



AWCCS Newsletter

American Women's Club of Central Scotland



Hi!

Welcome to our electronic newsletter. **You will receive it through your email as a pdf file you may wish to save it and the calendar on your desktop to view each month.** *There are now some live links to information, other websites, and to club forms and payments.* If you would like to submit an article or info for our newsletter, please send it to newsletter@awccs.org by the 20th of the preceding month.

Thank you! - Susannah Stout, Newsletter Editor

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Submissions are welcome and should be sent to newsletter@awccs.org by the 20th of January. Please accompany submissions with images if you have any! Contact the Editor by phone or email for details. Late submissions may not be included. Although material may be edited for clarity or space, contributions should be submitted ready for print. The next issue will be published in March 2016.

AWCCS reserves the right to refuse any ad and cannot be held responsible for loss or damages incurred as a result of transactions stemming from any advert.

Newsletter Editor Susannah Stout

AWCCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

Honary President	Suzi Wilson	Principal Officer US Consulate General Edinburgh
President	Nancy Lynner	president@awccs.org
Vice President	Open	vicepres@awccs.org rsvp@awccs.org
Secretary	Kathy McGlew	secretary@awccs.org
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Current Membership	Tess McNatt	membership@awccs.org
Advertising/PR	open	advertising@awccs.org
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FAWCO Representative	Amanda Drollinger	fawcorep@awccs.org
Glasgow Rep	Susan St.Denis	glasrep@awccs.org
Social Chair	Open	social@awccs.org
Charity Chairperson		charity2015@awccs.org

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS

Edinburgh

Morning Book Group	Dale Finlayson	ebookam@awccs.org
Coffee Plus Edinburgh	Dale Finlayson	ebookam@awccs.org
Voting Coordinator	Dale Finlayson	vote@awccs.org

Glasgow

Books Beverages and Banter	Susan St.Denis	gbook@awccs.org
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Fife

Fife Dinner Club	Pat Peters	fifedinner@awccs.org
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*Remember to check the website for the latest updates: www.awccs.org
You will need to register in order to log in to the Members Only Section.*

*If you've got a favourite activity and would like others to join, please let
Nancy Lynner know at president@awccs.org and we will start
a Special Interest Group for you.*

President's Letter March 2016

Dear Members,

March events start off with **International Women's Day events , Free!**, at the **Festival Theatre on March 8th** in the afternoon. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter, and order your **FREE TICKETS** at the Festival Theatre's box office at 0131 529-6000. I am attending all the events, and will get a bite of lunch in their café before the first event.

We have a **Handbag Exchange on Sunday 13th of March** which is going to be lots of fun—just the sort of social event that I'd never have the chance to attend if I still lived in the US—because I would not have made an effort to join a club like this—rather, I would be working at whatever job I had, and doing chores, and spending time with family when possible. I still do all those things, but I also have you-- my girlfriends! And—we DO have the American Women's Club of Central Scotland, where we have friends of all ages. Read Amanda Kirkpatrick's article about the event details

Amanda Drollinger (FAWCO representative and past president) and Susannah Stout (newsletter editor for 10 years!) are attending the next FAWCO meeting in March, and we look forward to hearing their report upon return.

April—the first Saturday in April we are going to Glasgow's Kelvingrove Museum. We'll also have our April board meeting in the café there. The time's are not set yet, so watch this newsletter for further details.

Would you like to plan an event, help with a meeting, or join the board? Because we need you! The more the merrier.

Here is a date to put in your diary—the club **Annual General Meeting date is set for Monday 13th of June, from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM at the US Consulate.** This is always a well-attended get together—the club provides a supper buffet, and our Principal Office attends. Save the date!

Nancy Lynner, AWCCS President



Nancy and Kong, with our FAWCO REP, Amanda Drollinger

International Women's Day, Tuesday 8 March 2016

At the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh

Celebrate and Experience -- **International Women's Day**

To mark International Women's Day 2016, Cerin Richardson, Head of Creativity and Diversity, at the Festival Theatre (13/29 Nicolson Street EH8 9FT) has organised a series of events through the afternoon.

