



Les Échos de Combiers



French version

http://combiers.fr/docs/echo_2018_A4_F.pdf

December 2018

Opening hours of the mairie

Tuesdays: 14h00 to 17h00 and Thursdays 9h to 12h00 and 14h00 to 17h00



A word from the mayor

Good day to everyone,

First of all let us remember our older residents who have died this year. There are fewer of them as time goes on, and above all we lose their memories of our commune when they go. I am delighted to present our traditional annual journal, which will give you an idea of what has been happening in Combiers this year.

Thanks are due to our two communal employees who, in spite of working only a few hours (12 hours for Angéline and 16 hours for Jordan), do all they can so that everything works well. Jordan is multi-skilled and self-motivated. He has immersed himself fully in the work to enlarge the salle des fêtes. Angéline has managed all of the administrative problems, which become more and more complex, and sorted out all of the administration issues, which don't always stem from the mairie. However, as we are a public service and there are fewer and fewer of these, we try to keep everything ticking over.

The commune always has projects in operation:

Some have come to an end, like the extension to the salles des fêtes and the Nizonne path (nearly ten years in the making). This path will be officially opened for the fête of Saint-Fiacre in 2019.

Other projects are in progress:

Enlarging the parking area at the salle des fêtes due to an opportunity given by the work on the water pipes. We are changing the pipes between Le Clédou and the Moulin Neuf. Apologies for the disruption, but we must renovate the water network as it dates from 50 years ago and we have had to do many repairs on it. I have taken advantage of the work to install fibre optic trunking at the same time. This is also a major piece of work, which will be completed by the end of 2019. This will be a big step forward and will benefit the inhabitants of our little commune, some of whom may have been sceptical, but it will give us the latest technology.

Another project is to look at our communal roads, long requested by the emergency services. This will also be indispensable for the post office, delivery companies and especially for the arrival of fibre optic cabling, which requires us to have standardised addresses for the databases of these enterprises. A public meeting will be held at the beginning of the year to present the project.

Regarding the new Community of Communes (CDC), this is a very big organisation, with about 50 communes and 18,000 inhabitants. In regular meetings with nearly 70 delegates, I find it hard to make the voice of our small rural commune heard. But I am always active to represent you and argue for what you need. I do not agree with everything, but I participate fully and give my opinion, even when this is different from the majority.

It only remains for me to wish you a good time over the Christmas and New Year period and to take advantage of those happy moments with your family and friends.

Patrick ÉPAUD, Mayor of Combiers

The roads in 2018

Our roads budget this year was 10 927 €. The budget estimate has been lowered to 950 € per km ie 11,503 km of municipal roads = 10 927 € for 2018. This is thanks to the new grouping of the communities of the communes (CDC)!!!!!! With such a small budget, we have had to review the work planned.

This year, we only managed to repair 3 communal roads :

- VC 121 – between Chez Bernard and the crossroads at La Payre
- VC 122 – between Château Lasfonds and the Chalards Hauts
- VC 110 - from the stream to Laffond and Chez Parrucoud for a length of 50 m.

We were faced with the degradation of some of our roads due to the very wet winter we had.

We therefore used volunteers to lay 8 tons of cold mix in 1 day on all other municipal roads. The cost of materials was 81.80 € TTC per tonne, or 654 €, supported by the new CDC.

Thank you again to everyone who participated with such good spirits during this long working day. Please note that thanks to this annual volunteer project, all of our communal roads remain in good condition.

Also note that we had to intervene again when a company damaged our yellow marked hiking trail. We had a meeting on site followed by a letter stating formally what they had done.



Laying a surface outside the extension to the salle des fêtes

Alain JOSEPH – deputy mayor in charge of roads

Rauzet Church



2018 is the first year in which the Grandmontaine church has been fully secured against both bad weather and intrusions, thanks to its glazed windows and new doors.

More than 1,000 people of all nationalities have visited Rauzet this year and all have praised the quality of the restoration of this building, which dates from the twelfth century.

The musical season was brilliantly introduced by the male voice choir "**Chœur d'hommes Jean Bouillet**" from Nancy, who returned with a new concert. These male voices were particularly harmonious under the vault of the church.

In June, the choir "**Atout Chœur**" in its turn, brought us the pleasure of their voices under the vault of the church.

As every year in July, the association **Fleur d'Isa**, which supports women with breast cancer and improves the daily lives of all cancer patients, brought porcelain, patchwork and all kinds of handicrafts for sale. This gives another audience the opportunity to discover the priory.

As a partner of the Medieval festival at Dignac, we welcomed the group "**Pastourel**", who gave a wonderful instrumental and vocal concert, playing on reconstructed medieval instruments.

