



## October Bulletin 2024

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# AGM 2025

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 Leeds and Harrogate (**Details to follow later**)

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### **NEW**

March 2025 A week in Tromso Norway

June 2025 Camping at Shell Island Summer Solstice

July 2025 Milton Keynes International Festival

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Please submit events by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November for inclusion in the November bulletin

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## Secretaries Update

### Open Forum for Club Committee Members

Aled, our National Development Officer, organised a successful discussion forum on Zoom at the end of September, where helpful ideas were shared on expanding club membership and encouraging more members to organise events. Look out for the next one!

### **Remember, remember ...!**

If you are planning any celebrations for Guy Fawkes Night, please remember that the terms of our insurance effectively exclude claims made within the context of private bonfire or fireworks parties - far better to arrange a get-together at a community-organised event.

### **Committee Updates**

Many clubs have their AGM's around this time of year. If there have been recent changes to your committee (or earlier ones we don't know about), please let us have contact details so we can send the monthly e-bulletin to the right people, and delete any who are no longer on your committee. A telephone number is also useful for occasional use where necessary. Please forward updated contact information to both [secretary@aivc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@aivc.org.uk) and [webmaster@aivc.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@aivc.org.uk). New committee members may request enhanced website access by contacting our Webmaster, Phil.

### **Conference 2025**

We hope to have more information on this after our next committee meeting. The AGM will be held in Leeds on the afternoon of **Monday 7 April** in Leeds, but there will be social events, visits and meals for **all** members of local clubs – not just committee members. It's a chance to meet up with others and celebrate all things IVC! Why not get together a group from your own club and either share cars or travel the easy way by train? Look out for the final dates and full programme.

### **Next Committee Meeting**

The next aIVC committee meeting will be held on Monday 11 November.

## Aivc Committee

**Chairperson Position not filled**

**Secretary Sylvia Arnold 07847200146**

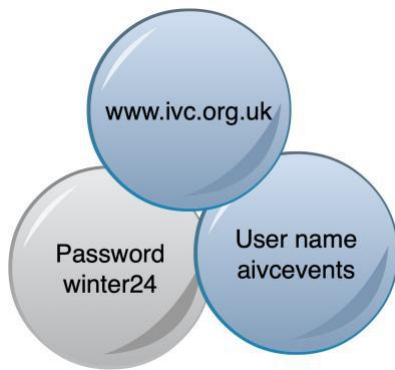
**Treasurer Joan Parkinson 01422 374540**

**Webmaster Phil Riches 07918142726**

**Events officer Nick Wilkinson 0151 4310690**

**National Development Aled Roberts 07971 520753**

**News person Julie Plumley 07896735820**



[www.ivc.org.uk](http://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](http://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 [news@ivc.org.uk](mailto:news@ivc.org.uk)

**FEATURED AND EXTENDED PERIOD EVENTS**

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

<p><b>MINI BREAK TO LIVERPOOL</b> ★ Sun 20 Oct 2024 to Wed 23 Oct 2024</p>
<p><b>WEEKEND IN OXFORD</b> Fri 1 Nov 2024 to Sun 3 Nov 2024 Book By: 16/Oct/2024</p>
<p><b>HULL NEARLY BY THE SEASIDE, A SHORT CITY BREAK</b> Sun 24 Nov 2024 to Thu 28 Nov 2024 Book By: Let Pete know you are coming</p>
<p><b>A WEEK IN TROMSO, NORWAY</b> Sun 16 Mar 2025 to Sun 23 Mar 2025</p>
<p><b>SUMMER SOLSTICE CAMPING AT SHELL ISLAND</b> Sun 15 Jun 2025 to Sun 22 Jun 2025</p>
<p><b>IF:MK - INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL MILTON KEYNES</b> Fri 18 Jul 2025 to Sun 27 Jul 2025</p>

## OCTOBER 2024

### Sunday 20 to Wednesday 23

#### MINI BREAK TO LIVERPOOL

**Staying at the Travel Lodge Central, 25 Old Haymarket**

**How to find us:** Contact ; [triciahealy@live.co.uk](mailto:triciahealy@live.co.uk) or text 07815178597 for details and to arrange to meet.

A small group from Leeds is staying at the Travellodge for three nights to sample the sites of Liverpool. We were at the AIVC AGM in May, and had a good time and thought we would come back.

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### Thursday 24 19.00 to 21.00 hrs



#### CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION

Our weekly current affairs caht on zoom returns after a Summer break. Nina leads an informal Zoom chat on the topic of What's in the News. Tonights topic will be announced closer to the date.

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

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### Thursday 24 20.00 to 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; [wienervalzer@talktalk.net](mailto:wienervalzer@talktalk.net)).

**Venue Website:** [zoom.us/j/3053410295](https://zoom.us/j/3053410295)

**Shared From:** London IVC

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### Friday 25 19.30 to 01.00



#### ZOOM: QUIZ, LIVE PERFORMERS, MUSIC VIDEOS, CHAT

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

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### Thursday 31 19.00 to 21.00



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**Contact Details:** Nina Willis Shared From: London IVC

**NOVEMBER 2024**

**Friday 1st to Sunday 3**

**WEEKEND IN OXFORD**

**The King's Arms Pub** [OX1 3SP \(Click for Map\)](#)

**How to find us:** 40 Holywell Street,



**Book By:** Wed 16/Oct/2024 (The first event of our weekend.)

Please join Oxfordshire IVC for a social weekend of events in Oxford. This is our take on celebrating World Cities Day (although ours is a weekend!).

You can come and join us for the whole weekend or just a day or two. Just book or make enquiries with me, Frances Hart.

We start with a social pub evening on the Friday evening. Coffee morning on Saturday - followed by dinner in the evening. Sunday morning there will be a historical walk around Oxford with a talk on what makes Oxford the city it is renowned for. (All events chosen for their link to something historical).

