



CONNECTIONS

December 23 / January 2024

December

- 5 WOW – Women of the WORD 10am – 12noon
- 7 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON – 11am, Taplow House
- 8 LET'S GO – Christmas Carol walk, 11.15am
- 12 WOW – Women of the WORD 10am – 12noon
- 12 BOOK BUNCH – 12noon – 2.30pm
- 13 HIKING – 9.45am for 10am start, Hambleden
- 14 LET'S COOK – Maral Milne's House
- 18 LET'S GO – Christmas lights walk

January

- 4 BOARD MEETING - 10am-12noon
- 8 TENNIS – Dukes Wood GX
- 10 MORNING COFFEE – 10am, Beech House
- 11 **GENERAL MEETING** – 9:30am for 10am start.
Beaconsfield Golf Club, HP9 2UP
- 15 TENNIS – Dukes Wood GX
- 16 WOW – Women of the WORD 10am – 12noon
- 16 BOOK BUNCH – 12noon – 2.30pm
- 17 LET'S COOK – Saadia Baber's house
- 18 HIKING – 9.45am for 10am start
- 19 WATERCOLOUR PAINTING – 10am with Tracy Thorn
- 21 HIKING – 9.45am for 10am start
- 22 TENNIS – Dukes Wood GX
- 23 WOW – Women of the WORD 10am – 12noon
- 24 HIKING – 9.45am for 10am start
- 24 BUNCO – Evening dice game
- 29 TENNIS – Dukes Wood GX
- 30 WOW – Women of the WORD 10am – 12noon
- 31 EVENING DRINKS – 7pm, Beech House
- 31 HIKING – 9.45am for 10am start

Useful Club Links



Website
cawc.co.uk



Instagram
[cawc_international](https://www.instagram.com/cawc_international)



Twitter
[@cawc_intl](https://twitter.com/cawc_intl)



Facebook
[CAWCInternational](https://www.facebook.com/CAWCInternational)



YouTube
[CAWC TV](https://www.youtube.com/CAWC_TV)

Contact CAWCactivitiesuk@gmail.com for activity leader contact details, names listed below.

Activity Contacts: **TENNIS:** Michelle Egan, Maral Milne **GOLF:** Gitte Floodeen, **BAZAAR:** Kate Harman/ Robin Smirnov, **LUNCH BUNCH:** Allexia Griffiths, **HIKING:** Kathy Flake, **WOW:** Michelle Egan, **BOOK BUNCH:** Patti Dossett, **BUNCO:** Lety Wicks, **LET'S GO:** Daniela Matson, **MOVIE MADNESS:** Maral Milne

PRESIDENTS' WELCOME

Dear Ladies

Welcome to our double edition of Connections, covering both December 2023 and January 2024.

Wow, wasn't our 36th Annual Christmas Bazaar fabulous? A huge, heartfelt thank you to the amazing Bazaar Committee, led by the fab Co-Chairs Kate Harman and Robin Smirnov, who have yet again surpassed their marvellous efforts from previous years. You really do sprinkle some serious magic over this wonderful event!

As your Board, we are all so very proud of how the whole Club comes together to support the Bazaar Committee – your commitment, teamwork and positivity makes the whole event a pleasure to be part of from the lead-up activities to the efforts expended on the day. Thank you for the gift of your time.

Many thanks too for all the amazing sponsors, vendors and raffle prize donors you've introduced to the Club which helps us raise much-needed funds for Carers Bucks. I don't know about you but learning the final total raised at the Christmas lunch in the presence of representatives from our chosen charity is one of the high points of our Club year! I'm looking forward to seeing you there and celebrating together.

Check out all the club events and consider trying out an activity you haven't been to before as a new year's resolution that you know you'll keep! Kick off the year too with our first General Meeting of 2024 which will be held on Thursday, 11th January at Beaconsfield Golf Club, Farm Lane, Seer Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2UP. Join us at 9.30am for a 10am start to hear from the Oxygen Lifestyle Salon & Spa team sharing tips on Colour and Your Hair.

May I be the first to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season with your family and friends.

Best wishes,

Philippa Taylor
President

cawcpresidentuk@gmail.com



2023-24 General Meeting Dates

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL BE AT TWO DIFFERENT VENUES THIS CLUB YEAR SO WHY NOT MARK THE DATES & VENUES IN YOUR DIARY NOW?

February/March - Harewood Downs Golf Club, Cokes Ln, Nr Amersham HP8 4TA.

January/April - Beaconsfield Golf Club, Farm Ln, Seer Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2UP.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7th December - Christmas lunch, Taplow House Hotel, Berry Hill, Maidenhead SL6 0DA, from 11am (12:30pm lunch).

