

THE NETWORK News

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

**Thursday,
January 10, 24** **AWN Coffee &
Speaker Series**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Khalidiya Palace Hotel

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday,
January 21** **Explorers**
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Emirates Soil Museum

**Tuesday,
January 29** **Explorers**
10:30 a.m.
Louvre Abu Dhabi

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Sundays,
January
13, 20, 27** **Social Bridge**
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
The Club

**Sundays,
January
6, 13, 20, 27** **Golf Clinic**
9 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Saadiyat Beach Golf Club

**Sundays,
January
6, 13, 20, 27** **Tennis**
8:45 a.m.
Beach Rotana

**Sundays,
January
6, 13, 20, 27** **Yoga**
8:30 a.m.
The Studio

**Mondays,
January
14, 21, 28** **Art Club**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Cultural Foundation

**Monday,
January 28** **Book Club**
2-4 p.m.

**Mondays,
January
7, 14, 21, 28** **Golf Clinic**
8:30 a.m.
Abu Dhabi City Golf Club

**Mondays,
January
7, 14** **Knitting Group**
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Galleria Mall

**Tuesdays,
January
8, 15, 22, 29** **Tennis**
8:45a.m.
Beach Rotana

**Wednesdays,
January
2, 9, 16, 23, 30** **Golf Clinic**
9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Abu Dhabi Golf Club

**Wednesdays,
January
9, 16, 23, 30** **Mahjong**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
The Slipway Bar, The Club



UPCOMING EVENT:

**QUIZ NIGHT
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AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

*Connecting
cultures
through
friendship*

WELCOME FROM AWN PRESIDENT

The life of an expatriate is extraordinary. We experience multiculturalism and adventure on a daily basis. It can also be challenging. To live far away from our families is difficult. Consequently, we make friends quickly and they become like family to us.

Part of the reason that we are able to connect with people as fast as we do is that expats have a lot in common. We tend to be tolerant of other cultures, love adventure and travel, and want to learn about the amazing places in which we live.

Being an expat also means we are, for the most part, transient. Most of us are only here 3-5 years. Therefore, we say good-bye too often to those dear friends that we have come to love.

This month, we are saying farewell to our dear co-president, **Carolyn Neubauer**. Carolyn has served AWN faithfully over the last three and a half years; first as philanthropy chair and then as co-president. We are so grateful for all her service. Carolyn and her husband, Kurt, are moving back to Chicago for Kurt's work. We will miss them dearly and wish them the very best.

Please join us in saying good-bye to Carolyn at her last AWN meeting on January 10th. I know she'd enjoy seeing all of you.

In December, the AWN board elected **Sara Healey** as the new co-president. Sara has served AWN as bridge coordinator, bridge instructor and chair of Membership Services over the last two years. Please join me in congratulating Sara on her new role with AWN.

The board also voted in **Shivani Wanchoo** as the new secretary. Shivani has served as both Mahjong Coordinator and Bridge Coordinator for AWN. We are excited to welcome Shivani to her new role.

We hope to see you at a Speaker Series Meeting in January (this month on the 10th and the 24th) or at any of the many activities that we offer our members.

Happy New Year!

Birgitt Adams
AWN Co-President

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awngeneral@gmail.com

www.awnabudhabi.com

AWN - American Women's Network of Abu Dhabi

COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

AWN Coffee & Speaker Series are held twice a month on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until noon at the Khalidiya Palace Rayhaan by Rotana. Please check in our Newsletter or Mid-Monthly Update e-mail for exact dates.

**JAN
10**

Hannan Sayed Worrell - *Table Tales: The Global Nomad Cuisine of Abu Dhabi*, book talk, sale & signing

Hannan is a specialist in international and cultural projects and not new to AWN. As an Arabic native speaker and long-time resident in the region we are proud to have her back as she guides us through her book on a culinary pilgrimage of homes, streets and flavours. Please note that Hannan's book will be on sale at the end and she will be more than happy to sign it! Fabulous coffee table book and gift! Retail price 320 AED.

