

# AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUBS NEWS

## North American Connection

Are you an American lady living in the Birmingham, Warwickshire, Solihull or surrounding areas? If so, we would love to meet you at one of our many exciting events taking place in 2018! The North American Connection is an organisation committed to the support of North Americans living in the West Midlands, England. The club, while essentially social, provides assistance with integration into the English community, as well as the opportunity for charitable activity. Our goal is to understand the needs of new expatriates and to help bridge their transition into British culture. We also have expats who join us for the first time after living here for many years who wish to re-connect with their American culture and meet other Americans living in the area. We are here to provide friendship and support, as well as social, educational and philanthropic activities for our members.

Although most of our members are from the United States and Canada, we also have members from other European countries, Australia, and even a few British members. The club is open to all women with a particular

connection to North America or a specific interest in the club's activities. We are a diverse group of women who are here due to a short- or long-term work assignment, or who have chosen to relocate to England permanently. We include women who are single, partnered or married. Many members have children - both young and adult. We come from all areas of the Midlands but most members reside within an hour's travel radius of Birmingham, including Solihull, Leamington Spa, Stafford, Derby, Worcester and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Coming up in the next few months we have a lot of fun and interesting activities planned. We are happy for you to come join us for a couple of events before deciding on whether or not to become a member. We regularly hold monthly coffee mornings, day and evening books clubs, pub nights and dinner evenings, as well as special charity events that partners/spouses are welcome to attend. For more information please do visit us at [www.naconnect.com](http://www.naconnect.com) or visit our Facebook page, 'The North American Connection.'

## Hampstead Women's Club (HWC)

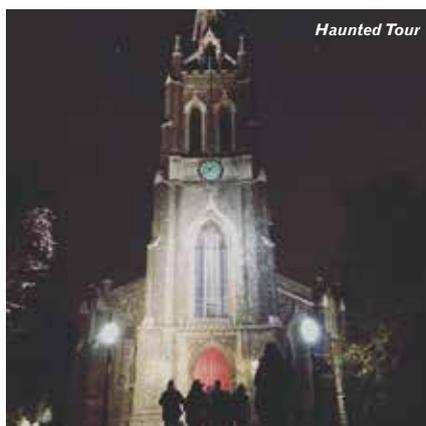
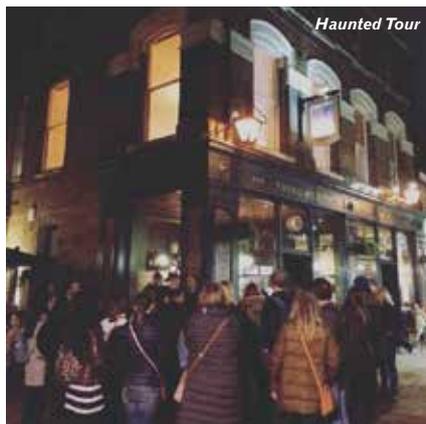
The Hampstead Women's Club (HWC) is a diverse, social organisation for women living in the London area. Our purpose is to provide a sense of community through social, educational and charitable activities.

### Recent Highlights

A great time was had by all at our Fall Kickoff Meeting to start our new year at the HWC! A record attendance of members and prospective members joined us for a wonderful September morning at The Freemasons Arms. We heard from Stacy Popovici, our President, learned about the different activities and interest groups of the club, and got to shop from members selling products and services. We finished with a pub quiz with prizes from many generous merchants in and around Hampstead.

A huge highlight of the Fall was a once in a lifetime opportunity of having lunch in the Peers Dining Room at The House of Lords. Ten lucky members had a 3-hour delicious lunch among members of Parliament, and an opportunity to buy fantastic goodies in the gift shop! In October we also held our annual children's Halloween parade through Hampstead. Children in fancy dress made their way to various stations getting all treats and no tricks! Taking advantage of the Halloween spirit, the Cheers group





organised a haunted, moonlit pub crawl from Hampstead to Highgate, including a 15 minute stroll through the pitch black Heath! It was very educational and scary! More educational tours of the Fall include a Victorian London walk, a private tour of the British Gallery at The V&A, and a walking tour of Little Venice. Our Arts and Antiques group kept us cultured with planned outings to Matisse in the Studio, Cezanne's portraits, Fahrenhissa Zeid and Basquiat. Our London Bites group have been hitting the best restaurants for lunch once a month, and in November, our Evenings Out team took a group to the immersive, dining experience, Beauty and the Feast, at The Vaults. Some of our most memorable moments of the Fall have been through our Community Outreach Programme with Age UK's Henderson Court Resource Centre, a daytime activity centre for older folks, with and without dementia. Once a month we bring cakes and sit and visit with those at the centre. It's been a rewarding

opportunity to give of our time to those who need some friendly company.

