



# Bulletin of the International Association *of Lyceum Clubs*

[www.lyceumclubs.org](http://www.lyceumclubs.org)

**BULLETIN N° 64 – April 2024**

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## EDITORIAL

Dear friends,

April is just around the corner, and we can all feel the joy of Spring, with its promise of beautiful days and wonderful meetings. The very first will be the one organised for the Cultural Days in Bordeaux. I'd like to thank again the Bordeaux Club and the French Federation for rising to the challenge and organising such a large-scale event so quickly. We already have 290 registrations... the highest number for many years! This is undoubtedly due to the desire we all have to meet each other, as we feel more and more a certain cohesion between us. We are part of a community, and we want to show it.

Actually, this community is constantly growing! In addition to the club in Casablanca, established last year, the Lyceum Club will soon be opening a club in Tunis. There I met some wonderful, very dynamic women, all committed to their professions (lawyer, art gallery owner, doctor, etc.). So, the Lyceum Club is gradually discovering another continent, with all its riches. We undoubtedly have a lot to learn from these women who live in other parts of the world, in other cultures, and this sharing will enrich us all. The ladies from Tunis have already welcomed the Rabat club, and are planning a visit to Morocco next September. That just goes to show how dynamic they are!

The admission of this club to the International Association will be on the agenda for the next ICB meeting, to be held in Bordeaux.

I'm not forgetting Georgia, which we had to give up for the month of May. By the time you read this Editorial, I will have gone to meet them, as announced in the previous Bulletin. I will be visiting the club at the end of March. I'll be delighted to get to know the members of this young club... I also intend to organise a trip in the Autumn, if possible, to plan an inauguration. I'll keep you posted as soon as I get back, and the dates will be confirmed at the ICB in Bordeaux, but if you are already interested in taking part in this trip, please let me know....

I would like to congratulate the many clubs and federations that have increased their membership numbers. It's a sign of renewed dynamism. This increase in membership is accompanied by a definite rejuvenation. I see this as the result of the clubs' efforts to adapt to new means of communication and thus increase the Lyceum Club's visibility. I would also like to congratulate the clubs that are present on the social networks and that have developed (or are currently developing) their website.

Congratulations also to the clubs that are working to raise the profile of the Lyceum Club, by taking part in more general cultural or social events. This was the path followed by the Georgia club. Congratulations also to the many inter-club exchanges... which bring together clubs so far apart geographically. I'd just like to mention the exchange between Tbilisi and Adelaide, which was so much appreciated!

Looking to the future: as well as setting up the Tunis club, I'm continuing to explore new horizons for the Lyceum. At the moment, I have my sights set on Korea... and the United States... and I'm waiting for your suggestions, because, I repeat, any creation can only come about through the impetus of each and every one of you.

I hope you enjoy your reading, and once again I send you my best regards.

**Muriel Hannart**  
**International President.**



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**NEWS FROM THE CLUBS**



THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
*Lyceum Clubs*  
INCORPORATED

(A Member of the International Association of Lyceum Clubs)

Organising the Triennial Conference of the Australian Association of Lyceum Clubs is one of the core responsibilities of the AALC Secretariat, now based at the Karrakatta Club in Perth.

The conference and associated activities will be held from 15-18 September 2024 and planning is well advanced. The timing has been chosen to coincide with Western Australia's spring wildflower season when blooms unique to this biodiverse region of the world create a breathtaking spectacle against a backdrop of stunningly beautiful scenery.

With its theme of Creativity, Innovation and Renewal, the conference program includes a wide range of engaging and interesting speakers, as well as performances by the Melbourne Lyceum Choristers, other cultural events, opportunities to experience the wildflowers and visits to places of interest in and around Perth city. Registrations will be invited soon, and we are pleased at the early level of interest in this event.

Developing and updating policies and procedures to assist our national network is another of the priorities of the AALC Secretariat. Working with all five Australian Lyceum Clubs, a clear and comprehensive travel policy has been finalised and we are now turning our attention to other topics, for example centralised archiving of AALC documents.

The Australian Lyceum Clubs continue to thrive, delivering programs that cater for the many interests of members and create a vibrant and dynamic environment. The Melbourne Lyceum, the largest in the AALC network, now has more than sixty special interest circles of activities, with a Podcast circle and a Be Wise mentoring circle the most recent additions.