**JAN
24**

Caroline Faraj - Vice President & Head of Arabic Services, CNN Dubai

We are thrilled to welcome Caroline Faraj and invite her to share her amazing experience and career path as she joined CNN in 2001 and subsequently launched the CNN Arabic site in 2002. A woman who has been right at the top here for many years!

SHUKRAN!



AWN enjoyed a completely different, social and inspiring morning on December 6th, as the **Art Club**, led by their very creative co-coordinator **Julia Kim**, shared a vast variety of their marvelous paintings and works of art with the rest of our members. Thank you to past and present co-ordinators of the Art Club for making this happen!

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.

SOCIAL EVENTS



The Fourth Annual AWN Quiz Night will take place on **Thursday, February 21st**. This is by far the most popular AWN annual event. This year we will be serving a buffet dinner followed by the Quiz. Dinner will start at 7 p.m. and the Quiz will begin promptly at 8 p.m.. The cost is 200 dhs per person and includes the dinner, water and the Quiz. There will be an open bar for anyone that would enjoy wine or a cocktail.

Signups will take place during our coffee mornings beginning on January 10. This is a very popular event and space is limited. We play in teams of 6 and you may either come as a team or join teams the night of the event. Singles and couples are both welcome.

Smile! Photos are taken at our events and coffee mornings to be used in our newsletter and website.

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EXPLORERS

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 21 – Environmental Adventure: Emirates Soil Museum Tour - “Why we still have hunger”

Location: Dubai // Time: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. // Cost: 160 AED (includes transportation, entrance and tour fee)

Let's immerse ourselves in the world of soil at this unique tour of the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture and Soil Museum (opened in 2016). We will learn the “soil story” through indoor and outdoor exhibits and will be introduced to the global food security problem. Learning about food demand and supply, economic and environmental constraints, and agriculture research and technology will give us a better understanding of this major global issue.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning or email explorersawn@gmail.com.

Tuesday, January 29 – Cultural Adventure - Roads of Arabia: Archaeological Treasures of Saudi Arabia Exhibit

Location: Louvre Abu Dhabi // Time: 10:30 a.m. // Cost: 60 AED (includes private tour; additional entrance fee for non-members will apply)

Would you like to join us for a private tour of The Louvre, Abu Dhabi's latest exhibition? The Roads of Arabia is a very special display of ancient pieces of art all connected by routes of trade. Whilst this fascinating tale of regional history is open to us all from now until February, we believe it will be well worth the wait until late January for our own private guide to bring it alive and of course, answer all your questions! No doubt, we'll follow on at the café, taking in the lovely waterside views and some coffee or lunch.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning or email explorersawn@gmail.com.

Tuesday, February 4 – Desert Walk and Meditation with a Mindfulness Teacher

Stay tuned for more information at the January 10 AWN Coffee Morning!

Monday, February 11 - Archaeological Adventure:

Day tour to the UAE's most ancient archaeological site at Mleha

Location: Sharjah // Time: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. // Cost: 210 (guided tour and transportation)

Lunch will be on our own at the museum café.

We will visit the site which is famous for discovering 125,000-year-old stone tools left behind by early humans migrating out of Africa along the southern Arabian Peninsula. Our guide will take us on a 2-hour tour in 4WD air-conditioned cars to show us ancient caves, fossils, tombs and palace ruins. Hats, sunblock and walking shoes are recommended as we will also walk on rocky surface in the sun. A visit at Mleha museum will educate us further about the importance of this ancient site.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning or email explorersawn@gmail.com.

