



**Association Départementale
pour une coopération Européenne en Mayenne**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
on SATURDAY, 11th OCTOBER 2025**

ACTIVITY REPORT 2024-2025

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1 – MEMBERSHIP

Number of members (Sept. 2010 - August 2025)

Years	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Members	364	408	340	311	312	321	345	335	306	279	260	213	209	204	235	241

On 31st August 2025 the association had **241** members (235 as of 31/08/2024).

21% new members.

29% professionally active members.

62% native English speakers / 34% native French speakers / 4% other nationalities.

59% women and 41% men.

The **average age** of members is **63** years old.

We wish to thank *Simon KING*, who has managed the membership this year. During the year, please let *Simon* know of any **change** in address, telephone number or email address, so that he 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 2024 to July 2025, we organised our usual three termly sessions in Mayenne, at **four levels** (Beginners, Intermediate, Intermediate Plus/Advanced & Advanced Plus), with our teacher, *Alain FAUCON*.

Number of registrations per level and per session

	Beginners	Intermediate	Intermediate Plus/Advanced	Advanced Plus	TOTAL
09–12/2024	12	11	12	11	46
01–03/2025	12	12	10	8	42
04–07/2025	12	10	9	10	41

Years	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	2023 / 2024	2024 / 2025
Registrations	124	102	87	89	111	86	112	83	92	100	105	126	131	129	129

We thank most warmly *Alain FAUCON*, our teacher, for his renewed collaboration with our association since 2004. Finally, we are very grateful to *Simon King* for his role as Chair of our Languages Committee and to *Peter Woods* for his continuing hard work as our French Course Coordinator.

b) English-French Conversation Workshops

Our **Mayenne** workshops continue to have good participation. There were **15 afternoon workshops** held with an average of **12 participants**, including on average **6 French speakers and 6 English speakers**. These sessions are held in the *Old Mairie* at 2pm on alternating Mondays. There were also **15 evening workshops** held with an average of **15 participants**, including on average **9 French speakers and 6 English speakers**. One of the evening workshops had to be cancelled due to foggy weather. The evening workshops are held at **Lycée Don Bosco** at 8pm on alternating Mondays.

In **Laval** **18 workshops** were held throughout the year, with an average of **6 participants**, including on average **4 French speakers and 2 English speakers**. These sessions are held at *Maison de Quartier des Fourches* at 8pm every other Wednesday.

In **Lassay-les-Châteaux** there were **34 workshops** held with an average of **9 participants**, including on average **5 French speakers and 4 English speakers**. These workshops are held at *Parc Albert Chevrier* at 6pm every Friday.

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

c) English Linguistic Support

A group of **15 native French-speaking EuroMayenne members** took part in this English support programme. These are small-group conversations led by native English-speaking EuroMayenne members. The French members really enjoyed these discussions, and all renewed their wish to participate for 2025-2026. Three additional people joined us for our last session in June.

Many thanks to our English volunteers, *Stephen BOSTOCK*, *Simon KING*, *Sarah SMITH*, *Sandra & Jeffrey BISHOP*, and *Susan & Michael JAMESON* for their availability and the relevance of the topics prepared for discussion. A special thank-you to *Simon KING* whose responsibility was the organization of the volunteers. With his departure *Stephen BOSTOCK* will be taking over this role for the 2025/2026 season.

d) School Interventions

EuroMayenne was invited to participate at two school interventions during the year.

The first was at the bilingual Les Mille Mots primary school in le Bourgneuf-la-Forêt, where we assisted at a 'Christmas Day in English' event in December.

The second event was at the Pierre et Marie Curie primary school in Mayenne in June, also a bilingual school, where we assisted at an 'English Day' that focussed on several countries around the world that spoke English.

Both events were most enjoyable and our volunteers were made to feel very welcome by both the staff and the children. Both events were of great benefit to the children.

We would like to thank the following EuroMayenne volunteers for giving up their time and for helping with the two school interventions: *Sheelagh ABBOTS*, *Linda POWELL*, *Robin POWELL*, *Sarah SMITH* and *Peter WOODS*. Thank you, all. We would like to address our warmest thanks to *Simon KING* who plans and co-ordinates school interventions.

