



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB OF NYON

October 2024, Issue No. 332



Mark your Calendars

Coffee Morning	Thursday 10 October	Buvette de la Plage, Tannay
Art Outing: Cézanne and Renoir	Thursday 24 October	Gianadda Foundation, Martigny
Christmas Lunch	Thursday 12 December	Auberge Communale de Prangins

From the Editor

Dear Grapeviners,

So, autumn; we meet again. I hope that by the time you read this, there will be red and golden hues in the trees in this *season of mists and mellow fruitfulness* (Keats).

And what an amazing kick-off to the new Club year we had at the Activities Fair. I was chuffed to realise that I now know more people than I don't! I hope you agree that this month's cover reflects the fun we had, and the commitment of all our awesome Activity Leaders (see pp. 18–19).

Following my first *Grapevine*, thank you kind ladies for your thumbs up, which warmed the cockles of my heart. A tad fewer responses (one) came from members sharing what they'd like to see in the magazine. Does this mean I can retire?

I am pleased to announce that a stand-alone, comprehensive description of all IWCN activities will be available and regularly updated on the Club website (www.iwcn.ch) and issued to new members as from November. From then onwards, only activities

with specific information to convey for the month in question will be published in *The Grapevine*. For the October issue, only the first Activity Leader provided is listed. Thank you for your understanding.

A bientôt!
Kay
editor@iwcn.ch



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Welcome New Members!

Lindsay Moody

+41 78 224 49 14

lindsay.moody100@yahoo.co.uk

I was born in Scotland, grew up in South Africa and the Middle East and went to University in London studying Law. We have been living in Switzerland for 11 years. I am married and have 3 boys (13, 12 and 7) and a Husky cross named Yoyo. I worked in the pharmaceutical industry in the UK prior to moving here, which is where I met my husband. I enjoy cooking, walking and swimming and a bit of tennis. I look forward to participating in the Club, meeting new people and making new friends.



Laura Vanotti Heyden

+41 79 356 55 69

ch.heyden@bluewin.ch

I'm an economist from Italy who worked in Zurich for a while for UBS before travelling and living in many places in Switzerland. I then devoted my time to raising my two children (currently 23 and 27 years old). I now live in Arzier, and love nature, cooking, music and literature.



From the President

Dear Members,

It was a great pleasure to meet so many of you at our September Activities Fair and to exchange ideas over a coffee and croissant.

When I attended this event last year, as a new Club member, I was overwhelmed by the large number of activities and the enthusiasm of the Activity Leaders. Moreover, since taking up various sports and hobbies offered by the Club, I have experienced far more; a genuine feeling of sorority among women. I have witnessed members going out of their way to help those in need. This is truly refreshing and for this reason, the IWCN is indeed unique.

Last month, I mentioned that one of my key objectives was to increase the Club membership. I am delighted to report back that three potential members visited the Fair, liked what they saw and have asked to join. This is just the beginning of our campaign!

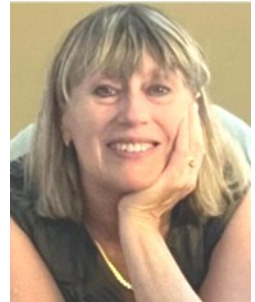
Nocturnal activities are definitely a must to attract working and busy women. The date for our first evening Nordic walk is Tuesday 15 October at 18h00. We will meet and warm up in front of the Colovray Sports Centre in Nyon. If you would like to join us, please contact me at susan.munns@bluewin.ch.

Talking about evening activities, I look forward to seeing many of you at the first Armchair Adventure of the season on The Dordogne on 5 November (see p. 6).

On a final note, I am pleased to announce that we have reserved the La Côte Anglican Church in Gingins for our annual carol concert. So get **Tuesday 3 December** in your busy diaries.

The service will start at 10h00 sharp.

Wishing you all a great October and lots of fun in your respective pursuits.



Coffee Morning

Thursday 10 October

9h00–11h00

Buvette de la Plage, Tannay

Please join us for coffee and croissants this month at the lakeside, 58 route de Suisse in Tannay. If we have good weather, they have a lovely terrasse, but there's plenty of space inside. Carpooling might be a good idea.

Meet your mates, welcome new ones, and bring along anyone you think would like to join our Club. For any information, please contact me on coffeecoordinator@iwc.ch.

See you there! Jackie Huber



*Cover photo: Camaraderie at the Fair
by Kay Bond*

 **L'Espérance**

Printer supporting the handicapped in Etoy

Registration and Payment for Club Events

To pay for a Club event, please make your payment via e-banking or the Multimat/Contomat in your bank or at UBS, by scanning the Club QR code below and including your name and the reason for payment.