CULTURE CLUB

Monday, February 18

Exploration of Symbols - “Fylfot, Gammadion, Wan – An Ancient Cross Symbol That We Love to Hate”

Location: TBD // Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. // Cost: Free



Join the first Culture Club gathering of the year to discover more about the long and complex history of a symbol that, today, is associated with the Second World War. Whereas in many places today the gammadion is considered a taboo, this prehistoric symbol was found on almost all continents as an emblem of spirituality and divinity. Our meeting will explore the multiplicity of meanings of this cross, whose true nature has been auspicious up until it was hijacked and re-imaged in the 20th century. Everybody is welcome to share what they know about this misunderstood symbol by giving examples from their own country.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning, by the Explorers Team table, or email cultureclubawn@gmail.com.

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EXPLORERS TEAM SUGGESTIONS

The Ripe Market

Location: Umm Al Emarat Park // When: Every Saturday from 3-9 p.m. ; October 10 - April 27 // Cost: Free

ripeme.com/ripe-markets/the-ripe-food-craft-market/

Set amongst the beautiful palm tree walk inside Umm Al Emarat Park, the Ripe Market brings the Abu Dhabi community together to experience a whole host of talented local food businesses and local artisanal products.

Apart from exciting new food concepts, there are artists, designers, local Emirati talent and fitness classes; all offering everything from unique handcrafted items for the home, boutique fashion for adults and children and bespoke jewelry and entertainment.

“Sheikh Zayed and Europe: A Journey” Exhibition

Location: Founder's Memorial: Intersection of Abu Dhabi Corniche and 18th Street (Free visitor parking is available is accessible from 18th street) // When: Every day from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. until January 31st // Cost: Free

'The exhibition aims to commemorate the legacy and leadership of the founding father, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. It also aims to highlight his local, regional and international accomplishments and his values of tolerance, giving, coexistence, loyalty, patriotism, volunteerism and humanitarian work.'

Abu Dhabi Festival 2019 - March 2019

The 16th Abu Dhabi Festival Headline programme will feature more than 100 events, in 25 venues, 543 international artists, with 17 participating countries, more than 18 productions, 2 co-productions, 2 commissions, 6 Arab world debuts. Each year, Abu Dhabi Festival recognises a Country of Honour, commemorating its culture through performances and strengthening diplomatic ties as it welcomes esteemed guests and celebrates artistic expression.

In 2019, the Festival recognises the deep cultural wealth of Korea, reflecting on the historic ties between the UAE and the Republic – ties of cultural exchange that stretch back many decades. We are excited to welcome artists across a number of different art forms to this year's Festival, allowing audiences to explore the depth and diversity of contemporary Korean culture. <http://www.abudhabifestival.ae/festival-2019/>

Joyce Didonato: In War & Peace: Harmony Through Music - Location: Emirates Palace Auditorium, Abu Dhabi // When: Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 8 p.m.

www.abudhabifestival.ae/programme/joyce-didonato-in-war-peace-harmony-through-music/

The multi Grammy and Tony Award-winning mezzo-soprano singer, Joyce DiDonato, is bringing her towering vocal talents from America to Abu Dhabi, to perform with Italy's dynamic and world-renowned Il Pomo d'Oro Orchestra. Under the baton of charismatic conductor Maxim Emelyanychev, In War & Peace will combine some of the most powerful works by Handel, Purcell and other opera luminaries, culminating in a truly unforgettable night of rousing music and a voice that The Times described as “nothing less than 24-carat gold”.

Bayreuth Festival: The Valkyrie

Location: Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi // When: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 & Friday, February 1, 2019 at 7 p.m.

www.kempinski.com/en/abudhabi/emirates-palace/local-information/events/bayreuth-festival-the-valkyrie/

Abu Dhabi is honoured to announce that it will host the Bayreuth Festival's international opera debut of Richard Wagner's The Valkyrie. The Bayreuth Festival is renowned for its outstanding performances of the 19th-Century German composer Richard Wagner's operas, performed in a special theatre, the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, designed by Wagner himself, so that he could produce his own works. The Bayreuth Festival's acclaimed productions receive over 500,000 ticket requests each year with only 60,000 tickets available and a waiting list of up to 9 or 10 years. As a result, Bayreuth Festival fans can eagerly anticipate the opportunity to purchase tickets for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see this spectacular production in the UAE's capital, performed for the first time ever outside of Germany.

