



La Gazette


Alliance Française
de la Côte Centrale

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ISSUE AUTUMN 2018

RENDEZVOUS DATES 2018

9th Jun, 14th July, 11th Aug, 8th Sep, 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec.

FRENCH BOOKS ON WHEELS-A collection of French books will be available on June 22nd from a bus outside the Erina Leagues Club from 12-5pm.

DVDS- Contact Maree Burtenshaw for the list of French movies

FRENCH LANGUAGE RESOURCES

- SBS-French news-8.40am daily
- TV5monde.com
- Culturethèque-Online website which has magazines, papers, books, music and study material in French.

Important message!

Please confirm on the Meetup site (Central Coast French Conversation Meetup Group) when attending the 'Meetups' on the 4th Saturday of every month.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT - AUTUMN 2018

One way to measure success in any club is in the growth of its membership. A club that does not grow, dies. It is therefore pleasing to note that our numbers, according to the current membership list, amounts to over 100. This includes both regular members and 25 students.

In relation to this, a special mention must be made of our inveterate deputy president Nathalie, who seems to have a particular knack of enticing people to join us. The “list” can barely keep up with her.

Of course other members of our committee make their contribution in many other ways, which are not always obvious. I am truly grateful to be a member of such a dedicated team.

As we approach the end of the financial year, we are also approaching the end of the membership year. Many members have already renewed, which can be done in cash, or via our website.

Among the benefits the club offers are our French language and English subtitled films. One also has access to Culturethèque, the Institute Français website, which has a number of offerings, such as a large number of magazines and papers, books and music and even study material in French. This is well worth subscribing to.

Finally, a special mention must be made of the planned New Caledonia study trip in 2019. A stay in a French speaking country is always a stimulating experience, sure to augment your enthusiasm. The 2019 trip is being organized by Patricia. She is looking for indicative numbers at this stage. Please see Patricia for further details.

Au prochain rendezvous.

MACRON IN AUSTRALIA



"Je crois beaucoup à la force d'un nouvel axe Paris-New Delhi-Canberra." [Emmanuel Macron](#) aura répété cette phrase pas moins de cinq fois en moins de trente-six heures à Sydney, la capitale économique de l'Australie et fief politique de son homologue, le Premier ministre Malcolm Turnbull. Bien que l'un comme l'autre se défendent de vouloir dresser une muraille dans le Pacifique pour lutter contre l'hégémonie chinoise, les deux dirigeants ont compris qu'il fallait s'y mettre à plusieurs dans cette immense région indo-pacifique pour contenir une Chine de plus en plus envahissante.

"I believe strongly in the strength of a new Paris-New Delhi-Canberra axis." Emmanuel Macron will have repeated this phrase no less than five times in less than thirty-six hours in Sydney, the economic capital of Australia and political stronghold of his counterpart, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. Although both defend themselves from wanting to build a wall in the Pacific to fight against Chinese hegemony, the two leaders understood that it was necessary to band together in this huge Indo-Pacific region to contain an increasingly invasive China.

MES SEJOURS EN FRANCE 1960-61 par Ary Kleiberg

La plupart des gens qui visitent La France viennent comme touristes. Moi, j'ai eu le plaisir d'y aller comme soldat, dans un camion de l'Armée Néerlandaise. La première fois fut fin Septembre 1960; on vint directement de l'Académie militaire. À la fin de cet entraînement, on fut immédiatement promu au grade de sergent.

La France était membre de l'OTAN à l'époque. (Elle a quittée quelques années plus tard). L'armée Néerlandaise n'avait pas assez d'espace dans son propre pays pour des grandes manœuvres, c'est pourquoi on mena des exercices conjoints interarmées, en France. La région choisie fut le Sud du Département de la Creuse (Massif Central) où se trouvait un vieux camp militaire dans le village de *La Courtine*. Nous devions laver nos vêtements dans nos casques.



Ce que les français ont trouvé étrange ce furent les épaulettes sur les uniformes néerlandais avec les mots "Je Maintiendrai". Cela date de l'époque où la langue Française était la langue internationale parlée en Europe. J'étais soldat seulement pendant 22 mois, mais les souvenirs sont toujours vifs!

