



# HELP IN FRANCE

Assistance for British people moving to or living in France

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## The FROG's NEWSLETTER #14 November 2008

### Running a business in France ?

#### FRENCH IS A LEGAL OBLIGATION

We've just been asked a very interesting question by one of our customers.

Many thanks to her ! ( We hadn't thought of it ourselves ! ) ☹

The question was :

**Can you advise if it is a legal requirement if you have a business here in France that your website must be in French ?**

We've asked our British solicitor specialised in French law who answered :

Regarding this question, I am not going to go into details (lack of time), just to say that yes there are legal requirements linked to the protection of consumers and the like and one of our clients has actually been called to the Tribunal de Police (Petty offence Court), and was fined for not having the website in French.

We've made some research and found the law dated 4th August 1994 relating to the use of French language (Loi 94-665 du 4 Août 1994 modifiée relative à l'emploi de la langue française). It says :

Art 2 : » In the description, offer, presentation of goods or services, as well as for invoices, the use of the French language is **obligatory**. The same applies to all types of written, spoken or audiovisual advertising ».

**This means that if you are selling goods, products or services in France and your business is registered in France, all the documents you edit must be translated into French.**

Regarding goods, products and services offered on the internet, the controls are made by a specialised service of the DGCCRF (Direction générale de la concurrence, de la consommation et de la répression des fraudes)(Trading standards and consumer protection Information) called Centre de surveillance du commerce électronique (CSCE)

#### Using French in France ?

This being said, it can also be a good idea, when you live and work in France, to have your website and documents edited in French.

Due to the current recession, it looks like not so many British people are moving to or having holidays abroad. Then, if you run a business in France, you may find it a necessity to attract French customers.

**In need of legal advice :** We can put you in touch with English-speaking solicitors

**We've rushed into translating our own website..... (Done !)** ☺



# PET PASSPORT PROCEDURE



By Dr. Diana James

The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) allows the entry of pets from certain countries into the UK, without passing through quarantine, using an EU Pet Passport.

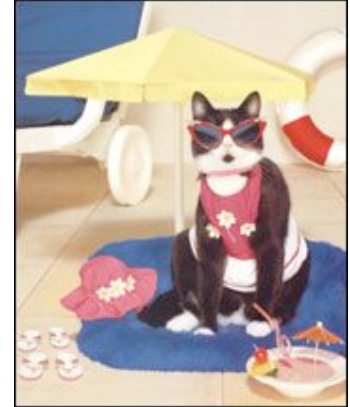
To obtain an EU Passport your pet must be:

- 1: **Identichipped** with an ISO standard microchip, **prior** to rabies vaccination.
- 2: **Vaccinated against rabies** with an approved vaccine, the **microchip having been read** by a vet just prior to giving the vaccine.

At least 1 month later -

- 3: **Blood tested, with the microchip having been read** by a vet, to check that the pet has responded favourably to the vaccine and that there are sufficient antibodies against rabies.

This is called the 'rabies titre'



The passport can now be issued **BUT** the date of entry into the UK cannot be earlier than 6 months after the blood test was taken.

For example: - August 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 the dog is identichipped and vaccinated against rabies.  
September 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 the dog has its identichip read and is blood tested for rabies 'titre'.  
The results are received and are above the acceptance titre.

The dog can enter the UK after March 1<sup>st</sup> 2007.

**However if the blood result had been below the acceptance titre,**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> identichip read and revaccinated against rabies.  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006, the dog has its identichip read and is blood tested for rabies 'titre'.  
The rabies 'titre' is within the acceptance zone.

The dog can enter the UK after April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007.

**Therefore it is wise to allow at least 9 months prior to return into the UK.**

**Validity of passport \*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\***

The Pet Passport has an expiry date which is linked to the rabies vaccination. **If the date of rabies vaccination is missed – even by 1 day – then the Pet Passport is invalidated** and the process must start again from step 2.

## RETURNING TO THE UK.

Once your pet has an EU Pet Passport, he/she can come back into the UK provided that:-

- At least 6 months has passed from the date of the successful rabies blood test.

- 24-48 hours prior to check-in for the return journey to the UK, a suitably qualified vet treats your pet against ticks and tapeworm, signing the Passport appropriately. The health check page also has to be signed.

- Your pet has not been outside any of the PETS qualifying countries in the 6 months before it enters the UK.

- Your pet is travelling on an authorised route with an approved transport company.

It is wise to keep the certificate of rabies titre, and identichip certificate (or copies) with the Pet Passport.

Up to date information and answers to many questions can be found on:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/pets/index.htm>

**Before boarding the ferry, or Eurotunnel train, you are responsible for:**



- Checking the identity of your pet by scanning with a microchip reader,

- Checking the pet passport presented relates to your pet, is valid and shows that your pet has successfully been vaccinated for rabies,


- Checking that treatment for ticks and tapeworm has been carried out.

