



*The Friends of Marcq-en-Baroeul  
Ealing's official French town-twinning organisation*

*<http://fomeb.eu>  
<http://lesamisdealing.fr>*

**NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER 2015**

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*(If you would like to contribute to The Newsletter, please get in touch or e-mail me at the above address)*

**FUTURE EVENTS** (See calendar below for all details)

**AGM and dinner, November 14<sup>th</sup>**

We hope that lots of you will be able to make the AGM and the dinner following. As we will have 22 Amis d'Ealing attending this dinner (here for their Cultural Weekend) it is particularly important that you book absolutely as soon as possible, as there will, by definition, be 22 places less than last year available to you. It will be first come, first served, with a very real danger of not getting a place if you delay.

**2<sup>nd</sup>-Monday-in-the-month French Scrabble**

If you are the slightest bit interested, do not hesitate. We need more of you at our Scrabble evenings. It's a sociable, fun occasion with food and drink available from the Drayton Court hotel bar - and you don't have to be brilliant at

French or Scrabble, so give it a go! It won't continue unless attendance increases, so write all the dates in your diary and *keep them free for Scrabble! Use it or lose it!* Come for the next meeting (November 9<sup>th</sup>) and, if you like, bring a friend.

**NEWS**

**Walking Weekend**

There were 40 plus of us, British and French, who gathered at the Hotel Bretagne in St Omer. The walking weekend actually began with pedalling or rando-railing. The rando-rail consists of an old railway line and a little open truck for 4 people with pedals for 2. The idea was to pedal along the railway line, which took us up through pleasant woods for 10 kms, and then allowed us to freewheel downhill at an

alarming pace - brakes available for the faint-hearted! Another highlight was a visit to the Jardins du Mont des Récollets in Cassel, thoroughly recommended if you are ever in the area. This was a series of delightful, themed gardens (d'inspiration flamande) eg Chambre bleue, Chambre d'Eau, Chambre d'Automne, Corridor des Hortensias. After wandering through these, we had an excellent meal at the Estaminet there. Flemish chicken and chips (pot'je vleesh) was delicious and much to be preferred to the British version and the desert of chicory (yes, chicory!) ice cream was amazing.

### **Hosting**

Please note that we will need hosts for the English Intensive weekend, March 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2016. We would urge any of you with a spare bedroom to write this date in your 2016 diaries as soon as possible and try to keep it free. Our Intensive Language and Cultural weekends, on both sides of the channel, can only happen with willing hosts, so please be prepared to do your bit. It's not difficult – in fact very enjoyable and a way of making or cementing French friendships.

### **French classes dates**

Half Term: October 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

Autumn term ends: Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Spring Term begins: Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### **WANTED – for Art Talks**

Are you a French speaker with an interest in art and willing to give the commentary at an art evening for FoM? The slide show would be prepared by me, based on what you like, such as a favourite artist or period. Following the pattern, it would be a social evening at a member's home, with the presentation lasting about 45 minutes. If you might be interested, please contact me. Colin Lomas, 07909 896 541 or [colinlomas83@gmail.com](mailto:colinlomas83@gmail.com)

### **WANTED – for the Newsletter**

Could YOU have a go at the Newsletter? I've been doing it for 7 years now and I think it's time for new blood, for someone else to take up the baton. If you think you might be interested, please give me a ring to discuss it. I am more than willing to help, in the initial stages, if required. (Gill, 8567 8485, [gconneller@gmail.com](mailto:gconneller@gmail.com))

## Calendar of events for 2015/16

### Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Venue	Contact (for further details)
Saturday, November 14th 1.00  2.30	<i>French Impressions</i> talk by Jon Davies  Showing of the film, <i>La Reine Margot</i>	Watermans Cinema, High St, Brentford.	8232 1010
Monday, November 9th 7.30 – 9.30	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Monday-of-the-month French Scrabble.	Drayton Court Hotel, 2 The Avenue, Ealing W.13 8PH (nr West Ealing sta. Parking free after 6.30)	Lena Inger, <a href="mailto:lena@farnellplace.co.uk">lena@farnellplace.co.uk</a>  Just come! No need to book.
November 12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	Cultural Weekend for Les Amis	Ealing/London	
November 14 <sup>th</sup> 6.45 for 7.00 8.00	AGM  Dinner, £20 pp	Brentham Club, 38 Meadvale Rd, Ealing, W5 1NP	Cheques* to Jane Cocking <b>ASAP</b> to 14 Convent Gardens, W5 4UT (8568 6159). First come first served.
November 26 <sup>th</sup> -30th/ Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Visit to Strasbourg		Fiona Cant, 8567 0566 Waiting list only
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Intensive French weekend	Marcq	Sarah Kahan, 8847 0476. (Details in next Newsletter.)
March 17 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Intensive English weekend	Ealing	Write date in your diary as hosts will be needed
May 21 <sup>st</sup> 2016	Pique-nique	France	Note date in your diaries. No further details yet.

**\*All cheques payable to Friends of Marcq-en-Baroeul\***