If you are unable to scan the QR code, the Club bank details are:

UBS Bank Account Name: International Women's Club of Nyon

UBS Bank Account Number: 0228 - E0126365.0

SWIFT Number: UBSWCHZH80A

IBAN Number: CH39 00228 228E 0126 3650 (all numerical zeros)

If you need to make a cash payment at a UBS bank, please take a copy of the QR code with you to simplify the deposit. A simple cash payment over the counter does not allow us to identify the payment, so please help by also sending an email to treasurer@iwc.ch with the date you made the payment and if possible, the transaction reference number. Paying via the Post Office is no longer possible.



How to Post an Article in *The Grapevine* or *The Digest*

Contributions to *The Grapevine*

Please email information on **Activities** to Rose Lecoultré (activitiescoordinator@iwc.ch) and any other articles to Kay Bond (editor@iwc.ch). We welcome copies of your artistic work or photos for the front page, as well as articles of general interest to members, exciting events, useful tips, an unusual holiday experience, ideas for day trips in the area, etc. These all help to make *The Grapevine* more engaging to other members. The deadline for each issue is **the 10th of the month before the issue is printed**.

The Grapevine online: IWCN encourages you to protect the environment by using the online version of *The Grapevine*. You can download each issue at www.iwc.ch. Click on 'Member Login' and enter your email address and your unique password, then click 'Latest Grapevine'. For login problems, please contact the Editor or the Web Manager (webmanager@iwc.ch).

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

Advertising in *The Digest*

If you do not already receive *The Digest*, or wish to send an announcement, please contact *The Digest* Team on digest@iwc.ch.

Anyone wishing to advertise to IWCN members should also liaise with *The Digest* Team.

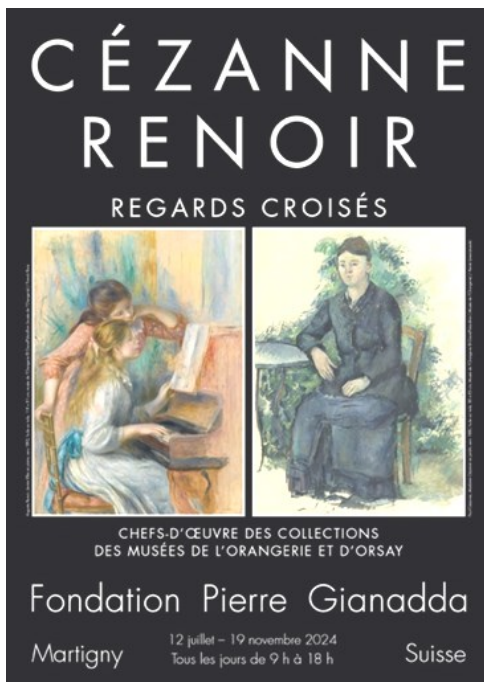
Club members' **personal** advertisements (bearing only the Club member's name) are free of charge. All advertisements selling single items at over CHF 1000, Club member **business** advertisements and **all non-member** advertisements cost CHF 35. A link to a website or to a photo in .jpg format can be included.

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.

The deadline for submissions is **Tuesday at noon**.

Forthcoming Events

Art Exhibition – Thursday 24 October Fondation Pierre Gianadda, Martigny



Please join us for an excursion to Martigny to see this excellent exhibition that highlights how both Cézanne and Renoir influenced painting in the early 20th century.

The romance of Renoir, reflected in his soft caressing touch and Cézanne's order and discipline can be found side by side in this rare display gathered from private collections and loans from the Musée d'Orsay.

Where: The Fondation Gianadda, rue du Forum 59, 1920 Martigny. We will meet at there at 11h00 and I will book a restaurant for 13h00 for those who want to join me for lunch.

If we have at least 10 participants, we can consider an English-speaking guide.

Entry Fee: CHF 20 for adults and CHF 18 for those aged over 60.

How to get there: One option is to take the train from Nyon at 8h43 which arrives in Martigny at 10h09. It is a 25 minute walk to the Foundation or you can take bus 201 at 10h38 which gets to the Foundation at 10h46. Carpooling is another option, leaving Signy Centre car park at around 9h45 (contribution to the driver CHF 18).

For more information and reservation, please contact: Tineke Elgersma at tineke.elgersma@gmail.com.

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 12 December

Join the fun and cheer at our Christmas Lunch at the Auberge Communale de Prangins in the centre of the village, with ample parking nearby.

The all-inclusive lunch costs CHF 67, which includes an aperitif, a three-course lunch, 1dl Swiss wine, mineral water, coffee/tea, and a tip for service. Any extras, e.g. more wine, to be paid for individually. The choice of menu (four options for both starter and main dish), details and deadlines for payment, will be posted in *The Digest*, and are available from Maura Murphy at maura.murphy@bluewin.ch.

