

PROPERTY By PAT TOOHEY

Until fairly recently the retirement village concept hadn't caught on in France but it is fast becoming an ideal place to live for active retired folk. These villages offer a number of advantages, the main ones



being the security that a gated residence brings, amenities such as a pool and club house and a sense of community with organised events and excursions. The largest brand name of these villages is Les Senioriales, a company bought earlier this year by Pierre & Vacances,



Europe's leading developer and manager of leaseback properties and holidays resorts. There are several retirement villages in France, mostly in the South of the country and one that may interest readers of the VVV is a gated development, just finished, in Grasse. It is well located, within walking distance of a few shops and restaurants and offers 2-

bedroomed apartments in low-rise buildings with a lift.

The apartments are delivered with a fitted kitchen, shower room with power shower, bright and spacious living room, bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, electric shutters, terrace and underground parking. Security is paramount and the

residence is fenced and gated, with videophone entry at the main door. The apartments are air-conditioned, sound-proofed and are energy efficient. As well as underground parking, the residence offers a heated pool, club house, live-in caretaker and hostess who will organise events and

outings. Remaining apartments start from €309 000 for an apartment of 62m² plus terrace.

There is just one thing, you have to be over 55 to live here!

Riverakeys are offering these apartments for sale. For more information, please

contact Pat Toohey at +33(0)660 732 948 or pat@rivierakeys.com or visit our website: www.rivierakeys.com

BOOK NEWS

"Escape to Provence" by Maureen Emerson - Fans of the writing of Winifred Fortescue,

whose book "Perfume from Provence" can perhaps be said to have started the cavalcade of British residents to this part of the world - together with numerous writers penning their experiences - will be fascinated to read the new biography of her by Maureen Emerson. "Escape to Provence" is the true story of two remarkable women who, with style and energy, carved out new lives for

themselves in the South of France between two world wars, an American, Elisabeth Parrish Starr, a heroine of the Great War, and Winifred Fortescue. Both escaped to Provence for quite different reasons - Elisabeth, with a need to live her life without censure, and Winifred because she and her husband felt that in Provence 'one could be poor with dignity'.

This biography of Winifred Fortescue and her circle between the wars in Provence, published by Chapter & Verse Books is stocked by bookshops in Valbonne, Châteauneuf, Cannes and Antibes. The book was launched June last year in Valbonne and sold out by autumn. Maureen Emerson will be giving a talk about her book, in French at a Cabris Culture Club event, celebrating the Foreigners who have all helped create the Cote D'Azur, 27 September being held at the Mairie, Cabris.

The book is illustrated, with a bibliography and index. There is more information on Winifred (Peggy) Fortescue, Elisabeth Starr and the book on www.perfumefromprovence.com.uk An excellent website, a tribute to Winifred, with over 100 pages on Provence, run by Peter Riley.

"Escape to Provence" is available from: chapterandversebooks@tiscali.co.uk and English



bookshops at Valbonne, Cannes, Antibes and on Amazon'. It costs £10.99 from Chapter & Verse in the UK and on Amazon.

SEPTEMBER 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

INTERESTING VISITS
LE PRADET - Visit a Snail Farm, sur
Rendez Vous, 06 62 09 47 66