Most people who visit France come as tourists. I had the pleasure to go as a soldier in a truck of the Dutch army.

The first time was at the end of September 1960; I went directly from the Under Officer Academy. At the end of that training you were immediately promoted to the rank of sergeant. Under Officers did their National Service for 21 months, but I stayed for 22 months.

At the time France was still a member of NATO. (she exited a few years later.) The Dutch army did not have enough room in her own country for large scale divisional exercises, which is why joint large scale army exercises were held in France.

The chosen region was in the South of Department Creuse (Central Massif). The trip there took 3 days, finally arriving at an old military camp in the village of *la Courtine*. We had to wash our undergarments in our helmets on the way.

The French have often remarked on the words "Je maintiendrai" on the epaulettes of the Dutch uniforms. This was a tradition when French was a global language. This will not change so quickly! I was a soldier for only 22 months, but my memories are always vivid!

BOULES EN FRANCE

Learn French – « Jean interdit » : en France, les joueurs de pétanque ont le blues

Est-ce que l'on doit être chic pour jouer aux boules ? La règle interdisant le port du jean pendant le championnat de France a scandalisé les amateurs de ce célèbre jeu français.

Jeunes et vieux de tous milieux sociaux se retrouvent de manière informelle dans les parcs ou sur les places des villages pour jouer aux boules ou à la « pétanque », traditionnellement avec un verre de vin ou de liqueur anisée (le Pastis, *ndlr*) à la main.

Mais alors que la fédération nationale cherche à faire reconnaître ce jeu comme sport olympique, elle a décidé que les joueurs sérieux devaient se faire beaux pour présenter une image plus digne pendant les compétitions.

« Nous faisons simplement appliquer un règlement qui existe depuis 1990 » a expliqué un porte-parole de la fédération nationale de pétanque, la FFPJP, alors que les joueurs amateurs montraient des signes de rébellion à travers tout le pays. Les jeans étaient déjà interdits pour le championnat national de pétanque, mais jusque-là ce code vestimentaire n'était pas appliqué pendant les qualifications.



Should we be smart to play bowls? The rule prohibiting the wearing of jeans during the championship of France scandalized fans of this famous French game.

Young and old from all walks of life meet informally in parks or village squares to play boules or "pétanque", traditionally with a glass of wine or aniseed liquor (Pastis) at hand.

But while the national federation seeks to have the game recognized as an Olympic sport, it has decided that serious players must be beautiful to present a more dignified image during competitions.

"We are simply enforcing regulations that have existed since 1990," said a spokesman for the national petanque federation, the FFPJP, as amateur players showed signs of rebellion across the country.

Jeans were already banned for the national championship of petanque, but until then this dress code was not applied during the qualifications.

Courtesy-**Le Courier en Australie**.

FRENCH IDIOMS

Avoir du pain sur la planche-----To have a lot on your plate, a lot to do

Jaimerais bien rester avec vous mais **j'ai du pain sur la planche**.

She said "I would love to stay, but I have so much to do."

Il tombe des hallebards-----To rain cats and dogs

A. Jean Claude, j'ai besoin de pommes de terres. Cours à l'épicerie et achètes-en deux kilos.

B. Mais maman, regarde dehors ! **Il tombe des hallebards !**

(I prefer the English version of raining cats and dogs rather than battle axes)!!

Tomber des nues-----To be stunned, taken aback

Henri: Tu connais Isabelle qui est en deuxième année de mathématiques à l'université ?

Marie : Mai oui ! Elle doit épouser mon cousin Edmond le mois prochain.

Henri : Pas du tout ! Elle vient de m'annoncer qu'elle va se marier avec son prof de maths.

Marie : **Je tombe des nues !** Je ne sais pas quoi dire !

Although Marie expects Isabelle will marry her cousin Edmond, Henri tells her that apparently she is going to marry her Maths professor and **so Marie is completely taken aback**.

Ne pas pouvoir être au four et au moulin-----not to be able to do everything at once, not to be able to be at two places at the same time

Depuis qu'elle est maman, Anne se rend compte qu'elle **ne peut pas être au four et au moulin** et elle dû renoncer à certaines activités.

Since becoming a mum, Anne has realized that she can't do everything and she has had to give up certain things.