

€26,000

The whopping sum Macron spent on makeup during his first three months as president



HOLY CRÊPE!

Police in Brittany were forced to step in after a row over a 'sub-par' crêpe descended into full-blown fisticuffs. It all started when two riled-up customers marched into a crêperie demanding a refund because one of their pancakes was not sweet enough... with hindsight! The vexed owner didn't take kindly to their request – hours after they greedily gobbled up their desserts without a peep. The furious women threatened to smash the restaurant's windows but were swiftly subdued by customers until the arrival of the *gendarmes*. Don't mess with a Breton's crêpe!

IMAGES © MONIQUE KERONNES/POLICE DE MORLAIX, LE POINT

AT THE CHALKFACE

Six unruly teachers are being sued by their own school in Tarn after they broke into classrooms – with the help of parents no less – and made off with blackboards, a couple of stools, desks and trolleys. They argue they were merely taking a stand against the headmaster's unfettered bid for modernisation. You see, she had dared to shake up the old order by springing for spanking new whiteboards and chairs...



Teachers have landed in the naughty corner after stealing blackboards

Sébastien Bras is the first chef in the history of the Michelin guide to have asked to be stripped of his stars. But will he be the last?

FOODIE BEAT

MICHELIN STAR-GATE

This takes the biscuit! While some spend a lifetime chasing Michelin glory, French chef Sébastien Bras has begged to be stripped of his three stars. The fêted *cuisinier* whose restaurant, Le Suquet in Laguiole, has been hailed as "spellbinding" by Michelin's exacting critics and held the guide's highest accolade since 1999, made a heartfelt plea on social media to be left out of the upcoming 2018 edition explaining he could no longer handle the pressure. He added he wished to take a bow from the elite three-star club before he met the same fate as fellow masterchef Bernard Loiseau, whose frantic pursuit of perfection drove him to suicide in 2003. Needless to say Bras's very public, and anguished, appeal has rattled the industry and left the good folk behind the gastronomy bible red-faced. Taken aback, Michelin hit back saying it was the first time a chef had asked not to feature in the guide without "justifying his choice by a change in concept or closing the business" and implied his request may not be granted. Relegation or not, savvy Bras plans to "carry on as usual" – which means not a snowball's chance of a mark-down on his eye-watering €227 taster menu. Ah, French business sense!

C'EST PAS VRAI! STRANGE BUT TRUE TALES FROM FRANCE

The *France Today* miscellany of weird and wonderful stories



HAPPY ENDING

Police in Morlaix were mighty chuffed (if a tad surprised) to receive a thank-you note from a drunk-driver for helping her find love. After being banned from the roads, she met the man of her dreams carpooling.



GREAT ESCAPE

A 93-year-old absconded from his care home in Brittany sparking a huge manhunt. The geriatric Casanova was eventually tracked down in a nearby park, enjoying a clandestine rendezvous with his lady-love.



COCK-A-DOODLE-DON'T

The owner of a noisy rooster threatened with legal action by her sleep-deprived neighbours has launched a petition to save her cock from the chop. 32,000 kind souls have come out in support of poor Maurice so far.



THE BURROWERS

Wily thieves swiped 300 bottles of *grands crus* worth €250,000 after drilling into a private cellar from the Catacombs – the maze of tunnels snaking 60ft beneath the French capital. Thirsty work no doubt...

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