

IWC International Women's Club South Limburg



Volume 42, Issue 4
December 2025
January 2026

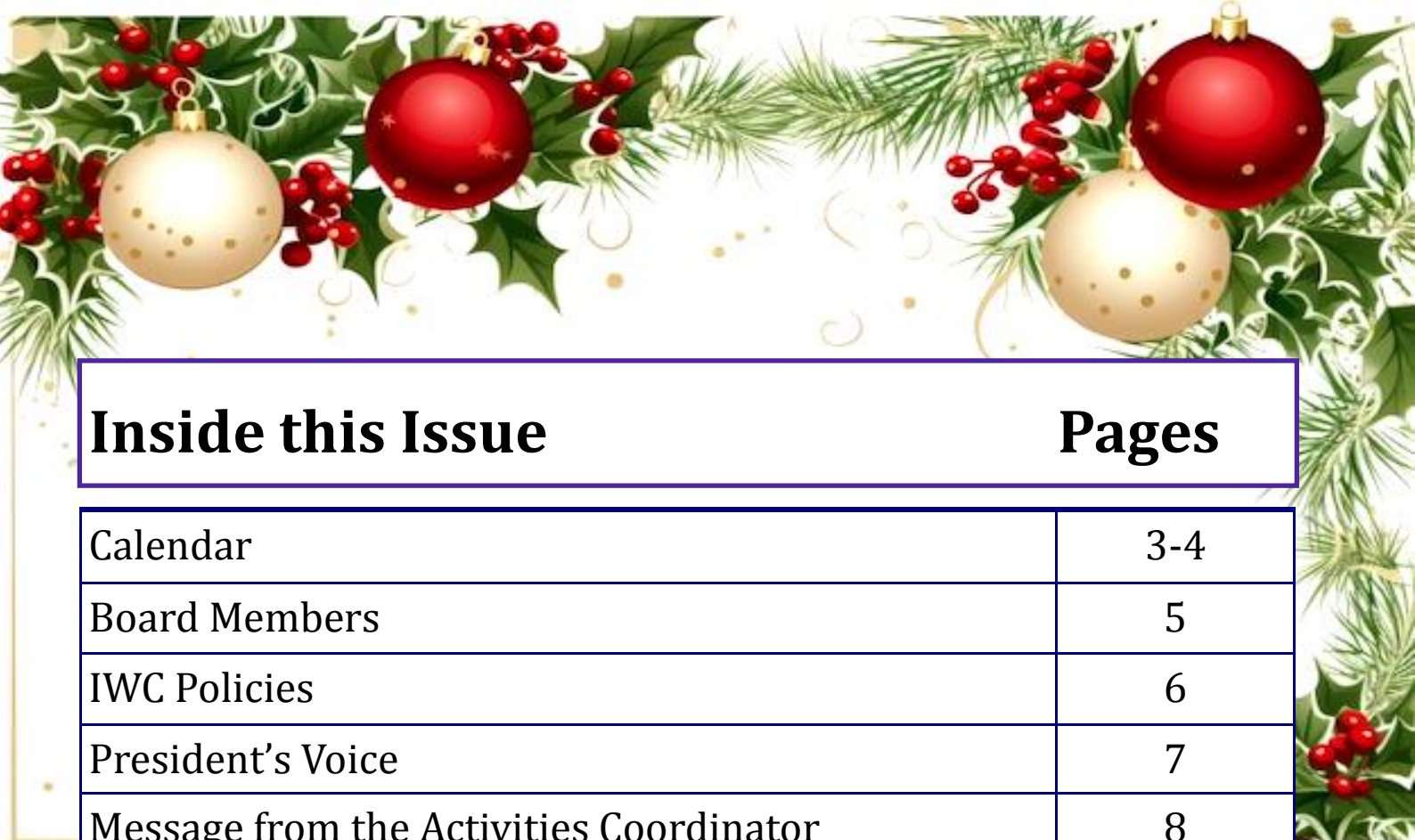


Photo: Neethu

“Women connecting the World”

Bringing together women of all nationalities living in the area of South Limburg, promoting friendship, sharing mutual interests and extending support and information to newcomers.

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15 <i>Book Group</i> Meet at Diane's.	16	17	18 <i>Dutchesses</i> Meet at Preps in Randwijk at 14:30.	19 <i>Knitting Group</i> Meet at Fazaeh.	20	21
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29	30	31 	<p><i>Saturday, 13th December</i> <i>Christmas Lunch—Crowne Plaza Hotel.</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday, 21st January</i> <i>New Year Welcome at Connect 5 at 19:30</i></p>			



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;"> <p><u>Wednesday, 21st January</u> <u>New Year Welcome at Connect 5 at 19:30</u></p> </div>			<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 <u>Group G</u> Visit to Valkenburg Museum.</p>
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Board Members

President

Ann Boddé



ac.bodde@xs4all.nl

Vice President

Mary D'Lazarus



editoraiwc@gmail.com

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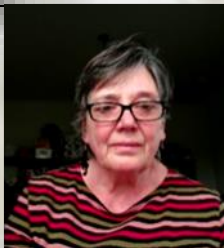
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jenniemeads@gmail.com

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Melanie Murray



secretary@iwc-sl.nl

Welcome Chair

Mary-Martha Bahn



welcome@iwc-sl.nl

Activities Coordinators

Sam Welie



activities@iwc-sl.nl

Newsletter Editor

Mary D'Lazarus

editoraiwc@gmail.com

IWC South Limburg : Privacy Policy

Please read carefully before renewing your membership

This page is relevant both for those applying for membership and for existing members.

