

Bulletin !

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

Thought for the month:

Be the reason someone smiles today

Here are some *vide-greniers* (v-g) & *brocantes* in this area, but double-check beforehand, if possible, at www.brocabrac.fr for any more and in case of any last-minute cancellations ['61' = area; ± = number of stalls expected]:

Mon. 9 th	Dol-de-Bretagne (35)	v-g in football stadium Pierre de Coubertin, rue de Dinan; 8h-18h; ±70
“	Céaucé (61)	v-g in the fête, ±150 (see page 2)
Sun. 15 th	Changé (53)	v-g in stadium Auguste Dalibard, rue Esculape; 8h-18h, ±250
“	Dol-de-Bretagne (35)	v-g/ <i>brocante</i> at 2 rue des Tendières (Foirail), 8h-18h, ±70
“	Mayenne (53)	v-g in Ecole Pierre & Marie Curie, 70 Impasse Robert Buron, 9h-17h30, ±50
“	St Mars d'Egrenne (61)	v-g in rue du Stade, 7h-18h, ±70, food on site.
Sun. 22 nd	Louvigné (53)	v-g in the town, 8h-17h30, ±150; food on site.
“	La Dorée (53)	v-g in fête at <i>terrain de foot</i> , ±70
Sun. 29 th	Flers (61)	<i>Grande braderie</i> de Flers, 8h-18h, ±250, food on site.

Vide-maisons (house clearances)

W/e 7 th / 8 th	Ernée (53)	at 41 rue Robert Dutertre, 10h-18h
W/e “	Passais Villages (61)	at 136 rue de la Guerinière, 9h-19h
W/e 14 th / 15 th	Tinchebray (61)	at 143 Grande rue, 8h30-19h.

Special dates:

Sun. 8 th	<i>Pentecôte</i> (Pentecost)
Mon. 9 th	<i>Lundi Pentecôte</i> (Pentecostal Monday)

Fête de la Musique – all around the country, either on the Friday or Saturday (ask at your local Tourist Office for dates near you). In Gorron (53) it will be on Sat. 21st.

Eating out - Rajasthan

This Indian restaurant at 13 bis Place Juhel, Mayenne (53 - near the Mayenne Château) has good food, friendly staff and a lovely terrace overlooking the river for al fresco dining! For reservations: 09 84 34 08 32.

Cancer Support France Nord events

Quiz Night: will be held on Thurs. 5th at the bar *Le Viking*, Notre-Dame du Touchet (50), maximum of six people per team - if you are unable to make up a team no problem, do go and take part. Price €3 per person. Quiz starts this evening at 20h.

Brunch days: Weds. 11th and 25th at the Salle des Fêtes, Notre-Dame du Touchet. Doors open 10h, last order 12h30. Vegetarian option available.

Les Jardins des Renaudies

In these pretty gardens at Les Mézerais, Colombiers-du-Plessis (53) you can enjoy the vibrant colours of the rhododendrons, azaleas, viburnums and also the emerging acers, visit the *ecomusée* (a look at country life years ago), see an exhibition of paintings and you can even take a picnic to eat on the lawns. The main events this month:

Sun. 8th – *Rendez-vous aux Jardins*: the theme this year is ‘*Pierres de Jardins*’ (‘Garden stones’) for landscaping and decorating your garden in a natural and ecological way - they can also be works of art! You can also take a 2-part sensory walk to discover nature through your senses from 14h30. Open from 10h to 18h. Entry for this event: adults 4,50€; 5-16s: 3€; under 5s free.

Sun. 22nd – discover the subtle art of Ikebana, Japanese floral arranging. See the website for more info and registration details. *jardinsdesrenaudies.fr*

‘Cars & Coffee’ : exhibition of vintage vehicles

On Sun. 22nd, 9h30 to 12h30, at Place du Marché Couvert in Bagnoles de l’Orne (61, by the Tourist Office) organised by *l’Assoc. Bagnoles Moteurs Classiques*: ‘Cars & Coffee’ presents a gathering of vintage, classic, sports and exceptional vehicles. You can admire the beautiful bodywork, mechanics and chat with passionate enthusiasts, Free entry.

