

COMMUNIQUE



the professional women's group of Basel

www.pwg-basel.ch

Issue 180 / March 2009



PWG events calendar

March main meeting

Women are their own worst enemy

A debate co-hosted by PWG and Toastmasters of Basel

Date: Tuesday, March 10

Time: Apéro 18:30-19:00
Main meeting 19:00-22:00

Place: Centrepoint (ground floor), Im Lohnhof 8, Basel
Cost: Free for PWG members, CHF 15 for non-members

Go on— admit it! When you read the title of this article you felt your skin crawl, or squirmed ever so slightly in your seat. Dare we say that we were hoping you might be provoked enough to leave your comfort zone if only for a fleeting moment?

For PWG's meeting on March 10, we set out to organize a debate on this topic, characterized by skilful arguments, strong opinions and sparkling wit. Above all, we aimed at guaranteeing a forum for enthusiastic audience participation.

To our delight, we have been able to enlist the co-operation of Toastmasters of Basel in helping us design and co-host this event. With expertise born of a love of language and a willingness to use it effectively in public and personal settings, Toastmasters will be providing a panel of charismatic and persuasive speakers to debate the premise and ensure a stimulating and entertaining battle of wits.

As each team has the task of proving that they are right and the other team wrong, the audience may struggle to remain unswayed by the excellent arguments and rebuttals used by the teams to advance their case.

However difficult the task, the audience will be asked to judge the speakers on what they say how effectively they say it and how well the speeches are organized and inter-related.....

Dare we say it: a splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Come early as places are limited. Non-members of PWG and Toastmasters are also welcome to attend.

PWG lunch break

Date: Thursday, March 25

Time: 12:00
Place: Café Huguenin, first floor, Barfüsserplatz, Basel
E-mail: lunches@pwg-basel.ch

The lunch break is a great opportunity for meeting other women, getting to know them better, networking, and exchanging views about work/life in Basel etc. Our lunches are for all: long-time, new and potential members.

You can come anytime between 12:00 and 14:00, either for a quick coffee, soup, or a full meal. If you plan to come, please send a quick e-mail to our new contact address, lunches@pwg-basel.ch, by the day before.

March social event

Bollywood night!

Date: Tuesday, March 31

Time: 19:00-20:00
Place: Centrepoint, Im Lohnhof 8, Basel
Cost: Free for PWG members, CHF 10 for non-members

PWG member Shalini Trefzer is happy to present a night of Bollywood Dance instruction as our March social event.

Bollywood dance is a relatively new genre of dance that has burst on the dance scene with the rising worldwide popularity of the highly colourful and energetic Bollywood movies. It incorporates high energy dance moves from Latin dances, hip hop,



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The Professional Women's Group (PWG) of Basel is a not-for-profit organisation with the goal of bringing together women of diverse professional and cultural backgrounds. We offer a warm and welcoming English-speaking environment in which women can share their experiences, learn from each other, build friendships and professional relationships and have fun together.

modern dance, and of course, Indian classical and folk dance. The music is fun and catchy and most people can't resist shimmying and shaking their bodies to this addictive beat, so be warned!

All participants are welcome, no previous dance experience needed! The exercise level will be moderate to high. Participants can increase or decrease the intensity of the workout to suit their body's needs. Please come prepared with:

- Gym / workout clothes that allow you to move freely
- Light shoes that are suitable for aerobic activity
- A small towel and a change of clothes as you will sweat, possibly a lot ☺
- A bottle or two of water to stay hydrated.

Please be on time so we can cover all the fun aspects that we have planned for the evening. Shalini is very much looking forward to sharing a cool, fun dance form with you all!

Shalini Trefzer is a project manager by profession and a dancer by training and passion! For the past three years, she owned a small Bollywood dance company in the San Francisco Bay Area. What she finds best about Bollywood dance is that it's extremely egalitarian—almost anyone can do it and have a great time.