3 – VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

The goal of this group is to provide assistance to EuroMayenne members if they encounter difficulties or feel isolated and unable to cope with certain situations. This year, there were no specific requests.

We extend our warmest thanks to *Lynn CHESTERS* and *Sylvie QUINTON* for coordinating this network, as well as to all the group's volunteers: *Fred and Janet GREATOREX*, *Carol ENSOR*, *Patrice BOMPAIS*, and *Fabienne GARNIER*.

As *Lynn CHESTERS* wishes to step down from this position, *Sylvie QUINTON* has offered to continue managing this network.

4 – LEISURE ACTIVITIES

a) Outings and Events

From September 2024 to July 2025, we organized 13 outings and events (2 were cancelled, one due to weather and another due to lack of participants) with 29 participants on average (outings).

Attendance at our outings and events (September 2024 - July 2025)

DATE	ACTIVITY / VENUE	PARTICIPANTS	Anglophones	Francophones
07/09/24	EuroMayenne at the 'FORUMS OF ASSOCIATIONS' (Mayenne and Laval)	19	8	11
21/09/24	Visit to ROMAN FORTRESS & ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM (Jublains)	16	7	9

19/10/24	EUROMAYENNE AGM	55	25	30
26/10/24	Visit to MUSEUM OF THE TWO WORLD WARS	20	10	10
22/11/24	Visit to SERAP FACTORY	Event Cancelled due to weather		
06/12/24	ANNUAL DINNER - <i>La Marjolaine</i> (Moulay)	68	37	31
09/01/25	GALETTE DES ROIS (Mayenne)	29	17	12
11/01/25	Bring and Share LUNCH AND GAMES AFTERNOON (Mayenne)	Event Cancelled due to lack of registrants		
08/02/25	Visit to ORTHODOX MONASTERY	30	14	16
21/03/25	QUIZ EVENING	28	19	9
26/04/25	Visit to HISTORIC DINAN	10	7	3
17/05/25	Visit to CHATEAU DE SOURCHES 'The Peony Conservatory'	24	12	12
28/06/25	Visit to AQUAPONIA	21	16	5

Our warmest thanks to all the members of our Activities Committee (*Pam DAVIES, Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Armelle JAMELOT, Susan JAMESON, Valérie MASSEROT, Paul PUNCHARD and Peter WOODS*) 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

Monthly Teas were held in the EuroMayenne office at La Visitation in Mayenne, on the first Thursday of each month from September to June. These monthly gatherings attracted an average of **15 members**. This year **29 members booked for the *Galette des Rois* in January**. Books, DVDs, Audiobooks and Jigsaw Puzzles are available to borrow during these gatherings. This year we did a clean out of the library eliminating some of the older content.

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

c) Interest Groups

Cinema Group

9 sessions were held from September 2024 to June 2025.

150 EuroMayenne members attended these sessions out of a total of 257 attendees, representing 58% of the audience, an **average of 17 participants** per séance (8 French speakers and 9 English speakers).

46 different members attended one of the sessions, 7 more participants than last year.

On average, 11 members attended the discussion after the film. Participation down this year but it is very often the same people.

The "Reflections of Irish and British Cinema" Festival in March allowed our members to enjoy for a week as many movies as possible.

The balance sheet of participations being satisfactory and increasing, the members of the cinema group decided to renew the screenings on the 3rd Friday of each month at 2 PM including the school holidays period in order to create regularity in this activity.

The programming period will extend from September 2025 to May 2026 with an alternation of English films with French subtitles, and we will relaunch the *Le Vox* cinema again in order to obtain if possible, a French film with English subtitles.

Craft Group

This group is a fun monthly get-together and some great crafts were made over the year. On average there were **9 participants** at these sessions with room for more. So let us know if you are interested in crafting.

Costs are largely met by the group with a monthly contribution of around €3 each, dependent upon the materials required.

A few boxes of craft materials have been built up which participants can dip into when required.

***Susan CHARNOCK* would like to thank all the participants for their great crafting and input to ideas.**

Thanks to *Lynn CHESTERS* for her support and making the tea/coffee and biscuits at each session and all the attendees for making it such a fun monthly meeting.

Gardening and Nature Group

This year, the 'Gardening Group' became the 'Gardening and Nature Group' with *Mic DUFRASNE* joining the group and organizing nature events.

