

LA GAZETTE

Publication mensuelle de l'Alliance Française de Christchurch

Tél (03) 365 8370 E-mail enquiries@afchristchurch.org.nz Fax (03) 365 8372

Adresse postale : PO Box 650, Christchurch 8140, Nouvelle-Zélande

Siège : Level 5, Ibis House, 183 Hereford Street, Christchurch

Le Mot de la Présidente

Bonjour à tous.

L'année s'achève déjà. Une année bien remplie qui se termine de façon positive pour l'Alliance. Nous accueillons au comité plusieurs nouveaux membres qui se présentent dans les pages suivantes. Tristement nous disons au revoir à Ilda qui part en Afrique du Sud pour 2 ans. Quelle aventure!

Le mois de décembre est un mois de festivités avec le réveillon de Noël en famille et la Saint Sylvestre pour fêter le dernier jour de l'an avec les amis. Quoiqu'en France la tradition soit d'envoyer ses cartes de vœux en janvier je profite de la dernière Gazette de l'année et vous souhaite tous mes meilleurs vœux pour 2010.

Joyeux Noël, Bonnes vacances et à l'année prochaine!

The year is coming to an end already. A very busy year ending in a positive way for the Alliance Française.

We welcome new committee members and invite you to read their profile in this issue. Sadly we have to say goodbye to Ilda who is off to South Africa for 2 years. What an adventure!

December is a month of festivities with family Christmas and New Year's Eve parties. Although in France the tradition is to send New Year's wishes in January I send you my wishes earlier with this issue of the Gazette. All the best for 2010 . Merry Christmas, happy holidays and see you all next year!

Martine Marshall-Durieux.

Calendrier des Activités

LA PERMANENCE: L'activité du jour commence toujours à midi et finit à 13h. Venez donc pendant l'heure du déjeuner si vous travaillez ou venez prendre un thé et papoter dès 11h30.

24 décembre-3 janvier : Fermeture annuelle de l'Alliance.

18 janvier – 29 janvier : Intensive classes start :

Beginner levels
French for Travellers
Intermediate and Advanced

20 janvier de 2 :00 à 5 :00pm: l'après-midi des enfants

27 janvier de 2 :00 à 5 :00pm: l'après-midi des enfants (2)

1 Février : Term 1 starts !
Enrol now !

3 février de 12h à 13h: **La Permanence** avec un invité spécial !

5 février à 18h : The Alliance goes arty...
Opening reception of the exhibition « *From New Cadelonia to New Zealand* » with artist François Missègue.

10 février : La Permanence : on joue au Scrabble de 12h à 13h !

17 février de 12h à 13h : **La Permanence**. On se met à jour et on regarde les infos françaises !

24 février de 12h à 13h : **La Permanence**. On regarde French in action, une méthode unique pour découvrir de nouvelles expressions françaises et améliorer son français.

19 février : Soirée Spéciale Cinéma Français en folie ! *Book now, limited number of seats.*

23-26 Février :
Festival du Film Français.

PAST EVENTS

Retours sur les événements marquant de l'année

This has been an exciting year for the Alliance Française in terms of cultural events. We hope you enjoyed them as much as we did. Let's remember these moments spent all together to celebrate the French and the kiwi culture!

March 28th: 50th Anniversary of the Alliance Française:



July 14th: Bastille Day at 'Le Tour de France'



September 18th: Soirée Décadente au Plonk



October 3rd: French Fest in Akaroa



October 30th : Exhibition ' Le Développement Durable'.



Speak French in less than 3 hours!

Visit New Caledonia
our closest French-speaking neighbour

Return airfare to Noumea

From **\$770** economy, ex Auckland
(including all taxes, levies, departure fees)

Seats limited at this level and may not be available on all services. Higher levels therefore may apply in some cases.

Booking, cancellation and refund restrictions apply.

Price is per person in NZ dollars are correct at time of printing (12Jun09) but may be subject to change

Ask about inclusive hotel/apartment or fly/drive packages and airfares from Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Queenstown

UPCOMING EVENTS

L'année prochaine à l'Alliance

Many of you, our members, are students at the Alliance. You have decided to learn French for many different reasons: family origins, your son will marry a beautiful French girl and you want to be able to speak good French when meeting the relatives, you want to retire in France or settle and work there, etc. But learning a foreign language is also about discovering, through words, another culture. This is an important aspect that the Alliance Française understood a long time ago and this is why you always try to provide you with the best cultural events.

Visual Arts, Literature, Culinary Arts, Music, enjoy our 2010 selection of cultural events!

To help promote the Francophone culture in Christchurch, the Alliance Française offers its premises to talented francophone artists. In February come, enjoy and maybe let you tented by the **paintings** of artist François Missègue, painter from New Caledonia.