### Upcoming Events

In addition to our ongoing regularly scheduled activities like our creative writing group, golf, book club, tennis, running, Heath walking, hiking and yoga, here are a few fun events already lined up for January-March:

- Russian Banyan Spa Day
- Theatre outing to see *Network*
- Behind the scenes tour of Fortnum and Mason
- Wellness event with a Nutritional Speaker
- Tour of Beefeater Distillery

The calendar is still getting filled up, so these are just a few of the MANY activities we will have this Winter.

If you're interested in finding out more about our club, join us at our January General Meeting on Tuesday, 16th January, 10am- 12pm at the Burgh House, New End Square, London, NW3 1LT. We'll be hearing from two different

speakers discussing exercise and health. This meeting is a great way to learn more about the club and meet other members. Contact Jeanne at [hospitality@hwcinlondon.co.uk](mailto:hospitality@hwcinlondon.co.uk) to find out more. This event is FREE to attend for non members and light refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

Another way to find out more about the HWC is to attend one of our casual, monthly Link-Up meetings.

**Friday, 19th January, 9:30am** - Cote Brasserie, Hampstead High Street, NW31RE

**Friday, 9th February, 10am** - member Liz's home.

**Thursday, 15th March, 7:30pm** – place TBD.

These events are FREE to attend for non members, so join us! Contact Sumi at [linkup@hwcinlondon.co.uk](mailto:linkup@hwcinlondon.co.uk) for locations and more details.

To find out more about the HWC in general, visit our website: [hwcinlondon.co.uk](http://hwcinlondon.co.uk) or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

## The Junior League of London (JLL)

The Junior League of London (JLL) is pleased to wrap up a busy and successful 2017, culminating in our signature Holiday Hampers project. The hampers benefited 1,238 vulnerable Londoners from our partner agencies, providing them with food, toiletries and gifts to brighten the holidays. If you would like to support the 2018 Holiday Hampers project, you can get started now by shopping for some needed items on our Amazon Wish List: <http://amzn.eu/1LGyKOW>.

Do you want to learn more about the Junior League of London? We are an organisation of women volunteers bound by one goal: to help women, children, and families throughout London break the cycle of poverty. Here is a sampling of what we do:

- We help refugees secure jobs
- Assist in English classes
- Provide job interview advice and mock interviews for students from low income families
- Support & provide professional clothing to those who can't afford it
- Teach young women how to cook an affordable meal
- Provide books, craft supplies and activities for children in schools and community centres.

Are you interested in volunteering, developing and gaining new leadership and volunteering skills, making new friends and making a difference in your community? If you answered



