

# November 2018 Club International du Quercy

## Local associations

This month, we are highlighting the work of the **Trem-Plein d'espoir** and will be including relevant information on others in future editions.

Have you ever visited the charity shop in Montaigu's High Street – it truly is an Aladdin's cave, offering a mix of both new and second-hand items at affordable prices.

Trem-Plein d'espoir is a charity which started in Moissac, then in 2016 set up a branch in Montaigu due to the high levels of hidden poverty in our area. The charity's objective is to help single parents and families on low incomes with every day essentials like clothes, toiletries and household items. Families with very low incomes receive items free of charge, but the shop is open to all. The money raised in the shop goes to support families with other necessary costs – like children's activities, food and larger household items

Donations of clothing and small household items are always wanted. They also take larger furniture, so if you have furniture too good for the tip but no longer required, please do ask at the shop if they could use it. They will collect.

Christmas will shortly be upon us and is a difficult time for low income families. At a meeting with Corinne Cardin, the Director of the Montaigu shop, the International Club offered to help the charity by collecting children's books, DVDs, clothes and toys, both new and second-hand (items must be clean and complete). Please, please look out for any no longer needed items from your children or grandchildren and bring them along to the collection box in the club. Alternatively, if you do not have any suitable items but would be happy to support this good cause, low cost toys are now available in all large supermarkets, Action and GIFI.

Our collection will be handed over to Corinne on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please let's make this a Happy Christmas for all this year.



The Club is very grateful to the Montaigu branch of Crédit Agricole Nord Midi-Pyrénées for the generous grant of 600 € received recently. CA NMP has a fund from which it allocates grants to local organisations and associations and CIQ had the good fortune to have been one of the beneficiaries this year, a year in which we have had to cover the costs of club improvements such as soundproofing the ceiling. Thank you Crédit Agricole!

Saturday 20 October



On Saturday morning committee members took a stall at the Montaigu du Quercy market to promote the club and sign up new members.

Although it was a cold morning they braved the weather from eight to twelve to talk to visitors to the stall and hand out leaflets about the club.

Several newcomers took advantage of the offer of a free hot drink and cake.

## Café du Samedi

On Saturday 3rd November the baking team will be serving a traditional Yorkshire Parkin cake. This special cake, as its name suggests, is a Yorkshire delicacy served as the cold nights start in November. It is eaten on 'Parkin Sunday', the first Sunday in November, and is also served during the Bonfire celebrations in England celebrating the plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

The cake is warm, deliciously sticky and with a fiery gingerbread kick. You either love it or hate it!

### Bordeaux Christmas Market

This trip is organised for Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December and the coach goes directly to the centre of Bordeaux.

You will have plenty of time to visit the Christmas market and the shops, or simply enjoy the beautiful city and visit one of its many restaurants.

Cost is €24.50 for members and €29.50 for non-members.

There are only a few places still available so book as soon as possible and before 10<sup>th</sup> November.

You can sign up at the club on a Saturday or via email and paying by bank transfer.

### Photographers , it's up to you in December.

This is an appeal to all photographers of the club to participate at the next photo-exhibition at the club, mid- December 2018.

The subject will be: **Nature's harvest.**

You can interpret this subject freely, so from fruits, berries, mushrooms, nuts, the grape harvest in autumn to the strawberries in your garden in spring, the corn in the wind in summer and their harvest, all those sunflowers and their dead appearance later in the year etc.

The possibilities are endless.

Format: A4 or A 3.

Use your imagination.

Ed van Weerd and his team

### Next exhibition at the club

The participants of the Watercolour workshop will be bringing their watercolours to the club for display from the end of October.

Drop in and see what they have achieved on one of your visits to Café Samedi.

Lesley Townley shares her love of books and answers questions on her reading group.

