

**Bulletin municipal**

**ARGENS - MINERVOIS**

**Un nouvel arrêt sécurisé  
pour les enfants des écoles**



**OCTOBRE 2017**

**n°80**

[www.argens-minervois.com](http://www.argens-minervois.com)

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# BULLETIN MUNICIPAL N°80

## From the Mayor



The summer has not exactly been quiet in the village, and we anticipate the autumn to be just as busy.

A number of projects have been completed or are in the process of being undertaken across the commune:

- Rue Jules Ferry - resurfacing, the creation of a pavement and a layby to ensure the bus stops safely;
- renewing the fencing of the school to comply with regulations;
- a new roof for a property owned by the village in rue de l'Ancienne Forge;
- resurfacing of the road and creation of parking spaces in allée des Rosiers;
- resurfacing of chemin de la Rivière Grande;
- updating of street lighting in avenue Platanes, chemin du Gué and rue de la Belle Aude.

A last piece of work is planned for the end of the year – the repair and new lining of the village water tower.

The Council is considering other work for the future, for the comfort and security of all those in the village. However, a serious question challenges us for the future - a question many mayors ask themselves: what will be the future level of funding by the state to the communes? For several years this funding has been decreasing, and, with the abolition of the housing tax for the majority, what levels can we expect in the short and medium term? Into the future, can we invest for our villages, can we manage with decreasing budgets? We will have no choice but to reduce our operating and capital expenditures.

One of the perverse effects of the decline in state subsidies to local authorities is the decrease in investment at the expense of local businesses, growth and employment. This is the end of the modernisation of our public facilities. It is increasing the debt of the communes, risking the insolvency of councils. Our council is already thinking of solutions to reduce its expenses, but continue to invest and support our village.

Many festive events have marked our summer and more will take place in autumn:

- a musical evening in May;
- Argens celebrated during the month of June;
- our traditional Republican meal and entertaining evening;
- fishing competitions;
- Petanque competitions every Friday night
- the trail des Aiguilles.

I thank all the volunteers, the associations and their members, as well as the council's workers for their time and energy invested for all the activities and works during this summer period.

Rest assured that, with our resources and our commitment, we continue to do everything to defend the best interests of our village.

Le Maire, Gérard Garcia





SIVOS



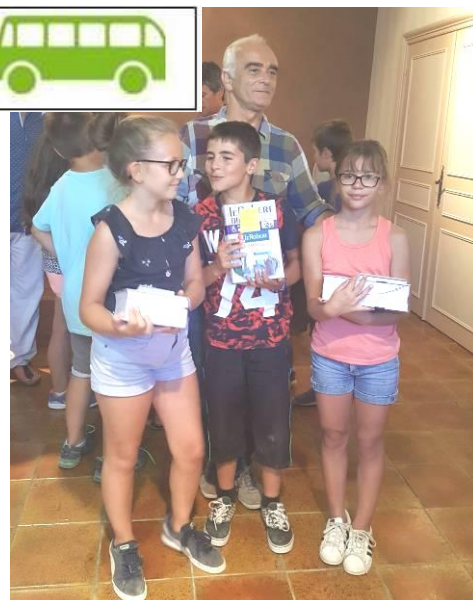
## The start of the new school year

This year M Trevisan welcomed 27 children in his class: 9 CM1 and 18 CM2.

The programme for the year will comprise, among other things: outings to the theatre and sports events, notably the long distance run in Lezignan in March.

## Gifts for those children on their way to Year 6

The now traditional distribution of dictionaries to those children leaving CM2 to take up their place at college took place in Roubia on 19 June. The small ceremony took place in the presence of parents, M Trevisan and the members of SIVOS (Syndicat Intercommunal à Vocation Scolaire).



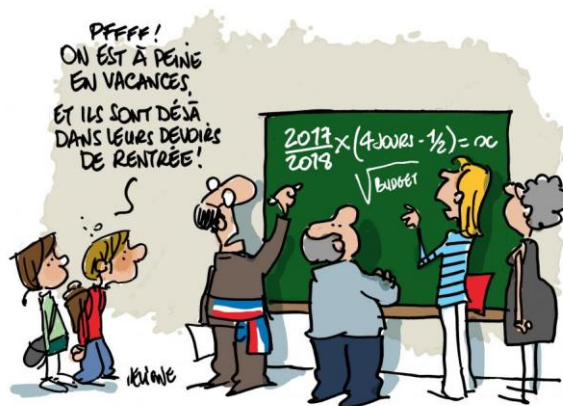
This year, 15 pupils received their books, of which three were from Argens – Basile, Marion and Lilibelle. They were delighted to receive their gift, and the ceremony passed with many smiles and much joy. The party finished with an aperitif of juices and cola!

## Four-day week: let's talk about it!

This is an option that has been made possible by the Decree of 21 June 2017, but that would necessitate the revision of the reform of 2013.

To remind you, this reform, launched by our ex-Minister of Education, Vincent Peillon, sought to lessen the demands on pupils by setting up 'Temps Activités Periscolaire' (TAP), at the charge of the councils. It was imposed by the state, and required consequent work and investment by the councils.

For our three schools, Argens-Roubia-Paraza, the TAP takes place on Friday afternoon, during which many people provide activities. These posts were created and consequently the workers are in place. With one week left until the summer holidays when this latest announcement was made, it was not realistic to change this set-up ready for the start of the Autumn term.



