



# The Network News

## A Quick Look Ahead...

- Sundays Social Bridge**  
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm  
Millennium Corniche  
Hotel, Khalifa St.
- Tuesdays Beginners' Bridge**  
10:00 am- 1:00 pm  
Reem Island
- Wednesdays Golf Clinics**  
9:00 am  
Abu Dhabi National  
Golf Course
- Sundays Golf Lessons**  
8:30 am/ 9:30 am  
Abu Dhabi City Golf Club  
(See details on page3)
- Thursday Explorers Couples' Trivia**  
**March 3** 7:30- 10:00 pm  
The Club  
**Sold Out**
- Monday Creative Writing Group**  
**March 7, 21** 4:00- 5:30 pm  
Café Arabia
- Wednesdays Mahjong**  
9 am to noon  
Royal Orchid, Hilton Hotel
- Thursday Coffee Morning**  
**March 3, 17** 10 am to noon  
Khalidiya Palace
- Sunday AWN Easter Party**  
**March 27** 9:30-11:30 am  
Khalidiya Palace Garden
- Monday Book Club**  
**March 28** 7:00- 9:00 pm  
1:00- 3:00 pm  
Various locations

## A Message from Susan Foster

Spring is here! This is my favorite season; the flowers are still blooming and we can enjoy being outdoors. However spring is a fleeting season in the UAE so enjoy it now because the summer temperatures are just around the corner!

We have a few changes to our AWN Board. We are pleased to announce Sheila Nickels, who served as our Media Chair, has agreed to step into our Treasurer position. Prior to moving to Abu Dhabi, Sheila had been a CFO, so this will be a terrific transition on the leadership team. Thank you Sheila!

We are also pleased to announce Suzanne Texter, who has been one of the cheerful faces at our Welcome Table, has agreed to take the Secretary position. Thank you Suzanne!

AWN is a wonderful group of women who are smart, talented, and dedicated to supporting one another, giving back to the local community and having fun while they're at it!

The American Women's Network continues with a busy lineup of activities and speakers so be sure to check our website frequently to see what's going on!

Warm Regards,

Susan Foster

## Coffee Morning

**Thursday March 3** AWN member, Jennifer Laursen, will speak about the upcoming concerts by the Chamber Music Abu Dhabi as well as various opportunities for music students to interact with visiting classical musicians.

**Thursday March 17** AWN member, Dianne Reed, will be telling her true-life inspirational story of how she overcame difficulties and built cultural bridges in the Middle East.

**Due to unforeseen circumstances, our schedule of speakers is subject to change.** For more info, please email [morningcoffees@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:morningcoffees@awnabudhabi.com).

## Shukran!

As always, AWN wishes to thank Khalidiya Palace Rayhaan by Rotana for hosting our Thursday morning coffees. We greatly appreciate its welcoming atmosphere, and its dedication in meeting our needs and expectations. Members please remember that Khalidiya Palace offers 20% discounts in their restaurants following our coffee gatherings.

## Explorers

AWN Explorers is hosting a Couples' Trivia Night, **Thursday, March 3** at The Club from 7:30pm to 10:00pm. The cost is 150 AED per person, and 300 AED per couple. It includes Canapes, water, and Mike the Trivia Master! A cash bar is also available. For more info, please email [explorers@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:explorers@awnabudhabi.com)

**Event Sold out!**

## Mahjong

The Mahjong group plays every Wednesday morning from 9:00 am to noon. On **March 2** we will meet at Royal Orchid, Hilton Hotel. All levels are welcome including those who have never played and would like to learn. There is a cost of 35 AED that includes coffee, water and a light snack. If you wish to be added to the mahjong mailing list, please send an email to [mahjong@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:mahjong@awnabudhabi.com)

## Philanthropy

The Philanthropy Special Care Center Gala is **Friday, May 13**, 7:00 pm at the Fairmont Hotel. Special Care Center, one of AWN's special charities, is hosting a gala event and is inviting you to join the festivities. Tickets include dinner, dancing and silent auction. 500 AED per person or a table for 10 for just 4500 AED. For more info, please email Linda Nagle at [philanthropy@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:philanthropy@awnabudhabi.com).

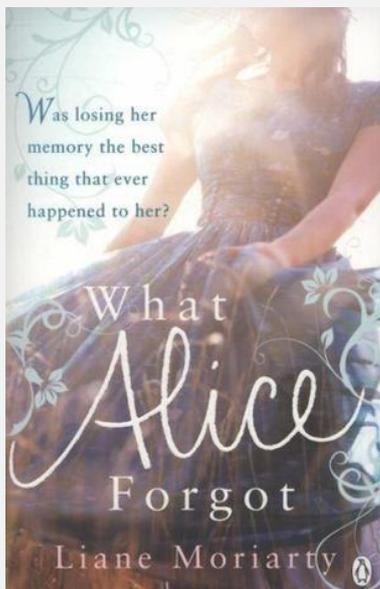
## Bridge

Sunday afternoon Bridge is held at the Millennium Corniche Hotel on Khalifa Street from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. The cost is 25 AED, and parking will be validated by the hotel. If you want to play, and are not on our email list, please contact us at [bridge@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:bridge@awnabudhabi.com) and we will be sure you are added. We look forward to having you join us!



## Book Club

The book selection for March 28 is "**What Alice Forgot**" by Liane Moriarty



Alice Love is twenty nine, crazy about her husband and pregnant with her first child.