**So why did you decide to set up a reading group for the club?**

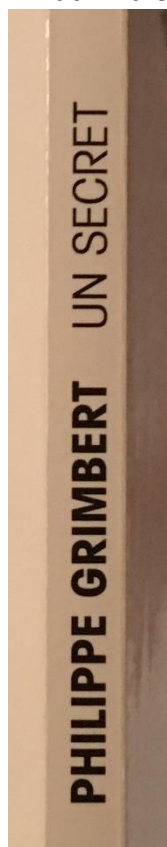
I enjoy reading and have always read a range of literature from around the world and so when moving permanently to France it seemed the perfect opportunity to read French literature and share this pleasure with others. Reading can be a solitary activity and the reading group gives you the opportunity to discuss your ideas as well as make new friends.

**How often do you meet up?**

We meet on the second Monday of the month at 16h00 in the club room. Once we have decided on the next book, we have a month to borrow/purchase/lend/download and read. Most people can usually find time to source and read a book over the course of a month. Some members use Amazon.fr to download their books to read on a tablet.



**What kind of books do you read?**



At first, we read books by local authors Christian Signol and Claude Michelet as their books are based on the local area, something we all have in common. This enabled us to compare books written by the same author and share our personal knowledge of some of the places described in the books. This year we have been branching out with other authors and this month we are reading *'Un secret'* by **Philippe Grimbert**. This is a powerful family narrative which was published in 2004 and won the Goncourt prize among others. We will be discussing it on the 12<sup>th</sup> November if you wish to join us.

**What do you talk about?**

We start by everyone giving their overall response to the book and then begin to talk about particular aspects of the book we thought were good/bad or that we particularly enjoyed. We discuss the plot, characters, themes and writing style and how a book can reveal a truth about life. Sometimes a member of the group may give a short summary of the plot. We talk about characters and their motivations, and give our opinions of the ideas and what they might mean to us individually. Occasionally one of our French members will obligingly read a short extract that a member has noted for more detailed discussion and we will explore how the choice or style of the words has affected us.

**What knowledge about books do I need?**

None. After attending one session, you can see how the discussion develops and even if you have not completed the book you will still be able to contribute. After a couple of meetings, you will be confidently giving your opinions.

**Who joins the group?**

The group started this time last year, and we began with three French and three English members. Of course, all the discussions are in French, but if you are not a native speaker you will find us a very welcoming group and you will be surprised how quickly and easily you will soon be able to join fully in the discussions. The group is not just a book club, but a way to learn and share in French culture with the French. We welcome new members at any time- just get hold of the next book.

You can contact Lesley on [lesley.townley@clubintquercy.fr](mailto:lesley.townley@clubintquercy.fr)

### Christmas Meal

This has been booked at the Brit Hotel in Fumel and will be on Thursday 6 December at 12.30pm.  
Reservations can be made on the preceding three Saturdays in November – 16<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Welcome to New Members

BENNE	Josiane (Fr)
BRADSHAW	Jacky (Br)
BUZZI	Maurice (Fr)
CHEVRIER	Nicole (Fr)
DESMARQUEST	Bruno (Fr)
DESMARQUEST	Agnes (Fr)
DUMONTHEUIL	Claire (Fr)
DUMONTHEUIL	Michel (Fr)
ECKROYD	Sallie (Br)
LALLEMENT	Emmanuel (Fr)
LALLEMENT	Renée (Fr)
MCKAIG	Shelagh (Br)
MCKAIG	Caitlin (Br)
PEARCE	Tony (Br)
REMY	Christopher (Br)
TYSON	Susan (Br)
VILA	Severina (Fr)

### Calendar of events in November

S'inscrire au club le Samedi 10h-12h ou  
par mail [clubintquercy@gmail.com](mailto:clubintquercy@gmail.com)

#### PETITE RANDONNÉE :

Date : 6 November  
Time : 14.00  
Venue : Pont du Casse

#### GROUPE DE LECTURE :

Date 12 November  
Time : 16.00  
Venue : Salle du club

#### GRANDE RANDONNÉE :

Date : 16 November  
Time: 09.30  
Venue: Tournon

#### CHRISTMAS MEAL:

Date : 6 December  
Time: 12.30  
Venue : Brit Hotel in Fumel

#### BORDEAUX CHRISTMAS MARKET

Date: 10 December  
Time: 07.45  
Venue: Place de marché Montaigu

### Committee

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