

# Newsletter for November-December 2020 and January 2021

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## Dates to remember:

- **10 November:** Monthly Zoom Show and Tell
- **12 November:** ACA hosts a free US Tax webinar with Americans overseas
- **13 November:** Auction: Let us know your auction Item
- **16 November:** Edinburgh folks deadline for ordering dinner from Left Field to be delivered.
- **22 November:** Thanksgiving Zoom event
- **8 December:** Holiday Zoom Show and Tell event
- **21 January 2021:** January Show and Tell zoom event.

## Letter from the Board

Dear Members,

The AWCCS Board have been working all year long trying to keep open communications and offer help and suggestions for dealing with the Pandemic this year. We hope you are all taking care of yourselves, family and friends and keeping your spirits up through the year.

### *So far this year we have:*

- Postponed membership dues for all of our members for the entire year from March 2020 through February 2021. We felt that we were all experiencing some hardships and we wanted to offer you a break from having to pay your dues.
- Sent out Monthly emails with information and announcements to keep you updated on entertainment, cultural events and announcements regarding taxes and voting in the United States. Contributors were Dale Finlayson, Joyce Halsan and many of you as well.
- Held many Virtual Events held on Zoom to engage you and your family and keep us talking to one another. Organized by Nancy Lynner, Social Chair
- A super Halloween was celebrated, again virtually, with children and parents as well. Organized by Nancy Lynner, Social Chair and Caroline Graves, Fawco Representative.
- This week we announced the Virtual Thanksgiving Event to be held on 22 November 2020 starting at 7 PM. organized by the Board and hosted by Alanna Brady, Charity Chair. See details in this Newsletter.

Thanks to all the Board and Members for making this all happen.



**Thank you to everyone who voted in the election. Every vote helps to raise the profile of Americans Overseas, who are often forgotten when Congress passes or the President proposes legislation. This year our votes may have made a difference in the races in some states.** Dale Finlayson



Join us for a virtual celebration

## AWCCS Thanksgiving: Zoom, Pub Quiz, and more...!

**Date: 22 November, 2020**

**Time: 18:00-20:00** (details of times will be emailed to those of you who choose YES to the event.)

*We are delighted to offer you a virtual Thanksgiving this year. We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate!*

- **Thanksgiving Pub Quiz:** We will be hosting a giant Zoom event so we can all meet up, chat, and partake in a Thanksgiving pub quiz. You can choose to take part in the quiz with your whole household - the more the merrier! Information on joining the quiz via Zoom will be sent out before the event by Charity Chair, Alanna Brady. If you have any questions, contact [alannakib@gmail.com](mailto:alannakib@gmail.com)
- **Auction Online Auction:** A live online auction will also be held in the week leading up to this event. Winners of each auction item will be announced at our Thanksgiving. You will receive further information on the auction as we get a bit closer to the event. *If you wish to offer an item for auction*, please let us know by November 13th. [alannakib@gmail.com](mailto:alannakib@gmail.com)

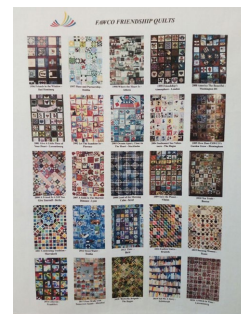


**Eating Together:** You can time your home cooked Thanksgiving dinner to eat during the online event if you wish. *Or, if you are in Edinburgh* and wish to have a dinner delivered to your house, **Left Field** restaurant in Edinburgh have agreed to prepare Thanksgiving dinners (you will need to heat it up) to be delivered to members *at a cost of £18.00*. The dinners will be delivered between 11 am and 1 pm on Sunday, 22 November. Click here <https://leftfield-at-home.myshopify.com/collections/awccs-thanksgiving> to order your own dinner. Choose between traditional turkey dinner and vegetarian option. *Please order your dinner by 16 November.*

• **Charities for AWCCS** are MS Therapy centre Lothian and revive MS Support in Glasgow. donations for the event will be split between these two.