So imagine Alice's surprise when she comes to on the floor of a gym (a gym! She HATES the gym) and is whisked off to the hospital where she discovers the honeymoon is truly over — she's getting divorced, she has three kids, and she's actually 39 years old. Alice must reconstruct the events of a lost decade, and find out whether it's possible to reconstruct her life at the same time. She has to figure out why her sister hardly talks to her, and how is it that she's become one of those super skinny moms with really expensive clothes. Ultimately, Alice must discover whether forgetting is a blessing or a curse, and whether it's possible to start over...

Please join us for an enjoyable time with lots of good conversation. Bring your opinion! Afternoon group meets from 1:00 – 3:00 pm, and Evening group meets from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Please RSVP at [bookclub@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:bookclub@awnabudhabi.com) stating "afternoon" or "evening" in the subject line. **LOCATION DIRECTIONS WILL ONLY BE SENT TO THOSE WHO RSVP.**

## Creative Writing Group

The AWN Creative Writing Group will meet at the Café Arabia from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

You don't have to be a closet poet or the next Margaret Atwood to join - or even 'a writer'. This group is for everyone who enjoys writing in any form and wants to expand their skills.

Each session will explore different aspects of storytelling - character, vivid description, structure - with the aim of getting everyone scribbling. So whether you simply want inspiration to get started, or are already writing and want to share your work with a supportive audience, please contact Hilary Pooler for more information and to sign up at [writing@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:writing@awnabudhabi.com)



## Golf

Our Abu Dhabi Golf Course Wednesday clinics for intermediate and advanced players are continuing. Just make sure we have your email address so we can notify you by email of the clinic and then the first 14 ladies responding to my email will get to participate in the following Wednesday clinic. Our Wednesday clinic starts at 9 am with a one hour golf lesson followed by 9 holes of golf include cart, water and cold towels followed by coffee or tea. Cost is 210 AED (Abu Dhabi Golf Club and Saadiyat Golf Club members pay 110 AED). These Wednesday golf sessions are limited to 14 players (4 minimum), which is determined by whomever responds first to my weekly emails. If you are interested in booking any of these events, please email us at [golf@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:golf@awnabudhabi.com) or sign up at the AWN Coffee Mornings.

Our 8 week Sunday golf lessons started the end of January at the Abu Dhabi City Golf Club. There will be another group of weekly lessons beginning in April, so please continue to check the website and the newsletters for more information. For more details, please email [golf@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:golf@awnabudhabi.com)

## Newcomers' Coffee Morning on February 24

On February 24th, another delightful group of newly signed up AWN members plus several members of the AWN Leadership Team, gathered together for the latest Newcomers Coffee. It was a very lively morning with great conversation and lots of laughter. Most important of all, the seeds of many new and precious friendships were sown. Creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere in which new friendships can blossom lies at the heart of what AWN does. If you come and live in this exciting city and are keen to find new pals and join in on fun activities, we would love you to join us!

Everyone who becomes an AWN member through our website will automatically be invited to a Newcomers Coffee. We really look forward to greeting you at our next event for new members in May 2016.

For further information contact [newcomers@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:newcomers@awnabudhabi.com)



## AWN Ladies Easter Brunch!

Food! Fun! Prizes! A great combination!

WHEN: Sunday, March 27 from 9:30 – 11:30 AM

WHERE: Khalidiya Palace garden area; Sit outside under the shade trees and umbrellas!

COST: 100 AED per person which covers Quiches, Salads, Carrot Cake, and More!

PLUS: And a few surprises! The Khalidiya Palace is once again going all out for us!!

Tickets on Sale at Coffee Mornings

Or write to: [president@awnabudhabi.com](mailto:president@awnabudhabi.com)



## Correction to February article “Museums and Heritage Areas of the UAE”

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan lived in Qasr Al Muwaiji at the time of Wilfred Thesiger's visit to Al Ain, and not in the present-day Palace Museum as I wrongly stated in “**Museums and Heritage Areas of the UAE**”. He moved to Al Muwaiji Fort in 1946.



## 'Friends of AWN' First Meeting

By Julie Roberts

On February 8th a group of ladies, who had signed up hoping to find ways we could help AWN and spend some of our new-found free time not just eating and having coffee, took a trip up the lift; and I say a trip, because we met on the 85th floor of a really tall building!



What a start for all of us, to what became a delightful learning experience about the valuable contributions AWN makes ranging from what goes into providing us with great coffee mornings twice a month, to how AWN helps make a difference to the lives of others not as fortunate as ourselves.

A common theme that was apparent when we started sharing bits and pieces about ourselves was....  
.....I would like to get involved in something, but am reluctant, as I feel I'd be no use due to all the travelling I do.  
.....I have nothing to offer as I haven't done anything that stands out in my life.

It took a nano second to realize we were seeing ourselves from the wrong end of the telescope, and that we all have so much to offer; we just need a little help to recognize this at times.  
After a scrumptious lunch, we happily added our names to provide support in a variety of areas such as filling in for those taking holidays or taking photos of events.

I'd like to thank Monica, Linda and Birgitt, and the lunch team for making this day such a great one for us....and know that we felt much more confident about our hidden talents as we took that trip, this time 85 floors down the lift!!!



The information in this newsletter is provided by the American Women's Network of Abu Dhabi as a service to its members. AWN takes no responsibility for the information provided. Please confirm all details with any of the organizations and contacts listed.



**AWN thanks Suzanne Schoenthaler for her many years as AWN Treasurer!**



**Beautiful cake from Suzanne to honor AWN**

**Explorers Neighborhood Walk at Mushrif Park on February 3**

