



AWCCS Newsletter

American Women's Club of Central Scotland



Hi!

Welcome to our bi monthly 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.** *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 10th of the preceding month..

Thank you! - Susannah Stout, Newsletter Editor

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Submissions are welcome and should be sent to sus.stout@yahoo.co.uk by the 10th of the month. 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. Our next 2 month issue shall be published for September /October 2017. Please submit info early this August for this issue, thank you!

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 2016-17

This list is as of June 1. On June 12th, at the AGM, new officers will be elected.

Honary President	Suzi Wilson Principal Officer US Consulate General Edinburgh	WilsonSA@state.gov
President	Nancy Lynner	nlynner@gmail.com
Vice President	Open	
Secretary	Kathy McGlew	kathymcglew@aol.com
Treasurer	Tara Scott	tarascott32@yahoo.com
Prospective Membership	Ann Bartlett Stewart	122nyny@gmail.com
Current Membership	Joyce Halsan (temp)	j.halsan@blueyonder.co.uk
Advertising/PR	open	
Newsletter Editor	Susannah Stout	sus.stout@yahoo.co.uk
Website Manager	Joyce Halsan	j.halsan@blueyonder.co.uk
FAWCO Representative	Amanda Drollinger	adrollin@pratt.edu
Glasgow Rep	Susan St.Denis	msusan448@aol.com
Charity Chairperson	Maureen Hakes	maureenmeili@gmail.com
Social Chair:	Donna Nodson Jana Livermore	donna.nodson@gmail.com jdlivermore9717@comcast.net

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS

Edinburgh

Morning Book Group	Dale Finlayson	dale.finlayson@which.net
Coffee Plus Edinburgh	Dale Finlayson	dale.finlayson@which.net
Voting Coordinator	Dale Finlayson	dale.finlayson@which.net

Glasgow

Books Beverages and Banter	Susan St.Denis	msusan448@aol.com
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Fife

Fife Dinner Club	Pat Peters	pat.peters39@yahoo.co.uk
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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 nlynner@gmail.com and we will start
a Special Interest Group for you.***

AWCCS Summer Newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members,

This summer newsletter covers June, July, and August. The summer months don't have many club events due to your family holidays—but I do hope to see many of you when we celebrate **American Independence Day on Sunday 2nd July in Portobello.**

The April Spring Tea, the May Glasgow Tour, the Birthday Bashes, the Coffee Plus events—they all deepen our relationships with each other. Thank you for staying involved—you are important, and every event you attend contributes to the welfare of our group.

Do come to the Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) **at the US Consulate on Monday 12th June.** **The start time has been moved to 6:00 PM.** We have lots to discuss. We will start with a light buffet, provided by the AWCCS. We plan some small group discussions to gather your ideas and dreams about what AWCCS does, and could do, for you—this will inform our need to raise dues—and before we vote on that (in September), the board needs to listen to you now. Additionally, Principal Officer, Suzi Wilson, will give remarks, and we will have elections for the new board. (There are vacancies, so think about stepping up.)

One of our challenges as a club is to cultivate new board members – several of us have been on the board for a decade and

more. Vice President, Membership, Newsletter, and Advertising—all these positions could be shared positions. At last year's AGM two members stepped up and shared Social chair, and together, with help from others, they managed the biggest Thanksgiving event to date. (In 2016 we had 120 guests – adults + children, and we raised over £ 1400.00 for various causes. Donna Nodson and Jana Livermore, with help from Maureen Hakes, are running it for 2017, and it will be even better than Thanksgiving 2016. With any luck, the pumpkin pie might taste like yours or mine.

Enjoy reading this newsletter, and consider sending articles or recipes into future newsletters, to share your ideas with the rest of us.

See you this summer!

Nancy Lynner
President
AWCCS





U.S. Consulate General Edinburgh Principal Officer Susan Wilson

and

The American Women's Club of Central Scotland

cordially invite you to attend the

AWCCS Annual General Meeting

Monday, June 12, 2017

Note new, earlier start time

6:00-8:00 p.m.

U.S. Consulate General, 3 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 5BW

Greet old friends, make new ones, vote for officers,

and learn about all the exciting club activities for the rest of 2017!

