



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB OF NYON



October 2012
Issue No. 224



Anniversary Cake decorated by Paula Davies-Smith

10 November 2012
IWCN Charity Bazaar

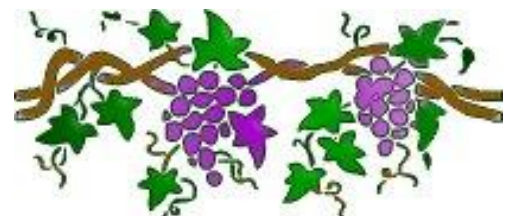
Salle Communale, Place Perdtemps, Nyon
10h00 — 16h00

Featuring books, decorations, toys, games, sports gear, cakes, jams, brocante, accessories, raffles, jewellery, and much more.

All are welcome. Please support us in any way you can. More details are found in the publication Bazaar Special.

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Calendar

October 2012

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Beginners' French Course starts (Chantal's Group)	2 Thermal Bathers' Silver Anniversary Outing to Charmey Explorations in Conscious Living	3	4 	5 Friday Walkers' Silver Anniversary Walk: Mont Pèlerin
8 	9	10 Club Coffee Morning	11	12 Cookery Group chez Françoise Pateman Migraine Support Group Meeting
15	16 Les Amies du Mardi Programme Planning Coffee	17 Scrabble Group	18 Line Dance Group Demo at Les Horizons	19
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The Grapevine Online

IWCN encourages you to protect the environment by using the online version of The Grapevine. You can download each issue at: <http://www.iwcn.ch>. Click on «Members' Space» and enter the password, which is chosen at the beginning of the Club year and will be sent to you by email each month.

Deadline and contact details for contributions to The Grapevine

Please email information on **Activities** to the Activities Coordinator, Janet Brown (activities@iwcn.ch) and any other articles to Rosemary Kohler (editor@iwcn.ch). The deadline for each issue is **the 10th of the month before the issue will be printed.**

The Editor reserves the right to cut or edit material and cannot always guarantee inclusion.

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The Digest

To receive The Digest, please email The Digest Manager at digestmanager@iwcn.ch.

Message from the President

Dear Members,

By the time you read this, all our activities should be in full swing and we will have celebrated with a marvellous Anniversary Kick-off Lunch in Yvoire. Most activities have now had their individual Anniversary events and celebrations, and I hope that you have enjoyed reading in The Grapevine about the various exploits from our walkers to our dancers, from linguists to genealogists and many more. I was particularly impressed by the Wednesday Walkers' 25 km hike from Versoix to Nyon. Now only a few celebrations remain, among which is the Friday Walkers hike in the Mont Pèlerin area. What an active group of ladies we are!



Lynda Watts
IWCN President

The Board has been in contact with *pro-jet* in Nyon to investigate the possibility of donating a bench from the Club to the town. We are hoping that the new bench will be in wood and situated on the Esplanade. Some of you may not be aware that, for our Tenth Anniversary we donated a bench which is situated in the small green space opposite the Capitol Cinema. The plaque seems to have disappeared and I am making enquires as to its whereabouts. Everyone has had a chance to preview our activities at the really enjoyable Activities Fair in Commugny. I hope that you have all found one or more activities that suit you. Some groups may already be full, but there is always the possibility of setting up another similar group. Please do remember that all activities are run and hosted by volunteers and it is important that everyone considers the possibility of hosting or organising a group. Our Club can only function if our members give as well as receive.

Despite our various reminders, there were still a number of ladies who omitted to renew their club membership in good time. The lists are now closed and the Directory in production. We now stand at approximately 520 members, so I am pleased to announce that there is no longer a waiting list and new members are welcome. This fits well with our desired goal of helping to facilitate the integration of newcomers in the area.

Organisation for the bazaar is now in full swing, and your contributions are keenly awaited by the various stallholders. You can find full details of the stalls and required items in the Bazaar Special 2012, which you should all have received in the post. The same details can also be found online at our website www.iwcn.ch. We really look forward to seeing you at the Salle Communale in Nyon on 10 November. It will be a fun day out, with food at the Bistro and exciting bargains to be obtained.

I leave you with this message from the Friday Walkers:

New walks are very stimulating, although they take more effort.

I wish you a sunny and colourful autumn expanding your horizons in these wonderful surroundings.

Very best wishes,

Lynda Watts

The International Women's Club of Nyon is a non-profit-making organization established for English-speaking women residing in Nyon and the surrounding region. The purpose of the Club is to promote friendly contacts among women of all nationalities through multiple activities and to help facilitate the integration of newcomers. **The Club is managed by volunteers and all members are encouraged to give their support by offering some of their time, talents and skills to the functioning of the Club and its activities.**

Meet The Board



Lynda Watts
President



Anne Fitschen
Treasurer



Niki Low
Welcome & Sunshine
Vice President



Janet Brown
Activities Coordinator



Julie Drake
Membership Secretary



Yvonne Briscoe
Secretary



Julie Beckett
Coffee Coordinator



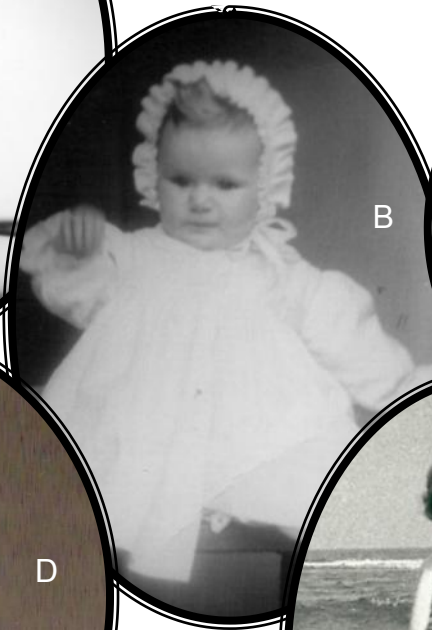
Alison Lang
Special Events Coordinator



Rosemary Kohler
The Grapevine Editor

Meet The Board Continued

Here is The Board just a few years ago! Can you match these photographs to the recent photographs on the previous page? Answers will appear in the next issue of The Grapevine ...