April main meeting
What is stopping you... ?
Date: Tuesday, April 14

Time: Apéro 18:30-19:00
Main meeting 19:00-22:00
Place: Centrepoint, Im Lohnhof 8, Basel
Cost: Free for PWG members, CHF 15 for non-members

Do you know the feeling of being full of good intentions or even concrete plans, but fully blocked when it comes to putting these into action? Something inside seems to stop you from moving on to the place you want to be.

Using the analogy of a journey, Kirstin Barton will be examining how to determine your own personal barriers to progress (roadblocks) and how to overcome them. She will be touching on the questions of personal motivation; sizing up the extent of the challenge ahead; what it takes to leave the comfort-zone... how to proceed.

Kirstin Barton is a workshop facilitator and professional Coach who has—in her own words—encountered and overcome her own fair share of roadblocks on the way to her present location and who, meanwhile, has helped many people to recognise and deal with the barriers to their own destinations.



PWG
Focus on Careers

'Focus on Careers' is an initiative for PWG members, to support each other in a job search or to keep prepared for new work opportunities.

Job hunt support group

Our subgroup for those who are actively looking for a job will meet on Friday mornings, March 6 and 20, at 09:30 on the upper floor of Café Huguenin (at Barfüsserplatz).

If you are not yet on our reminder e-mail list, please contact Aletta Karsies van Eeden at alettaka@gmx.ch or tel: 061 601 76 25 before attending.



PWG
Women Entrepreneurs

The PWG Women Entrepreneurs subgroup is on hiatus until a new leadership for the group has been found. Two group members have stepped up to take things forward from January. The previous WE coordinator, Lorraine Rytz will continue to be available to support the group as needed.

A description has been posted on the PWG website to give a sense of the position responsibilities and benefits. Please contact Lorraine at women-entrepreneurs@pwg-basel.ch if you would like to explore your involvement in this special opportunity.

PWG–Women Entrepreneurs is open to PWG members who are active in their own businesses, self-employed or merely curious about the idea. Guests are welcome for an initial visit and asked to pay a small fee of CHF 10. **PWG–WE will be rescheduled in 2009 once a committee is in place.**



Review of PWG
February meeting

Dealing with difficult people
Interpreted by Vivienne Herke

The February meeting was packed as we gathered together to find out just how to deal with difficult people. A couple of years ago I attended a similarly entitled talk about working with difficult families as a social worker which unfortunately included much advice about personal safety but thankfully on this occasion we were limited to the realm of communication.



Kathy had two working hypotheses of life to share with us. The first hypothesis was that people are essentially good and everyone does the best they

can with the resources they have at any given moment. I happen to agree whole heartedly but my mind flashed back to a day in '96 when I was sitting in a social psychology class in London (England) and the professor posed the question whether people are essentially good. Only 1/3 of the class agreed.

Kathy for her part suggested (in agreement with Kant) that "we do not see things as they are. We see things as we are". With my rose-tinted spectacles of 'goodness in people' I have been able to understand that when someone is being 'difficult' it is often as a result of anger, fear, stress and tiredness and a range of uncomfortable emotions. Also, to appreciate how healthy it can be at times to be 'difficult' because sometimes people are just plain fighting for what they believe in, or for people they love.

We broke into small groups to discuss the behaviours or attitudes of others that we find difficult. Long lists were easily created and the favourites were prejudice and discrimination in all its forms, rudeness and aggressive behaviour, dishonesty, and not listening. This recipe, of course, works in reverse to tell you just what it is that you like in others namely, non-judgmental, empathic listeners whom we can trust. This sounds like a recipe for a good friend, neighbour and colleague and if everyone you knew acted like this then going to work would be rather enjoyable.

Kathy's 2nd hypothesis about life: no matter what happens to you, she suggests, you have a 50% contribution to what happened. $E + R = O$. An Event and your Reactions (what you think, feel and do) determines the Outcome. There is one half of the interaction that you can do something about and the other half is the other person's responsibility (and not yours).



In the course of a vibrant discussion about just how to deal with difficult people, strategies from the floor emerged that are worth sharing in case just one of them helps you.

1. Be open, authentic, and listen
2. Have a positive intention when interacting with another person
3. Try to have a win-win frame
4. Have a fact based discussion and put your emotions to one side
5. Separate the person from the problem.