Helen Morf
Special Events Coordinator
specialevents@iwc.ch



Advance Notice: Armchair Adventures

The Dordogne: from prehistoric to modern times

Tuesday 5 November

In the first adventure of the season, Pamela Harris will take us to the Dordogne region of south-west France and the river that runs through its heart. This is an area steeped in history, with cave paintings made by prehistoric man 30,000 years ago, Romanesque churches and abbeys, medieval towns with half-timbered houses, spectacular cliff-top castles fought over during the Hundred Years' War, and Renaissance-style châteaux with beautiful gardens.



Dordogne River at La Roque-Gageac



Weekly market at Sarlat



Château des Milandes



Fortified gateway at Domme

Venue: Salle communale,
Pinte, Bogis-Bossey (first floor).

2 chemin de la

Parking: There are very few parking spaces in the centre of the village, just a few in the Chemin du Levant behind the Salle communale, so we urge you to car-pool.

Time: Doors open at 17h30 for drinks and snacks; the talk begins at 18h00.

Donation: We request a small donation of CHF 5 to cover costs.

Limit: 40 participants, so please book your place early to avoid disappointment.

Contact: Please reply to armchairs@iwcen.ch only.

Advance Notice: Special Event

Two-day trip to Zurich

3–4 April 2025



We will take the train to Zurich on Thursday morning, 3 April, arriving in time for lunch at a very Italian trattoria with everything *fatto in casa*.

Our nearby hotel is located in the heart of the picturesque Old Town and richly decorated with paintings by famous Swiss painters Rudolf Koller and Heinz Blum. Heidi, the hotel cow, sports the old-town Zurich panorama as a body painting and welcomes all guests.

The programme is still being developed, but will include a walk round the Old Town with its many independent

shops in pretty cobbled streets, a stroll down the popular Bahnhofstrasse, as well as a visit to more quirky areas of the city such as the arches of the old railway viaduct.

We will also visit the city's police station for an unexpected feast for the eyes and then a more racy venue where the Dada movement began at the Cabaret Voltaire.



Gardens of the Villa Patumbah

Dinner will be at the Chuchi Restaurant in our hotel, famous for its Swiss specialities such as rösti and 10 different varieties of fondue.

The next day, we will explore the city further and possibly split into groups according to what participants would like to see. Lunch will be at the world's oldest vegetarian restaurant and its famous buffet offering over 100 enticing dishes.

In the afternoon we will travel down the lake (by bus or boat depending on the weather) to visit the Villa Patumbah and its beautiful gardens. There is also an option to visit the Lindt Home of Chocolate.

Numbers are limited so, if you are interested, please already sign up by sending an email to Alison Porri (alisonporri@gmail.com).

Bear in mind that Zurich is ranked the most expensive city in the world, which is obvious from hotel and restaurant prices.

More detailed information will be sent later to those interested.

Alison Porri



Zurich Old Town straddling the Limmat

A Bit of Humour: Do you Speak Franglais?

To rain cats and dogs



Why do the French say *it's raining ropes* to mean it's raining hard? Well, it dates from the 1700s and is based on 'retinal persistence'. Remember those little booklets where you flip through the pages and a series of fixed images become an illusion of movement, like in the cinema? So, when rain falls very hard, your brain no longer distinguishes the individual drops. What you see is a long stream of water ropes.

Pleuvoir des cordes



A piece of cake



One theory gives the controversial source of this idiom to the American creator of light verse, Ogden Nash* in *The Primrose Path* (1936 ed.)

*But Pinkley Pills have shown her how
To cure that steady ache.
Her picture's in the papers now,
And life's a piece of cake.*

* Nash is the American equivalent of Britain's Spike Milligan and his Silly Verse.

The French equivalent, *c'est un jeu d'enfant* (or *c'est du gâteau*), clearly means a task that is easy to accomplish, and requires no great effort or skill.

Un jeu d'enfant



To beat about the bush



From the 14th century proverb *one beats the bush, another takes the bird*. So if you're not **IN** the bush, but beating around it, you're hesitating, not getting the job done. See also *stop beating about the bush*, meaning *get on with it*.

In French, *tourner autour du pot* comes from those who circled around the casserole, hesitating until no-one could see them pinching a morsel.

Tourner autour du pot



To kill two birds with one stone

In olden times, it was virtually impossible to kill two birds with one stone, so considered a major feat. Today, the idiom has evolved to mean combining two different aims in one go, e.g. picking up the kids and shopping.



Faire d'une pierre deux coups

The French equivalent, *faire d'une pierre deux coups*, comes from the XVI century, meaning that throwing a stone can have a ricochet on another object.