Celebrations with the Presidents — Past and Present



On Friday 31 August, five IWCN Past Presidents and the current President met for lunch at the Restaurant de l'Union in Crans to congratulate the Club on achieving twenty-five years and to wish for every success in the future. Those present were, from the left: Deborah Keefer (2000-2002), Dorothy Davies (2009-2011), Mollie Lufkin (2006-2008), Mary Ellerby (2003-2005), Lynda Watts (2011-) and Adrienne Belli-McConnachie (1998-2000). Unfortunately, Christine Warren, Susan Pfluger and Dorothy Bellchambers were not able to join us and a number of others have the Club or the area. We wished a sad farewell to Adrienne, who, as well as being President, has devoted many years to helping with advertising for the Club. She moved back to Canada in September. All wish the Club a further successful twenty-five years and to quote Christine 'May the IWCN continue Onwards and Upwards' By *Lynda Watts*

October Coffee Morning

Mark your calendars: 10 October at 10h00 there will be a Coffee Morning at the Buvette du Port Les Abériaux at Prangins.

Dear Ladies, I am looking for volunteers to:

- a) be a member of my team--which would involve helping me at coffee mornings once a month.
- or -
- b) be a hostess at your home for a coffee morning once a year.

If you are interested in either please email me at gordybee@tiscali.co.uk or phone 022 366 1960.

Many thanks, *Julie Beckett*



Winifred's Walk – The Winners! (and the answers)

Winifred Elderfield thought of consigning her Heritage Hike round Geneva, first devised in 1987, to the bin earlier this year when she was doing her spring cleaning. It was a good job she didn't, however, as the updated version printed in the April Grapevine generated a lot of interest among Club members and their friends. Some, even long-term residents of the region, said they had learned new things; others said they had filed it away carefully to use with future guests. With its 25 questions it made a fitting Silver Anniversary competition.

The joint winners, with perfect scores of 25/25 were Helen Morf and the team of Valerie Offord and Jill Bolingbroke. Congratulations to them. Consolation prizes were awarded to Helen Carter and the team of Angela Griffiths and Annick Halloin who scored 24/25. A rampant hydrangea prevented them from finding out the date of a fountain to get the elusive final mark.

Here, for your information, are the answers. For the questions, please refer back to The Grapevine for April 2012:

1. John Knox
2. Paris
3. 3000
4. Augustin Pyramus de Candolle 1778-1841; Alphonse de Candolle 1806-1893; Casimir de Candolle 1836-1918; Augustin de Candolle 1868-1920
5. Arve and Rhône
6. Pacte Assistance Mutuelle Zurich/Berne/Geneve 1584-1984
7. Post Tenebras Lux
8. 1817
9. Lion, King of the Beasts
10. Alabama
11. Mon-Fri 8h00-17h00
12. Wolf
13. 40 Grand'Rue
14. 1881-1902
15. Donkey
16. He unified the Italian nation
17. 1845
18. 1828-1910 He founded the Red Cross
19. 1719
20. 61
21. Bocksay, Cromwell, Roger Williams, Knox, Bèze, Calvin, Farel, Coligny, Guillaume le Taciturne, Frédéric Guillaume*
22. General Dufour
23. Cité de Refuge
24. Trade Development Bank
25. 12 September 1814 (MDCCCXIV) (When the people of Geneva voted to join the Confederation)



*(It was noted by the winning team that only Farel, Calvin, Bèze and Knox are true reformers. The others carried the principles of the reform into the social and political world.) By *Janet Brown*

Calling all Autumn Birthday Girls!

Does your birthday fall in September, October or November?

If so, why not celebrate with other autumn birthday girls in the Club? Beryl Allardyce suggests a lunch on **Wednesday 7 November**. If you would like to join in, send her an email and then the venue can be decided.

Beryl Allardyce



b.allardyce@bluewin.ch

CHARITY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Charity Committee is seeking new charities for donations in 2012-13

The Charity Committee is responsible for the distribution of income arising from the Club's fund-raising activities and financial gifts.

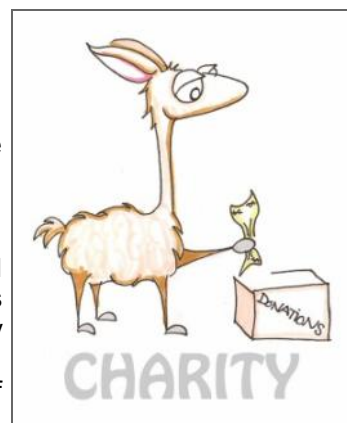
We ask IWCN members to please send us details of suitable charities which we could support. The selected charities should fall within the criteria specified below:

- ♦ The Charity Committee is responsible for the Club's support to both local and overseas charities. Funds are distributed on a 50-50 basis to local and overseas projects. Emphasis is on small-to-medium sized associations, preferably favouring women and children.
- ♦ If possible, a trustworthy, local person should either administer the funds of overseas charities or vouch for the charity's reliability.
- ♦ Local charities should preferably be in Suisse Romande (Vaud) or neighbouring France.
- ♦ Funds cannot be donated for purely administrative costs but should contribute to a clearly-defined element within a charity budget.

Please send your charity proposals to: Andrea Goovaerts: carandlei@wanadoo.fr or Helen Morf: helen.morf@vtx.ch (Charity Committee Co-chairs). With thanks.

Collection of winter clothes for asylum seekers

Charity Committee member, Susie Guignard, will be collecting second-hand autumn and winter clothes at the **October Coffee Morning** on Wednesday, 10 October, at the Buvette du Port Les Abériaux at Prangins, from 10h00-12h00. These will be for distribution to 2 shelters for asylum seekers in the canton of Vaud. Items should be clean and in good condition, without any un-repaired tears, holes or zippers. Kindly place the items in plastic bags with labels indicating men's, women's or children's wear. Duvets and pillows are also welcome.



Welcome New Members!

Pamela Grant

I am British but also enjoy my adoptive Swiss nationality. Presently I am working in the field of Career Transition and Executive Coaching for a Swiss owned company. My background spans teaching, fundraising, HR training & development and facilitator for group leadership programs. I have gained experience and a large network having lived and worked in UK, Canada, USA, France and, for the past thirty years, in the Geneva/Nyon area. My past voluntary roles have included being President and Board Member of the Career Women's Forum in Geneva as well as being a member of other professional groups. Although I am still working 80% of the time, I am a keen nature lover and outdoor person now interested in connecting and making friends with like-minded people and other philosophical golfers!

Judith Wann

I am half-German, half-Hungarian but was born and raised in Germany. After studying economics at Heidelberg University I joined the French business school ESCP-EAP for its three-year European programme during which I studied and lived in the UK, Spain and France. After graduating I joined GE Capital in early 2004 and have since lived in London until moving to the Geneva region in March 2012. I am married to an Irish man and have two kids, James who is 2 and Jackson who is 2 months old.

My interests are keeping fit (running, tennis, skiing, cycling), travelling and meeting new people.

