



Élise at the Mellionec Bookshop



Jon: I'm with Élise in Mellionnec in the new bookshop called - what's it called Élise?

Élise: Le Temps qu'il fait.

Jon: Thank you very much; and how long have you been going?

Élise: Just one week.

Jon: One week. Has it been busy?

Élise: Yes. A lot of people came and spent a long time in the bookshop.

Jon: Yep - and actually now there are quite a few people in the shop at the moment enjoying a cup of coffee and a chat, and one or two other customers here looking at the books. Did you have much publicity, lots of newspapers?

Élise: Yes. For the opening we had articles in Le Poher, Le Telegramme, Ouest France, RKB

Jon: So you are famous now.

Élise: Ah yes...

Jon: In fact, I think I remember seeing you in a documentary film at the Mellionnec International Film Festival this summer. So you're doubly famous now. Do you have many English customers?

Élise: Yes. In one week I have seen a lot of English people here. I am happy.

Jon: Just looking at the shelves here, you have a whole shelf, well a couple of shelves, full of English books, and also Spanish, original languages as well.

Élise: Yes,, very few. German, some English books and I would like to increase the English books because lots of English come here.

Jon: Yes, there are lots of English people living in and around Mellionnec, aren't there? OK. How many books do you have here in total?

Élise: Six thousand.

Jon: And have you read all of them?

Élise: No!

Jon: Not yet?

Élise: Not yet.

Jon: It's also a café. Is that an unusual combination or is it becoming quite common now?

Élise: There is a lot of bookshops or coffee places in Brittany. There is a Federation of this kind of shop and there are 17 in the Federation. There are 17.

Jon: 17? OK. That's good. Do you have any previous experience of bookshops?

Élise: Yes. I had a bookshop and coffee in Rouen. I like this combination because it's like people come and have time to talk. It's nice.

Jon: Yes, it is. It's much nicer than, say, a library where people don't really speak. OK. How many people work here?

Élise: Just me. I'm alone.

Jon: Great! But this morning you had two little sisters - your children. One is one-and-a-half the other three. I was very impressed because your little three-year-old was reading a book in Breton.

Élise: He's interested in other languages and also every morning he asks me "how do you say 'bread' in English; how do you say 'butter' in English.

Joh: He'll be reading some of these English books soon. Let me just ask you now, what, uh, what future plans do you have for this shop?

Élise: We would like - I said already there is an Association which name is Le Poule?? who help me to think about what will happen in this place and we think of a lot of things. Maybe a reading party ?? but I don't know how to say that in English when authors come and sign books.

Jon: Yes. A Book Signing.

Élise: A book signing.

Jon: Have you had any writers so far?

Élise: Yes, yes, yes. At the opening party we had four authors who were signing books. It was nice.

Jon: Wow! Yeah. All local authors or from outside?

Élise: From outside.

Jon: So, Elise, thank you for spending time and I'll just mention to potential customers that there's a very nice café here, as I've mentioned already, and it sells very nice cookies, 'cos I sampled one, and they're sold locally aren't they; they're made locally and sold here.

Élise: They are made in Mellionnec just 100 metres from here.



Jon: It's local and Bio - right. So a big recommendation to you book lovers: come to the book shop - the new book shop - in Mellionec. Thank you Elise.

Élise: Thank you.