So now a study is to be carried out between elected officials, teachers, parents and children who sometimes have diverging interests. If we go to a four-day week, what happens to the children the 5th day? The TAP cannot simply be transferred to Wednesday because it would not be an 'extracurricular' set-up, but one of 'leisure', which would not be governed by the same regulations.

It's a big task requiring work that needs to be undertaken together this year.

## Young sportswomen from Argens in the spotlight

On Monday 26 June, the Community of Communes received sportsmen and women from the area at the Palais des Fêtes in Lezignan. Many from local villages had achieved well during the sports season. Two girls from Argens, Marion and Ophélie Desgens, were honored by receiving from Community of Communes, presented by the Mayor. Bravo to our two young sportswomen ! Marion came 1<sup>st</sup> in the department and 5<sup>th</sup> in the regional gymnastics in the Benjamin category. Her sister Ophélie is 1<sup>st</sup> in the department and 1<sup>st</sup> in the region in the Minime2 category.



## The library has moved



This was located up until recently on the 1st floor of the town hall. With access impractical, if not impossible for some, both in terms of physical accessibility, and opening schedules, this move was inevitable. New cupboards were installed at the back of the 'Salle des Associations', situated just next to the Mairie. Members of the departmental library came to help index the shelves, arrange tables, chairs and books, assisting our librarians to set up this new area providing a place for cultural exchange.

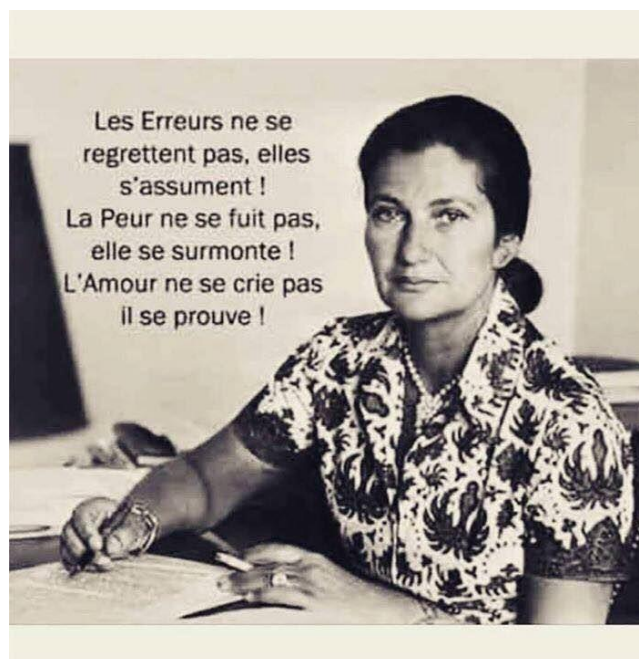
Another small change is that the students from our village school will visit every other Tuesday afternoon, and not on Thursday, the art group of the village already occupying the room on that day. Now independent of the town hall, librarians are planning to expand the opening times soon. For now, they continue offer a welcome on Wednesday from 15 to 17:00.

## A new road, a new name, a symbol

As part of the preparatory work required for the division of the 'Terrain des Clauses' (N on rue des Muscats) a new road was created. To be able to finalise the files relating to the plots in preparation for construction, the developer needed to have a name for this road as a matter of urgency.

The name was chosen by a vote, following a discussion at the last council meeting. The vote was very tight because some councillors had opted for a local name, for example relating to vines/vineyard. But the majority of the council, far from supporting the views of some of the personalities named elsewhere, thought that it would be equally appropriate to name it after a person, and therefore chose to honour Simone Veil.

All of her struggles, especially for women's freedom, have helped to build the history of our country. But they are far from the past, recent events in different countries show that there is still some way to go to achieve gender equality. The strength and determination of this great lady are an example to follow for generations to come.







## Transformation of la Rue Jules Ferry

Everyone has been able to see for themselves the transformation of Rue Jules Ferry, helping to ensure the safety of our children as they board and alight from the school bus. Some parking places have also been created, and are often utilised.

The school master is very appreciative of the work undertaken by our council workers, notably the new wire fencing and the entrance ; the only other item to complete is the replacement of the gates as required by the gendarmerie.

All this has improved the centre of the village!



## Allée des rosiers

### A new roller skating rink !

Following completion of work by our agents on the drains, work has been completed on renewing the tarmac. Defined parking places, which will remain as compacted earth by request of VNF, will be edged with wooden poles, with the spaces between planted with trees and flowering shrubs, with the help of the Pepinières of the Aude. Two of the parking spaces will be reserved for motor homes.

## Rue de l'ancienne forge

### Renovation of one of the communes properties

Taking advantage of a break in tenancy, the roof of this property, which was no longer waterproof, was renewed by the Olcina construction company.

The inside walls were also redecorated as they had been affected by the dampness penetrating from the rock at the back of the house. We have now proceeded to ensure the three properties are adequately aired and ventilated. The existing tenants have welcomed this work, despite it caused some disruption.

Along with other areas of the village taking their turn, Avenue des Platanes, rue de la Belle Aude and Passage de Gué will soon be flooded with LED lighting. This work is commencing in October.



## The village water tower – an evil for a good

Work that is unavoidable: the replacement of the waterproofing of the water tower. The project, initially planned in 2015, has been modified, the proposed interior coating being replaced by a liner, offering superior longevity. Several companies have been contacted and obviously the one that offers the longest guarantee is the most expensive. Nevertheless, the latter has been chosen, with particular thanks to excellent negotiation by our Mayor.

