



November Bulletin 2024

AGM
Monday 7th April 2025 Leeds and Harrogate

WANTED

**AIVC Chairperson &
National Development**

Could it be YOU or do you know somebody who would be ideal ?

Please submit events by Wednesday 11th December for inclusion in the December bulletin

Secretary's Update

National Development (NDO) Vacancy

Sadly, our National Development Officer, Aled Roberts, has decided to stand down from his post for now. As well as having a responsible, full-time day job and being Chair of Chester IVC, Aled is also a local Councillor and has connections with a number of other local organisations. He will continue as an active member of IVC, especially within Chester, so you can expect to see him around in the future.

That, of course, means we have another committee vacancy. We are actively looking to co-opt someone to this post for the remainder of our year (up to April 2025), with a view to possibly standing for election at the AGM. It's a wide-ranging post, covering publicity, membership recruitment/retention and expansion of the network. If you think you may have something to offer, please contact: secretary@aivc.org.uk, or tel 07847 200146. We don't expect you to change the world overnight but you might want to dip your toes in the water? No travel involved – we meet via Zoom.

Members' Forum

Thanks to those who attended the on-line Members' Forum for local committee members, organised by Aled. We hope to continue this on an occasional basis in the future with a different NDO or another member of the committee. A number of helpful ideas were shared on publicity and membership recruitment.

AIVC Conference, Leeds, April 2025

The Conference will start early evening on Sunday 6 April, and a social programme is then planned from Monday through to Thursday morning. The AGM will be held on Monday afternoon at a city centre location (The Carriageworks, Millennium Square) for those who wish to attend. We hope to issue the full programme and booking form no later than January next year. Thanks to our Leeds/Harrogate members for all their hard work to date!

November Committee Meeting

Apart from Conference, the main items covered in our last committee meeting were:

Website, with progress reported on the events function, moving the project nearer to completion.

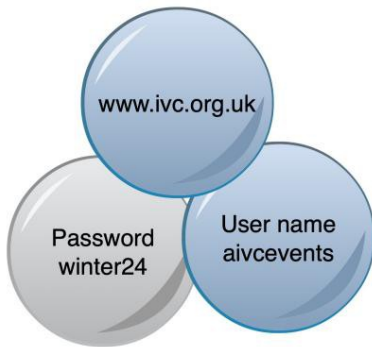
Helping clubs to connect with one another via social media, eg Facebook, WhatsApp, Signal, website blog/bulletin board (discussion ongoing).

Meet-Up, and the impact on some clubs of increased charges. AIVC have no control over this and have no official links with Meet-Up, but will offer clubs a sub-domain of the new aIVC website when launched, with events and membership management systems.

Next meeting: Monday 6 January 2025.

Aivc Committee

Chairperson	Position not filled	
Secretary	Sylvia Arnold	07847200146
Treasurer	Joan Parkinson	01422 374540
Webmaster	Phil Riches	07918142726
Events officer	Nick Wilkinson	0151 4310690
National Development	Vacant	
Newsperson	Julie Plumley	07896735820



www.ivc.org.uk

User name aivcevents

Password winter24

Please check the website on a regular basis as events may have been added or changed.

If you have an event worth sharing please add to the National website



Step 1 www.ivc.org.uk use club officer login

Step 2 Menu bar, events

Step 3 Add national events

Step 4 Complete details as per instructions

Step 5 Add event (at bottom of page)

Text must include the word HOLIDAY

Did you know that once registered on the aIVC website as a local officer, you can request a new sign-in which gives you 'member' access instead of just 'guest' access? This means that amongst other things you can add events directly to the national diary for circulation on behalf of any of your club members. (Non committee members , can of course view the diary using the details shown at the top of this bulletin.) So make the most of your enhanced access and get sharing !

Sylvia

Julie Plumley newsperson@aivc.org.uk

FEATURED AND EXTENDED PERIOD EVENTS

This is a list of featured and extended period events that are worth an early mention.

HULL NEARLY BY THE SEASIDE, A SHORT CITY BREAK

Sun 24 Nov 2024 to Thu 28 Nov 2024

Book By: Let Pete know you are coming

A WEEK IN TROMSO, NORWAY

Sun 16 Mar 2025 to Sun 23 Mar 2025

SUMMER SOLSTICE CAMPING AT SHELL ISLAND

Sun 15 Jun 2025 to Sun 22 Jun 2025

IF:MK - INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL MILTON KEYNES

Fri 18 Jul 2025 to Sun 27 Jul 2025

NOVEMBER

THURSDAY 21 19.30 -21.00

CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION



Our weekly current affairs chat on zoom returns after a Summer break. Nina leads an informal Zoom chat on the topic of What's in the News. Tonight's topic will be Is Ethical Government Possible? Bring along a drink and be ready to join a friendly debate. This is a well-supported event with folks from IVC clubs around the country as well as Meetups.

