

A lot of 'FIRST' and 'NEW' things happened at BIWA. One fact, though, always stays the same within our organization: DOING CHARITY. Enjoy reading more about BIWA's charitable projects, events & activities from the last two months...

255

This is not a flight or room number. It is BIWA's NEW post box address! YEAH!

If you feel like sending BIWA a postcard from your holidays, this is the full address:

Nilüfer Dernekler Yerleşkesi
Konak Mh. Seçkin Sk. No. 23/1
Dolap No. 255
16110 Nilüfer / BURSA



We will be happy to hear from you!

VOLUNTEERING & DONATIONS

BIWA has been contributing since its foundation...

BIWA has been involved in charitable projects since its inception in 2009. Doing charity is actually the main aim of BIWA and the reason to exist as a social organization. All members support our projects through volunteering & donations from different activities and events offered by BIWA. If our members join an activity or event, they are supposed to donate at the same time. Only that way can we guarantee to gain an outcome that can be used for future charity projects!

BIWA REDEFINES ITSELF

Welcome – Connect - Support

Our vision was, and always will be, to be Bursa's one and only international group of women that supports its members and local organizations. According to our survey, that was made some months ago, BIWA members associate the key words 'friends, relationships, diversity/culture, international, solidarity, share/help' with our organization. Therefore, the BIWA Board has done some brainstorming and decided to reposition BIWA:

Our new and a bit more modern mission fits these key words: **WELCOME – CONNECT – SUPPORT!**

What stands behind these words?

WELCOME

We welcome newcomers from overseas and help them better adapt to life in Bursa.

We provide an international platform for women with different cultural backgrounds and make sure they get information & tips about life in Bursa.

CONNECT

We encourage communication and friendships between Turkish and foreign women & children.

New ways of media give us plenty of possibilities to connect with our members and their families! By joining BIWA's activities & events, such as BIWA's Gourmet Club or BIWA's playgroup, new international friendships are built. Furthermore, cultural traditions are shared and celebrated together.

SUPPORT

We perform local charity and contribute to Bursa and its citizens, especially to other organizations for women and children.

Everyone is a volunteer at BIWA. Our members show solidarity by sharing their knowledge with others in need. BIWA organizes fundraising events to support local institutions, which are often suggested by our members.

CHATTERBOX

To chatter in our own mother tongue is easy, but what about having conversations in other languages?

In order to help female students from Uludağ University become more fluent in English, some BIWA members met with groups of young girls on a regular basis in the last months. BIWA already played an important role in the 'BUIKAD Noktalama Projesi' last year: the conversations with our members helped the students overcome their fear of speaking in a language that is not their mother tongue.

BIWA members were invited to the concluding ceremony organized by BUIKAD (Bursa Business Women and Administrators Association) at Crowne Plaza on April 29th.

A special 'THANK YOU' to Simone, Maria, Katia and Danielle, as well as to Duygu, Lisa and Tütku!



MAKE A WISH

A dream comes true ...

A 9-year old science-loving child from BURSA is facing a chronic kidney failure. In order to prepare his homework properly, he wished to get a laptop. **BIWA donated 1.200 TL** to 'Bir Dilek Tut Türkiye' to make his wish come true! Click [here](#) for more information. BIWA got a thank-you letter too. Check it out [here](#).

COOKING WITH FRIENDS

Love goes through one's stomach

Who would cook for hours to end up eating the meal alone? Not many people, right? Luckily BIWA has members who simply love cooking and eating with friends. Our Turkish members seem to be Profs in the kitchen. Tülay and Bahar invited other BIWA members to their home and together they prepared delicious Turkish meals. Find the recipes soon on [FB!](#)

What's next? Our 'German team', Simone and Maria, will act as chefs again in May. If you want to be a part of the next month's Gourmet Club, contact Irem.

BOWLING WITH MY HOMIES

A new BIWA adventure with lots of fun ☺

Having coffee and a nice chat sometimes is just not enough. So, this month it was time to meet for bowling. You may expect further 'Fun Tuesday's' soon!



ONLY A FEW DAYS TO GO: BIWA'S GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale: clothes, toys, food; everything you may need

Surely all the BIWA stuff from the old clubhouse wouldn't fit into our new post box, would it? ☺ That's one reason, not to mention the savings, some busy BIWA members emptied our depot this month. A great amount of materials & other items will be sold at our **GARAGE SALE!** The donations and profits from the Garage Sale, together with a € 500 donation from BIWA's founder Elisabeth, will be given to [Lütfi Banuşođlu İlkokulu](#) this year. The school's meeting room needs a remodeled and a library is missing too.

Besides that, BIWA used the 'cleaning up' to help other organizations, such as GÜÇKAT and OÇEM, by handing over BIWA's clubhouse kitchen, playground materials and many things more.

BIWA appreciates all helping hands!

Thank you!



90 kg ANIMAL FOOD DONATION

A visit to the veterinary station ...

Sometimes it is not women or children who need BIWA's support. In March it was time to help and learn more about our four-legged friends. Some of our members and their kids visited the [Hamitler Animal Shelter](#) in Osmangazi, which treats dogs, cats and horses.

And they did not come with empty hands: BIWA donated 90kg of animal food!



OH YES IT'S LADIES NIGHT AND THE FEELING'S RIGHT ...

BIWA's feeling was right too!

The number of participants at the Ladies Night's in March and April show that we must ☺ go on with these 'evening get-togethers'. And we continue it with pleasure! Especially for our working members, it is a perfect chance to meet with international friends after a stressful day! And now, click & sing: [LADIES NIGHT](#)



FACTS

This might be of interest to you...

- Sewing Group & Playgroup are continuing. Get in contact with info@biwabursa.org if you are interested.
- 'Renkli Koşu' (Colour Run) in Bursa on May 14th, 11.30h @ Botanik Park! www.colorsky5k.com/urun/bursa
- For kids: The musical 'Rafadan Tayfa' is coming to Bursa one more time: May 6th. Tickets on www.biletix.com.tr

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

WELCOME – CONNECT - SUPPORT



BIWA INTERNATIONAL PLAYGROUP (BIP)

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 10:30-13:00. 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 to pay. If you are interested in joining, please contact Nurgül via WhatsApp at 0506 338 8969 Our playgroup is always very happy to welcome new moms and kids!

NEW! Come to our evening playgroup on Mondays! For more information contact Akbike (+90 535 6497901)



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 "SUPPORT" 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 at: 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:

info@biwabursa.org
www.biwabursa.org