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Current co-presidents **Birgitt Adams** and **Carolyn Neubauer** kicked off the holidays at an afternoon tea with past AWN board members. They were pleased to have the opportunity to reminisce with **AWN Co-president Carole Finck (2008-2013)**. Looking festive in red, Carole was visiting from the United States. Other past AWN board chairs included **Luanne McCray, Karen Kwa, Suzanne Schoenthaler and Colleen Miller**. Thank you Luanne for hosting us at your home!

In early December, **the leadership of AWN** was thanked for their service over a festive holiday luncheon and a white elephant gift exchange at the lovely home of Community Outreach Chair, Cindy Dodge. Thank you ladies, for all you do to make AWN what it is!!

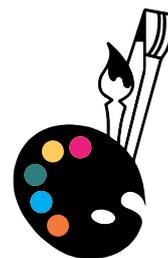


ART CLUB

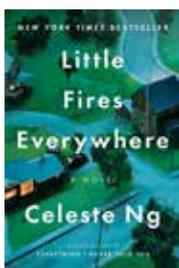
The AWN Art Club resumes meeting on Monday, January 14, 2019 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The National Theater Studio moved to the Cultural Foundation by the Qasr Al Hosn. The parking is underground and the studio is located on the second floor.

The first day of the meeting is an open studio, you bring your own subject to paint. If you need information of the new studio location, please inquire artclubawn@gmail.com.



BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will meet at Karen McBryde's apartment on Monday, January 28th from 2-4 pm. We will be discussing the novel, *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng. All are welcome.

For more information, please email bookclubawn@gmail.com.

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SOCIAL BRIDGE

AWN Social Bridge will resume after the Winter Break from January 13, 2019. We will play every Sunday at our regular venue; The Waterfront Suite, at The Club from 1:30 to 4:mailchimp30 pm.

For more information, please email bridgeawn@gmail.com.

GOLF



It's going to be a wonderful New Year for the golf members! We've got excellent weather, great camaraderie with our amazing coaches and exciting events to look forward to. Our very successful "Jingleballs" evening at Abu Dhabi Golf Club offered our couples some good old-fashioned and friendly competitions. We followed our clinic with a glass of bubbly and BBQ. Dressed in our festive attire, we "brightened" the driving and putting range while attempting to win a grand prize offered by our coaches Nick and Grant. Congrats to **Angela and Mark**, our top scorers! We look forward to more couples events as we move forward to planning the year ahead. As always, we encourage anyone looking to start or continue an interest in golf, to contact us either through email or personally chat with us at the AWN monthly meetings. We'd love to have you join our fun group.

SAVE THE DATE! Our next couple's golf event will be at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club on **February 15th**. More info will follow in the February newsletter as well as our morning coffees.

We have clinics for both beginners and Intermediate players at three different clubs, on different days of the week. All participants receive a free beverage following the clinic at each of the clubs.

Sundays at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club: Advanced/Intermediate Clinic begins at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole course. Beginner lessons are held at 10:00 a.m. for one hour (Price inclusive of VAT: 1 hour clinic - 105 AED; 9 holes of play - 265 AED).

Mondays at Abu Dhabi City Golf Club: Advanced/Intermediate 1 hour clinic begins at 8:30 a.m. plus an option to play 9 holes. Beginner lessons begin at 8:30 a.m. (both clinics run in tandem). (Price inclusive of VAT: Clinic only - 120 AED; 9 holes with clinic - 225 AED).

