



Bulletin de l'Alliance Française de Toowoomba

L'automne 2020



Welcome the first bulletin for 2020. This year the AFT is celebrating 60 years! This is a tremendous milestone for a regional centre to be offering French language, films, cultural events and Café Bla Bla during this time. The AFT is pleased to announce that the *60e Anniversaire* - AFT will be celebrated on 9, 10 and 11 October 2020 at St Luke's Hall, Toowoomba. The celebration will begin with a French Film Night partnering with Ric's Flicks (Friday, 9 October); Dinner with choirs, quiz, entertainment and the drawing of the raffle (Saturday, 10 October); and *Le Tournoi de Pétanque de l'AFT* (Sunday, 11 October). Please watch this space as we will be advising ticket prices, a theme, bookings and sponsors. If any members know of past

members of the AFT, please let us know as we want to hear stories of past events, language classes, teachers and the history of the Alliance.

A special thank you to Breanna and Laura for helping to catalogue library resources. We appreciate you giving your time.

This year, the AFT was successful in its application for funding from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Queensland Government. The AFT is very thankful and excited about this funding as it will assist us with the *60e Anniversaire* celebration and the purchase of a data projector. The AFT also has a larger office and hopes to present children's French classes. Please let us know if you are interested in these classes for your children.

This year has seen the AFT going from strength to strength and we appreciate your patronage and support of the organisation.

Merci

Alexis Tacey, *President*

Helloworld partnership

The AFT is pleased to announce a new partnership with **Helloworld Toowoomba Town Central**. Through their **Everywhere Travel Bank** scheme, the AFT will earn points for every dollar our members, their friends and family spend with **Helloworld Toowoomba Town Central**. When you make your future travel bookings through **Helloworld Toowoomba Town Central**, tell them you are a member of the Alliance Française de Toowoomba or quote our code ETB012001. The AFT will receive a reward of up to 2% based on the value of bookings.

Next time you are thinking of travelling please see the friendly staff at Helloworld Toowoomba Town Central. They are located at 501 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba and can be contacted on 4632 1588 or email toowoombatcentral@helloworld.com.au.

Part of every dollar you spend at
Helloworld Toowoomba Town Central
is donated to
Alliance Française de Toowoomba.

helloworld
TRAVEL
THE TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS
HELLOWORLD TRAVEL
TOOWOOMBA TOWN CENTRAL
501 Ruthven St, Toowoomba QLD 4350
P: (07) 4632 1588 E: toowoombatcentral@helloworld.com.au

All you need to do is mention
Alliance Française when you
make a tour booking.

French film night

The AFT, Bar Wunder and Ric's Flicks are proud to bring you the first French film night for 2020. *La belle et la bête*, a 1940's classic directed by Jean Cocteau, will screen on Monday, 30 March at Bar Wunder, 424 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba. The doors open at 6.00pm for pre-drinks and the movie will commence at 7.00pm.

Tickets are \$25 which includes a drink on arrival (champagne, wine or beer). Cheese platters for 2, with 2 glasses of bubbly, are available for \$30 along with Bar Wunder's full menu. Join us for a night of classic French cinema! Tickets can be purchased through Bar Wunder's Facebook page.

Corporate membership

We are pleased to welcome **Fairholme College** to our organisation as our first corporate member for 2020. The College has a long association with the AFT dating back to the 1960s when Mrs Norma Thomas, a then teacher at Fairholme, played an important role in the establishment of the AFT and the AFT School of French. This association continues today, with Fairholme College allowing the AFT to use their classrooms for some of our French language classes. Each year the AFT presents the *Norman Thomas Prize* to a student of Fairholme College in recognition of outstanding accomplishment in French.



Our College motto – 'Ardens sed Virens' – (burning yet flourishing) encapsulates the spirited heart of our College: spirit drawn from our Christian foundations. We are proudly a College of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland, an all-girls' K – 12 day and boarding school with a co-

educational kindergarten that seeks excellence for each and every student.

Perched on the edge of the Toowoomba escarpment, you just have to step into our beautiful grounds, and you know that Fairholme is not an ordinary school. It's a school that celebrates its pursuit of excellence in academic, cultural and sporting fields whilst maintaining a clear commitment to active service – giving back at a local and international level.

Our school-leavers are invariably hopeful, determined young women who expect to do well in whatever field of study, or vocation that they choose. They understand perseverance, tenacity, and persistence and that choosing the hard over the easy often reaps the greatest rewards. Ultimately, they carry the legacy of all who have climbed the homestead stairs before them, and they remain inextricably linked to all with whom they have journeyed during their time at Fairholme.



