



COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday **Coffee Morning**
March 2, 16 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 Khalidiya Palace

MARCH EVENTS

Sunday **Culture Group**
March 5 Art House Cafe

Tuesday **Explorers**
March 7 Falcon Hospital Tour
 9 a.m.

Tuesday **Culture Group**
March 15 Sheikh Zayed
 Grand Mosque

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays **Social Bridge**
 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
 Various Locations

Sundays **Tennis**
 8:30 a.m.
 Khalidiya Palace
 Tennis Courts

Mondays **Art Club**
 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 Fanr Cafe, Saadiyat

Tuesdays **Knitting Group**
March 14, 28 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Leopold's, Nation Towers

Wednesdays **Golf Clinic & Lessons**
 9 & 10:45 a.m.
 Abu Dhabi Golf Club
 Sas Al Nakhl

Wednesdays **Mah Jong**
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Al Kamoon Restaurant
 Khalidiya Palace Hotel

Monday **Book Club**
March 20 1 - 3 p.m. // 7 - 9 p.m.
 Various Locations

COMING SOON...

Sunday **AWN Ladies**
April 16 **Easter Brunch**
 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
 Khalidiya Palace Hotel

Friday **Social Event Outing**
April 21 Sailing

A MESSAGE FROM SUSAN

Welcome to those who have recently joined AWN Abu Dhabi. We are so happy you have chosen to be a part of our community! We hope you are settling in and making new friends! We are here to help you get connected and stay connected!

Have you been to our new website? The AWN website has an updated, user-friendly look thanks to our Webmaster, **Tara Footner**. Check out the new calendar page which is a great way to keep current on the latest AWN activities.

www.awnabudhabi.com

This month we want to say a big "Thank You" to **Christine Rawlings, our Bridge Coordinator**, who organized our afternoon games and beginner Bridge lessons. Christine is returning to her home in the U.K. and we wish her all the best!



Be sure to read ahead to find out about our newest groups which include painting, knitting and tennis! The American Women's Network continues with a busy line-up of activities and speakers so be sure to get involved!

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next coffee morning!

Best Regards,
- Susan Foster
AWN Co-President



COFFEE MORNING

Thursday, March 2 – What makes a woman willingly trek through the desert for days without modern day comforts such as a bed, toilet and shower??? Join us and find out as two of AWN's own, **Cindy Dodge** and **Marta Rodriguez** share their adventures as participants of the recent Women's Heritage Walk.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our schedule of speakers is subject to change. For more info, please email AWN Morning Coffees at morningcoffees@awnabudhabi.com.

SHUKRAN!

On February 2 our guest speaker was **Farshied Jabarkhyal** from **FBMI Initiative, Empowering Women in Afghanistan**. It was wonderful to discover how this amazing and worthy initiative came to be which resulted in the creation of a programme for a sustainable development of the carpet production process in Afghanistan thus supporting more



than 20,000 people and their families. His presentation inspired a large group of ladies to sign up to the explorers trip a few days after to go and visit the FBMI store in Yas Mall. For more information: www.fmbi.ae

AWN members had the privilege to hear **Dr. Margit Muller, Executive Director of the Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital and Animal Shelter**, speak at the February 16 Coffee Morning. Dr. Muller entertained, impressed and educated us on the history of the hospital, the lives of falcons and their owners. In conjunction with the Falcon Hospital, Dr. Muller leads a team of dedicated professionals at the Abu Dhabi Animal Shelter in caring for abandoned or stray cats and dogs. The



shelter keeps cats and dogs of all different breeds, sizes and ages for adoption by the general public. Adoption from the Abu Dhabi Animal Shelter gives a sweet dog or cat a good home and helps support this amazing organization. To learn more on how you can adopt a pet, visit www.abudhabianimalshelter.com.

AWN LADIES EASTER BRUNCH

FOOD, FUN, AND PRIZES. A GREAT COMBINATION!

WHEN: Sunday, April 16 | 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Khalidiya Palace Indoor/Outdoor shaded garden area.

COST: 100 AED per person which covers Quiches, Salads, Carrot Cake, and More! Plus, a few surprises! Tickets on Sale at Coffee Mornings or write to: socialevents@awnabudhabi.com



APRIL SOCIAL EVENT: SAILING



Wind in your hair, sun on your face, and the thrill of victory... It can all be yours! AWN members and spouses will crew racing yachts with the professionals of Pindar Sailing. Afterwards, we will be rewarded with a sunset BBQ on the Jumeirah Etihad private beach.

Buy your tickets at the coffee morning and be one of the lucky 30 people to participate!

April 21, 2017, 4 - 8 p.m. | 550 AED per person inclusive

Meet at the Pindar Sailing dock adjacent to the Pool Bar, Jumeriah Etihad hotel. www.pindarsailingad.com

Email socialevents@awnabudhabi.com for more information.