Wednesdays at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl: Advanced Clinic begins at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course. Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 a.m. for one hour. (Price plus VAT: Clinic only - 110 AED; 9 holes with clinic: 210 AED)

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

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KNITTING GROUP

NEW VENUE FOR AWN KNITTING GROUP

Attention all knitters, AWN knitting group will be trying out a new venue. January 7th and 14th meetings will take place in Galleria Mall food court, next to Lemongrass Restaurant. Please read mid-month update for details of January 21st and 28th meetings.



Some of our members are knitting blankets and squares for the UAE Guinness World Record attempt to knit the worlds biggest blanket. Others are knitting items for charity, gifts or just for fun. Why not grab your needles and yarn to come join us? All knitters will be made to feel very welcome.

If you plan to attend or would like further information please send an email to knitawn@gmail.com.

MAHJONG



We will resume playing Mahjong from Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at the Slipway Bar, The Club. Newcomers and beginners are welcome.

To find out more contact us at mahjongawn@gmail.com.

TENNIS

We will kick off the next AWN Tennis session beginning Sunday, January 6th/Tuesday January 8th. Below is information regarding the upcoming session.



- Each session consists of 4 lessons (one lesson a week)
- Lessons are open to Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner Players.
- The 45-minute lessons are held at Beach Rotana (near Abu Dhabi Mall) start promptly at 8:45 and end at 9:30AM. Immediately following the lessons, players are welcome to one-hour of complimentary court time (pending availability) and the use of the Beach Rotana pool and locker facilities.
- The cost per session is 340AED + VAT, payable at first lesson of the session.
- Please note, because we pay the tennis pros to attend the entire session, there are no refunds for missed lessons.
- Also classes will be offered on Sunday and Tuesday subject to enrolment numbers. If you are interested, please note your preferred day.

Please register early to guarantee your spot. For registration or more information, please email tennisawn@gmail.com.

YOGA



AWN Yoga will meet on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. at The Studio on the Corniche, in the Khalidiya area (just a few steps away from Third Place Café.) Enjoy an hour of yoga with the special price of 50 AED for AWN members only, no walk-ins. Spaces will be limited so those interested, please send an email to yogaawn@gmail.com as soon as possible. This will be a pay-as-you-go plan!

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VOLUNTEER CORNER

OPERATION SMILE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Operation Smile UAE require some volunteers on a Monday and Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you would like to become a book sale volunteer and could commit to volunteering for a two hour shift twice a month, please either call 02 658 4790 or send an email to volunteer@operationsmileuae.ae. Please state that you are interested in volunteering at the office book sales.

RUN FOR A WISH

Under the patronage of HH Sheikha Sheikha bint Saif Al Nahyan, the ADCB Zayed Sports City 5&10K run presented by Daman Insurance returns on January 11, 2019.

The January run will support the Make-A-Wish UAE Foundation with proceeds from the run being donated to this worthy cause. With the support of sponsor Abu Dhabi Ports, Make-A-Wish looks forward to welcoming you to Run for a Wish and help them to grant more amazing wishes in 2019! As part of the theme of the event all runners will receive a commemorative Make-A-Wish star shaped medal, commemorative T-shirt, water bottle and bandana. For more information and to register please click on <http://my3.raceresult.com/100590/?lang=en>

VOLUNTEER AT LADIES GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Fatima Bin Mubarak Ladies Open Golf Tournament, held January 10-12 at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club is looking for volunteers. This is the kick off tournament of the Ladies European Tour and is a high energy fun event. Past volunteers have loved the experience. Register today via FBMLOvolunteers@teamwass.com.

CALLING ALL TEACHERS

Red Crescent is looking for qualified english as second language teachers for an adult education program being held January through March. If you are a qualified teacher and are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Cindy Dodge at outreachawn@gmail.com.

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HAPPENINGS IN ABU DHABI

WOMEN'S HERITAGE WALK

★ 2019 WOMEN'S HERITAGE WALK

February 1 - 5, 2019



The WHW has grown into an annual event recreating an Emirati migration of families moving between Abu Dhabi and Al Ain.