On the other hand, there is an additional cost to the project as it stood in 2015. A by-pass was planned, but it would have resulted in blocking the drilling pipe due to it being used 'little and often'. As a consequence, the village needs to hire a temporary tank so that the village can continue to have a full service during the three weeks' work. This will be at an additional cost of 15,000 €, again only by good negotiation by our Mayor. It is envisaged that this will be completed by the end of the year.

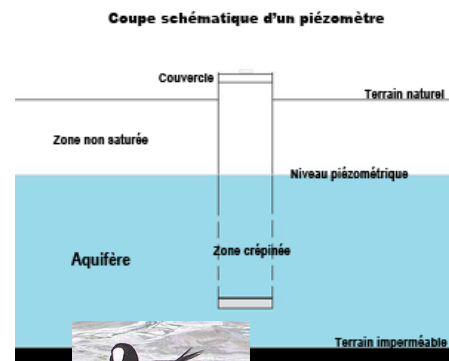




## Lac des Aiguilles – rapport d’activités

### A – Work completed

- Topographic survey of the dam and overflow dike.
- Installation of two monitoring piezometers inside the dam.
- Installation of water level markers on 1 July and 1 October 2017.
- Partial clearing of the overflow flow stream.
- Vegetation of the parking at gate 4, Mourrel Blanc.

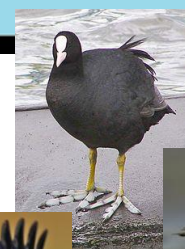


### B – Water level

- Reduction of approximately 98 cm since le 1 April 2017.

### C – Life on the lake

- Seen on the banks: ducks, herons, coots, gulls, stilts, little plovers, passerines, European bee-eaters, rollers.
- Banning of fishing usually respected – three warnings issued.



### D – Future projects

- Cleaning of the Aiguilles stream.
- Removal of clay posts buffers blocking small bridges
- Minor restoration of the hut
- Depth control of the lake
- Checking the valves..



## Mise en conformité du cimetière

The commune continues the work of bringing the cemetery into line with latest legislation, work which was initiated by the previous team.

The next step is to regularise the situation with families who have a deceased family member in the communal grave. According to current funeral legislation, the deceased can only occupy the communal grave for a limited period of five years. They must then be transferred to concessions purchased by families. In order to avoid a burial transfer, the previous team gave the families the opportunity to buy the concession in which the deceased could be buried. The plan of the concessions is searchable in town hall.

As agreed at the meeting on 24 April 2017, a registered letter was sent to the families on 11 May, 2017, reiterating this proposal, as well as the terms of the deed of concession. Families had until 1 October, 2017 to decide. In the absence of a concession title, the remains will be exhumed to be stored in the communal ossuary.

Do not hesitate to contact the Mairie for further information or assistance on this subject.



## The felling of the plane trees has started again

The remaining plane trees along the Canal in Argens have now been felled and burned. It was always anticipated, but is still sad. However, the replanting is due to commence soon



Two trees on the side of the D124 appeared very diseased also posed a danger. The Direction Départementale des Territoires et de la Mer (DDTM) delegated the felling of these trees to a sub-contractor, but the one that sits on the area between the canal and the road is on the land that is the responsibility of the Voie Navigables de France (VNF). So, whose financial responsibility is it, VNF or DDTM?

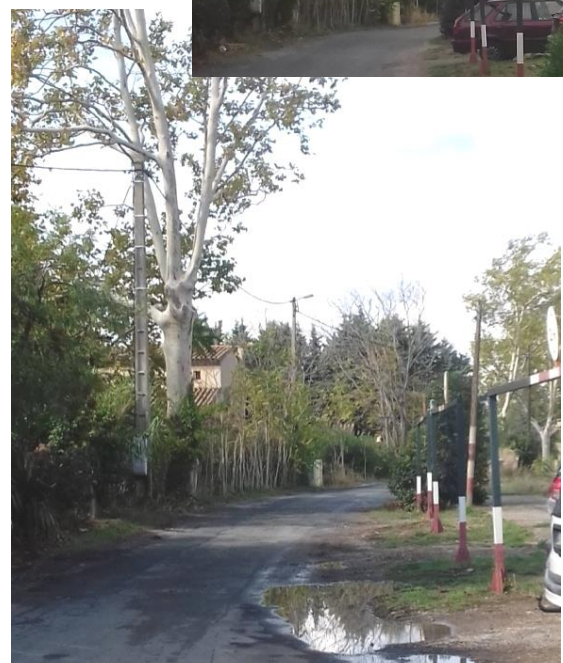


The two administrations were still not in agreement on the day they were due to be felled, so only one was taken down. Following a complaint by the Council regarding this decision, VNF re-engaged the sub-contractors, at further expense – a good way to spend our taxes!



DURING

The tree has been well and truly destroyed now, along with the last push to clear the diseased trees in this area. Clearing is still going on in other parts of the village.



EVENTUALLY



## Hotting up at the rubbish tip!!!

On a beautiful Saturday morning, like so many others, a good deal of rubbish had been deposited at the tip, and was sorted by those using the site - metal in the metal crate, rubble in the relevant crate, plastic in the plastic bin - and ashes in the wood bin! Less than half an hour after it closed, a fire started. Six fire trucks, working from 13:00 to 19:30, were needed to contain the fire and prevent it from spreading. They had to attend two days later when the fire, which had been smouldering underground, started again beside the river, requiring the felling of trees that had begun to burn.

Since then, the by-law has been amended to prohibit the depositing of ash.

