

CLIN D'ŒIL

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE HOBART INC août/septembre/octobre 2019

Chers amis,

Over the last three months, the Alliance Française de Hobart has had a high profile among schools and the francophile community and we always welcome free publicity.

It has been a pleasure to catch up with so many of you during our varied events since the last Clin D'Oeil was published. I hope you enjoy the photos that appear in this magazine.

In May, we had another film evening, showing Les Poupées russes, which was a sequel to last year's film, L'Auberge espagnole. In September this year we will show the third film in the series. Our large screen and sound equipment make these evenings most enjoyable occasions.

The June Quiz Night attracted a couple of dozen participants, who sorted themselves into four teams. I would like to thank those committee members who wrote questions for the various sections and special thanks to Kate Neasey who also bought small wooden spoons for the last-placed team.

On June 28, the annual Concours Alliance Française took place at Hobart College and a month later we had our Prize-Giving Evening at Bellerive Primary School. (details elsewhere in the newsletter).

Our Luncheon to celebrate La Fête Nationale on July 14th was attended by more than 50 and it was heartening to see so many new faces as well as welcoming our own members. The photos in this newsletter give a good impression of the day. The venue of the South Hobart Living Arts Centre was decorated by the committee and Jean-Pascal provided the food. Guests took home a "doggie bag" and remaining food was donated to Loui's van.

Our Session 4 classes are now up and running. Please think about joining one of these classes, as without classes to pay the rent, we will no longer be able to afford "our" house. Also, never forget that word of mouth is of prime importance in Tasmania.

From August 19th, stonework will be done on the house. At some stage the front steps will be replaced, so we are hoping this work does not clash with any of our functions. I will keep you informed.

I hope I can catch up with many more of you before the end of the year. If you have any suggestions for functions, please let me know, as the committee is always open to ideas.

Bien amicalement,
Caroline Jackson
Présidente AF Hobart

A NE PAS MANQUER

conversation, café
& croissants

31 août, 28 septembre,
26 octobre 2019

à partir de 10.30h

La Maison française

30 Church St, Nth Hobart

\$6 café + croissant - \$8 for
non-members

Friday 16th August

Games evening from 7:00 pm

Cover charge: \$ 5

Wine & juice can be purchased

Friday 13th September Film
evening

The Chinese Puzzle

(Casse-tête chinois) sequel to our
May film.

Quiche will be served at 6:30pm
before the film start of film at
7:00pm

Cover charge: \$10

Wine & juice can be purchased

October Event will be a
wine tasting at the Alliance
House.

WELCOME TO NEW/FORMER MEMBERS

John McArdle

MEMBERSHIP 106

TABLEAU D'HONNEUR

SPONSORS OF THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE HOBART*

- MONTY EAST • KAREN BELBIN • LISA SINGH •
- THE NEASEY FAMILY • IAN K. SMITH •
- MRS DIANNE BYE •
- ATTILA URMENYHAZI • GERARDA MUIR •
- Honorary Consul for France and Germany DAVID SHELLEY •
- GERRY & YOLANDE FREED •



ALL THINGS FRENCH
55 LIVERPOOL ST HOBART,
TASMANIA 7000
T: 03 62313321

*Le Tableau d'Honneur records the names of those who have kindly donated \$500+ to support the ongoing activities of the Alliance Française de Hobart.
We hope for further generous support.

The Tableau d'Honneur was inaugurated several years ago when the AF de Hobart first established its own headquarters in North Hobart. We sought members of the community who were willing to be patrons of our organisation, and we have received generous donations from Monty East; Senator Lisa Singh; Dianne Bye, Honorary Consul in Hobart for France & Germany David Shelley; Ian K. Smith; Karen Belbin, manageress of Chez Moi; the Neasey family – Kate, Frank, Kit and Patrick, Attila Ürményházi and recently from, Gerarda Muir, and Gerry & Yolande Freed.

LE CONCOURS 2019

On June 28th more than 200 students came to Hobart College to participate in the 2019 Concours Alliance Française, which has been running for over 50 years.

Students had spent most of Term 2 learning their grade poem off by heart, practising for comprehensions, conversations and preparing posters (primary grades).