Watch this space next month for more raining ropes...

Activities in October

We are always keen to welcome new activities, so please consider sharing your hobby or special skill with fellow IWCN members. If you are interested in heading up a new activity group, I would be happy to discuss your idea before it is advertised to all members.

Rose Lecoultré, Activities Coordinator

activitiescoordinator@iwcn.ch

Russian Intermediate **Monday weekly** **9h30–11h00**

We meet on Zoom or at the house of the group leader. For further information, contact:

Natalia Leontieva

078 625 97 89

fam.egberink@bluewin.ch

French Beginners **Monday weekly** **10h00–11h00**

Sessions will take place on Skype. If you are interested, contact:

Liz Bonelli

079 263 77 13

lizwyss@orange.fr

French Upper Intermediate **Monday weekly** **13h30 or 14h00**

This group has a good knowledge of French, and has fun improving their level. For more information, contact:

Dominique Thyssen

022 779 18 05

dodothyssen@hotmail.com

Monday Walkers **Monday weekly** **14h00**

A group of young-at-heart ladies who take a not-too-strenuous, 1½–2 hour walk every Monday afternoon. New walkers are always welcome. Walks this month are as follows: 7th—Isobel Shaw; 14th—Karen McKuster; 21st—Claire Wood; 28th—Christine Gregory. For more information, contact:

Jill Bolingbroke

0033 649 715 779

jillbolingbroke@gmail.com

Chinese Poem Appreciation **Monday monthly** **14h30–15h45**

You don't need a high level of Chinese to learn these poems, but be able to read Chinese phonics, recognise some basic Chinese vocabulary and have a little knowledge of Chinese. For more information, contact:

Deborah Cha

079 967 73 81

deborahmwcha@gmail.com

Writers' Corner **Monday monthly** **14h30–16h00**

If you enjoy writing, join us at the Coop Restaurant in Signy Centre. For any questions, contact:

Linda Revkin

linda.revkin@gmail.com

Nordic Walking **Tuesday weekly** **9h00–10h00**

We are always happy to welcome new members, and meet all year round at the Chésérèx School car park, generally finishing off with a drink in Chésérèx. For more information or details, contact:

Karen Robotham

079 595 29 24

karenrobotham@hotmail.com

Advanced Bridge **Tuesday weekly** **9h45–12h45**

For those with a good basic knowledge, we meet at the Everness Hotel & Resort in Chavannes-de-Bogis. We are a friendly, relaxed group who loves a serious game of bridge. For more information, contact:

Laura Kinahan

nefertari@bluewin.ch

Rummikub **Tuesday weekly** **14h00–16h00**

We will meet as usual at the Migros Restaurant at La Combe Centre in Nyon. To join us, contact me on:

Delia Cherix

delia@cherix.net

Gardening Groups **Tuesday fortnightly** **14h00–16h00**

Gardening Group 1 will meet only once, on **8 October**; Group 2 will meet on **8 and 22 October**.

Carmen Dominik (group 1)

carmen.dominik@gmail.com

Elise Jueni (group 2)

ejuni@bluewin.ch

Activities in October (cont.)

Bilingual Book Club **Tuesday monthly** **14h00**

Bring a book you've liked, in English or French, to help others discover potential books to read. We meet at the Everness Hotel & Resort, Chavannes-de-Bogis. For more information, contact:

Martine Jarraud 079 755 7818 marjarraud@bluewin.ch

French Conversation Advanced **Tuesday fortnightly** **14h00–15h30**

This class aims to build your confidence and fluency. For more information, contact:

Françoise Burley 0033 684 92 92 98 francoise.burley@wanadoo.fr

Mahjong **Tuesday weekly** **14h00–16h00**

This is a game of skill, strategy and a degree of chance. For more information, contact:

Myriam Peek 079 755 50 37 myriampeek@gmail.com

Nordic Walking evenings **Tuesday fortnightly** **18h00**

This new activity starts on 15 October. We will meet and warm up in front of the Colovray Sports Centre in Nyon. If you would like to join us, please contact me at:

Sue Munns susan.munns@bluewin.com

Thermal Bathers **Wednesday 9 October**

Hope you can join us for a relaxing and fun day at **Saillon-les-Bains**. A great destination but a slightly longer journey than usual. Check their website for details at www.bainsdesaillon.ch. Our meeting point will be Signy Centre car park, level 3, by the exit at 8h30. The journey takes 85–90 minutes. Each passenger is requested to pay her driver CHF 20. Entrance fee to the baths is CHF 29 (AVS: CHF 26). Approximately three hours in the pool followed by lunch in the spa complex. We aim to be back by 16h30. To sign up, please send me an email and let me know if you are willing to drive. This outing will be limited by the number of drivers available.