According to the GDPR rules we have to respect your privacy with an official statement detailing how we deal with the information you provide.

This page also explains what you have to be aware of when it comes to the use of photos and information on our website and our social media platforms.

When you apply for membership we store the information you supply in a database hosted by wordpress on an EU server. We ask for the information on the application form in order to ensure you are eligible for membership, that we can accommodate your interests in the best possible way and to further contacts between our members.

We endeavour to delete member data when you leave the club, but we may keep some information for statistical purpose and to help the process should you return to South Limburg at a later point and reapply for membership.

The membership director stores a list of members on a local computer.

The editor of the IWC is also responsible for the Membership Directory leaflet. In the production of this, your data and pictures may be shared internally, and with the printer. Unless we have been otherwise informed in writing, your data will appear in this leaflet and where it may be available online, accessible to members only.

The treasurer stores information about the members in order to able to charge membership fees and control payments. This is also done on a local computer.

The pictures used on our website are approved for use by people in the pictures. Those pictures are static and not changed often.

Pictures and information in the Facebook group are only available to members. We cannot guarantee where Facebook stores this information, but it is probably not limited to EU.

Both the IWC photographer and members themselves take pictures of people and post them on the closed Facebook group. Some pictures may be used other places to promote club activities. If you do not want your picture taken, please inform the person taking the photographs that you do not want to be in the picture.

Being a member you accept this use of your information.

If you have any doubts or you do not agree with our privacy policy we suggest you email us to:

info@iwc-sl.nl

IWC South Limburg



President's Voice

Ann Boddé

What a month November has been. Weather wise we've had almost everything thrown at us - sunshine, Rain, Hail and Snow. Welcome to Winter!

The Winter Fair was a big success despite the cold snap and a flurry of snow to end the evening on.

It was a musical evening for the charity with live entertainment in the form of lots of carols and guitar playing from the Mission Sisters of Saint Peter Claver and Friends on the night.

I would like to say a huge thank you for all the separate and the very generous donations made on the night and in the last week. You know who you are ladies - thank you!

A huge thank you also to those who donated goods for re gifting table, books, baking goods and bought copious amounts of raffle tickets that made this event a success. These events rely on the members participating, donating, baking and attending and we are very grateful for all the marvellous support you give.

I'd also like to offer a huge round of applause for our helpers on the night - Martha Tuninga, Silvia Frigo, Brenda Wall, Alison Brett, Resy Snyders and Hilary Thomas Oliver, and of course to the board members who tirelessly get stuck in in all weathers. Thank you very much ladies. We could not have done any of this without all your help, goods, baking skills and donations. We took around 750 Euros as a result of the fair.

This week we were warmly welcomed by the Armenian Church Surp Karpet congregation particularly by Anait Ovespian in Maastricht for a tour of the church and lunch.

What a special and interesting afternoon we had, the Armenian ladies had made some typical dishes of Armenia and we had lots of fun discussing the differences in church, state, food and other cultural difference. We were made so very welcome and treated to some wonderful cuisine.

So today I'm packing because tomorrow I'll be travelling to the UK to celebrate a 90th birthday with friends and visit family. There is a certain excitement about getting ready to travel. At least for me.

However, I will be home (Limburg that needed clarifying, I believe) in time for the Group C and D Christmas pot luck lunch at my home on the 4th December and of course look forward to celebrating the season of goodwill at the Christmas lunch this year on 13th December.

So see you at the Christmas Lunch and if not the board and myself wish all our members

A wonderfully peaceful Christmas and a healthy prosperous New Year for 2026.

Please remember this newsletter is for December and January.

Merry Christmas to all our beautiful ladies!

Ann



Message from Activities Coordinator

Sam Welie



I do so admire the talent and creativity of many of our members. There was such a variety of products on sale at the Winter Fair at 't Keerhoes this month. And it was also a very enjoyable social time. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend in spite of the cold and rainy weather, and even snow! But it was after all, a *Winter Fair*.

Although I must admit, many of the trees don't seem to realise that, but by the Hoge Brug on the Stadspark side there is a cherry coming into flower, and the chestnut has sticky buds already. Signs of the spring to come.

So, we will rush on apace to Sinterklaas and Christmas. We don't have an evening meeting in December, but we will have the Christmas lunch on **Saturday December 13th at Crowne Plaza hotel**. Numbers are required by **DECEMBER 2ND!!!**

We had a big celebration in the summer, and several ladies find an evening event in the winter too difficult. So, we decided to change things around this year.

There will be a three-course hot buffet lunch with coffee/tea and drinks included. The cost is €40 a head, and it is for members (and potential members) only. Please let me know of any dietary needs beforehand. We have already requested vegetarian options (but approximately how many would be a useful guide) and gluten/lactose free.

We would like everyone who wants to come to bring a ***wrapped present***, costing no more than €5. It will then be a lucky dip as to what you receive from our (invisible, of course) **Secret Santa**.

Parking is easy, either on the street or in the Q-park parking area but must be paid for.

On January 21st we are planning to visit **Connect 5 in Meerssen**. Just a social welcome back evening as so often at the beginning of the year. *Please register to attend by transferring €5 to the IWC account.*

The train station is not far away, and parking is convenient. There is a new system, so you need to check you aren't parking in the flitsparking area. But the parking area between Kuileneindestraat and Gasthuisstraat which is the most convenient, is free after 18.00 hrs in the evening.