Thanks to modern technology, we had students from the North participating in the poetry sections, with their teachers having recorded them and sent through the videos for the judges to watch. For the poetry section, students are judged on fluency, emotion, pronunciation and intonation. Many years later, students can often remember the poems they learned through our competition.

There are 14 sections overall in the competition and I would like to thank our 18 judges, who gave their time freely to help encourage the learning of French in Tasmanian Schools.

Three prizes are awarded in each section, as well as many “mentions honorables”. Students also receive a “certificate de participation” if they did not win a prize or a mention. Over 50 book prizes were awarded. The French Embassy in Canberra sent a small packet of books and the Modern Language Teachers of Tasmania gave us a generous grant of \$200, which paid for certificate printing.

The Prize-Giving evening was held at Bellerive Primary School on Thursday 25th July. The honorary French Consul, Mr. David Shelley presented the prizes. First prize winners in each section recited their poem and pupils from both Bellerive and Howrah Primary schools performed musical items.

Another successful Concours has been held and it raised the profile of our Alliance in the wider community. CJ.



Students from Howrah Primary school presented an item during the soirée.



Who has heard of these French islands?

These two little-known French-funded volcanic specks lie smack in the centre of the Polynesia/Melanesia region.

Wallis and Futuna, which lie 230km away from each other, are linked through French governance but that's where the connection ceases: Wallis has ancestral connections with Tonga, while Futuna traces its roots to Samoa. This is evident in the languages, which are quite different although mutually comprehensible, as well as the Samoan-like tapa designs of the Futunans and the Tongan-influenced designs found around Wallis. The two islands remain competitive with each other, but Wallis, being more populous (around 10,750 residents) and the centre of government, retains the upper hand.





The total land area of Wallis and Futuna is nearly 55 square miles. The population based on the 2018 census is 11,558, putting the population density at over 216 people per square mile.

The capital of Wallis and Futuna is Mata-Utu, which is also the largest city. Mata-Utu is located on the island of Uvea (also known as Wallis) and has a population of nearly 1,200 people. Wallis and Futuna is made up of three volcanic islands with many islets. There are two main island groups – the previously named Uvea and the Hoorn Islands, which are also known as Futuna Islands. Over 72% of the population lives on the island of Wallis.

The major ethnic group in this island region is Polynesian. Other minority groups include people of Metropolitan French descent and whites that are of French descent. Nearly 60% of the population speaks Wallisian, while close to 28% speak Futunan. Over 12% speak French. Nearly everyone in Wallis and Futuna are of the Roman Catholic faith, which is practiced by 99% of inhabitants.

The population of this island region was on the rise from the late 1960s to the early 2000s, reaching a peak of nearly 15,000 inhabitants in 2003. However, at the time of the 2008 census, the population had declined and has continued to fall at every five-year census since. This is primarily because of the lack of job and educational opportunities that are driving young islanders to New Caledonia. Political tension on the main island has also contributed to the declining population.



REMINDER
Film Evening
Friday
13th September

The Chinese Puzzle
(Casse-tête chinois)
sequel to our May
film.

Quiche will be
served at 6:30pm
before the start of
film at 7:00pm
Cover charge: \$10
Wine & juice can be
purchased.



Cédric Klapisch's free-wheeling, absurd but likable dramedy Chinese Puzzle, is the last part of a trilogy that began with his 2002 movie L'Auberge Espagnole, introducing us to a pan-European cast of twenty somethings doing a "stagiaire" studentship in Brussels. His Russian Dolls (2005) took the characters to St Petersburg and now with Chinese Puzzle, these people are in New York, pushing 40 with complicated lives: divorce, remarriage, jobs in different cities, stepkids. Fitting it all together is the "Chinese puzzle" of the title, and Klapisch turns China into a pert motif for exotic muddle (as in, perhaps: "Forget it, Jake, it's Chinese-puzzle-town"). Xavier (Romain Duris) is now a successful Paris writer devastated to learn his wife Wendy (Kelly Reilly) wants to leave him and take the kids to New York to be with her new man. Xavier follows her out there, where he has a fake wedding with a Chinese-American woman to stay in the country; his lesbian friend Isabelle (Cécile De France) is there having a relationship with Ju (Sandrine Holt), another Chinese-American woman, where they are bringing up the child they had using his sperm. Meanwhile, Xavier's ex-girlfriend Martine (Audrey Tautou) shows up in New York to do business with a Chinese tea company and their flame is rekindled. For all its goofiness and silliness, the story bops amiably and fluently along. It's a sort of boxset drama where the best stuff is in the last episode.
Peter Bradshaw The Guardian