Remarks by Susan Wilson

RSVP to nlynnner@gmail.com



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AWCCS 4th of July Family Gathering

Sunday, July 2nd 2017
Portobello Beach, Edinburgh



This year we are planning to do something different for 4th of July. We will meet on Portobello Beach in Edinburgh for our celebration on Sunday, 2 July 2017. From 2 to 6 pm (or whenever). This is a family affair and includes family pets. Dogs are welcome on Portobello Beach

Bring: everything. This year you will prepare a picnic lunch/dinner for your family, bring your own drinks, your chairs and/or blankets and even your sun umbrellas (yes we are optimistic). Don't forget the sun cream.

If you would like to bring something to share with others, it's a nice idea to have it at your picnic site and will encourage us all to come visit one another to get a small tidbit prepared by you, or maybe a drink of prosecco????

If you wish to cook, just pick up a bbq at the grocery store if you wish to BBQ and maybe bring some wood to stock our bonfire.

Experience Edinburgh's Seaside: We will be meeting at the foot of Kings Road in Portobello, there is a large parking area there. Walk to your left as you look to the sea and we will be on the each along the prom (northwest of Kings Road). There are toilet facilities down the prom (about two blocks away) and there are shops with ice cream, fish and chips and drinks along the prom as well. There are also kiddie play areas on the prom not to mention the large sandy beach and refreshingly cool sea water. Bring your suits.

We will have a bon fire, and will have some song books for singing around the fire. Anyone have a guitar or banjo???

Let Joyce Halsan (email in the directory) know that you are planning to join us. If it is very stormy, we will have to cancel and an all-club email will come out the morning of the event if this happens. Last year it was raining sideways exactly at the time of our picnic, so we did call to cancel and were happy we did. But, the year before it was sunny and beautiful. So lets be optimistic! See you then!

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**Michael Manely is licensed to practice in Georgia and American Federal Courts.
Additionally, he is admitted to practice in multiple state courts and Costa Rica on a case by case basis.**

News from American Citizens Abroad (ACA)

- submitted by Dale Finlayson

In the November 2016 issue of the newsletter I wrote about the US dollar-denominated bank account Americans no longer resident in the US, many of whom have had trouble opening/maintaining a US bank account, have been enabled to open with the State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU). All that is required is that you join ACA for \$70/year.

If you would like to know more about the SDFCU, ACA has developed a 20-minute video explaining all you need to know about the product, how it was developed, what is SDFCU, how to apply for an account, and the range of products available (from IRS accounts to car loans, even if your car is purchased overseas). "It's an insurance policy against lock-out, as you will always have access to US-based financial services," says ACA Director Jonathan Lachowitz.

International Investor last year awarded the account the Best International US Services Provider award, and ACA has had incredibly positive feedback from members who have signed up for the account, many citing the excellent customer service provided by the staff of SDFCU.

To view the video, go to <https://www.americansabroad.org/#ACA-Member/SDFCU%20Account%20Video>.

Getting a US document notarized – Safedocs

Safedocs is an online notary service made available by ACA to its members. Until now, the only options for having a US document notarized was to make an appointment at a US Embassy/Consulate or to hire a local attorney/notary. Both options are time consuming and expensive, not to mention the travel that can be involved. It can take two days advance notice, a \$60 notary fee plus shipping, which can run upward of \$100 to expedite paperwork back to the US. Now with Safedocs it should only take a week from request to having your document in the hands of the requestor back in the US.

If you have an internet connection and a computer with webcam, you can have your document(s) notarized regardless of where you live. No traveling, appointment delays, or shipping expense. The process takes about 12 minutes and you're done, at which time you can electronically deliver an original document immediately. You also retain a certified original copy at no additional cost and they are accepted in all US states.

How it works: Log into ACA's members-only page on the ACA website and click on the link to Safedocs. Enter your information, upload your completed but unsigned document, select a time and day that is convenient, and you're all set. Full instructions will be returned via email, along with your confirmation. Log in at your select time and you will be met online by a trained and certified e-notary to assist you in having your document notarized. It's as simple as that!

Note: You can also use Safedocs directly, for a fee, without being an ACA member (<https://www.safedocs.com/>).

No US Private Debt Collectors for Americans Overseas: IRS

ACA had expressed concern about how the IRS program for private debt collectors – created in 2015 under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act – might impact on American expatriates, and in a letter to IRS Commissioner John Koskinen ACA asked for exemption for American taxpayers living overseas who, ACA feared, would not have adequate information about the program. The IRS has stated that “the companies participating in the private debt collection program are only licensed to operate in US states and territories”, the IRS said in a statement. “As a result, the IRS is excluding taxpayers who live outside the US from the private debt collection effort”. To ensure they qualify for the exclusion, overseas taxpayers must make sure the IRS has their correct foreign address.