We will start 2010 beautifully with the now famous French Film Festival which will be in Christchurch from the 23rd to the 28th of February.

Au programme: **Mesrine, Fais-moi plaisir, le hérisson, jusqu'à toi**, etc. The year selection will enable you to fully enjoy the wealth of the French Cinema. To make this festival even better, the Alliance Française will offer its member a **Soirée Spéciale French Ciné with cheese, wine and French Cinema Quiz**.



In March you will discover and enjoy the variety of French Cultures: indeed French is not only about France (and Paris) but rather about those 130 French speaking countries which are part of the Francophone world. In March get ready for a special series of events about our wonderfully tasty and colourful "espace francophone"!



And what's better than a **francophone writer** to illustrate this richness? The Alliance Française of Christchurch will be honoured to receive Fariba Hachtroudi, franco-iranian author and journalist for a special talk. Fariba left Iran when she was a child and lived and studied in France. Her books are about her journeys back to Iran. She offered a unique view of her country, blending all together historical information, cynism and humour. Her books are available in the AF ressource centre.

April...Easter time! And for the Alliance this means chocolate and many other "**gourmandises**" you will enjoy during a very special evening!

Mai, fais ce qu'il te plait!

In June we will celebrate **Music Day** all around the city with a series of musical events and July will be, of course, about celebrating **Bastille Day**! Any interest in following the Tour de France as a expert?! Let us know and we could also organize some event.



It is far too early to tell more you more about the rest of the year...but be sure we will put a lot of effort to offer you great cultural events!

In addition to all those mentioned you will still be enjoyed in 2010 our regular events: *Le Petit Matin Croissant* and its delicious croissants, *la Permanence* with its special French guests, *La Soirée Ciné du Vendredi Soir* (from March), *La Table des Habités*, etc...

AF Committee

Let's meet our new committee members!

James Dann, student at the AF and committee member (cultural event).

Hi, I'm James Dann. I am a PhD candidate at the University of Otago, Christchurch, where I work on endometrial cancer. I also write music and perform around town with a band, so I come to the committee with some skills related to event production. I enjoyed a trip around much of France with my partner last year (who speaks French more fluently than I) where I went to the Parc de Princes to see my first proper football game, with Paris Saint-Germain. Since then I have been moderately obsessed with the beautiful game, and by following Ligue 1 I have learnt much about French geography, so I know my Lens from my Le Mans, Nancy from Nantes.

Steven Lim, non-voting committee member (finance).

Hello members, I have recently moved to Christchurch from Auckland. I have been a member of the French Club in Auckland for a number of years, and had the opportunity to travel to New Caledonia, Tahiti, Belgium and in France. Whilst in Auckland, I worked as a business analyst, and will be able to put my skills and experience to assist the Treasurer. I would like a dynamic and fun French Club, and will work with members in achieving this.

John Michel Shingleton, committee member (finance)

John Michel Shingleton, partenaire dans cabinet d'avocats et notaires Malley and Co. Bilingue Français Anglais. Mère Toulousaine. Ait fait études de Droit a Aix, Lille et Auckland. Marie a Cathy avec trois enfants Claire, sophie et Lucy toutes écolières a Villa Maria Collège.
Aime Louis de Funès, Charles Dumont et Michel Sardou. Adore le cassoulet et le couscous royal. Déteste la pensée unique.

Milinda Perris, committee member (cultural events)

Civic and International Relations Coordinator, Christchurch City Council - in NZ since October, 2007. Lived and worked in New York for twenty years prior to arriving in ChCh - worked in publishing, and market research industry. Holds Bachelors in English from the University of Ceylon, Masters in Political Science from Rutgers University in the US, and a Law Degree from the Sri Lanka Law College. While on Colombo worked with Unilever and later in the tea industry for several years. Joined Alliance Francaise De Kandy, in Sri Lanka in 1972 as a schoolboy and remained an active member, student, committee member in the years that followed.

Catherine Seal, non-voting committee member (education).

Hello members. My name is Catherine. I come to the Alliance with a passion for languages and a desire for my children to continue their bilingual studies in French. In addition to my interest in helping the AF to develop its educational position in Christchurch, I would like to serve as a liaison for administration. I enjoy the culture and the sense of community that we have here at the Alliance.

Renew your membership now!

Don't forget to renew your membership to the Alliance Française in 2010 to enjoy our unique resource centre, our weekly social events, our cultural events and many others opportunity to stay in touch the French community of Christchurch.