Bar Wunder is a retro bar right in the heart of Toowoomba City. It's inception came out of a place for people to share common interests through a relaxed environment and one that is reminiscent of a time gone by. It's also known for its love of animals with a beer garden devoted to dogs, including many events catering to the 4 legged members of the family. Bar Wunder offers an eclectic mix of events including movie nights, old school bingo, live music, stand up comedy nights, art exhibitions, open mic nights and themed events to name a few. It's constantly evolving and working towards carving out its own unique niche which Toowoomba is ready for.

Laissez-moi me présenter...

Permettez-moi de me présenter: je m'appelle Michael MURTAGH, je suis irlandais de naissance et professeur de français depuis quarante-deux ans mais "retraité" depuis trois mois. "Retraité", entre guillemets, car suite à quelques rencontres je me retrouve professeur des classes de débutants, absolus et faux, à l'Alliance Française de Toowoomba. Après ma carrière dans l'enseignement secondaire avec des adolescents, c'est vraiment un grand plaisir d'enseigner des adultes - intelligents, motivés et surtout curieux - ils posent constamment des questions. Ce qui me change un peu de mes (mauvaises) habitudes.

On m'a invité à relater mon récent séjour en France en décembre dernier et surtout à expliquer la brièveté de ce voyage de seulement huit jours! Pour ma "retraite" je me suis offert ce cadeau trop extravagant. Le but? Assister à DEUX concerts de Patrick Bruel: un à Dijon, le 14 décembre puis l'autre, trois nuits plus tard, à Lyon!

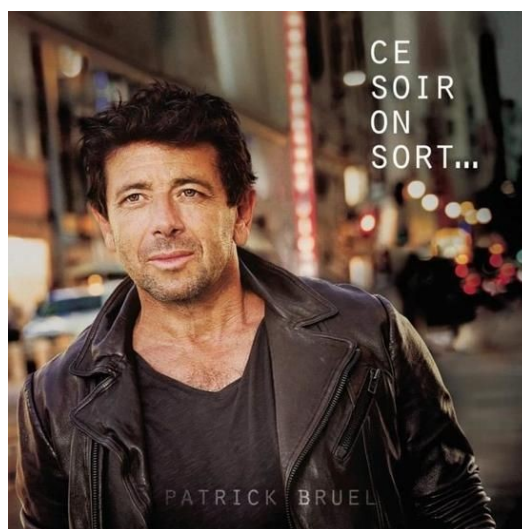
Malgré la longueur des voyages, les délais à Brisbane, une entorse de cheville à Abou Dhabi en route pour Paris, les grèves SNCF importantes, les motos-taxis hors de prix pour traverser les embouteillages parisiens, j'ai boité d'un endroit à l'autre pour achever mon rêve de voir Patrick en concert.

Et quels concerts! Patrick est très énergique. Il chante une grande variété de chansons - ses plus grands succès des années 90 et 2000 que tout le public aime chanter.

À un moment, il insiste pour que toute la salle danse sur la valse de sa chanson, *L'amant de Saint Jean*. Il chante du rock, du pop et des ballades contemporaines, qui parlent des dangers des réseaux sociaux (*Louise*), des attentats (*Ce soir on sort*), des héros anonymes (*Héros*) ainsi que des chansons moins sérieuses (*She's gone*, *Rue Mouffetard*). Deux heures quarante minutes (deux fois) qui valaient tous ces efforts et ces dépenses pour y aller. Les meilleurs concerts de ma vie! Si vous voulez le voir, allez sur YouTube, regarder le même concert, presque mot pour mot, à Paris <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GHn78GaBOY> Il continue sa tournée en 2020 - encore à Dijon et à Lyon en mai.

Je dois ajouter que j'ai beaucoup aimé Dijon, petite ville avec une zone piétonne énorme et des rues animées, surtout ce samedi matin de décembre. Beaune, sur la route de Lyon m'a beaucoup plu aussi et Lyon, surtout le Vieux Lyon, était aussi impressionnant, malgré les manifestations.

P.S. La motivation pour voir Patrick en concert date de l'année 1992 ou 93 et de sa chanson *Place des Grands Hommes* qui parle d'une réunion d'amis après dix ans. En 1993, pendant un voyage scolaire en Nouvelle Calédonie, un étudiant a acheté un double-CD de Patrick. Ce même étudiant, Ben, m'a contacté en mai pour me dire qu'il avait un contrat de travail d'un mois à Reims, pendant La Coupe du Monde Féminine! Après plusieurs e-mails nous avons convenu d'un rendez-vous à Dijon pour le concert - après vingt-cinq ans. Une autre raison du succès de ce voyage, malgré l'extravagance du projet!