Claudia Martin-Stern

I am Swiss, married to a Canadian from Ontario. I have two children; one lives in California, the other in Canada. I went to university in the USA and in Geneva. I have also lived in Belgium and in Canada. I love most outdoor sports, music, reading, dancing, ballet, movies and I am open-minded to try out new things.

Claire Hewitt

I am married with no children. I have been living in different countries in Europe for the last 10 years. I am interested in walking and horse riding.

Ruth Haywood

I am originally from New Zealand, but have lived and worked in London for the last 25 years. I moved to this area from Zurich where we had previously lived for 2 years. I am working part-time for a company in the UK (home based). We moved to the Geneva region because my husband changed jobs. I enjoy hiking and skiing and travel.

Welcome New Members Continued

Rina Rautenbach

I moved from South Africa with my husband 20 years ago. We lived in Geneva (2 years), The Hague, Netherlands (9 years), Vienna, Austria (9 years). My husband is an international lawyer.

We have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. One lives in NY, one in London and one is studying at St Andrews University, UK. I was a UNWG member in Vienna and helped on a committee to identify charities.

Ingrid Broekman Lebel

Formerly from Montreal, Canada, my husband Denis and I relocated to Switzerland in 2010 to pursue a second career after early retirement. With the kids grown and nothing holding us back, we pulled up roots, embarking on a new chapter in life - and what an experience it has been! Having travelled extensively, we can appreciate the quality of life here and have decided to stay on this side of the Atlantic.

Ana De Giorgio

I left my home country in 1974 to study Political Sciences in a private university in Rome, Italy. I have been married since 1977 and have a son who, presently, lives in Tokyo, Japan. For the past 20 years I worked for the protection and conservation of nature. As a hobby, I have been painting oils, water colours, pastels and porcelain for almost 30 years. Now that I am retired, I intend to continue to paint and participate in various exhibitions, as I have been doing in the past. Gardening and reading are also some of my passions.

Silke Vannatter

I enjoy walking, dancing, singing, international cuisine, learning new skills, encouraging others, service projects, travel, cinema. I am looking forward to meeting others who enjoy learning new skills, exercise and healthy living. I am a German-born American. I have lived and worked in the area, raised children here and love the mountains which surround this beautiful area.

Claire Wood

Originally from the UK, my husband and I moved to Belgium in 1980 and arrived in Switzerland some twenty years ago. Our 'children' all live in the UK but often return home to Switzerland. After years of teaching, I am looking forward to a life of leisure, pursuing a range of activities, both old and new. In particular, I enjoy theatre, film, cooking, gardening, reading, writing, travel, sport and anything to do with computers. David and I hope to travel to a variety of destinations around the world with Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong heading the list.

Martine Schaumans-Geeurickx

I am a Belgian mother of 3 girls (23, 20, 14) and, together with my husband, we have lived in the U.S., Germany and Switzerland.

I love hiking in the Geneva and Vaud regions and playing tennis, and would, through joining the IWCN, like to improve upon my social life.

I am looking forward to meeting new people and taking part in new activities.

Marianne Murdoch-Verwijs

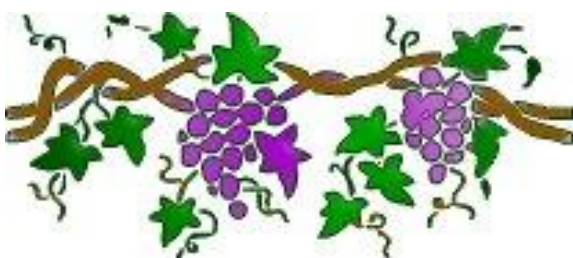
I was a member of the IWCN until 2007 when I moved to Washington DC with my family and husband who moved there because of his work with WHO. After a move to Vienna to establish our son there so that he can further his music studies, we are now in Geneva, a place where we have had regular contact since the mid 1970's. In my life I have lived in Europe, Asia and North America and the experience has been an enriching one.

I trained in the Netherlands as a lawyer and have worked extensively in the field of human rights.

I have a keen interest in people and in learning about their culture. I have other interests in piano and orchestral music, operetta, art and painting, ballet, ballroom dancing, cooking, food, haute cuisine, sailing, skiing and travel.

Zoe Darlington

I have been resident in Switzerland since 1995. Originally from the UK, I am a qualified chartered accountant on an extended career break to bring up my 3 children. My hobbies include sewing, skiing, walking, French, and tennis.



Bazaar News

The IWCN World of Cupcakes ! (Cupcake Stall)

Join our fun stall by making some pretty cupcakes for the Bazaar and helping to support our Charities. We have lots of colourful ideas which taste as good as they look. This time we would like some cakes suitable for children, perhaps using Smarties, Sprinkles and Sparkles. Also some Autumn-themed cakes would be lovely too, for example Carrot and Walnut, Pumpkin and Cinnamon, Lemon and Ginger and of course anything made using Chocolate!

Please contact us for recipes or information.

Debbie Keefer
Fay Vaughan

☎022 776 45 34
☎022 776 03 16

email keefer@bluewin.ch
email fay_vaughan@hotmail.com



Brocante Stall

Every member is kindly asked to contribute something.

It's easy Just drop off your items:

When? Friday, 9 November 2012 between 08:00 and 18:00

Where ? Salle Communale, Place Perdtemps, Nyon

What to Donate

When selecting items you no longer need, please consider China, Silver (and plated), Ornaments, Brass, Copper, Leather, Photo equipment, Memorabilia, Commemorative items, Photo Frames, Wooden Carvings and similar, Models, Tins and Containers (NOT plastic).

Glass ... Glass ... Glass ... Yes Please!

This year's special feature is **GLASS**. So please look to see what you might donate: nice coloured glass, ornaments, decorative items, practical items, sculptures, etc.

Make your items look as attractive as possible.

Please ensure each item is in good condition and clean and ready for instant sale.



The Brocante Stall relies entirely on **YOUR** support!

What NOT to Donate

Please **DO NOT** bring: electrical items, furniture, large pictures, sports or keep fit equipment, garden equipment, used kitchen utensils, plastic (no Tupperware please). However, other stalls may take some of these items.

We still need more helpers, please!



Questions? – Contact Prue Bishop
or Jill Bolingbroke

☎+33 (0)4 50 20 76 59
☎+33 (0)4 50 20 16 29

prue.bishop@pruart.com
jillbolingbroke@gmail.com

Mongolia - the mad way

Jean Mason Davids

When I was about 10, much of my time was spent in the passionate pursuit of horses, on a bicycle named Gypsy. My best friend and I would spend blissful afternoons bashing our bikes across the South African veld, seeking out and friending ponies in paddocks.

