



March/April 2017

Volume 16 Issue 2

Dear Members,

The AGM is on Wednesday 8th March so do not forget to renew beforehand so that you can attend and vote for the committee and any other matters of importance.

As Members are aware, Aisling has been on sick leave since April last year. She has now taken the decision not to return to her post. The committee would like to thank her for the contribution she has made to the Association as Secretary and also as Chair of Events over many years. We hope that we will see her at many future BAM events.

Vanessa Ilsley

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.

AGM Details and Documents

All the AGM documents can be found on our web site (www.bam-monaco.org) under the menu item "About BAM" → "AGM". We have uploaded the Proxy forms, AGM meeting location details, an agenda, the 2016 financial accounts (for meeting approval) and the AGM 2016 minutes (for meeting approval). Paper copies of the financial report (only) are available at the BAM registered office C/- Eric Blair's office, Buckingham Palace. 11 Avenue Saint Michel, Monaco. Copies of the minutes are available from BAM on request or can be downloaded from our website.

AGM 2017 – 8th March 18:30 at the Casa d'i Soci (Maison des Associations) 2, bis Promenade Honoré II. This will be followed by drinks and nibbles.

BAM Happy Hours and Friday Friendship Club

Do you like our new start times for the BAM Happy Hour? We hope this will mean more members will join us straight from the office.

Happy Hour – Thursday 9th March at the **La Cremaillere** located on 31 Bvd Princesse Charlotte from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Happy Hour – Thursday 23rd March we haven't decided where this will be yet – It will be a surprise and we have a few venues to look at. Do you have a favourite 'watering hole' in Monaco that we can reconnoitre?

Friday Friendship Club – Friday 17th March from 3pm to 5pm at the St Paul's Church Library. We will be choosing an Irish specialty on the 17th for St Patrick's Day. We served Welshcakes/Bakestones on the 3rd in acknowledgment of our many Welsh members!

April Happy Hours will be on the 13th and the 27th at venues to be decided. The April FFC will be on the 7th and the 21st at the St Paul's Church library.

Bookworms - Thursday 16th March 7.30 pm at St. Paul's Church Library; the book for March is "A Whole Life" by Robert Seethaler

Did you know we are on Facebook and Twitter too? Like us on **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/bammonaco/ and follow us on **Twitter** at twitter.com/bammonaco

Monaco Events

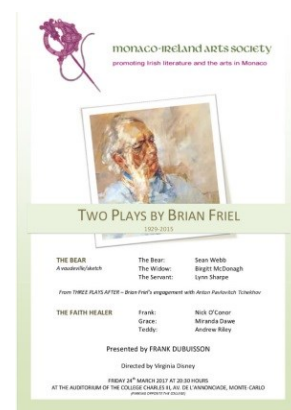
Monaco Events - Recital, The Association Ars Antonina, in partnership with the Cultural Affairs Directorate of the Monaco Government, is honoured to present a recital of the young Bulgarian cellist, Michael Petrov, on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 8 pm, at the Théâtre des Variétés in Monaco (1 boulevard Albert 1er, Monaco). Michael Petrov is winner of the International Brahms Competition in Austria and the International Suggia Competition in Porto, and performs as soloist with the leading orchestras of Europe. He will be accompanied by the young British pianist, Alexander Ullman, who is winner of the Ferenc Liszt Piano Competition in Budapest and the Manhattan International Music Competition. They will perform a programme of Schumann, Tchaikovsky, Carter and Chopin. Please make your reservations without delay by email at arsantonina@gmail.com. Box office: www.fnac.com Entrance: 20€ (adults), 10€ (members), free admission (students).

Free Lecture on Irish Contemporary Literature

A Lecture, "Waiting for a Home" will be presented by Joseph Cohen, a Founding Member of the Rencontres Philosophiques de Monaco and a Lecturer of Philosophy at University College Dublin.

LES RENCONTRES PHILOSOPHIQUES DE MONACO at the **Princesse Grace Irish Library Cultural Center 9 rue Princesse Marie-de-Lorraine** on **Friday 17 March 2017** - Saint Patrick's Day from **10:30 to 12:00**. Visit their web site at www.philomonaco.com for details.

Monaco-Ireland Arts Society will be having an evening celebrating one of Ireland's foremost playwrights, Brian Friel (1929 - 2015) with the presentation of two plays; *The Bear* and *Faith Healer*. This event will take place on the **Friday 24th March 2017 at 20:30** hours at the Auditorium du Collège Charles III, Avenue de l'Annonciade, Monte-Carlo (Parking available under the old Lycée Technique). RSVP - Tel: +33 (0)4 93 41 97 22, +33 6 82 40 55 34, www.monaco-ireland-arts.org



Canada's 150th Anniversary - Traditional British Full Afternoon Tea at the Hotel de Paris, Salle Empire Wednesday **March 29 at 4pm**. Same menu as an afternoon



tea at the Ritz Hotel in London. This afternoon tea will bring together people from Monaco, Canada and the United Kingdom in celebration of this milestone. This will be a light, happy event which will celebrate the special relationship between our two countries. To reserve your place, please send a cheque for 90€ to: **Canadian Club of Monaco**, BP211, Monaco Cedex 98004. KINDLY INDICATE "AFTERNOON TEA" on your cheque.

