



## **Bulletin de l'Alliance Française de Toowoomba**





## L'été 2022



### **Welcome to the spring edition of our Bulletin!**

The first term has just commenced and our experienced French teachers are busy preparing exciting new materials for the various classes and levels, from beginner to intermediate. This year our classes are small but mighty and that is your gain - you will get lots of attention and support. We aim to make your French experience as fun and as interactive as possible. We welcome your participation, the new ideas and energy you bring and we look forward to seeing you at our social events throughout the year.

With the pandemic restrictions easing and with the opening of our international borders some of us will be thinking of travelling to a French-speaking country, near and far, in the not too distant future. This also means that the QR code sign-in for our classes is no longer required.

At our recent Café Bla Bla we had a large group of students and friends converse in French, it was one of the many perfect Saturday mornings that we so enjoy in our garden city. Yes, you will have recognised that most of the photos were taken in Queens Park in the early morning while walking the dog. Our next Café Bla Bla will be on Sunday, February 20 starting at 10 AM. Click the weblink below for more details regarding classes, conversation and events.

[Alliance Française de Toowoomba](#)



If you ever get time to listen to Radio 102.7FM on a late Monday afternoon you will hear one of our French teachers, Michael, live on air as he is interviewing French speakers about their musical selections, the tunes they love that influenced them on life's journey.

#### [Radio France Toowoomba](#)

Even if you are not able to tune in you can access recorded materials. There are so many podcasts and videos online or on Spotify to select from, alors bonne chance! Your teacher is your best friend who can help with accessing free resources as they would have a collection at their fingertips. The Committee and I, as President, would like to wish you an agreeable and engaging first term!

### Alliance Française French Film Festival



**Save the Date: 16 March to 13 April 2022**

#### [Brisbane Festival Line-up](#)

If you get the chance to drive to Brisbane then you are in for a treat next month. If you want a snippet from the 149 minute long - Film "Lost Illusions" then watch the youtube trailer below. A dazzling all-star cast with many famous faces will take you on a rollercoaster ride of this classic novel adapted from Balzac. It stars Benjamin Voisin as a handsome but poor and ambitious young poet who learns that money can buy anything. He follows his patroness (played by Cecile de France) to explore and delight in the glamorous beau monde de Paris. This highly awarded film is epic in scope and represents grand French cinema at its best.

#### [Opening Film - Illusions Perdues](#)

There are of course many more cinematic bonbons to be had, just take a look at the selection and pick your favourite genre. If you are a fan of crime thrillers then you may want to see "Maigret" which is based on a best-selling Georges Simenon novel. The legendary Gérard Depardieu brings to life the hugely entertaining and Inspector Jules Maigret who discovers the body of a beautiful young

woman. Paris, 1953. No witnesses, no identity. It is a pleasure to follow the story line and the ingenious clues. 88 minutes well spent.

The closing film is "Envole-Moi" and it has been inspired by a true story and is said to make you swoon with laughter only to be swept up by tears - a heartwarming story. See you there!

[International Premiere of "Maigret" from director Patrice Leconte](#)

RadioFranceToowoomba





Presque deux ans déjà...Well, two years in April of RFT on 102.7 4DDB Darling Downs Community Radio. I recently recorded playlist number 95. There have been many highlights along the way but none more than my recent recording with Clémence Ousset-Vignal, a fellow AFT teacher. Clémence chose eight songs and explained their significance in her life.

There have been other specials such as a performance by Josephine Birch with Jesse Kupper; a show featuring an interview with Pauline Maudy of Mzaza fame when she came to Toowoomba with her Take Me to Paris show. I have also put together a Francis Cabrel playlist, Chansons d'amour for Valentine's Day, Chansons au sujet de l'Environnement, Chansons du temps (time and weather). Donc, please tune in at [1027.com.au](http://1027.com.au) at 18.00 on a Monday for a very wide variety of French music and some news, mostly from SBS French.

If you are a francophone and would like to be a guest on RadioFranceToowoomba please email me at [mmurtagh44@gmail.com](mailto:mmurtagh44@gmail.com) and we can discuss your programme in more detail.

Michael Murtagh

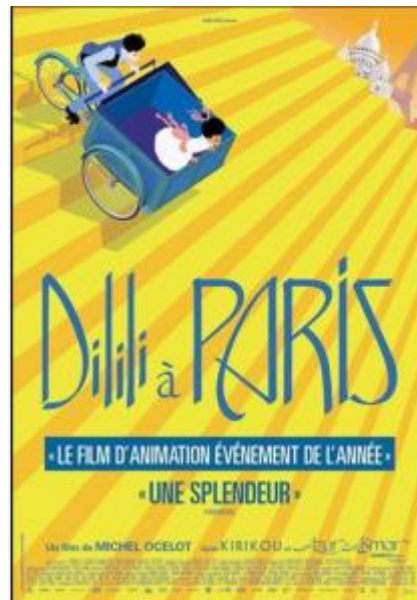


Many of our teachers use French chansons in the classroom and to that end I have created a playlist on Spotify called 'Chanson d'Amour' which I would like to share. Each week we select a new song for our class and this week 'amour' is the theme as we just celebrated Valentine's Day.

