**ESC Summer Barbecue: Sunday, July 1st**

Regular visitors to La Robertsau, noticing the traffic disruption, will be well aware that tramline E is being extended all the way to l’Escale. While you’ll have to wait till next year to travel there by tram, the good news is that there’s plenty of peaceful room left in the Escale grounds for ESC to hold the 2018 Summer Barbecue.

This is a golden opportunity to connect with old friends in the relaxed atmosphere created by punch à volonté (until it runs out), good food and mellow jazz played by the Chantal Stewart trio.

The apéros will start to flow from noon and the afternoon is yours to enjoy.

The subsidised price is 10 euro per adult and 5 euro per child (10-18 years). There is no charge for under 10s. Attendees are asked to bring either a salad or dessert to share.

To book your place please hurry and contact Mike Wraith (0388617549 / 0629252155 or mike.wraith@wanadoo.fr)

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**ESC and the EU General Data Protection Regulation**

Your association, the English Speaking Community of Alsace, requests members to provide some basic information about themselves to facilitate communication and administration. This includes telephone numbers, postal addresses and email addresses. Since it is common for a member to affiliate the whole family we ask for details of spouses/partners and children. We also hold data on nationalities.

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**What's happening ?**

14/06 Coffee morning ☕
15/06 Apéro at Café Brant 🥂
16/06 Garden visit 🌹
24/06 Walk: Wangenbourg 🌲
01/07 Barbecue ☀️

*Summer break*

01/09 Guided tour: exhibition 🎨
Hélène de Beauvoir in Erstein 🎨
(details to follow by email)

Photo competition submissions until end of September
The information we hold is kept strictly for the use of association officers only and is never divulged to a third party. However if a member wishes to remove any of these details from the data base they are free to request that this be done – with the proviso that we retain some means of contact.

If you have concerns about any aspect of the data management process within the ESC please feel free to contact us.

Mike Wraith (President)
Nigel Permaul (Membership Secretary)
contact.esc.alsace@gmail.com

More upcoming events

Monthly Coffee morning: Thursday, 9h30 to 11h30

Come and catch up with ESC members and visitors at our monthly coffee mornings at l’Escale! (upcoming dates as from Septembre 2018 to be decided and advised later)

The Escale community centre (L’Escale, centre socio-culturel de la Robertsau, 78 rue du Docteur François) is our regular home and has good parking facilities whilst it is within a five-minute walk of bus routes 6, 15A and 30.

The coffee morning is always held on a Thursday morning between 9.30 and 11.30 and is free. We are always pleased to see friends, visitors and potential new members.

For further information, e-mail: contact.esc.alsace@gmail.com

Monthly After-work apéro: Friday, 15th June - 18h30

Our monthly after-work apéro will take place at Café Brant situated at 11 place de l’Université, Strasbourg on Friday, 15th June as from 6.30pm. http://www.cafe-brant.fr/

No need to register, just come along any time after 18h30 and join in the conversation. A warm reception is assured. As usual everyone pays his or her own way and some finger food will be provided by the ESC.
Garden open day - Roses and Tea: Saturday, 16th June - 14h30

If you would like to discover different rose varieties in a beautiful green setting and share a nice cup of tea, Gaby and Pierre Pfeiffer would be delighted to invite you to their garden on

SATURDAY JUNE 16 from 2.30 pm to 5.00 pm at
2 rue de la Colline 67550 ECKWERSHEIM (between Vendenheim and Brumath)

Please call 03 88 69 47 60 or mail to gaby.philipps-pfeiffer@wanadoo.fr to confirm.

Summer walk, Wangenbourg Engenthal (near Wasselone):
Sunday, 24th June

You are invited to join us on our circular walk at Wangenbourg Egenthal known as ‘La Suisse d’Alsace’ and see the castles of Wangenbourg and Freudeneck. 3-4 hours with picnic.

Meeting Point: 10.30am, Hôtel de Freudeneck, 3 route de Wangenbourg

Directions: Coming from Wasselone and Romanswiller, take directions to Wangenbourg Engenthal. 3 or 4 km before Wangenbourg, you come to a hamlet called Freudeneck. There is a saw-mill on your left and the hotel-restaurant is on the right. Parking area behind hotel in forest.