Recycling and re-use of waste is becoming more and more important. The skips that the CCRLCM collect are checked upon their arrival. Because of this, our commune was charged € 250 / kg instead of € 6 / kg. This is not a typing error – the fact that some rubbish had been poorly sorted resulted in a cost the taxpayers of Argens 41 times the initial cost.



The village employees have to be more vigilant in the monitoring of what is brought to the tip, and ensure that it is more effectively sorted. In addition to assisting everyone who brings items to the tip, they are required to verify the nature of the waste and indicate which bin it should be deposited.

They have the right to refuse some: for example, glass wool, plasterboard, and tyres.

Please ensure that only unbagged or unpacked waste is deposited, and do not forget to flatten cardboard boxes and take out any polystyrene packaging.

The standard of waste disposal centres is the responsibility of the CCRLCM. As a result, our tip has no legal standing. It has been reclassified as a 'waste collection point', while we wait to be informed how the CCRLCM will organise the collection and sorting of waste, some time before 2020. The first step has been taken by the council in Lézignan, which has just transferred the management of its tip to the CCRLCM.



At the moment this transfer is purely administrative. The waste disposal centre in Lézignan is not able to absorb the waste of 52 communes, so consequently it will continue to take only the waste from those in Lézignan.

An audit has already been launched to analyse and understand the needs of all the communes. It will ensure that an overall plan of the area, as well as a realistic budget, is set for the long-term, the cost of waste collection amounting between 250 and 300 000 € at today's prices.

We have commenced discussions with the councils of Roubia and Paraza to optimise waste collection and move towards an agreement of common needs, and a working group will be formed to progress this work.

## Where can we park?

Some villagers had a hard time parking in front of their homes this summer, cars and motorhomes having taken over the parking spaces. For several years now, the avenue des Platanes has been steadily getting worse, and the situation has gradually spread to other streets and neighborhoods. This year especially, the number of cars parked for an entire week increased.



Some tourists who have chosen to holiday by cruising on the canal, find that the cost does not include the price of secure parking, and they are refusing to pay these extra fees. The motorhome campers, unaware of the parking restrictions relating to their vehicles (currently only displayed in the town hall) are happy to use the whole length of allée des Rosiers, not hesitating to take up 2-4 places at a time. During the height of the season, it became difficult to park near the Epicerie, and most found it easier to go on foot.

As soon as they were defined, the parking spaces for parents picking up the children at school were also taken over by those that had no business with the school. But, with no signs indicating otherwise, those who parked clearly believed they had the right to do so for a whole week.



To improve the situation for those living in Argens, we have had to find a solution to manage this tourist related increase in demand for parking, without frightening off the visitors.

After consulting with ATD11, the council has just placed an order for three signs that will be installed at each entrance of the village warning visitors that parking is limited to 48:00 everywhere in the town.



Other signs will limit the time in front of the grocery store to 1hr, and the spaces outside the school will have signs indicating: 'Arrêt minute' (drop down/pick up only).

It's only a beginning. Once the work is finished, the allée des Rosiers will also be regulated, and it will undoubtedly be necessary define other places by road paint in various other parts of the commune to avoid crazy parking practices, although sometimes it seems a waste of time....



## Canalgloulou

This is the misadventure experienced by a young couple on 26 September at the Pech Laurier lock.

Fortunately, they suffered only material damage, but gendarmes, firefighters, VNF agents and officials of the rental company involved went to the site to gather evidence.

According to an administrative source of VNF, a human error was the underlying cause of the incident. The hatch giving access to the propeller



appears to have been badly secured, if it was secured at all. Going through the various locks gradually let water in until the tipping point was reached and the water then rushed quickly, causing the boat to sink in less than three minutes. The young



couple had no choice but to leave everything on board: luggage, computer, laptops.

They had probably not imagined their honeymoon would end up in this way, nor that they would have such a fright, the young wife being newly pregnant. But maybe, in years to come, they can relate their adventure to their grandchildren!





## A good tourist season

After nearly two or three gloomy years, as across the whole of France, tourism has seen a slight improvement this year in Argens, but has also proved to be uneven across the different sectors in the area.



As for boat rentals, the bookings recorded at the end of March were down, for the second year in a row (unlike the other French waterways which are becoming more and more popular). As the season progressed, rentals increased to catch up with the 2016 level. Canal holidays clearly take longer to think about. The Argens lock has experienced some stability in activity.

After a very good start at Easter and more boat crossings throughout April, the months of May, June and July 2017 were marked by a slight decrease compared to last year. August and September rose again, with 50 to 60 boats a day on average. In October, the numbers seem to be good.



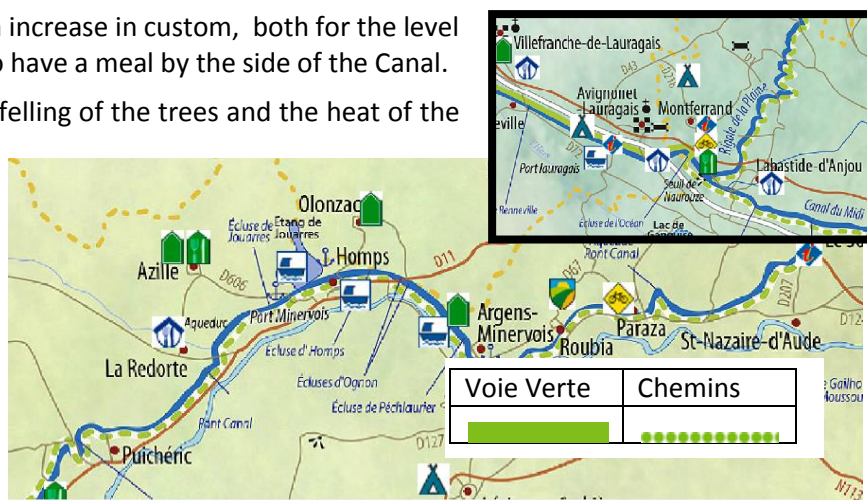
The language of Shakespeare was heard often in the village, although not all the English speakers were British. Americans, Canadians, Australians and New Zealanders all came back this year.