Many decades have passed since those horse-mad days, and yet... when the chance came to relive that passion by doing a 14-day off-road cycling trip in Mongolia, I didn't think twice. My imagination conjured up steppes, sky and horses.

And so in September 2011 my friend Barbara and I joined up with an adventure travel group from England. After meeting the rest of the group in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, we set off in an antique-looking overnight train for the town of Erdenet in the northwest.

At the same time, two battered Russian vans carrying 2 cooks, 14 bikes, tents, plus our personal kit headed off over the steppes to wait for us. The vans were waiting for us next morning, on a windy hilltop overlooking Erdenet. The cooks provided us with an al fresco breakfast of omelettes, bread and jam, and gallons of tea, all of which was consumed with gusto.

And then we set off. The plan was to cycle back to Ulaanbaatar by a circuitous route, camping in a different place each night, and visiting historic sites such as the capital of the ancient Mongol kingdom, Karakoram, en route. We were 12 cyclists plus two local guides - sturdy, smiling Erdene, and Misheel, a lively young medical doctor who works for MSF and spends her holidays cycling around Mongolia.

The group gelled very fast and, amid much hilarity, we set off on our bikes into the hilly, stony steppes - which had looked so smooth and undulating from the train window. We jounced along (some in fact fell off), struggling with gears and hazardous ruts and stones, with a relentless headwind forcing our heads down. This was going to be tougher than expected...

Nevertheless, the scenery was spectacular. That first day we saw a soaring steppe eagle, myriad galloping horses, and all the sky one could wish for. The fragrance of crushed thyme and chamomile filled the air around us as we cycled over the abundant wild herbs. The horses were delightful. I think they thought we were a herd of running animals too, as they galloped excitedly next to us. Sometimes there was a Mongolian herdsman behind them, long whip in hand, but often they thundered along on their own, for the sheer abandoned pleasure of it.

Come nightfall, some 50 kms later, we arrived at the campsite that the van drivers had chosen for us, and immediately set about pitching our tents and changing into warm clothes. It was very cold and we watched as rain swept across the vast plain, towards and over us.

After supper, it was into our sleeping bags and, for my part, asleep before 8pm, despite the noise of tents flapping wildly in the wet wind.

(Our muttomy supper was the first of many meals of "Shawn the Sheep" whose carcass resided on top of one of the vans and diminished as our journey progressed. Later, a week or more into the trip, we had to replace Shawn and watched in fascinated horror as a bleating sheep was bought from a nomad and expertly butchered by the drivers within a couple of minutes, an almost bloodless process.)



Mongolia - the mad way (Continued)

We were woken early. Sheets of ice crackled on the tents. But our hearts and tummies were soon warmed by a welcome cup of coffee. After breakfast we mounted our bikes amidst moans about stiff muscles and hard saddles. The wind was again glacial. Misheel warned us that her nomadic herdsman grandfather used to tell her: "The morning sun is not the sun!" My hands, in particular, took hours to warm up.

Our days began to merge into a landscape of vast grasslands punctuated by nomads' gers, 5th century Turkic burial mounds, and wide, flat rivers. And - bizarrely frequently - a Mongolian herdsman on the horizon, relieving himself. The ground under us was often littered with sheep skulls and broken Genghis Khan vodka bottles – and edelweiss! We were at an altitude of around 1700m, and averaging 60 – 65 kms a day, and getting fitter.



Once we had the good fortune to be invited into one of the local gers (yurts, as they were known in Russian times). We'd been told about local etiquette and were careful not to touch the threshold, and to move clockwise, and for the women to sit on the right hand side. We were served very salty and chewy curds and then a cup of fermented mare's milk (airag) was passed round. It was odd, but refreshing, and apparently extremely alcoholic.



Afterwards, cycling on through the grassy sea surrounding the Khangai mountains, a huge yak galloped alongside me for a while, its golden hair billowing in the wind and sunshine.

In the evenings we'd sit together in our makeshift canvas dining room while Erdene and Misheel regaled us with stories of previous trips. One that we loved was when a Harrison Ford look-alike joined the group from the USA. Everyone was convinced he was the real thing, but he adamantly denied it. Until one evening, after having been plied with a quantity of vodka, he confessed he was indeed Harrison Ford.

Towards the end the weather began to get colder and greyer, and on Day 13 we woke to a covering of snow on the ground. After sliding around miserably in freezing mush and fording a few semi-frozen streams, we pushed our bikes into a rather gloomy village where the schoolmaster offered us the floor of an empty dormitory for a night in return for giving the children an English lesson. We willingly undertook this very entertaining duty.

Then all 12 of us laid out our camping mats and sleeping bags and spent a companionable last night together, laughing, reminiscing, and exchanging addresses before heading back to Ulaanbaatar the next day.

Flying home I reflected that, for me, this adventure brought a certain closure to my youthful passion. I no longer have the urge to pedal off in pursuit of horses. I have now seen them as nature intended, as wild and as free as the nomads who share their vast landscapes. In addition, my still-sore backside hinted that perhaps the time had come to give up off-road cycling.



Activities in October

Explorations in Conscious Living

Tuesday 2 October

14h30-16h30

Please study pages 33-64 from our book "Wherever You Go, There You Are" by Jon Kabat-Zinn for our meeting on Tuesday 2 October. We shall meet chez Solange in Crans as usual and please let her know if you are going to be there.

Solange de Marignac
Coordinator: Linda Bridge

☎022 776 23 57
☎022 366 70 50

solangedm@bluewin.ch
lbridge@bluewin.ch

Migraine Support Group

Friday 12 October

14h00

There will be a Migraine Support Group Meeting at 14h00 on Friday 12 October in the Migros Restaurant in La Combe, Nyon. All sufferers are welcome to come along and have some companionship and laughs and share their tips and tales of woe!

Please let one of us know you are coming so that we don't start without you.



Jean Mason Davids
Helen Carter

☎022 950 42 05
☎0033 450 20 23 18

masondavids@gmail.com
helen.carter@wanadoo.fr

Line Dancers: The Silver Spurs

Thursday 18 October

14h15 - 15h15

The Silver Spurs will be giving their first Demo on 18 October from 14h15 to 15h15 at Les Horizons, the Protestant Church Parish Centre, located at Avenue des Eules 9, Nyon.

There is a group of beginner line dancers who meet on Thursday afternoons at 15h00 in Grens. If you would like to join us please call Lorraine.

