



EUROMAYENNE

Association Départementale
pour une coopération Européenne en Mayenne

DRAFT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on SATURDAY, 14th OCTOBER 2023

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1 – MEMBERSHIP

Number of members (Sept. 2008 - August 2023)

Years	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Members	396	380	364	408	340	311	312	321	345	335	306	279	260	213	209	204

On 31st August 2023, our association mustered **204 members from 135 households (66 families and 69 single members)**.

We managed to maintain roughly the same number of members as the previous year (209), despite an inflationary economic context and the resulting rise in the cost of living.

We wish to thank **Roselyne SPEYER**, our treasurer, who manages the membership, as well as **Gloria KENNERLEY** who gives information in English to potential members. During the year, please let **Roselyne SPEYER** know of any change in address, telephone number or email address, so that she may update our membership list. Furthermore, we would be grateful if you could make your payments by **bank transfer**.

2 – LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

a) French Courses

From September 2022 to July 2023, we organised our usual three termly sessions in Mayenne, at **four levels** (Beginners, Intermediate, Intermediate Plus & Advanced), with our teacher, **Alain FAUCON**.

Number of registrations per level and per session

	Beginners	Intermediate	Intermediate Plus	Advanced	TOTAL
09–12/2022	12	12	11	12	47
01–03/2023	12	11	10	12	45
04–07/2023	12	10	9	8	39

Years	2007 / 2008	2008 / 2009	2009 / 2010	2010 / 2011	2011 / 2012	2012 / 2013	2013 / 2014	2014 / 2015	2015 / 2016	2016 / 2017	2017 / 2018	2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021	2021 / 2022	2022 / 2023
Registrations	177	193	169	124	102	87	89	111	86	112	83	92	100	105	126	131

Again this year, we have noticed an **increase in participation** in our French courses.

From September 2022 to June 2023, all our courses could be held **face-to-face**.

The Executive Committee would like to address their thanks to the **Town of Mayenne** which offers us a free room at the Old Mairie in order to organise our courses.

In addition, we thank most warmly **Alain FAUCON**, our teacher, for his collaboration with our association.

Finally, we are very grateful to **Simon King** for his role as Chair of our Languages Committee and to **Peter Woods** for his hard work as our French Course Coordinator from September 2022.

b) English-French Conversation Workshops

Our **Mayenne** workshop was held face-to-face throughout the year, with an average of **13 participants** (9 French speakers and 4 English speakers):

- **Afternoon Workshop** (Old Mairie): **10 participants** (6 French speakers and 4 English speakers) on average,
- **Evening Workshop** (Don Bosco): **17 participants** (12 French speakers and 5 English speakers) on average.

Our workshop in **Laval** was held face-to-face throughout the year, with an average of **9 participants** (6 French speakers and 3 English speakers).

We address our thanks to Mayenne Mairie, *Lycée Don Bosco* in Mayenne and *Maison de Quartier des Fourches* in Laval, for offering us free rooms during the year.

We are very grateful to *Armelle JAMELOT* (Laval), *Colette BERRON* and *Lynn CHESTERS* (Mayenne) for their hard work on coordinating our conversation workshops.

c) English Linguistic Support

Following requests from French-speaking members, we started this new English linguistic support activity in March 2023 with 10 participants. The activity was run by two volunteer members, *Simon King* and *Steven Bostock* over five 2-hour sessions. We would like to thank them warmly for the quality of their work and their availability, and in particular *Simon King* who coordinated this activity. We can measure the satisfaction of the participants, all of whom have renewed their participation for the new session in September, and have been joined by 4 new members. For 2023-2024, we have scheduled 10 monthly sessions.

d) School Interventions

8 interventions were held at **ISNPé** (Teacher Training Centre) in **Laval** from January to May 2023 with **11 native English-speaking volunteers** (including 7 new). In addition, an “**English Day**” was organised at **Collège Léo Ferré (Ambrières-les-Vallées)** with **11 EuroMayenne volunteers**. Finally, we still have two agreements with the “*Direction des Services Départementaux de l'Education en Mayenne*” (Departmental Education Authority) and the “*Direction départementale de l'Enseignement catholique en Mayenne*” (Departmental Catholic Education Authority). These agreements stipulate the terms and conditions of our interventions in state and catholic schools of the Mayenne Department.

We would like to address our warmest thanks to *Simon King* who has been coordinating these school interventions.

Furthermore, we thank all the schools that have approached us and all our native English-speaking volunteers who have given their time during the school year to carry out these interventions.

3 – VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

The aim of this group is to bring help to the members of EuroMayenne, should they encounter problems or feel isolated and unable to face up to certain situations. This year, there was no particular request.

We address our warmest thanks to *Lynn CHESTERS* and *Sylvie QUINTON* for coordinating this network, and to all the members of this group.

4 – LEISURE ACTIVITIES

a) Outings and Events

From September 2022 to May 2023, we organised **9 outings and events** with **23 participants (15 anglophones and 8 francophones)** on average.