The Goddard Sapin-Jaloustre Scholarship Trust offers grants to assist Australians in pursuing courses of study and projects (scientific, cultural and technical) in France. For further information and application form go to <http://goddard-sapin-jaloustre.org/>.

Closing date for applications for grants to be taken up in 2020): 15 November 2019.



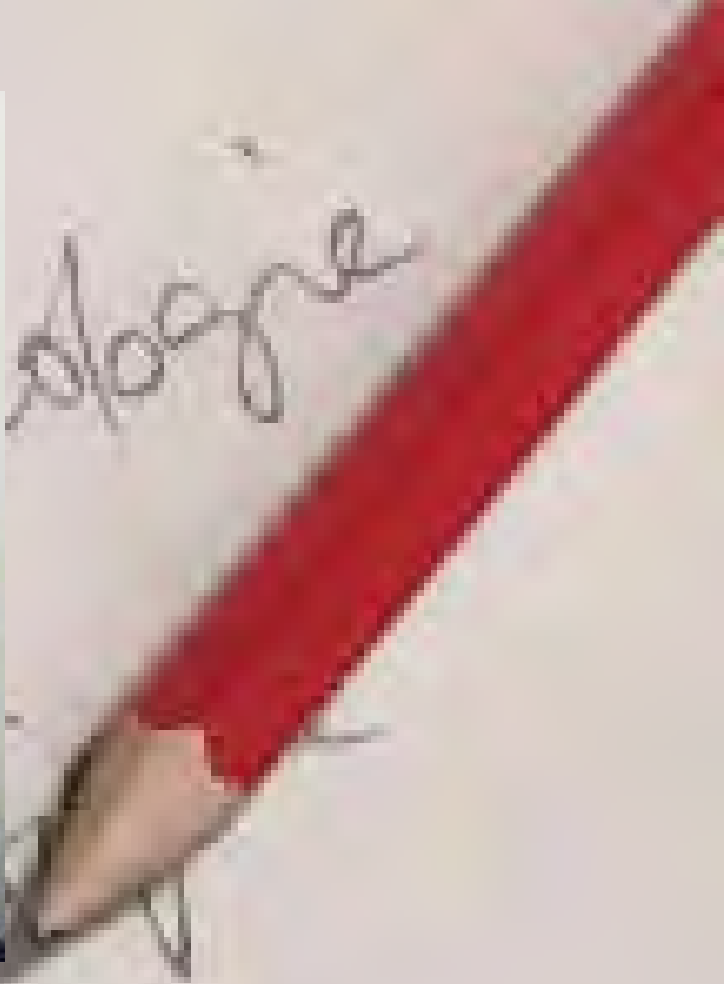
**ADVERTISE YOUR
 BUSINESS IN
 CLIN D'OEIL**
 contact the Editor
clindoeil@afhobart.org.au



ART magazines kindly donated by a generous community member Jennifer Marshall.
 Next time you are at The French House, feel free to browse and/or borrow.
 Another opportunity to read in French!



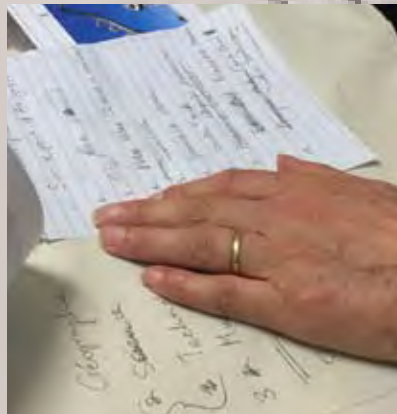
L'animateur
formidable
Guy
Nicholson



les R en Noir



les Matildes





Soirée pour notre quiz

Le vendredi 14 juin, plus de 20 personnes (membres et invités) se sont réunis à l'Alliance Française pour participer à un quiz. On s'est divisé en 4 équipes : les Matildes, R en noir, les Nageurs plus et les Amnésiques.