In August, **Christophe Mège** and '**Arcantum**' gave us a "**Tour de France in song**". This trio, usually known for classical music and much appreciated in the region, had added an excellent singer, and her beautiful, warm voice charmed us with various songs from around the French regions.

Patrice Fesquet tested the acoustics of the church with his crystal bowls and these unusual sounds gave listeners a variety of emotions and a great sense of peace and harmony.

For the European Heritage Days, **Patrick Guichard** made us laugh on Saturday with "The Theatre near you", a montage of extracts from Feydeau, Maupassant, Rostand, La Fontaine and a few others. On Sunday **Alain Veluet** gave a wonderful classical guitar concert that closed the season.

This year we saw that the Rauzet site was noted in several tourist guides, mentioned as a place to visit, to start a ramble or simply as an interesting site. More and more walkers stop there to picnic or to have a short break before heading back on the road.

The Association for the Protection of the Grandmontaine Church of Rauzet (ASEGRauzet) continues its work to promote and make known this site that is part of the wealth of Combiers.



Repairing the shelter at Rauzet

Kate DOUGLAS

Festivities

3 December 2017 Senior meal

A wonderful meal – pumpkin soup, duo of duck terrine, quail fillets, salad, cheese and chocolate royale. A real treat.



17 December 2017 Children's Christmas party

As happens each year, we welcomed Santa and gave out presents to Combiers children. There was a huge selection of cakes and drinks and we had horse and cart rides thanks to the Sabots of the Nizonne. Merry Christmas !



21 December 2017 Area school party Area school party (Grassac, Rougnac, Combiers and Charras)

We were treated to songs, a scene from a play by Molière and more cakes – what could be better ? Here are some reindeer singing a song.



27 January 2018 Tartiflette evening

This long-awaited event is especially for cheese-lovers and was organised by the Committee of the salle des fêtes, with a disco until the early hours.



18 February 2018 Hunters' meal

The hunters and their guests enjoyed bean soup, endive salad, venison casserole, lamb with haricot beans and Normandy pancakes.

18 March 2018 Chicken meal

The Committee of the salle des fêtes presented us with a traditional meal - chicken noodle soup, chicken and vegetables - ideal to mark the start of spring.



The happy winner of the chicken raffle

1st September 2018 Festival of Saint-Fiacre

The walk on the 1st September allowed our ramblers to discover the start of our future educational path as it is being created, as well as introducing them to the valley of the Nizonne. This has been constructed over a few years and we followed the yellow walking circuit in COMBIERS to offer a walk of 11 km. This has been ratified with the PDIPR and the hikers' federation of the Charente. This tour is downloadable from the COMBIERS commune website. (An advertising leaflet is also available in the mairie and in tourist points of the CDC area).

We offered two routes on the day, 8km and 12km. We had breakfast at Rauzet and then had chocolate apples near La Peyre.



Starting the walk

Alain JOSEPH deputy mayor

We then had a lunchtime meal for 90 people of ham and melon on the barbecue, ratatouille and flan. After a very enjoyable day, 250 people came along for the farmers' market to benefit from a summer's evening together.

Patricia ALLARY

Calf's head meal 21 October 2018

A traditional dish. Salad, duck with pumpkin muffins, calf's head and upside down apple tart with ice cream.

11 November 2018 Remembrance ceremony

We paid homage to those who died for their countries.



Serge Ferret and Guy Magné



Reading the names of men from Combiers who died for France

2 December 2018 Senior meal

This offered by the council of Combiers. As always, a team of helpers worked hard to prepare home-made dishes for us to enjoy.

16 December 2018 Children's Christmas party

Father Christmas comes with presents for the children, lots of sweets and cakes and there will be horse and cart rides, thanks to the Sabots of the Nizonne.

Thank you to all the volunteers who give of their time to help our commune flourish.

Local news

The police station and treasury at Villebois-Lavalette have now been saved from closure thanks to public protests. On the ecological front, individuals in the Charente are no longer permitted to light bonfires at any time of the year, in order to prevent pollution.

Civil status

It is now the case that for the mairie to issue certificates such as marriage and death certificates, we need non-French birth certificates translated into French. This is worth doing in advance to save any delay in issuing certificates when they are needed.

Birth

Pola Trznadel at Soyaux 30 August 2018, a little girl, to Ewelina and Wojciech Trznadel from Lasfonds.

Marriage

Pierre Chupin and Diane Hervev 20 July 2018, of the Moulin Neuf (M. Chupin is the son of Martine Rousseau, whose married name is Chupin). The newly-weds live in Paris.

Deaths

- Alice Bajule, our doyenne (oldest female resident from the town) 11 May 2018 at Villebois-Lavalette.
 - Simone Magné (Rozet) 13 July 2018 at Saint-Michel.
-