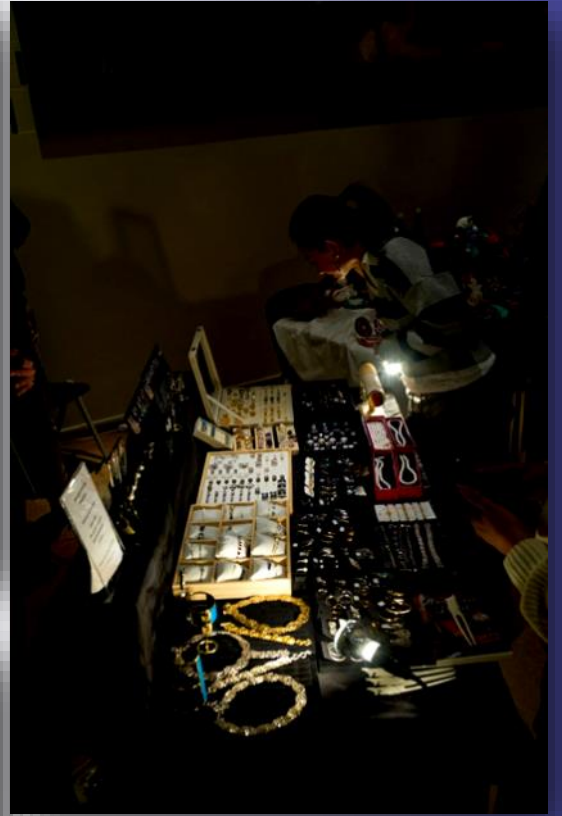
So for those of you I won't see before 2026, enjoy your holidays, and come back healthy and happy for a new round of IWC activities (ideas and suggestions are always welcome – in writing please, as I am likely to forget who to check back with otherwise).

Sam

NOVEMBER WINTER FAIR



NOVEMBER WINTER FAIR



NOVEMBER WINTER FAIR



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Group Coordinators for Groups A&B and the German Group

The Coordinator positions for Groups A&B and the German Group is still vacant.

Please contact Silvina at silvinalom@gmail.com if you are interested to take over these vacant positions.

New Membership fees from September 2025

Membership fee for the year September to August is €50.

New Members - For the first year of membership in the IWC, you should pay the following amount, depending on the month you join:

Sep-Dec: €50 EUR (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€57 EUR**)

Jan-April: **€35 EUR** (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€42 EUR**)

May-Aug: **€20 EUR** (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€27 EUR**)

After the first year, the Club fees are €50 per year (September through August) – **payable no later than 1st October of each year**. Re-joiners and new members pay 57 euros due to administration fees. Re-joiners will have to submit a new application form. Club fees can be paid only via ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Int. Women's Club Limburg:

Account Number IBAN Number: NL32ABNA0490106064; BIC: ABNANL2A.

Be sure to indicate your name, especially if the bank account is in the name of someone else (e.g. your partner).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Message from the Welcome Chair

Dear club members, as I related at the AGM in May, **YOU** are the main source of new members joining the club. Thank you so much! That trend is continuing, with a number of member referrals already this club year.

Several of you have asked how to go about referring someone to the club, so I thought I would lay out the process we typically go through.

If someone is interested in joining the club, please give them my name and email contact, and/or ask them if you can share their name and email with me. If they agree, send me a WhatsApp or email with their contact info and I will reach out to them. I will invite them to an upcoming Welcome Coffee or Fun Friday drinks where they can learn more about the club and see if they feel we are a good fit for them.

You may also simply bring them to a Welcome Coffee, though I appreciate a heads up that you are coming. The date and location of the Welcome Coffee is published in the Newsletter each month, and on the FB Welcome Page.

Once someone indicates they want to join, I ask them to complete the Application Form found on our Welcome Page (jwc-sl.nl/join-the-club/) and pay the dues. Once we receive both their application and dues. I send them an official Welcome email with information about their area group and a copy of the most recent newsletter. Their group coordinator is copied on the Welcome email as well. They will be listed in the next Newsletter, along with their photo if they provide one.

We have a fantastic club thanks to all of you...keep those referrals coming and let me know if you have any questions.

Mary-Martha

Message from the Welcome Chair

The 2025-26 club year is off to a good start, with 11 new members so far - many referrals from current members. I hope you all have met some of these new ladies and are doing your best to welcome them into the club.

I hope to see some of you at one of the Welcome Coffees in the coming year.

Mary Martha

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Coffee

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S
CLUB - SOUTH LIMBURG

Wednesday 3 December, 2025
and/or

Thursday 8 January, 2026

10:30 - 12 noon

Cafe Zuid, Plein 1992, Maastricht

RSVP to welcome@iwc-sl.nl

*New Year
New Friends*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for

3 course hot buffet

CHRISTMAS

★ **LUNCH** ★

Saturday 13th December

12.30 PM

€ 40 p.p.

**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
MAASTRICHT**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy
New Year

Another year...

...and another round of opportunities.
The new year is young, so let's celebrate.

Please register to attend
(transfer €5 to IWC account)

Connect 5, Markt 5, Meerssen

January 21st - 19.30 hrs

2026

OPEN DOOR



As the Open Door Coordinators connect with other Sister Cubs, you may remember that in September 2023 we hosted a small group of members from the IWC BERLIN Club. This special connection has resulted in being invited for a return visit to Berlin in 2026. So *here we go:*

BERLIN TRIP MAY 2026:

Tuesday, 19 May to Saturday, 23 May 2026, travelling by train from Aachen or Geilenkirchen.