Call for Volunteers - Every 4 years Monaco hosts an international theatre festival 'Le Mondial du Théâtre' and this year it is on again from 21st-31st August. 24 countries are participating from all over the world and they perform a one-act in play in their own language, but it has to be very visual. Our headquarters will be at Auditorium Rainier III and there are approximately 200 volunteers. There are workshops, debates, bufféteria, bar and night club, to list just a few of the events, and the plays every evening, three per evening in the Salle Garnier, the Theatre Princesse Grace and the Variétés.

They need English speaking volunteers and if anybody in BAM is interested or knows anyone who would like to help please send an email to Virginie Connell disney@disney-art.org

Planning Ahead – BAM QBP 14th June – You may have missed the free concert for the Bicentenary of the Carabinieris du Prince on this coming 10th March as it has been sold out but you will have the chance to hear the band play at the BAM Queen's Birthday Party (QBP) again this year on 14th June. We'll keep you posted on this important annual BAM event.

Gardening – a Plea for Chaos

I return constantly to Mirabel Osler's enchanting book "A Gentle Plea for Chaos". Not only does she write romantically about gardening as few others do, but she echoes all I believe about what a garden should be.

In my own garden, situated on the side of a mountain in the South of France, brought more or less back from a wilderness of unpleasing chaos, I have kept and cherished all the wild flowers I found there. I have also been guilty of digging up certain wild plants and bringing them into the garden.

I console myself by saying that I am preserving them from extinction from the now general slaughter of the roadside borders, which takes place here every year. This certainly applies to the feathery *dorichium* now lost here in the wild by the passing commercial scythes.

This little plant has rewarded me greatly in its new surroundings, growing rapidly and producing many small babies for further transplanting.

My garden consists of old stone terraces, constricting what I may or may not do in garden design but harbour the wild deep pink *valerian*, *centranthus ruber*, and the enchanting little ivy-leaved *toadflax*, *linaria cymbalaria*, and several small *sedums* whose names I do not know.

Wild box from the mountains adds shape in places and the huge spires of *Acanthus Mollis* give an architectural feature of unprecedented quality.

This grows wild locally and shocked my old gardener when I produced it, "But, Madame, this is a weed" he said sadly shaking his head. However, he began to see what I was "getting at", the juxtaposition of the wild with the cultivated, and he rushed off into the mountains to bring back the handsome strawberry tree, *arbutus unedo*, the smoke bush *rhus cotinus*, and several lavenders and rosemaries. The same was said of the "stinking hellebore", *helleborus foetidus*, a most welcome plant, flowering early in the spring with its green "bells" bordered with a red stripe.

The wonderful *Aloe Americana* piercing through the borders is also of the greatest architectural value. These were growing in the garden when we bought the property ; known as the Century plants for their longevity, and although not native to Europe, have naturalised themselves on banks, mountainsides and in gardens.

Birds have helped too, bringing seeds from goodness knows where. I have found an extraordinary euphorbia – *caper purge*, or *euphorbia lathyris*, pushing its way up in several places NOT where I, or anyone else planted it, but where it looks supremely happy.

This year, for the first time, I have found the wild garlic mustard, *alliarica officinalis* growing in the flower beds. Bird sown I ask myself? I know it is a weed - "a plant growing in the wrong place", but for me this is the right place and very handsome it is pushing up through other plants.

Wild figwort, *scrophularia nodosa*, has found its way into some of the flower beds;- an enchanting plant with tiny little foxglove like red flowers but after it has withered it is best removed as it tends to look limp and straggly. The wildly *anemone blanda* or *hortensis* has introduced itself into what I euphemistically call my lawns as have bee orchids and *serapias*.