Joy Waelchli joy.waelchli@bluewin.ch

French Pre-Intermediate **Wednesday weekly** **9h30–11h30**

The goal is to progress with vocabulary and grammar. We meet at the Migros Restaurant, La Combe in Nyon. For more information, contact:

Rose Lecoultrre 079 856 62 17 lecoultrrose@hotmail.com

Genealogy **Wednesday fortnightly on Skype** **16h00–18h00**

Although we continue to meet on Skype, we'd be happy to have 'live' sessions to help anyone who'd like to sign up but isn't sure that their tech skills are up to it. If you'd like to participate in a meeting and are not already a contact for the Skype call, please email me before the date to set up the call.

Heather Pashley heather.pashley@hotmail.com

Cookery **Thursday monthly** **11h00**

This group offers you an introduction to international cuisine and a place to get together over a delicious lunch. For full details, contact:

Rosa Zufferey 079 109 50 80 rosa.zufferey@gmail.com

German Pre-Intermediate **Thursday weekly** **10h30–12h00**

This class offers an opportunity to improve your command of the written and spoken language. For more information, contact:

Barbara Egli 078 841 10 28 barbaraegli@gmail.com

English Conversation **Thursday weekly** **16h00–18h00**

This friendly group is for members whose mother tongue is not English and who wish to practise, improve and gain confidence. For more information, contact:

Patricia Brulant Crighton 022 960 51 55 patricia.brulant@bluewin.ch

Activities in October (cont.)

Stitchers

Thursday weekly

14h00–16h30

This group welcomes anyone who likes wielding a needle, be it crochet, knitting, embroidery or patchwork. For more information, contact:

Niki Low

079 211 19 03

nikilow1@gmail.com

Intermediate Tennis

Friday weekly

9h15–10h15

We plan indoor doubles at the Gland Tennis Club during school term, for fun rather than competition. For more information, contact:

Barbara Dufour

079 489 26 69

barbiejdufour@gmail.com

Friday Walkers

Friday weekly

9h30

Walks this month are planned as follows: 4 October—Rose Strebel / 11 October—Peta Tracey / 18 October—Christine Gregory / 25 October—Bianca Healy. For any other information, contact:

Claudie Wetzel

022 364 28 47

wetzel4@bluewin.ch

Morning Book Discussion

Friday monthly: 18 October

10h00

Long Island, our October novel by Colm Toibín, is about longings unfulfilled, even unrecognised. The silences in Eilis' life are thunderous and dangerous, and there's no one more deft than Toibín at giving them language. This is a gorgeous story of a woman alone in a marriage and the deepest bonds she rekindles on her return to the place and people she left behind to ways of living and loving she thought she'd lost.

Join me for discussion of this great new novel chez moi. As always, let me know if you plan to come.

Vreny Bessède

079 650 62 04

bessedefamily@bluewin.ch

Keen Readers

Friday monthly: 26 October

14h00

Our book for discussion this month is the historical novel by **Tan Twan Eng, House of Doors**. The novel, set in 1920s, centres around W. Somerset Maugham's visit to and travels in Malaysia. Maugham is one of the greatest writers of the early twentieth century, but in 1921 he is beleaguered by an unhappy marriage, ill-health and business interests that have gone badly awry. He is also struggling to write.

His friend Robert Hamlyn offers an escape in the Straits Settlements of Penang, where Robert's steely wife Lesley learns to see Willie as he is – a man who has no choice but to mask his true self. The House of Doors encompasses at-the-time risky interracial and homosexual love stories, a scandalous murder trial, and a paean to the art of transforming life experiences into literature.

Helen Carter will host the meeting. Please send her a text or an email at hel.carter@gmail.com if you wish to join in the discussion.

Nikki Harrison

nikkiharrison@bluewin.ch

Pétanque

Friday weekly

16h00–17h30

Come and join us on Friday afternoons at **Les Abériaux** in Prangins. Club members, husbands and partners welcome. If you'd like to be on the mailing list, please contact:

Gillian Bolingbroke

079 722 84 69

gbolingbroke@mac.com

Reading Shakespeare

every 4–6 weeks

16h00–17h30

The group reads a Shakespeare play or sonnet and meets to discuss it. Our next meeting will be at 15h00 on 28 October at Charly's Pub in Divonne to discuss *A Winter's Tale*. For more information, contact:

Ana Tièche

076 368 34 84

anatieche@hotmail.com

Activities in October (cont.)

Cryptic Crossword Club

Friday monthly: 18 October

14h30

The CCC enjoys an entertaining afternoon puzzling over a variety of cryptic clues before tackling two recent cryptic crosswords. Frustration and hilarity are assured. Let me know if you'd like to come along.