The gîtes welcomed more visitors than previous years, for an average of a week's stay. It appears that coming inland proved more popular compared with beach holidays, although beaches nearby are always appreciated. Guest houses have found this year a little more mixed. Some have done very well while others experienced a decline in their overnight stays.

The two restaurants in Argens also saw an increase in custom, both for the level of tourists, as well as the locals wanting to have a meal by the side of the Canal.

The canal remains attractive, despite the felling of the trees and the heat of the summer. However, the state of the towpath is a big drawback. Impassable in some places, downright dangerous in others, it has angered 80% of the cyclists choosing to use it, to the point that many of them have chosen to come off it onto minor roads or have abandoned their ride. Our lock keepers have both noted an increase in the number of cyclists – up by 50%.



As a rule, travellers find our village very beautiful and like to stop for the night, but the majority of cyclists are ready to advise others tempted by the adventure, to avoid this route. The Departmental Tourism Agency was once again warned about this. The Prefecture of the Region was also questioned during two meetings about the canal. The first time was a meeting with some elected officials and the second at a large meeting, with the mayor of

Carcassonne lamenting that there had been no maintenance for 20 years. However, for now, nothing seems to be being done, which is likely to be very damaging to the local economy, because, according to a television report, as a whole the canal represents 65 million euros of turnover. It therefore contributes a great deal to the local economy and therefore to employment in our local area.



The Council would firstly like to thank all the young seasonal workers who assisted with the running of the village this summer.



As a reflection of his seniority in years' service, and, above all, his knowledge, Fabrice Esquirol has been appointed to take the lead in his team by being appointed Master Agent in July 2017. In the process he also successfully passed an exam resulting in him being designated a Public Safety Officer (ASVP). From now on, he is authorised to challenge, among other things, those who have parked badly, or the owners of bad or uneducated dogs ...

### Update on those employees on sick leave since 1 July 2014

It has already been three years since five people who were put on sick leave caused tensions, clashes and multiple resignations, resulting in the need to form three different councils in three years. Three years that the village has struggled between misinformation, erroneous information and various legal procedures.



All this has resulted in considerable energy being expended on the part of our administrative service, and financial expenses amounting to more than 10% of the amount of the communal budget. But things are changing and for some, rather favourably from a public spending point of view.

With regard to a technical trainee, the medical committee held on July 2017 issued the following opinion: "Agent deemed definitively and absolutely unfit for all functions". After having learned from the Centre de Gestion what this meant and what procedure to follow, and having sought and received confirmation from its lawyer, the Council had to proceed to the dismissal of this agent. This agent has no longer been part of the workforce since the end of August 2017.

Regarding the legal action that an administrative agent brought against the Council for an administrative act in 2015 that it should not have issued, the case was found against the Council. We will have to pay her € 1,000 for the damage and pay back her legal fees, amounting to € 1,500.

For another matter related to this administrative act, the municipality had already been required to pay € 1000 to a trainee agent and a technical agent in 2015.

The judgment was understandably found in favour of the agents, but the court did not recognise the claim for damages. To remind you, the amounts claimed ranged from 4 000 € for each of the technical agents, to about 85000 € (80 € / day since the act) for the administrative agent.



For this administrative error (resulting from erroneous verbal information from the CDG11), the total amount of money that the Council has had to pay is € 4,500 instead of € 93,000 claimed in total.

A further legal action was launched by the administrative agent in July 2017 for her sick leave to be converted into an accident at work, attributable to the service, which the council has opposed since July 2014. This case will be heard in court.

The complaint for harassment lodged with the prosecutor by the technical agents should be settled before the end of the year. We are still waiting for the date of the hearing.



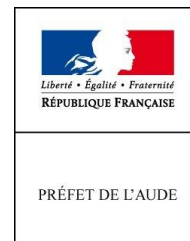
The complaint lodged in 2015 by the Council against two agents, for forgery and use of forgery is still under investigation, according to the gendarmerie. Two years to interview two agents and two doctors about 22 forms used in support of an accident at work, the Mairie having never issued them ... No comment.



A medical committee was held on 20 September to decide on the case of a further technical worker. The Mairie prepared some documents for this committee to represent their side. The committee has postponed its decision, pending a medical report. It is up to the agent to make an appointment with the expert appointed on the island of Reunion, the current place of residence of this agent. The Council is waiting for the date of the next medical committee.

For information, this thick file was also sent to:

- the President and the Director of the Management Center (who have acknowledged its receipt),
- to the Prefect of Aude (who asked for additional information on all the facts),
- to Mrs Danièle Hérin, our representative in parliament (who visited the village on 06/10/17),
- Mr Gerald Darmanin, Minister for Action and Public Account (who wrote on 25/10/17 to say what action he has taken).



