# THE FRENCH AUSTRALIAN REVIEW formerly Explorations

#### A PEER-REFEREED JOURNAL

The French Australian Review, formerly Explorations, is the twice-yearly journal of the Institute for the Study of French-Australian Relations (ISFAR), founded in 1985. Its peer-reviewed articles and other texts address French-Australian relations—historical and contemporary—across social, political, scientific and cultural subjects. Copies of most back issues are available for purchase. The journal index and online issues (all issues other than the last six) can be consulted on the ISFAR website www.isfar.org.au by clicking on Index and Archive.

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stephen.alomes@rmit.edu.au
alexis.berganz@rmit.ed.au
paclancy@ozemail.com.au
veronique.duche@unimelb.edu.au
jld@unimelb.edu.au
janegilmour29@gmail.com
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robert.aldrich@sydney.edu.au ibbarko@ymail.com mauricejblackman@aol.com peter.brown@anu.edu.au edwardduyker@gmail.com

vfayaud@msh-paris.fr jean.fornasiero@adelaide.edu.au matthew.graves@univ-amu.fr martine.piquet@free.fr pons@univ-tlse2.fr elizabeth.rechniewski@sydney.edu.au margaret.sankey@sydney.edu.au

Editorial correspondence may be addressed to *french.australian.review@gmail.com*. Articles are to be submitted electronically (in MS Word). Members of the Editorial Committee and the Advisory Board are happy to discuss prospective contributions.

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### **Foreword**

The first article in this issue continues our interest in New Caledonia, with an article by Barry McGowan which examines the impact that the presence of this penal colony at Australia's doorstep had on French-Australian relations at the end of the nineteenth century.

The second article reverts to another theme that has been covered previously in issues of the *Review*, although with a different focus and inspired by the recent translation of two articles that appeared in a French newspaper in September 1918. Colin Nettelbeck uses these two articles as a point of departure for his discussion of the role that Albert Métin played in French-Australian relations at this time.

In 'France-Australia by Air', William Land has addressed a subject rarely covered in this journal—French-Australian relations in the evolution of the aeroplane and the exploits of those airmen who flew the early planes, particularly in the period leading up to and during World War 1. Land has assembled a great deal of research documenting the extent to which France and Australia had, and still have, a shared aviation history.

The Documents, Notes and Reviews section starts with a brief supplementary note by Yannick Lageat and Les Hetherington to their article which appeared in the last issue of the *Review*, 'The Adventurous Life of Juliette Lopes-Rastoul-Henry'. This note was occasioned by the recent discovery in Paris of a letter from Juliette to Victor Hugo, that she had entrusted to her son José when he went to Europe in 1878. In the next note, Wallace Kirsop draws our attention to the existence of a hitherto unnoticed image of Francis de Castelnau, dating from 1863.

Natalie Edwards presents a very interesting interview with French-Australian author Catherine Rey. Rey writes in both French and English and the interview, which explores issues of writing between two languages, was conducted in both French and English. We have, therefore, left the transcription in the two languages. The last note documents the *Morning Star* tapestry which is displayed in the newly opened Sir John Monash Centre at Villers-Bretonneux.

This issue introduces a new occasional series that we have called 'French-Australian Encounters'. Peter Hodges, a member of ISFAR, describes his recent experience meeting members of the *Association internationale des amis de Pierre Loti* in south-west France. ISFAR members are invited to contact the editors if they have ideas for an 'Encounter' story.

The issue concludes with two book notes and the usual French-Australian Bibliographical Notes; we are indebted to Elaine Lewis for her untiring work in compiling this list.