6. Try to put yourself in their shoes and understand why they are acting like they are
7. Be solution focussed - listen to their rant and then ask them what do they want to happen now.
8. Adapt your approach based on the gender and cultural background of the person.

Kathy also had a hand-out which mentions ways to expand your inner resources from breathing deeply, changing your perspective, look to what was the main cause of you getting upset or the most Swiss suggestion of all....eat chocolate.

If you are interested in a handout and didn't get one then please email Kathy at k.hartmann-campbell@bluewin.ch.



Members' forum

An Irreverent Tale of French Wax

By Shalini Trefzer

My grandfather, who lived to be over 90, often recounted the accomplishments of various members of our family tree. Considering that up until a few decades ago, most of them were related, and not just by marriage, our gene pool is miniscule. No big surprise then that by the time it was my turn to inherit from it, the gene pool had run out of any real accomplishments, especially those that could pay the bills. However, being of generous nature if not of variety, my genes have nonetheless showered me with 'gifts'—only, in some bizarre twist of fate, I must pay for them!

Eyes that could have just as easily belonged to a warthog... and which see only courtesy of the 365 disposable lenses ordered by my vision specialist every year...

A rather delicate and sometimes tenuous mind-body-soul balance that has filled the coffers of more philosophers and 'transformation' outfits than I care to remember...

A body that has made a fashionable woman out of my chiropractor's wife, cooked up a chocolate addiction worthy of any substance addict, has kept Gold's Gym, Body-For-Life, random yoga classes and the local masseuse going through the lean times, and is by now thoroughly and intimately familiar to all the seven physicians making up the Internal Medicine branch at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation.

And last but most definitely not the least, my genes have blessed me with something that necessitates an eternally vigilant waxing habit lest I be mistaken for the latest escapee of the zoological variety. Hair! Only in all the wrong places!

It was to pay for this last 'gift' that I set out with my friend Carine on the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend. I was

excited to be with her, but more than a little anxious for a couple of reasons.

The first was possibly the simpler of the two—we were driving into France, to a region bordering Basel called the Alsace. Carine was taking me with her so I could learn how to get to the border, across into France and then back. I followed directions perfectly until we turned three streets. After that, all I got is that somewhere out there, lies Allschwil and once that's past, France shows up! Oh well, a worry for the next time.

The second was far more worrisome. The technician at La Belle in Stanford had, and not without pity, declared that she 'will wax me extra good' the week before we moved to Basel because 'de Swiss, uh huh, they don't haav waxsing.' And then she dropped her voice several notches lower and screwing her mouth up in disbelief that nonetheless was frighteningly convincing to me, whispered 'they shave, yes they do!' I had a hard time after that, choosing which disconcerting piece of information should have precedence in my book of worries—the fact that I might be forced to take a razor to my future beard, or the suspicion that the service to date had not fallen in the 'extra good' category.

These two worries eclipsed the much bigger issue of language until we drove through the border past the aforementioned Allschwil, when suddenly out of nowhere, the countryside of Hegenheim yawned out wide in front of us. Little old ladies pedalled bikes with their morning shopping hanging out of their woven baskets. Worn stone fences grew vines and gently protected the town church. Cobblestones and speed bumps automatically slowed what



little car traffic there was to a leisurely crawl, and narrow lanes wound around cafes and cake shops and butcheries and bakeries till, following one such lane, we parked in what looked like an empty field. Two old men stood chatting in the cold morning, berets on their heads and

gossip on their agenda. A father held his groceries in one hand and chatted with the pink-cheeked girl holding on to the other. It was cold but clear as we briskly walked over to Mirabel and pushed open the door to the clang of chimes. Proudly displaying a French 'kitsch' look, Mirabel at 12 rue de Hesingue was THE village beauty spot. We had arrived and were greeted in a flurry of coats hung up, hugs (for Carine), hand-shakes (for me) and words, none of which I understood!

