"I started playing football later in life when I reached the age of 39. I saw an advert for a football team and decided to sign up right away. I used to play a lot of sport in my teens, but with my kids being older now I have a lot more time to participate. I play football every day!"

"I love football and I always try to play with a smile on my face. Even late at night in the bleak midwinter I happily take my boots and off I go to play. I love football because it gives me everything I need, it's an outdoor team sport which is very important to me living in the city of Paris."

"I play for Les Dégommeuses women's football club, and in truth it's more than a football club. Although we are a very competitive team playing league games every Saturday, we are also a strong voice for refugees, minorities and women's rights. Among the team we have lawyers, writers, journalists and we often meet to discuss political issues as well as take part in football training and matches. One of our idols in the women's game is Abby Wambach. We also have a sister club called Arc en Ciel."

"Les Dégommeuses often take part in various tournaments across France (including the Liberté Cup with Dulwich Hamlet in September 2016) and even further afield. We've even travelled to South Africa to take on Thokozani Football Club, and took part in another football tournament in Berlin in recent years. We're really looking forward to taking on our friends in London Football Beyond Borders Warriors next year; perhaps even at Champion Hill!"

"Although women's football isn't that popular in France as a whole, it is seeing an increasing popularity in Paris. About four years ago among my circle of friends everybody began to talk about Les Dégommeuses, and suddenly it became very fashionable to play football for women here. The French women's national football team has also grown in recognition over the last five years."

"When I began playing I decided that I also wanted to become a football coach too, and I have since passed a Certificat Fédéral de Football degree 2 with the French Football Federation (FFF). The FFF have recently decided to subsidise training courses for women that promote football."

"I have just taken part in an exciting movie called "Le Filles de Reims" about the first professional female team in France in 1969. The film will be released in September 2017. I'm also performing in theatre production called "La où la chèvre broute" a play about women, football and gender."