THE AWN TRIVIA NIGHT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Congratulations to our two team winners of the evening; your trivia knowledge was astounding! A special thanks to The Club for their outstanding decorations, food, and wait staff, and to our DJ, Mike, for his entertaining Trivia questions and commentary. Many thanks to all those who attended and made it a fantastic event!



To see more photos from this event, visit www.awnabudhabi.com/february-16-2017-trivia-night.

BRIDGE

Have you ever thought that bridge players speak a foreign language? Have you ever wondered what it is about bridge that gets people excited and committed to the game?

Bridge is a game of skill and chance that is played with a partner. We learn Bridge terms and strategy so that we can communicate effectively with our partners and play the best combined game possible. We use terms including North, South, Trump, Void, Slam, and Game. We learn how to play strong hands and weak hands, and no two hands are the same! We learn to think and strategize about making our contracts. The game of Bridge is excellent for the brain!



Bridge is not a new game. It is derived from the game called Whist, which was played by the British in the 16th century. The game evolved in the early 20th century into contract bridge,

whereby points cannot be scored unless you win the contract.

What type of person plays bridge? The simple answer is every type of person! Some famous players include Omar Sharif, Warren Buffett, Bill Gates and Martina Navratilova. However, people from all walks of life enjoy this popular game.

At the AWN, we play social bridge with players of mixed abilities. I think I speak for everyone, when I say that we have a lot of fun with each other, and enjoy the chance to stretch our brains! We are always learning! But perhaps the best reason to take up bridge, is that you can play it wherever you go and it is a wonderful way to meet new friends.

The Bridge Club meets every Sunday from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. in Khalidiya. We welcome players of all levels.

Bridge lessons have started. If you missed this intake and are interested in learning to play, please contact the bridge coordinator either by email or at a coffee morning.

For more information, please email bridge@awnabudhabi.com.



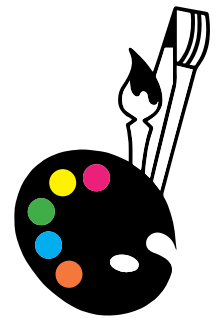
ART CLUB

The Art Club is open to beginners, as well as those with some or extensive experience. The meetings include an exchange of knowledge and ideas, along with guidelines for the beginners.

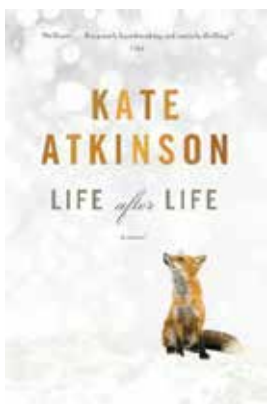
The Art Club meets every Monday, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the beautiful Fanr cafe in the Manarat, Saadiyat Island. Space is limited so please contact Julia (artclub@awnabudhabi.com) as soon as possible in order to reserve your place and receive instructions regarding the meeting. Those of you who have already signed up, please send a confirmation email.

There are no participation fees but purchasing a beverage, snack or staying for lunch would be much appreciated. So pack your brushes and talent and let your creativity soar!

March Special Program: March 6 | 10 a.m.: "Art Therapy" by AWN member **Dr. Manal Elewah**. Anyone who is interested can join us.



BOOK GROUP



The book selection for **March 20** is ***Life After Life*** by Kate Atkinson.

What if there were second chances? And third chances? In fact an infinite number of chances to live your life? Would you eventually be able to save the world from its own inevitable destiny? And would you even want to?

Life After Life follows Ursula Todd as she lives through the turbulent events of the last century again and again. With wit and compassion, Kate Atkinson finds warmth even in life's bleakest moments, and shows an extraordinary ability to evoke the past. (Doubleday)

We meet on the 4th Monday of the month in various locations, coffee shop/host's flat. We have two meeting times. Afternoon group meets 1-3 p.m., and Evening group meets 7-9 p.m. You can sign up at the AWN Coffee Morning or by email at bookclub@awnabudhabi.com.

KNITTING GROUP

AWN knits for a cause! Join our newest group, build up your knitting skills and socialize at the same time!!! All items will be donated. The Knitting Group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Leopold's, Nation Towers. (*Starting in April, the meeting time will change to Mondays – 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.*)

If you plan to attend please send an email to: knit@awnabudhabi.com.



MAH JONG



The Mah Jong group plays every Wednesday morning from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We meet at Al Kamoon restaurant, Khalidiya Palace 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 mah jong mailing list, please send an email to mahjong@awnabudhabi.com.

GOLF

First AWN Golf Competition Held at ADGC

On Wednesday, February 22 the Abu Dhabi Golf Club (ADGC) hosted the first ever AWN Ladies Golf competition. The event was held on the 9-hole Garden Course and was designed to bring together players from both the beginner and the advanced groups as a learning experience and to test skills in a friendly, fun environment. A total of 15 players participated in the "best ball" format, which included closest to the pin and longest drive challenges. A prize awarding ceremony was held in the clubhouse at the end of play. If the cheerful smiles and enthusiastic conversation afterward were any indication, everyone had a great time and is looking forward to the next competition. We wish to thank our golf instructors Grant and Nick for organizing the event, and offer congratulations to all of the winners!