Now, as bad as my German is, my French is non-existent. I can't even say, 'good,' 'bad,' or 'Help!' in French, let alone refer to any part of my waxing anatomy. The technician, aptly called Cathia, hit me with a string of questions while running her eyes over my face (for purely professional reasons, I hoped). I just stared dumbly from her back to my dear friend, and Carine immediately reassured me that she would stay right outside the curtain of the waxing-cubicle-like-thing and make sure that I did not leave there you know, bald or something! Bless her—she really is a patient soul!

And then, a small miracle happened! Cathia turned to me and asked doubtfully, 'Sprichst du Deutsch?' and I happily bobbed my head up and down, 'Ja!' I couldn't help but laugh inside that if someone had told me say, 2 years back that I would be so thrilled to be asked if I spoke German, I would have for sure sent them on to see my shrink and collected a referral fee! Still, it was Shalini, standing there in Cathia's salon and tickled pink to be hearing and speaking German. Even though I added a cautionary, 'Ich spreche ein bisschen aber genug für heute..ich denke,' meant to reassure her that my limited repertoire was yet enough to handle our relationship such as it was... Even so, she took off in rapid and sometimes cannibalized German that I actually understood and could respond to. More or less... She worked me over rapidly and talked non-stop, peppering me with such pearls of wisdom like, 'that which hurts must be made quick,' 'next time, bring a lemon,' and 'My French, your German, conversation,' the last one a bit dubious, but I was in no position to argue.

Finally, a bit raw but resembling no species of a hairy variety, I paid up half of what La Belle would have cost me. Much later, I would exclaim over the unexpectedly reasonable cost (40 Euros) to Dani, who would then gently suggest that perhaps my service station in Stanford was of a slightly ritzier flavor. And would then wisely refrain from saying anything further at my puzzled retort of, 'but I really think I can't even tell the difference!' Smart man. But that was to come later.

For the moment, Carine and I decided to get ourselves a croissant and were just crossing the threshold of a Bakerie. It had a low wood beam roof and these absolutely cute, tiny windows with glass that looked like it hadn't been changed in 75 years, a stone floor, and the whole place smelled like heaven! And, as I dug into my purse to pay for the croissant and loaf of soft bread I got, I burst out laughing. Here I was, in France, with a purse that had Swiss Francs, dollars, and even some Canadian money, but no Euros! Long after Carine rescued me and my croissant had melted into my mouth, the laughter has stayed with me. It's me and I am living in Switzerland and I just got waxed by a French woman in German! You've got to admit, that's one heck of a fertile ground for some healthy humour! Ah, but my genes weren't quite done gifting me yet.

As I scanned the questions in the True or False section of my next class test, I found that thanks to my genes, there was one answer I was going to nail—I confidently scratched in an X against 'Im Elsass spricht man sowohl Deutsch als auch Französisch,' ('In the Alsace, people speak both, German and French.') How good it felt to know this one and place my winning bet on, Richtig! Right! You Bet!

Shalini Trefzer is a project manager by profession and a dancer by training and passion! She moved with her husband and daughter to the Basel area a few months back and is using her dance and fitness programs these days to keep herself fit and to energize herself for her job search here.



Women on the move

One year ago, PWG member **Nathalie Merkelbach** quit a 20-year-long working relationship with E. Gutzwiller & Cie, Banquiers, to accept the challenge of a new job with Bank Julius Baer & Co Ltd. 'As a director in private banking I built up the francophone team out of Basel which was a fantastic experience and a great development,' Nathalie tells *Communiqué*.

Unfortunately, for pure economic reasons, the bank has now cancelled her job due to a staff cut in Geneva, which was Nathalie's line. 'By now I am in outplacement and look forward to let you know where and what my new occupation will be,' says Nathalie. 'I do thank you in advance for all support, friendship, and network power I will get out of this fantastic Professional Women's Group,' Nathalie concludes.

We wish you the best of luck in your search for the next challenge, Nathalie!

Have you found a new job lately? Finished a degree?
Received a promotion?

Or are you looking for a job or would like to announce any other change in your life?

Whatever changes or achievements you would like to communicate to your fellow PWG members, we'll be happy to include it our "Women on the move" column. Send contributions to newsletter@pwg-basel.ch.



Expat-Expo Basel

Where can I find new clients?

