



1er mars, 2008.

Chers Collègues,

Au revoir et merci

It is with mixed feelings that we bid Catherine Hannagan farewell after such outstanding service to NZAFT as Secretary/Treasurer/listserv Moderator for so many years. She is about to embark on a very exciting and adventurous new stage in her life and we wish her all the best. Thank you Catherine for your wise advice and diligent undertaking of so many administrative tasks for us. Au revoir et bon voyage!

Bienvenue Monica

Monica Vonesch of Christchurch Boys High School has been appointed at Secretary/Treasurer until the AGM in July. Félicitations Monica.

Project - Alignment of Standards with the New Zealand Curriculum

Schools are expected to be implementing the revised New Zealand Curriculum in 2010. The purpose of the project is to provide a set of quality standards that are aligned with the new curriculum and address issues of duplication and credit parity. It includes both Achievement Standards and Unit Standards.

Subject associations have been invited to play a key part in this by developing recommendations for changes to the standards and widely consulting on these recommendations. We welcome this initiative and will keep members fully informed of developments.

AGM

This will be held in Wellington in July during the NZALT conference according to previous practice.

The Constitution of NZAFT (1998) states that the national association will be administered by a National Executive comprising the President, the Secretary, Treasurer and four committee members. I would like to propose an amendment for the AGM that the outgoing President become Senior Vice President for two years following the appointment of a new President so that knowledge and experience can be passed on over a longer period of time than is the current process. This would align the practices of NZAFT more closely with our parent body, NZALT.

I am happy to put my name forward for President for a further term but nominations are open for all the executive committee positions.

Professional development

6 – 9 July 2008 – NZALT International Biennial Conference – venue is Wellington Girls College. The theme is *absolutely, positively languages*, and the focus is on motivation, inspiration and communication. For further information, and if you would like to present, visit the NZALT website at www.nzalt.org.nz

9 – 12 July 2009 – AFMLTA national languages conference to be held in Sydney. For further information visit the website <http://www.mltansw.asn.au>; which will give regular updates.

Changes to Level 1 AS wording for 2008.

These are simple changes in wording as highlighted below.

Id	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
90084	Listen to and understand spoken language in French in familiar contexts Listen to and understand simple spoken French in familiar contexts	1	6	B
90085	Give a prepared talk in French on a familiar topic Deliver a prepared talk in simple French on a familiar topic	1	3	B
90086	Converse in French in a familiar context Converse in simple French in a familiar context	1	3	B
90087	Read and understand written language in French in familiar contexts Read and understand simple written French in familiar contexts	1	6	B
90088	Write text in French on a familiar topic Write text in simple French on a familiar topic	1	3	B
90089	Write crafted text in French on a familiar topic, with the support of resources Write crafted text in simple French on a familiar topic, with the support of resources	1	3	B

2008 French Language funds – French embassy

A fund for French language cooperation of around \$76,000 has been set up by the Cultural Service of the Embassy of France in New Zealand for 2008. The deadline for applications is March 31 and all applications will be answered before April 30.

Projects eligible for funding include:

- Training in NZ, Noumea and/or Tahiti, or France for teachers of French
- Initiatives which support and/or promote knowledge of French language and the French-speaking world

Send your applications to the Cultural Service of the French Embassy, “Attention Mr Dominique Suquet”.

NZAFT NZ-France Exchange 2008/9

In 2006, the NZAFT took over responsibility for the organisation of the student exchange with France which took place in 2006/7.

Since that time, it has proved desirable to make this a bi-annual event to take account of the responsibilities of the current organiser and the restrictions imposed by the school administration in France. Also in the interim, Ruth Bouchier and Dominique Suquet (Attaché de Coopération pour le Français) have been working strenuously to find a suitable exchange school for North Island students as it has proved impossible, for financial and logistical reasons, to have the French students hosted throughout the country.

As no suitable school has yet been found to host students from the North Island, the exchange this year is being restricted to South Island schools and the Lycée Marguerite de Navarre in Bourges, organised by Stephanie Barnett, acting for the NZAFT.

The intent of the reciprocal exchange is primarily to promote intercultural awareness, friendships and ongoing links between young NZ and French people. A group of 25-30 New Zealand students from a wide range of secondary schools in the South Island will travel to France for 6 weeks in December-January 2008/9, where they will be hosted by a family and attend school. The group of French exchange students from Bourges will then return to NZ for 4 weeks in February-March 2009 and have the hospitality reciprocated.

While it is hoped that such an exchange is sustainable and extendable to the whole country, we recognize that such initiatives need to be responsive to a variety of influences. It is beyond doubt that this kind of experience has a huge positive impact on those involved and we hope we will be able to continue to expand the possibilities.

News from the regions

Hawke's Bay :

Au revoir à l'assistante : Sabrina Périer, our French assistant left in December heading back to Paris after two full school years in Hawke's Bay. She was involved with six local schools in Napier and Hastings in various capacities as well as taking Night Classes to supplement her teaching. Sabrina was a stickler for vocabulary and the students enjoyed having a French national in their class.

Jour d'activités : In April 2007 we held a French « jour d'A » or Activity Day for Year 11 students and we had around 110 students attend from Hawke's Bay and Gisborne at Camp Omatua. The theme was bleu, blanc et rouge and most students dressed up with prizes being awarded. The esteemed François Lucas stayed on after being in Napier for ANZAC Day to take part in the day as well. « jour d'A » started with *le speed dating* and the students were in 6 groups and rotated around 6 activities. Lunch was BYO and students were given raffle tickets if they were caught speaking in French and tickets were

drawn at the end of the day and prizes awarded. Students enjoyed the day and you should consider having one in your region as it makes your students aware that they are not the only ones learning French and is cheaper than going to France.

Visite de la conseillère pédagogique de français : Hawke's Bay French teachers welcomed Ruth Bouchier to the region at Woodford House in Term Three where Ruth presented her idea of developing exchange of ideas between people as well as miscellaneous other interesting excerpts. Once again it was a good opportunity to network, put a face to the name and to be inspired by our new conseillère pédagogique.

Amicalement
James DONALDSON

News from Christchurch

Rangi Ruru is working with Christchurch Boys' High on setting up a regular soiree cafe for the seniors to chat in French. There is also going to be a combined Boys' High/ Rangi trip to New Caledonia in July. Toni Natapu, a student at Rangiora High School is in France for a year with the AFS programme.

Senior advisors in Languages at MOE

With the retirement of Gail Spence from the role of Senior Languages Advisor at the Ministry, we now have two people working in the role. They are Glenda Koefoed and Margaret Hardiman. They both have input into policy and strategy.

International Languages Week 2008

French day is Tuesday 19 August. For ideas for activities to highlight this day, consult the NZALT website : www.nzalt.org.nz , click on Events and select "Ideas for School Events".

Bourges échanges DVD

Just a few copies of the DVD remain. A DVD of accompanying activities will be available early in Term 2. The activities provide ideas for each chapter, are at a variety of levels and can be adapted by teachers.

How to get on to listserv mailing list :

Email nzaft-subscribe@list.tki.org.nz - just send a blank email message to that address and await a confirmation notice.

Any positive ideas as to how NZAFT can better help French teachers in New Zealand are always gratefully received.

Bon courage et bonne continuation.

Pam Mabin