Contact: Please e-mail or phone Polly (polly.stotz@gmail.com / 06 72 71 90 41) by Saturday 23rd so that I can give hotel approx number for refreshments after walk.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE, Polly

Dear filmgoers,

The Filmclub will have a summer break from now on to the end of August.

Have a good summer and nice holidays. 🏖️🍹

See you in September!

Malika Radünz

SAVE THE DATE - 1st of September: guided tour in English of the exhibition Hélène de Beauvoir in Musée Würth, Erstein
About brunches: follow-up

After Mike’s “appeal” during May Coffee morning, I had reserved a table for 6 at AU TIVOLI, opposite Robertsau post office (as had been suggested at the brunch in February).

My feeling, afterwards, was rather mixed!

On one hand, the food was OK & enjoyed by most participants and the (shared) bill seemed pretty cheap (less than 13 euros), but we had not asked for dessert before coffee.

On the other hand, Thursday should be the very day to avoid going there because it’s market day & the place was overcrowded and noisy; and our waitress had no time for questions or explanations & seemed rather impatient.

Also, parking in the area beforehand had not been that easy…!

On the whole, I’m not tempted to repeat the experience myself.

But, if another time, ESC members should be interested, I suggest they might “unite” and reserve a table there by 11:15, especially on the terrace in fine weather (tel: 03.88.31.17.49).

I am much more interested in Saturday brunches & the first one, at the end of February, had been a success...

But neither of the following dates I had proposed had attracted any participant.

Thus, I’ll be expecting suggestions from members interested, about places & dates that might attract more people: (danielle.gay.minck@orange.fr)

P.S. I assume 4 people, at least, will need to register before an actual brunch “session”.

Dany Gay-Minck

A Funny Valentine ‘The Story and Music of Chet Baker’

Let’s start with the positives – a lovely Sunday afternoon stroll in the Botanical Gardens (even if it was a tad sweaty in the massive greenhouse) followed by a leisurely stroll through the city centre in the 26°C sunshine. We paused only for a refreshing ice cream (coconut and rhubarb if you must know) in Place Austerlitz before arriving at the Cabaret Onirique barge moored alongside the bibliothèque André Malraux for the third of three performances of Mike Maran’s show telling the story of the trompettiste légendaire Chet Baker. Or, perhaps more accurately, his downfall.

The day got slightly better as we descended into the theatre in the air-conditioned cargo hold of the barge, where the seating was laid out partly cabaret-style with chairs clustered round small tables and the cheaper seats at the back in traditional cinema-style. It’s an intimate venue with very good acoustics, clear views of the stage and a cutting-edge program to tempt hip and trendy theatre-goers like ourselves. And then better still when the show started.

It turns out our Chesney was a bit of a lad! Supremely talented, but with a self-destructive streak fuelled by an enormous appetite for heroin and cocaine, we heard how he went from fame and fortune to imprisonment, petty...
thieving and destitution whilst going through a string of relationships and personal troubles, making and losing fortunes along the way. We thought of many other famous musicians, in the distant and not so distant past, who have unfortunately followed the same path. It seems like music is a dangerous industry to be in.

It was billed as a one man show, but we got a bargain as I counted three performers on stage. Mike Maran is an enchanting storyteller with a soft Edinburgh burr which really struck a chord with this reviewer. He started his career as a folk musician before turning to rock and opening shows for such legends as Uriah Heep, ELO, ELP and Roy Wood’s Wizzard. * More recently he has been writing and performing his own shows including cashing in on his long history with Chet. Colin Steele (trumpet) and Alan Benzie on piano are, quite simply and without exaggeration, two of the finest musicians on the planet.

We were told of Chet’s early days before his acquaintance with Mike started, and were transported around several US and European cities while hearing his haunting trumpet music and piano accompaniment. The show got more intimate as he looked us in the eye and took us into his confidence, spilling the beans on his relationship with Chet and what really happened in the period leading up to his death and on that fateful night in Amsterdam in May 1988. As Max Boyce used to say “I know, ‘cos I was there.” We in the audience felt like we were. I won’t give any more details in case you decide to see the show yourself. You should – the ending is different than you’d think.