By Mairead Plekkenpol

On May 17th, PWG members will have a truly wonderful opportunity to present themselves and their businesses to a target audience of Basel's international community.

Following the success of the Expat-Expo in Zurich, Zug, and Geneva in previous years, this highly popular event is now being organized in Basel for the first time. The organization expects to draw about 1,500 people. Admission is free. The event is targeting the English-speaking community, focusing on providing goods and services which will help newcomers (but also veteran Expats) to integrate successfully in the area.

Many clubs, businesses, and organizations will be exhibiting at the Expat-Expo, and PWG is no exception. We have set up a small committee hard at work thinking of ways of profiling the club to best advantage. We aim to attract as many new potential members as possible to our stand, and

hopefully we will be able to motivate them to sign up for membership on the spot!

We will need approximately 6 people to help out during the day, so if you feel like a day of fun meeting interesting people, please let us know.

For PWG members with their own businesses, we would like to emphasize that the Expat-Expo is an effective and affordable marketing tool. Any company may exhibit, from small, one-person businesses to large, multi-national corporations.

Table fees start at 195 CHF (for philanthropic organizations) and 295 CHF for businesses registered with the Swiss Department of Commerce and foreign companies. Choice locations, internet connection, and electrical connections are all extra.

Further information can be found at www.expats-expo.info, or from PWG's very own Lorraine Rytz who is participating in the organization of the event.



Book reviews

The White Tiger

Aravind Adiga

Reviewed by Vicki Pracht

'Dazzling,' 'Extraordinary,' 'Brilliant.' So promises the book jacket. Being a fan of things that are dazzling, extraordinary, and brilliant, I was delighted to have a chance to review a fiction(!) book for the PWG. And I started reading with great enthusiasm. However, it did not take long to realize that this book is just one long rant. 321 pages of ranting, to be exact.

It takes the form of a letter to the Premier of China from 'The White Tiger,' one of Bangalore's entrepreneurs. During this extremely long letter, the reader is treated to the history of how The White Tiger elevated himself in society from a boy from the 'Darkness' to a self-made man in Bangalore. Along the way, the reader is given an interesting glimpse into the life of the poor in India (which, as expected, is not what most tourists see or Bollywood films reveal) and the struggle between the different cultures in India. However, true to its Man Booker Prize 2008, this is a book that is dark, gritty and at times, due to its length, rather dull. Sadly, this PWG reader can not recommend it!

The White Tiger

Aravind Adiga

Atlantic Books

ISBN: 978-1-84887-042-0. Paperback, 321 pp.

CHF 19.90

Available at Bider & Tanner

Bider & Tanner

Your English Bookshop in Basel

At Bankenplatz, Aeschenvorstadt 2, CH-4010 Basel
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 info@biderundtanner.ch, www.biderundtanner.ch



Book corner

March is here with the following book selections! Simply let me know (lmall_lm@yahoo.com) if you are interested in reading one of the books from the list below. If you are the first to contact me, then you will receive a free copy from Bider & Tanner. For the following month, write a review for Communiqué, letting other PWG members know how you rate the book!

The Puritan Gift: Triumph, Collapse and Revival of an American Dream

Authors: Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

Financial Times Top Ten Business Book of 2007! The Puritan Gift traces the origins and the characteristics of American managerial culture which, in the course of three centuries, would turn a group of small colonies into the greatest economic and political power on earth.

'I would insist that every person enrolled in the study of technology should be required to read *The Puritan Gift* before reading any other management book...A goldmine of information.'—*Myron Tribus*, former Director of Advanced Engineering Study, MIT.