Subscription fees for 2010:

Adult:	\$55
Senior Citizen:	\$45
Students of the AF:	\$35
Students (full time students at university):	\$30
Children:	\$35
Family:	\$75

AF CLASSES

*Summer holiday...
keep up your French at the AF!*

This summer enjoy a selection of classes designed for new students but also for our current students at the AF!

Far better than just conversation classes, our classes will offer you what you need in the warm and friendly atmosphere of the AF: enjoy the blend of culture, French cuisine, professionalism with the preparation to the DELF/DALF and our unique resource centre filled with lots of new books and DVDs and CDs for the new year!

*...complete a beginner level in
10 days instead of 10 weeks!*

During the summer holiday the Alliance Française offers you to complete a Beginner level in 10 days instead of 10 weeks with a 20hours course.

Daytime and evening (5:45-8:15pm) classes available depending on numbers.

Prior enrolment necessary, \$200.



French for Travellers INTENSIVE COURSE



Planning to go to France, New Caledonia?

You know what a difference some knowledge of the local language can make. It can break the ice in an instant. The Survival French Intensive course, held on six evenings, focuses on situations that you will most likely encounter when travelling: meeting people, catching a train or ordering in a restaurant...

If you don't want to feel just one of these "regular" tourists, this is the right class for you!

Level: **Beginner**
Date: Monday to Thursday
18 January-28 January
Time: 5:45-8:15pm
Price: \$ 175.00

*Intermediate and Advanced
levels...
...get ready for Term 1 with our
special class made for you!*



If you are already studying at the Alliance or elsewhere but do not want to lose your French through the holidays, join us for a 10 hours course

for **Intermediate** and **Advanced** levels.

This course is designed to enable you to fully enjoy your next course in February 2010.

Thus it is a blend of reviewing, conversation, culture, preparation to the DELF/DALF and French cuisine!

Evening class: 2hours a day, Monday to Friday with a special class on the last day of class!...oulala!

Please enrol by January 15th, \$200. Limited number of seats.

Children afternoons at the Alliance!

On Wednesday 20th and 27th of January, let your child spend a French afternoon at the Alliance. With our specialized French teacher they will all discover the French language through games, activities, songs and dances! Wednesday 20th and 27th of January, from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. \$30 an afternoon!

Please enrol by January 15th.



AF CLASSES

Term 1 2010 starts Feb 1st

Enrol now!

Adults Classes



Term 1 2010 starts on February 1st with a full range of classes from Beginners to Advanced classes including specialized classes such as French for Travellers, Conversation classes, French Culinary Arts, etc...

A **free level assessment** is available for those of you who have not been

studying with us before. It is free and without engagement. It will enable us to find the best class for you according to your levels and your needs.

Starting in February 2010 students of the AF will complete a level (going to Beginner 1 to Beginner 2) in 20hours of classes that is in 10 weeks.

Tuition fees:

- \$200 for a 20hour courses organised over 10 weeks.
- Enrol before the beginning of the class, and enjoy the **early bird rate**: 10% discount.
- Enrol for two levels (two terms) and a DELF/DALF exam and enjoy our **special rate**: 20% discount!

Otherwise class are \$10 an hour and you enrol to complete a whole level!

Calendar 2010:

Term 1: Feb. 1st to April 9th
 Term 2: April 26th to July 2nd
 Term 3: July 19th to September 24th
 Term 4: October 11th to December 17th.

DELF/DALF exam:

May 15th
 October 15th

Adults Workshop

Pay as you come and enjoy the following workshops:

- **Pronunciation**: every Tuesday from 1:00-2:00pm.
- **Grammar**: every Thursday from 12:00-1:00pm and on demand for other time in the week.
- **Conversation**: every Wednesday from 1:00-2:00pm to improve your speaking skills.
- **DELF A1/A2**: every first and third Monday of the month from 6:00-8:00pm.
- **DELF B1/B2**: every second and fourth Monday of the month from 6:00-8:00pm
- **"Action! Réaction!"** This special workshop is about developing speaking skills to enable you to correctly react to any situation you may encounter while in a francophone country. Every Thursday from 6:00-7:30pm.

\$10 for an hour of workshop.

Children and teenagers Classes

Term 1 2010 starts on February the 1st for children classes as well with a full range of classes starting for toddlers to teenagers.

Children and teenagers will still be organised over 9 weeks of classes following the above calendar:

Term 1: Feb. 1st to April 2nd
 Term 2: April 26th to June 24th
 Term 3: July 19th to September 18th
 Term 4: October 11th to December 10th.

Boutchoux 1: 1-3 years old: Friday from 9:30-10:30am and possibly Tuesday from 3:30-4:30pm

Boutchoux 2: 3-5 years old (not at school yet): Wednesday from 3:30-4:30pm and possibly Thursday from 3:30-4:30pm.