Mike has performed in Strasbourg before, and will undoubtedly do so again. Regardless of what the show is, go. You will be captivated and well entertained, as we were.

*Or did he?

Alasdair Hunter

Exclusive!  Follow this link to see video extracts and an interview of Océane Gil, manager of the Cabaret Onirique

Newcomers welcome evening

I happen to be one of the newcomers of ESC and I got the opportunity to attend the event that took place on Friday the 25th of May at “Le Café Composé” on Place d’Austerlitz. I am from Italy but studied and worked abroad for several years now, I was therefore very pleased to discover a fun, international community full of interesting and stimulating backgrounds.

I found ESC members very warm and welcoming! It was nice to start getting to know them and being introduced to some of the programs and activities, such as the Book Club and the Film Club. People and ideas mingled, striking up conversations that shifted for variety of contents and of participants as the sunlight softly dimmed leaving its place to the most gentle breeze.

I would like to thank Véronique Heller-Claus for organising the event and Mike Wraith and Nigel Permaul for providing me with ESC information!

Filomena Cataluddi
John Quinn RIP

It was with deep shock and sadness that we learned of the sudden and unexpected death of John Quinn on Sat. 12 May. He was leading a small group of walkers in the Vosges Mountains, when he lost his footing and fell down a steep path near the Col de la Schlucht. This was doubly tragic as John had a reputation for taking safety very seriously and was always very concerned about people’s safety and wellbeing in the many walks he led during his time here.

Indeed apart from leading walks here in Alsace, he was a walk leader in a four-day walking festival in Castlebar, Co. Mayo in the west of Ireland, where he and his much loved wife and soulmate Mary, raised their three fabulous children Darragh, Fionnuala and Nicholas.

John hailed from Waterford, a beautiful county in the southeast of Ireland with a long coastline and beautiful sea estuaries and beaches. He had a love affair with the sea and was a scuba diver for almost 30 years. He was often called upon to find people who had gone missing, and wrote about this in a touching story which he said was a pastiche of his experiences of this. This beautiful and tenderly written short story won him a prize*. To me he was a person of much depth who had the heart of a poet, a great sense of humour and an abiding love of the Irish language.

John was a much loved member of the Irish community in Strasbourg, having arrived here almost seven years ago in September 2011. He was a calm and steady presence in many people’s lives, a kind, decent and discrete friend you could trust and be open with. After years of long drives to and from work in the pharmaceutical industry in Ireland, he relished the short bike ride from his new home off Ave de la Marne to his job at the EDQM, and would be seen regularly about town on his bike sporting a sturdy bicycle helmet and recommending others to do likewise!

He brought the music of Ireland to the ESC and Strasbourg by arranging concerts of traditional Irish music, first with his son Darragh and then with Matt Cranitch and Jackie Daly, traditional musicians from the Cork/Kerry border, in the southwest of Ireland. And boy could he dance! His enthusiasm was infectious and he could fiercely swing you about when you got to the luascadh in the céili and roar in support of Mayo v Dublin in the GAA final or Ireland v England in the rugby internationals.

John’s remains were brought home to Ireland and buried in Castlebar on Sunday 20 May. There were family flowers only at the funeral and, if desired, people could make donations to the Mayo Mountain Rescue and Le Peloton de Gendarmerie de Montagne Hohrod (French Mountain Rescue).

Sincere and heartfelt condolences to all his family and friends. Sending healing thoughts and best wishes also to his companions whose walk ended in such tragedy, as no doubt they were in deepest shock for the longest time.

Go dté tú slan John. We will miss you terribly.

Ann Lynch

*http://sxb-write-a-story.org/previous-years-winners/winning-stories-2016/
On the 19th of May this year everyone knew that we would not be available for anyone and we would take our phones and mobiles off the hook.

