April to October (and on certain days the rest of the year) you can take a guided crossing of the Bay of Mont-Saint-Michel, between tides. Many different walks: a 13km round-trip or 6.5km one-way (return by bus); a 6km crossing with a visit to the *Ilot de Tombelaine* (a little island bird sanctuary that is cut off when the tide is in), a 6.5km evening walk, a 2-3km walk along the beaches, and many others. For more info go to *www.decouvertebaie.com*, or visit *la Maison du Guide* at 1 rue Montoise in Genêts (50)

# Marché des Curiosités in Jublains (53)

On Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> & Sun. 31st you can discover artistic and other curiosities in the *Museé* Archéologique de Jublains. More info: www.mayenne-tourisme.com

#### *Grande Soirée Rock Anglaise!* (Great English Rock Night!)

On Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> - café-concert at '*Chez Phillippe*' in Montenay (53): from 19h: fish & chips will be available. Then at 21h: 'Bullfrog', rock / blues band. For more info contact Natalie or Chris on 06 77 29 20 14, *www.bullfrogfrance.com* 

#### Horse & buggy rides around Domfront (61)

From  $6^{\text{th}}$  July until  $31^{\text{st}}$  August, between 10h30 and 17h, you can be taken by horse & buggy through the streets of Domfront. Booking is necessary at the Tourist Office – 02 33 38 53 97 (some English spoken). *www.ot-domfront.com*.

# A surprise visit by Brad Pitt

On 19<sup>th</sup> June, Brad Pitt – over here as guest of honour at *Le Mans 24 Hours* – visited a private collection of vintage vehicles, including many motorbikes, owned by Jean-Luc Gaignard in Montflours (53). At 11h a helicopter landed in a nearby field - Brad Pitt\had arrived to spend a couple of hours with Jean-Luc (who had only been given 2 hours' notice of his arrival) admiring his exceptional collection. Via an interpreter, Jean-Luc answered his questions and Brad Pitt was amazed to find there models that he had not seen in collections even in America. On leaving, Brad Pitt said he would like to come again when he had more time, and Jean-Luc Gaignard said that he would be very welcome.

# Petit train touristique in Fougères (35)

On Wednesdays at 19h, from 6<sup>th</sup> July to 24<sup>th</sup> Aug., discover Fougères aboard this little train, which departs from the foot of the Château (place Raoul II) – for times go to the website below. A different theme each Wednesday, some especially for children. Adults 7 $\in$ , children 4,50 $\in$ . *www.ot-fougeres.fr* 

#### Brexit - 2<sup>nd</sup> Referendum link

As many people have said, the decision should be a 2/3 majority, not a virtual 50/50 split. Parliament will consider the petition for a debate as there are more than 100,000 signatures. Deadline –  $25^{\text{th}}$  November 2016. https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/131215

#### Auberge de la Source in St Cyr du Bailleul (50)

At last, this first-class restaurant is officially open again! It appears to be at the same very high standard that it was before it changed hands (and the new owners failed to make a success of it and so closed). It had been, in fact, THE best place to go for those 'special occasion' meals for many miles around. Now again we have beautiful décor and outstanding food and wine. There are 2 set menus at  $25 \in$  and  $33 \in$ , plus à *la carte*. The wine list is well chosen and sensibly priced, and the staff very attentive.

#### At la Plage, Square de Boston, Laval (53) - free events

[With thanks to Sara B for this:] All through summer, there are many free events here at this lovely location beside the river. CarysMai will be singing there at 16h on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>; at 17h on 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, plus other dates. For all other free sports activities, concerts, bbq's, etc.: http://www.mairie-laval.fr/franc/accueil/pdf/programme%20laval%20la%20page.pdf

# Feedback from June 2016

The 'Missa Gallica' concerts (at the Basilique Notre-Dame in Mayenne on 28<sup>th</sup> May, and in Laval on 29<sup>th</sup> May) were enjoyed by 1,300 people. *l'Orchestre Symphonique de la Haute Mayenne* & the choirs *Chantemayne* (Mayenne), *Bis Repetita* (Laval) and *la Clé des Chants* (Lassay-les-Châteaux) combined the 100 choristers, soloists and also traditional and ancient instruments, to make wonderful music.

