

Alliance française de Ballarat

July 2018 Newsletter

Invitation

To all our wonderful *Alliance Française de Ballarat* members – especially if you have paid your subscription but not yet joined us for one of our events or soirées – do make the time to come and meet fellow members and practise your French, whatever your capability. We have a great program for both our soirées and our mid-month events – and many new faces to meet as well.

Nous vous faisons un accueil chaleureux !

July soirée – My French Experience

For this soirée, we have invited six of our members to give a short talk about a particular experience in France – whether it be visiting a favourite restaurant or a memorable meal, a special château, church or building, a stand-out region or town, or just one aspect of what made their visit to France exceptional.

So come along to hear what impressed our members – enjoy the armchair travel or perhaps note something special for your next trip.

Our speakers will be: Andrew Weightman, Howard Gibbon, Margaret Gardner, Peter Holly, Les Stewart and Kylie Weightman.

When: Friday, July 27, 2018 at 6.30pm for 7pm.

Where: Ballarat Anglers' Memorial Lodge, corner Wendouree Parade and Devon Street.

What: We ask that everyone bring a savoury or a sweet to share. Please RSVP to Val McRoberts on valeriemcroberts0@gmail.com by Monday, July 23, or text **0491 070 120** to let us know what you are bringing, so we can organise a balanced meal! BYO wine, *bien sûr* !

Note: To help with catering, please let us know if you will be an apology by texting 0491 070 120 or email to afdeballarat@gmail.com .

June meeting: What a fascinating musical evening for our June soirée. Dr Alastair Hurst explained the history and reasoning behind the establishment of *La Fête de la Musique*, during the presidency of *François Mitterand* in the early 1980s, which brought all forms of music to the people throughout France, where before it had been seen as more of an exclusive or bourgeois pursuit.

The Musical Quiz by Margaret was great fun – and with multiple choice answers, we ended up with multiple winners.

Our new venue has great facilities and is warm and welcoming, so do come along and enjoy trying out your French language in a friendly atmosphere.

'Into Light' tour in French

A group of Alliance Francaise de Ballarat members met on Tuesday, July 3, at Ballarat Art Gallery, where they were given a special tour of the exhibition 'Into Light' in French by guide Bernard Catrice. As Bernard is originally from northern France – not far from Douai – where the collection is housed in the Musée de la Chartreuse, it was a treat to have his own personal observations included. And we learned that as well as Bernard's favourite colour being grey – 'where the grey of the sand, the grey of the sea and the grey of the sky melt into each other to form the most exquisite grey' – that it was also the favourite colour of the painter, Henri Le Sidaner.

Bastille Day Ball / Le bal du quatorze juillet

This will be a 'stand out' evening at the Ballarat Mining Exchange when we celebrate '**La Fête Nationale**' in style with the gypsy jazz band, '**La Mauvaise Réputation**' and a French DJ.

We have a few more places on our tables if anyone is still planning to come at this late stage. The theme for dress is 'a touch of *Bleu Blanc Rouge*' – and that may be interpreted any way you like!

Tickets at \$50 each are available for purchase from the Ballarat Art Gallery or online at www.artgalleryofballarat.com.au

Social Media

Check out, like, comment and share our Facebook page which you can find at www.facebook.com/afdeballarat