

# ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE DARWIN



## NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2010

### **Bonjour!**

This is the first newsletter since the AGM in November. We are pleased to report the outcome of that evening.

A very successful AGM and Christmas Party was held at Lea's home with many long standing and newer members attending.

Lea thanked her Previous Committee for all the very hard work that had been necessary to make 2009 such an outstanding year for the Alliance. Every event turned out to be a mega success and this included our classes with a record attendance. The members rousingly acknowledged the dedication of the outgoing Committee.

Unfortunately our lovely Linda Murphy had to resign from the Committee owing to ill health. Linda has been our Treasurer for the past few years and will be missed by the Committee. Thank you Linda for all the work you have done for us and we hope to see you back in better health very soon.

A new Committee was elected with Lea agreeing (big sigh of gratitude from us all) to once again be President and the other positions are as noted at the end of the Newsletter.

However we are still without a **Grants coordinator** and a **PR person**. If you feel that you may be able to offer your help in either of these positions Lea will love you forever!

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### ***What is happening now?***

The new Committee are already well ahead planning the events for the coming year, this includes the **Mardi Gras at our French Honorary Consul Zoe's place, movie nights, Bastille Ball** and the **Free French Film in the Park**.

Here are also a couple more events that we are looking at and hopefully will be able to spread our wings a bit further (ie. **A Chopin Anniversary Concert**).

The Ball will be held on 17 July at "**Pee Wee's on the Point**", what a lovely venue.

The French movie **Seraphine** winner of **7 César Awards** including Best Film, Best Writing and Best Actress (Moreau), will be shown at Darwin Cinema as part of the Sydney Film Festival on **Saturday 6 February at 6.15 pm**. The Committee invites members to enjoy a wine and cheese at the cinema from **5.30 pm**. Please remember to bring \$20 (single) or \$30 (family) to renew your membership!

The opening movie of the Festival is "looking for Eric" starring the infamous French soccer star Eric Cantona.

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### **Movie Nights :**

Please note our film nights on **Thursdays**  
At **6.30pm** for the "Wine & Cheese  
**7pm** start of the film

\$15 for non members  
\$12 for members

- **February, 25<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **March, 25<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **April, 29<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **May, 27<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **June, 24<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **August, 26<sup>th</sup> 2010**
- **October, 28<sup>th</sup> 2010**



### **Rendez-vous au Museum Theatrette.**

Bullocky Point  
Conacher St.  
Fannie Bay.

And the **Free French Film in the Park** on the 17th September.  
Put the dates on the fridge!!!

### **Classes**

Classes recommence the week starting 15 February. Enrolments will be taken at the Cool Spot on Sunday 7 February.



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*February 14<sup>th</sup> 2010, at 10am.*

It is time again for our wonderful  
**"Mardi Gras" Brunch**

Once again Zoe is welcoming us to her beautiful home at 19 Larrakeyah Terrace. This is a morning to which we all look forward, so as many people as possible, bring a plate to share !

Following is the suggested recipe for "crêpes":

### **Crêpes Bretonnes**

For approximately 20 crepes

#### **Ingredients**

240g of plain flour  
3/4l of milk  
4 eggs  
100g of sugar  
1 soup spoon of oil  
1 soup spoon of rhum (optional)

In a big bowl use a hand blender whisk together the eggs and sugar, add slowly and alternatively flour and milk until you get a light mixture. Add oil and Rhum, leave it to rest for 1 hour.

Heat the crepe pan or frypan, spray lightly with oil or butter

Ladle the mixture into pan and swirl to cover.

Cook for 1 minute or until small bubbles appear and edges are crisp.

Turn over and cook for 30 seconds.

Remove for pan and repeat until all the mixture is used.

To serve natural, or with chocolate, honey or jam.

In Australia with sugar and lemon juice.

For any other ideas to make crepes visit this link:

[http://www.marmilton.org/Recettes/Selection\\_chandeleur.aspx](http://www.marmilton.org/Recettes/Selection_chandeleur.aspx)

It is full of good ideas to enjoy a special French dish!

**Also a friendly reminder that memberships are now due. They are still a very affordable \$20 for singles and \$30 for families.**

Another noteworthy item is that we have been able to get the services of a new “stagiaire”. I am sure everyone will remember Eleonore. Lysielle is working on a couple of different projects: promotion of the Alliance and the Prix La Perouse. She is working for us for free in exchange for board and lodging. We also find that it is so much easier if she has transport, so if anyone has a car that they are not going to use for a little while please think of Lysielle.

Our first film for the season is entitled “**I have loved you so Long**” (2008) Directed by Philippe Claudel.



Léa (Elsa Zylberstein) and Juliette (Kristin Scott Thomas) are sisters. Juliette has just been released from prison after serving a long sentence. Life together isn't easy to begin with. Juliette has to relearn certain basics. The world has moved on and she often seems confused. Although she may seem cold and distant, her attitude stems more from her being ill at ease. Helped by some, such as the kindly but tactless social worker and her open-hearted but depressed parole officer (Frédéric Pierrot) whose confidante she becomes, Juliette is also rejected by others, particularly employers who throw her out as soon as they find out what she did. But a huge questions hangs over

Juliette's renaissance. Why did she do such a terrible thing fifteen years ago? For all the others, it's a recurrent thought that they dare not put into words. And for Juliette, locked away in her secret, it's a burden to bear, which holds her back from engaging in her life and believing that she too has the right to be happy.

You have been warned to bring a tissue!

This film will be shown on **the 25/2/2010** at **The Museum and Art Gallery** of the NT with Wine and cheese at **18.30** film starting at **19.00**.

For more information see our website [www.afdarwin.org](http://www.afdarwin.org)

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### **February Calendar**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6 "Seraphine" at Darwin Cinema at 6.15 pm.  "Wine & cheese" from 5.30 pm.	7 Conversation at Cool Spot  + enrolment for the French classes.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14  <i>"Mardi Gras"</i>
15  Start week for French classes	16	17	18	19	20	21  Conversation at Cool Spot
22	23	24	25  Movie Night "I have loved you so Long"	26	27	28  Conversation at Cool Spot

#### **Alliance Française de Darwin Committee:**

President: Lea Aitkein,(tel.0411 652 342),

Vice President: George Cridland

Public Officer Simon Lee,

Secretary: Barbara Baggley,

Treasurer: Natalie Hernandez,

Class Coordinator: Sharon Parsonsman,

Events Coordinator: Maria Randazzo,

Film Coordinator: Olga Dos Santos,

Website: Ralph Lante,

Committee Members: Veronique Spencer, Jack Douzmanian and Vivienne Blandy.