Demo of *hydromodélisme* (model boats)

On Suns. 15th and 29th on the lake at the *base de loisirs* in La Ferté Macé (61) in the afternoon you can watch the many model boats on the lake, organised by the *Club Hydromodélisme Fertois*. For more info: *chmf61@gmail.com*

Fête de la Pentecôte in Céaucé (61)

On Mon. 9th by the *plan d’eau* (lake) in Céaucé, organised by the Union of Traders, Craftsmen and Liberal Professions, there will be a *vide-grenier* and funfair throughout the day. Food will be available on site.

Market with creators and artisans

From 3rd until 24th June at the Bagnoles de l'Orne Thermal Residence (main lounge), avenue des Thermes, Bagnoles de l'Orne (61) you can discover the riches of the region (honey, cider, poiré, jams, biscuits, chocolates), meet talented and passionate exhibitors and spend a pleasant gourmet moment around a crêpe on sale in this large lounge. Open to all. More info from the Tourist Office (bagnolesdelorne.com).

Open Garden near La Dorée (53)

Shirley and Paul will be opening their garden at La Bayette, La Dorée, over the weekend of 28th & 29th, from 10h to 17h, for the charity 'Open Gardens/*Jardins Ouvert*'. Entry is 5€, children free. There will be a Tea Room and Book Sale. Their lovely garden covers 2.5 acres and is divided into 10 areas. For more info & directions you can contact them at pauylalding@yahoo.co.uk

Exhibition: *Les Arts à Dompierre*

From 7th until 15th (14h-18h weekdays, 11h-18h30 on weekends) in the Salle Normande, 8 rue Sébastien de Brossard in Dompierre (61) this is the 28th exhibition of paintings and sculptures by 20 artists and local talent. Free entry.

Rendez-vous aux Jardins – Le Jardin Bluenn

On Fri. 6th to Sun. 8th, 10h to 12h30 & 14h to 18h, at 35 rue Martin Luther King in La Ferté-Macé (61) there are more than 500 varieties of plants and shrubs that survive in just 1,000 square metres. Field cornflowers and poppies (so-called 'peasant flowers') easily grow alongside royal plants including English roses. Open during this weekend to benefit the Baclesse Therapeutic Centre. Entry 2€

Concourse de Pétanque de Club Olympique Céaucéen

On Mon. 9th, 13h30 to 19h30 at the pétanque court in Céaucé (61) this competition, organised by the Céaucéen Olympic Club, takes place in 4 parts. In formed pairs.

Model Club exhibition

Sun. 8th from 10h to 18h in the Salle des Sports, rue du Stade in Fougerolles-du-Plessis (53) they are celebrating the 30 year history of this Association that was created in 1995. They meet every month at the *plan d'eau* (lake) in Fougerolles-du-Plessis to sail the boats and there are also model planes, cars, trucks and agricultural vehicles. Visitors can delve into a world of miniatures. Free entry. Food available on site.

English film in Ernée (53) CinéMajestic

Thurs. 5th at 20h30: 'Mission Impossible – The Final Reckoning' with Tom Cruise, Hayley Atwell, Hannah Waddington.

CineMajestic is at 5 rue Lelièvre, Ernée. Tickets are 6€ for adults, 4,50€ for children.

Entertainment & Concerts

Fri. 13th at 20h30–22h30 in the church in Saint-Fraimbault (61) a Trumpet Concert: ‘*Chante, Trompette, Chante*’ (‘Sing, Trumpet, Sing’) organised by ‘*Animations Frambaldéennes*’. This concert is by Jean Jacques Petit, whose style is unique – he makes his trumpet sing in a very personal and remarkable way. Free, with departing collection.

Voix d'Été concerts

There will be a *Voix d'Été* concert 16h (4 pm) on Sun. 22nd in Dompierre church (61). This concert is in aid of major repair work needed to the church in nearby Champsecret (61). *Voix d'Été* is a small friendly four-part choir of English, French and German singers. The choir started in 2010, they sing a varied programme of choral music (secular and sacred) ranging from the Renaissance (16th c.), Baroque (17th c.- early 18th), Romantic era (late 18th and 19th c.) and 20th century. They also sing popular songs by, for example, the Beatles, and folk songs from around the world.

The concert at Champsecret will be in 2 parts: The first part will be Renaissance pieces including a well-known piece by Henry VIII. The second part will be “Baroque and Beyond” and include pieces by Purcell, Bach and Handel, progressing through to a piece by Karl Jenkins.

They have another concert the following Sun. 29th at 16h30 (4:30 pm) in Bernières-le-Patry Church (14) interspersed with Italian Organ pieces.

