



Issue 57 - June 2024



IWCR's June Newsletter

Dear ladies,

I hope that Ligo celebrations gave you a taste of Latvian Culture.

Summer is here, and although we might have a short pause in our activities, the Board is at full speed. Carmen, our Bazaar coordinator, has been working hard on closing the Christmas Bazaar date. (You will hear more from her at the end of Summer).

Many of you have answered the survey we sent out, based on which we will work on adapting our activities to the needs of our members.

And, yes, we are replacing Member Planet with a more user-friendly solution! We hope all of this helps us be more connected and enjoy each others' company more often.

And talking about connection, if you are still not in the Members Whatsapp group, use the link at the end of the newsletter to join!

See you soon,
Laila Stancioff
President of IWCR

Board meeting

Dear ladies,

Hope you all are doing well and enjoy Latvian summer at its fullest. And let me inform you about the results of the recent IWCR Board Meeting which took place on June 17, 2024.

We had the following agenda:

1. Christmas Bazaar 2024 status
2. Accessibility of the IWCR emails
3. Survey results
4. Membership payment procedure
5. MemberPlanet vs other platforms
6. Members list statistics
7. Activities for Members

In the beginning we had online meeting with our Christmas Coordinator Carmen who reached out to Radisson Blu Hotel Latvija and discussed the preliminary issues for Christmas Bazaar 2024 like deposit and available dates. The exact dates will be announced in the nearest future.

Then, Bridget presented the results of the Survey and after the discussion of the results we decided to pay attention to the following moments: information on becoming a member; preferences on the events, ways of communication channels, activities time change, i.e. morning M&G back to Wednesdays, increasing of new activities groups, etc. Therefore, we encourage our ladies be more active in sharing the ideas how we may develop our club's activities.

The results of the Survey are to be published in the June's Newsletter.

Also, our Charity Coordinator Julia informed us about the present status of donations & contracts.

The Social activities calendar will be created but we decided to take a break until the end of August, as summer is a holiday's time.

And of course, our best wishes to your great Midsummer celebration – Latvian Līgo!

Marija Krumina
IWCR Secretary

Charity News



Greetings from the Charity Committee!

June started with one of our regular be-yearly events, the Charity Collection. This time, on June 4th, IWCR was supporting 10 charity organizations, collecting different kind of items for them. Great thanks to all volunteers on the day and to all donors! With your support we managed to collect a lot of clothes, shoes, household items, toys etc. The cars were full! Thanks again to Kathleen for incredible contribution providing Salvation Army premises and being such a friendly host!



IWCR has signed 2 last support agreements planned for this year:

1) 655 euro was donated to Samaritan Assosiation for their project: a field trip for seniors, youth, and disabled persons. IWCR has been supporting different projects of this charity for more than 8 years. More information about this charity can be found by the link <https://www.samaritan-international.eu/member/latvijas-samariesu-apvieniba-lsa/>

2) 400 euro was donated this year to Cystic Fibrosis Assosiation, who we support since 2015. During last 8 years they hold a seminar where invited European specialists share medical information with children and adults with CF and their parents by educating family members in the medical, social and legal fields, thereby increasing their opportunities for self-help. Also on behalf of IWCR a private donor has supported the charity with 1000 euro for the seminar. To read more about the charity please follow the link <https://cistiskafibroze.lv/par-mums/biedriba/>

Great news from Pink Train foundation! They successfully raised 5 000 euro, surpassing their goal of 4 200 euro. We extend our gratitude to Donka for her promotion efforts. IWCR is proud to participate in this initiative.

This summer 2 charity committee members are leaving Latvia. A heartfelt thank you to Inger and Bibi for being part of the committee! We are grateful for your participation and support, and we will miss you!

Julia Pesnya
IWCR Charity Coordinator

Announcement

Meet a member! – 5 Questions to Marija

Every year IWCR elects a new board.

The success of the club, the number of monthly activities and income at the annual Christmas market depend on the work of the board.

We would like to introduce all members of the club's board to the members of our club.

This month we introduce Marija Krūmiņa. She has been the secretary of the club for several years. Marija answered our questions a few years ago and here is this interview. At that time she was helping with the organization of the Evening Meet&Greet.



You can read the full interview here: <https://www.iwcr.lv/meet-a-member-marija/>

Survey Results

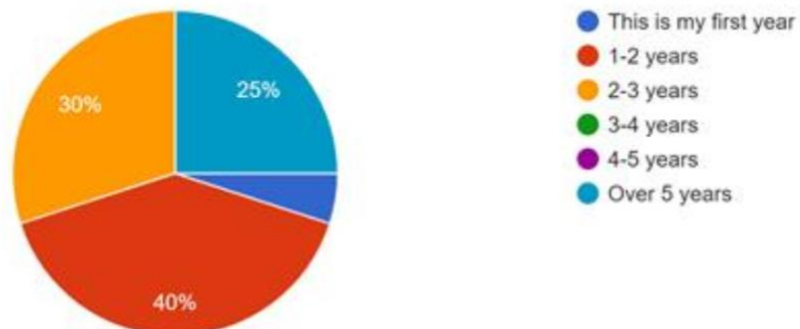
In June, the club conducted a small survey. You can see here the results of the survey.