Teasers to try

- (1) Coffees he'd drunk in an irritated state (7,3)(3) The London Eye? (5,3)
(2) Unlikely winner of race tries too desperately (8)(4) Working alone like Captain Hook? (6-6)

Answers from September

Way of changing sides laid out in black and white? (5,8) Zebra crossing

Fed up as Sleeping Beauty was eventually? (12) Disenchanted

Better to enjoy an evening here? (6) Casino

Camera accessory left in zoo toilet (4,4) Zoom lens

Claire Wood

clairemwood@gmail.com

Vegan Activity

monthly

This activity is for members who would like to know more about vegan cooking, veganism in general or the vegan impact on the environment. We have no fixed place or day. If you are interested, please contact:

Ursula Klein

022 369 15 50 / 076 580 15 50

ursula_klein@bluewin.ch

Women on Their Own

fortnightly

We are a social group with the view to forming new friendships with ladies who are on their own for whatever reason. We meet on the first Saturday and the third Sunday every month. For information contact:

Doreen Knewstubb

021 801 63 33

d.knewstubb@bluewin.ch

Downhill Skiing

weekly during winter

10h00

On Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, depending on weather and snow conditions, I propose a ski outing to Col de la Faucille in the Jura, France. If you wish to join the group, please contact:

Sheila Fournier-Oakes

079 813 86 84

sfournier_oakes@hotmail.com

Cross-Country Skiing

winter

10h40

If a member of the group plans to ski, she sends out a message to the other members inviting anyone to join her. Isobel Shaw is happy to take beginners to Les Rousses and help them rent equipment and organise lessons. For more information, please contact:

Marie-Christine Masson

mcmasson27@gmail.com

Electric Biking

occasional

We are a group of enthusiastic e-bikers who enjoy exploring the local countryside, finding, wherever possible, bike and agricultural paths and quiet routes with no motorised vehicles. Rides are organised by members of the group throughout the year. For more information, please contact:

Pamela Grant

079 411 82 66

pamelagrانت@bluewin.ch

Happy Yodellers

fortnightly

14h00

Happy Yodellers meet on a Thursday or Friday at the Centre Forestier in Givrins. For any information, contact:

Ursula Klein

022 369 15 50 / 076 580 15 50

ursula_klein@bluewin.ch

Meet *The Grapevine* Printers!



Reception area

It was a beautiful afternoon when I arrived with President Sue for a tour of l'Espérance, an institution devoted to the inclusion of mentally handicapped persons into meaningful society. And what a treat we had! Sébastien Bertholet, who is our contact person for the preparation and distribution of *The Grapevine*, gave us a guided tour of the spacious campus, first established way back in 1872.

In addition to the printing atelier, others offer training and work experiences in the fields of pottery, textiles, carpentry, arts and crafts and gastronomy. Many other centres welcome beneficiaries with more complex needs. Some

produce mosaics, others work with animals and plants. Yet other centres cater to the needs of those with more socio-educational needs.



Pottery class products for sale



Weavers have their own loom



Woodwork shop with pictograms

Once a month, three young workers stop what they are doing to produce *The Grapevine*. Several tests are made to ensure the correct quality of the colour covers, then the remaining pages are printed en masse. One beneficiary is responsible for collating the single-sheet colour covers with the black-and-white content into a *Grapevine*; another takes care of folding the A3 pages in half; a third has expertise in stapling, before each *Grapevine* is hand-pressed and the outside edges guillotined. Currently, some 140 copies are then put in envelopes and mailed to Club members (with a surprising number sent abroad).



The Grapevine Team, joined by Sue Munns: Yaël Limat, Dani Santos Ribeiro, Miguel Pedrosa de Oliveira and Marc Chevalley (Maître socio-professionnel)



The Grapevine Team, with Keira Maradan

Meet *The Grapevine* Printers! (cont.)

However, the biggest client of the Polytech Espérance by far is the Swiss Postal Services. Of the 1 million copies of the Christmas Advent Calendar distributed each year, 50,000 are hand crafted in Etoy. This ensures six months of printing, folding, glueing and packaging for the Institution. So next time you see one in your letterbox, fill out that little request for a donation, you may well be keeping this worthy cause alive.



Yâël meticulously placing glue drops on the Advent Calendar

Communication and camaraderie are at the top of the agenda in the ateliers. But sometimes, the written word fails and so, in addition to the basic rules of the house, pictograms of emotions, of sign language, as well as photographs are at every corner, to aid those in need.

Recreation is also a vital part of daily life; outside is an inviting basketball pitch and in every atelier, one can find coffee lounges, jigsaw tables, and beautiful views over the apple orchards and the Jura beyond. Without forgetting the two restaurants run for and by the beneficiaries for lunch and the obligatory morning and afternoon breaks.