Lorraine Pichard

☎022 990 15 80

lorrainepichard@yahoo.com

Music Appreciation Group

Thursday 25 October

14h00

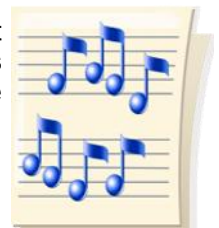
chez Rita French

Rosemary Billinge will give the ninth talk in her series about the development of Western music and it will be about the period between World Wars I and II. Rita French has kindly offered to host this meeting at her home in Coppet. Please let her know by 20 October if you wish to attend. It would be advisable to car share.

Rita French

☎022 776 07 44

ritafrench@bluewin.ch



For any other information about the group please contact Rosemary or Margaret

Rosemary Billinge
Margaret Hancock

☎022 369 16 00
☎0033 450 99 24 55

rbe16@hotmail.com
margaretdivonne@gmail.com

Activities in October

Friday Morning Book Discussion Group

Friday 26 October

10h00

The book for our discussion in October is **"Snowdrops"** by **A.D. Miller**. This is a stunning novel of moral ambiguity, uncertainty and corruption beginning in 2011. Snowdrops: this is what the Russians call the bodies that float up into the light in the thaw. Drunks and homeless people, most of them, who just give up and lie down into the whiteness or murder victims, hidden in the drifts by their killers.

We meet at the Château de Bonmont. Please phone or email Vreny to indicate your presence and for any further information.

Vreny Bessède

☎022 369 24 91



bessedefamily@bluewin.ch

Keen Readers' Group

Friday 26 October

14h00



This month's book is **William Boyd's Waiting for Sunrise**. Vienna, 1913: Lysander Rief, a young English actor, is waiting for his first appointment with an eminent psychiatrist. A distressed but beautiful young woman enters the waiting room. They begin a passionate love affair and life in Vienna becomes tinged with a powerful frisson of excitement for Lysander. The scene changes to London, 1914 and the dangerous theatre of wartime intelligence, moving from the battlefields of France to hotel rooms in Geneva. 'Waiting for Sunrise' is a fascinating journey into the human psyche, a beautifully observed portrait of wartime Europe, a plot-twisting thriller and a literary tour de force from the bestselling author of 'Restless' and 'Ordinary Thunderstorms'.

Our hostess is Julia Klee. Members of the group who want to come to the discussion should contact her directly at least several days beforehand:

Julia Klee

☎022 736 97 05

juliaklee@comcast.net

If you are interested in joining the Keen Readers, please contact:

Gill Fraser

☎0033 450 20 70 31

gill.fraser@wanadoo.fr

Les Amies du Mardi

Tuesday 30 October

Outing to Vivarium, Lausanne

Les Amies du Mardi are planning to visit the **Vivarium**, Chemin de Boissonnet 82, 1010 Lausanne, on 30 October. The Vivarium houses the most important collection of poisonous reptiles in Europe, including snakes, spiders and frogs. More information can be seen on the website www.vivariumlausanne.ch. They will have a guided tour in either English or French from 10h30 to 11h30. The cost of entry plus the guided tour is likely to be about CHF15 depending on the number of participants. For more information and to register your interest, please contact Mary after 4 October.



Mary Kehrli-Smyth

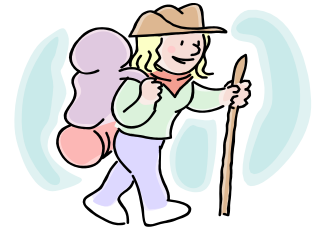
☎022 776 24 10

Activities in October

Friday Walkers

The walk leaders for October will be:

- 5 October** Toop Al (25th Anniversary Walk)
- 12 October** Toop Al
- 19 October** Maria Voermans, Trish Livingstone and Rosemary Birch
- 26 October** To be arranged



For any additional information on joining or other enquiries, please call:

Toop Al

☎022 366 25 87

toop@bluewin.ch

Do you like flowers?

New Activity!

Ikebana Flower Arrangement Class



This class will teach basic Ikebana and occasionally work on modern flower arrangements as well. Due to space concerns, the class will be open to 10 members only. There will be a small investment to purchase the materials necessary for the class: Ikebana pruning shears, kenzans and base. The class will have a small fee to pay for the cost of the flowers, around CHF15-20 depending on the flowers. Participants will go home with a fresh flower arrangement of their own creation that will last for about a week.

We will meet **every other Friday** in **Prangins** from **14h00 to 16h00**, beginning in November. If you are interested, please contact Angeles.

Angeles Martinez

☎022-755-4939

angelesnm@me.com

Are you interested in English or French?

Join these Groups!

As this is an English-speaking Club, you might not know that among our activities there is an **English Conversation Group**. This is for ladies whose native language is not English but who want to keep up and improve their standard in the language. The group meets **every Thursday morning** from **9h30 to 11h00** at the home of one of the five leaders and they enjoy reading articles and discussing them and chatting over a cup of coffee. Their chats and discussions would be even livelier if they had a few more members so, if you would like to join this friendly group, contact Mary Ellerby on 022 369 02 11 or maryellerby@hotmail.com



If you are already at an intermediate to advanced level in French but want to improve your speaking skills, Martine Jarraud leads a group which could interest you. Her **Advanced French Group** meet on **Tuesdays** from **14h00 to 15h30** to improve their conversation.

If you enjoy reading **French Literature**, **every two months** on **Wednesday afternoons** Martine introduces some famous French literary works. There are spaces in both groups so please call Martine if you are interested on 022 776 95 27 or m_jarraud@bluewin.ch

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Les Amies du Mardi visit the Abbey of St Maurice



On a perfect day in March a group of Les Amies du Mardi set out for a guided visit of the Abbey of St Maurice in the Valais. Fortunately we had been well versed in its history the week before by Michèle Salperwyck, the inspiration behind and organiser of this exceptional trip.

St Maurice, occupying a strategic position in a narrow defile between the river Rhone and the mountains, has been of military, administrative and religious significance since Celtic times. Its spiritual significance was magnified at the end of the 3rd century by the martyrdom there of a whole Roman legion from Thebes, Egypt who, together with Maurice, their commander, refused to renounce their conversion to Christianity. Churches and shrines were erected in their honour there and

it has been a very significant spiritual place ever since. The Abbey itself was founded in 515 by Sigismond, King of the Burgundians, in honour of these martyrs. It is now the oldest continually occupied monastery in the western world.