Michael Murtagh

Interesting facts about France

- ♦ **The French Army was the first to use camouflage** in 1915 (World War I). Initially it was confined to painting vehicles and weaponry in disruptive patterns to blend into the surrounding landscape. This painting was done by artists called *camoufleurs*. The French verb *camoufler* means, 'to make oneself up for the stage'.
- ♦ **Cheese production in France is an ancient art:** goats cheese dates back to at least 500AD, the blue-veined Roquefort was mentioned in records of an ancient monastery in Conques as early as 1070, and hard farm cheeses like Emmental started to appear in the 13th century. A French proverb claims "*un fromage par jour de l'année*" – there is a different cheese for every day of the year.
- ♦ **The first projected movie screening** was by French brothers Auguste and Louis Lumière on 28 December 1895. They used their invention the *cinématographe* (hence 'cinema') to show 10 films of about 50 seconds each at the *Salon Indien du Grand Café* in Paris. They made many more films but predicted that 'cinema is an invention without any future'.

French culture in Brisbane

Interested in French culture? Mark these dates in your diary!

The 31st Alliance Française French Film Festival is on in Brisbane from 18 March to 14 April. With a wide range of films and genres to choose from this is an event not to be missed.

More information is available at

<https://www.affrenchfilmfestival.org/>.

The Paris Opera Ballet is performing in Brisbane from 1-19 July as part of the QPAC International series. The season starts with an opening night of classical and contemporary works from the Paris Opera Ballet. They will also perform Swan Lake and Parisienne Soirée. More information is available at

<https://www.qpac.com.au/international-series/>.

(Source: French Waves 2020—French Cultural Season in Australia)

**FOR
SALE**

The AFT has a range of textbooks and activity books for sale. These include *Alter Ego*, *Le nouveau taxi*, *BBC French Talk* and more! All are \$5 each.

There is also a Collins French-English dictionary. It is second-hand, but in excellent condition \$20 (was \$30 new). If you are interested or would like to see what's available please email the AFT.



Approval of changes to the AFT constitution

In January 2020, the Queensland Office of Fair Trading approved amendments to the AFT constitution (model rules), as voted on and passed at the General Meeting held on 1 December 2019. These amendments, include the additional membership category of Corporate Membership and the adoption of the new Model Rules Version 6 which aligns the AFT constitution with changes to the *Associations Incorporation Act* 1981. A copy of the constitution can be downloaded from the AFT website at

<https://www.frenchtoowoomba.com/about-us.html>.

We welcome your input!

As a member of *Alliance Française de Toowoomba*, you are invited to submit stories of interest, recipes, travel tips, places of interest...anything French!

CONTACT US

Email: info@frenchtoowoomba.com

Tel: 0455 786 581 (please leave message)

À NE PAS MANQUER

CAFÉ BLA BLA 2020

à partir de 10:00h

4 avril / 2 mai / 6 juin

Kingfisher Café, Spring Street,
Toowoomba
(unless otherwise advised)

LIBRARY OPENING

17:30h-18:30h

jeudi, 12 mars 2020

The AFT Office, Level 1
217 Margaret St, Toowoomba

CLASSES AND TIMES

Français pour les voyageurs

les mercredis, 17:30h - 19:00h
The Glennie School

Débutant A1.1(A)

les mercredis, 19:00h - 20:30h
The Glennie School

Débutant A1.1(B)

les mercredis, 14:45h - 16:15h
CUA Community Hub Meeting Room

Débutant A1.1(C)

les mardis, 18:00h - 19:30h
The Glennie School

Élémentaire A2.1(A)

les mardis, 18:00h - 19:30h
The Glennie School

Élémentaire A2.1(B)*

les mardis 4, 18, 25 février et 10 mars
de 14:15h - 15:45h
CUA Community Hub Meeting Room

Intermédiaire B1.1

les mercredis, 18:00h - 19:30h
Fairholme College

*Please note this is a special request class and a different fee structure applies.

FRANÇAIS SOIRÉE CINÉMA

30 mars / 1 juin / 7 septembre

Bar Wunder
424 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba

LE QUATORZE JUILLET

dimanche, 12 juillet

CUA Community Hub
470 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba



Alliance Française
de Toowoomba Inc.