I remember well waiting on the streets of Romsey in Hampshire, where we lived at the time, on the occasion of the groom’s parents’ marriage. They were due to spend their wedding night in Broadlands and the whole town was bursting with pride and lining the road from the station to the gates of the manor house. Frederick of course had a rather good view but I for one was just able to glimpse the very top of Diana’s little « going away » hat with its small feather. A few seconds of bliss never to be forgotten.

So this year we decided to succumb to the temptation of our comfy sofa at home in front of the British TV channel with the best direct views you can imagine. Just like millions of other fellow royalists or simply curious viewers throughout the globe.

And what a feast for the eyes this was. The totally untypical sunny weather made all the wonderful colours shine even more dazzlingly.

It was so refreshing to see a modern twist on the usual rather stuffy religious ceremonies.

So interesting to see all the guests walking leisurely towards the South door of St George’s Chapel, in just enough time for us all to admire the amazingly creative outfits, frocks, headgear and fascinators of all kinds, the handsome men in their three piece morning suits and the extraordinary frockcoat uniform of the Blues and Royals for the groom and his best man, so sweetly copied in a miniature version for the little Prince George.

Add to that an extremely impressive and creative way of decorating the doors and the organ loft of the chapel with a veritable explosion of white peonies and roses and green branches sourced from Windsor great park; What a breathtaking extravaganza.

And then we were treated with the perfect demonstration of how well suited the French and English are (yes I might admit to being slightly biased here). A French Haute Couture house and a young British designer for the breathtaking bridal gown. What was there not to like? The dress was just perfect in its sobriety, immaculate lines topped with the very elegant Queen Mary tiara on a long train subtly embroidered with flowers representing the Commonwealth nations, carried by two extremely well behaved twin boys. There were 6 bridesmaids and 4 pageboys ranging in age from TWO to seven; it could have been a recipe for disaster and yet they were all on their best behaviour throughout the ceremony it seems. Whatever did they put in their porridge that morning, I wonder?!

The musicians, apparently hand-picked by the soon to be Duke and Duchess of Sussex, seemed to be a perfect match made in heaven for the ceremony which was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury in a dignified but happy and light-hearted way. What a joy for us to see how modern
and ancient traditions joined to blossom into a most generous celebration of the joys of marriage. What delight to see a Bishop using a tablet at the pulpit of this centuries-old Chapel and enthusing so wondrously about the ground-breaking effects of love, pure and simple. And what should we say about the Kingdom Gospel Choir’s rendition of “Stand by Me”, what better fundamental definition of marriage vows is there?

We both had the spine-chilling feeling that we were actually witnessing the opening of the Anglican chrysalis into a more modern 21st Century magnificent butterfly.

Yes I shall admit very freely to have had a right royal party on that momentous day.

Maryline William-Smith

A perfect story

This Saturday of May 2018, it is a big deal for the United Kingdom. Harry and Meghan are getting married in the town of Windsor. The story looks perfect: Harry is a prince and Meghan is an American actress. Queen Elisabeth’s gift to her grandson is a house. Isn’t it crazy?!

Everybody is there: all the royals (they don’t have a family name or are called the Windsor family), the friends that the couple has invited (from all over the world) and a big crowd. Only Meghan’s father is not coming (because he has had a minor heart attack and is in hospital).

There were a lot of flowers in the castle. The children George and Charlotte were pageboy and bridesmaid. They held the long dress of Meghan, Duchess of Sussex. It was so cute!

In the chapel, a choir sung ‘Stand by me’ for the groom and the bride. It was very beautiful.

After the ceremony, the couple went around town, in a carriage. The public who was waiting outside the palace cheered them. Millions of spectators could follow the event on television. And saw that Meghan and Harry were truly in love.

There is an official webpage where you can see photographs and films (one about the making of the wedding cake):
https://www.royal.uk/royalwedding

Léa (aged 13)
We’re looking for some help from an English mother tongue babysitter to pick up our 7 year-old daughter from school and speak English with her on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please text your name and number to: Paul Freeman (near Avenue Des Vosges)
Tel: 06 62 30 22 35

International Business Graduate Seeking Summer Work Placement

Following my 1st year of an International Business Degree at Lancaster University UK, I am seeking an internship (8 to 12 weeks) during the months of July to September to gain valuable experience within an English-speaking environment. This is required as part of my undergraduate studies and would ideally be in an area related to my courses (Marketing/Management/Sales/Business Analysis/HR), but I will consider all proposals. I am bilingual French/English, geographically mobile and eager to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking me. THANK YOU.

