



## AWCCS Newsletter

American Women's Club of Central Scotland

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### AWCCS 2020 Summer Newsletter



## Letter from the Board

Dear Fellow AWCCS Members,

### Membership Dues Postponed

During this difficult time, we realize membership dues may be hard to pay. We also acknowledge that we haven't had any in-person social events for a few months, and we may not be able to for a while longer. Therefore the board has voted to extend everyone's membership by 6 months. I'll be going in manually to change everyone's renewal dates over the coming days, and you may receive some auto-generated messages to that effect. Be in touch via [getinfo@awccs.org](mailto:getinfo@awccs.org) if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you all in person as soon as possible!

Stay well,

Kristina Royer, Membership Chair & AWCCS Board

### The AGM Cancelled

AGM has been cancelled because of the Covid 19 virus. The AWCCS Board met online and voted to postpone the officer elections until next year at our 2021 AGM. We hope you are in agreement, it seemed that it was too difficult to hold an election this year. Nancy Lynner has agreed to become Social Chair for the next year, and the Board approved that appointment. We still have other positions open, President and Advertising and PR, if any of you are interested in being appointed to these positions until the next AGM. Please let Dale Finlayson know if you are interested.

Stay Safe,

Joyce Halsan

[You will need to be logged into your website for AWCCS in order to use the links to our website](#)

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## Suggested Links



## Keep Up to Date on the Virus

- [Centers for Disease Control USA](#): Department of Health and Human Services, USA
- [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#) An agency of the European Union
- [BBC News](#)
- A good [online tracker for the Coronavirus](#), **Johns Hopkins** is excellent .

For more links, please see the website home page: [www.awccs.org](http://www.awccs.org)

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## NEWS FOR AMERICANS ABROAD



**AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD**  
**EDUCATE, ADVOCATE AND INFORM**

### News from American Citizens Abroad

ACA has launched the American Citizens Abroad podcast. Starting last November, every second Tuesday of each month ACA will produce podcasts discussing issues concerning Americans residing abroad, from taxation to finances to culture shock to trailing spouses and everything in-between.

Although ACA is primarily known for its tax reform advocacy efforts, the organization

also advocates on other community interests, including access to Medicare, Social Security benefits, Voting from abroad, and representation. ACA also provides the community with valuable resources to help them manage their lives while living overseas with products such as the [ACA-Member/SDFCU account](#) and the [ACA tax preparer directory](#). ACA hopes the podcasts will provide the American overseas community with updates on its work and provide resources and practical information.

The ACA podcast can be found here: <https://www.americansabroad.org/aca-podcast/>. The community can message the podcast team at: [podcast@americansabroad.org](mailto:podcast@americansabroad.org). ACA looks forward to providing the community with valuable information and also hearing from the community with their suggestions on topics they would like to see addressed.

Dale Finlayson

*ACA Submitted by Dale Finlayson*



In the Election year 2020 Americans will be going to the poles on 3 November or mailing in their postal votes or absentee ballots in advance of that date. Americans abroad are eligible to vote for Federal offices (president, vice president, senators, representatives) in primaries and the general election, but Federal law requires overseas voters to (re)register in every year in which they mean to vote. **Although some states do not erase their overseas voter lists, don't take the risk: register to vote now.** You can make sure you are registered for the Presidential/Congressional and Primary elections by using FAWCO's dedicated [website](https://www.usvotefoundation.org/) (<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/>) to register as soon as you can. You should vote from your last address (or the last address from which you voted) in the United States.

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## MEMBER NEWS

### Treasurer Report

[AWCCS 2019-2020 End of Year Inc Exp Prelim for newsletter.pdf](#)