Taking place in the Empire Room, there will be talks by well- known women in the arts, literature and theatre.

Please order your FREE TICKETS through the Festival Theatre Box Office 0131 529 6000.

You will need to identify which session you would like to attend.

There will be a bar where people can purchase teas, coffees and other beverages.

Session 1: 12-1.30pm

Performance from Festival Theatre Vintage Chorus

Orla O'Loughlin will discuss her role as Artistic Director of the Travers Theatre and the wider landscape of women in theatre.

Alice Strang, Curator of the Modern Scottish Women exhibition at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, which examines the experiences of the unprecedented number of Scottish women who trained and practised as artists between 1885 and 1965

Session 2: 2.30-4pm

Readings by Elspeth Murray and Jennifer Williams from the Scottish Poetry Library
Jemima Levick, New Director of Stella Quines Theatre Company, discusses her experiences of working in theatre

Susan Russell, Marketing Manager for Festivals Edinburgh, who has recently launched and chairs "Women In Tourism" offers a perspective on cultural/tourism elements in addition to the arts.

Session 3: 5-6.30pm

Susan Morrison, Comedian, talks about some of the fantastic ally feisty women of Scottish history who have fought for equality

The Megaphone Choir

Lee Chalmers, talks about being a candidate for the first UK party to put gender equality at the top of the agenda: The Women's Equality Party

(I am going to the entire afternoon's free events, and hope to see you there-Nancy Lynner)

AWCCS March Event
Handbag Exchange
Sunday 13 March, 2:00pm



Please plan to join us in March 2016 for a fun event to raise money for the FAWCO Target Charity (which is currently Free the Girls but a new charity will be voted on at the March 2016 meeting).

We will get together at **2:00pm on Sunday 13 March** at **Amanda Kirkpatrick's house** (address in the directory). Everyone should plan to bring a gently used bag (handbag, backpack, manbag) to donate to the event. Everyone will have a chance to browse the bags and then we will sit down for a bit of an auction in the hopes that we will all be able to buy our favourite bag. All money raised will go to the FAWCO Charity.

There will be no charge for this event at the door but please bring a bottle of your favourite bubbly (can be wine or anything else you like). We can enjoy the day chatting, tasting the lovely drinks and nibbling on some snacks.

Please RSVP to Amanda K at treasurer2015@awccs.org no later than 1 March.

Hope to see you there!

Amanda Kirkpatrick. AWCCS Treasurer

FAWCO's Target Charity : Free the Girls

Three years ago, in Dale Finlayson's living room, Amanda Drollinger shared the information about FAWCO's new Target Charity "Free the Girls". We have worked on behalf of this charity, while also raising funds for our AWCCS local charity, and now the term is coming to a close. Here is an excerpt from the FAWCO Target Program Chair's letter:

FAWCO's "Free the Girls" comes to the end of its ThreeYear Term as FAWCO Target Chairty

By Johanna Dishongh, Target Program Chair

As the 2013-16 Target Program enters its final month, I find it difficult to believe that three years have passed. I have been humbled by the passion with which our Member Clubs have embraced this issue and in particular, the topic of human trafficking. Although I have read and heard many lectures on the topic of modern day slavery during this time, I still find myself shocked that human beings can exploit one another and find it even more repugnant that the marginalized members of society are most vulnerable.

It warmed my heart to read Courtney Skiera-Vaugh's report from Free The Girls (below) which highlights the impact that our Target Project has made in the lives of women who have survived the scourge of being trafficked. Although our project provided the necessary infrastructure to insure the long term sustainability of Free The Girls, the ultimate beneficiaries are the women in the program, their children and extended families, as well as members of their local community. FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation can be proud of the fact that our efforts have made a lasting impact in all of these lives today and will continue have an impact on them through Free The Girls in the future.