Mme Danièle Hérin was appraised of all the events, the steps taken, and the indignation of newly elected officials confronted with the particularities and complexity of the treatment of sick leave in the public service, not to mention the laxity of some administrations. She also participated in the calculation of the financial loss that it has generated for the Council, the precarious nature of the current posts that have resulted, and was attentive to the request for help that we requested. Aware of the Republican hierarchy, she will contact the Prefect of Aude initially to see what steps can be taken. But, as her parliamentary position enables her to be in direct contact with the Minister for Action and Public Accounts, she will ensure our file reaches him as soon as possible. We have been assured of action on this file, and of being kept regularly informed of the actions taken or to be undertaken.



We complete this large file with the result obtained on 21 October by the technical worker living in Reunion for the past two year. Enrolled in "The Diagonale des Fous", For non-connoisseurs, it is an ultra trail of 165.69km, with 9553

meters climb, in temperatures of 35 °, and participants have to complete the course in less than 67 hours to be classified. So, this competition, which takes place on the island of Reunion, is not open to everyone. They must, among other things, have completed many other high level trails, and gained a sufficient number of points, as well as have obtained a specific medical certificate, stipulating that a certain level of training has been achieved, as well as a full level of fitness and personal autonomy, to be able to enrol.



Between 21 and 22 October, 1830 out of 2548 participants finished in the required time. The first finished in 23h53'53" and the last in 66h10'08. Having completed the distance in 49h58'12", our agent finished the competition in 1007<sup>th</sup> place, a very good time and an honourable result.



Above all, we know that this agent, sick for three years, complained, in front of the France 3 cameras in July 2014, that his physical and mental health had been affected, and that he had a knot in the stomach.

The new council in Argens and many villagers, concerned about the progress of his state of health, congratulate this agent, not only for his real determination to recover his capacity for physical and mental autonomy, but also for his brilliant result. The air of the island of Reunion seems to be very successful in helping him up the slope, or even the slopes. Seeing his efforts and progress, when will he be on the podium?



## Summer festivities 2017

Various enjoyable events were held in the village this summer.

### 26 May – 'Beeflat'

Three 'fanfares' (bands) were welcomed to the village hall for an evening called 'Beeflat'. The Fanfare du Minervois invited others of a similar style, les Arpallous from Limoux, and Ktipietok Orkestar of Clermont Ferrand. These happy bands were joined by a group of musicians from Mali who were touring the region.



### St Jean:

The festive fire that had been planned had to be cancelled because of high winds, but a good evening, provided by the council, took place at the village hall. A puppet show brought forty or so spectators, large and small, to the hall, and then a 'trad' concert was given by the musicians who had arrived from the Cevennes in a horse and cart. A warm atmosphere provided a symbolic celebratory fire.

Thanks to all the villagers who took part in welcoming the musicians and their horses (Rémi, René and Daniel!), as well as the organisation, Jouette, who provided the games.

### 22 June - Fête Com' Argens

Another great musical evening, organised by the association Com'[Argens. The now annual event of an Apéro Concert started with the group Tutti Swing, followed by the Steel Band of Narbonne, then by Mike Wood, and finally 'ZA Jazz. The guests clearly enjoyed their evening, with food and a bar complementing the event.

Com'Argens thank all the participants, whether in the audience, or the helpers and volunteers, each one having helped to make this event a great success and an enjoyable end to the day.

### 14 July

After the Republican Meal, which was a great success, it was the group 'Les Bouillants' who entertained during the evening with their world music. A great evening, with perfect weather, that ended a full day:

- In the morning, the tennis tournament and fishing competition organised by their respective associations;
- In the afternoon, the association 'Art'Zygote' provided a painting workshop for children and adults, during which the association 'Jouette' provided giant wooden toys. Then the Petanque Association ran a competition, just before the aperitif provided by the council.
- The Club de l'Age d'Or was also represented and manned the bar in the evening.

When everyone participates in this spirit, the evening can only be a success!

**Do you have ideas for 2018? The Cultural Committee will start meeting again with the associations and with its consultative members at the beginning of 2018 to draw up a calendar of festivities for the year – make your suggestions!**



## COM'Argens provide an improved welcome for cyclists

COM'Argens is pleased to report the achievement of an innovative project to assist cyclists passing through Argens, that had been envisaged for some years. A 'bike station', sponsored by Mellow Vélos of Paraza, was installed on the wall of the MJC, with authorisation of the Mairie. This provides a range of tools, securely attached, to carry out minor repairs and a pump, as well as a water point to assist the location of punctures and for washing hands, bikes and equipment. This is all provided free of charge.



Having seen the direction sign on the side of the canal, the two first 'customers' arrived within two hours of the station being installed at the end of August. Carole barely had time to ensure she had new inner tubes! She now carries a supply of various sizes.



The success and use of the station proves that there was a real need for touring cyclists. Obviously, those living in Argens who do not have the necessary tools to repair their bicycle are welcome!

## Fishing Club



On the 14th of July, at dawn, there was a lively atmosphere at the edge of the canal for the republican fishing competition. The fishing association prepared the breakfast and registered the first participants in its traditional contest.

A European note among competitors since a dozen Dutch fishermen were participating. Forty five fishermen in all of which about ten were children.

Claude Raynaud won the 1st prize with 23 catches !!! Daniel Bandinelli was awarded the Reimbolt trophy. All participants were rewarded and the aperitif offered by this popular association.

On August 7, the bad weather cooled the fishermen at the Léznigan holiday contest. The organisers cautiously moved the planned meal along the canal to village hall, and the association was grateful to the Mairie for acting so quickly on this. Eighty people enjoyed the suckling pig, preceded by a hearty aperitif!

