



The BLS Newsletter

September 28th, 2022

Dear Ladies,

Fantastic news to share as Bex Widdicombe has been elected Vice President of BLS 2022-23! Many congratulations to Bex and we all look forward to working closely with Bex this year. This means we have made some changes to Activities, so Ridaab Marzuq has accepted moving up to Activities Coordinator and we are looking for an Assistant Activities coordinator to help both the event and activities team which consists of Annie Morris and Munah Boresli, from Membership, and we are looking for an Assistant Events Coordinator as well.

This Saturday, 1st October from 10am-4pm there will be an Open Day at the BLS Premises – with a Pot Luck Lunch from 12noon-2pm. Explore the BLS Premises, browse our mini bazaar of tables and shelves and bring cash to buy items made and sold by women, buy books, or pay for you BLS 2022-23 membership! Some volunteers to help clear out and tidy up the Premises a little bit would be so helpful, and there are a few toys, books and other items we can donate to other charities which will make some space in our BLS basement and help those in need.

For all you British Full Members, or Full Associate Members, we do need you to renew your memberships as quickly as possible please. We have a long list of new Associate Members waiting to join up and we must observe the 60% British / 40% non-British membership ratio. We are such a welcoming bunch that I hate people to think we are not open to other nationalities joining or to have applicants feel they've not been "chosen" to be accepted by BLS. We are extremely welcoming to all, but just have this constitutional ratio which must be maintained. There are more than enough Brits around to maintain this 60% majority, so please renew your memberships, and encourage your British friends or friends with British spouses to join up!

To keep updated with BLS activities and events please ensure you are on the appropriate following WhatsApp Groups:

- BLS Kuwait - all committee members are admins and can add new numbers
- BLS book sale - admins Karen, Layla, Munah, Lorraine, Jennifer, Bex
- Evening Book Club - admin Mona 6908 7295
- BLS Walking Group - admins Alex, Layla, Munah, Jennifer
- Monday Morning Coffee - Dana 9770 9883, Lobna 9696 0883
- BLS Cinema Group - Layla, Munah, Jennifer
- BLS MUMS & TOTS Group - Nada 9224 6469, Jennifer

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Make sure you follow us on Instagram @blskuwait and regularly check your emails ladies, and the calendar on www.theblskuwait.org because Lydia is doing a fantastic job updating the calendar for you all!

Finally, if you make any payments in cash at all to a BLS committee member, please ensure that you take the time to receive a written receipt from an official receipt book!

Thank you for your patience and continued support,
Jennifer.

BLS Committee 2022-2023

Position	Name
President	Jennifer Cadiz
Vice President	Bex Widdicombe
Society Secretary	Alex Carroll
Treasurer	Kyla Mulvaney
Vice Treasurer	Vacant
Events Coordinator	Annie Morris
Assistant Events Coordinator	Vacant
Activities Coordinator	Ridaab Marzuq
Assistant Activities Coordinator	Vacant
Membership Secretary	Layla Boresli
Assistant Membership Secretary	Munah Boresli
Communications Officer	Allison Brannon - Social
Website Coordinator	Lydia Reda - Web
Assistant Communications Officer	Vacant (flash emails, monthly newsletter)
Coffee Team Coordinator	Dana Jandhyala
Assistant Team Coordinator	Suzanne Emmerson

Membership News

Ladies,

All current memberships run out on 30th September! We are now taking 35KD payments for BLS Year 2022-23. This includes significant exclusive discounts on goods, activities, and services.

Please contact Layla at 9699 0239 or Munah at 9699 0249 to arrange payment if you are not able to pay by bank transfer. Unfortunately, we cannot send out payment links.

Contact membership@theblskuwait.org for any membership related questions.

We do remind our Full Members and Full Associate members to remember to register as we have Associate Members on the waiting list and we must maintain our 60/40 membership ratio. Full members are British passport holders, or passport holders from Mauritius, New Zealand or Ireland. Of course, any wife of a British Passport holder too!

The BLS Membership Team
Layla and Munah

Upcoming BLS Events / Activities

– Save the Date

If you have an activity you would like to suggest -- please do let the Activities team know when you are available so we can coordinate a date. You can DM @blskuwait on Instagram, message the BLS Kuwait WhatsApp group, or contact activities@theblskuwait.org.

Saturday October 1st, 2022 - BLS Open Day with Potluck Picnic: 10:00am – 4:00pm with picnic from 12:00pm – 2:00pm.

The premises will be open to socialise – and pay 2022-2023 membership fees in cash. From 12noon-2pm members are invited to bring any of their favorite dishes or snacks so we can picnic in the library together while shopping, tidying up and creating new displays!

Saturday October 22nd, 2022 - ZUE Pet Park and Beyond: time tbd.

An opportunity to pamper your pups of all shapes and sizes in this stunning pet cafe and indoor park – of course you're also welcome if you simply enjoy the company of dogs, or fancy catching up with your pooch-parent pals over a pot of coffee. An unprecedented 70% discounted pass at only 3KD entry! With thanks to Paddington and his mum, Bex, for organizing this treat!

Saturday October 29th, 2022 – Art Sale and Entertainment: all day event at Dar el Cid. Stunning works collected across the globe over fifty years by BLS member, Rhoda Muhmood MBE, and generously donated to raise funds for KALD, Cherished Gowns, Operation Hope and Touch of Hope. Thank you to Dr Ziad Rajab who will host our sale in the Dar El Cid lower ground exhibition hall, and to Ahmadi Music Group performers for providing musical entertainment throughout the day.

