



NEWS LETTER NO 25

Lettre d'Information

OCTOBRE 2020

TOUS UNIS !

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE, PMB goes international again!



Every four years, the *Fondation des Alliances Françaises* organizes its World Congress. Because of the covid-19 pandemic, it was a virtual event this year. It was a unique opportunity for our Alliance to be part of the occasion.



Address by Bernard Cerquiglini



Performance by Idd Aziz.

The **Président of the Alliance Française de Pietermaritzburg, Professor Bernard De Meyer (top right)**, attended the Digital World Congress of the Alliances Françaises of Zone A (Africa, Middle East and Indian Ocean), which was held via Zoom during three afternoons, from 6 to 8 October. It was chaired by the AF de Johannesburg *Présidente* Madame Thembi Latifa SENE, *Présidente* of Zone A – Africa, Middle East and Indian Ocean – and Gérald Candelle, director in Johannesburg, was the moderator. The *Président* of the Foundation, Yves Bigot, opened the proceedings, which were closed with words of encouragement by the *Vice-Président*, Bernard Cerquiglini. Jean-François Hans, the regional director attended the whole conference, as well as Marc Cerdan, The General Secretary. There were about sixty participants, from Safi to the Seychelles, and from Potchefstroom to Bahrain.

There were six sessions, dealing successively with the post-covid realities; partnerships with civil society; the role of the *Institut Français de Paris*; teaching; governance and autonomy of the Alliances; and finally, cultural activities. Discussions were franc but held in a good spirit. The main notion that came out of the conference was that of resilience: resilience of each Alliance, of the teachers and the learners, resilience of the network. It was quite encouraging to see how different Alliances, depending on their size and location, were able to cope with the new realities and how they are now able to anticipate opportunities and challenges. Finally, there is a call to initiate a forum and have more regular meetings in Zone A in order to enhance collaboration. Participants were also treated with a live mini-concert by the artist Idd Aziz, held at the Alliance de Nairobi.

THE FRENCH PRESENCE & TOURIST GUIDE TRAINING



Prospective Tourist Guides,
Zoey Mbanjwa & Preshentha Moodley,
doing their internship at “African Link Tours,”
get to grips with the
FRENCH PRESENCE in KWAZULU-NATAL!

French travelers of all *genres* have graced the Capital City of KZN and this province, with their presence over many years.

On this *appliqué*, sewn by Mavis Buthelezi of the Prince Impérial Uqweqwe community, we have **Adulphe Delegorgue** – French hunter and naturalist
The Prince Impérial, Louis Napoléon, tragic young hero of the Anglo-Zulu War
Georges de Villebois-Mareuil – the famous French General of the Second Anglo-Boer War

FRENCH IN THE MIDLANDS

We have had and have a trickle of requests from the Midlands over the years for French classes.

Pascal Houdard, from Howick, to the rescue !

La langue française se pratique dans les MIDLANDS !

Par les quelques français résidant sur place, ainsi qu’avec les mauriciens habitant la région qui n’oublent pas leur bilinguisme, et avec la présence de congolais en provenance de la République Démocratique du Congo qui pensent à leurs racines.

Le Français peut aussi s’apprendre dans les MIDLANDS, avec l’Alliance Française de Pietermaritzburg !

Cela permet notamment actuellement aux « cadres d’une entreprise de négoce » installée à Hilton, de s’initier au Français afin de pouvoir correspondre et échanger plus facilement avec leurs interlocuteurs francophones ; cela permet aussi à des particuliers installés à Lion’s River d’apprendre et de progresser en français afin de rendre leurs voyages en France plus agréables et conviviaux.

Ces deux groupes font vivre le français au cœur des MIDLANDS.....

LOOKING AHEAD - THE FRENCH PRESENCE & CULTURAL HERITAGE, HISTORY & HOMMAGE

Messe pour le centenaire du décès de l’**Impératrice Eugénie de Montijo** (épouse de l’Empereur Napoléon III et mère du Prince Impérial) à la Chapelle « Allard House » (première église catholique construite par les missionnaires français, les Oblats de Marie Immaculée, en 1852), Jabu Ndlovu St, Pietermaritzburg, à **09H00 pour 09H45 samedi 14 novembre 2020**. Un hommage rendu au Prince Impérial, à Jean-Claude Lachnitt, à Fleur Webb. **Par invitation. COVID-19 exige.** Pour tous renseignements, contactez Glenn.

Contenu : Bernard De Meyer, Glenn Flanagan & Pascal Houdard.

Mise en page : Glenn Flanagan – 082 677 9997 / gflanagan@webafrica.org.za