The 4-Hour Work Week: Escape 9-5, Live Anywhere, and Join the New Rich

by Timothy Ferris

'*The 4-Hour Workweek* is a new way of solving a very old problem: just how can we work to live and prevent our lives from being all about work? A world of infinite options awaits those who would read this book and be inspired by it!'—*Michael E. Gerber*, Founder & Chairman of E-Myth Worldwide and the World's #1 Small Business Guru

The Starfish and the Spider: The Unstoppable Power of Leaderless Organizations

by Ori Brafman and Rod A. Beckstrom

Brafman and Beckstrom, a pair of Stanford M.B.A.s who have applied their business know-how to promoting peace and economic development through decentralized networking, offer a breezy and entertaining look at how decentralization is changing many organizations. The title metaphor conveys the core concept: though a starfish and a

spider have similar shapes, their internal structure is dramatically different—a decapitated spider inevitably dies, while a starfish can regenerate itself from a single amputated leg. In the same way, decentralized organizations are made up of many smaller units capable of operating, growing and multiplying independently of each other, making it very difficult for a rival force to control or defeat them.

'A must read. Starfish are changing the face of business and society. This page-turner is provocative and compelling.'—*J. David Martin*, CEO of YPO International



Information exchange

PWG members and non-members are invited to submit information of possible interest to our group's members on upcoming activities in the Basel area. However, publication is not guaranteed and the *Communiqué* editors may shorten submissions. The PWG is not responsible for the correctness of the information published here.

Centrepoint

Place: Im Lohnhof 8, Basel (unless otherwise stated)

Regular features

Crochet classes. Every Thursday 14:00-16:00. A fun and informative hobby session on crocheting with Rylla Resler. Contact: Gaynor Ridley at rgridley@t-online.de.

TGIF—Thank Goodness It's Friday. Come and join us for a drink! TGIF meets every Friday in a bar or restaurant in Basel. 18:30-20:30. Contact: georgios.imanidis@fhnw.ch.

CP Book Discussion Group. Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 19:00. Contact: Jane Medford Lauber, tel:061 421 5650.

Language Classes daily—Meet up to practice your foreign language conversation skills in German, French, Italian, Spanish or English.

Coffee mornings—every Friday at Centrepoint 10:30-12:30

Divine Connection Network—every 2nd Monday of the month. A community of like-minded souls sharing and connecting. CHF 10 for Centrepoint members, CHF 15 for non-members. Contact: Dawn Voyce at tel. 078-822-7076 or geniusworks@pacific.net.au.

For more information on these activities and other events on offer, visit: www.centrepoint.ch.

Bergli Bookshop events (www.bergli.ch)

Place: Bergli Bookshop, Rümelinsplatz 19, 4001 Basel

Talk Party and Reading

Date: Wednesday, February 4

Time: 18:30-20:00

Place: Schmidenhof-Zunftsal, Rümelinsplatz

Cost: CHF 10

Contact: Tickets are available immediately; space is limited so reserve your ticket immediately at info@bergli.ch

With special guest Franz Hohler, one of the most popular and successful writers and performers in Switzerland, German, Austria, and Liechtenstein. His stories, sketches and performances combine facts, fiction, satire and fairy-tales. Bergli Books is publishing *At Home*, a selection of his most popular and talked-about stories in English.

Talk Party

Date: Wednesday, April 1

Time: 18:30-20:00

Contact: RSVP to info@bergli.ch

With special guest Bettina Marcinokowski, head of staffing for Basel at F. Hoffman-La Roche. At this Talk Party we'll discuss with her how a human resource professional goes about finding the right person for the right job and what is being done to help highly-qualified 'global players' make the most of their work in Basel. Is international human resource recruitment an easy job? What are the issues when the perfect candidate finds the perfect position?

The British-Swiss Chamber of Commerce and International Business Wales Luncheon in Basel

Date: Tuesday, March 10

Time: 11:45 Aperitifs, 12:15 Luncheon

Place: Swissôtel Le Plaza, Messeplatz 25, 4058 Basel

Cost: CHF 88 non-members, CHF 68 members

Contact: www.bscc.ch/events directly or evelyneforster@hotmail.com;

The theme is 'The Cutting Edge in Biotech: How do we benefit?' Guests of honour and speakers will be Prof. Dietrich Mack, Professor of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Swansea University, and Dr. Ulf Grawunder, Chief Scientific Officer of 4-Antibody, Basel.

