

Dear Members,

I am delighted to introduce myself as your new President. I feel as though we have a great team and am thrilled to do some new and exciting activities during this year. Thank you for the confidence you have shown in electing me and the new Committee - we shall do our very best for you and for this wonderful Association.

The last year has been one of great change; our outgoing President, Vanessa Ilsley, has done an outstanding job and I wish to thank her for her enormous contribution over the past years and for being such a source of inspiration to me.

I should also like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Committee members, Sarah O'Connor (Treasurer) and Petrina Tedeschi (Honorary Secretary) for their invaluable help and input and for not leaving the Association in a state of financial ruin but with a surplus! I also take this opportunity to introduce our newly elected Committee members, Brian Chancellor (Treasurer), Michael Greenwood (Honorary Secretary), Audrey Blair Roux, Julie Lewis and Patrick Coote. Special mention must also be made of our other current Committee members, without whose unstinting efforts the Association would not be where it is today : Stephen Bull (Vice-President), Yvonne Bernhardt (Head of CST), Ann-Marie Hayward and Lincoln Phipps (our IT guru). Not forgetting, of course, our Administrator, Vivienne Taylor, who strives to keep us all on the right track. I look forward to working with the new team, to serving the community and to the challenges ahead.

You will have an opportunity to meet the new BAM Committee on 12th April, when we'll be holding our Thursday Cocktails at the splendid Wine Palace, situated at 1, Quai Louis II (just below the majestic Yacht Club of Monaco) and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there. You will find a booking form on the back page of this newsletter or, if you prefer, you can download it from our website.

We at BAM hope to continue building on the success of the last year, to increase our membership and to keep up the number and high standard of the various events which we organise throughout the year – but, to do this, we need YOUR feedback! Please do not hesitate to contact us to let us know the kind of events you would like us to organise for you. It is YOUR Association – we are here for you!

John Luigi Megginson

President

PAST EVENTS

Cocktails at the Buddha Bar

Thursday 8th March saw us in a new venue for our Thursday cocktails. The Buddha Bar has been open in Monaco for some time now so we thought it high time we tried it out. The imposing surroundings and warm welcome proved very popular and we shall be repeating the experience in the near future.

BAM AGM 2018

On 13th March, the BAM 2018 Annual General Meeting was held at the Maison des Associations, Monaco, at which our new President, John Luigi Megginson, was elected as well as several new Committee members to replace those who were required by our statutes to stand down. The meeting was well attended and was followed by very congenial drinks and nibbles. We are looking forward to a very successful year.

Cocktails at the Novotel



Our second cocktails of the month, on Thursday 22nd March, were held at another new venue, this time the Novotel Hôtel. This very modern hotel, built on the site of the original Radio Monte-Carlo Studios on Boulevard Princesse Charlotte, offers a most original "after work" formula of a very attractive apéritif tray plus a glass of wine or beer for €10. A great opportunity to relax on the way home from work and easily reachable by public transport as well as being handy for the railway station. A good time was had by all!

Lunch at the Lycée Hôtelier et Technique

Friday 23rd March found six lucky BAM members sitting down to an excellent lunch prepared and served by students of the Lycée Hôtelier et Technique. A soup of creamed lentils and clams was followed by sweet and sour lamb with couscous, rounded off by a calorie-laden tarte-tatin smothered in pistache ice cream and chantilly – one could almost hear the gym beckoning! Look out for the next dates to book a precious place for one of these delicious lunches – a snip at only €17 per person.

British Embassy Cocktail Party

The final event of the month was a cocktail hosted by a group of representatives from the British Embassy who had travelled down from Paris to meet local British residents as part of its annual outreach programme and discuss the various effects and repercussions expected by the impending BREXIT. Unfortunately, Lord Lewellyn, the British Ambassador, was unable to attend personally but his assistant was able to assure us of his "cautious optimism."

Forthcoming Events

Friday Friendship Club will meet for tea/coffee/something stronger at Loga Café, 25 bd des Moulins on Friday 6th April from 3pm-4.30pm. All are welcome. New Committee member Julie Lewis is now supplying English greetings cards and will have a selection available to purchase at **this event. All proceeds go to BAM.**



Lunch at the Lycée Hôtelier et Technique – 2 places left for this event on Thursday 19th April. Please contact Sarah O'Connor on soconnor@libello.com

"Meet the new Committee" cocktails - Thursday 12th April at the Wine Palace. Booking form is on page 4 or, if you prefer, download it from our website : www.bam-monaco.org

Our second cocktails of the month will be held on Thursday, 26th April – venue to be advised.

DON'T FORGET! Celebration of the Queen's birthday – 13th June at the Café de Paris!

FRIENDLY LINKS

Kermesse de Soeur Marie

Châtepeau de Fontvieille, Friday 6th & Saturday 7th April

Sardinian dinner on Friday 6th April, Tombola and Bingo evening on Saturday 7th April

The English Library

The English Library, a longstanding Monaco tradition based in the St Paul's Church Hall in the Avenue de Grande-Bretagne, is open every Saturday morning from 10.30 to noon. The annual subscription is €30, which entitles members to borrow four books every three weeks. The Library comprises about 4,000 volumes of fiction and non-fiction works by popular authors. New books are bought every few months and added to the existing collection.

We are always happy to receive donations of books in good condition. These will either be sent to the Kermesse or sold in the Library. Any particularly interesting publications will be added to the main collection. Although we welcome any book donations, we must insist that they are in English. We cannot accept tourist guides, old text books or cassettes.

If you are interested in becoming a Library member, or wish to donate books, please contact Wibha Lele at 06 07 93 48 81 or email her at wibhalele@yahoo.com or, alternatively, come along on a Saturday morning. We'd love to meet you!

BAM PATRONS

We thank our Patrons for their continued support of BAM's work within the Principality.

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To provide a focus for British and Commonwealth citizens residing in Monaco and surrounding areas to meet socially, represent their views in the Principality and to provide a welfare service for those in need.

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