They are seeking to recruit new members, especially tenors and altos. Why not go along and give them a try? Singing is good for the soul and is something that soothes stress as well as being enjoyable. The choir gives concerts at all times of the year and they raise money for charities through voluntary collections taken at their concerts. They practice every Tuesday afternoon 14h30-16h30 at the community hall at Dompierre and they are followed by tea and delicious homemade cake. For more info please contact francoise.brison@cloud.com ; tel. 06 41 39 89 43.

Concerts by local choirs

🎵 Sat. 21st at 19h at the Mairie during the Fête de Music in Gorron (53): the Choir de Bocage.

🎵 Sat. 28th at 20h: an organ concert in the *Basilique* in Pontmain (53) – a superb venue.

🎵 Mon. 30th at 20h in the Salle des Fêtes in Chatillon-sur-Colmont (53),

Pope Leo XIV – could he be the first Pope to visit Pontmain (53)?

The apparition in Pontmain in 1871 is linked in importance to those at Lourdes and La Sallette. Between 1873 and 1890 this Basilica was erected, and Pope Pious X approved the addition of a further level in 1905. The wonderful stained glass windows, installed between 1874 and 1998, represent the apparition and are well known throughout the world. Just after World War II, the *Basilique* welcomed a future Pope, Jean XXIII, to preside over the 75th anniversary ceremonies. After the visit of Pope Francis to Strasbourg, Marseille and Ajaccio, perhaps Leo XIV could be the first Pope to visit Pontmain . . . ?

Sport & Leisure Activities

Well-being activity : *Marche Afghane* (Afghan walking)

On Wed. 18th, 9h to 11h, organised by the Bagnoles de l'Orne Tourist Office, you can discover and become aware of your breathing with an introduction to Afghan walking, a technique that synchronises your steps with your breathing for remarkable health benefits. Take a slow, calm walk in the *Forêt d'Andaines* where you can reconnect with nature while learning to better manage your breathing. Duration: 2 hours. Price: 8€, students & unemployed 7€. Meet at the Bagnoles de l'Orne Tourist Office, avenue de la Ferté-Macé by 9h. More info at the Tourist Office (02 33 37 85 66).

International Show Jumping competition

On Fri. 6th to Sun. 8th this event take place at Le Pin-au-Haras (61) – the National Stud Farm 'Le Pin'. More info: *haras-national-du-pin.com*

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And finally:

It's never too late to start exercising. That's why I'm waiting until later.

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That's all for this month. A bit late this month as I was away from home until Tuesday (3rd) afternoon! But here are some events and information that you may find interesting

Judy Skinner

e-mail: judithsk@free.fr

[P.T.O. for daily listing]

Events by the day (not including vide-greniers)

June 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Page</u>
Thurs. 5 th	CSF Nord Quiz Night	Notre-Dame du Touchet	2
“	Film: Mission Impossible – 2nd part	Ernée	5
6 th to 8 th	International Show Jumping Competition	Le-Pin-au-Haras	5
“	<i>Le Jardin Bluenn</i>	La Ferté-Macé	3
7 th to 15 th	Exhibition of art & sculptures	Dompierre	3
Sun. 8 th	‘ <i>Rendez-vous aux Jardins</i> ’	Colombiers-du-Plessis	2
“	Model Club exhibition	Fougerolles-du-Plessis	3
Mon. 9 th	Pétanque competition	Céaucé	3
Wed. 11 th	CSF Nord Brunch	Notre-Dame du Touchet	2
Fri. 13 th	Trumpet concert	Saint Fraimbault	4
Sun. 15 th	Hydromodelism demonstration	La Ferté-Macé	2
Wed. 18 th	Afghan Walking	Bagnoles de l’Orne	5
Sat. 21 st	Concert : the Choir du Bocage	Gorron	4
Sun. 22 nd	<i>Voix d’Eté</i> concert	Dompierre	4
“	Learn about Ikebana	Colombiers-du-Plessis	2
“	‘Cars & Coffee’	Bagnoles de l’Orne	2
Sat. 28 th	Organ concert	Pontmain	4
28 th & 29 th	Open Garden at La Bayette	La Dorée	3
Sun. 29 th	Hydromodelism demonstration	La Ferté-Macé	2
Wed. 25 th	CSF Nord Brunch	Notre-Dame du Touchet	2
Sun. 29 th	<i>Voix d’Eté</i> concert	Bernières-le-Patry	4
Mon. 30 th	Concert	Chatillon-sur-Colmont	4