Chers amis,

Our AGM was held “chez nous” at 420 Elizabeth St, North Hobart on March 22nd and it was most heartening to see the larger than normal turn-out. Our guest speaker, Estelle, talked about her reasons for coming to Tasmania and about her job as an osteopath. I was honoured to be re-elected as President (this will definitely be my final term) and I am pleased to welcome 2 new committee members-Meri Rowlands and Marilyn Pinkard. New blood is always needed and please feel free to contact any committee member at any time with suggestions for events/ soirées/ improvements. At our first committee meeting after the AGM, we have already planned several functions (advertised elsewhere in this magazine) so please make a note of them and come along!!

Our celebration of La St. Valentin on 14th February was the first time we were able to use our new premises for a function: thanks must go to the Treasurer, Gerald, who spent hours getting rooms ready for both our classes and functions. We continued our fortnightly drinks on a Friday evening until early April, when the weather became rather cold and daylight saving ceased: these gatherings will recommence later in the year. Our popular café/ conversation/ croissants mornings will continue throughout the year on the last Saturday of each month. This is also a good opportunity to borrow from our library if you cannot manage to pop in to the French House during opening hours.

The AF Hobart is very proud to have had two of our members honoured by the French Government in March. Both the French Consul, Mme Dianne Bye and Mayor Bertrand Cadart received the “Ordre national du Mérite” at ceremonies in Hobart. I would like to finish by asking all members to remember to recommend our AF Hobart classes to friends or those who arrive in Hobart. We have a group of dedicated teachers and are prepared to cater for special groups e.g. the Falloon family wanted a class of 10 lessons especially for themselves to prepare them for going to France later in 2014: we were able to accommodate this request. Another family of 4 (2 adults and 2 children) joined our first “French for Travellers” class, as they, too, will be leaving shortly for France. We have not been able to run children's classes so far, as these days young people have so many after school commitments, but we are working on filling this gap! It is only by teaching that we are allowed to retain the status of an Alliance Française. The Fondation in Paris is very strict on this point, so I urge you all again to publicise as much as possible our classes.

Amitiés,
Caroline
1914 Leap Proves Parachute's Value

Paris. Another most successful experiment with the parachute invented by M. Bonnet took place at the Juvisy aerodrome (Ile-de-France) late yesterday afternoon, when M. Bourhis, the passenger in a monoplane piloted by Lemoine, dropped without injury from a height of 500 mètres. It was with the Bonnet parachute that Pégoud first came into prominence when, in order to test new apparatus, he dropped from the machine he was piloting and landed safely sometime after his monoplane had crashed to earth. Yesterday's experiment (7 March 1914) which, owing to the high wind, did not start until almost twilight, naturally did not involve the loss of the aeroplane. Lemoine and his passenger started from the aerodrome, and when the machine had reached an altitude of about 500 metres, M.Bourhis pluckily jumped into the void. The parachute opened up immediately and bore M. Bourhis gently downwards. All would have gone well but for the wind driving the parachute toward the Seine, into which M.Bourhis finally dropped. He emerged unhurt, however.

prepared by Attila Urmenyhazi, membre L'AF de Hobart

The International Herald Tribune (retrospective news from 1887 to 2013)
POUR SOURIRE.....

Un mec est venu sonner chez moi pour me demander un petit don pour la piscine municipale. Je lui ai donné un verre d’eau !

Cette nuit, un voleur s’est introduit chez moi, il cherchait de l’argent ! Je suis sorti de mon lit et j’ai cherché avec lui !

La seule fin heureuse que je connaisse, c’est la fin de semaine !

De chez moi au bar, il y a cinq minutes; alors que du bar jusque chez moi, il y a 1 h 30 !

L’ironie, c’est quand tu rentres en prison pour vol de voitures et que tu en sors pour bonne conduite !

Le travail d’équipe est essentiel. En cas d’erreur, ça permet d’accuser quelqu’un d’autre !

Les statistiques, c’est comme les bikinis : ça donne des idées, mais ça cache l’essentiel !

Avant, je savais bien écrire, et un jour j’ai eu un téléphone portable : é depui il e produi kelk choz 2 bizar ...

Les parents, c’est deux personnes qui t’apprennent à marcher et parler, pour te dire ensuite de t’asseoir et te taire !

Le Père Noël est le seul barbu qui peut survoler les États-Unis sans problèmes !