The AALC Secretariat is keen to encourage and assist inter-club exchange of information on innovative and successful programs, special events, guest speaker themes and more. There is so much of interest and relevance to share, and this year we have introduced a periodic AALC Update from the Secretariat, creating a further opportunity for communication within the Australian lyceum network.

Following my attendance at the 2023 International Central Bureau meeting in Athens I have been very interested and pleased to maintain contact with the International Central Office via Zoom meetings and other communication on behalf of the Australian Lyceum Clubs. Such opportunities for information exchange and input to discussions are always valuable.

**Dr Agatha van der Schaaf.**

**President Australian Association of Lyceum Clubs**

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Dear Lyceum Friends,

Since October 2023, the International Lyceum Club of Belgium has organised five activities.

In October, we had a private tour of the Maison Hannon, a must-see Art Nouveau/Art Deco gem in Brussels. This visit for Belgian Lyceum members was made possible thanks to Florence Legein. Thank you again Florence!



November's activity was an exception, as we travelled by train to Liège to spend a day in this Belgian city, once the capital of the Principality of Liège. We had the opportunity to visit the station, a work by the architect Calatrava, and La Boverie (Fine Arts Museum) with works by some of Belgium's greatest artists. Then, in the restaurant overlooking the river Meuse, we had the pleasure of tasting Liège's specialities: boulettes à la liégeoise (meatballs with a sweet and sour sauce) and the famous café liégeois. The afternoon was devoted to the performance of Hofmann's Tales at the Liège Opera House. It was a real treat, because compared to the Brussels Opera, the Liège performances are more traditional.



The wonderful Véronique Mattéoli came to teach us all about dance in France in the 20th century. Many of you are familiar with her lecture, and understand just how fascinating it was. The Belgian Lyceum members were all delighted to end the year 2023 with Véronique!

2024 began with a presentation on the history of jewellery and how to determine its value. Dr Céline Rose David, a doctor at the Catholic University of Louvain specialising in the history of jewellery, an international gemmologist and professor, explained everything we wanted to know about our own jewellery and that of others...

In February, we paid a personal visit to the headquarters of the European Council. My former colleague Pedro (a European civil servant) took us behind the scenes of the two Council buildings, "Justus Lipsius" and "Europa", to show us how the work is prepared and how the 27 Heads of State of the European Union are welcomed when they meet in Brussels. Pedro, who is the son of Maria Augusta Alvito, a Lyceum member and former President of the International Lyceum Club of Portugal, acted as our guide, giving us a wealth of details about the workings of the European institutions.



We also had the opportunity to meet Maria Augusta after the visit, as she happened to be exceptionally in Brussels, and it was a great pleasure to invite her to share our lunch. What a wonderful surprise in the spirit of the Lyceum Club!

**Thérèse de Jamblinne, President of the International Lyceum Club of Belgium**

<http://www.lyceumbelgique.be>



## Lykion Ellinidon Ammochostou (LEA)

Dear Lyceum friends,

The Bulletin is indeed the Treasure of the Lyceum!

Thanks to the editorial reports of Mrs. Hannart and the Lyceum reports we travel to most parts of the world learning about their countries and sharing their life activities and achievements.

Cyprus Lyceum's last activity was a dinner meeting at Ajax Hotel Limassol to honour five members for their fifty years of service to the Historic Likion Ellinidon Ammochostou (LEA Cyprus Lyceum) established in 1930 by Maria Ioannou, a teacher with a vision, following the example of the founder of the Lyceum, Constance Smedley, an exceptional courageous lady with a great vision.

### The honoured members were:

- Despo Zeniou – Vice- President ( a niece of the founding President of the Lyceum Maria Ioannou)
- Dora Vasiliadou - Daughter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the Cyprus Lyceum Maritsa Petridou (responsible for the Summer Children Resort)
- Soula Hadjikoumi - Responsible for the Summer Children Resort.
- Valentini Thomaidou - Daughter of Artemisia Yiapanis, member of the Board of Directors of the founding President of the Lyceum Maria Ioannou in 1930.

Vice -President during Claire Angelides' presidency. Appointed President of the Committee of International affairs, a duty that continues to have on the decision of the new President Maria-Niki Thomaides.

The biography of each honoured lady was read while a video of their photos was presented.

All four ladies remained members in the present Board of Directors.