[Chanson d'Amour Playlist on Spotify](#)

Enjoy the selection of chansons. 'Le soleil et la pluie' comes with the lyrics below. What could go wrong with the fantastic voice of Natalie Dessay, one of the opera greats, to help us navigate the vowels? Bon travail!

[Le soleil et la pluie de Michel OCELOT](#)



Le soleil et la pluie, le jour et la nuit, les fleurs et les fruits,

**lui et lui, elle et elle, elle et lui !**

Toi et moi, eux et nous ou ou ou ou ou ou ou ou

Ceux d'ici, de là-bas a a a a a a a a

Les bronzés, les nacrés é é é é

Et tous ensemble...

Les sultans, les mendiants an an an an an an an an

Les valets et les rois a a a a a a

Les sorciers et les fées é é é é

Et tous ensemble...

Les mamans, les papas a a a a a a

Les bébés, les pépés é é é é é é é é

Les filles et les garçons on on on on

Et tous ensemble...

Les beautés, les ratés é é é é é é é é

Les savants et les fous ou ou ou ou ou ou ou ou

Les petits et les grands an an an an

Et tous ensemble...

**Version karaoké :** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P56ALdTzmC4>

Bien-Dire - Culturethèque - SBS



Bien-Dire is a fantastic resource for French language learners and you are encouraged to borrow some of the past editions of the magazine when you come to class, they are available from our library. If you wish to borrow from the library out of class times, please send us an email and we will try and open the doors for you at your preferred time. [aftoowoomba@gmail.com](mailto:aftoowoomba@gmail.com)

It is now possible to subscribe to the E-magazine of Bien-Dire, plus there are many extension exercises built around the content. The articles are graded by level and vocabulary is easily accessible. The paper version with the audio disk can also be ordered.



## [Bien Dire](#)

As part of your AF de Toowoomba membership you can also get free resources from the Culturetheque website. When you register it is best to wait a day for it to go through, then try and login the next day. I have downloaded the Adobe Digital Editions App to my computer and I can read the books from the website on my laptop; I also watch lots of videos and listen to audiobooks.

## [Culturetheque](#)

As you will all be well aware, there are also many French movies and series on SBS, readily available each night of the week. 'Something to Hide' was the latest series I just finished watching, and it was gripping. There are lots of famous French films, including cartoons and Cannes Film Festival hits. We are planning to add movies to our social calendar in May this year.

## [SBS on demand](#)

We also have a Facebook page where you can find news about our French classes and social events.

## [Facebook Link to AF](#)

Le Petit Journal is a French newspaper with editions tailored to news around the world, from Afrique, to Amerique, Europe, Moyen Orient to Oceanie. You can select the Brisbane edition for local news and updates on what is happening on a French Day in Queensland.

## [Le Petit Journal](#)

### **Matisse Exhibition in Sydney - showing until 13 March 2022**

Currently there is a unique and fascinating exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW entitled 'Matisse: Life & Spirit, Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou, Paris'. When I stayed in Paris I visited the galleries of Centre Pompidou daily due to the vibrant cultural life within and without the building. The building itself is a marvel of architecture, see image below on the left. The Henri Matisse (1869-1954) exhibition is the largest ever presented at Sydney and features over 100 of his famous works of art that include paintings, sketches and sculptures. Matisse travelled to Tahiti in the 1930s where he further developed his technique, and we recall the 'souvenirs de Tahiti' of clear bright blue images capturing the sky and the sea.

## [YouTube - Matisse Exhibition](#)





la Nouvelle-



**Au revoir until our next Bulletin - we will keep you posted each term.**

Thank you to our wonderful French teachers and to our dedicated students and members who support us. Some of them lifelong!

Happy holidays if you make it to Europe this year and if you get to enjoy La Belle France where we all long to go. When you return from overseas, come and share your souvenirs and traveller's tales.

If you have a story to share for the next Bulletin then please send it to us at:  
[aftoowoomba@gmail.com](mailto:aftoowoomba@gmail.com)

Authored by Gabriela, AF President, and Michael, AF Committee member.

Published on behalf of the Management Committee 2022 - Gabriela, Michael, Lisa, Alexis and Valma.

