



'Open Door'
(Association La Porte Ouverte)
www.opendoor-civray.com

NEWSLETTER – May 2011

Any information or news that you would like included in the next Newsletter please e-mail Lynn at info@opendoor-civray.com

Vide Grenier on Easter Monday

With the help of Meg and John, Lynn was at Ruffec for the day and raised 100 euros in general sales, 40 euros for tools and 26 euros for the Library.

Monthly Lunches

Wednesday 8th June – Biddy and Joyce are preparing for your delectation Chicken and Broccoli bake and probably meringue and fresh fruit for dessert. Friends are given priority booking but get your names down fast.

These lunches resume on the 14th September.

Alzheimers/Dementia

The Alzheimers Society is once again collecting any unwanted jewellery, broken or otherwise, one odd cufflink, a few links of a bracelet or any costume jewellery or watches. We supported this very successfully in 2009 and sent a large parcel of jewellery to the Society so please let us have any unwanted items to send off

Coming Events

June 16th – Boules – booze and BBQ

July 14th – Bastille Day – BBQ and fireworks

The June event will be an afternoon of boules followed by a BBQ. We are trying to keep this at **5 euros** and beer, wine, cider and soft drinks will be available to buy at a ridiculously low amount or you can, of course, bring your own. There are only 30 tickets and these will be available to buy from the 11th May with precedence going to Friends of Open Door, of course.

The Bastille Bash will be an evening event followed by the Firework display.

Internet & email

It must seem as though we are harping on about this subject but this recent example might encourage the application of common sense to email messages you receive. A number of you recently received an email message from Kay Feltham claiming that she had been robbed in the UK, had lost her bank cards etc and requesting you help by sending her some money. Many of you contacted us wishing to help Kay in her predicament.

Well firstly Kay rarely, if ever, visits the UK and secondly she writes and speaks English in a manner more grammatically correct than that appearing in the email. Thirdly, if you think about the situation for a moment, if you had lost all your personal possessions, handbag, wallet, bank cards etc do you think that you would be able to email everybody in your address book from memory using an internet café - I doubt it. Kay was the unfortunate victim of somebody capturing her email address book and using it for their own dubious purposes. So please before you forward something to somebody on your address list or open any email, check that you know the sender and it is something that you need to open.

French Riot Police Face Alcohol Ban France's riot police have complained about being treated like children following a ban on drinking alcohol while on duty. The CRS (Compagnies Républicaines de Sécurité), which have a reputation for swift and physical response to civil unrest, have always enjoyed a glass of beer or wine with their meals. However following photographs of riot police drinking bottles of beer during Paris street protests their superiors have decided to put an end to the tradition.

The national secretary of the police union said bosses were "trying to turn us into priests, but without the alter wine". While British police are strictly barred from drinking on duty, the French have traditionally been allowed 25cl of wine (nearly half a pint) or a small beer with their main meal of the day. It was normally served on an official tray and sometime eaten in full view of the public, often outside riot-control vans.

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?'
The mother replied, 'Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.'
The child thought about this for a moment then said, 'So why is the groom wearing black?'

French Workers go on strike over Anglo Saxon Imperialism

The entire workforce of a British owned ceramics factory in France has gone on strike in protest at the “Anglo-Saxon industrial imperialism” because the management speak only English.

Nearly 200 staff at Thermal Ceramics in the Loire Valley are staging walkouts everyday. “We say ‘hello’ in French but then communication stops,” said a workers’ representative. “Every meeting is an ordeal.” The staff most of whom belong to France’s CGT trade union had not gone on strike for more than two decades. “Maybe this is because we could speak to our bosses” said the representative “I don’t think it’s up to us to make the effort to speak English. We’re French workers based in France”.

Envoys Spend £1.4M on Hospitality

Annual spending on hospitality by British ambassadors totals £1.4M. The list is topped by the British ambassador to France, who spent £350,000 on entertaining. (They have the audacity not to accept a cheque in payment from British citizens wishing to renew their passports, and charging double the price in the UK for the same service, whilst they happily spending nearly £1000 a day of the same citizen’s taxes throwing booze and food down their throats).

Paris spent almost twice as much as Washington, the second most hospitable embassy and entertainment bills in Berlin, Tokyo, Rome and the British mission to the United Nations all topped £100,000.

European Union Savings Tax Directive

On July 1 2011, the European Union Savings Tax Directive (ESD) is implemented by the Channel Islands and Isle of Man. This directive is European law which requires European Union states to exchange information with each other about customers who get income from savings in one state, but live in another.

The ESD was adopted by EU member states in 2005 but this did not include the Channel Islands or Isle of Man. Both are Crown dependencies: which means they aren’t actually part of the United Kingdom and thus are not in the EU. However, both the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are now bringing in the ESD and in both, the directive takes effect from July 1. It means that from that date on, the interest accruing on your account will be paid gross and the Channel Island or Manx authorities will automatically inform the tax authority in your country of residence how much interest you received.

This move will affect any savers with Channel Islands or Isle of Man-based accounts who live in the EU: it’s the residency which is the important thing with the ESD. If, for example, you’ve got a savings account with a Channel Islands bank and live in Spain, you’ll be affected. But if you live outside the EU then even if your account is in a Channel Islands-based bank, you won’t be.

Two women called at my door and asked what bread I ate, when I said white they gave me a lecture on the benefits of brown bread for 30 minutes.. I think they were Hovis Witnesses

In case you needed further proof that the EC and PC brigade are stupid, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods:

On Tesco’s Tirmisu dessert (printed on the bottom): *‘Do not turn upside down.’*

On Sainsbury’s peanuts; *‘Warning: contains nuts’.*

On Boot’s Children Cough Medicine: *‘Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication’.*

On Marks and Spencer’s Bread Pudding: *‘Product will be hot after heating’.*

On a Swedish Chainsaw: *‘Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals.’*

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: *‘Instructions: Open Packet, eat nuts.’*

On a Japanese Food processor: *‘Not to be used for the other purpose.’*

On a bar of soap: *‘Use like regular soap.’*

On a Sears hairdryer: *‘Do not use while sleeping.’*

On a child’s Superman costume: *‘Wearing this garment does not enable you to fly.’*

**Just to remind you that if you change your address, telephone number or email address please tell us
We do not want to lose touch with you.**

**The office address is Association La Porte Ouverte Le Bourg, 86510, Champagné le Sec
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