This will give us 3 full days of sightseeing etc. in (Greater) Berlin and perhaps Potsdam, involving a 4-night stay. The Berlin Sister Club are creating an opportunity to meet up with a few members during a Business Lunch on one of the days.

Expenses:

TRAIN: 2nd-class return trip p.p. (ICE, + part Regional train) in Germany, **non-flex**, between €95 and upwards. It is more expensive the closer to the date you buy a ticket online. The intention is to book your own ticket no later than the end of March.

HOTEL: Again, the sooner you book this (preferably also no later than 28 March 2026) the better the rate. And this will also depend on whether you wish to have a single room or are willing to share a room. Further advice on hotel district will follow for those interested.

So far a few of our members have already indicated an interest in going. If more of you are considering joining, **do email me before 11 December** so that further arrangements can be planned in January.

Let's get this trip on the road

Best wishes,

Resy Snyder Open Door Coordinator IWC-S.L.

tsnyders@planet.nl

Resy Snyders
International Coordinator
Email: opendoor.iwcsl@gmail.com



Monika Firmanty is a Polish and Dutch national living in Belgium. She runs her own business in the shipping and logistics sector — a field she says has taught her a lot about independence, responsibility, and finding solutions even in the most chaotic moments.

Besides business, she has many passions that keep her inspired — she absolutely loves biology and science, and is also deeply interested in makeup trends, feminine styling and how women express their identity through beauty and fashion. It might sound like two different worlds she feels, but for her they're both about curiosity and confidence.

Monika is really looking forward to getting to know the IWC members, learning from their experiences, and hopefully sharing something valuable from hers as well. She speaks Polish, German and English.

Monika joins Group I.

Members Left

Faye Vohra

Dawn Wint

Larysa Kravchuk

Laura Chaushev

Andreia Costa

Luisine Ayrunts

Bhagirathy Jhingran

Leilani

Joanna Kils

Annalisa Babbin

Christine Aulenbacher

Claudia Campagna

Emma Newbury

Group Activities

Groups A & B

Members living in Beek, Born, Doenrade, Einighausen, Elsloo, Geleen, Geulle, Munstergeleen, Oirsbeek, Puth, Sittard, Susteren, Urmond, Bunde, Meerssen, and Ulestraten.

Any activities planned for this group will be communicated via email and Facebook.

Silvina

**Coordinator:
Groups A & B**

TBD

Groups C & D

Members living in Berg en Terblijt, Brunssum, Heerlen, Hoensbroek, Houthem, Kerkrade, Klimmen, Landgraaf, Schin op Geul, Aachen, Banholt, Bemelen, Cadier en Keer, Eckelrade, Eys, Gulpen, Ingber, Margraten, Mechelen, Mheer and St. Geertruid.

Hello Ladies,

On December 4th I'd like to invite Groups C and D for a Christmas potluck lunch at my home.

Please let me know if you can join.

Warmest regards

Ann

**Coordinator:
Groups C & D**

Ann Boddé
ac.bodde@xs4all.nl

Group E

Members living in Maastricht with postal codes 6213 to 6219.

Ladies,

Irene Suilen is hosting a coffee at her home on January 20th at 14:30. She can accommodate up to 10 guests.

Please RSVP via WhatsApp (+31 6 40743277) before January 10th if you would like to attend.

Thanks

Hilary

**Coordinator:
Group E**

Hilary Thomas Oliver
spentpenny@gmail.com

Group F

Maastricht with postal codes 6111 – 6212 (City Centre, St. Pietersberg).

Christmas potluck at Ineke

When: Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:30pm.

For: 8 persons maximum.

Registration/more details: please contact Christèle.

January potluck at Christèle

When: Monday, 26th or Tuesday, 27th at 6:30 - exact date to be communicated on the WhatsApp Group F beginning of December.

For: 8 persons maximum.

Christèle



**Coordinator:
Group F**

Christele Bouyer
christelebouyer@hotmail.com



GROUP ACTIVITY PHOTOS



GROUP ACTIVITY PHOTOS



Group G

Members living in Maastricht with postal codes 6221 to 6224 and 6229,

Hello Ladies,

No activities have been planned for December but please take the opportunity to join the Christmas lunch on Saturday, 13th December.

On Sunday afternoon 4th January there will be a visit to Museum Valkenburg, Grotestraat Centrum 31, 6301 CW Valkenburg. This is open to all members who wish to join.
Entrance €10:incl. coffee/tea; free with museum pass.

Exhibition: Archeological finds from Valkenburg & surroundings, paintings from Charles Quadvlieg, 1823-1874. Born in nearby Valkenburg, worked in Rome where he became well known for his historical & genre paintings.

Please contact H el ene for travel details by sending a message to hvankerkoerle@hotmail.com.

Probably we will travel by bus (nr.8) from Maastricht (railway station, Koningsplein plus other stops) to Valkenburg; 1/2 hour journey).

**Coordinator
Group G**
H el ene van Kerkoerle
hvankerkoerle@hotmail.com

Group H

Members living in Maastricht with postal codes 6225—6228, Eijsden, Mesch and Gronsveld.

Hi Ladies,

No activities have been planned for December but please feel free to join activities organised by other groups.

For January, any activities planned will be communicated via Facebook and per email.

