



THE FRENCH CONNECTION
WRINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION
The John Locke Room, Silver Street, Wrington BS40 5QE

NEWSLETTER Spring 2023

Website: <https://www.wringtontwinning.co.uk>

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L'ombre des cérisiers en Île de France

Welcome to your *Spring* newsletter

Welcome to your spring newsletter, that will take us through to the beginning of May. The main thrust of this communication is our **new programme of events**, which here covers **April and May**, as introduced in your March newsletter. Please do come along to as much as you can and bring your friends. Yes, we do want your support, but most of all we want you to be able to share in our enthusiasm for a new curation of occasions and activities based on a love of France, French, the French, and our warm-hearted partner town in Provence, Villeneuve-lès-Béziers.

The programme published below is also fully available on the website, and thanks to **our new administrator, Anne-Marie Savory**, on social media: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, with links from the website. <https://www.facebook.com/people/French-Connection-Wrington-Twinning-Association/100089579449000/>

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

WRINGTON

VILLENEUVE-LÈS-BÉZIERS

'A TALE OF TWO VILLAGES'
WRINGTON AND ITS MEDITERRANEAN TWIN



EVERYBODY WELCOME
FREE ENTRY & REFRESHMENTS
THURSDAY 30TH MARCH | 19:30 - 21:00
DOORS OPEN 19:15
WRINGTON BOWLING CLUB
SILVER STREET, WRINGTON, BS40 5QL

WWW.WRINGTONTWINNING.CO.UK WELCOME@WRINGTONTWINNING.CO.UK

Vive la Villeneuve!

On Thursday, 30th March 7–9pm, in the Bowling Club, we shall be hosting *Welcome to Villeneuve*, an evening of exchanging information about our 'twin' town of Villeneuve-lès-Béziers, beginning with a short presentation: *Sun, Sea and bloody Strife: introducing the historic village of Villeneuve-lès-Béziers, Wrington's twin on the Mediterranean coast of Occitanie*. This will be followed by a Q&A session about Villeneuve, with an opportunity for stories and reminiscences from the floor about past visits, and information about future ones. There will be some remote presentations too from our friends in Villeneuve. There is **no charge**, and there will be **a glass of wine**, with top-ups available for a small contribution to funds. Please come along and bring your friends, find out a bit more, and come and go as you please.

Virtual Villeneuve is the new name of our monthly group conversations with our friends in Villeneuve, on Zoom. We talk about aspects of daily life in both villages, in both French and English, usually over a glass of something delicious. Don't be put off if you don't really speak French, there is lots of give and take. Regular meetings will resume **3 April**, after the **Welcome to Villeneuve** event. There will be some new members to meet and introduce. Further details from Jane Finn (jane finn20@hotmail.com).



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Time & Venue	More info
<i>March</i>			
Tue 7	CinéClub 1: <i>Jules et Jim</i>	18.00-1845 Zoom	Detail on request
Tue 14	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
Th 23	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
Th 30	FC Event: 'A Tale of Two Villages: the story of Wrington and its Mediterranean twin, Villeneuve-lès-Béziers'	7.30 – 9.00 Wrington Bowling Club, Silver St	Doors open 7.15. Come & go as you please. Refreshments
<i>April</i>			
Sat 1	Croissants @ Mother Hen 1	10.00–13.00 Mother Hen	A free croissant with your coffee (limited offer—first come first served).
Mon 3	Virtual Villeneuve: Meet the Twin. Zoom talk with our friends in Provence.	6.00	Zoom discussion with friends in Villeneuve.
Tue 4	CineClub 2: <i>Ma Vie de Courgette / My Life as a Courgette</i>	6.00–6.45	Zoom
Sat 8	Croissants @ Mother Hen 2	10.00–13.00 Mother Hen	A free croissant with your coffee (limited offer—first come first served).
Tue 11	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
Sat 15	Croissants @ Mother Hen 3	10.00–13.00 Mother Hen	A free croissant with your coffee (limited offer—first come first served).