Attendance at our outings and events (September 2022 - May 2023)

DATE	ACTIVITY / VENUE	PARTICIPANTS	Anglophones	Francophones
10/09/22	Lunch and Visit to Castle (Lassay les Châteaux)	14	13	1
08/10/22	EuroMayenne AGM (Mayenne)	39	20	19
05/11/22	Lunch and Visit to Weavers Museum (Ambrières)	Outing postponed (Museum guide absent)		
02/12/21	Annual Dinner at Restaurant La Marjolaine (Moulay)	54	33	21
06/01/22	<i>Galette des Rois</i> (Mayenne)	12	7	5
15/01/22	Quiz Afternoon and «Afternoon Tea» (Mayenne)	19	14	5
18/02/22	Chinese Restaurant and Ten Pin Bowling (Laval)	13	8	5
18/03/22	Lunch and visit to the Basilica (Evron)	23	15	8
15/04/22	Environnemental visit and Lunch (Fontaine-Daniel)	16	9	7
14/05/22	Plant Swap & BBQ (Mayenne)	17	12	5
10/06/22	Lunch and Riverboat Cruise (Laval)	Outing postponed (boat undergoing maintenance)		

Our warmest thanks to all the members of our Activities Committee (*Lynn CHESTERS, Pam DAVIES, Nicole DEVELLAIGLE, Armelle JAMELOT, Valérie MASSEROT, Paul PUNCHARD*), for their time spent organising these outings and events. We invite all our members to take part, as these are always very convivial moments that promote linguistic exchanges between English and French speakers.

b) Monthly Teas

This year, all our Monthly Teas were held face-to-face in our office at La **Visitation**. The teas are usually held on the first Thursday of the month and there are **10 participants** on average. All members are most welcome to come and borrow a large selection of **books** in English and French, and over 200 **DVDs**. **New in 2022-2023 audio books and jigsaw puzzles** donated by members were also available. In 2023-2024, there are plans to extend the range of puzzles and promote audio books.

We address our warmest thanks to *Eileen CLIMANCE* for coordinating these meetings.

c) Interest Groups

Craft Group

10 meetings were held from September 2022 to June 2023, with **7 participants** on average.

Gardening Group

3 meetings and 2 garden visits were held from September 2022 to July 2023, with an average of **15 participants** at meetings and **5 participants** at visits. This group currently has **23 members**.

Photography Group

5 meetings were held from September 2022 to January 2023. Its leader, John Liddiard, stepped down in February 2023 due to a difference of opinion on the use of social networks. No other member of the group wished to take up his role.

Walking Group

10 walks were organised from September 2022 to June 2023, with **12 participants** on average.

Reading Group

The reading group met on the last Wednesday of each month except December. Members of this group were very saddened and affected by the sudden and unexpected death of our hostess Françoise Koubaka in April and many of the group attended her funeral service and were able to send our condolences to her family. We are extremely grateful to one of our members who offered her home in the centre of Évron as our new venue - and it was there that we met in May and June. Our group meetings are attended by **between 10 and 12 members** both french and english speaking.

More generally, our thanks go to *Lynn CHESTERS*, in charge of our Activities Committee and our Walking Group, and to our other Group Leaders (*Susan CHARNOCK, Stephen BOSTOCK, John LIDDIARD, Pam DAVIES*), for their commitment and hard work in organising our leisure activities.

d) Project of «Families with young children» Group

In order to create this group, we are still looking for native English-speaking couples with young children living in **Mayenne**, so as to create a new interest group allowing French and English-speaking families with young children in Mayenne to participate in appropriate activities, **If you know any, please feel free to tell them and to give us their details with their agreement!**

A first meeting will then be organised in Laval or Mayenne with a few French-speaking families with young children, in order to define this group's management and future activities.

5 – EUROMAYENNE FAIR

Our Executive Committee is considering the future orientations of this major event for our association.

However, *Nicole Devel-Laigle*, after having been in charge of the Fair Committee since 2002, has decided to step down from this role, but no one has volunteered so far.

6 – COMMUNICATIONS

a) General Communications

Ian WATSON is responsible for our Communications Committee.

b) Website

Our website's pages are regularly updated by *Ian WATSON* and *Julie WATSON*.

c) Facebook pages

Our «*Association EuroMayenne*» public page has **506 «followers»** (373 in 2022) and is regularly updated.

Our «*Adhérents-Members EuroMayenne*» private group has **21 members**.

Our «*EuroMayenne Members Gardening Group*» private group has **14 members**.
Our «*EuroMayenne Members Craft Group*» private group has **8 members**.
Our «*EuroMayenne Members Walking Group*» private group has **8 members**.

We encourage all our members to check our Facebook pages regularly and sign up!

d) Project of bilingual guide for medical emergencies

This guide would be designed to help native anglophones make phone calls to medical emergency services. We would like to obtain funding to print a number of copies for people who do not have access to the Internet, so that we could distribute this guide widely in our department.

For the moment, we have ordered copies of the latest edition of the French-English health booklet published by the French Government and Santé Publique France for distribution to our members. They are available in our office at La Visitation at our Monthly Teas.

The Executive Committee warmly thanks *Ian WATSON* and *Julie WATSON* for their involvement and their hard work for the communications of our association.

7 – CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee would like to thank all our members who have given a lot of their free time to organise the different activities of our association during the year 2022-2023, as well as all those who have participated in our outings and events.

We constantly need to find **motivated members having some free time** to carry out the association's administration.

**If you would like to take on more responsibility in our association, please do feel free to let us know!
(president@euromayenne.org)**

Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE
President