LEGAL SERVICES FOR AMERICANS  
LIVING ABROAD



# EXPAT

LEGAL SERVICES GROUP

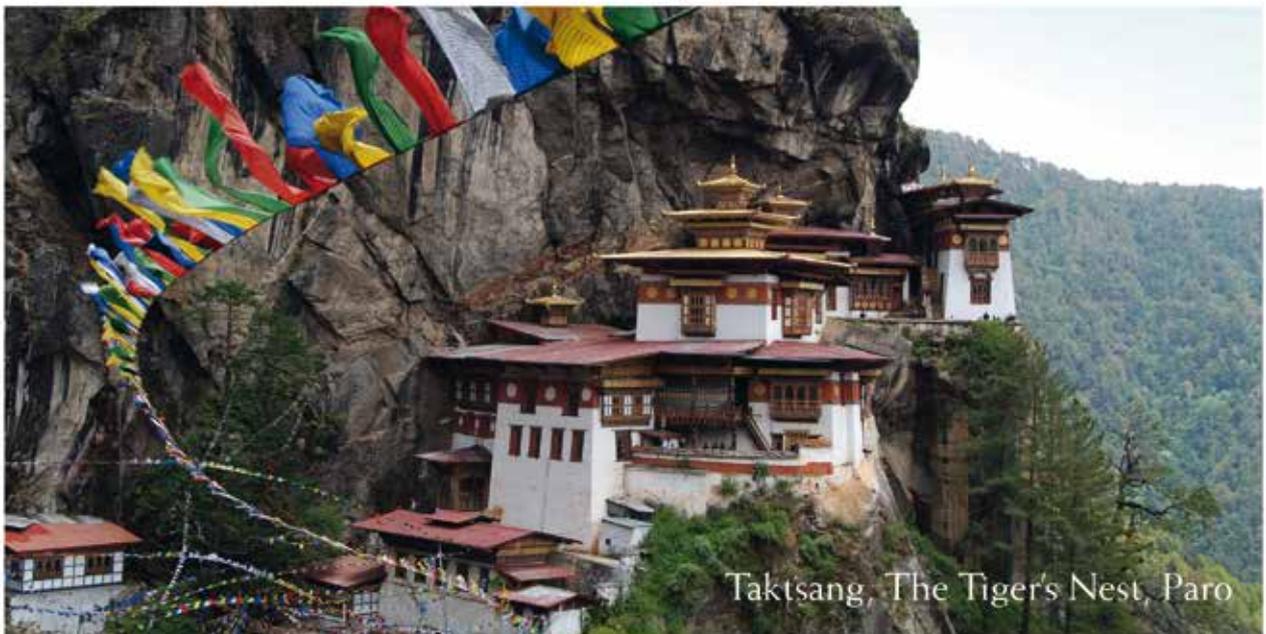
CONTACT US AT  
[INFO@EXPATLEGAL.COM](mailto:INFO@EXPATLEGAL.COM)

[WWW.EXPATLEGAL.COM](http://WWW.EXPATLEGAL.COM)

INTERNATIONAL ESTATE PLANNING | US TAX COMPLIANCE & PLANNING  
FAMILY IMMIGRATION SERVICES | GLOBAL BUSINESS SERVICES

## SIMPLY BHUTAN

Culture | Festivals | Trekking | Nature | Adventure



Taktsang, The Tiger's Nest, Paro

Exclusive & tailor-made holidays in the magical Kingdom of Bhutan

Karma Choden | [karma@simplybhutan.com](mailto:karma@simplybhutan.com) | +44 (0) 796 898 3926 | [www.simplybhutan.com](http://www.simplybhutan.com)

## US Tax Return services

- Specialists in UK/US tax planning
- Experts in dealing with delinquent returns
- Fixed fees agreed up front
- Personal service

### Preparation of US Tax Returns for US expatriates and green card holders

Call Rachel Finch on **01934 620011** or email her at [rachel@burton-sweet.co.uk](mailto:rachel@burton-sweet.co.uk)



[www.burton-sweet.co.uk](http://www.burton-sweet.co.uk)

## UC Alumni UK Charity Gala

Saturday 17 March 2018  
The Bloomsbury Hotel, London

Three Course Dinner | Dancing & DJ | Silent Auction | Prize Draw |

Keynote Address from  
Television Writer and Producer,  
Frank Spotnitz (UCLA alumnus)

University of California alumni, parents and guests are invited to join us for this special evening.

Tickets: [UCAlumniGala18.eventbrite.co.uk](http://UCAlumniGala18.eventbrite.co.uk)

Questions? 020 7269 5907



## LONDON ORTHODONTICS

Dr Simon C Manara  
40 Harley Street  
London W1G 9PP  
[smile@londonorthodontics.com](mailto:smile@londonorthodontics.com)  
+44 (0) 207 486 0088



The American Association  
of Orthodontists  
recommends:  
“the ideal age for an  
orthodontic assessment  
is 7 years old.”

Having the perfect smile can mean so much more

[www.LondonOrthodontics.com](http://www.LondonOrthodontics.com)

yes to any of those, we welcome you to find out more about us. We will be holding four to five information sessions in January for prospective New Members to join us for the Spring New Member Programme. Please visit our website: <https://www.jll.org.uk/join-us/> to reserve a space in one of our information sessions. We look forward to seeing you there!

## The Kensington and Chelsea Women's Club (KCWC)

Are you new to London or interested in attending lectures and tours from leading experts, enjoying exclusive and exciting experiences, and meeting new friends? Then, The Kensington and Chelsea Women's Club (KCWC) is a great starting point. As one of London's longest established and largest women's organisations, we have more than 800 British and international members from over 52 countries.

Each month KCWC holds a General Meeting with a high-profile guest speaker at a prime London location. Past speakers have included HRH Princess Michael of Kent, Anthony Geffen, Zac Goldsmith, Earl Spencer, Anton Du Beke, Alexandra Shulman and Jo Malone.