Notre animateur, Guy Nicholson, a posé des questions sur l'histoire, les sciences et la technologie, la musique, la géographie et le sport. On a dû aussi identifier plusieurs monuments français et des personnages célèbres. La concurrence fut acharnée !

Bien que les questions aient été posées en français, on a pu y répondre en anglais pour que nos invités se sentent « chez eux ».

L'équipe gagnante, R en noir, a remporté le trophée et ceux qui sont arrivés en 4e place ont reçu une petite cuillère en bois (pour la moutarde) aussi bien qu'un autocollant.

Le rire, les discussions, le vin, le souper : tout a contribué à une soirée bien réussie ! CJ

(Merci au comité pour le souper délicieux et la bonne préparation des pièces chaudes Ed.)



Nom	R _{A1}	R _{A2}	R _{A3}	R _{A4}	R _{A5}	R _{A6}	R _{A7}	TOTAL
Ren noir	11	7	9.5	7	4	21	5.5	68.0
les Matildes	12	4	7	3.5	4	14.5	9.5	54.5
les Amnésiques	11.5	5	7	8	8	15	9	63.5
les Nageurs Plus	11	5	4	3.5	5	14	5.5	48.0
	Géographie	sciences et tech	Musique	histoire	sports	monuments	personnages	



LE SOUPER



LA MUSIQUE POUR LE QUIZ
Marilyn Pinkard



THE AF COMMITTEE 2019-2020

President Caroline Jackson
VicePresident Meri Rowlands
Secretary Marilyn Pinkard
Treasurer/ Publicity Officer
Gerald Morford-Waite

Class
Coordinator Caroline Jackson

Committee Françoise Clarke
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Gerry Freed
Kate Neasy
Marie-Rose Jones
Ans van Heijster
Sandra Ellis

Editor Clin D'ŒIL Carolyn Canty ((ex officio))

Thanks to Jean-Yves for managing the website.

A la radio!

<http://www.sbs.com.au/guide/channel/SBSRadio1/location/TAS>

1pm Saturday, Tuesday,
Thursday

French language radio in
Hobart weekly from 4-5 pm
on Hobart FM (96.1 FM).

Four Francophone
presenters: Chloe
Cadby-Bibari, Sandrine
Haris, Clothilde Langlais and
Aurélié

Charenton present a
program of French music,
news and events to
interest French speakers
around Hobart.

Tune in and give your
support.

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

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE
HOBART Inc.
PO Box 70 South Hobart 7004
<http://www.afhobart.org.au>

MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEND ANY
INTERESTING FRENCH RELATED ARTICLES,
COMMENTS, PICTURES, TRAVEL TALES, IN
EITHER FRENCH OR ENGLISH FOR
CONSIDERATION IN THE NEXT
EDITION OF CLIN D'ŒIL.

I receive very little feedback re the content of Clin D'Œil.
Hopefully you are all enjoying the articles.
cantycd@bigpond.com
next deadline 18 juillet 2019



ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE HOBART

30 CHURCH ST NORTH HOBART

GOOD STREET PARKING
ALSO CARPARK AT SIDE
EASY ACCESS THROUGH THE GARAGE
(with notice)

HOBART PETANQUE CLUB SANDY BAY BEACH

THE GAME

Petanque originated in the French village of La Ciotat as a modification of boules, Jeu de Provence, in order to accommodate a member in a wheelchair, making the game more about skill than strength.

It has become the most popular bowling game in the world with over 50 nations competing annually at the World Championships.

The Rules

Players form opposing teams of one, two or three players. A game should have no more than 12 boules in play.

Teams toss a coin to decide who plays first.

The winner draws a circle about 50cm in diameter and, from the circle, throws the jack 6 to 10 metres. From the circle, the same team throws one boule to approach the jack.