Mousquetaires 2: 6-8 years old (at school) Wednesday from 4:45-5:45pm.

Junior 1: for year 6-7-8, beginners in French. Tuesday 4:45-5:45pm.

Junior 2: for year 7-8 who know a little bit of French. Thursday 3:30-4:30pm.

For years 9-10-11-12:

Les Ados 1: for beginners. Thursday from 4:45-5:45pm

Les Ados 2: (one year of French) Thursday from 4:45-5:45pm.

Les Ados 3: (two-three years of French) Monday 4:45-5:45pm.

Private Tuition

A reminder that we also offer private lessons and that they can be tailor-made to your specific needs. Whether you want a few hours to brush up on everyday expressions for an upcoming trip to France or some help with exam technique, we can do it!

Adult and Children's classes

1 student \$40/hour

2 students \$50/hour

3 students \$60/hour

Please note that 10 % discount rate will be given to students who pay for five classes in advance.

CLUB DE LECTURE 2010

Le 'Club de Lecture' is a great opportunity for anyone who likes to read in French to have access to recent French books. The group reads one book a month (over eight months) and then meets to discuss it in French.

There are 10 seats per book club. We can easily open have several book clubs, depending on numbers.

Just let us know you are interested!

Time: One evening per month.

**Cost: \$40.00 members
\$60.00 non-members**

Billet d'humeur du mois



Décembre. Le mois de Noël. Partout déjà les employés municipaux se sont affairés à accrocher en ville les décorations qui s'allument dès la tombée de la nuit. Il y a peu encore on pouvait suivre leurs évolutions acrobatiques au dessus de nos rues, fixant ici des guirlandes lumineuses, là accrochant des étoiles. Maintenant tout est prêt. Le grand sapin brille au milieu de la

place de la mairie, avec à ses pieds des montagnes de faux paquets cadeaux colorés. Le samedi après midi on sort en famille pour emmener « les petits » voir les chalets en bois du marché de Noël, les illuminations et boire un chocolat chaud dans un café bondé. A 5h du soir, bien emmitoufflés dans nos bonnets et nos écharpes, on reste un moment à regarder la grande roue tourner dans le ciel, et le froid mord nos joues et fait briller nos yeux. C'est la meilleure part de Décembre, celle qui vient avant le rush final vers les grands magasins et les centres commerciaux en quête des cadeaux de dernière minute. Dans chaque famille, on échange des coups de téléphones fébriles pour finaliser l'organisation des fêtes. Qui reçoit, qui apporte quoi, et quoi offrir aux enfants ? Ils sont déjà tellement gâtés, sans compter qu'il faut suivre la mode...un vrai casse-tête ! Il faut penser aux repas aussi. Depuis un mois déjà on se plonge dans les livres de cuisine, on feuillette avec passion le hors série de « Cuisine et vins de France » à la recherche de la recette inédite : foie gras en croûte gelée de Sauternes, noisette de chevreuil et poire au vin, dinde farcie au pain d'épice... il faut se décider. Enfin tout finit par prendre forme. Les paquets sont sagement rangés dans le placard dans l'attente du grand jour, et on a passé commande chez les commerçants du quartier pour être sûr de ne manquer de rien. Il n'y aura plus qu'à passer récupérer tout ça la veille ou le matin même, surtout pour le pain et pour la bûche vanille chocolat éclats de marrons glacés (pourvu que tout le monde aime !). On se sent épuisé d'avance, après tant d'énergie dépensée, mais ce sera une belle fête. Surtout pour les enfants. Pour eux, on a ressorti du grenier les vieux cartons qui renferment nos trésors : des boules multicolores et des guirlandes scintillantes, les fragiles santons de la crèche. Lire la joie sur leur visage devant le sapin décoré reste décidément la plus belle des récompenses. Maintenant, il n'y a plus qu'à attendre celle dont on espère secrètement la venue et qui fera de Noël un moment vraiment magique. Celle qui posera son manteau blanc et apaisant sur l'agitation mercantile et consumériste des semaines écoulées : l'invitée surprise, notre cadeau tombé du ciel pendant la nuit : la neige.

Joyeux Noël à tous.

Emmanuelle Jacques

Comité Alliance Française

Président: Martine Marshall-Durieux
Vice-présidente: Claire Parry-Canet
Trésorier: Robin Pawsey
Secrétaire : Roselys Mark
Membres du comité: James Dann, Steven Lim,
Milinda Peris, Catherine Seal, John-Michel
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enrolment form.

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enquiries@afchristchurch.org.nz

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Alliance Française de Christchurch
PO Box 650, Christchurch 8001