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www.MbeEdinburgh.com

VOTING

It's important that we make the Expat voice heard – **VOTE!**

Since 1970 U.S. citizens living overseas have had the right to vote in all U.S. federal elections – for President, Vice President, and members of the Senate and Congress. You should register and vote from your last address in the U.S., however long ago you may have lived there. Voting from a state address will not involve you in having to pay state taxes, so long as you only vote for federal offices, though you will still be required to file a federal tax return every year, unless your income is below a given level.

It is important that you register for the 2016 election, even if you registered for a previous election. And it's easy.

The **Overseas Vote Foundation's** online voter registration tool allows you to complete the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) in just 10 minutes. You can type directly on the FPCA, but you must then print the completed form, sign and mail it to the County Clerk. The OVF tool is non-partisan and your data will not be saved. As you fill it in, make sure you look at the overseas voting rules for your state, which are available on the site. This voter registration tool is available at: <http://www.overseasvotefoundation.org/>

And if the state in which you vote has not yet held its primary elections, you can request a primary ballot and vote for president or candidates for the Senate and the House.

Whichever site you choose, do it now and make sure you're registered to vote!

Questions? Contact me.

Dale Finlayson

dale.finlayson@which.net

0131-667-9369



Californian Chef Patron & AWCCS Member,
Annette Sprague, invites you to come in out of the
gray for a wee bit of California sunshine at Redwood
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For more details visit:

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Birthday Bash

Birthday Bash- whether or not it's your birthday, join us for a moment in your busy month—you deserve a social life!

MARCH 2016

**Thursday March 17th,
MOTHER'S GIN & DRAFT BAR
24 Howe Street, EH3 6TG 0131 225 6490
6:00 – 8:00 pm**

This is our first Birthday Bash at this establishment—come and meet up with friends for a brief drink and a chat! Appetizers are always optional.

RSVP to Nancy at president@awccs.org

APRIL 2016

Thursday April 14th
We meet at one of our favorites--**AMARONE** --
"a stylish intimate Milanese-style" place on St Andrew Square.
13 St Andrew Square EH2 2AF Phone 0131 523-1171
6:00 – 8:00 pm

RSVP to Nancy at president@awccs.org

March Birthdays:

Cynthia Pendergast	11
Roseline Marshall	16
Nancy Walker	18
Tamara Maple	19
Sherri Underwood	21
Jessica Frampton	25
Erica Judge	28
Elizabeth Moore	28
Michele Wirt	30
Kathy McCarthy	30



Have fantastic Birthday, gals!

Edinburgh Morning Book Group

Friday, 18 March, 10:15am

Home of Jenny Gibb

0131-667-6378

jenny@gibb.plus.com



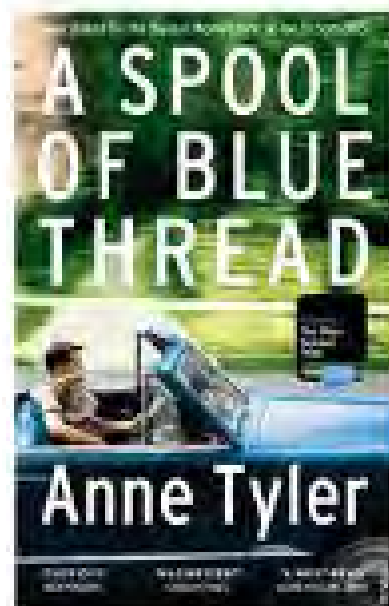
A Spool of Blue Thread

by Anne Tyler

A “good read” this month, shortlisted for the 2015 Man Booker prize and for the Bailey’s Women’s Fiction prize.

*Set in Baltimore, like many of Anne Tyler’s novels, this is the story of the Whitshank family – Abby and Red and their four children, and the house they live in, built by Red’s father. Tyler never sentimentalizes her characters, and this book is no exception. Rachel Joyce in *The Observer* wrote, “Anne Tyler takes the ordinary, the small, and makes them sing.”*

For 15 April we will read ***Washington Square*** by Henry James.