Our guide, none other than the Abbot himself, cheerily greeted us in bright sunshine on the steps of the Abbey Church. After a helpful historical introduction he gave us a well informed and enthusiastic tour of the site. We proceeded to the recent archaeological site where he explained the development of the buildings and their various vicissitudes through the ages. The Abbey is overshadowed by a cliff-face and, needless to say, this played an important part in the destruction of many a church by falling rock and avalanches. Our party was amazed to see our guide joyfully running and leaping around the exposed stone foundations as he pointed out successive developments in the Abbey's construction.

We were then guided round the present day Abbey church, adorned with impressive modern bronze doors, designed by Madeline Diener, to celebrate the millennium. These doors project the theme of martyrdom, so prevalent in this monastery, onto a worldwide stage throughout the ages. The tolling of the Angelus bell at mid-day reminded us that this place is not a museum but a living testament to the endurance of the Christian faith. We were led into its baptistery where, with great simplicity and evident deep conviction, the Abbot explained the symbolism of the important sacrament of baptism so beautifully portrayed in detail in the modern trefoil font and mosaics on the walls. A powerful illustration that modern design, again by Madeline Diener, can sensitively incorporate long-held beliefs.

The final part of the morning's tour was to view the treasury. This Abbey has, since its foundation, received many priceless gifts from kings, princes and emperors. The stunning collection of statues, reliquaries and caskets on display bear witness to this. A 7th century gold Merovingian casket bears the inscription: *'Tenderic the priest ordered its creation in honour of Saint Maurice. Amen. Nardoalaus and Rihlindis ordered its manufacture. Undiho and Ello carried it out.'* No need to spend years of speculation and investigation on the provenance of this object!

Through the ages the monastery has witnessed many disasters – fire, floods, rock falls, avalanches, storms and the ravages of invading armies. With the impending arrival of Napoleon the monks took the precaution of hiding the treasure from his soldiers. When the treasure was returned it was discovered that baby Jesus was no longer in his Mother's arms on one of the silver reliquaries – clearly lost in transportation! Hence our guide's request that if we happened to come across Jesus would we please let him know.

Passing through the tranquil cloisters we profusely thanked our patient and excellent guide for a fascinating tour and, hoping that he had not missed his own meal, we left by the martyrs' door to walk down to lunch. Suitably refreshed a few of our party returned for a tour of the library and archives. This tour proved to be equally fascinating. The librarian had assembled a small exhibition of documents which would be of particular interest to us, amongst which was a parchment Papal Bull from Pope Alexander III dated 14 March 1179, confirming that the monastery and its possessions were directly under papal authority, a beautiful parchment indulgence of 9 July 1512 confirming many privileges on a group of notables throughout the Abbey's wide flung possessions, some 16th century legal documents concerning Commugny, Vaud which belonged to the Abbey and a Bible published in Basle in the late 15th century.

A few years ago the extensive archives were in such a neglected and disordered state that the Abbey decided to re-organise and re-catalogue them. It took the bold step of computerising and digitalising them. It has proved to be such a success that its close contemporary, St Catherine's monastery in Egypt, is about to embark on a similar exercise!

The Abbey of St Maurice, a little known historical gem in the Valais, played and plays an important role in the history and religious life of Switzerland. You would do well to pay a visit although we doubt whether you will have the good fortune and privilege of a guided tour by the 93rd Abbot.

By Valerie Offord

News of Activities

Summer Sushi chez Sumiko



On 11 July, Sumiko Pol-Matsuo welcomed eleven ladies to her new home in Arnex to show them how to make sushi. Like all experts, she made it look easy, rolling the seaweed sheets adeptly round the sticky rice and hiding inside tasty delicacies such as salmon and crab pieces, cucumber and avocado. She also explained about important ingredients of Japanese cookery such as yuzu, wasabi and miso paste and told us where to buy them in Geneva. Other dishes such as sweet and sour cucumber and shrimp and teriyaki beef and chicken seemed to be appear effortlessly but we all appreciated that Sumiko had done a lot of chopping, slicing and other preparation in advance to make this possible.



As in all good cookery classes, the proof was in the eating and, at the end of a delicious lunch on Sumiko's terrace, everyone enthusiastically took home copies of the recipes determined to try and make these culinary delights at home.

Thank you, Sumiko, for sharing your enthusiasm and expertise with us.

By Janet Brown



Photos by Elise van Cleeff

The Genealogy Group

Continuing the series of articles from the genealogy group, Elisabeth Piskolti tells us that her biggest "a-ha" moment concerns her great-uncle.

I grew up believing that my mother's father, my grandfather, had only one brother and he lived in Canada. What I have learnt is in fact he was one of nine children, five boys and four girls. One of the brothers emigrated to Canada. On reading his Canadian Army Record for the First World War, it stated that he had a scar on his right thumb which was a result of a sword injury received during the Boer War. However, on reading his British Army Record, I found that he already had this scar before he went to South Africa! Also he was court marshalled while in the British Army and reduced in rank. And he was then a policeman in Canada! I am sure he didn't expect his great-niece to be finding out some of his secrets.

On my father's side of the family, I have made contact with two new family relatives, have visited one in Northern Ireland and set up a correspondence with the other.

For me the high point of tracing my family was to visit the house and the grave of my great-great grandparents in Northern Ireland.

Elisabeth Piskolti

Reports on 25th Anniversary Celebrations

Golfing Girls on the Green



The Anniversary Golfers.

Photo by the Director of Jiva Hill

On 3 September the Golf Group celebrated the 25th anniversary of the IWCN in style. Twenty-seven of us met up in the early afternoon at Jiva Hill, all wearing the Club colours of blue and white, as you can see in the photo on the left. Jiva Hill is a smart new country club that opened just a few years ago in the village of Crozet in the Pays de Gex. Apart from the golf course, there is also a hotel, conference centre, spa, smart restaurant, tennis, riding centre and even a water-ski lake. Well worth a visit!

We had planned a shotgun start... for the uninitiated that means that we all started at the same time, on the nine different holes when the gun went off. Well, the sun was shining, it was not raining or even too cloudy.... BUT the "bise" wind, that we all know so well in this region, was blowing its hardest for the entire afternoon. Hats blew off, golf trolleys took off and the balls on the greens had a life of their own! We soon realized that the wind was, apart from one hole, always in our faces and never on our backs. However, that did not deter or detract from a fun afternoon. We thought we would add some fun and games to animate the afternoon... silly things like putting with a croquet mallet on one hole and putting with a couple of oven gloves on another. We had a "nearest the pin" that was won by Ann Bromley and "the longest drive" won by Mathilde Bouw.