# Tea Towels for Sale

Help our AWCCS Charities by buying a FAWCO Tea Towel. This is a tea towel with the images of the famous quilts made by FAWCO members and auctioned each year at their Conferences. If you didn't win the actual quilt in their auction, take a few of them home in this tea towel.



Order and pay:

1. By using Paypal: [https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=KC832EWTXD6BC](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=KC832EWTXD6BC)

2. Direct Deposit to Bank of Scotland: Sort Code: 80 02 78 and Account number 00952279. When you deposit the money to the account, please email [Kathy](mailto:kathy@awccs.org) to let her know you have paid.

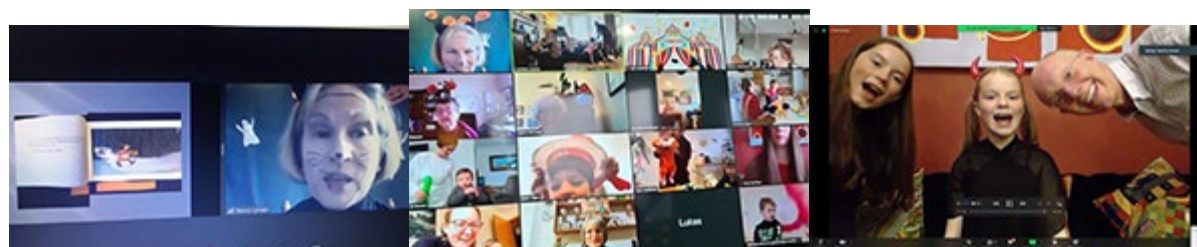
# November Zoom Meeting



Let's have some fun this November for Show and Tell. Bring something that made you smile, or laugh. Is it a cartoon? A cat video? a photo of you at age 3 years old? ANYTHING! We need a laugh.

DATE Tuesday 10th November TIME 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Replies requested by Monday 9th November



# Happy Halloween Zoom Party

The first AWCCS Halloween Zoom party went well on Saturday the 31st with 15 households participating. Postal Packs with activities and colouring, lyrics and Best Costume blue ribbons were mailed prior to the day.

We sang, heard stories, watched performances of Kate Pearson and her son, as well as Ruth King. We went to a Circus Tent and watched a few magic tricks. We heard some Halloween storybooks. This all built towards the costume parade with each household taking their own turn at dancing and showing their moves in costume. Some of the costumes were pumpkins, spiders, skeletons, and Maisie Graves made several costume changes. The Cat in the Hat, Luke Skywalker, a character from Minecraft, and Spot The Dog appeared. Some parents dressed up, too.

Next year we hope to have an In Person Halloween party; however, this year did not pass without the club showing how much we value our children and grandchildren, and how many technical hoops we would jump through to provide a Halloween experience for them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

No upcoming events

### 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



**AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD**  
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A FREE US TAX WEBINAR WITH AMERICANS OVERSEAS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020 – 2:00pm–3:00pm GMT

Free webinar with tips on your US tax filing obligation, the \$1,200 CARES Act check, and the latest developments in Washington.

Marylouise Serrato, ACA Executive Director, will fill in you in on the latest political developments on the efforts for change to the US taxation rules in Washington.

Michael Littaur from Americans Overseas shares information and tips on getting your US tax filing obligation done and receiving the \$1,200 CARES Act check,

The webinar is followed by a live 30 minute Questions and Answers where you will have the opportunity to ask away.

**Free entry. Space is limited. [Registration](#) required.**

**Please join us on Thursday, Nov. 26th**

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

**IF YOU SEEK A MONUMENT, GAZE AROUND**  
- WREN

Sculptors and experts share and discuss the city's outstanding monuments and public art  
With Alexander Stoddart, Sorcha Carey and special guests

6pm, Thursday 26 November 2020  
Tickets start at £4 for members

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## Announcements and Entertainment



This December, Christmas magic returns to The Lyceum and to your homes! *Lyceum Christmas Tales* is an advent calendar of festive stories combining online and live performances of new and familiar festive tales penned and performed by some of Scotland's best-loved writers, musicians and artists.