Finally, a tribute was paid to late Julia Toumazis, Vice -President during Claire Angelides' presidency for her fifty years of service to the Lyceum.

It was an emotional evening with lots of memories.

Warmest regards,

**Valentine Thomaides**  
**International Affairs**



The Spring programme for the Helsinki Club ended with a much-awaited interesting excursion day. Last May we visited the Old Rauma Town which has been accepted onto the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The unique Old Rauma is an excellent example of an old Nordic wooden town. Old Rauma was founded in 1442 and is the third oldest town in Finland. The wooden town area is the largest one in the Nordic countries. In Spring, the colours of the old wooden houses shine in a special way. Red, green, yellow and other lovely colours.



Rauma is located on the shore of the Baltic Sea and therefore it is also well known for shipping. A speciality is also bobbin lace. In July, they arrange a special “Lace week” with lots of happenings. In Rauma, they speak a very special dialect of the Finnish language, which is not easy even for local people to understand.

We had a lovely day with lots of interesting things to see and experience. Best of it all, however, was that we had the opportunity to be together and enjoy each other's company.



**Benita Tallqvist, President of the Finnish Federation**



## 2023 /2024 FFILC activities

Two themes: New Zealand and cohesion.

In fact, I have suggested to the sixteen Presidents of the French Federation that they should focus their activities on New Zealand, in anticipation of the Congress to be held in Tauranga in 2025.

The length of the journey may make this trip unlikely for many, however, let's get closer by discovering through literature, films, music or exhibitions, this country whose landscapes are ranked among the most spectacular in the world. Here are just a few actions:

The Grenoble Club welcomed the daughter of one of its members, Cécile Jay, married and living in Auckland. Cécile had a lovely chat with the Lyceum members over breakfast in a New Zealand café in Grenoble.

In Bordeaux, the films of director Jane Campion were the subject of meetings and debates.

Exhibition: North Brittany Club discovered writer Tolkien. The film «*The Lord of the Rings*» is an American-New Zealand fantasy trilogy inspired by his work.

Paris has scheduled a literary exchange with Rabat based on Fiona Kidman's novel "*The Book of Secrets*", and a visit to the Māori department at the Quai Branly Museum.



Setting for the film : "*The Lord of the Rings*"



Cohesion session

Second theme: Cohesion, an important objective for the Federation and our clubs. The publication of a booklet to mark the FFILC's 60th anniversary is the first step in this quest. By summarizing the history of the Federation, accompanied by selected extracts from Constance Smedley's biography, "*Crusaders*," I have made a point of recalling the lasting creations of our predecessors, International Bulletins and Cultural Encounters.

I hope that our members will become more aware of belonging to the "great community of women, bringing together women from all over the world and showing them how much they can accomplish for each other" C .Smedley.

Looking forward to meeting you at the Cultural Days in Bordeaux, in May!

**Sabine COIFFE President of the FFILC**

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Lyceum Club Georgia has showcased a diverse array of events and activities, encapsulating cross-cultural collaborations, philanthropic endeavours, and artistic appreciation. Through a meticulous orchestration of engagements, the club endeavoured to promote cultural exchange, community engagement, and scholarly discourse among its members and the wider community.

An example of the Club's commitment to fostering international dialogue and cultural exchange was the Zoom presentation about famous Georgian artist Niko Pirosmani prepared by our club member, Art Historian Sophiko Keburia for the Australian Club. This cross-continental collaboration served as a platform for members to engage in scholarly discussions, share insights, and cultivate a deeper understanding of art and culture of the country across the geographical boundaries.

Integral to the Club's ethos of social responsibility was its involvement in a charity event dedicated to supporting a family of one art historian who was unfairly left homeless. Leveraging its collective resources and network, the club participated in fundraising initiatives among the artists, gallerists, art historians and art dealers.



Participation in the Winter Fair organized by the International Women's Association (IWA) Georgia at the Sheraton Grande Tbilisi Metechi Palace exemplified the Club's engagement with broader societal and cultural initiatives. By actively contributing to the fair's multinational program, which encompassed cultural showcases, culinary experiences, and charitable endeavours, the Club underscored its dedication to fostering intercommunity solidarity and celebrating the rich tapestry of cultural diversity inherent within Georgian society.

