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VOISINS VOICES

A BRITISH EMBASSY NEWSLETTER



British Embassy
Paris



@UKinFrance

WELCOME

BY ED LLEWELLYN, BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE



Dear everyone,

This is our latest newsletter, aiming to update you on the state of Brexit negotiations and then take a slightly broader look at the UK-France relationship. Over the past few weeks the situation has evolved rapidly and a lot of new information aimed at British citizens living in France has been released by the French authorities. I hope this newsletter will provide a useful stock-take on the current situation and help you to understand the actions you need to take.

I know you all must still have a lot of pressing questions: My colleagues and I will continue to hold outreach meetings and engage via social media. On 16 May we will be visiting Limoges and Laval. If you would like to attend the outreach session please sign up [here](#). In the meantime, if you think your area would be suitable for a meeting, please contact the team [here](#) with your recommendations.

We also want to make sure we have the best possible understanding of the British community living in France so that we can continue to share concerns with the French authorities, target our information updates and map our future outreach meetings. To help us with this, we would be grateful if you could take just a few minutes to fill out this short [survey](#).

Thank you all for your continued engagement with us.

Ed Llewellyn

INFORMATION
for UK nationals
in France

LEAVING THE EUROPEAN UNION

On 11 April the Prime Minister attended the European Council where she agreed an extension to Article 50 until the end of October. If the Withdrawal Agreement is agreed by both parties before 31 October 2019, this extension will be terminated earlier and the UK will leave the EU on the first day of the following month.

We are very conscious that the extension does not bring certainty on citizens' rights. So the Embassy intends to use this extension to secure even greater clarity on what a deal or no deal would mean for British nationals living in France.



What to do in the meantime?

1. Check your passport validity [here](#)
2. Check your [healthcare](#) status
3. Click here to see our update on [Cartes de Séjour](#) and [driving licences](#)

You may have seen that earlier this month the French government published a decree explaining how British citizens living in France can apply for a French residency in the event of a no deal Brexit. The Embassy has arranged for an unofficial translation, published [here](#).

European Parliamentary Elections

European Parliamentary elections will be taking place across EU member states between 23-26 May. The Government's intention remains to leave the EU with a deal before 22 May. But if the Parliament has not ratified the Withdrawal Agreement by 22 May, the UK will be legally obliged to hold the elections.

In the event that the UK participates in the elections, UK nationals who have been out of the country for less than 15 years will be able to vote for candidates standing in the UK. If you are eligible to vote in the UK, please ensure you register [here](#) before 7 May. If the UK has not left the EU before European elections are held and you instead registered to vote in France for the European elections before 31 March, you should be able to vote locally. We will continue to share more information in due course.

LIVING IN FRANCE GUIDE

Find out the latest information on our [Living in France Guide](#), which also includes information on how to access healthcare, get documents legalised, our lists of lawyers, etc.

[Sign up here](#)

IN OTHER NEWS...



International Women's Day Celebration

This year we marked International Women's Day with an event focused around girls' education; the role of women in culture, in the media, and in public life; and the fight to end sexual violence in conflict.

The event underlined our commitment to gender equality and women's rights worldwide. Speakers included France's most listened-to podcaster Lauren Bastide, La République en Marche MP Sonia Krimi, TV star Hapsatou Sy, feminist comedian Laurent Sciamma and Franco-British filmmaker Manon Loizeau.

For more information check out [@WomenDiploParis](#) on Twitter

Grenoble-Oxford Twinning Anniversary

This month will mark the 30th anniversary of the twinning between Grenoble and Oxford. The occasion will be marked with a programme of events including a Symposium celebrating the long-standing scientific collaboration between Oxford University and research institutes in Grenoble.



D-Day Normandy Memorial

6 June 2019 will mark 75 years since D-Day: an important date for both sides of the Channel.

To remember the sacrifice made by the veterans in the conditions they deserve, the French President and British Prime Minister will unveil the first stone and sculpture of a new British memorial carrying the names of all those under British command who died during the Battle of Normandy, as well as remember the 20,000 French civilians who perished alongside them.

The Normandy Memorial Trust are still fundraising and donations can be made through their website [here](#).

British Community Committee Event



This month we hosted the Annual General Meeting of the British Community Committee. With over 100 member associations, BCC represents the British Community in France since 1937. The organisation remains an important partner of the embassy and will be helping us reach out to UK nationals across France. You can find out more information [here](#).



Former Europe Minister Nathalie Loiseau and Local Government Minister James Brokenshire attended the first UK-France Mayors' Summit in London in March 2019.

UK France Mayors' Summit

In March we held the first UK France Mayors' Summit, reinforcing the longstanding relationship between our people and communities and establishing many new ones.

Greater Manchester and Montpellier will work together to offer unique education, business and social opportunities to their inhabitants.

Kent County Council, the Departments of Pas-de-Calais, the North and the Région of Hauts-de-France initiated a new model of multilateral co-operation

Saint-Denis, Newham and the London Legacy Development Corporation will work together to build a real lasting legacy for the people of Paris and London following the London 2012 Olympic and the Paris 2024 Olympics.

These partnerships demonstrate that whilst the UK may be leaving the EU, our close friendship with France will continue.



Toulouse and Bordeaux Tech Road Show



Celebrating the best of technology, Department of International Trade France recently organised a Tech Road Show in Toulouse and Bordeaux, facilitating knowledge exchange between British and French tech experts on business opportunities in the UK. Following its great success, we aim to organise other similar missions to build bilateral collaboration between Enterprise Centres in the UK and France.

Later this month DIT France will also be hosting a British pavilion at VivaTech, France's largest tech conference. The pavilion will host a dozen cutting-edge British tech companies in a celebration of the UK's leadership in technology and entrepreneurship. In its margins we will also be hosting a 'Women In Tech Networking Lunch' and a 'VIP Networking Reception'. Please click [here](#) to register.

Paris-Londres 1962 – 1989 'Music Migrations' exhibition

Are you a music fan? This Music Migrations exhibition explores the links between migration, musical forms and urban identities and how in turn it has transformed Paris and London.



Experience the recreation of these musical experiences from the point of view of both the artists and the listeners.

Exhibition at the [Palais de la Porte Dorée](#) until 5 January 2020 - 293 avenue Daumesnil, 75012 Paris.