

Burgundy Friends Spring Newsletter

HANDS ON!! SUGGESTIONS FOR BF EVENTS MARCH/ APRIL/MAY.

Welcome to the Spring newsletter, in which I'll set out, on behalf of your Committee, some events we have in mind and how it all works. The idea is that we provide for ourselves lots of sociable meetings and entertainments during the year: this is the first instalment. There are no diktats from on high, and these things aren't set in stone! We hope you'll be excited and inspired by the prospect of being involved with the society of which you are so much a part. **By the way, if you would like to display a poster advertising Burgundy Friends, one is available from Norman which you can download and print off. Contact him at membershipsecretary@burgundyfriends.com** This is also the address to use to contribute any ideas or suggestions, or for information.

Refreshments offered by anyone hosting an event need only be tea/ coffee/ biscuits. No mega-buffets are necessary. In the case of LUNCHESES or COFFEE MORNINGS – all food & drink is paid for by members. This applies to all events, so I won't repeat it.

Here's what may be coming up: Remember, it's also up to you, so please chip in with suggestions and offers. We need dates for the Spring.

BOOKSWAPS Bookswaps are hosted in a member's house/ garden, and have long been a staple of our society. They run from 3-5pm on Sunday afternoons, usually the first one of the month, though not necessarily every month. Bring up to 4 books and/ or DVDs, and take away the same number, so that the host doesn't end up overwhelmed by offerings! If you would like to host a Bookswap, please let the Committee know. The more offers of hosting there are, the more opportunities to meet up. The first Bookswap will be on Sunday 13 March at Jane and Norman's house. Full details were in the email you received last week, but please let us know if you need the details again.

COFFEE MORNINGS These can be held either at a member's house or at a café, 10.30 – 11.55. Refreshments as above. If you would like to host a coffee morning, either at your house or at a nice café you know, please tell us.

STROLLS. A gentle walk in an area known to the member who hosts it. They need to be suitable for people of all abilities, as far as possible, though the French countryside isn't always the most accessible. Please state if dogs (always on leads) are welcome on your Stroll, and approximately how long it will take

to complete. If you would like to offer refreshments at your house afterwards, or if there's a suitable café near the end of the walk, or there are places for a picnic – let us know. These are events which have been much enjoyed in the past, and offer great opportunities to mix and chat with other members. N.B.

TOILETS!!! The nicest stroll can be made impossible without a bathroom break. So if there's a loo available anywhere on, before, or after, the route, please include information. Otherwise, we'll know that we have to take the countryside as we find it, and hopefully leave it that way, too.

These are strolls, not hikes. If you want to organise a hike, feel free to let us know and we'll liaise with you to put it in the calendar.

LUNCHES This is our opportunity to dress up a wee bit and have a natter while enjoying good food. Do you know an eatery which would welcome us for lunch? The host organises with the restaurant a suitable menu – bear in mind dietary restrictions – and cost per person, plus a date. These details will then be circulated to members by the committee. Members then contact the host direct to reserve a place, give their menu choice, and get directions.

DAYS OUT Do you know of a good place for us to meet and enjoy a day out together? In the past we've been to Guédelon, and to the Resistance Museum at St Brisson, for example. Nothing to stop us going again, of course, but Burgundy is stuffed with places of interest. Get your thinking caps on, and come up with some suggestions, please!

10-PIN BOWLING & PETANQUE

Pétanque is held at the Promenade des Marbres in Autun from June. More information to follow.

Bowling is held at Le Bowling du Lac in Autun, opposite the lake. The sessions run from 10am – 8pm Mon – Sat, 2-8pm Sunday. 4€ before 8 pm. Food is available. Equipment can be hired if you don't have your own. If anyone would be interested, please contact the Committee and we can come up with some dates.

MISCELLANEOUS This covers anything not mentioned above, and which seems to you like a good idea. As always, don't be shy, get in touch and let us know. Burgundy Friends is run by its members, for its members, so although there's a committee acting as a steering group, the actual membership – you, as well as the committee – has a role to play. One that we hope you'll embrace and enjoy. All the above is what your committee has suggested: remember that if

you want to join the committee, we'd be very pleased to hear from you at membershipsecretary@burgundyfriends.com