Thursday 11th January 2024 - Beaconsfield Golf Club, Farm Ln, Seer Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2UP. 9.30am for a 10am start.

Speaker - Oxygen Lifestyle Salon & Spa, Colour and Your Hair

Thursday 8th February 2024- Harewood Downs Golf Club, Cokes Ln, Nr Amersham HP8 4TA. 9.30am for a 10am start.

Speaker - Paul Wayne Gregory, Master Chocolatier. An introduction to indulgence + chocolate tasting

Thursday 14th March 2024 - Harewood Downs Golf Club, Cokes Ln, Nr Amersham HP8 4TA. 9.30am for a 10am start.

Speaker - Nicky Batt, Managing your emotions with colour .

Thursday 18th April 2024 - Beaconsfield Golf Club, Farm Ln, Seer Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2UP. 9.30am for a 10am start.

Speaker - Jenny Seagrove, actress and founder of her horse sanctuary. Mane Chance Sanctuary.

Tea party - venue tbc, Thursday 9th May 2024.

End of year celebration - venue tbc, Thursday 13th June 2024.

36th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our CAWC Charity Christmas Bazaar was an amazing day!!!

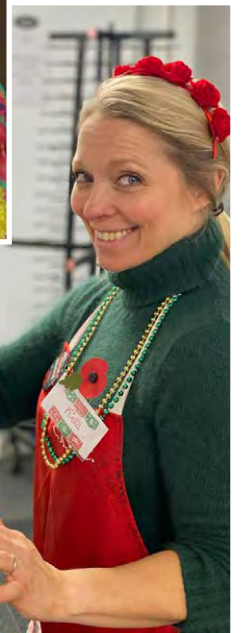
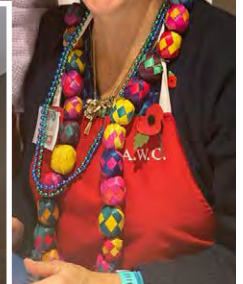
Our charity Carers Bucks were in attendance and they were so excited and grateful for all of our efforts! Our Bazaar ran smoothly thanks to our amazing Bazaar committee who are absolute superstars!

This year we had a fantastic response from all of the CAWC members and we had a wonderful amount of volunteers helping in the months leading up to the Bazaar and on Bazaar weekend. It's incredible when everyone comes together to support our charity but, most importantly - supports each other! This creates a magical feeling for everyone involved and we hope that existing friendships were strengthened and that many new friendships were made.

We will be announcing the total amount raised for our charity at the CAWC Christmas luncheon and you are NOT going to want to miss this announcement!

Thank you for all that you do. We greatly appreciate all of your time, donations, enthusiasm, skills, hard work and friendship!

CAWC Bazaar co-chairs:
Kate Harman and **Robin Smirnov**



ACTIVITIES

Welcome to our **December and January** ACTIVITIES!

Please make a note of these dates in your diaries so that you don't miss your favourites activities with friends.

Good news! We had 15 new members join at the Bazaar! That is incredible in one day so a huge thank you to Anita Wallace for her plan to keep growing the CAWC. See below full list of all new members.

For 2024, we have two new activities:

Painting with Tracy and **Let's Cook**, which is coordinated by Anita Wallace.

For the full calendar of activities, please see the first page of this newsletter or visit our webpage – <https://cawc.co.uk/activities-and-events>

Events are updated monthly.



Lety Wicks

cawcactivitiesuk@gmail.com

ACTIVITY LEADERS and Details

New (and returning!) for 2024!



Painting with Tracy

Welcome to my once-a-month **Watercolour Painting workshop** which will be held on every **3rd Friday** of the month, beginning on **19 January 2024**.

Here are some important details:

Time: 10am - 12pm

Open to 6 (max 8) persons.

More than happy to provide tea/coffee & biscuits.

Bring your apron if you wish and materials will be provided.

Address: Bega's Cottage, Green Lane, Farnham Common, Bucks, SL2 3SR.

Parking: You can park on Green Lane but sometimes it can be difficult to get a place...

However, there's a car park next to Sainsbury's or the car park in Burnham Beeches - both are payable.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2024!

Tracy Thorn



Let's Cook

We are delighted to announce the return of Let's Cook! Full details are posted on our FB page and are repeated here to make sure everyone has the details:

The premise of Let's Cook is very simple. Basically, a lady decides she wants to share a favourite recipe or recipes with a group of other ladies. The hostess chooses the date and time that suits her and invites the rest of the Let's Cook group to her house so they can watch her demonstrate, think Gordon Ramsay without all the swearing. Once the cooking has finished, sampling can begin. Typically, the session lasts about 1½ to 2 hours. It is on a first come, first served basis.