My email is: ceciliaphx2@hotmail.com

Best wishes

Cecilia

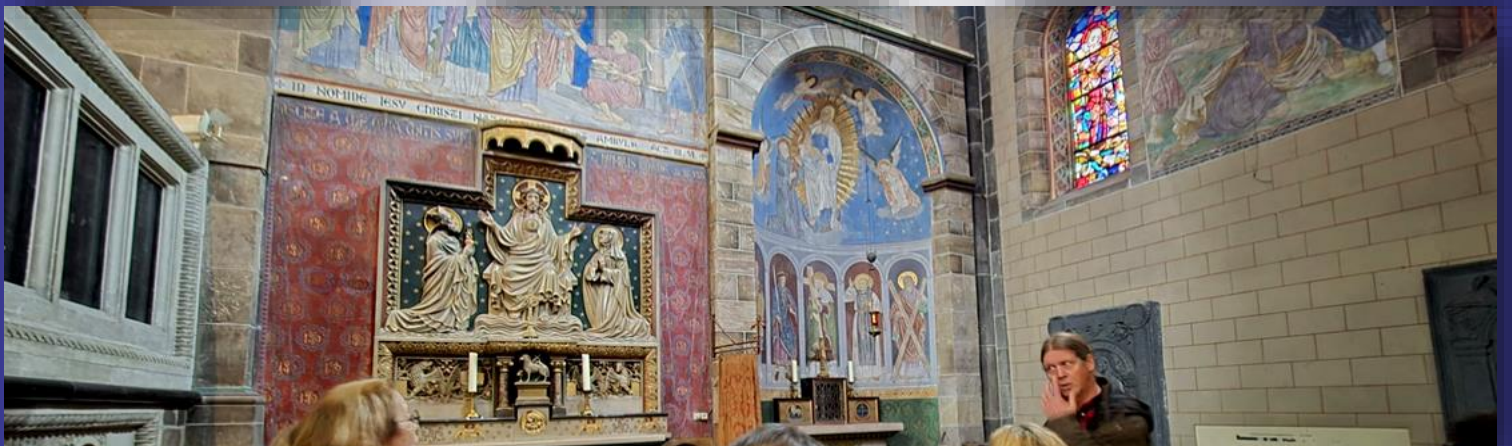


**Coordinator
Group H**
Cecilia Rivas Aragon
ceciliaphx2@hotmail.com

GROUP ACTIVITY PHOTOS



GROUP ACTIVITY PHOTOS



GROUP ACTIVITY PHOTOS



Group I

Members living in Belgium

For December I encourage you to join our Christmas event which this year exceptionally is a lunch at the Crowne Plaza hotel on Saturday, December 13th.

For January Agnieska has offered to host a potluck lunch.
More info will come soon via email.
Stay tuned.

Thanks for all your support - enjoy the festivities and have a great 2026 for you and your loves ones♡♡♡

Happy season♡ from Silvina!

Contact:
Silvina Lombardo de
Weisner
silvinalom@gmail.com

Advertisements

ARAGON SPANISH LESSONS IN EIJSDEN

Do you want to learn or practice Spanish?

Certified teacher with more than 20 years of experience.

Cecilia Rivas Aragón

+31623152435

ceciliaphx2@hotmail.com

LEARNING DUTCH

Dutch for expats, all levels.

Days to be arranged.

Yvonne Westerhof, a Dutch Foreign Language teacher,

043 3 26 26 09

yvonnewesterhof@gmail.com

Would you like to drink a cup of coffee and chat in English?

25 Euros an hour. Let's have a fun afternoon!
Gail 06 517 99590

Gail Howard

conversationswithgail.com

conversationswithgail@gmail.com

PORTUGUESE

Individual or group lessons. All levels. University graduated teacher.

Otilia Ramos

www.portugese-les.com

otiliaramos@gmail.com



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Advertisements

Music Lessons Maastricht

Viola  *Violin*
and other stringed instruments

QuentinThomas-Oliver

+31 6 21863853

QuentinThomasOliver@gmail.com



Interest Groups

Patchwork and Quilting



Dear Members,

Isn't it time you started thinking of joining the quilting group?

Probably most of you would appreciate a nice quilt on your bed or couch to keep you warm this winter, a quilt to give to your child on leaving the house, a small baby quilt for your sister's or friend's baby. Or a decoration for your wall. Perhaps smaller items as a special birthday present or something for your breakfast table. Why not give it a try?

It's fun, you're in a nice group and the end product is always worth your while!

You're very good at sewing? That's ever better!

Not very good at sewing? That's not a problem, there is plenty of help around. So give it a try - join us!

Thank you for cooperating!

A'mieke*   

Contact:

Annemieke Beurskens
04 54 05 31 13

annemiekebeurskens@gmail.com

Knitting Group



This is a small friendly group which meets on the third Friday of the month. New members always welcome.

We hope to meet twice in December. On 12th December we will meet at Dadawan and on 19th December Fazaeh is hosting a lunch for us.

Any info please contact Jennie on 0621 855855.

Please keep an eye on our WhatsApp group for further details. Anyone not on the group can contact Jennie on jenniemeads@gmail.com.

Jennie



Contact:

Jennie Meadows
06 21 85 58 55

jenniemeads@gmail.com

What's Cooking



Every session will be announced by mail to the existing distribution list. If you are new or you wish to be part of the group, please send Golnar a mail to her email:
g.motaharipour@yahoo.com

Contact:

Golnar Motaharipour
g.motaharipour@yahoo.com

Photography Group



Any plans for a photography session will be communicated via Facebook.