The IRS also cautioned American taxpayers living abroad to be alert to telephone scammers posing as debt collectors. This type of scam –fraudulent calls by people pretending to be from the IRS – has been an ongoing concern for taxpayers living overseas.

Fantastic Upcoming AWCCS Events!

Union Canal Boat ride

10 September 2017

Linlthgow

Meet at noon for lunch in the café and a two hour canal boat ride

Cost: £8 (for the boat ride per person) money for lunch

AWCCS Theatre outings 2017:

Tuesday, 3rd October, 7:30pm

Street Car Named Desire

At Edinburgh Kings Theatre

Cost: £20 per ticket, RSVP: Amanda Drollinger

Tuesday, 14th November 2017

Trainspotting

At Edinburgh Kings Theatre

7:30pm

Cost: £20 per ticket

RSVP: Amanda Drollinger

the NOMADS tent  *a warehouse of tribal art*

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We are an award-winning U.S. law practice providing strategic immigration law advice and support for businesses wishing to establish or strengthen a U.S. presence and individuals interested in visiting, working in or immigrating to the United States of America.

About Olivia McLaren: A U.S. qualified attorney admitted to the bar of the State of New York, who worked in U.S. immigration and nationality law in New York City for a decade before opening Olivia McLaren, Ltd. in Edinburgh in 2014. Listed in *Who's Who in Corporate Immigration* (2015-2016). Co-columnist for the *New York Law Journal* bimonthly immigration law column between 2012 and 2014. Also selected as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers in NY Metro in 2013 and 2014, as published in *NY Times Magazine*. Graduated with a J.D. and LL.M. in International & Comparative Law from Duke University in 2004.

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You too, could be an AWCCS Board Member! Would you like to run for one of these offices?

Here is the List of AWCCS Officers, from our By-Laws at <http://www.awccs.org/index.php/member-s-home-page>. Or go to our website www.awccs.org and go to the Members Page. The By-Laws are there.

ARTICLE IV - Board of Directors

Section 1. Officers

The Board of Directors shall be made up of ten elected and those appointed officers as listed below. The Board shall be active members. The office of president shall be exclusive to United States citizens. The officers shall be installed at the Annual General Meeting and shall serve for one fiscal year. The honorary president, or any other Board appointee or members in good standing may attend meetings of the Board of Directors in a non-voting capacity. All of the Board positions, with the exception of the President, may be shared. If two people share the duties of one office, there will still remain only one vote for that position.

A. Board of Directors

1. President
2. Vice -President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Social Chairperson
6. Charity Chairperson
7. Membership Chairperson
8. Newsletter Editor
9. Advertising and Publicity Chairperson
10. FAWCO Representative

B. Appointed Positions: The president shall nominate appointees and the elected officers shall approve the following positions:

1. Honorary President: Offered to the Principal Officer, U.S. Consulate General Edinburgh, if female, or the wife of the Principal Officer if in residence.
2. Glasgow Representative: Helps to organise activities in Glasgow and brings any issues from that area to the Board.
3. Web site Manager: Responsible for maintaining the club's web site.
4. Such other positions as the Board of Directors may deem necessary.

American Women's Club of Central Scotland Submitted by Christine MacLachlan

Nominees for AWCCS Board of Directors 2017-2018

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. President | Nancy Lynner |
| 2. Vice –President | vacant |
| 3. Secretary | Kathy McGlew |
| 4. Treasurer | Jana Livermore |
| 5. Social Chairperson | Donna Nodson & Jana Livermore, shared |
| 6. Charity Chairperson | Maureen Hakes |
| 7. Membership Chairperson | Joyce Halsan |
| 8. Newsletter Editor | Susannah Stout |
| 9. Advertising Chairperson | vacant |
| 10. FAWCO Representative | vacant |

Website Manager is an appointed position.

EVERY position could have more than one person nominated.

Costco Membership

The AWCCS holds two Costco memberships, each for 6 individuals. One is due for renewal in June, the other in July. If you are on one of these cards, please let Amanda Drollinger know as soon as possible whether you wish to renew for another year. If she doesn't hear from you, we will assume you do not wish to renew. Any place on the cards will be allocated on a first come basis. If you would like to take up an available place, contact Amanda. The cost will be around £16.50 for the year and allows you to shop at "trade" times, i.e. before the store opens to the general public. You will have your own card with your picture on it. Note, however, that the card can only be used by the member – there is no second card for a spouse, as with general membership, though you can take a guest in with you.

