



The BLS Newsletter

February 8th, 2023

BLS President's Message

Hala Febrayer Ladies!

So many holidays! We have Isra and Miraj, as well as National and Liberation days, and there's lots to do this month if you're staying in Kuwait! This Saturday come to the BLS Premises for the Swap & Shop, on Wednesday we're celebrating our lady friends with Galentine's at Vigonovo, you all must visit Qout Market in JACC - but go early- there's The Soapbox Kuwait visit, and we've dinner at Edo Japanese Restaurant! As well as Monday Morning Coffee gatherings and Thursdays in the Library it's a busy month. I've even heard a rumour that canasta may be back on the cards (pun intended), so if this is your thing, let Karen know at the library!

Let's not forget the Garden Gala on the 3rd March. Thank you to Emily Cunha, a BLS member who's really stepped up to help gather prizes for the gala. Can you help too? We really need prizes that we can auction as the donations for the BLS Charities are being raised by the raffle tickets sold, the auction money raised, and the venue provider has given us a generous 10% discount on cost price services so that we can pass the money saved onto our two charities KALD and Cherished Gowns UK. Our charities deserve more! Please help.

The Garden Gala is garden-themed so we're hoping to see you pull out all the stops, be it floral ties, floral dresses or a simple boutonniere, corsage or even pin! Express yourself but don't stress yourself, please, we're British! Have fun and enjoy yourselves, meet new people and slip your dancing shoes on for the disco after. If it's your first time at the gala, the dinner tables are on grass, so you may prefer, flats, wedges or a thick stack heel.

BLS is as good as you all make it so please volunteer to help out where you can! We've got some committee roles up for grabs and of course, just because a position is filled doesn't mean you can't assist. The more the merrier!

Membership fees are now reduced to 28KD so please, please, please encourage your British lady friends to join. Keep checking the website for updated discounts, and regularly check @blskuwait on instagram for events, gatherings and notifications!

Thank you,
Jennifer

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

BLS COMMITTEE 2022-2022	2
BLS WHATSAPP GROUPS	2
MEMBERSHIP NEWS	3
UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE	3
BLS CLUBS	5
BRITISH CONSULATE INFORMATION	6
BLS DISCOUNTS	7
BUY, SELL AND SWAP WHATSAPP	8
BLS ONLINE	8
BLS CHARITIES 2022/2023	8

BLS Committee 2022-2023

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

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

Membership News

Ladies,

Please push for your UK lady friends to join BLS – current Membership Fee is 28KD

BLS Assistant Membership Secretary
Munah

Are you interested in volunteering as the Membership Secretary? Contact Jennifer at 66147907 or Munah at 9699 0249 to volunteer.

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.

Keep an eye for new activities on social media and in future BLS Newsletters!

Bayan Shegirova's Art Class at the BLS Premises
– cancelled due to lack of participants.

Saturday February 11th, 2023 – Shop and Swap at the BLS Premises: 10:00am – 2:00pm.

Organized by VP, Bex, this environmentally friendly way to disperse of/and or acquire items as well as help out BLS members is a great idea, and a fab excuse to hang out at the BLS premises at the weekend! Would be lovely to see you all there for shopping, coffee & a good natter.

Wednesday February 15th, 2023 – Galentine's Dinner: 7:00pm-9:00pm.

A special menu from Marco at this beloved Italian restaurant, for only 12KD just for BLS. Thanks to Annie Morris for organizing this! Ladies only, non-BLS guests welcome.



Upcoming BLS Events / Activities

– Save the Date

Tuesday 21st February – Edo Dinner: 7:00pm-9:00pm.

This high-quality Japanese restaurant has moved closer to the coast! Relocated from Murouj, this dinner is a fantastic opportunity to join the Evening Book Club group for their monthly meet-up. No reading necessary but we will have recently read “How to Fail: Everything I’ve Ever Learned From Things Going Wrong” by Elizabeth Day. Register with Jennifer WhatsApp 66147907. It will be pay for what you order.

End February – The Soapbox Kuwait Private Tour: Date and time tba on BLS Kuwait WhatsApp group, must be last week in February. Founded by Astrid and assisted by son, Yousef, this lavender scented company goes from strength to strength! A personal tour just for BLS. Register with Jennifer WhatsApp 66147907.

Friday 3rd March Garden Gala

Our annual dinner celebration with partners, spouses, friends, and colleagues. Contact Jennifer 66147907 for your tickets before February 12th please.



HELP
RAFFLE PRIZES
NEEDED

Do you or someone you know have their own business or works for an employer who may be willing to offer an item or voucher that we could include in our raffle – or auction? Maybe you already have something that you would be happy to donate?

If you are able to help us with any prizes for the Gala Dinner, please contact Jen at 66147907. All funds raised during the night go to our two charities for this year – Cherished Gowns and KALD

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

Thank you to Layla Boresli for volunteering to assist where possible. We desperately need someone - possible not a mother of a toddler - and with childcare experience, to take the lead for this deserved group of young mums, as Nada can’t do it all. Please can you help?

If you are interested in joining the group, 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.

First meet up will be in the New Year having read the following:

Month	Book	Author
January/February	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

Call or write:



22594320 (24/7)



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

The best place to find
government services
and information
is www.gov.uk



GOV.UK

Get started >

BLS Discounts

The BLS Members are entitled to discounts at a variety of organisations in Kuwait. The BLS thanks all the organisations in Kuwait who sponsor us by giving discounts to our members. For further information, please check the BLS website.

If you know a business that might be interested in offering a discount for BLS Members, please ask them for details and contact Jennifer at 66147907.

Beauty

Cutting Edge	15% off on hair services
Eclipse Beauty Salon	10% off on all regular services
SunLuxe	Single Session:15 KD; Four Sessions:48 KD; Six Sessions:60 KD;Ten Sessions:-80 KD BLS members receive 1 free session with any of the above packages. Use "BLS" discount code at the reception.
Cutting Shapes	25% discount on your first booking on any service They do everything nails, beauty, hair, and amazing massages.

Healthcare

Opticians - International Optique	20% discount to BLS members and immediate family on sunglasses and frames (not including contact lenses or brands at their discretion)
Opticians - Kefan Optics	25% discount to BLS members and their immediate family on frames and sunglass (only at Alhamra Tower – Kuwait City)

Cafes and Restaurants

Pauls	10% at all branches
Queezen	Avenues Phase4 Gardens. 20% on the total bill. No discount on delivery charge

Households, Florists and Pets

Ethan Allen Homes Interiors	15% on all products
Caravan Gifts	10% off all purchases, enter code BLS1 on checkout

Jewellers

ArabesqueQ8	10%
Nafisa Designs	10% discount with online code BLSQ8 10% Discount is also available in her shop in Salmiya with membership card

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.kaldkuwait.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