A very special event was the exclusive exhibition featuring Tamar de Létoy-Vachnadze, which showcased the commitment to cultural heritage preservation and artistic patronage. The members have shared immersive



narrative that elucidated the life, works, and enduring legacy of this eminent French scenographer and designer of Georgian origin. The exhibition was the intersection of artistic expression, cultural identity, and historical context.



**Tsira BEWICK**

**President of Lyceum Club Georgia**

<https://ilc-georgia.org/en/>



## It all started with a thread... Brief history of lace in Europe.

### An all-female meeting of the Lyceum of Cremona for Women's Day 2024

A few days ahead of March 8, the traditional date of Women's Day, the International Lyceum Club and the Cremonese Historical Society, not surprisingly both led by two women, **Laura Ruffini** for the Lyceum and for the Cremonese Historical Society **Angela Bellardi** ( who is also a Lyceum member), have decided to jointly dedicate a meeting to a purely feminine art, that of lace.



**On Tuesday 5 March**, in the conference room of the Filodrammatici Society, **Elsa Scarinzi**, a collector, was the protagonist of the meeting. Introduced by Sonia Tassini, Vice -President of the Italian Federation of Lyceum Clubs, she showed some precious artefacts from her collection, and she analysed what the production of needle and bobbin lace in Europe was like, in particular in Italy, France and the Netherlands.



Not only were the differences and similarities between the various lace schools highlighted, for example, those of Venice and Cantù in Italy, but also the fact that these works are wrongly considered only "feminine", while they fully fall within what are called "minor arts", a term perhaps a bit reductive given that today, even contemporary artists use this technique for their works.

These works, initially born in the intimacy of homes and part of the traditional education of young aristocrats, were soon documented as activities also in monasteries, orphanages and charitable institutions.



Generally, little is said about lace, often confusing the various productions, yet the literature on this subject is extremely rich without forgetting that the Po Valley and the Cremona area have also been involved in the production and processing of the yarn, very often linen, used to produce some of these masterpieces.

The term “masterpiece,” then, does not seem exaggerated given that to give an example of the value that was attributed to

these artefacts in the 18th century, it will be enough to remember that in 1787 in London, lace was quoted at 40 pounds per ounce, that is, 10 times the value of gold!



The aim of the meeting and of the speaker in particular, was therefore to convey the taste for Beauty that is inherent in these artefacts, as well as the preciousness and virtuosity with which they were always produced by female hands in the past, so much so that an Italian request for UNESCO recognition of the art of lace as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity is ongoing.

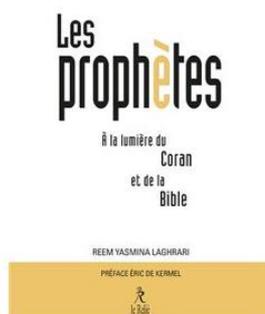
Finally, it is worth remembering that it was the Lyceum Club of Cremona that organised the only city exhibition dedicated to the *Pizzi* (laces) of the Diocese of Cremona in 1990, of which we still have the beautiful catalogue edited by the art historian Luisa Bandera Gregori.

**Extract from the Cremona newspaper: “la Provincia”**

**Maria Claudia BIANCULLI President of the Italian Federation of Lyceum Clubs**



## Exceptional literary encounter with Reem Yasmina Laghrari and Eric de Kermel on the book "Les prophètes - A la lumière du Coran et de la Bible" ...



On December 12, 2023, the Lyceum Club of Rabat had the privilege of organizing an exceptional literary event at the Story Rabat Boutique Hôtel & Spa. The event was attended by Éric de Kermel, who has a deep relationship with Morocco, woven of memories and discoveries, and who shared the fruit of a singular collaboration with author Reem Yasmina Laghrari. Together, they took the audience on a journey through the history of the prophets, illuminated by the Koran and the Bible... a beautiful work, divinely written by Reem and magnificently prefaced by Éric.

Éric de Kermel's life is intrinsically linked to Morocco, a fertile land where many chapters of his life have taken root and influenced his stories. From his teenage years to the family ties he forged, each experience enriched his writer's soul. It was in this spirit of discovery and sharing that he met Reem Yasmina Laghrari. The preface to her book was not a simple exercise in style, but an immersion in a revealing manuscript, an exchange between two worlds, two traditions, sublimated by the pen of an author whose scientific rigor equals her quest for meaning. Eric and Reem, driven by a literary and spiritual friendship, offer us a journey through time and beliefs.