The opposition then throws a boule attempting to get closer to the jack and continues to throw until they do so, or run out of boules, whichever comes first.

Once a lead is established by either side at any stage of the game, the trailing side are obliged to throw until they regain the lead, or run out of boules.

When all the boules have been thrown the score is added up. The boule nearest to the jack wins, and scores one point. Additional points are gained for any other boules the winning team have closer to the jack than the opposition's best boule.

The winner draws a circle around the jack and begins a new end playing in the direction of their choice. Play continues until one side scores 13 points.

Hobart Petanque Club
welcomes new members

Location

Long Point Rd, Sandown Park
Lower Sandy Bay
(near Seagrass Restaurant)

Playing Times

Monday social games
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Thursday social games
1:00pm - 4:00pm
(non daylight saving)

4:00pm - 8:30pm
(daylight saving)

BYO BBQ most evenings

Sunday afternoon competition
1:00pm - 3:00pm (nds)

2:00pm - 4:00pm (ds)
(Piste fee \$3 + entry fee \$2)

President: Terri Branson
Secretary: Sharyn Copp
Recruiting: gn.mcdowall@bigpond.com



Quebec's language anxiety: The French language, yes, but which one?

Language politics in Quebec are often a numbers game. Statistics Canada detects a small decline in the use of French in the home, or the province's auditor-general finds that programs to teach French to immigrants produce fewer graduates than expected. The political class responds with dire warnings about the withering of French chez nous, and with calls for tougher language legislation.

Behind these periodic flare-ups, a heated battle grinds on among linguists, teachers of French and lexicographers, about the French that is – or should be – spoken by Quebecers. The antinationalistes argue that Quebec should cleave to an international standard; while the aménagistes say that French in Quebec should be free to embrace idioms not found elsewhere.

The situation is neatly summarized by the Treasury of the French Language in Quebec (TLFQ), a scholarly project based at Laval University. "The French language, yes," says a banner heading on its web pages, "but which one?" In one of the latest salvos in this debate, linguist Diane Lamonde argues that too often, linguistics is jumbled up with politics. Support for a made-in-Quebec form of French, she says, is automatically seen as de facto support for a nationalist ideology and Quebec separatism.

The title of Lamonde's recent book, *Français Québécois: La politisation du débat*, is both descriptive and fantastical. French in Quebec has been a politicized topic at least since 1838, when Lord Durham told the British government that linguistic assimilation of francophones in its North American colony "ought to be immediately entered on and firmly, though cautiously, followed up."

The 1973 Gendron Report on the Situation of the French Language and Linguistic Rights in Quebec summarized the province's drift toward Lord Durham's hoped-for result. The report found that French was "a marginal language, since non-francophones need it very little," and that the province was experiencing a "massive anglicization of the Quebec working class." The Charter of the French Language (Bill 101) followed four years later, leaving little room to argue that language and politics could be kept apart.

People in the rest of Canada, aware of the artistic flowering of joul in the 1970s, may imagine that Quebec francophones revel in their dialects and coinages. Where some Québécois see a made-in-Quebec French as an expression of national identity, however, others see it as a shortcut to isolation.

"The victims of this linguistic separatism," writes the French-born linguist Lionel Meney, "will be the Québécois, confined to a market of 6 million people, a linguistic and cultural ghetto." Meney admits that francophone Quebecers have "a vernacular language that is our own," which he dubs *Franbécois*. But this lower "register" is a limited "half-language," he says, strongly influenced by English and unable to match the breadth and precision of "standard international French."

Lamonde attacks Meney for the political colouring of his arguments in his 2011 book, *Main basse sur la langue*. Her book is one long demolition of his positions, even though he and she are both antinationalistes. She condemns him for using the wrong arguments to reach the right conclusions.

Franbécois has a formidable state apparatus behind it. The Quebec Office of the French Language (OQLF) has, since 1961, vetted additions to the language and invents French terms to supplant English words that have crept into use.

The OQLF's coinages and usage decisions are published online in *Le grand dictionnaire terminologique* (GDT).