Sat 22	Croissants @ Mother Hen 4	10.00–13.00 Mother Hen	A free croissant with your coffee (limited offer—first come first served).
Thur 27	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
	FC Event: An introduction to wine tasting	7.30-9.30 Wrington	Venue details to be posted on website
Sat 29	Croissants @ Mother Hen 5	10.00-13.00 Mother Hen	A free croissant with your coffee (limited offer—first come first served).
<i>May</i>			
Tue 2	CineClub 3: <i>Paris brule-t-il? Is Paris Burning</i>	6.00-6.45	Zoom
Tue 9	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
Tue 16	FC Talk (detail to follow)		Details toß follow
	+ EGM to discuss constitutional change		
Thur 25	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
	Boules		
	Virtual Villeneuve: meet the twin		Date to be confirmed
<i>June</i>			
Tue 6	CineClub 4: <i>film title to be confirmed</i>	6.00-6.45	Zoom
Tue 13	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
Thur 15	<i>FC Event: title to be confirmed</i>		
Thur 22	Conversation Group	3.00 Langford Inn	
	Conversation Group LUNCH:	<i>Detail to come</i>	
	Boules	<i>Detail to come</i>	
	Virtual Villeneuve: meet the twin	<i>Detail to come</i>	
<i>July</i>			
Tue 4	Cine Club 5: <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	6.00-6.45	Zoom
	Boules	<i>Detail to come</i>	
	Virtual Villeneuve: meet the twin	<i>Detail to come</i>	

To celebrate our new start, we are offering, for **five consecutive Saturdays, Free Membership and Free Croissant with your coffee at Mother Hen throughout April!** If you come in and sign up to our newsletter and announcements with your email address, you can enjoy coffee and croissants from **10–1pm every Saturday morning** throughout April, as a guest of the French Connection, at Mother Hen. From now on, no membership fees will be requested. Everyone in Wrington and the surrounding area may automatically become a member by simply signing up to the mailing list.



Boules will resume at **The Plough in May.**



Did you know that **Croquet** is also regularly played in **Wrinton** at the **Recreation Ground**? If you go to our website and click on the link, you can find out more, register an interest, or request to learn to play.



French Conversation



There will be an opportunity to sign up for this at Mother Hen (see above) in April.
Dates in for the conversation group in March are:

Thursday 23rd March 3pm The Langford Inn

For more information please contact Margaret Hancock at margaretdivonne@gmail.com.

Ciné Club

The **April** meeting will be on **Tuesday 4th at 6pm** on **Zoom** to discuss Swiss Director Claude Barras' stop-motion animation **Ma Vie de Courgette**, a heart-warming story, set right in the world of children. It shows how their lives are affected when their parents and families are out of control, and much of it is seen from the child's point of view. It's not a depressing film, it's a hopeful tale, written by Céline Sciamma, who directed the much-fêted and rewarded *Petite Maman* (one for later in the schedule, perhaps).



On **May 2nd** we shall discuss **Paris, Brûle-t-il?** Made in 1966, it is a Franco-American production directed by René Clément, with a star-studded cast of co-writers: Francis Ford Coppola, Gore Vidal, Jean Arenche, Pierre Bost and Claude Brulé. It is about the liberation of Paris in 1944, by the French Resistance and the Libération forces, and the cast list seems to contain everyone from Jean-Paul Belmondo to Orson Welles. The story is based on a book of the same name by Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre. We shall meet at **6pm** on **Zoom**.

Please note there is no longer a universal log-in for French Connection and Wrington Twinning Zoom meetings. You will be sent an invitation to join, and a link, shortly before the meeting. If you are **NEW** to Ciné Club and would like to join in, please let John Adams know (jradams@gmail.com) and he will send you the Zoom invitation. Current members will automatically be informed

News from France, Cultural News and Wine and Food will all return in May.

Le mot juste

Maussade appeals this month, as Lent heads towards Easter, meaning gloomy, sulky, and probably from the same route as mausoleum. (I'm sure things will buck up when the Easter bunny leaves us all some chocolate.)

Also useful in this context: *trahir*, to betray, give away, often applied to parts of the body, the behaviour of which betray an emotion. *Ses nerfs l'ont trahi*, his nerves betrayed him, *sa rougeur l'a trahi*, her blushes betrayed her. And *le trahison*, treachery, betrayal, even treason.

The root is the same as English betrayal: the Latin verb *tradere*, meaning to hand over, or to deliver, as in the Judas story. So, the more revelatory meaning in French, and the original Latin meaning, both exist together in the English usage, with its Germanic prefix 'be'.

Lindsey Shaw-Miller, Newsletter Editor, The French Connection.