| American Women's Club of Central Scotland - 2019 to 2020 |           |             |           |
|--|-----------|-------------|-----------|
|  | Income    | Expenses    | Balance   |
| 2018 to 2019 CASH BALANCE                                |           |             | £6,481.48 |
| MEMBERSHIP DUES  | £1,625.59 |             | £1,625.59 |
| ADVERTISING  | £250.00   | £0.00       | £250.00   |
| NEWSLETTERS  |           | (£183.84)   | (£183.84) |
| FAWCO DUES & WEBSITE                                     |           | (£837.90)   | (£837.90) |
| ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING                                   |           | £0.00       | £0.00     |
| SOCIAL EVENTS (1)  | £215.80   | (£669.25)   | (£453.45) |
| CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED / (MADE) (2)              | £1,608.01 | (£1,591.00) | £17.01    |
| THANKSGIVING DINNER (3)                                  | £2,125.93 | (£2,044.60) | £81.33    |
| FAWCO CONFERENCE   | £0.00     | £0.00       | £0.00     |
| 2019 to 2020 TOTAL INCOME & EXPENSES                     | £5,825.33 | (£5,326.59) | £498.74   |
| 2019 to 2020 ENDING CASH BALANCE                         |           |             | £6,980.22 |

(1) Expenses - Volunteer Appreciation Dinner / Baby Shower £291.22; Halloween £162.23; Valentine's Day Tea £0.00

(2) Income - Member Donations £20; Thanksgiving Auction £1,588.01

Expenses - US Consulate Fund £100; FAWCO Target Project £391; MS Therapy Centre Lothian £550; Revive MS Support £550

(3) Income - Guest dinner payments Expenses - Meal payment, Room Hire, Gratuity, Complimentary Drinks, Band, Invitations

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susanne Hathon  
AWCCS Treasurer

## Coffee Plus



Another beautiful day under lockdown. Hope it continues when the lockdown lifts, though we could do with some rain! And here is another beautiful garden - the wonderful [Japanese garden in Brooklyn](#). Enjoy!

Hope everyone is keeping well,

Dale

## Upcoming events

Most of our events planned for Spring and Summer have been cancelled until further notice. If we see an opportunity to stay within the virus guidelines, you will receive a notice of that event.

We plan to have some **Zoom get togethers**, so we can communicate with our friends online. We will send out the information as they are planned. Hopefully you will join us.

We are still having the **Birthday Bash once a month**, using zoom. You will receive an email announcing it, hope to see you there.

**Pub Quiz Fundraising night** soon to be announced via email Event notice.

We will update you on **Halloween and Thanksgiving** later in the summer when we know more about the Pandemic.

Stay in touch, and let us know if you need help working with your computer to set up zoom.

Caroline Graves and Joyce Halsan

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## 4th of July

We aren't sure yet if our annual July 4th picnic in Portobello can happen. We'll send a separate email announcement if we are able to move forward with it. Stay tuned!



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## FAWCO



### Virtual Walks Update:

In May AWCCS completed two together but apart walking events - as a group, and with a couple guests walking in Saudi Arabia, we walked a total of 1,580 miles! The first was a personal marathon week, with impressive results we averaged more than 1 marathon each in the course of the week! The next event was a walk from Lands End to John O'Groats.

As it happened, FAWCO was organising their own virtual walk event and enjoyed hearing about our success, and so I find myself the admin for the world wide walk starting in London on Monday and visiting all the FAWCO member clubs as well as our Target Project Partner: Hope for Girls and Women Tanzania.

Along the way we will be sharing photos and posts from our own walks, and each club will present a little about their club and their hometowns. This will be run primarily through a paid app, **My Virtual Mission**, the first 100 participants will have their participation fees waived, if you're interested in participating, you can find details in our club calendar.

Alongside that event, on the 8th of June, I'll be kicking off our "**North Coast 500 Week**"! Again - details in the club calendar.

I hope these events help inspire you to keep moving and help you feel a little less housebound. All these miles will be reported to FAWCO's clubs in motion initiative. I've taken the decision not to tally all our individual walks in addition to our events because the spirit of clubs in motion is event based walks, and reporting between events and events could get confusing. I'm open to input and we can explore options to tally all our daily steps/miles if there's interest.

### **In the Name of Your Daughter Viewing:**

On the 3rd of June FAWCO will be hosting a virtual showing of the Documentary "In

the Name of Your Daughter”. This documentary follows several girls in their escape from FGM and the work that Rhobi Samwelly and Hope for Girls and Women Tanzania does in educating the communities, protecting the girls, and reuniting them safely with their families. I valued the experience of seeing this movie, it was educational and gave me even more respect for Rhobi and the many hats she has to wear in her mission. I highly recommend this movie. You can register to view it with FAWCO here. The viewing is held via Zoom. The movie has substantial portions which are subtitled in English. There are further details in the club calendar.