The Women's Heritage Walk from Abu Dhabi to Al Ain is an annual 125 km female-only trek that was launched in 2015 by American author and Clinical Counselor Jody Ballard, and she now continues to grow the walk alongside her Emirati partner, Asma Al Mutawa, who is a prominent cultural & literature advocate. The Walk is a heartfelt tribute to the women of the United Arab Emirates who helped shape the nation and focuses on 4 important pillars: women's encouragement, culture and heritage, health and wellness, and community building.

50 ladies of different nationalities set out each morning of the walk before the sunrise to brave the desert and complete a full 25 km distance by sunset. The diverse group relishes culinary journeys of traditional food, takes part in rich cultural and heritage activities, learns about the history and desert life of the UAE and camps under the stars in a secured authentic Bedouin campsite.

The Women's Heritage Walk has evolved into an incredible sand sisterhood that grows stronger with each passing year.

Learn more about the event and apply to become a 2019 Sand Sister on womensheritagewalk.com!

KNITTERS

★ HELP TO KEEP A CHILD WARM WHILE BREAKING A WORLD RECORD

Knitters from all over the UAE are attempting to break the Guinness World Record for the world's largest blanket. This involves knitting approximately 2,200 individual baby blankets. Once the world record has been broken each individual blanket will be donated to needy people across the world.

HERE ARE 3 WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- 1 - Knit a blanket minimum size 1m x 1m - Important no crochet allowed, not even on edges of blankets.
- 2 - knit a square minimum size 20 x 20 cm. These will be sewn into blankets by volunteers.
- 3 - Donate yarn.

For more information:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/gwrknitathon2019/>

AMCHAM ABU DHABI

★ AMCHAM ABU DHABI ANNUAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS CHARITY GALA EVENING

February 1, 2019 | 7 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Venue: Saadiyat Rotana Resort Villas

Cost: 700 AED/person OR Table of 10: 6,000 AED

Let the Good Times Roll with a Mardi Gras-themed Spectacular! Live entertainment, exquisite dining, auctions and prizes.

RSVP: No later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 30, 2019.

<https://amchamabudhabi.org/client/event/roster/eventRosterDetails.html?productId=10465&eventRosterId=7>

ISLAMIC DESIGN WORKSHOPS

★ PRESENTED BY BAYT AL QINDEEL

January 20-24, 2019

Venue: National Theatre

Richard Henry & Adam Williamson

Geometric Islamic Pattern: This is a general practical introduction to the principles of Islamic Pattern. Using the traditional tools of compass and straight edge we will re-create a beautiful geometric pattern.

Arabesque Islamic Pattern: This is a general practical introduction to the fluid, versatile freehand biomorphic aspects of Islamic Pattern.

For more details and pricing, please contact Dr Zeinab Farah at Bayt Al Qindeel 971 50 612 5681.

NYU ABU DHABI

★ LECTURE: THE SUBMERGED WORLD OF THE ARABIAN GULF

January 28, 2019 | 6:30-8 p.m.

Venue: NYUAD Campus, Conference Center

The seabed around the world has proven to be an archaeological treasure trove, consistently yielding items that are rewriting history books and filling museums. The Arabian Gulf has one of the longest and richest seafaring traditions anywhere in the world. Prior to 8,000 years ago sea levels were considerably lower and the land to the north of the Emirates was an open and potentially fertile landscape. This landscape is an untapped resource, offering the prospect of not only ancient wrecks, but discoveries from the distant prehistoric submerged landscape of Abu Dhabi. This talk delves into the intricacies surrounding the Arabian Gulf as it relates its' position as an archaeological treasure.

Speaker: Richard Cuttler, Archaeologist, Historic Environment Department, Department of Culture and Tourism (DCT)

Hosted by: NYU Abu Dhabi Institute

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

https://nyuadi.secure.force.com/Events/NYUEventRegistration?event=ptynX6mEwpodDV8CD5KING_3D_3D

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