For anyone interested, please contact me as I can also provide information about other tours/interests that you could do in your own time. Together with some suggestions on where to book accommodation. All events will be held in Oxford City.

**Contact Details:** [Frances.hart3@me.com](mailto:Frances.hart3@me.com) 07718287890

**Venue Website:** [Oxfordshireivc.org.com](http://Oxfordshireivc.org.com)

Image by expedia

**Tuesday 5 20.00 to 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 OeeU9A.

Bis dann alles Gute.

**Contact Details:** John Edwards (07833 895920; [wienervalzer@talktalk.net](mailto:wienervalzer@talktalk.net)).

**Venue Website:** [zoom.us/j/3053410295](https://zoom.us/j/3053410295)

**Shared From:** London IVC

**Thursday 7 11.30 to 16.00-**

**STOWE HOUSE, LUNCH AND NORMANDY D-DAY INSTALLATION**

from the Stowe car park (MK18 5EQ).  
For Your Tomorrow Stowe House, Buckingham MK18 5EH  
[MK18 5EH \(Click for Map\)](#)

**How to find us:** Meet at the entrance

**Price:** Prices below

**Book By:** (Please book at [valgommon@gmail.com](mailto:valgommon@gmail.com))



**Tickets / Register:** [Email Valerie - we will try to get a group discount](#)

We plan to meet at Stowe House at 11.30 to explore the house.

Lunch at the cafe: 1 - 2.30pm

Explore the gardens and Normandy D-Day Installation | © Jules and Bean

You are welcome to do just the house/lunch/garden and exhibition or spend the day with us.

Stowe Gardens is the UK's official host for the British D-Day 80 memorial exhibition 'For Your Tomorrow'.

A memorial installation to soldiers killed in the D Day landing on 6 June 1944 is now on display at Stowe Gardens.

We are the UK's official host of the commemoration. The large-scale art installation consists of 1,475 silhouettes of

Second World War military personnel. The exhibition is installed in Stowe's Grecian Valley, which is around a 2000m

(1.2 mile) walk – the People's Tribute was created by community artist, Dan Barton with the number of figures in the

display representing the number of fatalities under British command on 6 June 1944.

**Tanya Brittain, General Manager of the National Trust gardens at Stowe says, "It's an honour to be chosen as the official UK host location for the British D-Day 80 memorial exhibition, For Your Tomorrow – the People's Tribute.**

**"This autumn is an opportunity to remember family, friends and colleagues lost in conflict situations over the past 80 years. Stowe has a rich military history and we look forward to welcoming visitors to experience this poignant outdoor art installation against the stunning backdrop of the Stowe's historic Landscape Gardens.**

**"The 18th-century landscape garden at Stowe is well known for its many historic buildings and statues and has also featured in many well-known films and TV series. The Capability Brown designed landscape is renowned for its precise placement of eye-catching monuments to create the picture-perfect view. Its beautiful avenues, temples and lakes will provide an impressive outdoor gallery space and backdrop for this celebrated artwork."**

The silhouettes are designed to represent the military personnel from all the major services but in addition, two bespoke figures of nurses have been included. They are of Sister Mollie Evershed and Sister Dorothy Field who died while helping to save 75 men from the hospital ship SS Amsterdam which sank off the Normandy beaches on 7th August 1944.

Both were given posthumous commendation for their actions and are the only two women commemorated on the British Normandy Memorial.

Artist Dan Barton has delivered several impactful military-based displays since founding Oxfordshire-based charity Standing with Giants. The life-size figures are constructed entirely by volunteers, using recycled building materials and create meaningful spaces for people to visit and reflect.

**"Our ethos at Standing with Giants is to value life, to understand and appreciate why we have our freedom, and to remember and pay tribute to those who have fallen so we can live the lives we have today. Using outdoor art is a great way to do this," said Standing with Giants Founder, Dan Barton.**

**Stowe House:**

Adult: £9.50, National Trust Member Adult: £7.50,

Historic Houses: Free with valid membership (Group price is £7.50 if we can get that - I'm trying!)

**Gardens and exhibition:**

National Trust members free. Normal entry price to the garden applies for non-members: £15.00 for adults.

The Stowe land-train will be available during normal opening hours, running continuously between New Inn and the Grecian Valley daily from 10:30am, until 11 November. This costs £3 per person, each way. Tickets available from New Inn Visitor Centre. Departing from the coach park every 30 minutes. First come, first-seated.

**Contact Details:** Valerie Gommon

**Venue Website:** [www.stowe.co.uk/house](http://www.stowe.co.uk/house)

Image by Wikipedia

## **Tuesday 12 20.00 to 22.00**



### **FRENCH LINGUISTS ONLINE**

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**Venue Website:** [zoom.us/j/3053410295](https://zoom.us/j/3053410295)

**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](mailto:towerpete@aol.com)

Image by wikipedia

## **Thursday 28 20.00 to 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; [wienervalzer@talktalk.net](mailto:wienervalzer@talktalk.net)).

**Venue Website:** [zoom.us/j/3053410295](https://zoom.us/j/3053410295)

**Shared From:** London IVC

## **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](mailto:sara27300@gmail.com)

**Contact Details:** Sara - email [sara27300@gmail.com](mailto:sara27300@gmail.com)

image by go fjords

## **JUNE 2025**

### **Sunday 15 to Sunday 22**



#### **SUMMER SOLSTICE CAMPING AT SHELL ISLAND**

**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](http://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/](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/](http://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](mailto:valgommon@gmail.com) to arrange details



**Price:** Free - ££

**Tickets / Register:** [ifmiltonkeynes.org/about](http://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](http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/about)

image outdoor arts uk

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