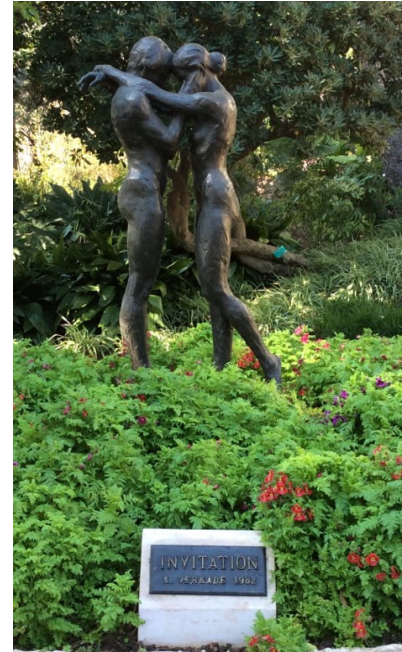
The Spanish broom, *spartium junceum*, is another welcome plant seeding itself generously everywhere; the strong scent in May and early June adding an extra bonus. It sometimes sows itself too generously so severe measures have to be taken to remove it or transplant it to other quarters and I prune it hard after flowering to keep it in a good shape.

I purposely let climbing roses ramp and straggle as much as possible, only removing dead wood as occasion demands – the shrubs I prune are *buddleias*, *spireas*, *cotoneasters*, *kolwitzias* and *philadelphus*, but only once a year and after they have flowered because I do not want the garden to look like a public park.

Naturally, some plants such as box, *teucriums* and lavenders have to be trimmed to keep them from becoming blowsy but as a general rule plants are left to "do their own thing" Nature usually knows best and we should generally let ourselves be guided by her. - Joanna Millar – garden enthusiast

Monaco Sights - Invitation by Kess Verkade

This sculpture can be seen in Saint Martin's Garden on the Rock in Monaco. *Invitation* is a beautiful statue and most appropriate as it was Valentine's Day recently.



Kess Verkade was born in 1941 in Haarlem, Holland; he is a Dutch artist and sculptor, he specializes in modelling the human form with an emphasis on movement and emotion. Most of his works are set in Bronze, several of which are sited around Monaco.

BAM Past Events – Burns Night



The BAM Burns Supper was a lovely and very relaxed evening. The Haggis was Piped in by the delightful Kamran who joined us from Edinburgh and the Address was performed with his usual flair by Andrew Riley.

Our thanks to all who joined us and to Annette at Stars 'n' Bars for making us so welcome and indulging the Scottish theme.

Thank you also to Hugh Mitford Raymond for his generous donation of a hamper for the raffle won by a very happy guest. It was good to see a South African in a kilt!



BAM Planned Events – Lunches at Lycée Technique (Cordon d'Or)

BAM is very excited to have been asked to help the students at the Lycée Technique to improve their English. The plan is to organise lunches at the Cordon d'Or once a month attended by BAM members who will speak to the students in English (ordering, asking questions about the food etc). At the end of the meal, BAM members will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire to help the Lycée assess the students' progress in English. The lunches are 16€ for 3 courses and are usually very popular. As soon as we have the dates from the Lycée, we will send out details to members. The Lycée is happy to organise tables of different sizes to suit any groups. However bookings will have to be received at least one week in advance. Watch this space!

BAM PATRONS



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MEB - MONACO ECONOMIC BOARD



Abercrombie & Kent

The BAM Patrons Scheme was formally launched on 6th May 2003 as a joint venture between the British Association and local businesses. It raises funds for BAM to help it to fulfil its community wide role, whilst also providing businesses with regular exposure to BAM members. The annual contribution to BAM helps the association in planning and meeting its many obligations within the community.

Our Patrons have regular items in the BAM News and on our website allowing the patrons to showcase their business to the BAM members. Patrons are also active in sponsoring our events and receive acknowledgments in the accompanying literature.

The successful Patrons scheme has helped to raise the profile of BAM and strengthen our links with the local business community, helping us to add to our membership and publishing our events to a wider audience.

Patron Events - Abercrombie & Kent

Escape the Grand Prix with the perfect weekend away!

The Monaco Grand Prix - fast cars, great parties and LOTS of people. Not your cup of tea? Abercrombie & Kent are here to help! Here are some of their favourite gems, perfect for an easy weekend break and all easily accessible with direct flights from Nice.

If you've ever wanted to walk among the Tsars in St Petersburg, this year's the year. Celebrating 100 years since the Russian revolution, Russia is full of celebration and St. Petersburg, Russia's grown jewel, is the perfect destination for a cultured escape. Enjoy the ballet at the exquisite Mariinsky Theatre. Take afternoon tea at the Four Seasons Lion Palace followed by an after-hours tour of the Hermitage with your A&K guide. Gain private access to the priceless bejewelled eggs at the Fabergé Museum or visit the original citadel of St. Petersburg and Paul Fortress.

Equally accessible for the weekend is Prague where you can enjoy spectacular views over the city from Petrian Hill. Indulge your sweet tooth with a trdelnik, a hot sugar coated pastry at Prague's world renowned markets or sit back and relax on unpronounceable local microbrews at one of the ancient pubs around the Old Town. To walk it off, A&k recommends a casual stroll over the landmark Charles Bridge having spent the morning hopping from one Museum to the next along the broad boulevard of Wenceslas Square.