Best wishes,

Chris

Christina Corwin
650.787.8296
chris.corwin@mac.com

Coordinator
Chris Corwin
Chris.corwin@mac.com

WHAT'S COOKING PHOTOS



WHAT'S COOKING PHOTOS



Photos: Connie



Dutchesses



The next Dutchesses will be meeting on **18th December at 14.30 hrs at Preps in Randwyck**. It is where the ApartHotel entrance used to be, across from Medtronic's Bakken Research Centre and very near Randwyck station.

There is also a Preps on Mariastraat, so don't get confused.

All levels of Dutch are welcome. If you want more info or to join the whatsapp group, please get in touch.

Sam

Contact:
Sam Welie
s.welie42@gmail.com

Central and Eastern Europe Group



Dear Ladies,

I wish you happy holidays and prosperous New Year 2026.

Agnieszka



Contact:
Agnieszka Oweibo
agnes.o@hotmail.com

Spanish Book Group



Hola mis chicas lectoras!

Espero que tengan un excelente festejo que el 2026 traiga buenisimos momentos con salud y amigas.

Nuestro proximo encuentro:

9 de enero 1330 Lugar: casa de Patricia
Confirmen con ella presencia por favor!
Patricia Heinen <patriciaheinen@yahoo.com>



Libro como me hice monja
Cesar Airia

Buena lectura,
Happy reading,

Contact:
Maria José

grupohispanodelectura@gmail.com

Bird Watching Group

Some winter thrushes to look out for

Fieldfare



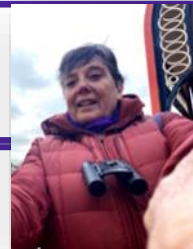
Here are some birds to look out for now that we are heading into winter. You have probably seen or heard the familiar sound of the song thrush and maybe the mistle thrush as well. The two thrushes pictured above are not resident all year round and have flown south for the winter from Scandinavia and Northern Europe. They are winter visitors in both the UK and the Netherlands, they do not usually nest here or have chicks.

On the left is a fieldfare or *kramsvogel* in Dutch, and on the right is a redwing (*koperwiek*)

The redwings are often in flocks on the ground feeding. If you manage to spot one (look for the pale eyestripe and the red colour on the wing) take a closer look, there are probably lots more on the ground among the fallen leaves. They are quite shy, and the flock will take off if they are disturbed. They migrate at night and make a high-pitched squeaky sound as they fly. I recently heard some while waiting for a bus near Maastricht railway station, despite all the noise and busyness there.

The fieldfares might be roosting near the top of a tree. So, if you do spot a thrush, take a closer look to see if it is a fieldfare with a grey head and orange breast. We saw some recently whilst out doing a bird count at with Vogelwerkgroep Maastricht near Eijsden. We count all the birds along the Maas during the winter for SOVON, the Dutch bird organisation. It can be wet and wild at times, but we have to do it regardless on the dates specified by Sovon! Let me know if you are interested in helping with monitoring local birds, and I will tell you all about the Maastricht bird group.

Melanie



Redwing



Coordinator
Melanie Murray

melaniemurray3@btinternet.com

Walking Group



On one of the last pleasant days in November, the Walking group explored the woods between Valkenburg and Vilt. We meandered along the Geul, crunched through piles of leaves, traversed hills, and were rewarded at the end with a lovely meal next to the fire in the charming and cozy Boscafe Tivoli.

We are praying for the weather to continue to be in our favour over the coming colder, darker months, where getting outside is more challenging! Our next walk will be in January, and I hope to see many of you there. Please be sure to RSVP to me so I know you are coming and so I can make the correct reservation for lunch.

January Walk

This is an easy, flat (but possibly muddy) walk in the Eijsden Beemden. Lunch after will either be at my place, or if we are a large group (more than 8), at a local restaurant in Eijsden.

Date: Tuesday, 13th January 2025

Time: 10:00

Location: Eijsden (exact meeting location TBD)