Click on [Current Affairs](#). You will enter the waiting room and Nina will invite you into the event. Turn on sound and video. If this is your first zoom you will be invited to sign up. Its easy and free. You will then be able to see and hear the rest of the team live.

Contact Details: Nina Willis Shared From: London IVC

THURSDAY 21 20.00-22.00

GERMAN LINGUISTS ONLINE



If you speak any level of German please join this Zoom meeting of members of London and other IVCs for an hour or so of not-too-serious German conversation. The ID is 3053410295 and the password 0eeU9A. Bis dann alles Gute.

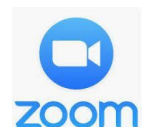
Contact Details: John Edwards (07833 895920; wienerwalzer@talktalk.net).

Venue Website: zoom.us/j/3053410295

Shared From: London IVC

FRIDAY 22 19.30 – 01.00

ZOOM: QUIZ, LIVE PERFORMERS, MUSIC VIDEOS, CHAT



A very popular evening of friendly chat, a pub quiz, live entertainment and sharing music videos. A great way to start the weekend. We get together online every Friday for a great mostly musical evening using Zoom.

Expect a pub style quiz of 30 general knowledge questions, live entertainment (singers, musicians, poetry and magic), music videos (requests taken) and friendly chat. Finishes at 1am!

This is a popular event that consistently attracts 20-25 people over the course of the evening - folks come and go when they like. We are joined by folks from other IVC clubs around the country and Meetups around the world that have included Dublin, Berlin, Moscow, the Middle East and the USA.

To join us click on **Friday Night is Music Night** Follow any online instructions. If its your first Zoom event you will be invited to sign up which is free and easy. You will enter the waiting room and Dave will invite you into the zoom room. Turn on sound and video.

Contact Details: Dave Lawrence 07714 628507 Shared From: London IVC

SUNDAY 24 TO THURSDAY 28

HULL NEARLY BY THE SEASIDE, A SHORT CITY BREAK

Travelodge Hull Central at Pryme St, Hull HU2 8HR

Book By: (Let Pete know you are coming)

Its a pre-Christmas holiday in Hull at edge of England. This is a well tried formula that we have used at Hereford, Oxford, York(Jackie Haywood ran York), Liverpool, Leeds, Chester and Sheffield. The idea is to explore locally what the city as to offer. This trip is during the week, we are all getting older and most of us retired and weekends are really for working people. During the week, it can be cheaper and longer. Come and go when you want.

Hull, or Kingston upon Hull, is a port city in East Yorkshire, England. Where the River Hull meets the Humber Estuary, The Deep aquarium is a futuristic building with an underwater viewing tunnel and hands-on displays. In the old town's Museums Quarter, the Streetlife Museum focuses on modes of transport. Wilberforce House, birthplace of William Wilberforce, documents the abolition of the slave trade.

Hull has a wonderful diverse food and drink scene. that caters to all budgets and occasions. Whether you're into fine-dining or the idea of street food, the city has you covered. So, from artisanal coffee in industrial-chic settings to the kind of burritos that can resurrect you post night out, Hull's got it all. If you are fans of the hearty, indulgent foodie spots that will get you through a day spent exploring the city
To make things simple for the organiser, book your own rooms. Travelodge Hull Central at Pryme St, Hull HU2 8HR cost me £216 for 4 nights.

Hotel is 6 minutes walk from the train station. If coming by car if you most the hotel as limited parking but addition parking available locally. Breakfast is available at the hotel, with loads of other options again locally.

During holiday all participants will be added to a What's Ap group. This works brilliantly and enables us to keep in touch and organise where we go.

Please let me know when you are coming! With your email address and mobile number.

Peter Howe 07944 880722
towerpete@aol.com

THURSDAY 28 19.00-21.00

CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION



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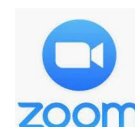
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THURSDAY 28 20.00-22.00

FRENCH LINGUISTS ONLINE



The French Linguists Group invites all French speakers of whatever level to an evening of informal conversation in French with IVC members from London and countrywide. We will use Zoom and the ID is 3053410295 and the password is 0eeU9A. A bientôt.

Contact Details: John Edwards (07833 895920; wienerwalzer@talktalk.net).

Venue Website: zoom.us/j/3053410295

Shared From: London IVC

Friday 29 - 19:30 to 01:00

ZOOM: QUIZ, LIVE PERFORMERS, MUSIC VIDEOS, CHAT



Note later start time for just this week

A very popular evening of friendly chat, a pub quiz, live entertainment and sharing music videos.