Everyone knows the sign language for holidays

The produce of the kilns, the looms, the logs, the beads and the feathers are all available to purchase in their dedicated shop. I treated myself to a hand-made greeting card, but I was more tempted by the beautifully soft scarves that Cillia helps to make. Luckily, I'll have another opportunity from 3–21 December, when l'Espérance has a stand at the Christmas Market for

institutions like l'Espérance at the place de la Palud in Lausanne. Organised by the Forum of CROEPI (association of institutions), it's a lovely idea for Christmas presents!



Every tiny bead has its place in this bracelet



*Marc et Sébastien,
Maîtres socio-professionnel*



Cillia taking a break from weaving to have a cuddle with Sue

This was a humbling, heart-warming visit, and will put a smile on my face each time I push SEND to have our *Grapevine* printed.

Text and photos: Kay Bond

Report on Activities

Chinese Poem Appreciation

The Chinese poem appreciation group members started their monthly gathering again this Club year to learn the new poems and practise the calligraphy.

Text and photos: Deborah Cha



L-R: Dias Lee, Léa Masin and Yanthi Dias



Friday Walkers

On 6 September, as the vines were in full bloom and the grapes would soon be harvested, Julie Capewell proposed a walk through the vineyards at Féchy using part of the 'Walk des Capites' (the little vineyard huts). There are information panels about the grapes, wine and the capites along the route.

Text and photos: Jean Mason Davids



Top, L-R: Sue Munns, Julie Capewell, Claire Wood, Virginia Walker, Annette Greene, Diane Budd

Centre: Stunning landscape over the vineyards and Lake Geneva
Bottom: Julie Capewell and Sue Munns leading the way towards Féchy

Report on Activities (cont.)

Vegan Activity

On 5 May, eight of us visited the take-away of Mme Kim in Morges for a Korean vegan lunch and were a bit disappointed by the food. But our vegan picnic on 28 June made up for it. Seven of us enjoyed a great lunch outside at the Centre Forestier in Givrins and we all agreed that our home-made food was more delicious than most restaurant food.

We took a break in July, as many of us were away or had visitors.

On 12 August, we visited Virginia Markus, a young animal activist, who five years ago opened a sanctuary for animals she saved from being slaughtered. Several friendly, big pigs and a few piglets greeted us and let us caress them. Pigs are very clean animals and their pens were absolutely spotless. They always do their business outside and although they love rolling in mud, it is to protect their delicate skin from the sun.

Some of the miniature pigs were shy and Virginia told us they needed time to learn to trust humans after having been treated badly. But they now live a happy, free life being looked after by her. She also saved some rabbits and a beautiful herd of cows and calves, as well as a flock of sheep which were spending the summer on an alp. The sanctuary is situated at 800m altitude in a very peaceful, beautiful setting. An old farmhouse and some stalls are part of it.

Virginia is a very courageous young woman who gives talks in schools and universities about animals and how we treat them. She has also written two books. If you would like to know more about her and her work, just Google: Virginia Markus.

On 26 August, we were invited by Susie Guignard to a pot-luck lunch in her beautiful garden. It was a feast of delicious vegan dishes prepared by eight of us, and we realised that pot-luck picnics or lunches were one of our favourite activities!

Ursula Klein



Pot-luck in Susie's garden

L-R: Jackie, Ursula, Rosa, Azra, Susie, Julie, Colette



Our picnic



The Sanctuary



L-R: Judy, Ursula, Susie, Eveline, Colette, Virginia

Report on Activities (cont.)

Happy Yodellers

After our first concert at the AGM on 14 May, some of us met on 14 June at our usual place in the forest above Givrins for yodelling followed by coffee and cakes. We decided to continue during the summer to take advantage of the nice weather.

On 2 July, we were again at the Centre Forestier above Givrins, this time joined by a guest, a potential future Club member. One of our accordion player friends sent us a new yodel on WhatsApp, this time from the French part of Switzerland, and we happily tried it and really liked it. It's also much easier for most of our yodellers to sing in French than in Swiss German!

On 16 July, we benefitted from the lovely weather and, after singing our Swiss German yodels, switched to the French one, before trying the yodel of the film 'The Sound of Music'; however, we found it was not an easy one to learn.

On 1 August, Swiss national day, some of us were at the 'Fête cantonale des Jeunesses campagnardes vaudoises (FVJC) Givrins' to enjoy the great concert of the famous yodelling group 'Oesch die Dritten', a treat that lasted 1 ½ hours under a big tent full of hundreds of enthusiastic yodelling fans.