On October 29th, on the same site the competition "Vin Primeur" was organised by the AAPPMA and the town of Léznigan. Despite a strong wind, forty people participated, including eight from Argens, who lost the challenge. It is hoped that next year there will be a wider participation of fishermen from our village. The award ceremony at Maison Gibert was followed by a cocktail party.

## PÉTANQUE CLUB

This year, the competitions started on Friday, June 16, 2017 and ended on Friday, September 15, 2017 ie 14 Fridays.

The season got off to a slow start with the first two 12-player contests, and then ramped up with peaks of 30 players in late August, early September. In addition there was a contest on July 14 which delighted villagers.

A grill took place every fortnight, and I would like to thank Franck and Didier for the organization of two additional grills for their birthdays.

A meal reserved for players and their spouses will take place in November.

Thank you – and here's to next year!

Le Président

## UPDATE FROM THE HUNTERS

The A.C.C.A. (Association Communale de Chasse Agréée) has come together again, meeting once or twice a year to:

- Review the past year
- Get hunting permits
- Discuss related matters

**2016/2017** : Creation of a hunting reserve towards route de Roubia- SCOP Charpentes Couvertures, indicated by signs

**2017/2018**: Creation of a new reserve around le Lac des Aiguilles.

### Fauna

Two releases of pheasants. In the near future, the release of wild game will be substituted by raised game, despite the limited means at the disposal of A.C.C.A.

### Please be aware:

The hunter must absolutely

- record on a hunting log game such as hares and partridges,
- mark a paw on the log,
- send these records to the federation of hunters of the Aude in Carcassonne.

### Safety

It is obligatory to:

- hunt at least 150 metres from dwellings,
- always fire away from (with back towards) dwellings.

### Hunting of wild boar

- the wearing of a hard hat and a fluorescent gilet IS OBLIGATORY,
- the edge of the area of the hunt must be marked with a sign « CHASSE EN COURS »,
- look out points must be placed on the edge of the area so that people passing through the area can be seen.
- The sangliers caught are required to be registered on the hunting record.

## Association Art Zygote

On 14 July, Catherine Oulanier, of the Association 'Art Zygote', ran two painting and drawing workshops : "Learn to look for better drawing". It helped both young and old to have new experiences, open their eyes, and improve hand-eye coordination to help with their drawing. The colours and designs flowed freely and happily, with positive results!

This season, Catherine is offering the following courses for the Association Art Zygote, to be held at 21 avenue de la Méditerranée, open to all:

### Weekly workshops :

- Movement: Monday 18 h30 – 20 h et 20h15- 21 h 45  
Tuesday 10 h30 – 12 h
- Drawing and painting : Tuesday 18 h30 – 20h 30  
Wednesday 9h45 -11 h45

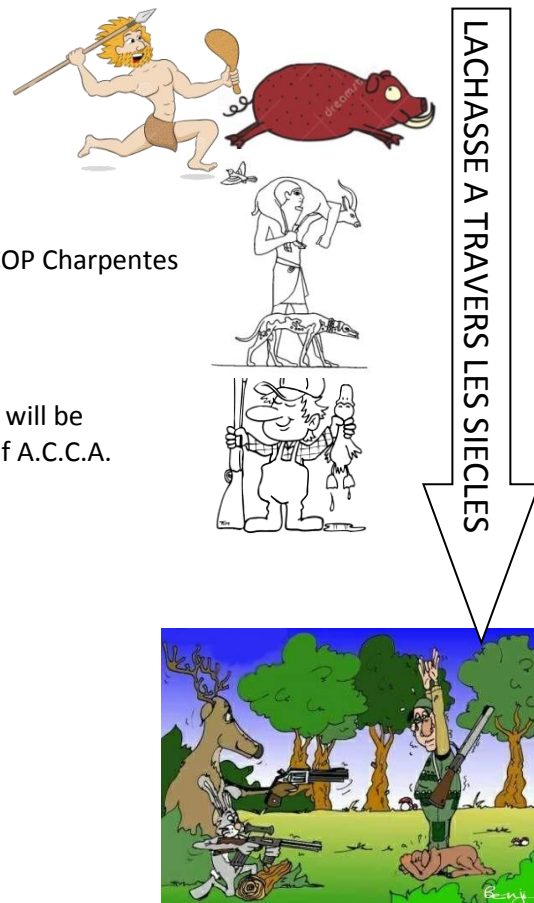
### Courses

- October : Sunday 22 October- - Movement for muscle tone : 10 h à 17 h
- November : Saturday 11 November – Workshop on everyday postures and gestures - 10 h à 13 h  
Saturday 25 November – Drawing and painting day - 10 h à 17 h
- December : Sunday 3 December – Movement and dance with Catherine Oulanier and Laetitia Escalier 10 h – 17 h

'Open house' at the drawing and painting studio - 9-10 décembre

Other activities of Art'Zygote will take place in Narbonne with Laetitia Escalier.

Further information: [www.artzygoteasso.org](http://www.artzygoteasso.org) ou catherine.oulanier.over-blog.com





## **TENNIS CLUB**

The Argens Tennis Club has been in existence since the 90s. Robert CRUZEL was the President for eight seasons, and he then passed the baton to Christophe LEHMANN, who, like his predecessor, presided for a further eight seasons. In 2015 Didier Bourdel took over the running of Club.

