

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR GUESTS

## WELCOME TO OUR FOURTH EDITION OF LE NOUVEAU BULLETIN!

2011 has gone so quickly. We can't believe it Christmas already! Once again it was lovely to meet those who visited Les Petites Cigognes for the first time, as well as catching-up with those who returned to visit us again. Bookings for 2012 are now in full flow. If you are thinking of visiting us again next year, please don't hesitate to contact us as soon as possible to check date availability.

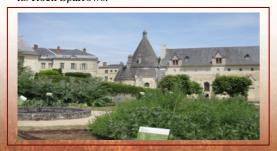
If you are a user of **Facebook**, we now have our own Les Petites Cigognes page. It's early days for us to use this mode of communication and we'll enhance the page as quickly as possible! Follow us there and help spread the word of Les Petites

Cigognes amongst your friends



The Abbaye Royale de Fontevraud, also famous for its Rock Sparrows.

holiday.



## Sunshine, relaxation and fond memories of Cussay!



At last, the end wall of the long barn is renovated whilst the view from La Colombe patio is maturing.



The weather throughout 2011 has been extremely varied. This time last year there was a good covering of snow but so far this winter temperatures have not been below 5°C. The maximum temperature this year was 32.4°C on 21 August, the same day that 2010's maximum was achieved! The two main weather features have been the drought - despite a few wet days and some torrential short storms the volume of rain we've received has been worryingly low- and two tornadoes that went through LPC in late August and September. However, the rain of the last few days has extremely quickly changed the pond from being empty to half-full and as we write this newsletter there are now forecasts of snow tomorrow.



We've been visiting more places ourselves too. The Musee Dufresne near Azay is an individual's Aladdin's cave. This is a collection of all forms of unwanted metal. Air raid sirens, a fully equipped dentist's van which visited patients around Descartes, an original guillotine

- thankfully we had a full lorry load, 34 cubic metres, of oak logs delivered in October. Here are the last 14 'steres' being unloaded. Hopefully we've enough logs for 7 years or more!



from the French Revolution and Bleirot's plane in which he made the first flight across the English Channel. Despite the thousands of exhibits this is certainly <u>not</u> a boring museum!

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