



"Les Aulnettes"

Longeville sur Mer - La Vendée - France



Newsletter spring 2010

After a cold and long winter, that ended with a hurricane-like storm, it is officially spring.



We made a start with the renovation of our barn, and also with our season 2010. About the last we can say, based on the reservations - especially very much "backsliders" - and the pleasant contact with the "newcomers", that it's will be a very "snugly" summer.

This summer will be the summer of sports, and more specific, the world championship football in South Africa, which will start on Sander's birthday, the eleventh of June, and the Tour the France, from 3 till 25 July, with his start in Rotterdam, Holland. Both events can be watched on the Philips 52" LCD in the "Stabul". For those who will be here during the Tour, a little game will be organised.

THE GRANGE,

WE STARTED AT THE TOP !

Literally, we took off with the roofing. All the tiles are taken off and the roof-boards are, where necessary, changed. We have had the inestimable help of one of the "old lads" from Les Aulnettes Hans Moviat (the Moov for friends), who granted our request to come to help in exchange of free board and logging, and therefore spent a week on our roof in Longeville sur Mer. In a roaring tempo the roof was swept and after that we made a good start with the boards.

Hans is besides a good hand also a very nice fellow ! Thanks again Hans !

ACTIVITIES

For the upcoming period there are some wishes on the list, mostly things to do in the "Stabul". For some time we would like to change the flooring (pebbles) into something more convenient. We have chosen a "sable-ciment", what is more easily to wipe and to clean, so they said. In a absolutely French way, the work was finally done three weeks after the declared date ! As we write this, we have to wait 48 hours before we can replace everything we had to putt outside, and stood there for almost 4 weeks. The mobile home, we didn't



After this week the relay was assured by brother-in-law Jan (together with sister(-in-law) Roos) and uncle Bob the Builder (know from the early days of the building of Les Aulnettes) in fact one of the first men and backslider as well.

move, because we are not sure the chassis will hold. After 5 years it became "a bite rusty".

For now we can still use the "Bouleodrome" from Jacques, but for



later times and for those who like to play with metal boules we are considering our own. Rest to find out the right place.

Furthermore there are some minor businesses to attend to, like a little maintenance boost for the playground and the log house doors.

ENQUIRY

The enquiry is filled-in and send back by 65 people, not many English by the way !



In general we can say that 2/3 of the people find Les Aulnettes surfing the internet, mostly with words as France and "small scale park". Also the Zoover.co.uk websites is becoming more and more popular. The other 1/3 by mouth-to-mouth.

The biggest part appreciate the beautiful wood log houses and the intimacy of the park. Proudly we can say that the friendly owners of the park came on third place !!



Over 80% thinks that Les Aulnettes is a good destination for a off season holiday, although those who think not,



are afraid that the weather in the Vendée is to insecure.

Off course we are not Michael Fish, and we can not vouch for the weather,



and yes one year can be different from the other, but based on the statistics of the average year temperatures we can say that the good weather change in the off season in the Vendée is considerably high.

About half of the people are not held to any school restriction in respect of the choice of there holiday period. Over 50% of them thinks a heated pool is not

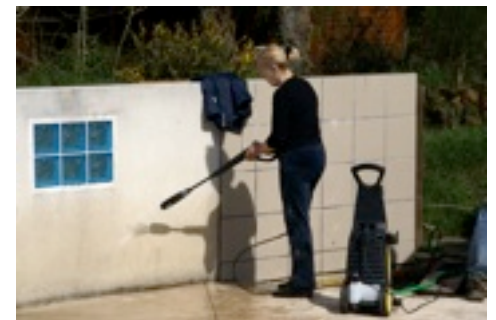
a must (43%), 37% think it is pleasant , and unimportant or no opinion both 10%.



From the other half 10% have no opinion, 7,5% thinks it is unimportant, 67,5% thinks it is pleasant and only 15% thinks it is a must.



Like the urgency, the necessity is not to obvious, but never the less we are gone study the different remarks made about the swimming pool. Furthermore the swimming pool is used far more, than we expected when we where planning the park some 7



Since our house is sold and everything is taken care of, this section is removed.



years ago, surely when you consider the beach is only so close-by.



Most valid reason “great for the kids” and “easy to find a parking-lot”. With regards to “the things to change”, we can say that we are rather complete. Okay, there are some people that would like we had a little snack bar/ice bar/



mini-restaurant at Les Aulnettes, and even that we will consider.

Finally some exotic desires, of the kind that, lets say; has no priority: A bath in the houses, a slide at the swimming pool and last but not least a bus service to the beach.

GARDENING

This year again, Bernardien and Han came gardening, arriving with a car filled-up with plants and bushes. And after the cold rude winter it was a joy. some of the more tropic plants were frozen and needed to be replaced by others. Also a great job of weeding and trimming has been done.