Membership is drawn mainly from Argens, Roubia and Paraza, and, more recently, the villages of TOUROUZELLE, ESCALES, MONTBRUN and even LEZIGNAN have also been represented in the association. The Club's facilities comprise a court, a training wall and a club house. It has welcomed teams from elsewhere in the Aude, the Herault, and from Catalonia for over 25 years. A special dispensation has enabled the club, which has only the one court, to participate in various competitions by the municipalities of Tourouzelle and Paraza generously lending their courts for the events.

In addition to team activities, the Club is very committed to the promotion of the sport and tuition, and on Friday evenings, provides the opportunity for extra-curricular activities for the schools of Argens, Roubia and Paraza.

Indeed, if you are on the bridge on a Wednesday or a Friday afternoon you will hear cries of children having a great deal of fun. Above all, tennis remains a game with its playful side, and the sport in general is a means of providing social integration, with the values of respect, courage and dignity being promoted by the trainers.

Later in the evening, adults try to perfect their technique, or just to exercise. The sport is good for one's physical health, as well as giving a psychological boost. It is a moment when one is given the opportunity not think of anything else, where the tensions accumulated during the day can be released, while providing an opportunity to make new friends.

As far as the other activities are concerned, the Club has for the past ten years organised a Car Boot sale, which is a valued annual event. In view of the number of people who take part, the Club is considering running two each year.

I hope that I have whetted your appetite – do not hesitate to come and say hello, or even to join the Club. You will find us next to the port, near Locaboat.



## Trail des aiguilles

The second edition of the Trail des Aiguilles took place on October 15, 2017.

The event is always appreciated by runners who told us "the courses are really exceptional" or "it is the most beautiful trail in the region".



We are delighted to have had better weather, resulting in participation being sharply up (100 runners adult walkers against 40 in 2016 and the double of children). The goal of this year was to make races or walking accessible to all, so we added a 5 km course.

For next year, we would like to add a second shorter stage. A trail preparation and an introduction to Nordic walking will also be offered in September 2018.

The association Montagnes et Garrigues would like to thank all the volunteers and sportsmen for their involvement.

For those whom the experience tries or retries, go for the preparation of the

### **Trail of 14 octobre 2018!**

For any suggestions or information contact Fred : 07 50 60 99 58 or Emilie: 06 41 87 33 93.

## Future events in the village

### **Seniors' meal**

This year, the council is keeping hold of the purse strings but has entrusted the organisation of this meal to the Club de l'Age d'Or. Its president will propose the programme and, in consultation with the council will prepare this festive day. As soon as the programme is known, a leaflet will be distributed in the mailboxes, with a registration form. But keep available the date of **03 December 2017**.

### **Children's Christmas event**

A week later, the children will have their day too. Organized by COM'Argens, the Children's Christmas already has a very full programme of diverse and varied events, which will be communicated by the association, as soon as finalised. Again, reserve the date of **10 December 2017** in your diaries.

The council is contributing to this day by offering an event that will allow SIVOS children, among others, to decorate the cedar. To make a very long Christmas wreath with the children, we are looking for pieces of colorful fabrics, plain or patterned, minimum width 20 cm. You can drop them in Town Hall or call Brigitte D'Hénin who can pick them up from your home, by calling: 06 87 50 17 05. Thank you for participating!



**La bibliothèque municipale  
d'ARGENS MINERVOIS**

**organise :  
une BOURSE AUX LIVRES  
une BOURSE AUX JOUETS  
UNIQUEMENT**

**Dimanche 19 Novembre 2017**

**De 10 H à 17 H**

**Salle des 3 Copains**

**Inscriptions et Renseignements :**

**Hélène : 06.87.09.30.32**

**Maria : 06.84.60.74.34**

**5 € la table (fournie)**

**Pas de restauration prévue sur place**

# La page des secrétaires



## BIRTHS

## MARRIAGES



- le 15/07 Mme Olivia BOURGÈS – M. Johannes SINKE  
Félicitations aux jeunes mariés
- le 24/08 Mme Edith LE GOFF – M. Lutz HAUBOLD  
Félicitations aux jeunes mariés



## Décès

- ◆ le 11 septembre, M. Georges JOURNIAC

Sincères condoléances aux familles affectées par ces décès.



## ARRIVEES

- Mme MIKAILOWICE – M.CHANTELOUP 19 Avenue de la Méditerranée
- M. Mme O'SHEA – 2bis Rue de la Tour
- Mme SAGNES Chanaël – 25 rue des muscats
- M.Mme IVANOFF / Mme DEPORTE / M.Mme CROUAIL – 9 Chemin des Auzines
- Mme VOISEUX M. GRONDIN – 8 Place St Roch

## DEPARTS

- ☐ M. Mme DANIELS Christopher– 2bis Rue de la Tour
- ☐ M. Mme RADIGOIS – Lotissement les Terrasses du Port
- ☐ M. Mme ALVAREZ – 1 rue des Muscats
- ☐ Mme SAGNES Maëlis et M. TRONCHERE– 25 rue des muscats
- ☐ M. Mme DEWANDRE Hubert – Lotissement les Terrasses du Port
- ☐ M. Mme DAGON – Impasse du Figuier
- ☐ Mme MAGDELENAT– 8 Place St Roch
- ☐ M.Mme GARCIA– 19 Avenue de la Méditerranée



# ELECTIONS

To register on the list of voters at the Mairie, please do so:

between 1<sup>er</sup> Septembre and 31 Décembre 2017

*You arrive in our lovely village, you are leaving, you have a birth, a child or adult who receives a diploma, a wedding or a death.....  
Please let us know at the mairie.*