This group is organized solely through a WhatsApp group. If you would like to be added to the group, please let Anita know.

The first session of Let's Cook will take place at the home of Saadia Baber on Wednesday 17 January starting at 10.30am. Sheena has kindly offered a session in February, date to be confirmed.

Anita Wallace



ACTIVITY LEADERS and Details



Book Bunch

In November we met to discuss 'Demon Copperhead' by Barbara Kingsolver and welcomed a new member - Rita Logue.

It is a long book, with a somewhat depressing start, but those of us who had finished it felt that it was well worth continuing and that it did not seem too long. The parallels with David Copperfield are clear, and the thought that life should get better for Demon kept us going through a series of tragedies, twists of fate and some triumphs, to a hopeful ending.

It is a very well written and plotted book that in places is very harrowing, but it seems authentic and insightful and touches on many different aspects of life in a rural Appalachian community. Addiction and the fate of vulnerable children (and adults) are central themes, but there are multiple sub-threads that caused us to reflect on nature vs nurture, the differences between rural and city poverty, superheroes (and football) and what helped Demon to survive.

We also talked about the key roles played by some of the other characters and their appeal (or not), potential reasons why Demon's mother was an addict and whether we were sympathetic towards her. There is some interesting background in this Open Book programme. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001f4h9>

The average score was 4.5 out of 5 and we agreed that it is one of Kingsolver's best books.

Here are the proposed dates and reading for the next three meetings.

Please make a note and save the dates if possible.

- Tuesday Dec 12: 'Lessons in Chemistry' by Bonnie Garmus (and Xmas book exchange)
- Tuesday Jan 16: 'The Vanishing Half' by Brit Bennett
- Tuesday Feb 13: 'The Adivasi will not Dance' by Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar.



Patti Dossett

ACTIVITIES cont...



Bunco

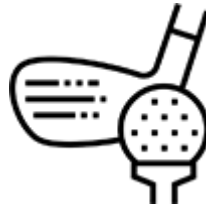
This is a fun dice game and all you need to bring is £5. We meet at the home of one of our members. Contact me if you want to be added in our WhatsApp group. Our next session is set for Weds 22 January 2024, 7 - 10pm.

Contact me (Lety Wicks) if you want to be added to our WhatsApp group.

Hope to see you then.



Lety Wicks



Golf

The CAWC Golf group will be taking a winter break from lessons as of December 1st.

I will reach out again in February to set our Spring lesson schedule.

For the new members, if you are interested to be added to this group and for more information, please contact me.



Gitte Floodeen



Hiking

This club's year, Kathy Flake is offering three hikes per month on average including one at the weekend.

Kathy will be sending reminders for all interested. For more information, please get in touch.



Kathy Flake

ACTIVITIES cont...



Ladies (and Gents), Grab Your Top Hats and Petticoats...

Join us for the 2nd Let's Go activity:

A GUIDED CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS CAROL & SEASONAL TRADITIONS WALK!

Prepare to step back in time to the wondrous world of Charles Dickens (and Victorian Christmases of long ago), where foggy cobblestone streets and stories of quirky characters await. This December, we cordially invite you to join us on a Dickensian adventure through the heart of London, where each corner holds a tale as rich and delightful as a Christmas pudding. This was where Dickens's imagination took wing and where the characters did their thing.

Expect to be whisked away by our spirited guide, who use Dickens' famous story A Christmas Carol as the route map and inspiration. Our guide will regale you with amusing anecdotes, curious curiosities, and perhaps a ghostly apparition or two (don't worry, they're quite friendly, really). From quirky pickpockets to lovable misers, Dickens' characters will come to life around every corner.

So, dust off your bonnets and shine those shoes, for a jolly good time is (hopefully) guaranteed! Tour should end in time for a late lunch (and some Christmas shopping and festive London enjoyment if you wish – why not make an evening of it!).

Email Daniela at cawcletsgo@gmail.com today to reserve your spot.

Payment details will be provided once we know how many people would like to join!

When: Friday 8 December

Start Time: 11.15am

Start Location: Tower Hill underground station (meet by the Tower Hill Tram coffee stand)

End Time: Approx 1.30pm

End Location: Across the street from St. Paul's Cathedral and St. Paul's Tube Stop.

Cost: £20 per person (minimum of 10, cost will go down per person if more than 10 people join).

We have already met the minimum so cost should be less than £20 per person.

Invite your friends! Spouses welcome too!

If you want to join this exciting Let's Go, please contact Daniela Matson at cawcletsgo@gmail.com



Daniela Matson



ACTIVITIES cont...