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## Notes from the Website

By Joyce Halsan.

**We encourage you to check out our website for some general links to information on COVID-19. If you have a link you would like to add, please send it along to me and I will add it to the list.**

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### Scam watch: passwords harvested by fraudster

Faye Lipson Senior Researcher/Writer for Which?

"A member of the public contacted us after following a link via Facebook Messenger to what they thought was a video. A Facebook Messenger user received a message via the app that they thought was from a friend.

We've seen spoofed accounts requesting cash before, but this time they were sent a link to what looked like a video. However, on clicking it, they were asked to log in to Facebook. When they did so, nothing happened, which raised concerns that they may have given away their login details to scammers. They quickly changed their password, but by then the link had generated identical messages to the scam they'd clicked on, and sent it on to all of their Facebook friends.

#### Harvesting passwords

This left the user so nervous that they didn't want me to share their name with Facebook when I was investigating on their behalf. Without looking at their Facebook account, I can't say exactly what happened in this case, but I can hazard an educated guess that a scammer is harvesting passwords, hoping that you're recycling them on other sites.

If you've received this scam and you're reusing the password (or versions of it) elsewhere, immediately reset it on those sites to something strong and unique. We recommend passphrases made of three random words, as these are hard to hack.

#### Strong security

Unique passwords are hard to remember, so it's best to store them using a password manager program. For extra security, you can enable two-factor authentication on Facebook and many other accounts. This means you need to follow a second step – such as entering a one-time verification code – to gain access.

Lastly, you should frequently check your bank statement and credit report and query anything you don't recognise."

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## Member Birthdays



### June

- 2- Dorothy Maas Gilhooly
- 14- Rebecca Dunlop
- 20- Delma Dewar
- 21- Dale Finlayson
- 24- Florence Forbes
- 25- Patricia Peters
- 26- Susana McCune

### July

- 1- Katie McGlew
- 6- Christene MacLachlan
- 24- Lindsay Oliver
- 27- Joanne Macniven

### August

- 2- Catherine Dunlop
- 6- Janet McLellan
- 10- Charlotte Holmes
- 22- Kathy McGlew
- 28- Yvonne Willcocks

## New Members Welcome



**Welcome new members!** (since March 1, 2020)

- Rebecca Dunlop
  - Sofia Zucca
- 

## Charity Chair News

Look forward to some interesting ways to do Charity fundraising this year. We will have a **Pub Quiz online** coming soon. You will receive an Event announcement to join that evening and there will be a Fundraising page on our website. Soon to come.

## Our New Charity for 2020-2022



If you have any questions about the charity, please contact Alanna Brady, Charity Chair



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## AWCCS Board Officers

**President**

Open

**Honorary President**

U.S. Consul General,  
Ellen Wong

**Secretary**

Kathy McGlew

**Treasurer**

Susanne Hathon

**Membership**

Kristina B. Royer

Advertising/PR

Open

Newsletter Editor

Susannah Stout,

Charity Chair

Alanna Kibiloski Brady,

Social Chair

Nancy Lynner

Website Manager

Joyce Halsan

FAWCO Representative

Caroline Graves

Glasgow Representative

Susan St. Denis

## Special Interest Group Coordinators

**Edinburgh:** Dale Finlayson for Morning Book Group, Coffee Plus Edinburgh and Voting Coordinator

**Glasgow:** Books Beverages and Banter hosted by various individuals.

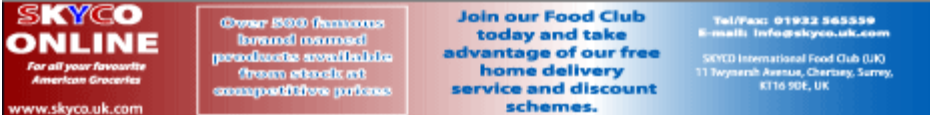
**Fife:** Pat Peters for Fife Dinner Club

## Please Support our Advertisers

*If you know of a business that might benefit from being an AWCCS advertiser, let me know and I will make an approach*



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## Going Home Soon?

## 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](http://www.fausa.org). We would love to hear from you.

Jane Indreland President, FAUSA



**www.FAUSA.org**

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

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

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