



## *Garden club and Craft fair at Silfiac*

Jeff I'm here at the house of Marylyn Bourdin to find out about Gardener Silieg and the annual festival of plants and crafts held in Silfiac every May.  
Bonjour Marylyn.

Marylyn Bonjour.

Jeff Can you tell me something about Gardeners Silieg please?

Marylyn Silieg means Silfiac, it's the Breton name of Silfiac. It was important for us at the time when our association was created to show that we were an association in Brittany and with English members. So we are Anglo-French, it's a way for us to gather together and get to know each other. The main purpose for us is to meet and to make friends.

Jeff How long has the association been going?

Marylyn I think it was created about, um, seven to eight years ago. It started here in Silfiac. I think everybody knows Silfiac because it became famous when the commune decided to have an eco-village built and at that time there were gardens, allotments which were proposed to be rent to inhabitants of the eco-village or outside the eco-village. So it all started like that, dealing with the allotments then little by little we opened up to other people outside the commune which was a.. another way of making things growing bigger.

Jeff And where and when do you meet?

Marylyn We usually meet about once a month at members' places. Our busiest time is now, actually, from January to May because that's the time when we actually prepare our annual festival so we are quite busy. And after the festival is over we still meet once a month approximately and we visit each others' gardens. That's an opportunity to get together and to visit and exchange about gardening.

Jeff And how many members are there?

Marylyn About twenty. It's a small association.

Jeff And are they all local?

Marylyn Yes a few of us are from Silfiac, others are from a place called Lescouët Gouarec or St Brigitte or Langoëlan, that's the main area.

Jeff Now I'd like to ask you about the festival. Firstly, for how long has it been running?

Marylyn Our festival has been running for seven year now, seven years, actually since the beginning of the association itself.

Jeff And what's the purpose of the.... of it?

Marylyn The purpose of it is to bring life to our village because it's a small village and we are about twenty kilometres from Pontivy so it was a good way to have people around? people, artisans or whatever, yeah.

Jeff And what can visitors expect to find at the festival?

Marylyn We will have plants sellings and craft sellings. It's a good way to start looking after one's garden in fact.

Jeff And what sort of artisans do normally exhibit?

Marylyn Usually we have homemade craft. It can be knitting, doing things... glass things, we've got plenty to see and to, to buy.

Jeff And when and where does it take place this year?

Marylyn It will take place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May here in Silfiac at the Salle Polyvalente. It will start around eleven o'clock in the morning 'til five o'clock in the afternoon.

Jeff And how can peolle join you?

Marylyn They can contact us or they can.. by telephone or email. My phone number is 02 97 27 62 80 or email address is [gardeners.silieg@yahoo.fr](mailto:gardeners.silieg@yahoo.fr) Silieg is spelt Silieg.

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Page 2

Jeff Marylyn, thank you very much for doing this interview.

Marylyn Thank you Jeff it was a pleasure. Thank you, goodbye.