

The London French

Translation of the Questionnaire used for 2009 Pilot Project

Note: this is not the finalised questionnaire for the much larger Project Survey that is envisaged; it was used (in French) for initial research for the conference paper "France's Children: at Home at London? Towards a History of the French in London' (Debra Kelly and Martyn Cornick; researcher Saskia Huc-Hepher), 'Metropolis in Flux: Contemporary Cultural Migrations in London', University of Westminster, June 2009.

Using this questionnaire, 20 respondents were gathered over 2 weeks in May 2009; random sample from parents at a French supplementary school in south-east London; colleagues and acquaintances of the researcher.

Questionnaire begins:

Towards a History of the French in London

A short description of the project:

An edited book on the history of the French in London which traces their historical presence (for example the arrival of the Huguenots, exiles from the Revolution, the Second Empire, the Commune, the Free French in the Second World War, the many artistic, literary and cultural contributions throughout the centuries, French artisans and commercial enterprises) to the present day (post-war London, post May'68, contributions to social, cultural and economic life in the 1980s, 1990s and into the twenty-first century).

Publication is scheduled for 2012 to coincide with the Olympic Games in London.

If you have a few spare moments and you would like to share your thoughts on life in London, please do fill in the questionnaire below. You may do it anonymously, but if you would like to know more, or would like to contribute to the next stage of the project (for example, in interviews), please add your name and e-mail address.

Please return the completed questionnaire by e-mail before the 15 June to S.V.Huc-Hepher@westminster.ac.uk . Thank you for your time!

1. How old are you?
2. Are you male or female?
3. How long have you been living in London?
4. Why did you choose to come to London?
5. Have you worked/travelled to other areas of the UK? (if yes, what comparisons would you make with London?)
6. Where did you live in France before coming to London?
7. What did you do in France before coming to London?
8. How long did you/do you intend to stay in London?

Debra Kelly/Questionnaire 'The London French'

9. How long have you in fact been here?
10. How often do you go back to France? For how long? What are your reasons for returning?
11. Where do you live in London and why?
12. What is your highest qualification?
13. What kind of work do you do? Is it the same as when you lived in France?
14. Do you socialise with other French people/British people/other nationalities in London? If so, with who and why? If this is not the case, why is this (for each of the nationalities)?
15. What nationality is your partner (if you have one)?
16. Do you have children in London? If yes, what sort of school do they go to? What are the reasons for your choice?
17. Do you try to pass on a French identity to your children (if you have any)? If yes, how and why? If not, why not?
18. Do you feel that there is a 'French community' in London? If yes, why and does it have a specific location?
19. Are there places in London that you consider 'French'? If so, where and what are they?
20. Do you use French 'services' in London (shops, churches, the French Institute, doctors....)? If yes, where and what are they?
21. If you have lived in London for a long time, do you feel you are a 'Londoner'?
22. Do you feel you are a 'migrant' or an 'immigrant'? What do you understand by these two terms?
23. How would you describe yourself as Frenchman/Frenchwoman living in London?
24. Do you have any other comments or observations to add? If yes, please feel free to do so.