The meetings are a good way to meet other members, sign up for activities, enjoy listening to a keynote speaker and join fellow members for an optional lunch at a prestigious local restaurant afterwards. The General Meetings are also a great opportunity to know more about discounts and promotions offered by our preferred partners as they display their products and offers at our showcase tables. KCWC members benefit from special discounts on these showcase tables.

In addition to the General Meetings, KCWC also offers approximately 35 activities. These are organised by members who volunteer their time and skills by running a wide variety of weekly and monthly activities. Topics include history, culture, art, design, fashion, music, theatre, local tours, UK and international travel, special events, technology, sports, golf, tennis, languages, arts and crafts, food, dining, wine tasting, book and lecture groups, country walks, bridge, feng shui, and much more.

There are also a variety of evening and weekend activities which working women can enjoy. These include theatre, happy hour, dining out, jazz and music appreciation, evening speakers, and special events. For those interested in making a difference in the community, KCWC's Volunteers for Charity group works with several local charitable organisations. There is so much on offer at KCWC and members get to discover London while making new friends at the same time.

### Recent Highlights

Refreshed after the summer break, the KCWC members returned to another new year of interesting General Meetings with inspirational guest speakers, and to the wide range of exciting activities on offer from our various



activity leaders. Without exaggerating, one can safely say that they have not been disappointed.

The new year began with a bang and a lot of laughter at the September General Meeting with Dr. David Hamilton who entertained us with his talk on The Five Side Effects of Kindness. His speech was not only entertaining, but it was also thought-provoking as our members left the meeting wondering how they could add value to their own lives simply by being kind to others.

The October General Meeting was held at The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and was graced by a very special guest speaker, Senior International Correspondent for CNN Clarissa Ward, whose achievements in the war zone reporting need no elaboration. The November General Meeting brought broadcaster, adventurer and writer Ben Fogle as its guest speaker. KCWC members were awe-struck as he spoke about his Crossing of the Atlantic in the world's toughest rowing race and of his Race to the South Pole in the World's Toughest Endurance Race.

The KCWC luncheon after the General

Meetings, held at one of the chic London Restaurants, continue to be in high demand and well attended as members took advantage of the unique opportunity to converse with the guest speakers and to get to know other members.

We are just three months into the new KCWC year, but our hard-working and resourceful Activity Leaders have already managed to "wow!" our members by offering them a kaleidoscope of exciting activities and events. As always, the Art History and the British History groups continue to intellectually stimulate and inspire members with their lectures, tours and gallery visits. The fashion oriented members enjoyed a visit to the Fabergé Boutique, while the athletically inclined engaged in tennis or walked to Stamford Hill and Somers Town. The gastronomy aficionados learned to make the sweet treats of Capri, the more "nerdy" members learned about and played with their "techy toys" – MacBook, iPad etc., while others simply enjoyed a night at the Theatre.

### Upcoming Events

As for our 2018 events and activities, they

promise to be even more rich and exciting if the first three months of this new KCWC year are anything to go by. After Six in the City hosts a dinner at Da Mario restaurant, Antiques and Design will visit Strawberry Hill House while Art History will conduct lectures on Cezanne's Portraits, Surrealism, as well as a special lecture on the new Modigliani Exhibition that has just opened at the Tate Britain.

British History will conclude its final year of the long-running, extremely sought-after History of London Course and bid farewell to its lecturer Caroline Macdonald Haig, a long-time associate of KCWC and one of its favourite lecturers. The Classical Music and Opera Group which previously entertained members with the extremely successful concert, 1767 – A Retrospective on the music Mozart by Ian Page, continue their effort by bringing the next concert in the same series titled 1768 – A Retrospective.

After their adventure with the sweets of Capri and a Taste of Sardinia, Foodies focus on another part of the world with A Journey to Mysterious Iran. They also learn the intricacies of gluten-free cooking as they go Naturally Gluten Free with the experienced chef Simona Ranieri.

Fun with Feng Shui take you to the stars with their seminar on astrology as they welcome The Year of Yang Earth Dog in 2018, while at the other end Passion for Fashion make you feel like a star with the iconic leather brand Bottega Veneta with their Hand of the Artisan tour.