Distance: 6-7 km

RSVP: WhatsApp 06-12103657

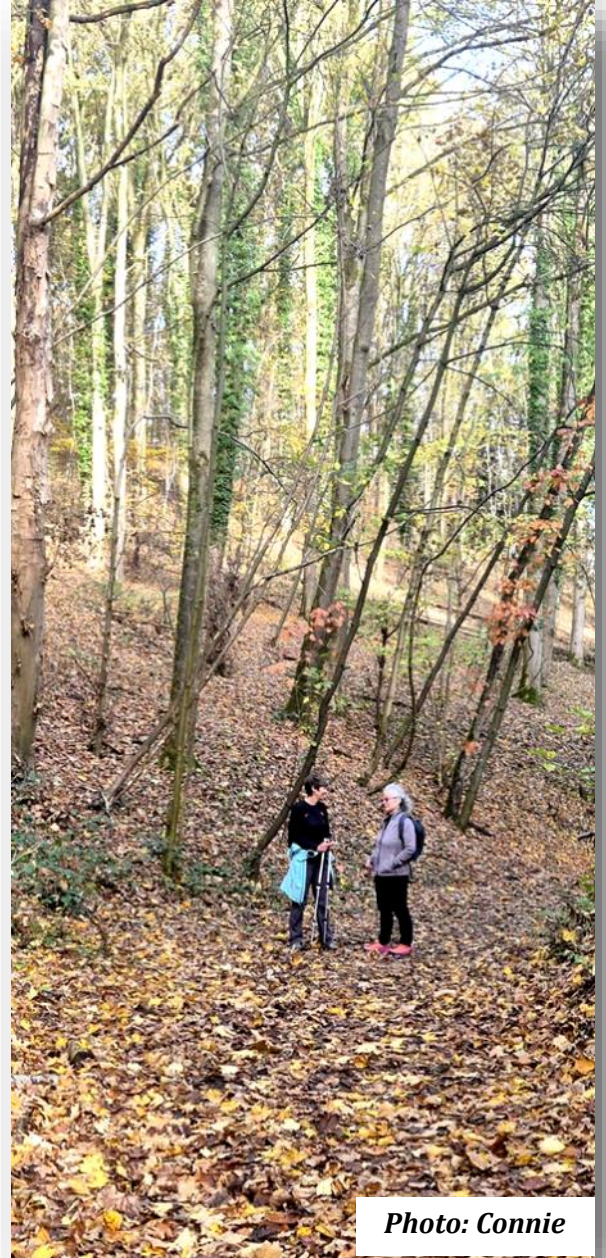


Photo: Connie

Coordinator

Mary-Martha Bahn

mmbahn@gmail.com

WALKING GROUP PHOTOS



Photos: Lynn & Connie



Breakfast Group



The next breakfast will take place in December at Lumiere. Further details will be shared in the next NL or on Facebook.

Laila

lailasariolson@gmail.com

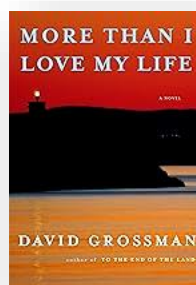
Rose Book Group



Thanks dear Barbara for a super discussion.
Great cakes!

Next meeting is in January due to everyone's busy schedule 😊
Next book: *More than I love my Life* by David Grossman

Happy reading!



Contact:
Silvina Lombardo de Weisner
silvinalom@gmail.com

Fun Friday Drinks



There will be no Fun Friday Drinks in December.

Should anything be organised for January, it will be announced via Facebook and WhatsApp.

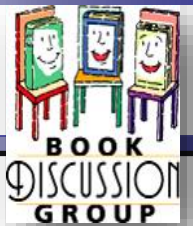
RSVP via the WhatsApp group or email bernamac@gmail.com.

Contact:

Bernadette Ichigui

bernamac@gmail.com

Book Group



On Monday, 17th November we were very pleased to spend a miserably wet afternoon together at Morag's to discuss *'The Wedding People'* by Alison Espach. However, before we tucked into the lovely seasonal goodies Jonna gave us an update on Carol who was not able to join us due to health issues. I think it is the only time ever that our trusty 'leader' was absent and how we missed her – her humour, her knowledge and her direction! Happily, we now know that she is on the mend.

Despite all the positive reviews online our highly opinionated group was not impressed with *'The Wedding People'*. The book is basically about a woman who goes to a hotel to kill herself and who accidentally becomes part of a wedding she's not invited to and ends up being very pally with both the bride and bridegroom. While we all read it and finished it we were quite harsh in our assessment: totally shallow, absurd amounts of money, good for a woman's magazine, not plausible, too long, the location was the only interesting part, humour seemed forced and so on!

Our next gathering will be at Diane's on December 15th to eat mince pies and to hear Carol's story while discussing Barbara Pym's novel *'Excellent Women'*.

P.S - Without Carol's leadership we forgot to choose a book or make a date for January 2026!

Jane

Contact:

Jane Roeleveld:

janeroeleveld@xs4all.nl

Carol Herman:

carol.herman.hewitt@gmail.com

Spanish Group— Grupo Hispano



Dear ladies,
Hola chicas bellas,

Besides the Christmas lunch on December 13th we also plan to go to the Xmas Market in Aachen on 12th December around 12hs.

If you are interested email me before the 11/12 to arrange where we should meet.

In January we plan to have a dinner together at RESTO van harte Maastricht. This is a social event supported by many volunteers and great chefs whose purpose is to combat loneliness in our neighbours. We have taken part in the past and it was a success.

When: Friday, 16th January at 1730/1745hs

Do please email me (without exception as I need to give numbers) by 14th January if you are interested. Cost is just 8 euros for a three-course meal. Punctuality is required after 1745hs doors will be closed.

Location is in Wittevrrounveld ontmoeting centrum.
Trefcentrum Wittevrrouwenveld, Edisonstraat 4
Maastricht.

Saludos de otoño,
Silvina

Contact:
Silvina Lombardo
silvinalom@gmail.com

Silver Pinnerers



Silver Pinnerers

Any activities planned for this group will be communicated via email.

Carol

Book and Wine Group



At the moment our book club (14 members!) is full. If you are interested in joining another book club with- in the IWC, please contact the Rose Book Club run by Silvina.

Happy reading ladies!

Elena & Billy

elenapardo9@gmail.com & sybille.steinert@yahoo.com

'Culture Club' Group

CULTURE CLUB

2.0

Dear Ladies,

Last month we had a fabulous turnout at "Life in Sicily" at the Fotomuseum at the Vrijthof. The exhibition featured fifty iconic black-and-white photographs taken on the Italian island between 2975 and 1994 by Franco Zecchin. During this turbulent period Sicily faced large-scale mafia violence, political corruption and social inequality.