L’être humain est incroyable ! C’est la seule créature qui va couper un arbre afin d’en faire du papier, pour ensuite écrire dessus : “ Sauvez les arbres !

Deux familles tasmaniennes qui ont choisi d’apprendre le français chez L’AF de Hobart.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE FROM 1st JANUARY

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE http://www.afhobart.org.au

A la radio!

Tuesday: 11.00-12.00am
Friday: 11.00-12.00am
Sunday: 4.00-5.00pm

French conversation
La Maison Française
North Hobart
last Saturday of the month
The French House
420 Elizabeth St
Nth Hobart
10.30-12 noon
Everyone welcome!
TABLEAU D’HONNEUR
SPONSORS OF THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE
DE HOBART*

MONTY EAST • KAREN BELBIN • LISA SINGH • THE NEASEY FAMILY
HONORARY FRENCH CONSUL MRS DIANNE BYE

*Le Tableau d’Honneur records the names of those who have kindly donated $500 to support the on-going activities of the Alliance Française de Hobart. We hope for further generous support.
Louis Girardin, a steward on the Recherche was really Marie Louise Victoire Girardin. She was the daughter of a former royal gardener at Versailles turned wine merchant. Louise was widowed in 1781 and in the early years of the Revolution had fled disgrace and her father’s wrath after giving birth to an illegitimate child by a disloyal lover.

She had appeared at Brest disguised as a man, with a letter of introduction to Mme Le Fournier d’Yaugville. She persuaded her brother Jean-Michel Huon de Kermadec, then second in command to d’Entrecasteaux, to recommend her as a steward on the Recherche. It appears that d’Entrecasteaux knew her secret, and gave her approval. Stewards were exempt from medical examination and she had a small but separate cabin.

During the voyage, Girardin stubbornly concealed her identity, despite widespread suspicion. She even fought a duel with a crew member who questioned her gender. In Van Diemen’s Land (Tasmania) the Aborigines were inquisitive about the sex of the younger, beardless French men, and the lack of women among their visitors. The crew joked it was just as well that Louis Girardin hadn’t come ashore with them, or he might have been revealed as a woman in disguise.

There is evidence in La Motte du Portail’s journal that Louise may have formed a relationship with his friend Sub-Lieutenant Mérite of the Recherche. Both died of dysentery within a day of each other in December 1794.

Atila Urmenhazy, membre de L’AF de Hobart.

Un portail de la mode lancé sur Europeana !
C’est fait ! Aujourd’hui, il y a un portail de la mode sur Europeana ! Découvrez, dans tous ses états, la mode la plus raffinée ; des centaines de milliers de dessins, de vêtements et d’accessoires proviennent de 19 institutions européennes spécialisées dans la mode et le costume. Certaines pièces n’ont jamais été présentées sur Internet auparavant.

http://www.europeanafashion.eu/portal/home.html
Learn French in France

The Mill: Your home base on a group holiday to GASCONY.

Twelve guests can be accommodated in 6 double bedrooms with bathrooms in a fully restored medieval mill with a beautiful garden and pool.

— A Meet and Greet buffet dinner on the first night consisting of a wide range of local Gascon delicacies and wines.

— Accommodation in a fully restored 13th century mill for 7 nights / 8 days in 6 double bedrooms with bathrooms.

— Daily French tuition from a qualified French teacher plus conversational French at the local Cafe du Commerce.

Contact: Aussies Ray & Lynne Johnstone:
ray@johnstonesinfrance.com
www.artholidaysinfrance.blogspot.fr
Below is the table from the document:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>CEFR level</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginners 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11.00 – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Jun 5 – Jul 17</td>
<td>Jan Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginners 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5.45 – 7.45pm</td>
<td>May 21 – Jul 2</td>
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<td>Continuation 2</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5.30 – 7.30 pm</td>
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<td>Continuation 7</td>
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<td>May 27 – Jul 8</td>
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<td>A1.2</td>
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<td>Conversation</td>
<td>B2</td>
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<td>French for Travellers</td>
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<td>Sat Mornings</td>
<td>10.00 – 12.00am</td>
<td>Jun 14 – Jul 19</td>
<td>Robert Hughes</td>
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Minimum of 5 students to have a class proceed, please ensure you have enrolled prior to the Friday of your class session commencing.