American Women's Club of Central Scotland AWCCS

Welcome to our Newsletter for April/May 22. You can view this on our Member's Hub. (no login is required), as well as a download here.

AWCCS AGM

U.S. Consulate General Edinburgh
Management & Consular Affairs Cluster
Irish Way
and
The American Women's Club of Central Scotland
Cordially invite you to attend the
AWCCS 2022 Annual General Meeting
Tuesday May 10, 2022
10:00 – 12:00 noon
U.S. Consulate General, 3 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 5BW
RSVP through the AWCCS club website by Friday, May 6

GREETINGS FROM YOUR AWCCS PRESIDENT

Greetings Darling,

Spring is here! Trees have changed and the days are longer, daylight glorious sunlight! What have you been doing to keep yourself busy while the sun has been on holiday? Hopefully, you have been enjoying the beautiful weather and taking advantage of the many things to do and see in Scotland. Perhaps you have been out and about on the Scottish Coastal Path or maybe you've been enjoying a spot of golf. Or, if you are an adventurer, maybe you've been out and about on the mountains or lochs! Wherever you have been or what you have done, I hope you have had a great time!

Every time I drive someone leaves the curb behind, they do an U-ey and without knowing it, they never know how many people are behind me. We can only know in our own lives what we do and how we react to what others do to us. We can't control what others do, we can only control our own lives. Sometimes we get caught up in the rush and we forget what is important. We forget to enjoy our surroundings. We forget to enjoy our friends and family. We forget to enjoy our hobbies. We forget to enjoy our pets. We forget to enjoy our lives. We forget to enjoy life. Life is too short to be spent in a rush. Take your time, enjoy life, enjoy your surroundings, enjoy your friends and family, enjoy your hobbies, enjoy your pets, enjoy your life. Life is too short to be spent in a rush. Take your time!

Finally, we have been cordially invited back into the Consulate! Yay! This is such a joyful piece of news that is so important. Our ability to meet, socialize and plan events is what makes our club so special. We are so grateful to be able to do so again. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting, event or just at the Consulate! I'm not sure what we can do that "longer and further a way and time."

Stay safe and healthy,

Yours truly,

Jen

Jen has consulates and bars in common with Gollum, but she prefers the former to the latter. Jen's hobbies include reading books about other consulates and bars (changes in representations, in scotland). Please do not bring her any more books about other consulates and bars. Jen's other hobbies include:

- **Where can I find out about passport validity requirements for travelling to other countries?**

The Department of State has a comprehensive page for every country listing the visa and passport validity requirements along with other useful phrases/travel information. Please visit the Department of State website for more information: https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/country.html

- **Can I get passport and import stuff across in Gibraltar? Are we Greek?**

All American Citizens are welcome at the Consulate General in Gibraltar. We do not process any kind of visa.

All services are by appointment only, you can find our information about our passport/import of NHS services and trucking an appointment in the UK (either in person or by courier) on our website under the tabs "Passport" and "Notarial Services" respectively.

- **I have been trying to schedule an appointment on your website but there does not appear to be any availability, what can I do?**

We realize that demand for appointments is currently high. We have noticed that appointments for consular services (CRBA, Passport, Notarial) are primarily booked by people who live in the Consular District (Scotland, Northern Ireland, Northern England). If you live in the Consular District and are having difficulty scheduling an appointment, you may be able to schedule an appointment at one of our other 6 locations. Links to the appointment pages for Belfast, Edinburgh, and London are all available on the same webpage: U.S. passport services at the U.S. Embassy and U.S. Consulates in the UK (travelsecure.com)

Please note: our offices have **limited number** of emergency appointments available for those with genuine emergency travel. If you are within 2 weeks of your confirmed travel date, please reach out to Edinburgh.cons@state.gov and we will provide further guidance. While we always do our best to accommodate emergency appointments, we are unable to guarantee that we can accommodate an emergency appointment.

- **I am a dual national, can I travel back to the USA on other nationality passport?**

If you are a US Citizen you MUST use a valid US passport to travel back into the USA even if you are a citizen of another country. You are likely to be denied boarding on your flight if you attempt to board on another nationality passport. Please see passport services on our website for further information.

Our AWCS meeting and Xmas party, where we will select new officers for our Executive Board. Please do have a think about joining as a helping our organization grow. We've already had the first new member joining from our Quiz Night. Thank you all so very much.

Please do keep an eye on the website for updates and information. Challenge yourself to participate more, if you haven't, and encourage others to participate. This club is what we make it. We are a wonderful club, so let's make it a great one!

Finally, thank you all for being you and for all that you do to support us as a group family. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in the coming months, in our activity, meet and about.

Cheers!

Kathy

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2022 Coffee Morning Edinburgh
1 Apr 2022 | Edinburgh Pretenders, Castle Mills, 1 Gardner's Crescent, EH3 8DY

April 2022 Birdwatching Walk
10 Apr 2022 | The Meadows Walk

SUNDOWN April 27, 2022
27 Apr 2022 | 18:15 - Tour Zoom Room

Chocolate Tour, Edinburgh
04 Apr 2022 | 14:00 - The Chocolatarium, 2-4 Cockburn Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1NW

Walking Tour of Edinburgh's Royal Mile
12 May 2022 | Meet at Edinburgh City Chambers on Royal Mile

AWCS Annual General Meeting
10 May 2022 | 10:00 - Consulate General Edinburgh

Open Days
14 May 2022 | Tartan The Festival Theatre, 13-29 Nicolson Street Edinburgh, EH8 9FT

Dates to remember :

14th March 2022 - 10 of 20 places to have available for the musical Hamilton have already been reserved

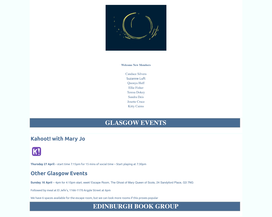
AWCCS EVENTS EXPLORED

AWCCS President's Tea - March 30th, The Colonies, Stirling

Members shared a wonderful afternoon tea with our President at the Colonies boutique hotel in Stirling.

AWCCS Glasgow Catch Up - March 30th, The Butterfly and The Pig, Bath St, Glasgow

Lots of our members met for impromptu meet up in the Pig & Butterfly on Bath Street.



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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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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. We would love to hear from you.
Jane IndrelandPresident, FAUSA

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Thanks so much for all our contributors to the Newsletter: Nancy Lynner, Lindsay Nygren, Dale Finlayson, Mary Jo Bone-Caselton , Suzanne Hathon, Caroline Graves, Katie Graham and Alistair Graham. If you wish to contribute to our next Newsletter, please send your article to Alistair Graham.

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