



111 rue de la Mare (85560) Longeville sur Mer www.les-aulnettes.com 12-2008/01-2009

# A SPLENDID YEAR PAST!

### WE VERY MUCH LIKE TO REDO IT IN 2009!

Time flies when you are having fun, and fun we surely have in Longeville!!

The merchants and craftsmen organisation of Longeville sur Mer, founded only about 4 months ago, organised the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> December a marvellous Christmas faire!! Furthermore, as merchants on the spot, we have participated.

Around the church, little wood log cabins, wherein the merchants could sell there merchandise, were erected. Then off course, there was a bar, where amongst other drinks, you could get warm wine, and there was a real ancient merry-go-round. You could also take a ride in Father Christmas' sled, with Father Christmas himself as coach driver.

There was the weighing of the hood of Father Christmas, also hosted by Irene and Frans. By the way, this time not in kilos, but in Euros, and we are talking about more than 700 euros!!

Despite de wind on Saturday, an encouraging success, and not only because of the "vin chaud"!!

We do not know of any waves in Paris, but we do know now, there is a "Road Surf Club de Paris". Apparently they look for the best surf of the Atlantic and seen the distance from Paris, they judged Longeville as "the place to be"!!

We had some members, the weekend before Christmas and maybe they will come more often (and many). We will see.

The tendency for next season looks very promising. The reservations made thus far, outnumber those of the same period last year already.

Sander started school again last Monday after a very pleasant Christmas holyday. He played a lot with Laurie, his red-haired friend from Jard. She appeared already in a previous newsletter, as Charly, who stayed 3 days with us.

**Christmas** at Les Aulnettes, was an international celebration, as new-years eve, for that matter. A splendid end of, as said before, a splendid year!

Ireen is still capable to do the necessary work in the disposable time. Responsible for all the work where no hammer or saw is needed (drilling and screwing she already does herself with her "Bosch-Lady-cordless"), she is by times, more occupied than Frans. In addition, because she has to go to Les Sables "ville de Vendée Globe" to visit the bookkeeper and such, she spends a lot of time "on the road".

### **REAL ESTATE**

**Despite the financial crisis** ("crisis; what crisis" = Supertramp), do not overreact !! It is true that our soap bubble exploded, but we blew it up ourselves, didn't we?

Right now, a couple of the Champagne is interested in our house, and yes, we lowered the prise a little bit. We will see.

To be continued.

# Your add here!

# This is a serious offer !! Inquire here.

The newsletter of "Les Aulnettes" is send to more than 500 addresses

**Frans ended a** period of little corporal inconveniences, so it seems. He even made himself a workshop in the "Sabulation", with a real workbench and above all "all options".

The progress of the work is remarkable and will be "God willing", finished before summer.

In the meantime Sander and Frans are occupied with there four 60 feet sailing boats, (1 of Frans and 4 of Sander), with the poetic names "les-aulnettes.com", "Sanny2", "Porrel" and "Red Fire". We are talking about the "Virtual Vendée Globe"!!

For those who do not know what we are talking about, a little explanation. The Vendée Globe is a very heroic regatta, around the world, with no stopover and without any assistance!! It represents a little over 24,000 miles.

It is held every 4 years with start (November) and finish about 87 days, 10 hours and 47 minutes

later – this is the record from Vincent Riou in 2004-2005 - (February) in Les Sables d'Olonne.

For the curious ones, have a look on (the English site)

http://www.vendeeglobe.org/en/, and see that there are also English skippers (among them 2 very courageous women, Sam and Dee) at sea.

This edition, friends of the sailing sport and others, can participate (you can still join) the "Vendée Globe Virtuelle". Everybody can navigate his own 60 feet mono-hull and sail the same course as the real skippers and maybe win 10.000 euros!!

For the curious ones and those who want to participate look at

http://www.virtualregatta.com!!

To be continued.

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# **The Construction Column**

#### The interior work comes slowly to an end

We can say we do not live in the workshop anymore!! Moreover, even constructive work is hardly produced in our living anymore.

The interior labour is almost done and despite the cold outside, our new house is rather comfortable. The exterior, as you can imagine, is not advancing very much, with these for the Vendée very unusual temperatures. The cement is freezing, especially with the wind from the northeast.

Before leaving you to the photos, there is one last thing to tell. The flagpole went down during the last storm, devastating the flag in his fall. We are waiting for the assurance to overcome.

That's all folks, so, enjoy the pictures and think of the motto;

# Find the differences !!

#### **BEFORE**





#### **AFTER**





**BEFORE** AFTER



Little hint;

Not the specs!



# Then some pictures to get a little idea of the rest.









Do not forget the: "start-July" and "end-August" offers!!