

What is the Alliance Française?

The Alliance Française was founded in Paris in 1883. It is a world-wide non-profit cultural organization, coordinated by the Fondation Alliance Française, Paris. Its goals are to offer courses in French language, to promote French culture and language, and to foster mutual understanding between France and other countries. There are 811 chapters around the world, with more than 550,000 students per year, which makes it the largest language teaching association in the world. The first Alliance in Australia was set up in Melbourne in 1890. There are now 30 Australian branches, six in the capital cities and 24 in the smaller towns and regional areas.

The Rockhampton branch was established in 2001 on the initiative of our immediate past president, Dr Susan Yates. Our tenth anniversary was celebrated in June 2011 and attended by the French Cultural Attaché, Monsieur Pierre Labbe. In 2013 Susan arranged a visit from Monsieur Stéphane Romatet, the French Ambassador, who spent an impressive action-packed two days connecting with the Alliance and the Rockhampton region, enjoying its beauty and history.

Contacts and Website

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Early morning walk at Bluff Point, Yeppoon, with French Ambassador, M. Stéphane Romatet, centre back



Immersion weekend, North Keppel Island, 2013

FRENCH IS FUN

With

Central Queensland
Alliance Française!

The Alliance Française de Central Queensland offers **classes** in French language to adults at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Classes are on Wednesday evenings, 6.30 - 8.30 pm, in the library of the Glenmore State High School, Farm Street, North Rockhampton.

Twice weekly **conversation groups** allow you to practise listening and speaking French with the assistance of native French speakers.

There is a **lively social program** with many interesting activities (films, dinners, visiting dignitaries plus more) spread throughout the year.

Our **website** details our wide range of activities and interests with many links, giving you an insight into our organisation.

Do Something different

Do something French

Classes - adults and children

Three levels are offered to **adults**:

Beginners: For those who have never studied French or have studied very little.

Intermediate: For those who have been in our classes for one or two terms or have had some exposure to the language.

Advanced: For those who have had several terms of French, either with the Alliance or elsewhere, and who have a reasonable level of oral and written fluency.

There are **four terms a year**, corresponding to state school terms. Classes are taught by fluent French speakers and the atmosphere is friendly and relaxed. The program covers the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing with an emphasis on oral communication.

Classes cost \$170 for one term with a one off cost for a textbook at commencement of a level. Students are requested to become members of the CQ Alliance Française (**see Membership**).

Membership

An annual fee of \$25 per individual or \$35 for a family or couple entitles you to receive regular updates, to attend all social and cultural functions, and to stand for election to the Management Committee. Some of the major events, e.g. Film Festival, attract a **discount** for members. Members are also entitled to concession rates at **Rocky Flix** and **Keppel Coast Arts Council** film showings.

Social and Cultural Activities

Apart from the French language classes and the weekly conversation groups, we offer a program of social and cultural events which includes:

- 16 - 18 May, 2014, **Annual Film Festival** at Birch Carroll and Coyle. This festival is organised by the Alliance Française of Central Queensland and features 5 films chosen from the Australian French Film Festival. All have English subtitles and are available to us prior to their release to the general public of Australia.
- **French films**, occasionally shown at the Walter Reid Centre by Rocky Flix (all with English subtitles). The first (13 Feb) for 2014 is **The Gilded Cage**, a comedy directed by Rubin Alves. It won the People's Choice Award at the 2013 European Film Awards.
- Annual **Bastille Day Celebration** as near to 14 July as can be arranged. This is a very important event on our calendar.
- October - **Annual French Language Immersion Weekend, North Keppel Island** - open to students and members. A wonderful and relaxing weekend where you can immerse yourself in all things French.
- Celebration of the **Beaujolais Nouveau**, after the third Thursday in November.
- **Many less formal activities**, eg games of pétanque, home hosted luncheons, restaurant visits, walks, etc.
- **AGM and end of term party**, 10 December.

Conversation Group

There are **two conversation** groups:

Most **Fridays** from 12.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. at the Coffee Star Café, 50 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton. Check with Pat (49 34 13 63).

Most **Saturdays** from 1.30 p.m - 3.00 p.m at The Blue Truffle, near the corner of William and East Streets in the CBD. There is no charge other than the cost of a coffee or lunch of your choice. Check with Alain (49 22 57 27) or Pascale (0488 01 25 45).

Everyone is welcome and many come on a casual basis. Joining in with this group is a great way of gaining confidence in listening to and speaking French. Usually there is a mix of novices and fluent speakers who are always willing to help. Membership of the Alliance is required for regular attendees.

Occasionally the venue or date is changed but members are notified by email.



Fashion Parade in aid of Médecins sans Frontières, January 2014