



The BLS Newsletter

July 13th, 2023

BLS President's Message

Congratulations to the winner of the Elizabeth English Prize for Participation. Presented with the question, 'Which BLS member has enhanced your BLS experience this year?' an overwhelming 52% of respondents voted for Karen Alanizi – a stalwart of the BLS, library and coffee mornings, and a provider of lentil-filled frogs for charity!

Why not purchase a frog and raise money for Ukraine the next time you visit the BLS premises? You can bring your family, friends or partner to our Open Day this Saturday from noon where we encourage all visitors to browse the books for sale, 250 fils a book!

Now is the time to have your say! We have a simple poll to keep the membership percentages at 60% Brits/40% non-Brits, and have a proposed rewording of the Constitution to make it very simple to calculate. Please click on the [link to vote](#). You have until August 20th to cast your vote. Only Full Members or Full Associate Members can vote on Constitutional issues.

A reminder that Brits can join BLS immediately and for only 10KD from now until 30th September, so please, please, please encourage your British (or married to Brits or whose parents were Brits) friends and colleagues to join. Brits are from: England, Ireland, N. Ireland, Scotland, Wales, New Zealand, and Mauritius.

We've got a lot coming up over the summer for all members to take part in, as well as very exciting Save The Dates, so you will be wanting to renew your membership ladies for 2023-2024!

Enjoy the summer!

Thank you,
Jennifer

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BLS Committee 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	TBD
Society Secretary	Alexandra Carroll
Treasurer	Hilary Bushman
Vice Treasurer	Vacant
Events Coordinator	Vacant
Assistant Events Coordinator	Vacant
Activities Coordinator	Bex Widdicombe
Assistant Activities Coordinator	Janet Newman
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	Interim – Karen Alanizi
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, Lorraine, Jennifer, Bex
- Evening Book Club - admin Mona 6908 7295
- BLS Walking Group - admins Alex, Layla, Jennifer
- Monday Morning Coffee – Interim Karen at 9971 5234
- BLS Cinema Group – Jennifer 66147907
- BLS MUMS & TOTS Group - Jennifer 66147907

BLS Charities for 2023-2024

Our Kuwait charity is [BASTA](#), and the UK charity is [The Brain Charity UK](#).

Membership News

Ladies,

Please push for your UK lady friends to join BLS! Only 10KD from now until 30th September 2023!

Welcome to our newest members: Tracy Clare, Suzanne Prudhoe, Reeta Trusdale, Lalin Dissanayka Issa, Tanya Briggs, and Amina Al Attar.

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

BLS Membership Secretary
Joanne

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 July 15th, 2023 – Open Day at the BLS Premises: from 12pm – 3pm: Come and browse the books to purchase at a bargain 4 for 1KD. All welcome.

Saturday July 22nd, 2023 – Marks & Spencers, Salmiya -The Great British Summer Fishing Expedition: Join "The Great British Fishing Expedition" as we go on this the second leg of our journey to find the best Fish & Chips in Kuwait! Joining us will be members of WhatsApp group "British Telegraph". All Welcome.



Saturday July 29th, 2023 – Speaker at the BLS Premises: from 2pm – 3pm: listen to the global adventures of Brazilian solo-female traveler Nataly Castro. All welcome.

Upcoming BLS Events / Activities

– Save the Date

Wednesday August 2nd, 2023 – Line Dancing for Touch of Hope at the BLS Premises: from 6pm – 7:30pm: learn how to line dance and raise funds for Touch of Hope Animal Shelter. 6KD BLS members, 10KD non-BLS. RSVP: Jennifer at 6614 7907. Ladies only.

Tuesday August 8th, 2023 – National Library Visit: from 6pm: Visitors must hold a valid civil ID card to gain entrance. If interested, contact Jennifer at 6614 7907.

Wednesday August 30th, 2023 – Evening Book Club at Freij Sweileh, Salmiya: Time to be determined. If interested, contact Mona at 6908 7295 or Jennifer at 6614 7907.

Friday October 27th, 2023 – BLS "Pearl" Gala: Dinner and dancing to celebrate 30 years of the BLS in Kuwait. Registration and more details will be sent via email in early September. We'll be looking for volunteers closer to the event.

Friday November 3rd, 2023 – BLS Winter Bazaar at AUK. Tables sold out! Ladies, we'll be looking for volunteers closer to the event.



Save the date!

BLS "Pearl" Gala

Friday, 27 October 2023

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE 30
YEARS OF THE BLS IN KUWAIT

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
SILENT AUCTION
RAFFLE PRIZES
AND MORE!

BLS Clubs

Monday Morning Coffee

Do ask to be added to The Monday Morning Coffee WhatsApp group, if you want to know where will be the next meet-up! Contact Karen at 9971 5234

Are you interested in becoming the BLS Coffee Coordinator? Please do let Jennifer know.

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 6614 7907 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 warmer so we're moving inside or to very early mornings. We are looking for a Walk the Talk Coordinator, if you are interested in coordinating the group. 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 6614 7907.

Mums & Tots

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. Please can you help? Ask to join the BLS MUMS & TOTS WhatsApp group to confirm meetups and other playdates. WhatsApp Jennifer at 6614 7907.

BSL Book Clubs

Morning Book Club

We are looking for a Morning Book Club Coordinator. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Jennifer at 6614 7907.

Evening Book Club

If you are interested in joining the Evening Book Club, contact Mona Abdel-Hady at 6908 7295 or Jennifer at 6614 7907.

August read: *The Salmiya Collection* by Craig Loomis. Meeting Wednesday 30th August at Salmiya's most famous Kuwaiti restaurant "Freij Sweileh" to discuss. Time tbc

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!

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