On 1 Dec, a free 15 minute Christmas story will appear on The Lyceum website for families to share at bedtime. Then, a brand new story will appear every other day until 16 Dec - 8 free stories in all.

You can sign up to receive the 8 free tales directly in your inbox at the link below:

[https://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/lyceum-christmas-tales?  
utm\\_campaign=20211111\\_November%202020%20E-  
news&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Lyceum&dm\\_i=41DK.17BHZ.492VRS.4AT4P.1](https://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/lyceum-christmas-tales?utm_campaign=20211111_November%202020%20E-news&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Lyceum&dm_i=41DK.17BHZ.492VRS.4AT4P.1)

The final 4 Christmas Tales will be performed together in a special live show with musical interludes on a transformed Lyceum stage and streamed into homes between 16-20 December.

**Lyceum Christmas Tales is even more meaningful to The Lyceum as the Creative Costs of the production have been largely met by donations from our Patrons. To date, our generous supporters have contributed £25,000 of our £36,000 target. We are very grateful to them. For more information and tickets, go to:**

[https://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/lyceum-christmas-tales?  
utm\\_campaign=20211111\\_November%202020%20E-  
news&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Lyceum&dm\\_i=41DK.17BHZ.492VRS.4AT4P.1](https://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/lyceum-christmas-tales?utm_campaign=20211111_November%202020%20E-news&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Lyceum&dm_i=41DK.17BHZ.492VRS.4AT4P.1)

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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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## Member News

### Happy Birthday

#### November

- Ellen Brennan 12th
- Suzette Bell 14th
- Joyce Halsan 18th
- Donna Nodson 22nd
- Annette Sprague 30th

#### December

- Mary Jo Caselton 12th

#### January

- Michele Henry-Woods - Jan 7
- Gayatri Malik - Jan 12
- Harshadha Balasubramanian 16th



Nancy Lynner 27th



## New Members Welcome

All new members since 1/1/2020

- Rebecca Dunlop
- Maeve Gillies
- Gayatri Malik
- Myra Hollie Nielsen
- Ruby Raheem
- Sallie Redman
- Sofia Zucca

## Notes from the Website

### Please Log in to [awccs.org](http://awccs.org)

Your AWCCS Winter Newsletter has been sent to you in an eMail blast with links directing you to our Member's Ony site. You will have to have logged in to read the details. Last month 64% of you opened your emails. Since email and our website along with Facebook are our primary ways to communicate with you, could we try to make it 100 per cent this month? Let me know if you are having trouble logging in. You can also use your Facebook and Google login to sign in. [websitemanager@awccs.org](mailto:websitemanager@awccs.org)

### Email going to Spam?

If your communication from us is going to your Spam folder, all you need do is to place our email (the 'reply to' on the email you receive from us) into your Contacts and it will recognize us as a "friend."

### Please Update your Profile

Did we miss announcing your birthday in our Newsletter? We want to make sure to include you in our good wishes, but sometimes we just don't have the information we need.

If there is anything in the directory you don't want to be included, you can just go into your profile and remove permission.

### To edit your profile

- sign in with your login name and password
- Go to your Profile page by clicking on your name on the top right corner
- To change anything on your Profile, click on "Edit Profile"
- Be sure to save when you have edited it.