Register online as a non-member, then send an email to Evelyne Forster, PWG member, who will adjust the price accordingly.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society Annual dinner concert

Date: Saturday, March 29

Time: 19:00

Place: L'Ésprit, Laufenstrasse 40, 4053 Basel

Cost: CHF 70 (G&SS members), CHF 85 (nonmembers), CHF 40 (under age 16)

Contact: events@savoyards.ch

Prices include a welcome apéro, sumptuous three-course meal (drinks not included) and a concert by the 'Umbrella Singers,' a professional ensemble that includes PWG's own Barbara Laurie. They will present 'Education & Career Success,' a new programme of excerpts from the operas of Gilbert & Sullivan plus music by featured composer Mendelssohn. Further details are available at the Society's website (www.savoyards.ch).

The Semi-Circle Five One-Act Plays

Theatre: Das Neue Theater am Bahnhof, Dornach

Dates: April 2009:

Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th,

Sunday 5th, Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th

Start Time: 19:30

Tickets: Tickets on sale from March 1 from Bider & Tanner,

Aeschenvorstadt 2, Basel; phone +41 (0)61 206 99 93

Ticket prices: CHF 25 (students CHF 20)

Semi-Circle, Basel's English language theatre group, presents five one-act plays of varying lengths under the umbrella title "Hidden Lives". The first play is "Folie à Trois", a rather thoughtful drama by Sarah Wooley. The second play is a light comedy called "Behind the Curtain" by Kay Macaulife.

Rounding out the evening are three 10-minute comedies with an element of social criticism and fantasy. These three plays are: "Outsourced" by Laura Shaine Cunningham; "Surprise" by Mark Harvey Levine; and "Miss You" by David Auburn.



connexions is a club that organises exciting social events and activities for English-speaking adults of all nationalities. We are a friendly and fun loving group enjoying a wide range of activities, both weekends and weekdays. From high-adventure rafting, evenings at the theatre, to wine appreciation events, you'll find friends and activities just waiting for you to join us!

Upcoming events

- The Ten Tenors Concert
- Sunday Brunch
- Friday Cocktails
- English Theatre
- Wine Tasting
- Mountain Hike

Details about us and the charity we support:

www.connexions.ch

Do you know of an event that might be of interest to the greater English-speaking community in Basel? Know of any great restaurants or other places to visit? To share your tips with your PWG friends, send contributions to newsletter@pwg-basel.ch.

Toastmasters of Basel

Imagine speaking confidently in public, sharpening your listening and evaluation skills, improving your communication skills, becoming a successful leader, and being more effective! Join Toastmasters of Basel!

Toastmasters International is a non-profit organisation with clubs around the world that are dedicated to improving the public speaking, listening, and leadership skills of its members. Toastmasters of Basel meets twice monthly and has members of diverse nationalities. English as a mother tongue is not required. Join us for a meeting—there is no obligation.

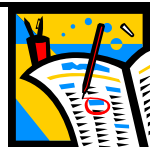
For more information, visit our website at www.toastmasters.ch/tmbasel or contact president@toastmastersofbasel.ch



Payments to the PWG

Anyone who is making payments to the PWG, please use our e-bank account when possible to help us save on bank fees. Thank you in advance. The annual membership fee for PWG is CHF 80.

Using e-banking	Using red Einzahlungsschein (post or bank) or yellownet (e-banking from the post)
<p>Account holder: Professional Women's Group of Basel Im Lohnhof 8 4051 Basel Account number: 233-563162.40Y Bank: UBS Basel IBAN: CH82 0023 3233 5631 6240 Y Clearing number: 233</p>	<p>Einzahlung für: UBS AG 3000 Bern 77 Zugunsten von: 233-563162.40Y 233 Professional Women's Group of Basel Im Lohnhof 8 4051 Basel Konto: 30-35-9</p>



Classified advertisements

Classified advertisements can be placed free of charge by our members. Mail your information to newsletter@pwg-basel.ch.