After a break in August, we met for our first new Club year get-together and enjoyed some happy yodelling and lots of laughter.

Ursula Klein



Happy Yodellers' first concert at the IWCN AGM

L-R: Helen, Virginia, Claudie, Lynda, Jean, Marie-Claude, Ursula, Sue, Mireille and Silke

Accordionists: Judith and Edith

Golf

The IWCN golf ladies are back swinging their clubs after the summer heatwave, during which time various holidays and visitors reduced the number of participants. We welcome more players to finish off the season so don't hesitate to get in touch with the undersigned if you would like to join us until the end of October. We play on Mondays in one of the surrounding golf clubs.

Sue Williams

079 205 50 14

williamssueb208@gmail.com



L-R: Margot Denness, Corinne Penhale, Sue Williams, Jenny Fellay, Janni Engers

Photo: Maison Blanche waiter

Report on the Activities Fair

The annual Activities Fair on 10 September 2024 at the Colovray Sports Centre in Nyon was a huge success. Over 100 ladies signed up, which is possibly a Club record, and several potential new members were so pleased with what the IWCN had to offer, they vowed to enrol (three already have)!

Congratulations to Rose for organising this amazing opportunity to catch up with friends, sign up for activities and meet the new Board. Some 32 Activity Leaders explained their sports, leisure or interest groups, welcomed new recruits, and sometimes wished there were more days in the week! New activities were also proposed, including two more evening activities to attract working and busy ladies. The President introduced the new Board, who will toil resolutely over the next year – along with the teams – to ensure that members can enjoy the best of what our Club offers.

For myself, I'd like to thank my better half (Luc) and Deborah Keefer for their super selling skills, and my Club mates who donated their puzzles and jewellery. Together, we managed to swell the Club's charity account by nearly Sfr. 400. We are currently examining options for the charity donation, and I will report back on where your hard-earned cash will go in the next issue. We still have lots of lovely jewellery, so you may see Deborah and me at a forthcoming Club event with our little red till at the ready!

Text: Kay Bond

Photos: Kay Bond and Rose Lecoultre



L-R: Ana and Sue



The Helens (L-R: Carter/Morf)



L-R: Maggie and Sue



L-R: Joy, Beryl and Monika



Beverley, at the Stitchers' table

Report on the Activities Fair (cont.)



L-R: Rosa, Rose, Maggy, Sue



L-R: Heather with an interested member



L-R: Delia, Myriam



L-R: Aurianne, for yodelling or vegan?



L-R: Louise, Jean, Dinah, Heather



L-R: Nicola, Niki, Mary



L-R: Sabine, Lynda, Ursula



Martine's Bilingual Book Club



L-R: Deborah serving Moira



L-R: Karen getting advice from Deborah



Let's not forget the essentials!

This month's theme: 'My Switzerland'

The Photography Group, also known as 'The Shutterbugs', meets on a regular basis. While our abilities range from total beginners to experienced photographers, we all enjoy exploring the fascinating world of photography.

We have a monthly theme around which members submit a few photos for the group to judge and discuss at the following meeting. The favourites are published in *The Grapevine*.

Meetings are facilitated on a rotating roster by the members in their homes and the idea is to cover a wide range of photography topics. We also have an online Flickr photo gallery.

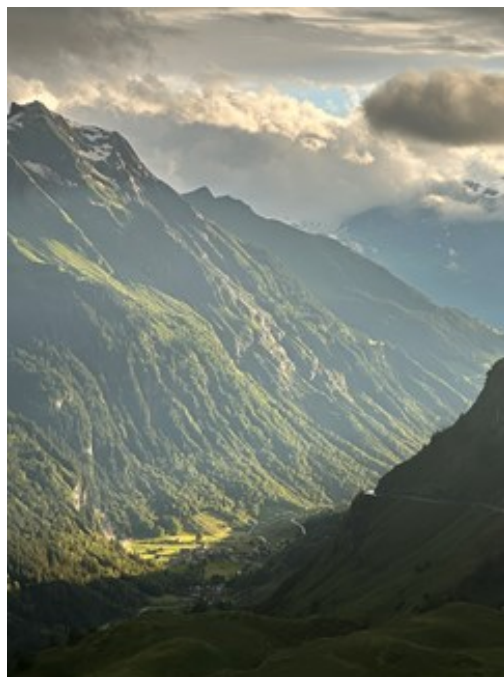
All photography enthusiasts and all types of cameras are welcome.

Tineke Elgersma

tineke.elgersma@gmail.com



Fairy Tale Swiss, Claudie Wetzel



Majestic mountains, Tineke Elgersma



Summerflow, Renu Chahil-Graf



Geneva's Gay Jet d'Eau, Jean Mason Davids