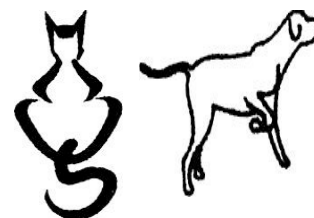
If you do not have the correct documentation, your pet will not be allowed back into the UK without going through quarantine, or re-treating with tick and tapeworm treatment.

**All the above applies equally to our feline friends as well.**

**VET2U**  
**VETàVOUS**

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Beauville 47470

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	<a href="mailto:vet2u@wanadoo.fr">vet2u@wanadoo.fr</a>
	Dr Diana James



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## **HELP IN FRANCE**

### **The English Speaking Network**

**We would like to thank all those who have written in giving information about English speaking services in France. Your responses have swelled our database and will help many people to get in touch with the services they need.**

**We are always happy to receive information like this but we do desperately need help in finding English speaking doctors, solicitors and others who are not allowed to advertise their services and who could be invaluable to those, for instance, with a medical problem who are unable to express themselves fully in French.**

**Our customers are our only source of information in this circumstance and we ask that you help us out here if you can. There are people ready to appreciate it.**

# Can you really make a living here?

By Helen Moss

“Can you really make a living here?”  
is the question most asked by visitors to our studio.



We live, with our two children, in a rural area surrounded by cows and sheep in the foothills of the Pyrenees near Quillan. We are “les étrangers” here, but since anyone not born in the village is referred to in this way, the majority of the thirty or so inhabitants are considered to be outsiders. We have, however, been accepted and are very happy living and working in this little corner of rural France.

I work as a designer, designing websites, brochures and wine labels for local businesses. My design work brings me into contact with many different people, chambres d’hôtes and gîte owners, wine makers, artists and photographers, environmental charities, restaurants, to name just a few. Many of these are small businesses who know that they need to publicise themselves and have a web presence, but are on a small budget and so need to find solutions which don’t cost the earth. I know exactly how difficult it can be to start a small business in France and so I do all I can to keep costs down. I love this work, helping people in the early stages of their business or even helping to update their company image or taking over the management of a tired website.

For this reason I decided to set up an online bi-lingual directory of Aude businesses. I felt that it would be good to group some local businesses into one website and, in particular to try to bring the French and English-speaking communities together by communicating information about businesses. The directory is called Pages Aude and having now covered the costs involved in setting it up, I now would like to offer the opportunity to Aude businesses of having a page on the directory free of charge. So if you are interested in this, please email me (my details are below).

We are involved in many activities here: teaching, we are gîte owners and my husband is an artist. Although he exhibits mostly outside of France, our design and art studio is open to the public and it is surprising how often it attracts visitors to our quiet village. We are both very flexible about when we work and what we do so life is pretty hectic, especially with children. However, we feel that this is the key to our businesses working – that we are prepared to adapt and meet our customers’ needs and that we are dedicated to integrating into our local community.

So, as we always say to people, the answer to the question always asked is a resounding “yes”.

Helen Moss

[www.atelierstlouis.com](http://www.atelierstlouis.com)

[www.pagesaude.com](http://www.pagesaude.com)

[helen@atelierstlouis.com](mailto:helen@atelierstlouis.com)



## Job Search

We have been asked by two of our contacts if we could help them find a job or occupation in their area. We've offered that they will write a short text to describe what they were looking for.

If others, among you, think this could be of a help, we'll be pleased to publish their ad in our future newsletters.

### **Kerrin Webster, Part-time job repairs, maintenance (building, plumbing, decoration, basic electrical work), Rognonas, 13870**

I am a qualified Quantity Surveyor/Project Manager with 20 years hands-on experience in the Construction & Petrochemical Industries. I am looking for part-time work and can undertake a wide variety of tasks from small to medium size repairs, maintenance & upgrade type work, ie bathrooms, kitchens etc. Is proficient in building, plumbing, decorations and basic electrical work. Honest, reliable and hard working. Email Kerrin at [masstant@aol.com](mailto:masstant@aol.com). Due to a increase in spam e-mails please put in the subject line - K2-construction quote required.

### **Sandra Hunter, part-time job from home, St André Sur Sèvre, 79380**

I am looking for work that I can do from home for a few hours a week, up to 10 hours but not weekends. My previous experience has been in clerical and administrative work as a school secretary and administrator. My French is up to A Level Standard and although the A level was some years ago its coming back to me. I have a computer and access to the internet. My telephone number is 05 49 65 13 69 and my email address is [kandinsky@fsmail.net](mailto:kandinsky@fsmail.net). Sandra Hunter.

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### **THE HELP IN FRANCE NEWSLETTER**

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