A great way to start the weekend. We get together online every Friday for a great mostly musical evening using Zoom.

Expect a pub style quiz of 30 general knowledge questions, live entertainment (singers, musicians, poetry and magic), music videos (requests taken) and friendly chat. Finishes at 1am!

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MARCH 2025

SUNDAY 16 TO SUNDAY 23

A WEEK IN TROMSO, NORWAY

Smart Hotel Vestregata 6 Tromso 9008 (Click for Map)

Price: See booking.com for price details

Join Bristol & Bath Simply Social for a week in Tromso in northern Norway situated 35 km above the arctic circle.

Flights from Bristol on Sunday 16 March 2025 via Easyjet, leaving 15:10 and returning Sunday 23 March 2025 at 20:20. A few of us are coming back on the earlier flight on Thursday 20 March.

We are staying at the Smart Hotel in the centre of Tromso. Breakfast is not included but can be purchased as extra. There are lots of other hotels nearby to choose from.

Tromso has plenty of museums, art galleries, a cable car and lots of places to eat or drink.

There are lots of trips that can be taken from Tromso- boat trips, husky sledding, meeting and feeding reindeer etc. Also hopefully we may see the northern lights.

Any questions please contact Sara via email sara27300@gmail.com

Contact Details: Sara - email sara27300@gmail.com

JUNE 2025

SUNDAY 15 TO SUNDAY 22

SUMMER SOLSTICE CAMPING AT SHELL ISLAND

Sun 15 Jun 2025 to Sun 22 Jun

Shell Island Llanbedr Gwynedd North Wales LL45 2PJ (Click for Map)

How to find us: It is impossible to predict where on the site we will be setting camp. There are favourite places but other campers may already occupy them.

Shell Island is a remote, stunningly beautiful place, accessed by a tidal causeway. There is just one road, squeezed between Shell and the Rhinog Mountains. There are rolling sand dunes and a harbour, all to be experienced on 2025's longest day. Lying on the Welsh coast between Harlech and Barmouth the facilities are excellent (hot showers, restaurant, pub, shops and laundrette). It is low density and in some areas almost wild. It is possible to camp 15 minutes walk away from the central amenities. As most children are in school, the campsite is quiet and the roads clear. In the evenings we walk, barbecue and discuss what we will be doing the following day. Also, we visit local restaurants. Bring a tent, wine and walking boots. There is not enough space here to list the many attractions, so go to www.visitwales.com and look at both North Wales and Mid Wales.

Saturday, 21st June 2025, is the longest day and the first day of summer. Join Merseyside IVC for seven nights under canvas at Shell Island, from Sunday, 15th June and leaving on Sunday 22nd June 2025. The 2024 price was £10.75 per person per night. Bookings may be made online at the Shell Island website. Stay for just as long as you wish.

The event will be co-ordinated on the 'IVC Events' page on Facebook. To see some pictures from earlier years go to https://www.flickr.com/photos/nick_wilkinson_merseyside/4653178969/ and look at the following 26 photographs.

Contact Details: The organiser is Nick Wilkinson on 07764 303 755. Ask any questions on the IVC Events page, so that everyone can see.

Venue Website: www.shellisland.co.uk/

JULY 2025

FRIDAY 18 TO SUNDAY 27

IF:MK - INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL MILTON KEYNES

International Festival at various venues around Milton Keynes

How to find us: Book with valgommon@gmail.com to arrange details

Price: Free - ££

Tickets / Register: ifmiltonkeynes.org/about

Come to sunny Milton Keynes for our bi-annual multi-arts festival! Stay for the day, a week or 10 days! We aren't just concrete cows and MKDONS, Milton Keynes offers so much more, come and find out!

IF: Milton Keynes International Festival was founded in 2010 and takes place every two years. It is produced by The Stables, one of the UK's leading music organisations and venues, based in Milton Keynes.

Described as Milton Keynes' mini Edinburgh Festival. The festival has been recognized for its artistic program, and in 2024/2025 it was awarded the EFFE Label, which recognizes it as one of Europe's most remarkable festivals.

Creating unique and memorable experiences, the Festival is designed to encourage residents and visitors to see a different side to Milton Keynes. Presenting a world-class, multi-arts programme the Festival includes new commissions, site-specific and community participation projects, large-scale/outdoor and family events, concerts, theatre, dance, music and visual arts installations.

Engaging over a million people in seven previous editions (2010 - 2023), the Festival takes place in locations across Milton Keynes, including parks, public squares, commercial and retail spaces, as well as in the online and digital realm.

The Festival is supported by Arts Council England and Milton Keynes Council, and also raises funds through trusts and foundations and partnerships with individuals and businesses.

Venue Website: ifmiltonkeynes.org/about



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