A long-time A&K favourite is Vienna, with its locally produced wines and delicious authentic food. Lazy afternoons can be spent wondering from one bar to the next along the cobbled streets of the city's historic district. Also not to be missed is a visit to Mozart's apartment, the composer's only former resident still standing, followed by a traditional sachertorte at Central Cafe, one of the most popular and famous for Austrian pastries.

Or for a Scandinavian experience, Stockholm offers style and sophistication. Stay overlooking the Harbour at the Grand Hotel and enjoy delicious Nordic cuisine and its two Michelin-starred restaurant. Discover a different side to the city with a rooftop tour at sunrise accompanied by your A&K guide, followed by a traditional 'fika' for breakfast - a coffee with something sweet - while your guide continues your tour through Stockholm's Old Town to uncover one of the largest and best preserved medieval city centres in Europe.

For more information and price on any of the packages above please contact Abercrombie & Kent on +377 97 98 53 33 or book an appointment online to visit us in store in the Monte Carlo Palace

BAM Partners

The BAM 'Partners' Scheme offers BAM members with exclusive discounts on a range of products & services. Present your current BAM Membership card and our 'Partners' listed below will be delighted to give you their special BAM offers.

Bernasconi—Jewellery & Accessories, 18 Quai Jean Charles Rey, Fontvieille, Monaco + (377) 92 05 23 96 (10% off ticket prices)

Brigitte Wendebaum - Elderly care, Personal Assistance Help with daily tasks, Services à la Personne, Aide à Domicile (10% off tariff - see LinkedIn page for tariff) Mobile: 0607938568 email: brigittewendebaum@gmail.com <https://fr.linkedin.com/in/brigitte-wendebaum-33219a30>

Columbus Monaco—Hotel 23, avenue des Papalins, Fontvieille, Monaco + (377) 92 05 92 22 (special price on rooms)

Daniele de Winter—Natural Beauty Products 2 Ave des Ligures, Fontvieille, Monaco + (377) 99 99 99 39 (10% off on product range)

Fab and Wine—Wine Research Centre + 33 (0)4 93 78 50 50 Fax: + 33 (0)4 93 78 50 60 Email: info@fabandwine.com (10% off list of prices)

...continued →

Gastaldi—Florist & Floral Decorations Best Flowers—+ (377) 92 05 29 90 Gastaldi Fleurs— + (377) 93 30 94 18 Florilys— + (377) 93 30 31 66 (10% off bouquets and plants)

Manufacture de Monaco—Decorative tableware & home accessories: Le Metropole C.C., 17 avenue des Spelugues, Monaco + (377) 93 50 64 63 (10% off Monaco porcelain prices)

Piqueroque— Provencal vineyard Domaine de Piqueroque, Rte de Cabasse, 83340 Flassans sur Isole, Var + 33 (0)4 94 37 30 71 (10% off wines at Domaine)

Rejuvenate—Beauty Institute (English spoken) Palais de la Scala, 1 ave Henri Dunant, Monaco + (377) 97 70 36 86 (10% off beauty treatments)

Bits and Bytes – Making Memories

One of the advantages of a smart phone is being able to take pictures wherever you are... but the downside is that you end up with hundreds of photos which never get looked at again. These two options in instant printers could provide a simple solution, letting you print a copy or copies of a favourite picture ‘instantly’.



They both work through Bluetooth and use the ‘ink free’ coloured paper technology to make the images. The HP printer also prints onto sticky backed paper to create instant stickers as well. They both print 2x3 inch photos and currently cost around 50 cents a photo for the paper. A nice way to keep and share a memento with friends and family.

The XYZprinting da Vinci mini 3D printer is a brightly coloured mini 3D printer producing 3D objects up to 6 inches cubed. It comes with free software to plan your own projects and a gallery of ideas to try. These printers are becoming affordable and easier to use. One to watch for the future!



Obituary – Janis Hotter de Cazalis (†2017)

Janis Hotter de Cazalis a member of BAM for forty years passed away peacefully in February. She was a very kind and gentle person and will be missed by her friends in the Principality. May she Rest in Peace.

BAM Committee 2016

Vanessa Ilsley	- President	Marie Hayward	- Member
Stephen Bull	- Vice-President	John Luigi Megginson	- Member
Sarah O'Connor	- Honorary Treasurer	Lincoln Phipps	- Member
Spooky Cooper	- Honorary Secretary	Petrina Tedeschi	- Member
Eric Blair – Ex-officio member. Honorary Consul - British Honorary Consulate in Monaco.			

British Association of Monaco
BP 41, MC 98001 Monaco Cedex

Phone +377 93 50 19 52
Web: www.bam-monaco.org

Email: bam@monaco.mc