The provincial Office of Linguistic Policy, created in 1988, supports *Usito*, a subscription-based online dictionary launched at the University of Sherbrooke in 2013. *Usito* aims to describe French as used in Quebec ... particularly in the standard register – in a word, *Franbécois*. The goal is to satisfy Quebecers' "legitimate desire to develop as a North American francophone community."

The TLFQ also has its Historical Dictionary of Quebec French, published in 1998. It too focuses on usages that distinguish French as spoken in the province.

Dictionaries of French in Quebec are generally both descriptive and prescriptive. *Usito*, for instance, tells you the meaning of a word, and also whether there are grounds for not using it. Often the decision has to do with whether the word is an anglicism.

"Char," a common colloquial term for car, is branded as an anglicism by *Usito*, though other dictionaries trace its origin to the French word "chariot." The GDT does not acknowledge "char," or "chum," a slang term for boyfriend.

The GDT's first definition for "piastre" or "piasse," however, is "dollar," a blatant borrowing from English. Its preferred term for "cookie," meaning a piece of information lodged in one's Internet browser, is "témoin" – a doubly prescriptive term, in that it was invented by the OQLF to displace the English word.

What the dictionaries generally miss is the grammatical slippage that occurs when the shadow of an English phrase can be glimpsed in a French sentence that is idiomatically off-key. This was amusingly demonstrated when *Le Devoir* columnist Louis Cornellier wrote recently about *notre français*, only to receive, from a reader in the comments section, three revisions of statements in his piece that were more idiomatically French.

The aménagiste urge to codify Quebec French in dictionaries, including the Glossary of French in Canada (1930) testifies to the need both to have a distillation of the language through non-European linguistics, and to feel the permanence of the vernacular through an organized mass of words. They are the fruits of pride in the vernacular, but also of the language anxiety that is, pace Diane Lamonde, woven into Québécois life and politics.

Available now from the French House
 custom-made badges
 showing your name or your hobby
 or your message
 with a chosen design from a site such as
<https://publicdomainvectors.org/>
 or your own illustration

\$5 each (5.7 cm diameter)
 please place orders via Kate
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* French regional flags available

example:



note: all profits support
 Alliance française de Hobart

Many current DVDs which
 are available for members
 to borrow.



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 YOUR BEST FRENCH
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 OUR
 MEMBERS?**
 (high res images with details)
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French conversation
 La Maison Française
 North Hobart
 last Saturday of the month
The French House
30 Church St,
Nth Hobart
10.30-12 noon
 Everyone welcome!



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YEAR



Alliance Française de Hobart Inc.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Annual AF Membership is current from 1st January.

Is this a Renewal?

Tick ☐

OR

A New Membership?

Tick ☐

PLEASE

Name 1:

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If this is a Family/Partners Membership, please use the box below to enter additional names:

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Membership Type	Fees	Tick <input type="checkbox"/>
Single Membership	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seniors Membership	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family/Partners Membership	\$60.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Membership	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

This Membership form, together with a cheque or money order (made payable to "Alliance Française de Hobart") should be sent to:

The Treasurer,
Alliance Française de Hobart
PO Box 70, South Hobart TAS 7004

Or EFT →

Name: Alliance Française de Hobart Inc.

BANK: MYSTATE

BSB: 807-009

ACCOUNT NO. 12122945

Please use your surname to allow acknowledgment of payment

Signature:

Date:

After payment by EFT you must return the completed membership form to the above address to complete the enrolment process.



la fête nationale française
" Bastille Day"
Sunday, 14th July









A PARISIAN BOOKSELLER SUGGESTS SOME FRENCH BOOKS TO READ

Ernest Hemingway *A Moveable Feast* is a memoir about his early years as a struggling migrant in the 1920s.

Sarah Turnbull *Almost French* The memoir of an Australian woman who finds the love of her life and the city of her dreams in Paris.

Aysegül Savas *Walking on the Ceiling* A novel set in Paris and Istanbul about a young Turkish woman grappling with her past – and her complicated relationship with the famous British writer who longs for her memories.

Selected Letters by Madame De Sevigne. She paints an extraordinarily vivid picture of France at the time of Louis XIV, in eloquent letters written throughout her life to family and friends.

