



Saint Valentine's Day La Saint Valentin

by Sue Burgess

Saint Valentin is the patron saint of people who are in love (*le saint patron des amoureux*).

I just read on wordreference.com that Saint Valentin might never have existed...but don't say that to the people of St Pierre du Chemin, just over the border from the Deux Sèvres into the Vendée, where there is a festival for Saint Valentine's Day every year. The festival lasts about a week with different events being organised.

The church has been home to some of the relics (*les reliques*) of the Saint since 1847 and the relics have been authenticated by the Vatican. During the week of St Valentin there are concerts, meals and a cabaret. Details of this year's festival can be found on the organiser's website at www.la.saintvalentin.free.fr/accueil.html

Saint Valentine's day (*la saint Valentin, la fête de la saint Valentin*) has its origins in Anglo-Saxon countries and has only really gained in popularity in France since the 1980's.

French is said to be the language of love, (*c'est la langue de l'amour*). So many French poets, writers and singers have expressed their passion without forgetting all the love birds who attach padlocks (*les cadenas*) to the Pont des Arts in Paris in order to seal their love. It is also in Paris, the capital of romance, (*la capitale mondiale du romantisme*), that lovers from all over the world leave their messages of love on the famous «I love you wall» (*Mur des jet'aime*).

The wall is a monument dedicated to love which has been put up in the romantic garden of Jehan Rictus square in Montmartre. The work by Frédéric Baron and Claire Kito has become a meeting place for lovers from all over the world. «I love you» (*je t'aime*) can be seen in over 280 languages.



The French language is full of words and expressions on the theme of love. Here are a few:

L'amour fraternel.....	brotherly love
L'amour vache.....	love hate relationship
Un chagrin d'amour.....	heartache, unhappy love affair
Une déclaration d'amour....	a declaration of love
Filer le parfait amour.....	to be very much in love, live a great romance
Un filtre d'amour.....	love potion
malheureux en amour.....	lucky at cards, unlucky in love
une histoire d'amour	a love story
L'amour rend aveugle	love is blind
mon amour.....	my love
tomber en amour.....	to fall in love
avoir le coup de foudre.....	to fall in love at first sight
un tue-l'amour.....	a turn-off
Tu es un amour.....	You're a sweetie
Vivre une grande histoire d'amour.....	to experience a great love affair.

 **Sue Burgess**
Classes & Translations

All classes tailor-made to suit your level
Group classes from 5 euros / hour
Regular Classes for all levels in l'Absie

Small groups of about 5 people with the same level in French
One to one classes in your own home
Help with paperwork etc

Tel: 06 86 23 39 82 - Email: burgess.susanelisabeth@gmail.com
www.francais-anglais79.com

Payment by CESU



Advertise here for 35 €
Votre pub ici 35 €

For more information about advertising rates for the magazine or online, please contact Sarah on Tel: 05 49 70 26 21
email: info@thedeuxsevresmonthly.fr

www.thedeuxsevresmonthly.fr