Let's Go has a second adventure in December...

We are excited to offer up an additional holiday excursion!

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WALKING TOUR

Explore the lights on a Private Walking Tour showcasing London's luxurious landmarks & glamorous surroundings.

The CAWC group will be shown the best, unique places to stop for photos to send your socials viral!

We will end the tour with a Festive Drink.

Date: Monday 18th December

Time: 4pm-8pm

Price: £25pp

Nearest Tube: Bond Street

Walking portion of the Tour (approx 2 hours)

Maximum of 12 people. CAWC members only.

First come, first served. Please private message me (not in the Whatsapp group please) or email me at cawcletsgo@gmail.com to reserve your place.

Many thanks & look forward to some Festive cheer



Daniela Matson

ACTIVITIES cont...



Lunch Bunch

This year the Lunch Bunch events will be held at the end of the General meetings when these are held at the Harewood Golf Club.

At other times there will be a notification as to where the gathering will be located. For more information, please contact me.



Alexia Griffiths



Movie Madness

This group meets once a month to watch together a film in the local area. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, or for more information, please let me know.



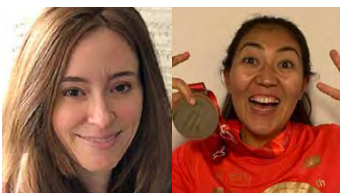
Maral Milne



Tennis

CAWC tennis takes place on Monday mornings at Dukes Wood Tennis Club in Gerrards Cross from 10am – 11.30 am. These are coached sessions, and our coach works us through warm-ups, drills and a small number of doubles play. Each term costs £152 (there are 3 terms a year that follow the English school calendar) and all players also need to be a member of the Dukes Wood Tennis Club which is about £300 a year.

If you are interested, please get in touch Michelle and Maral.



Michelle Egan and Maral Milne



WoW (Women of the Word)

This Bible study group happens every Tuesday morning, from 10am - noon, at the home of one of the members. If you would like to join this group or have more information, please contact me.



Michelle Egan

MEMBERSHIP and HOSPITALITY

Hello Ladies

Firstly, a very big welcome to seventeen (yes, seventeen!!!) new members:

PJ van Zetten

Glenys Parry Jones

Hilary-Rose Hendrix

Sharon Fleetwood-Law

Jennifer O'Neill

Susan Mason

Barbara Pavey

Nina Jaksic

Liz Mathis

Anne Hagger

Jacqueline Rogers

Sheryll Walker

Natasha Rints

Judith Marsh

Melz Hohindru

Diane Eaton

Lina Abdelhadi

Welcome to the CAWC.

We are always looking for new members so do please bring friends to the General Meetings and our events. Don't forget, at the General Meeting both you and your friend(s) will receive a **FREE** strip of raffle tickets **EACH!** If your friend joins the Club your name will go into the £1 prize Membership draw held at the end of the Club year. If you introduce two friends, your name will be entered twice, and so on.

Two welcome hospitality events have been organised for January 2024:

10.30am, Wednesday 10 January, The Beech House in Beaconsfield – Coffee morning

7 pm, Wednesday 31 January, The Beech House in Beaconsfield – Drinks evening

Everyone welcome. Feel free to just drop in or stay as long as you want. Whatever works for you.



Anita Wallace & Ali Oswald

Membership

cawcmembershipuk@gmail.com



PHILANTHROPY

It was lovely to have staff from Carers Bucks with us at the Bazaar and Beth says:

“Thank you to everyone who was involved with the Christmas Bazaar, the team really enjoyed helping out on the day, meeting lots of lovely people and talking to all of the vendors and of course sampling the delicious chilli and baked goods!”

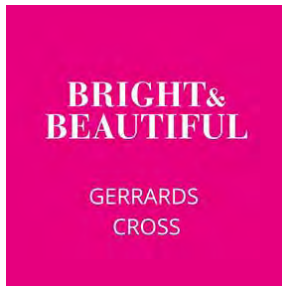
Our Young carers are very excited for their Christmas party in December which we will update you all on in the new year. We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and take the opportunity to thank you again for your ongoing support.”

We're looking forward to seeing them at the Christmas lunch where we will find out how much was raised.



Jenny Cookman
Philanthropy

OUR SPONSORS



**Bright & Beautiful
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[brightandbeautifulhome.com/
locations/gerrards-cross](http://brightandbeautifulhome.com/locations/gerrards-cross)



**Jenny Cookman
Travel Counsellors**
travelcounsellors.co.uk/jenny.cookman



K N Communications
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**Lucy Badham
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Dental Centre**
gxdentist.co.uk



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Platformation
platformation.global



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