The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas, by Gertrude Stein. Stein wrote this in 1933 in the guise of an autobiography authored by Alice B. Toklas, who was her lover, with an insight into the Paris art scene featuring Cézanne, Matisse and Picasso.

The Flight Portfolio by Julie Orringer. A gripping historical novel based on the true story of Varian Fry's extraordinary attempt to save the work, and the lives, of Jewish artists fleeing the Holocaust.

Demystifying the French, by Janet Hulstrand. This one is aimed at first-time visitors to France as well as long-term expatriates – and designed to help readers “crack the code” of the French. Janet talked all about the book.

Books for children

Paris Chien, Adventures of an Expat Dog, by Jackie Clark. Hudson, an adventurous Norwich Terrier, moves to Paris and finds plenty of expat canine challenges along the way.

Marielle in Paris, by Maxine Schur. Marielle the mouse takes a wild ride through Paris to recover nine missing dresses she made in this brilliantly illustrated book.

SPOTLIGHT



CHRIS CODY, 54, is an Australian jazz pianist and composer who has written *Astrolabe*, a suite inspired by the 18th-century French navigator and explorer Jean-Francois de La Perouse

John Ficker

INTERVIEW BY Eric Myers

You live near Sydney's Maroubra Beach, but you've spent many years living in Paris, and now divide your time between performing in France and Australia. Are you a Francophile?

Absolutely! I read Camus and Sartre at school and discovered French cinema. Films by Truffaut and Godard stirred up my fantasies about the place and its people. I imagined playing piano on the Left Bank from about 15. I moved to Paris for 22 years, played with many French and American musicians, touring Algeria, Africa, and most European countries. I met my wife and my children were born there.

The La Perouse story is a fascinating one. Can you summarise it?

La Perouse was commissioned by Louis XVI to circumnavigate the world, improve existing charts, meet with indigenous peoples and expand scientific and cultural knowledge of the world. He led two frigates and 225 men including scientists, naturalists, and three illustrators. The young Napoleon Bonaparte applied to be on the expedition but was rejected. When La Perouse arrived at Botany Bay three days after the First Fleet he had been at sea for two and a half years, exploring the Pacific. He stayed at Frenchmans Cove for six weeks, carrying out repairs before sailing

north to the Solomon Islands where both ships were shipwrecked. The first crew was massacred by the islanders, the second survived a year waiting to be rescued. The Pandora, searching for the *Bounty* mutineers, ignored their smoke signals. They built a boat and sailed off but were never seen again. King Louis XVI famously asked before he was led to the guillotine, "is there any news of Monsieur La Perouse?"

What attracted you to writing this suite?

Having just moved back from France, and living near La Perouse, the themes of old world versus new, the meeting of different peoples and cultures, of migration, identity, and our own eventual disappearance resonated strongly with me. What if Australia had been settled by the French? The French had staked a claim to the western half of Australia that they charted, but the French Revolution, wars and financial difficulties put it all on hold. By the time they were ready to try again, Perth had been founded. Approaching James Cook's 250th anniversary let's also remember the Dutch and French explorers, and the indigenous perspective. La Perouse in his journal points out the absurd notion of claiming a land already inhabited, on behalf of a far-away kingdom.

How would you describe the suite in musical terms?

There are nine pieces drawing upon jazz, classical, and world music. I wanted to capture some of the colours La Perouse would have encountered, while showing the meeting of cultures, so we start with some medieval old world impro, move through upbeat jazz to an austere brass chorale, a still becalmed ballad, a Japanese temple piece, to canons, chaos, mourning and finally a waltz for hope. I use 12 instruments including violin, accordion, piano, double bass, percussion, horns, woodwind and didgeridoo to evoke different cultures and moods. Each musician also improvises and the suite takes the listener through a full range of emotions.

How do you go about creating a theatrical experience with the music?

Having read the fascinating ship journal I thought it would be good to give a voice to La Perouse. Actor Simon Wilson reads revealing extracts from his journal. Photographer Paul Faure-Beac has created beautiful photos and video loops of sea and skylines and some artists' drawings.

***Astrolabe: Suite for La Perouse* will be performed at Riverside Theatres, Parramatta, on Sunday.**