



# La Gazette



**SPRING 2019 ISSUE**

## RENDEZVOUS DATES-

September 14th, October 12<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup> & December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## FRENCH FILM REVIEWS/EXHIBITIONS

The Alliance Française in Sydney is celebrating 120 years of their existence in NSW.

There is a trivia night, a media exhibition, talks on Bilingualism, French food by Gabriel Gaté and more. Enquiries- <https://www.afsydney.com.au> as well as email enquiries @afsydney.com.au

## FRENCH LANGUAGE RESOURCES

- French news on SBS daily at 8.40am
- TV5monde.com
- Culturetheque online-This website has books, magazines,papers,music and online study materials in French

## Important message!

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

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear members and friends, Bonjour!

Due to a short time frame, unfortunately...or maybe fortunately...my "News" will be brief!

First of all I would like to say a big "Bienvenue" to our new members who I was very pleased to welcome personally at our last Alliance Française Central Coast meeting in Erina and we'll be very happy to keep you as part of the AFCC "family".

As you know the Alliance Française is worldwide - "The" window of the French Culture and the French Language and our most important objective is to make sure that you enjoy practicing your French with us and in that regard we organise regularly different funny and friendly French Conversation Groups e.g. in Woy Woy, Erina and Shelley Beach....and all this of course on top of our exclusive and highly skilled teachers, Felix in Gosford and Patricia in Bateau Bay.

Since the last 3 months we have had a few events that most members and families enjoyed e.g. the two Cruises on beautiful Brisbane Waters with great music, lovely food and all of it crowned with beautiful weather...everything was there to be happy...by the way...the next cruise will be in February 2020.

Also the Bastille Day with a "yummy" French breakfast to bring extra energy to all students. Then the very colourful Bastille Day lunch at the friendly Cheeky Charlie's including very "patriotic bleu, blanc, rouge" decorations.

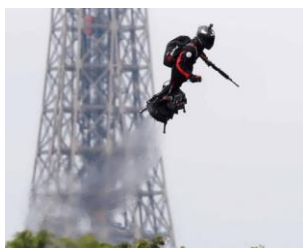
More events will come! Now with Spring on the way French picnics will be back with maybe some petanque games and a lot of other funny surprises.

Also don't forget to put in your calendar the next trip to Noumea...as soon as the dates are confirmed...believe you me...you'll love it!

A très bientôt

Nathalie Adams  
President

## LE 14 JUILLET À PARIS



### Défilé du 14 juillet : l'homme volant sur son «Flyboard Air» a stupéfié les Champs-Élysées

Franky Zapata, dont la plateforme volante turbopropulsée intéresse les militaires, a fait un passage très remarqué au dessus de la place de la Concorde.

**Une application militaire ?** Le Flyboard Air, véritable machine volante autonome alimentée en kérosène, est doté de cinq mini turboréacteurs qui lui permettent de décoller et d'évoluer jusqu'à 190 km/h, avec une autonomie d'une dizaine de minutes. Peu avant le défilé, la ministre des Armées avait expliqué sur France Inter vouloir en « tester différentes utilisations, par exemple une plateforme logistique volante ou bien une plateforme d'assaut » pour les militaires.

Vous pouvez le voir ici : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1KyLcXxiQI>

## BASTILLE DAY IN SYDNEY

Circular quay was buzzing with activity and French foods such as saucissons, cheese of all kinds, french wines and even table accessories made in France were on sale. The can-can display was in the premises of the Argyle pub and was very colourful indeed!



AND

## BASTILLE DAY ON THE CENTRAL COAST

The Central Coast Alliance Française had a very friendly “conversation” morning at the Erina Leagues Club. Nathalie Adams, the President, had organised a wonderful array of choux pastry, biscuits and chocolates as morning tea for everyone. On Sunday, Bastille day was celebrated at Cheeky Charlie's where everyone enjoyed a lunch and the company of other members.



## VIVID IN SYDNEY



## AND IN FRANCE



Above, **Notre-Dame de Paris** lit up as part of the “**Son et Lumière**” exhibition. For readers of this Gazette, please click on the link following to see what magnificent exhibitions have been created in France since 2017 for travellers and tourists in France. <https://www.carrieres-lumieres.com/>

## THE QUIRKY GALLIC HABITS YOU'LL PICK UP IN FRANCE

**Kissing other men** when greeting them (or going bearded cheek to bearded cheek to be more accurate) is one of the quirkiest Gallic traits for Anglos to adjust to. But give it a few years and you'll be doing it without even noticing. Although it might be a habit to drop when you go home for Christmas. Your mates back home may not be ready for this kind of cheek on cheek greeting just yet.



### Singing slogans at a protest march



Shouting, screaming and waving flags every time you disagree with something the government does is a thrill few nations truly enjoy in the same way. The idea of demonstration is to create chaos and force the authority to yield to negotiations. Although it's not always successful, it is still a powerful way to express solidarity and maintain the belief all citizens have a part to play in the civil society. Paradoxically it is when nothing works, no buses, trains or planes that French society functions at its best.

### Des Français au Volant !- Some French drivers at the wheel.



All readers wanting to smile or laugh can log into <https://www.thelocal.fr/20151208/the-quirkiest-habits-youll-pick-up-in-france>

## DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

- The French word “poubelle” owes its name to the prefect of the Seine department, Eugène Poubelle who in 1884 decreed the use of zinc bins to collect rubbish throughout Paris. Previously rubbish was simply thrown out on the street in front of buildings and the streets smelled very bad. Some people attached flowers to their buttonholes to mask the smell!
- Faire la grève (to go on strike) is an expression derived from the former place de la Grève in Paris, now called place de l’Hôtel-de-Ville. This square located by the Seine was one of the original landing places for boats during the Middle Ages (a grève is a gravel or sandy beach close to water). Men seeking employment were readily hired here for loading and unloading vessels. In the course of time, workers dissatisfied with their wages and conditions tended to gather at place de la Grève to express their grievances.
- “Tenir le haut du pavé” means to keep to the highest point on the pavement. This dates from the time when pavements were rare and in the middle of the street ran a stream of dirty water. High on the pavement, where the better-off walked, there was no sewage.

Courtesy of “Secret Paris” (Guide book)