The Gardening and Nature Group met last year for an outdoor garden visit (*Chateau du Plessis-Bochard* - 53) on 12/09/2024 and then two indoor meetings on 11/10/2024 (*our successes and failures 2024*) and 29/11/2024 (*creating microhabitats*). They had a March indoor meeting on 14/03/2025 (*hosting an open garden, making a container garden along with a seed swap*). On 23/04/2025 the group went on a nature walk to see wildflowers and spring plants (*Montsurs* - 53). In May they hosted a plant swap on 10/05/2025 at La Visitation (*Mayenne* - 53) and went on another nature walk this time Orchid hunting on 13/05/2025 (*Saulges* - 53). On 12/06/2025 they visited the *Jardins de la Mansonnière* (*Orne* - 61), and on 20/07/2025 *Le Domaine* (*Epineux-le-Seguin* - 53).

Walking Group

8 walks were organized during the year, all with an optional lunch. On average there were **11 participants**, including on average **3 French speakers and 8 English speakers**. Walks are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 10am at various locations centring around Mayenne.

With *Lynn CHESTERS* wishing to leave her leading role, *Colette BERRON* has offered to take over from her in managing this group.

Reading Group

The Reading Group met on the last Wednesday of each month except December in the home of one of our members in Evron. There were **12 participants** (maximum number agreed by group members), both English and French speakers. The books read were all suggestions from group members including "*Froth on the Daydream*" by *Boris Vian* and "*The remains of the Day*" by *Kazuo Ishiguro*.

We extend our warmest thanks to *Chris WICKS* for her generous hospitality and to all members of the group for their unfailing enthusiasm.

Well-Being Group

The Well-Being Group was started by a member on October 17th, 2024 and met 5 times during the year in October, December 2024, January, March and April 2025. There were **8 participants** on average at these sessions, which often included doing a bit of yoga. Unfortunately, this group has disbanded and will not be continuing into the 2025-2026 year.

If anyone is interested in taking over this group, please let *Susan JAMESON* know.

More generally, our warmest thanks go to *Susan JAMESON*, who has acted as leader of our Activities Committee for the past year and is also a member of our Cinema Group. Also many thanks to our other Group Leaders (*Patrice and Martine BOMPAIS*, *Gérard BOURSIER*, *Simon DEARSLEY*, *Ross TANNER*, *Susan CHARNOCK*, *Stephen BOSTOCK*, *Mic DUFRASNE*, *Lynn CHESTERS*, *Pam DAVIES*, *Alison KEHAYA*) for their commitment and hard work in organising our leisure activities.

5 – COMMUNICATIONS

a) General Communications

Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE has acted as leader by interim this year, until a new leader is found for this Committee.

b) Website

With *Julie WATSON* wishing to leave her webmaster role this year, *Clotilde SEDOUGA* and *Simon KING* have offered to take over from her.

We address our warmest thanks to *Julie* for her precious involvement during many years in updating our website and Facebook pages.

c) Facebook pages

Our «*Association EuroMayenne*» public page has 598 «followers» (581 in 2024). We encourage all our members to check this page regularly. This year, our Communications Committee decided to stop our interest groups' private pages, as they were rarely consulted.

d) Bilingual guide for medical emergencies

This guide is designed to help native anglophones make phone calls to medical emergency services. Since we had obtained a €1000 funding from *FDVA (Fonds de Développement de la Vie associative)*, 3400 copies were printed in June 2025 by students at *Lycee Leonard de Vinci* in Mayenne. Our Communications Committee is now finding out how this guide could be distributed widely in our department. It is available at our Monthly Teas at La Visitation in Mayenne and it has been emailed to all our members.

The Executive Committee warmly thanks *Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE* and the members of this Committee (*Sheelagh ABBOTS, Patrice BOMPAIS, Simon KING, Christian LAIGLE, Paul PUNCHARD, Clotilde SEDOUGA*) for their involvement and their hard work in relation with the communications of our association.

6 – 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 2024-2025, 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
Co-President
Administration
& Communications

Georges PLESSIS
Co-President
Finances
& Membership

Peter WOODS
Co-President
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Pam DAVIES
Secretary of the
Executive Committee

Susan JAMESON
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