Each competitor received a golf ball printed with the words 'IWCN 25 years'. Hopefully a memento that will go on the mantel-piece rather than being hit out of bounds never to be seen again. Janet Brown was presented with one as she joined us for the aperitif. Maybe this might entice her to become a golfer! *(Totally uncoordinated Activity Coordinator's note: Unlikely but thank you for the ball!)*

We enjoyed a glass of champagne and some delicious canapés before wending our way home, weary and wind-swept but having enjoyed a fun and challenging day.

By Clare Martin



Jenny Fellay putts with her patriotic oven gloves!

Photo by Elise van Cleeff

Stitchers Celebrate



Stitchers from left: Gillian Olesen, Bridget Coddington, Barbara Piderit, Angela Lowthian, Jean Martin and Rosemary Kohler.

On 28 June, the Stitchers Group held a potluck lunch to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the IWCN. We arrived chez Kaye Greenwood, our hostess for the lunch, a little later than the appointed time as the traffic into Geneva was dreadful, but we were armed with all sorts of goodies to eat. When set out, the array of different dishes was amazing, and with good luck, we had a fantastic mix of savoury and sweet treats to be enjoyed. Recipes were exchanged to be tried at home. We toasted the club with champagne and chocolates. Stitching had to be put on hold for the afternoon as we were too full after our lunch!

By Angela Lowthian

Photo by Kaye Greenwood

Ongoing Activities

Monday

The Choir	weekly	9h15 - 11h45
Linda Revkin	☎022 366 39 60	linda@revkin.com
Spanish Conversation	weekly	10h00 - 11h30
Miryam Peek	☎022 776 52 53	peek@bluewin.ch
Golf	monthly	
Clare Martin	☎022 369 26 14 ☎ 079 743 48 84	clare.martin@vtxnet.ch
Cross Country Skiing Outings		
Isobel Shaw		isobelshaw@mac.com
French for Beginners	weekly	13h30 - 15h00
Chantal de Vries	☎0033 450 20 06 47	ch.devries@yahoo.fr
Upper Intermediate French Group	weekly	14h00 - 15h30
Dominique Thyssen	☎022 779 18 05	dodothyssen@hotmail.com
Anne-Lise Müller	☎022 361 59 51	roland-annelise-muller@bluewin.ch
Marcelle Hug	☎022 755 46 87	marcellehug@bluewin.ch
Odile Tervooren	☎022 776 83 59	odiletervooren@gmail.com
Monday Walkers	fortnightly	14h00
Martine Jarraud	☎022 776 95 27	m_jarraud@bluewin.ch
Rosemary Bourne	☎0033 450 41 80 48	bourner@europe.com

Tuesday

Nordic Walking	weekly	9h00 - 10h00
Marjon Gorter	☎076 490 93 70	marjongorter@hotmail.com
Les Amies du Mardi	weekly	9h30 - 11h30
Chair: Jacqueline Weber	☎022 361 16 23 ☎ 079 646 37 40	
Vice Chair: Mary Kehrl-Smith	☎/fax 022 776 24 10	
Duplicate Bridge	weekly	9h30 - 13h30
Janine Bamert	☎022 369 15 96	janine.bamert@bluewin.ch
Anne Fitschen	☎022 776 04 90	anne.fitschen@web.de
Italian	weekly	10h00 - 11h00
Barbara Luiselli	☎022 367 03 02	ba_l@hotmail.com
Spanish Intermediate 1	weekly	10h00 - 11h30
Gretchen Whitman	☎022 367 03 75	whitman969@roadrunner.com
Photography Group	monthly	11h00 - 12h30
Roschelle Don	☎021 824 29 42	rdon@bluewin.ch
Rosemary Kohler	☎022 776 06 03	rosemary.r.kohler@gmail.com
Pre-Intermediate French 1	weekly	13h30
Monique Bailey	☎022 367 00 30	bailey702@aol.com
Pre-Intermediate French 2	weekly	13h30
Charlotte Bucher	☎021 825 52 65	bucher.charlotte@bluewin.ch

Ongoing Activities

Tuesday continued

Advanced French 1	weekly	14h00 - 16h00
Denyse Glasbrenner	☎022 361 95 02	d.glasbrenner@bluewin.ch
Advanced French 2	weekly	14h00 - 15h30
Martine Jarraud	☎022 776 95 27	m_jarraud@bluewin.ch
Françoise Burley	☎0033 450 20 20 91	francoise.burley@wanadoo.fr
Garden Group	fortnightly	14h00 - 16h00
Carmen Dominik	☎022 776 31 81	cardominik@hotmail.com
Rummikub	weekly	14h00 - 16h00
Delia Cherix	☎022 369 30 27	deliachेरix@yahoo.co.uk
Explorations in Conscious Living	monthly	14h30 - 16h30
Solange de Marignac	☎022 776 23 57	solangedm@bluewin.ch
Coordinator: Linda Bridge	☎022 366 70 50	lbridge@bluewin.ch

Tuesday Evening

Cinema	(Tuesday and Thursday evenings and late Saturday afternoon)	
Gillian Bolingbroke	☎022 367 10 84	gbolingbroke@mac.com
Margaret Strang	☎022 361 89 21	mar.rons@bluewin.ch

Wednesday

Italian	monthly	9h30 - 11h00
Simona Livio	☎022 366 50 45	simona.livio@bluewin.ch
German Conversation	fortnightly	9h45 - 11h30
Karin Kruse-Klose	☎022 362 70 16	kruse_klose@yahoo.de
Iris Bauer	☎022 367 00 50	iris.c.cbauer@gmx.net
Maria Milzow	☎022 361 07 35	milzow@bluewin.ch
Genealogy	fortnightly	10h00 - 12h00
Heather Pashley	☎022 366 70 36	heather.pashley@hotmail.com
Spanish Intermediate 2	weekly	11h00 - 12h30
Tracey Everitt	☎022 566 26 16	traceyeveritt@mac.com
Wednesday Hikers	weekly	13h30
Rosemary Kohler	☎022 776 06 03	rosemary.r.kohler@gmail.com
Janet Bland	☎022 776 96 73	janetmbland@gmail.com
French Literary Club	every two months	14h00
Martine Jarraud	☎022 776 95 27	m_jarraud@bluewin.ch
Scrabble/Boggle	monthly	14h30 - 17h30
Maya Marcus	☎022 950 03 03	maya.marcus@bluewin.ch
	☎079 374 11 16	