Big thanks to Yukiko who arranged a warm welcome by the Friends association of the museum accompanied by a guided tour through the museum ❤️. Also, to Rogier for the group photo and many more contributors to the collage for this event 🙏

As many of the photos were not for the light-hearted, we had to continue the afternoon at Il Bacaro with a good glass of wine or even two - Lemon Spritz was another option too 😊.

For December and January there are no plans yet. For latest updates please join the WhatsApp group of the Culture Club by sending me a message via 064 83 64 893.

In order to keep the WhatsApp group clear, please message me individually if you wish to visit or organise a museum, exhibition with or for the group.

Looking much forward to a new year full of cultural delights with you 😊

Billy

CULTURE GROUP



CULTURE GROUP



Editor's Note



G'Day Ladies,

- ◆ Those of you organising activities, please also copy Laila Olson on emails you send me to enable her to generate the details on the IWC website.
- ◆ Spotlight
Calling all IWC members, established and recently joined, introverts and extroverts, to send me a short one-page autobiography with a photo of yourself. There is no better way for those of you who are established members of the club to introduce yourselves to the newer members and new members to introduce yourselves to the rest of the club. Please don't be shy! Please send in your articles to me at: editoraiwc@gmail.com.
- ◆ Ladies, please feel free to share any information you believe will make everyday life easier and nicer for all us IWC members. Be it a book or a poem you wrote or read, an interesting restaurant that you believe deserves a visit in these hard times, recommendations for home and garden help and any snippets of information that you may feel would be worth sharing are always welcome.
- ◆ Please note: The deadline for submitting your input for the newsletter is the 20th of each month. As a courtesy, I do send out a reminder after that date—please do check your spam folder too for your reminder.
- ◆ Please keep in mind to send emails with concise details in order to avoid confusion or the wrong information going into the NL.

Cheers

Mary

With a view to keeping the Newsletter informative, relevant and interesting I would appreciate it if each group coordinator / activity coordinator reviews their respective activities and lets me know whether they would still like their respective special interest group activities to remain in the Newsletter.

Only those of you who believe it is no longer necessary to have your groups remain in the Newsletter, please inform Silvia and myself accordingly so that I can remove your group activity from the next newsletter.

Language Circles

German



TBD

Dear Ladies,

The Board would welcome anyone who would be willing to lead the German language group.

Spanish



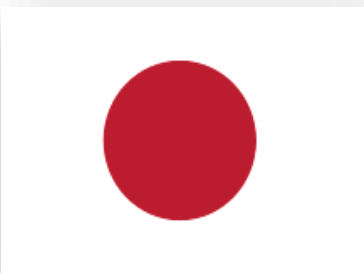
Silvina Lombardo

+32 89 76 58 30

silvinalom@gmail.com

Spanish natives + fluent Spanish speakers monthly, as convenient. At each other's homes.

Japanese Oshaberikai



Anneke de Jongh

ajongh@wxs.nl

We gather once a month to speak Japanese and/or do a Japanese activity.

Best regards,

Anneke

All group leaders, activities leaders and board members are **100% volunteers**, do please consider this when you contact them. If you do need to contact them with questions or complaints, please only do so via email unless a telephone is provided. It is difficult to check WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger and the Club Facebook page all in our spare time.

Thanks to all our volunteers, without them no Club could exist.

Club Information

Membership fee for the year September to August is €50.

New Members - For the first year of membership in the IWC, you should pay the following amount, depending on the month you join:

Sep-Dec: €50 EUR (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€57 EUR**)

Jan-April: **€35 EUR** (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€42 EUR**)

May-Aug: **€20 EUR** (+ €7 EUR one-time administration fee = **€27 EUR**)

After the first year, the Club fees are €50 per year (September through August) – **payable no later than 1st October of each year.** Re-joiners and new members pay 57 euros due to administration fees. Re-joiners will have to submit a new application form. Club fees can be paid only via ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Int. Women's Club Limburg:

Account Number IBAN Number: NL32ABNA0490106064; BIC: ABNANL2A.

Be sure to indicate your name, especially if the bank account is in the name of someone else (e.g. your partner).

IWC Bylaws

The IWC bylaws are posted on the IWC website (under Yearbook) and on our Facebook page. A paper copy is available upon request.

IWC Network Policy

Club—wide emails to the membership are intended for club affairs ONLY and NOT for the promotion of non-IWC endeavours, personal and professional. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

The use of the IWC website and Facebook page by members will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as deemed necessary by the Board and Webmaster.

Club Information

Rates for Advertisements:

¼ page € 12.50

½ page € 25.00

Full page € 50.00

- Special rates for recurring ads on request.

Advertisement fees can be paid via ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Int. Women's Club Limburg:
Account Number IBAN Number: NL32ABNA0490106064; BIC: ABNANL2A.
TO BE SETTLED WITH THE TREASURER BEFORE SUBMISSION!

(Please refer to Club Information for payment advice)

Mini ads for members, **maximum 30 words** per issue are free.

Editorial

The Newsletter is published **nine times a year**, on the **1st of the month**, from September through to June.

The Newsletter for December and January is a joint one, so please send in your December contributions to cover activities for January as well.

The deadline for all contributions is the 20th of the month.

Reminders are sent out to regular contributors.

Please keep in mind to avoid planning any activities on the day of the Monthly Meetings (generally the third Wednesday of each month).

The Editor reserves the right to cut or edit material sent to the newsletter for publication and cannot guarantee inclusion.

Views and opinions expressed in individual articles in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the IWC.

If you have any comments or suggestions please do email the Editor: editoraiwc@gmail.com.



MERRY CHRISTMAS