The book in question, and the evening dedicated to its presentation, embody a model of everyday interreligious dialogue, dear to our country, Morocco. Reading this book is not just an act of learning, but an experience of wonder and joy, an exploration into the heart of the prophets' encounter, told like an epic.

By orchestrating this encounter, the Lyceum Club of Rabat pays tribute to the richness of a cultural and spiritual dialogue, celebrates the beauty of the exchange between two traveling souls, and exalts the harmony of a world where differences compose the most beautiful of canvases.

Anyone who reads Reem Yasmina Laghrari's book will sense the author's joy and wonder at the encounter between the prophets, giving life to an epic tale that can be devoured like a novel.

***Salwa Benomar***

***General Secretary of the Lyceum Club of Rabat***



### Trip to Abrantes

In the first quarter of 2024, the Club took its members on a cultural trip to Abrantes (a Portuguese city in the district of Santarém, with around 17,500 inhabitants) where they all enjoyed the local sweets and museums.

What struck us most was the visit to the Castle and the IMAA - Iberian Museum of Archaeology and Art, which opened in December 2021 and on 26 May 2023 received the prestigious Museum of the Year award from the Portuguese Museology Association.



The preservation and dissemination of a valuable archaeological collection, based on pieces from before the foundation of Portugal, are at the origin of the creation of the museum, which was born in the former Convent of S. Domingos, a 16th century building, first occupied by Dominican friars and located in the Historic Centre of the city of Abrantes.

Moving through the rooms with permanent exhibitions allows you to revisit multiple cultures and civilisations through contact with artefacts and works of art from prehistoric to contemporary times. The time span covered by the collections on display at the IMAA, dating from the first hominids to the present day, makes it a unique exhibition space in Portugal.



Next, we went to visit a traditional confectionery factory in the region, the best known of which is "Palha de Abrantes", named after the Tagus River. The river port of Abrantes was known as Porto das Barcas and was very important in the 16th century because all kinds of goods were shipped from here to Lisbon, for example olive oil, cork and straw, which is why the Tagus estuary, in the late afternoon, with its waters covered in straw blown by the wind and the setting sun giving it golden hues, earned the epithet "Mar da Palha" (Straw Sea), thus giving rise to the name of one of the town's best-known sweets, "Palha de Abrantes" (Abrantes Straw).

Some of the squares in the historic centre of Abrantes have the name "straw" inserted in them because straw markets are held there.

The sale of Palha de Abrantes to the public in a commercial establishment began in 1906, with the opening of "Casa Vigia", in what is now "Largo João de Deus", formerly Largo da Cruz do Pasteleiro, a place name associated with the pastry trade.

At 6pm, we returned home, comforted by the good experiences we'd had on our trip to the city of Abrantes.

**Ana Clara Mendonça**  
**President of the Lyceum Club of Lisbon**



The Lyceum Club in Stockholm meets once a month for a presentation followed by tea and sandwiches. The club also organizes excursions and guided walks in Stockholm much appreciated by our members.

In 2023, Sweden had occasions for celebrations, as “Sweden 500 years”.

Sweden was formed as an independent nation in 1523, when Gustaf Vasa got our country out of an uneasy Scandinavian union. He had four sons, three of whom became Kings, and five daughters including Cecilia, whose life we were introduced to. She was a boisterous girl in her youth but seems to have acted independently and wisely throughout her long life

Staying in the royal sphere, a journalist described in her book “Profession: Queen – power and possibilities” Sweden’s Queen Sylvia at gala occasions, but most importantly she gave us an inside view of some of the Queen’s social engagements which mainly concern children.

Russia seems to be an issue every year and for the Swedes, living in its geographical proximity, there is always an interest to learn more. This year the presenter, a former top diplomat, with a longlife interest for Russia, shared his views and feelings about Russia.

“The master of wrapping” Christo and his wife had a photographer who documented all the couple’s works. He visited us to talk about the large-scale work of Christo and showed us a number of wrappings, such as the Wrapped Reichstag, the Wrapped Pont Neuf, the Running Fence in California and The Surrounded islands in Greater Miami ( Florida).



*The Surrounded islands 1980-1983 (Biscayne Bay Greater Miami)*

300 years ago, the Swedish Est-India Company, founded in 1737, taught us to drink tea, use herbs and decorate with silk fabrics. We learnt that, inspired by other European East-Indian companies trading with the Far East, the Swedish East-India was trading successfully mainly with China. In 1813 it was forced out of business due to the Napoleonic Wars.