Coffee Mornings and Happy Hour activities with the Hospitality team or one of the several language specific conversation groups with the Languages team are also a good way to meet other members and make new friends. For those who would rather play a game, there is Bridge, Golf or Tennis to choose from and for those who prefer to walk, London Walks and Treasures and Country Walks are the two activity groups that explore unusual areas to walk in and around London. And then if one were to fancy something outside the UK, take a trip to Bruges and Antwerp with the Travel Group or save the date for Copenhagen or Andalucia with them.

Another great opportunity to socialise are the events hosted by Wine Society and after this autumn's Spectator Magazine Wine Luncheon and the Decanter Fine Wine Tasting with Steven Spurrier, they take a break during the festivities before they come up with their next proposal.

### Learn More About KCWC

General Meetings are open to non-members for a guest fee of £10, redeemable if joining on the day. The meetings are usually held on the first or second Thursday of each month between September and June. Prospective members are welcome to attend a Coffee Morning or a Happy Hour where guests can come along for an informal chat over coffee or a drink and enjoy the company of other international women. There is no need to pre-register to attend a Hospitality event and the cost is your own tab.

For further information please contact

potential@kcwc.org.uk or visit the website: www.kcwc.org.uk. To join KCWC, please visit www.kcwc.org.uk and click on Join Us or email potential@kcwc.org.uk.

### Save The Date

#### January General Meeting:

Thursday, 11 January 2017,  
Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore,  
London SW7 2AR, 9:30am – 12pm

#### February General Meeting:

Thursday, 8 February 2017,  
Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore,  
London SW7 2AR, 9:30am – 12pm

#### March General Meeting:

Thursday, 1 March 2017,  
Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore,  
London SW7 2AR, 9:30am – 12pm

## American Women of Surrey (AWS)

The American Women of Surrey (AWS) is a not-for-profit club founded in 1975 to provide a welcoming atmosphere for expatriates and their families living in Surrey. Membership comprises a diverse and international group of women from many countries who get together frequently for social events and to help raise money for charity.

The club is tied to FAWCO, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas. AWS raises money for the philanthropic arm of FAWCO and for three charities based in the local area.

*The club is tied to FAWCO, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas. AWS raises money for the philanthropic arm of FAWCO and for three charities based in the local area.*

With many members having children of school age, the AWS year starts in September with a welcome coffee and thereafter monthly meetings. The meetings usually take place at an historic house or venue and throughout

the year interesting and varied speakers are invited to give a talk. A small number of local businesses are also invited to showcase their products and services.

Some AWS events are tied to a specific season. Just recently, in November, AWS held its 27th Annual Gift Fayre at ACS International School. With over 100 vendors and nearly 900 visitors, this is the club's largest annual fundraiser.

Each year in December AWS arranges a sparkling Christmas lunch at an exciting venue. This year it was a Gatsby themed affair at Shepperton Film Studios in Littleton Park House. Everyone was greeted with a glass of bubbly to the sound of jazz music in front of a roaring fire, followed by a three course Christmas lunch served in the dining room. An auction of gift baskets raised money for charity.

AWS has a wonderful selection of classes and activities to be involved in, where members can do things they enjoy or learn something new, but always whilst having fun and meeting new people. In fact, many make lifelong friends. The range of classes and activities includes: Mix & Mingle, Cookery classes, International Dining Club, Let's Go!, Art Appreciation, Running Club, Golf Club and Mod Maude. Most of these are self-explanatory, except Mod Maude!

Mod Maude takes a group of ladies on fabulous and exciting outings. Here is what one member had to say "I joined AWS 4 years ago and joined Mod Maude right away. Mod Maude is a hip girl who likes to go on trendy excursions in and around London. Our little "Maudie" puts together a diary of loads of fun outings...bike tours in and around Windsor Castle & Hampton Court, Speed Boat tours on the River Thames, Zip Lining in London, Jamie Oliver Cookery School classes, Dorking Antiques Tour, Sweet Tooth Tour in Belgravia, Glassblowing and lunch at The Clink Prison in Sutton, to name just a few...I love getting out, meeting new people and exploring places off the beaten path. Mod Maude has been the perfect match for me!"

Another popular activity is Let's Go!, which organises fun trips throughout the year to various European and worldwide destinations. Trips always involve some retail therapy, good food and good friends, new and old. This year, trips have been to Krakow, Malta, San Sebastian and the German Christmas Markets.

If you are new to Surrey and the UK you can find out more about AWS by visiting awsurrey.org or on Facebook at AWS International Group.