Contact: Amanda Drollinger, adrollin@pratt.edu



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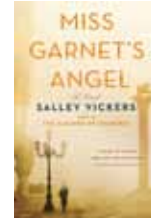
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Edinburgh Morning Book Group



Friday, 16 June
Home of Pamela Blackley
blackleyhel@aol.com
Miss Garnet's Angel, by Salley Vickers



Friday, 21 July
Home of Dale Finlayson
dale.finlayson@which.net
Chernobyl Prayer: A Chronicle of the Future
by Svetlana Alexievich & Anna Gunin



SILENT FILM NIGHT at the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh

– Nancy Lynner

DATE: Friday 23rd JUNE
TIME: 7:30 PM

Pianist **Will Pickvance** recreates **a typical night out at the cinema in 1914**, accompanying this glorious miscellany of comedies, adventure films, travel-ogues and newsreels. Presented as part of the Edinburgh International Film Festival. The screen is huge, and Will's piano accompaniment is delightful.

No need to RSVP -- Buy your own tickets. £14.50, Friends can get 20% off, Concessions 2.50

Age-U. (I like to sit in the Dress Circle, so I am looking right at the screen.)

AWCCS Glasgow Books, Banter and Beverages (BBB)

June

June's AWCCS Glasgow Books, Banter & Beverages get together we will be exploring the Polish restaurant U Jarka near Kelvingrove Park. If anyone has not tried Polish food you are in for a treat! Also, looking forward to meeting some new ladies to the group.

Can everyone please reply to me and let me know if you will be attending so I can make firm reservations?

When: Wednesday 21 June
Time: 7 pm (new opening time)
Place: U Jarka
Address: Sikorski Polish Club 5 Parkgrove Terrace,
Glasgow G3 7SD

<https://www.facebook.com/ujarkarestaurant/>

All the best,
Monica
0757 6111 695

Coffee Plus Edinburgh

I'm keeping my calendar clear to do something on **Wednesday, 26 July**. So many wonderful events to choose from – an exhibit on the Antarctic legacy of Ernest Shackleton and Frank Hurley, and another on "Images of India" at the National Library; "The Slave's Lament" audio/visual installation and male portraits in an exhibit entitled "Looking Good" at the Portrait Gallery; the A-Z of Edinburgh's wonderful art collection at the City Art Centre – so many delights to choose from! If you would like to join the AWCCS art lovers on the 26th, send me an email and I'll let you know where we shall be. Look forward to seeing you there!

Dale Finlayson
dale.finlayson@which.net
0131-667-9369

Birthday Bash Summer 2017

Summer Birthday Bash for June, July, and August

Thursday 22nd June
Pizza Express on
George IV Bridge
6:00-8:00



Rsvp to Nancy: nlynner@gmail.com

Summer Birthdays:

June

Dorothy Gilhooly Maas	2nd
Delma Dewar	20th
Dale Finlayson	21st
Florence Forbes	24th
Pat Peters	25th

July

Katie McGlew 1	1st
Christine MacLachlan	6th
Jessica Armstrong	7th
Joanne H. Macniven	27th
Katherine Blessing	27th

August

Janet McLellan	6th
Catherine Dunlop	8th
Charlotte Holmes	10th
Kathy McGlew	22nd
Angela MacKenzie	25th
Yvonne Willcocks	28th



Have a fantastic Birthday, gals!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

June Events

Saturday, 3rd June 2017, 10:30 a.m.

Board meeting at Starbucks, Waverly Steps.

Monday, 12th June, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

AGM, U.S. Consulate General, Edinburgh

Friday, 16th June, 10:15 a.m.

Edinburgh Morning Book Group, Home of Pamela Blackley

Wednesday, 21st April, 7:00 p.m.

*Glasgow Books Beverages and Banter: dinner at U Jarka.
Sikorski Polish Club 5 Parkgrove Terrace, Glasgow G3 7SD*

Thursday, 22nd June, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

'All Summer' Birthday Bash. Pizza Express on George IV Bridge, Edinburgh

Friday, 23rd June, 7:30 p.m.

SILENT FILM NIGHT at the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh

July Events

Sunday, 2nd July, 2 p.m.

AWCCS 4th of July Family Gathering, Portobello Beach, Edinburgh

Friday, 21st July, 10:15 a.m.

Edinburgh Morning Book Group, Home of Dale Finlayson

Wednesday, 26th June

Coffee Plus Edinburgh. More details to follow by email