Leigh-Ann Ledertheil
lledertheil@gmail.com
+44 7715 462 729

No copy issued in July and August - update to come in September

Newsletter Publication

We’ll publish your announcements/advertisements each month, space permitting and limited to 100 words. Advertisements will be repeated twice only and please let the Editor know by the first of the month if you need your ad repeated. This service is free to ESC Members, non-members €40, which should be included with submission. Items for publication should be in English.

Please forward items by e-mail to Catherine Manini at esc.newsletter.67@gmail.com
David Melvin - Helping Hands

Spring Clean 2018!
Time to catch up on all of those jobs around your home – need any help?
Outside areas pressure washed, Garages cleared – Gardens tidied
Also available for Decorating – interior and exterior,
furniture assembly, garage clearance
All jobs considered!
Normal rate :15€ per hour or 100€ per day

e-mail: davidmelvin@hotmail.com
Phone +44 7749 509423 or +49 170 1129015

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made-to-measure furniture, cupboards, shelves
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40 euros an hour. Quotes per job for major work.
06 60 91 93 14
ehomechristophe@gmail.com
The Anglican (Episcopal) Church in Strasbourg

Holy Communion each Sunday, 10:30 am at the Eglise des Pères Dominicains.
Contact the Chaplaincy on 03 69 57 40 03
anglican.chaplaincy.strasbourg@gmail.com
or visit website, www.saintalbans.fr

Trinity International Church of Strasbourg

Sunday service at 10:00 at the Foyer (Fellowship Hall) of the Eglise St. Louis,
12 rue du Cygne.
www.trinitystrasbourg.org

Bilingual International School of Strasbourg (BISS)

For full information, please contact the school at Tel: 03 88 15 28 00 - Fax: 03 88 15 28 09
contact-lucieberger@legymnase.eu

ESC Email contacts:
contact.esc.alsace@gmail.com
esc.events.67@gmail.com
esc.newsletter.67@gmail.com
esc.film.club@gmail.com

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**English Conversation**

chez Frederick & Maryline William-Smith
7 rue des Ducs, Vieux-Cronenbourg, Strasbourg
(trams A/D station Ducs d’Alsace)
for details of the next meeting, contact Nigel
nigelpermaul@gmail.com
Phone 06 75 63 89 98

**French Conversation**

The group meets twice a month,
on Thursdays from 2 to 4 pm,
for details of the next meeting,
contact: Colette Jandrok
fredericka06@yahoo.fr
Phone 03 88 20 21 17

**German Conversation**

The group meets fortnightly,
on Tuesdays from 1.30 to 3.30 pm,
in Café Rapp, Haupstr. 104, Kehl.

Contact: Bernard Greiner
bernard.greiner@numericable.fr
Phone 03 88 66 32 06

**Spanish Conversation**

Colette is trying to organise a new
Spanish conversation group.
If you are interested, please get in touch with her:
Colette Jandrok on 03 88 20 21 17 or
fredericka06@yahoo.fr
Dear ESC members,

Once again the time has come to get out your cameras and send us a submission for our annual Photo competition. So remember you have until the end of September.

As last year we have a junior section to encourage our younger members to participate.

So the rules are simple:

Send up to 3 images taken during your summer vacation. For the younger members just indicate their age and if 15 or under we will place them in the junior category. Don't forget you can share your memories with us and enter the chance of winning a prize. Whatever device you have used, we would like you to send us images of your summer experience.

*The theme this year is" Summer in the City"
Images of Strasbourg and the surrounding area.*

Send your images to: http://esc.photo.gallery@gmail.com with your details.

The ESC will give a prize for the most inspiring picture!

*Any questions contact Nigel at:*
esc.photo.gallery@gmail.com