



The BLS Newsletter

May 2nd, 2023

BLS President's Message

Happy May Ladies!

May is shaping up to be great for BLS; we certainly have a few events, coffee mornings, dinners, and gatherings to attend over the next several weeks and watersports are back on the agenda too! Art, music, sport, comedy, musicals, museums, dinners...who could want for anything more? I could, and so we are reaching out once again to more organizations like the WhatsApp group British Telegraph and the American Women's League, the administration of which is partly made up of our Events Coordinator Annie Morris and active member Elizabeth Speake – congratulations to you both! The coming year will be a real joy.

We will also announce the Great British Summer Fishing Expedition to be held over the next few months but don't be too overawed...we're really just searching for the best fish & chips experience in Kuwait! Recommendations required and, indeed, welcome!

Hopefully continuing to build our network within the leadership roles of other societies will help to populate our activities and events, increase the footfall into the library and premises, and further build this grand community which has now been going for thirty years! We shall announce plans for a large celebration later on in the year, but we can only do as well as our volunteers.

Currently we are desperately lacking in filling the volunteer roles that are required to keep BLS ticking along. Please consider taking part in keeping BLS alive, otherwise it's terribly difficult for those who are volunteering; all of whom, so far, are also in formal employment. Please help where you can! Current vacant positions are highlighted in the Table on the next page.

One last chance to vote for your preferred two charities and we will announce the lucky recipients for BLS year 2023-2024 at the Annual General Meeting, the date of which will be announced shortly.

Keep following @BLSKuwait on Instagram!

Thank you,
Jennifer

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

BLS COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS	2
BLS CHARITY VOTING 2023-2024	2
BLS WHATSAPP GROUPS	3
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 Nominations: 2023-2024

There are many positions on the BLS Committee still vacant for the 2023-2024 year. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jennifer at 66147907.

Position	Name
President	Jennifer Cadiz
Vice President	TBC by new committee
Society Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Vacant
Vice Treasurer	Janet Newman
Events Coordinator	Annie Morris
Assistant Events Coordinator	Vacant
Activities Coordinator	Vacant
Assistant Activities Coordinator	Mandy Smith
Membership Secretary	Joanne Lyttle
Assistant Membership Secretary	Vacant
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 Charity Voting: 2023-2024

All BLS members (Full and Associate) can vote for their favourite charity to support for the BLS 2023-2024 year. **Voting will close on May 7th 2023.** If you have not yet voted, please choose **one** Kuwait charity and **one** UK charity to support next year and send your selection, by email, to admin@theblskuwait.org.

KW Charity #	Charity Name	UK Charity #	Charity Name
1	Al-Sidra Association	6	Cardiff Uni Cancer Research
2	Kuwait Association for the Care of Children in Hospital	7	The Brain Charity
3	Direct Aid	8	Glencraft
4	Basta Kuwait		
5	Birth Kuwait		

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, 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 - Jennifer
- BLS MUMS & TOTS Group - Nada 9224 6469, Jennifer 66147907

Membership News

Ladies,

Membership fees are now KD20. Please encourage your friends to join.

BLS Membership Secretary
Joanne

Are you interested in volunteering as the Assistant Membership Secretary? Contact Jennifer at 66147907 or Joanne at 509 79922 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.

Saturday May 6th, 2023 – Ceramic Painting at Art Café, Salmiya: 12:00 – 2:00pm. Please RSVP Jennifer at 66147907 by **May 2 before 6pm** if you are interested in attending. She will take a deposit of 5KD each which will then be put towards your individual bill on Saturday. The cafe needs to know exactly how many of us there will be. Non-members can come with you. The Art Cafe is open to all customers so be aware that there may be not only those who identify as women in the cafe. Thank you!

Wednesday 17 May M&S Coronation Celebration – Afternoon Tea at The View Branch: 2:00pm. Registration is now closed for this event.

Wednesday 17 May BLS AGM

Details to follow in a Flash email. There will be limited seating so please register early.

Upcoming BLS Events / Activities cont'd

– Save the Date

Saturday May 20th, 2023 – Shop and Swap at the BLS Premises: 11:00am – 3:00pm. To book a table, please contact Bex at 9981 2928 - 5 KD table for members, 10 KD non-members and all table fees going to Touch of Hope. Would be lovely to see you all there for shopping, coffee & a good natter.

Friday June 9th, 2023 – “CHIC” An American Musical: Join us for an evening of entertainment - Presented by Staged in Kuwait.

Friday June 23rd, 2023 – 2friends restaurant in 5 Mall at 7pm -The Great British Summer Fishing Expedition: the quest for the best Fish and Chips in Kuwait.



Upcoming Kuwait Events / Activities

– Save the Date



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.

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! 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



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
Queezeen	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