



## eNEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020



"May I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and, indeed, a happy New Decade! We look forward to enjoying your company at some of our classes, walks, clubs, conversation groups, outings, quizzes, briefings, events and socials." **Andrew Easdale, President**

### New Year's Day Walk

This now-traditional event attracted 49 walkers and 15 dogs – that's 158 legs – and this year ended with a picnic on Jane and David Morris's terrace to evade the variable weather. What a super way to start the year – thanks to Jane and David.



### Christmas at Le Bastion

Jane and David also organised a lovely Christmas Day meal at Le Bastion for those members who celebrated the day sans famille – see all the photos [here](#).

### ....and Christmas at the Chateau

The ever-popular pre-Christmas luncheon, once again organised by Annelies, attracted a good crowd, who enjoyed a wonderful meal at the Restaurant du Chateau in Campagne. Please take a look at the [photos](#) (courtesy of Michel Tallett).

In January we welcomed Maddy Peltzman to her first committee meeting and we hope to announce other new members very shortly. ACIP now has British, French, Dutch and Belgian representatives on the committee!

À bientôt - **The ACIP committee**

### Social Scene

The January Social was organised by Annelies, with the help of our French members, at which ACIP provided traditional 'Gallettes des Rois'. Another great evening with lots of French conversation and some delicious food at Le Bastion.



### DIARY DATES

Don't forget to dust off your cowboy boots ready for our Country & Western Night on 13th March at the Salle de Fête, Audrix.

You can check out all of our forthcoming events [here](#).

### Speak French – without Fear!

This new French conversation group (replacing 'Salads des Fruits') offers lots of good humour and nice surprises, laughter and games. Beginners, stutterers, improvers and native French speakers – everyone is welcome. This is not a lesson, but a friendly environment in which to enjoy French conversation in small and/or larger groups. The meetings take place on the second and fourth Mondays of the month in Le Bastion (from 4.30 to 5.30 pm) with a break at the bar when English, Dutch or any other mother tongues are prohibited. Do come along and give it a try!

*Rite Kowalczyk and Roger Green - Group Leaders*

### Bordeaux Coach Trip – Andrew reports:

After an early start, we arrived at a sunny Christmas Market and scattered across the city in search of culture, shopping, lunch, or all three. Steve, Shona, Rebecca and I lunched near the university only to be surprised by the arrival of several vans of riot police due to a peaceful pension reform demonstration around the corner! The Market itself was very security-conscious with bag searches etc, which didn't do much for the feeling of goodwill to all men, but Santa was in his grotto - so that was reassuring. We even collected Connie Porter Richard's Christmas present, her son Marc, who had arrived on a flight from the USA. A very enjoyable day!



**Festive Fun for Linguists:** Jenny West and Karen Smoke ran a December soirée apero for 40 language learners and four tutors. Everyone spoke the language they were studying and agreed that it was great fun, as well as very worthwhile.

### Bowled Over

There's always great fun to be had with the bowling group. Organiser Shona now has a cup for each month's winner and there's lovely pizza afterwards. Contact [Shona](#) for more details.



### A Big Thank You from the British Legion

David Walker reports that the Bordeaux British Legion has thanked all members who generously gave a total of €60 to his Poppy Appeal collection.