



# The BLS Newsletter

November 22nd, 2022

Hi Ladies,

What joy there has been in preparing for our Christmas festivities this season, starting with a very successful Winter Bazaar. Thank you to all that supported vendors and The Salvation Army band for playing! BLS member, Mihaela Lucia Kassam, is holding her annual Christmas Ornaments workshop this Saturday in the BLS premises, and of course thanks to new member Sonia Biondi, also on the BLS committee, we have a beautifully planned Christmas Dinner at Jumeirah on the 6<sup>th</sup> December where all of you who asked to sit together have been accommodated. There are so many raffle prizes to be won and this year, paying homage to Operation Hope's Sheryll Mairza, we shall be raffling in a new way you'll all enjoy!

Our Vice President, Bex, is organizing a "Swap and Shop" meet in the new year, so please do support her organizing efforts with this. Swapping and second-hand selling is such a fantastic idea; it saves cash, helps those who really need specific items, is good for the environment and clears out closets!

Let's start walking again; the weather is extremely cool and it's great to get out in the fresh air again. Location ideas welcomed for the walking group, make sure you're in it so you do not miss out on all the fun!

Karen Long is actually running in the Gulf Bank Marathon this Saturday, so we wish her luck and God Speed!

Please remember that the "Elizabeth English Prize for Participation" will be awarded at the BLS Gala to be held in the Spring. First awarded last year to Julie Fautley for her tireless service to the BLS, this award celebrates outstanding contribution to the British Ladies Society in Kuwait for 2022-23. Every one of you will get to nominate the BLS member who has made the most impact to your experience within the British Ladies Society this year. Anyone in the membership can be nominated and the top three nominations will be voted on to find the winner!

Don't forget to donate to the Poppy Appeal while you can; poppies are in the BLS library.

See you in your glad rags on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>!  
Jennifer

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# BLS WhatsApp Groups

To keep updated with BLS activities and events please ensure you are on the BLS 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 - Munah, Jennifer
- BLS MUMS & TOTS Group - Nada 9224 6469, Jennifer 66147907

# BLS Committee 2022-2023

Position	Name
President	Jennifer Cadiz
Vice President	Bex Widdicombe
Society Secretary	Alex Carroll
Treasurer	Kyla Mulvaney
Vice Treasurer	Janet Newman
Events Coordinator	Annie Morris
Assistant Events Coordinator	Sonia Biondi
Activities Coordinator	Ridaab Marzuq
Assistant Activities Coordinator	Mandy Smith
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
Assistant Membership Secretary	Munah Boresli assisted by Joanne Lyttle
Communications Officer	Allison Brannon - Social
Website Coordinator	Lydia Reda
<b>Assistant Communications Officer</b>	<b>Vacant (flash emails, monthly newsletter)</b>
Coffee Team Coordinator	Dana Jandhyala
Assistant Team Coordinator	Suzanne Emmerson

## Membership News

Ladies,

Please push for your UK lady friends to join BLS.

Membership is 35KD and includes significant exclusive discounts on goods, activities, and services.

Please contact Munah at 9699 0249 to arrange payment if you not able to pay by

bank transfer. Unfortunately, we cannot send out payment links.

**Are you interested in volunteering as the Membership Secretary? We need your help! Contact Jennifer 66147907 to volunteer.**

BLS Membership  
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](mailto:activities@theblskuwait.org).

### **Saturday November 26th, 2022 – Christmas Ornament Workshops with Lucia:**

Both workshops will be held at the BLS Premises, all materials are included. Open for both BLS members and non-members alike! Non-members are charged a 2KD entrance fee per session. To register, contact Jennifer at 66147907.

- 10:00am – 12:00pm: Beginner's Fabric Covered Ornament making – cost: 2KD per ornament. Children aged 10+ can attend.
- 12:30pm – 3:00pm: Intermediate Quilted Christmas Ornament making – cost: 6KD per ornament.

### **Tuesday December 6th, 2022 – BLS Christmas Dinner at Jumeirah Messilah**

**Hotel** – 6:30pm – 9:00pm. Theme: Under the Sea at Jumeirah Messilah Hotel and Beach Resort in the old Salt Restaurant location. Cost: 5KD for members, 15KD for non-members. Huge buffet, turkey carving, raffle prizes galore, and a gorgeous outdoor terrace! Registration closed as all seats have been filled.

### **Saturday December 10th, 2022 – Copper Wire Workshop** – 10:00am – 12:30pm.

Copper Wire Crystal Palm Tree bead making workshop with Lucia Kasaam. Cost is 10KD for BLS members, 15KD for non-members. To register, contact Jennifer at 66147907.

# 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](mailto:president@theblskuwait.org) with the subject line 'Special Event Coffee'.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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
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:

@ukinkuwait



#### Subscribe:



[www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/kuwait](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/kuwait)

#### Call or write:



22594320 (24/7)



[www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-kuwait](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cherishedgowns.org.uk)