Thursday November 3rd, 2022 – Shop Row & Oak Coffee Morning: 10:00am – 12:00pm at Salaam, Block 1, St 105, House 41.

Shop Row & Oak coffee morning hosted by Denise AlShammari in her home. Find all manner of fabulousness, objects that spark joy, and knick-knacks for your home or to gift.

Friday November 11th, 2022 – BLS Bazaar: 9:30am – 4:00pm at AUK. Held in the new courtyard of American University Kuwait in Salmiya.

Tuesday November 15th, 2022 – Yoga for a Cause with Farah: 6:00pm – 7:00pm at the BLS Premises. Cost: 10KD and proceeds go towards Touch of Hope animal rescue.

Saturday November 19th, 2022 - Candle Making Workshop: time tbc.

Candle-making workshop taught by Denise AlShammari from Row & Oak, Cost is 15KD with extremely limited spaces, so register your interest ASAP!

BLS Clubs

Monday Morning Coffee

Dana, as Coffee Coordinator, has created the Monday Morning Coffee WhatsApp group, so do ask to be added if you want to know where will be the next meet-up – contact Dana on WhatsApp at 9770 9883.

If you would like to host a coffee morning either at your home or at the premises, please ask within the “BLS Kuwait” WhatsApp group (contact Jennifer at 66147907 to join) or if you would like to host a special fundraising coffee event, email Jennifer at president@theblskuwait.org with the subject line 'Special Event Coffee'.

Walk the Talk

The weather is getting cooler ladies! We are looking for a Walk the Talk Coordinator. However, any one of you can suggest a one-off walk within the WhatsApp group for our walking ladies if that’s all you have time for. To be added, contact Jennifer at 66147907.

Mums & Tots

Exciting new activities planned! Ask to join the BLS MUMS & TOTS WhatsApp group to confirm meetups and other playdates. WhatsApp Nada 9224 6469.

BSL Book Clubs

Morning Book Club

Thank you to Dana who has volunteered to coordinate the Morning Book Club. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Dana on WhatsApp at 9770 9883

Evening Book Club

If you are interested in joining the Evening Book Club, contact Mona at 6908 7295.

The books for the next few months are as follows:

Month	Book	Author
October	Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982	Cho Nam-Joo
November	Letter Home	Karen Alanizi MBE - our very own BLS Library caretaker! Buy your copy at BLS for 4KD. We will be discussing this book at BLS with Karen on Wednesday 16th November at 6pm.
December	The Vanishing Half	Brit Bennet
January	How to Fail: Everything I’ve Ever Learned From Things Going Wrong	Elizabeth Day

BLS Clubs - continued

Library at the Premises – More Than Just a Library....

We will always try to give notice of when the library is open so make sure to check BLS Kuwait on WhatsApp, or @blskuwait on Instagram.

BOOKS! Not only do we have a huge selection of books available to borrow, we also have a large selection of books and DVDs for sale at the incredibly low price of 250 fils each!

JIGSAWS! **New intake of jigsaws.** Why not borrow a jigsaw to pass the time – 1KD to hire and 500fils back when you return. From the fairly easy to the extremely challenging, there is something for everyone.

COFFEE & CAKE! For only KD 1 for can enjoy a cup of tea or freshly brewed coffee along with a biscuit and usually some homemade goodies too!

INFORMATION! Make use of our table and notice board which shares useful contact numbers and recommendations for everything from taxi services, tailors, maintenance services and more!

FRIENDLY CHAT! Use your visit to catch up with members and meet new friends. All done in safe surroundings. This includes temperature check on entry (by Q8realtor staff at entrance), hand sanitizer, mask wearing and social distancing.

WHATSAPP GROUP! Ask to join our BLS book sale group for offers.

British Consulate Information

Keeping in touch

Follow:

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Subscribe:



www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/kuwait

Call or write:



22594320 (24/7)



www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-kuwait



Buy, Sell and Swap WhatsApp

Vide Grenier WhatsApp Group

The French Association has said BLS members can join their Vide Grenier (Buy, Sell, and Swap) WhatsApp Group. If you are interested in buying or selling, do join this active WhatsApp group by putting in a request in the BLS Kuwait WhatsApp group. NEVER contact the Vide Grenier admin directly and do follow the rules to the letter please, as we are only guests.

BLS Social Media and Website

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/619404001574946>
www.theblskuwait.org

The only Facebook group we currently have access to is the Members Only BLS Kuwait Group - but this is not regularly updated, nor will it be until we can link it to the @blskuwait Instagram account.

If you get your BLS information through social media, please follow, share and like @blskuwait on Instagram. We're also currently updating the website thanks to volunteer Lydia, so keep hitting that refresh button!

BLS Charities 2022-2023

Our Kuwaiti Charity this year is The Kuwaiti Association for Learning Differences (KALD), a non-profit organization that collaboratively works towards helping all individuals, especially students in private schools and special education in Kuwait, who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Learning Difficulties through setting up awareness programs, training courses, and other educational activities.

www.kalduwait.com

Our British Charity this year is Cherished Gowns. Cherished Gowns UK is a charity that provides the families of babies that are stillborn, miscarried or pass away shortly after birth with items of clothing that they are able to be dressed in for their funeral. We offer five sizes of Cherished Gowns, and each gown is accompanied by a hat, pair of booties, a blanket and a cloth nappy. These items are provided completely free of charge to parents, funeral directors, and we also supply every UK hospital with this service. All of the items provided are lovingly made by volunteers around the UK, from donated Wedding Dresses.

www.cherishedgowns.org.uk