Join the AWN lady golfers every Wednesday morning at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl.

Intermediate lessons begin at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course (cost 210 AED).

Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 a.m. for one hour (cost 110 AED).

You can sign up at the regular AWN Coffee Mornings or by email at golf@awnabudhabi.com.

TENNIS



AWN Tennis kicks off with our first class with Beginner's Tennis, on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. at Khalidiya Palace Tennis Courts. Lessons are 80 AED and taught by tennis pro, Florin Oprea. To learn more or sign up for beginner's tennis please contact: tennis@awnabudhabi.com.

AWN Tennis is looking forward to planning a weekly one-hour drill for intermediate and advance tennis players. If you are interested, please contact: tennis@awnabudhabi.com for more information.

EXPLORERS

- On **Tuesday, March 7**, Explorers will attend a tour of the **Falcon Hospital** – a wonderful insight to everything on the falcons. The cost per person is 275 AED and includes entrance, tour, lunch and bus (Bus at Mushrif Mall; Meeting at 8.45 a.m.; Departing at 9 a.m.) Sign up at the next AWN coffee morning or at explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

Fatima Bint Mohamed Bin

Zayed Initiative (FBMI): Her Highness Sheikha Fatima Bint Mohamed Bin Zayed began an initiative dedicated to aiding the impoverished women of Afghanistan. Since the beginning of the program in June 2010, 3,000 low income Afghans have been employed, 700 looms have been provided and over 10,000 carpets have been produced. On February 7, more than 30 of our AWN ladies visited the FBMI store located at Yas Mall. The staff welcomed us with refreshments



and Farshied Jabarkhyl gave an in-depth presentation on how the wool from the Afghan sheep is spun into yarn, dyed vivid colors from 100% natural vegetable dyes, and then woven into gorgeous carpets. The ladies were shown the varied types of hand-knotted carpets, embroidered furniture and local handicrafts; and Farshied offered advice on what to look for when purchasing a carpet. The mission statement for FBMI is: "Weaving enterprise and compassion together for a brighter future."



TWG Luncheon: After the lecture and demonstration at the FBMI store, the ladies visited the TWG tea store. Sebastian, the manager of the establishment, discussed the difference from the white, green, blue, red, and black teas. This particular TWG store carries 400 varieties of tea. Once Sebastian finished his speech, the ladies enjoyed a scrumptious luncheon of macaroons, scones, muffins, sandwiches and salad with the very best of TWG teas. It was another lovely adventure with the AWN Explorers!

– *Bobbie Ramirez*

DID YOU KNOW?

The country that consumes the most tea is Turkey, with Morocco coming in second and Ireland third.

China produces the most tea worldwide with over 1,700,000 tons a year and India comes in second with 900,000 tons a year.

CULTURE GROUP

On **Sunday morning, March 5**, the AWN Culture Group will meet to talk about **“Places of worship: The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi as an example of Islamic Architecture.”** Our venue for this event will be Art House Cafe, Villa 15, next to Etihad Modern Gallery, opposite Al Bateen Mall. Cost per person is 30 AED, which includes snacks and drink. We usually need a few presenters, so if you want to share with the group your love of a special place of worship, be it a mosque, a temple, or a church, please contact the group's coordinator as soon as possible.

On **Tuesday, March 14**, AWN Culture Group will visit the **Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Abu Dhabi**. The sign-ups will be taken at the next AWN coffee morning, at the Explorers desk. If you are interested in either event or need further information please email Izabella, the group coordinator, at explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!



The American Community School Gala is on **Friday evening, March 10** at the beautiful Beach Rotana Hotel. We are looking for volunteers that may be interested in working the event that evening. Volunteers would help with the silent and live auction and help manage the VIPs. A lovely dinner and taxi fare is provided. If you are interested, please email Birgitt Adams at birgitt.adams@live.com.

AWN COOKBOOK

CALLING ALL COOKS, BAKERS AND RECIPE MAKERS. AWN has a fabulous new cookbook! From drinks to desserts and everything in between, all recipes are wanted.

Here's what you need:

- A recipe from your home country or one you enjoy making.
- A small story to go with the recipe for example who gave it to you, why you enjoy it, who made it for you, who you make it for, etc.
- Where you are from.

Log into bakespace.com with username **AWNADcookbook**; password **ADcooks**. In the left menu, you will find “ADD A Recipe,” an easy online form to fill in. Uploading a pic and writing little backstory makes your recipe even more special. For more info, please email cookbook@awnabudhabi.com.

Prefer to hand in a hard copy? No problem. Just hand your recipe in to any member of the committee at our coffee mornings, or send it to cookbook@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.