

Melbourne Salon and ISFAR Events 2014–2016

Kerry Mullan

Melbourne Salons

8 May 2014: *France and Germany, Croatia and Latvia: Where next for the European Union?* Professor Bruce Wilson (Director, RMIT EU Centre) explored these issues, touching on key moments in the history of the European Union and drawing out possible scenarios in response to the current challenges which the EU faces. Professor Wilson was joined by Eva Schwemmer (German Language Adviser at the Goethe-Institut, Melbourne) and Dr Natalie Doyle (Deputy Director of the Monash European and EU Centre).

16 July 2014: *Somewhere in France*, a teaching and research initiative developed by the French Studies program at the University of Melbourne (Diane de Saint Léger) and the University of Melbourne Archives (Katie Wood) based on the rich and diverse WWI collection which provides a snapshot of Australian soldiers' experiences in France. The presentation also included a segment by John Drury entitled 'Dernancourt and Adelaide: Madame Mouchette and the Aftermath of the 1st World War'.

1 October 2014: *Behind the scenes at SBS French Radio* (in French) was a rare opportunity to hear Danièle Kemp (former Executive Producer) talk about her life at SBS French radio. In conversation with Christophe Mallet and Jean-Noël Ducasse, the team that is a crucial element of the French speaking community in Melbourne (and Australia). [An article based on this event will appear in FAR 63.]

23 July 2015: *An Exercise in Agape*. Acclaimed authors and translators Eden Liddelov and Catherine de Saint Phalle discussed how they choose what to translate and some of the challenges they face along the way. The Salon included the launch of their latest books: *On Brunswick Ground* by Catherine de Saint Phalle (self-translated by Saint Phalle, Transit Lounge Publishing) and *You Have No New Messages* by Philippe Delerm (translated by Liddelov, Acland Publishing).

22 October 2015: *A Kiss from France: emotional labour, the Great War and untold stories from the Somme* presented by Professor Bruce Scates, Chair of History and Australian Studies at Monash University and Director of the National Centre for Australian Studies. This illustrated presentation was an opportunity to hear from an expert First World War historian in this Gallipoli centenary commemoration year.

21 April 2016: *La France à l'encan : Versailles, histoire d'un château et de ses collections. Avant, pendant et après la Révolution française* (in French). Art Consultant Guillaume Dillée took us behind the scenes at Versailles and told us the story that has changed the life of a country, of a people, of a nation, as he recounted his worldwide searches for items lost and looted from the palace at the time of the Revolution.

20 October 2016: *The French territories in the Pacific at the very heart of the Australian-French strategic partnership*. Paul Soyez (professeur agrégé in history and currently undertaking a PhD in International Relations at the University of Melbourne and the Sorbonne) posited that the future of the French territories in the Pacific will play a key role in the deepening of the French-Australian strategic dialogue.

ISFAR events

5 December 2014: *Annual ISFAR Dinner* in conjunction with the *22nd Australian Society for French Studies Conference 2014 Dinner*. This was also the occasion for the launch of the newly named *The French Australian Review* (formerly *Explorations*). In attendance: Guest of Honour, Former French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin.

18–9 July 2015: ISFAR proudly supported the week-end Bastille Day French Festival at the State Library of Victoria with a stall and also offered for sale *French Lives in Australia* and copies of *The French Australian Review*.

19 November 2015: *ISFAR End of Year Reception* at the Honorary French Consulate in Melbourne. Celebrating 30 years of ISFAR and a special new launch of *French Lives in Australia*.

16–17 July 2016: ISFAR proudly supported the weekend Bastille Day French Festival at the State Library of Victoria with a stall and also offered for sale copies of *The French Australian Review*.

29 November 2016: *ISFAR End of Year Gathering* at University House, University of Melbourne.

6 December 2016: *ISFAR Colloquium: French Australian Relations: the Field Today*, University of South Australia, Adelaide. Held in conjunction with the *24th Australian Society for French Studies Conference* co-hosted by the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.

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