

NEWSLETTER

It is almost here: **THE YEAR 2017!** BIWA starts into it with a highly motivated board and all its international members. Read more about the new BIWA board, planned events and activities. BIWA is waiting for you!

THANK YOU, SIMONE!

Surely it is not easy to be in charge of an organization. At the AGM in December the majority of our members officially decided, that Simone will be our next BIWA President. Thank you for volunteering, Simone!



Simone (40, German) is a founding member of BIWA and our next BIWA **President!** Together with her Turkish husband she has a 6 year old son. Since 2011 Simone coordinated the playgroups and was responsible for the clubhouse too. She became BIWA's vice president in 2013 and 2014, in the following years she acted as the charity group leader.

WHO IS WHO

Nathalie (34, French) and her husband decided to take the opportunity to leave 'routine life' in France and came to Bursa in 2014 with their two sons. Right now, Nathalie is giving french lessons to young children at a school, but she actually is a psychomotor therapist. At BIWA, she will be our **Vice President**.

Steffie (35, German) lives in Bursa since 2009, because of her husband's business. She is a mother of two, a boy and a girl. Steffie became a BIWA member in 2012 and supported the charity team in the last year. In 2017 she will be BIWA's **Charity Coordinator**.

Didem (38, Turkish) is a BIWA member since 2012. She has played an active part in the activity team in 2014 and took care of the clubhouse at that time too. Didem has been BIWA's president in the last two years and is continuing as BIWA's **Secretary** in 2017. She is actually a veterinarian. Didem has two children.

Maria (39, German) is a founding member of BIWA. She always has been an active member (several times vice president and activity team leader). In 2013 & 2014 Maria was BIWA president. This year she is our **Treasurer**. Bursa became Maria's home already 14 years ago. She and her Turkish husband have two sons.

Danielle (33, American) came to Turkey in 2010. She is married to a Turkish man and has a son. In 2016, Danielle was already quite active in the activity team. This year she will be our **Activity Coordinator**.

Lisa (34, German) moved to Turkey with her Turkish husband in the end of 2013 and became a BIWA member straight away. She is a special education teacher in the fields of learning and behaviour. Lisa has been taking care of our playgroup(s) and will continue as **Playgroup Responsible** in 2017.

INTERNATIONAL WINE TASTING AND AUCTION

The best wines are the ones we drink with friends!

This event is not just for you as BIWA member, but for your friends too. Make sure you organize 2 identical bottles of wine till February for the international wine tasting and auction. One bottle will be for tasting, the other one for the auction. The tasters are international, so should be the wines. Therefore, if you are abroad for the holiday season or the semester break, grab 2 bottles of your favorite wine from there! More information to follow soon!



SEW IT YOURSELF!

If you are one of those who never really find the table cloth, pillowcase or blanket you want, you may do it - or let's better say - sew it yourself.

Join BIWA's 'Sewing Group' which meets every Thursday, from 11:30 to 15:00 in a small studio in Beşevler and decorate your home by creating your own projects based upon quilting and patchwork techniques. The studio provides sewing machines and basic materials, but fabrics and other stuff needed for sewing can be purchased there. A very lovely and experienced sewing lady assists and group members help each other.

Look at this wonderful table cloth done by Maria:



EASY-PEASY. DO NOT BE SHY, GIVE IT A TRY!

You are interested in cooking a dish for others, but you do not want to do it alone?

Then find another member from your country and cook together for and with other members. It will be easy-peasy. Or you are two members who love the same type of kitchen, like Italian kitchen? – That is possible too. BIWA is open to different solutions!

Do not be shy, just like Ruşen, who cooked a delicious Turkish dish.

>> [Check out](#) the recipe and photos.

FACTS

You should know that...

...For Kids: 'Harika Kanatlar Müzikali' in Bursa. For tickets click [here](#).

...Our playgroup highly recommends to visit the [BTM Merkezi](#) (for young & 'old')

...Next 'Ladies Night' will be soon - stay tuned!

MEMBERSHIP CARD

You got your membership card but do not know what to do with it?

By showing your membership card you get discounts at our cooperation partners. BIWA is working on finding good and reliable ones for you.

In meantime you may want to enjoy ...

- a pizza or other Italian food at [dababa](#) (10% discount)
- a good homemade bread or pasta from [Nanun](#) in Endülüis Park (15% discount)
- something sweet from [DO'DONUT](#) at FSM Bulvarı (20% discount)

SANTA CLAUS WAS IN TOWN

Luckily Santa Claus found his way to BIWA's annual Christmas party. And he did not come with an empty bag ...



All children got their presents during our Christmassy family event. Surely, they have been good kids all over the year! A generous buffet with all kinds of international food and mulled wine made it a perfect party.

WELCOME – GROW – GIVE

Bursa International Women's Association (BIWA) welcomes 'internationally-minded' women and acts by the motto: 'Welcome – Grow – Give'.



INTERNATIONAL PLAYGROUP

Our BIWA International Playgroup (BIP) is designed to provide children with their first group experience outside the home and give them the opportunity to develop their first social skills. The playgroup is meeting three times a week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from around 10:30-13:30. At the moment, our moms and their children, aged from 8 months to 3 years, are meeting in a kindergarden on Mondays and Fridays. The kids enjoy doing activities and spending time with their international friends. Mothers coordinate an arts & crafts activity each time. On Wednesdays they are staying active by finding innovative indoor activities and visiting Bursa's many wonderful outdoor spaces. Some rules to apply: playgroup language is English, kids can only join with their mothers, and there is a fee of 120 TL to pay. If you are interested in joining, please contact Lisa via WhatsApp at 0532 131 2662. Our playgroup is always very happy to welcome new moms and kids!



GOURMET CLUB

Food loving women are meeting every month once at each other's houses to prepare and enjoy a dish together. One member prepares a meal from her country and explains to her guests each step of the preparation. The dish will then be enjoyed together. It does not need to be a complete menu. It can also be a cake, wrap, börek or other simple dish just to eat with tea or coffee. As for the costs, every guest who is attending the gourmet club that day, must pay 10 TL. The host may decide whether to cover her own costs or to donate it to BIWA. The person in charge is Irem. Contact with her by e-mail at irem.talu@gmail.com



SEWING GROUP

Our "Sewing Group" meets every Thursday, from 11:30 to 15:00 in a small studio in Beşevler. The members of the group create their own projects based upon quilting and patchwork techniques, helping each other to realize them. The studio provides sewing machines and basic materials, fabrics and other materials can be purchased. An experienced sewing lady assists our sewing group at all time. In order to pay the studio rent and other expenses as well as for charity reasons a fee of 150 TL is collected. For further information, please contact Maria (0544 271 99 68).



CHARITY

BIWA does a lot of Charity. To "GIVE" is an important aim of our organization. BIWA has led many charitable projects over the years. Projects, such as the collaboration with a school in Mazlumlar Köy and "The International Recipe Book Project" for the Children's Clinic at Uludağ University Hospital, show BIWA's BIG heart. Since 2009, BIWA has been contributing to Bursa and its citizens, especially to other women's and children organizations through volunteering, fundraising and cooperating with local government or other similar associations in Turkey. If you want to contribute, please contact Steffie by e-mail: info@biwabursa.org



ACTIVITIES

Danielle will keep you informed about meetings and special events. Make sure you check your mailbox and WhatsApp regularly in order not to miss a 'get-together'. If you need additional information, please write to Danielle at dani.averill@gmail.com.

CONTACT:

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