Help Wanted

I have a sofa and 3 armchairs in need of refurbishment. Does anyone know of a good upholsterer situated in or around Basel, preferably English-speaking? I'm offering a bottle of wine for the best tip! Info to: mairead.plekkenpol@solvay.com



Organisational Committee

PWG e-mail addresses:

- General enquiries: info@pwg-basel.ch
- Chair: chair@pwg-basel.ch
- Secretary: secretary@pwg-basel.ch
- Treasurer: treasurer@pwg-basel.ch
- Website administrator: web@pwg-basel.ch
- Communiqué: newsletter@pwg-basel.ch
- Membership queries: membership@pwg-basel.ch
- Programming: programming@pwg-basel.ch
- Logistics: logistics@pwg-basel.ch
- Social: social@pwg-basel.ch
- Women entrepreneurs: women-entrepreneurs@pwg-basel.ch
- Focus on careers: focusoncared@pwg-basel.ch

Current committee members are:

- Chair**
Ansophie Hohenstein
- Vice Chair**
Dawn Voyce
- Secretary**
Open position
- Treasurer**
Aletta Karsies van Eeden
- Public Relations:**
Elke Staehelin, open position
- Website Administrator**
Eliane Garo, open position
- Communiqué**
Editor: Susannah Edevane, Shalini Trefzer
Newsletter administration: Susanne Hiller
- Logistics**
Cove Johnstone Davis, open position
- Membership**
Ann Neale, Katrin Schmid, open position
- Programming**
Annabelle Sorge, Sophie Lefèvre, Mairead Plekkenpol, Annelise Viale
- Social**
Monika Maj, Lisa Mall, open position
- Women entrepreneurs**
Kate Michaels, Kirsten Barton, open position
- Focus on careers**
Aletta Karsies van Eeden



Display advertisements

Ad submissions must be received by e-mail no later than the 10th of the preceding month. Only PC-compatible JPG or Word files can be accepted. No PDF, Bitmap files or large graphics can be accepted. Advertisers must confirm size of ad and in which issue(s) it is to appear. Advertising rates card and mechanical data available on application. E-mail: newsletter@pwg-basel.ch.

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Full body treatment	(1 hour 45mins)	- 140 CHF
Back and shoulders	(1 hour 20mins)	- 100 CHF
Indian head massage	(1 hour)	- 80 CHF

Viv Anthony has a doctorate in botany and a Diploma in Aromatherapy and Essential Oil Science. She trained with Neal's Yard Remedies in London, and is a member of the International Federation of Professional Aromatherapists.

Belle Femme Institut
Freie Strasse, 52

Call Viv on 0788799627 or email vanthony@tele2.ch (daytime and evening appointments available)

academia
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 - **English** - **Spanish** - **Intercultural seminars**
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Contact person: Anita Erichsen, M.A.
 Culture and Language Mediator
 Head Educational Counselling English speaking
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e-mail: anita.erichsen@academia-basel.ch



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Kindermusik Basel opened its doors ten years ago and it's time to celebrate! We have invited the children's theater group **Music-Box-Freiburg** to offer a musical treat: special family performances of *Hänsel and Gretel* in English.

All children aged 3 and up are invited to bring their parents along to enjoy the wonderful music of Humperdinck and take part in a fairy tale adventure. Children who wish will have the opportunity to interact with the performers and take part in the show.



Performances will take place on Saturday, March 28, in the auditorium of the Kirche Jesu Christi der Heiligen der Letzten Tage (Mormon Church) at St. Johannis-Platz 8, 4056 Basel. Tram # 11 stops near-by at "St. Johannis-Tor". There will be one performance at 10:30 and a second at 14:30. The show will last approximately one hour.

To thank you for the delightful classes you have shared with us over the years, all **Kindermusik** families, present and past, are invited to attend free of charge. The **AWC** Family Activity Group will sponsor children of **AWC** members. Others will be charged Fr. 15 per family.

To reserve spaces at the performance of your choice, please contact Susan Pombo at spomboball@hotmail.com or Wendy Sirchio at krisandwendy@bluewin.ch before March 21st. As seating will be limited, we suggest you reserve as early as possible.



Kindermusik



Saturday, March 28th

10:30 / 14:30

St. Johannis-Platz 8

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Contact: **Liselotte Molander** for more information

E-mail: quantumwealthacceleration@gmail.com

Phone: 078 682 72 08 / www.quantumwealthcoach.com/basel