Thank you to all our members who provided feedback for the 2024-25 IWCR Member Survey.

Bridget Healy
IWCR Treasurer

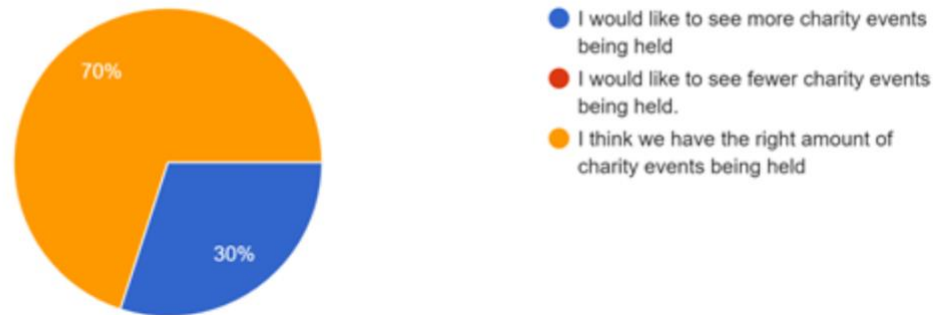
How long have you been a member of the International Women's Club of Riga?

20 responses



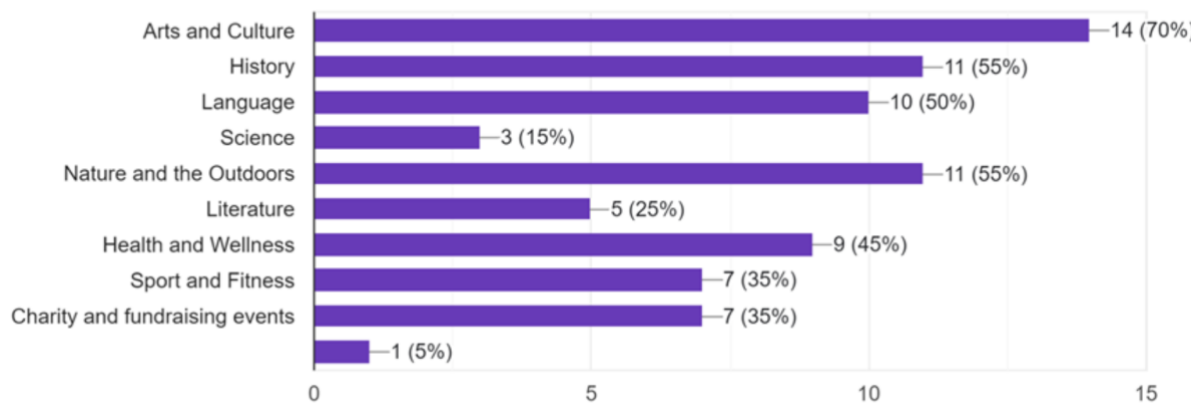
How would you rate the current frequency of charity events held by the IWCR?

20 responses



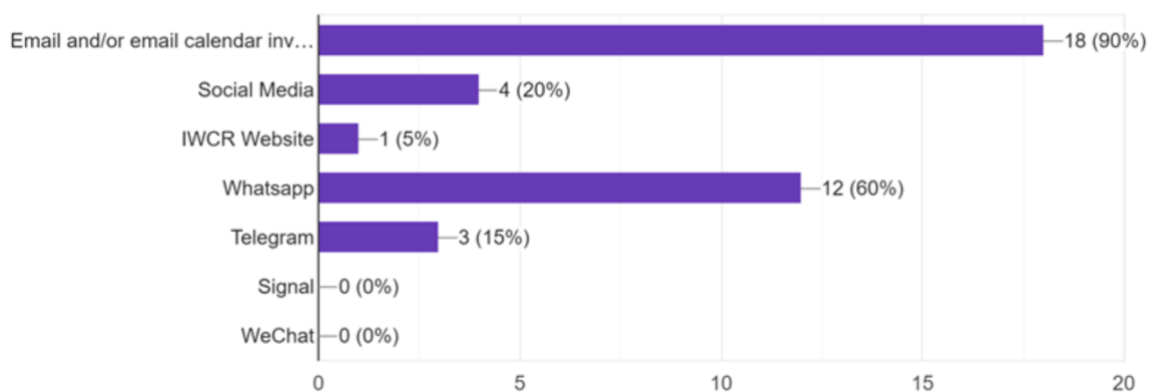
What types of activities would you like to see more of? Check all that apply:

20 responses



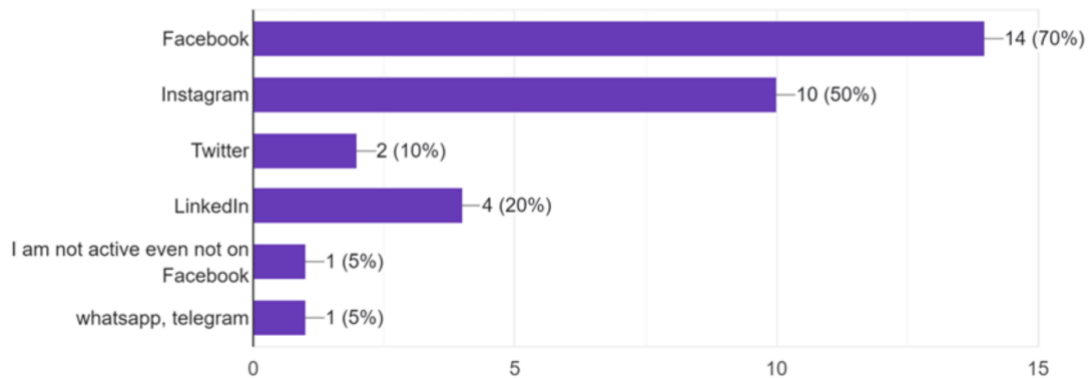
What is the most efficient way to communicate with you about upcoming meetings and events?

20 responses



What social media platforms are you most active on?

20 responses



Please join the IWCR group in WhatsApp.

This can be done in 2 ways:

1. Point your phone camera at the QR code and click on the link that appears.
2. Follow this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EEHopfO1YdjA0pZrEfJuub>

IWCR Monthly Events

Morning Meet&Greet, July 3rd

We invite you to our July Meet & Greet - feel free to bring a friend or someone who might be interested in joining the club!

Please join us to meet some new people, learn more about the IWCR, and hear about some of the upcoming events.

Drinks and snacks will be available to purchase.



When: Wednesday, July 3rd **(THE NEW DAY – EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY OF MONTH)**

Time: 9:30-11:30

Where: Kafe Vilhelms Kuze, Jekaba street 20/22, Riga

English Conversation Club, Every Thursday



We invite you to an online class with like minded ladies to practice your English speaking and listening skills with a native speaking British teacher.

The classes are FREE and held every **Thursday from 1:30pm to 2:15pm via Zoom.**

Everyone is welcome!!!

Each session is led by Ellice, a qualified British teacher who works with

The Phonics School Ltd (www.theponicsschool.com) and has experience helping adults improve their English skills and sound more fluent.

You can register by emailing Sophie at sophie@theponicsschool.com.

Book club

The book club is currently on summer break, but if anyone would be interested in starting it up again in the fall, that would be great!

Send the information to communications.iwcr@gmail.com (Elena Tezhe) and we will help you to organize.

IWCR Monthly Events

Lunch on 21st of June



Would you like to add your event to the calendar? Is there a group you would like to organise? Email social.iwcr@gmail.com to get in contact with the Social Committee, and/or communications.iwcr@gmail.com to add your event to the newsletter!

Do you want to communicate with everyone from the IWCR in WhatsApp? To do this, follow the link and join the IWCR group chat: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EEHopfO1YdjA0pZrEfJuub>

SHARE YOUR EVENTS! Send your event summary and images to communications.iwcr@gmail.com. Please include some basic info (how many people, what did attendees enjoy the most, how many KM you ran, which book you read etc.). Please confirm that the people in the photos have given their permission to publish the photo in this private newsletter!

Club and Newsletter Information

The IWCR Newsletter is for the exclusive use of its members. Views and opinions expressed in individual articles in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the IWCR.

Members can submit announcements, photos, upcoming events, etc. Submission deadline for the Newsletter is the 23rd of the month every month, by midnight to communications.iwcr@gmail.com. Submissions must be from IWCR members only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or edit material sent to the newsletter for publication and cannot guarantee inclusion. Format of submission should be according to the following guidelines:

TOPIC YOUR NAME	INFORMATION - max 150 words Please provide full HTTP links below the text - max 3 links, including email addresses.	Contact Details
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The Newsletter is a new idea for the club, and as such, we are open to comments and suggestions, to communications.iwcr@gmail.com or board.iwcr@gmail.com.

The IWCR Newsletter Coordinator: Elena Tezhe