Glasgow Books and Banter

Due to illness and commitments, we decided to postpone our February event to March. Look out for emails sent out to our west of Scotland members for our next activity. If you do not think you are on the email list, please contact Mary Jo Caselton who has our most up to date list at the moment at maryjo.bonecaselton@btinternet.com

Thank you, Sue Stout, Newsletter



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Unit F10/F11 The Mayford Centre Woking
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Coffee Plus Edinburgh

Wednesday, 30 March, 10am

Place: Costa Coffee, near The Balmoral

Plus: Scottish National Gallery

This month we'll start at Costa Coffee at the east end of Princes Street (across from Apple) before those who have time move on to an exhibit at the National Gallery. Do join us for a chat and then some inspiration!

“Rocks & Rivers: Masterpieces of Landscape Painting from the Lunde Collection”

This display of thirteen works from the distinguished private collection of Asbjorn Lunde, New York, celebrates their long-term loan to the Scottish National Gallery.

For the first time in Scotland, the exhibit shows a selection of extraordinary landscape paintings by Norwegian and Swiss artists such as Johan Christian Dahl, Alexandre Calame and Thomas Fearnley. They travelled widely, painting impressive views from Scandinavia, Italy and Britain, as well as famous places in the Alps such as Lake Lucerne.



Works by these masters are rare in British public collections, so the exhibit showcases an important chapter in nineteenth-century landscape painting.

It would be helpful to know if you plan to join us – but if you decide at the last minute, just come along.

Contact: Dale Finlayson

dale.finlayson@which.net

0131-667-9369 mobile: 07962-010-944

Thomas Fearnley (1802-1842), Arco Naturale, Capri

Upcoming Events

Ceilidh at Dance Base Grassmarket, Edinburgh Thursday, 24 March 7:30-9:30pm



Amanda Drollinger suggested we attend the Dance Base Ceilidh in the Grassmarket on Thursday 24 March, 7:30-9:30pm. Partners are welcome. The cost varies but it would be under £10. Join us at this fun event!

rsvp Amanda Drollinger at fawcorep@awccs.org

April Meeting Visit to the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery in Glasgow

**Saturday 2 April ,
meet at 12 noon near gift shop
downstairs (to look at exhibits
before lunch) or
1pm for lunch at the restaurant**



Join us in Glasgow for a casual visit and lunch at Glasgow's premier Art Gallery and museum. Exhibits include works by The Glasgow Boys and Girls, Costumes, furnishing from Rennie Mackintosh and contemporaries, Dutch Art, Impressionists, as well as the museum's prized Salvador Dali.

Upcoming event - Mark your calendar!

AWCCS Enjoys American Artists in Scotland

Join the club to see the
Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre at the Festival Theatre



DATE **Tuesday 18th October, 2016**
TIME 7:30 Curtain
WHERE Festival Theatre
PRICE £30.50 each
RSVP: by July 30 2016
to Nancy Lynner email: president@awccs.org

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JOIN FAUSA

Are you returning to the US any time soon?

Whether you are being dragged back kicking and screaming or if you can hardly wait to return home, you will probably find that as a "repat" you and your family members are different sorts of Americans from those who stayed behind. This can be a jolt, but there is help out there for you.

Membership in the FAWCO Alumnae, USA, better known as FAUSA keeps you in touch with others who understand the life changing experience of living in other cultures. Besides the pure psychological support of being a part of this network, there are other benefits, too. The Quarterly magazine carries articles of interest to "repats," and you may apply for the FAUSA Education Award for yourself or a child. In addition, FAUSA members may attend the FAWCO conferences overseas and the FAUSA Annual Meeting, which is in a different part of the US every fall.

Learn all about FAUSA, contact someone in your region, and download an application at **www.fausa.org**. We would love to hear from you.



www.FAUSA.org

**Are you returning to the USA soon?
Maintain your international connections with other "repats" by joining FAUSA.**

For information, speak to your FAWCO Rep or visit www.FAUSA.org