Wednesday continued		
Mums and Tots Playgroup	fortnightly	after 15h00
Suzanne Mooney		suzanne.mooney@me.com
Wednesday Evening		
Dutch Book Club	every two months	20h00
Marjon Gorter	☎076 490 93 70	marjongorter@hotmail.com
Thursday		
English Conversation	weekly	9h30 - 11h00
Mary Ellerby	☎022 369 02 11	maryellerby@hotmail.com
Keep Fit	weekly	10h00 - 11h00
Kateri Delisle	☎022 755 03 39	kateridelisle@gmail.com
Italian Conversation	fortnightly	12h30
Maureen Morel	☎022 369 11 75	m.morel@bluewin.ch
Bridge	weekly	13h30 - 16h00
Maureen Warner		davandm@bluewin.ch
Line Dancing	weekly	13h45 - 16h00
Lorraine Pichard	☎022 990 15 80	lorrainepichard@yahoo.com
Stitchers	weekly	14h00 - 16h30
Kaye Greenwood	☎022 734 37 11	kaye_greenwood@hotmail.com
Deneen Mitchell	☎022 367 00 21	deneenmitchell@me.com
Jean Martin	☎022 776 53 23	martinjay@bluewin.ch
Intermediate French	weekly	14h00 - 15h30
Martine Jarraud	☎022 776 95 27	m_jarraud@bluewin.ch
Music Appreciation	monthly	14h00
Joan Gunby	☎022 369 31 95	j.gunby@bluewin.ch
Rosemary Billinge	☎022 369 16 00	rbe16@hotmail.com
Margaret Hancock	☎0033 450 99 24 55	margaretdivonne@gmail.com
Thursday Evening		
Evening Bridge	twice a month	18h00 – 20h30
Marilee Anderson	022 364 61 56	marileeanderson@msn.com
Mums' Nights Out	monthly	20h00 - 24h00
Suzanne Mooney		suzanne.mooney@me.com

Friday

Tennis	weekly	9h15 - 10h15
Jill Bolingbroke	☎0033 450 20 16 29	jillbolingbroke@gmail.com
Lynne Lauckner	☎0033 450 41 17 33	lynne.lauckner@gmail.com
Dog Walking	weekly	9h30 - 10h30
Lorraine Pichard	☎022 990 15 80	lorrainepichard@yahoo.com
Friday Walkers	weekly	9h30
Toop Al	☎022 366 25 87	toop@bluewin.ch
Dinah Roberts	☎022 776 63 18	d.roberts@bluemail.ch
Heather Pashley	☎022 366 70 36	heather.pashley@hotmail.com
Book Discussion Group	monthly	10h00
Vreny Bessede	☎022 369 24 91	bessedefamily@bluewin.ch
Tennis	weekly	10h15
Monika Wilson	☎021 824 10 11	wilsonmonika@hotmail.com
Cookery Group	monthly	11h00
Françoise Pateman	☎0033 450 41 35 65	lagrangeagex@gmail.com
Francine Forrest	☎022 776 42 22	francine.forrest@gmail.com
Keen Readers' Group	monthly	14h00
Gill Fraser	☎0033 450 20 70 31	gill.fraser@wanadoo.fr
Ikebana Flower Arrangement	fortnightly	14h00 - 16h00
Angeles Martinez	☎022 755 49 39	angelesnm@me.com

Occasional

Thermal Bathers' Group		
Deborah Powell	☎022 776 71 41	deborah.powell@ecolint.ch
Angela Griffiths	☎022 361 20 57	ange.griffiths@hotmail.co.uk
Migraine Support Group		
Jean Mason Davids	☎022 950 42 05	masondavids@gmail.com
Helen Carter	☎0033 450 20 23 18	helen.carter@wanadoo.fr
Creative Writing Group		
Susan Trachsel-Farmer	☎022 369 10 36	strachselfarmer@bluewin.ch
Russian		
Tatiana Harbutt	☎078 842 71 43	tatiana.harbutt@scig.com
Cross Country Skiing Tuition		
Jill McDonald	☎022 758 1912	mjillmc@gmail.com
Downhill Skiing — Beginners		
Janet Bland	☎022 776 96 73	janetmbland@gmail.com
Helen Tustin	☎022 369 07 26	helen.tustin@gmail.com
Downhill Skiing — Intermediate		
Sheila Fournier-Oakes	☎079 813 86 84	sfournier_oakes@hotmail.com
Cycling for Fun and Fitness		
Barbara Metaxas	☎022 566 40 44	metaxasfamily@yahoo.ca

Registration and Payment for Club Events

To register for a Club event, please make your payment through a bank transfer. This is the only way we can trace who has made payments for each event.

You can use e-banking or the Multimat/Contomat in your bank or at the UBS and you can also deposit the amount via the cashier into the account of the International Women's Club of Nyon at your nearest UBS bank. Please make sure you add your name and the reason for payment (i.e. annual subscription, etc.).

UBS Bank Account Name: IWCN
UBS Bank Account Number: 0228 - E0126365.0
SWIFT Number: UBSWCHZH80A
IBAN Number: CH3900228228E01263650 (all numerical zeros)

Please make your payment at least four days before the event so that it can be identified on the bank statement. Reservations are not confirmed until payment has been received.

Treasurer: Anne Fitschen, ☎ 022 776 04 90 (treasurer@iwcn.ch)

Advertising Information for The Grapevine and The Digest

In the absence of a volunteer stepping forward to take on the role of Grapevine Advertising Manager, the Board has decided to suspend advertisements in The Grapevine. Anyone wishing to advertise to IWCN members should liaise with The Digest Manager.

Members are entitled to one small free personal or business advertisement per Club year (1 July to 30 June) in The Digest. After that, each small ad in The Digest costs CHF 15 for a personal advertisement and CHF 35 for a commercial (or business) ad. The cost for non-members is CHF 35 for each advertisement. Attachments can be included as a pdf or jpeg.

Please include your name and address with your advertisement. This is for record and billing purposes. Remember, there is no charge for a message in The Digest that simply gives information or requests it. To send a message to The Digest please email: digest@iwcn.ch

IWCN No-Show Policy

We would like to remind you that if you wish to cancel a reservation, for yourself or a guest, for any Club event for which you have paid, you must do so before the closing date. Failing this, we unfortunately have to charge you.

Registration and Payment for Special Club Events

When your payment has been received through the bank, you are registered. If you have any questions, please contact Alison Lang at alison_r_lang@msn.com

We welcome copies of your artistic work or photos for the front page of The Grapevine (vertical format), as well as articles of general interest to members, including texts about your village/town, interesting events, useful tips, an unusual holiday experience, ideas for day trips in the area, etc. These all help to make The Grapevine more interesting to other members. Thanking you in advance, Rosemary Kohler, Editor (editor@iwcn.ch).