# AWCCS Board Budget for 2020-2021

[AWCCS2020-2021ProposedAnnualBudget.pdf](#)

AWCCS Proposed Annual Budget  
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Final October 3, 2020

American Women's Club of Central Scotland - 2020 to 2021	Income	Expenses	Total
2019 TO 2020 CASH BALANCE			£6,808.73
MEMBERSHIP DUES	£0.00		£0.00
ADVERTISING	£250.00	(£250.00)	£0.00
NEWSLETTERS		£0.00	£0.00
SOFTWARE - Zoom		(£150.00)	(£150.00)
WEBSITE/DOMAIN NAME		(£100.00)	(£100.00)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING		£0.00	£0.00
SOCIAL EVENTS		(£900.00)	(£900.00)
CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED / (MADE)	£1,100.00	(£1,200.00)	(£100.00)
THANKSGIVING	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
FAWCO DUES		(£90.00)	(£90.00)
FAWCO CONFERENCE FEE ASSISTANCE	£0.00	(£1,348.00)	(£1,348.00)
<b>2020 to 2021 TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME &amp; EXPENSES</b>	<b>£1,350.00</b>	<b>(£4,038.00)</b>	<b>(£2,688.00)</b>
<b>2020 TO 2021 BUDGETED ENDING CASH BALANCE</b>			<b>£4,120.73</b>

Notes:

- 1 - Membership Dues - suspending dues until March 2021. Only 3 more months left until June 30th so assuming £0 dues income.
- 2 - Advertising Income will be offset by Advertising Expense for brochure redesign.
- 3 - Thanksgiving - cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 4 - FAWCO Conference Fee Assistance Reserves = £148 c/o 2018-2019 Auction Item + £600 c/o 2019-2020 Club contribution + £600 Current Year Contribution .

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susanne Hathon  
AWCCS Treasurer]

## Which?'s phishing service Alerts

### [Spot fake government emails](#)

## Government grant phishing email

With new coronavirus advice being announced regularly it's no surprise that a fake email purporting to be from HMRC is circulating, telling people they're eligible for a 'government grant'. Emails like this are especially dangerous when they manage to make it past spam filters.

[Here's what it looks like, as well as other fake government](#)

[emails to look out for.](#)

### [How bank transfer fraud works](#)

## **Bank transfer fraud update**

A total of £207.8m was lost to bank transfer fraud in the first half of 2020 and only a third of losses have been reimbursed despite the new bank code.

[We look at the facts and stats in more detail, explain how bank transfer fraud works, as well as what to do if you've fallen victim to this.](#)

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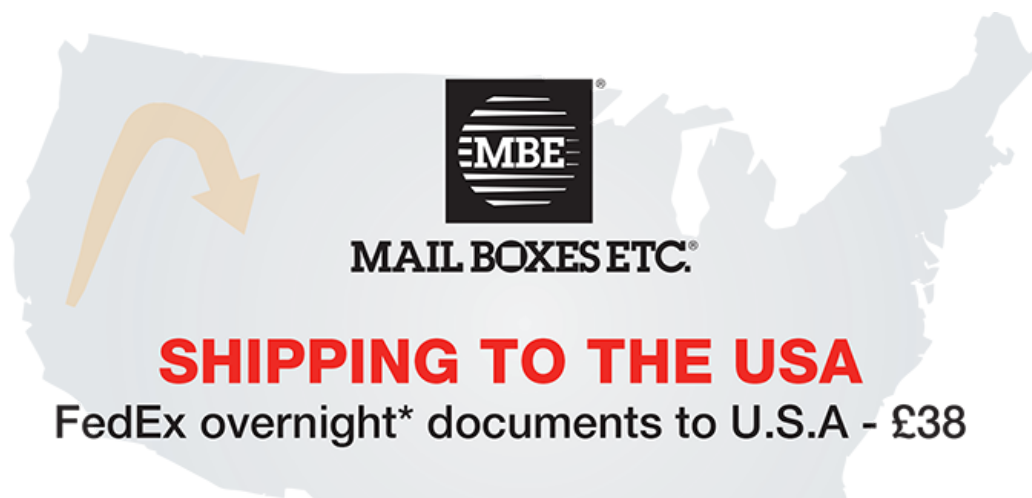


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100 (220 lbs)	£355 (3.55/kg)	£404

\* overnight in most cases.  
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**196 Rose Street**, West End, EH2 4AD  
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