#### Sport & Leisure Activities

# 103<sup>rd</sup> Tour de France – Granville to Angers stage

On 4<sup>th</sup> July the *Tour de France* will be whizzing through  $\triangleright$  St Hilaire-du-Harcouët (50). Amongst the entertainments organised there will be a large screen showing the race and a giant picnic. People are asked to wear clothing in the *Tour* colours of red and yellow. Then, on to  $\triangleright$  Fougères, where the publicity convoys arrive at 12h, then at around 14h the Tour will be passing through place Carnot and will leave the town on the southerly D179 towards Angers.

#### Walking

Two evening walks organised by *St James Randonne*. Depart at 18h from Place du Champ de Foire in Saint-James. 1,50€ for non-members. More info *www.saintjamestourisme.fr:* 

- Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> walk from Saint James (50) to Le Gué de l'Epine (50):
- Tues. 12<sup>th</sup> walk from Saint James to Louvigné du Désert (35).

*Le Mans Classic (+ Musée des 24 heures du Mans)* 

De Many events in Le Mans again this month – for more info go to www.lemans.org

#### Aquatic Centre in St. Hilaire-du-Harcouët (50)

The 'Spadium' aquatic centre is located at 6, la Rêterie, near the lake. It has a covered heated swimming pool (30°C), aqua-biking sessions, an internal & external solarium, jacuzzis, sauna. Open 7/7. Tickets: adults:  $4,50 \in$ ; 3-15s:  $3,80 \in$ . Go to *www.spadium-saint-hilaire.fr* for opening hours.

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That's all for this month. Lots of variety, covering quite a wide area. Even more reason to jump in the car and explore the region!

Yes, I've broken my own 'rule' and this issue is 9 pages plus index (I normally stop at 8 pages), but there is so much to see and do in this area this month. Have fun!

Judy Skinner

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# Events by the day (not including vide-greniers):

# July 2016

Date	Event	Place	Page
Fri. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monthly evening marché artisanal	La Ferté-Macé	5
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Folklore and music around the streets	Domfront	3
٠٠	Festival de Folklore show	Ceaucé	3
٠٠	Moules-frites in Bar de la Mairie	Gorron	7
W/e $2^{nd}/3^{rd}$	Planète en Fête	Brecé	6
Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Festival de Folklore show	Domfront	3
٠٠	Classical music concert	Bagnoles de l'Orne	4
Mon. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Tour de France: Granville to Angers	St Hil. du Harc. & Fougère	s 9
Tues. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Walk: Saint James to Gue de l'Epine	Saint-James	9
"	'Amusiqueons nous' quartet	Domfront	4
Sun. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Carelles international carnival	Carelles	2
دد	Rendezvous des Artistes	Saint-James	2
Mon. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Oriental dance workshop	Lesbois	2
Tues. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Walk: Saint James to Louvigné du Désert	Saint-James	9
Wed. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Mediæval banquet	Fougères	6
Thurs. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Party at Jardins des Renaudies	Colombiers-du-Plessis	2
$15^{\text{th}}, 16^{\text{th}}, 17^{\text{th}}$	' 'Macbeth' in the château forecourt	Lassay-les-Châteaux	8
Sat. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Soirée Celtique & moules frites	Antrain	4
دد	Great Rock English Night	Montenay	7
Mon. 18 <sup>th</sup>	'The Glory Gospel' Singers	Fougères	4
Wed. $20^{\text{th}}$	Organ recital	Bagnoles de l'Orne	4
Thurs. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Monastery visit	Fontaine-Daniel	7
Fri. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Labyrinthe de mais opens + evening lights	Colombiers-du-Plessis	2
Sat. 23rd	'Atlantyka' at <i>l'Imprevu</i>	Ambrières-les-Vallées	4
دد	Moules-frites in the Bar de la Mairie	Gorron	7
*	Festival autour de la piano	Carrouges	4
W/e 23/24 <sup>th</sup>	Fête des Remparts	Dinan	5
Sun. 24th	Treasure Hunt	Lassay-les-Châteaux	6
"	Fête du Poiré	Mantilly	4
"	Fête des Plantes	Creully	7
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	Musical guided tour	Domfront	4
*	Piano recital by Jean-Pascal Meyer	Carrouges	4
W/e 30/31 <sup>st</sup>	Marché des Curiosities	Jublains	7