A theme of great interest is our capital, Stockholm. We were guided through the town in pictures by an entertaining journalist giving us stories about art and all kind of peculiarities.

**Christina Bratt**  
**Lyceum Club of Stockholm.**



Under the title "SWISS MADE" the 42nd music competition of the ILC Switzerland took place on 17 February 2024 in the large hall of the Basel Music Academy. This time, the competition was for the choral conducting category.

Five candidates were assessed by a three-member jury on the basis of a public dress rehearsal followed by a concert. The choir at their disposal were 24 members of the Basel Madrigalists, a professional choir with an international reputation.

Prior to this, the candidates had the opportunity to rehearse the works for two days under the guidance of Raphael Immoos as part of a masterclass organised by him.



Photograph: Benno Hunsiker

The jury consisted of Lukas Bolt, St. Gallen, Dr Jessica Ulusoy-Horsley, Basel and Prof. Georg Grün, Saarbrücken.

Swiss compositions of contemporary music by Heinz Holliger, Thüning Bräm, Walter Courvoisier, Conrad Beck, Hans-Martin Linde, Javier Hagen and Frank Martin were performed.

Four of these composers were present in person at the final concert in the packed Great Hall of the Basel Music Academy! Our International President, Muriel Hannart, had also travelled to Basel for the event.

The prize winner was **Deborah Züger**. Instead of prize money, she will be given the opportunity to rehearse and conduct a concert with the Basel Madrigalists in the following season, which will then be co-financed by the ILC Switzerland. We congratulate her warmly and wish her every success!

Thanks to the collaboration with the Basel Madrigalists, our competition received considerably more publicity this time, as Swiss radio SRF 2 Kultur, for example, recorded the dress rehearsal and the final concert. The concert will be broadcast on the radio and the candidates will be given this recording to further their careers.

**Maria-Barbara Nytsch,**

**President of the Music Commission, ILC Switzerland**



## The Netherlands



The Nijmegen Lyceum club is twinned with the Frankfurt-Rhein-Main Lyceum club and was invited to join them to visit the attractive town of Wiesbaden from 9 to 11 September, 2023. The 12 ladies from Nijmegen, some of whom were making a second visit to their sister club, were very warmly welcomed by Erika Partsch, President of LC Frankfurt-Rhein-Main.

Wiesbaden is a beautiful city even more so in the lovely weather we had, and the German ladies enjoyed showing us around. On the first day we visited the Neroberg and the Russian Orthodox Church there. The view from the Neroberg is wonderful. In the evening, we shared a 'gemütlich' (friendly) dinner with our German hostesses. As a gift, the Nijmegen club was presented with a certificate attesting to its contribution to the planting of several trees on the Königstein forest estate in the Taunus region. It is close to Frankfurt where several years ago a forest fire destroyed many of the trees. LC Nijmegen also donated a small 'friendship' tree to their sister club.



On our second day a bus was ready and waiting at 10.00 am to take us on a tour of the Rheingau, where we visited Rudesheim, the Niederwalddenkmal (Niederwald monument) and Schloss Johannisberg. The morning closed with a walk in the city centre of Wiesbaden. This was a most successful visit with contact between the two clubs being renewed.

The membership of LC Nijmegen is increasing steadily. This year we welcomed our 75<sup>th</sup> member. We have an active membership and the club activities are on the whole well supported. Gradually we are looking forward to the club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2025. The first preparations have already begun.

**Ria Koeneman,**

**President of the Nijmegen Lyceum club**

[www.lyceumclubnijmegen.nl](http://www.lyceumclubnijmegen.nl)



## International Lyceum Club of Edinburgh

Over the winter three of our club members gave a talk at our monthly meetings.

At our October meeting Rosemary Gold spoke about her father-in-law Dr Andrew Gold. The title of the talk was: “An Inspiration, An absorbing story of one man’s life and work in the field of medicine”. Having first qualified and worked as a pharmacist and then as a doctor working in General Practice, he realised his patients’ problems needed a different approach. He wanted to show people a healthier lifestyle and focus on preventative medicine based on natural methods, a good diet, not smoking, fresh air and exercise He bought a large property which he ran as a holistic healing centre while using his medical knowledge and experience.

Dr Gold was a man of vision, way ahead of his time in the 1930s.

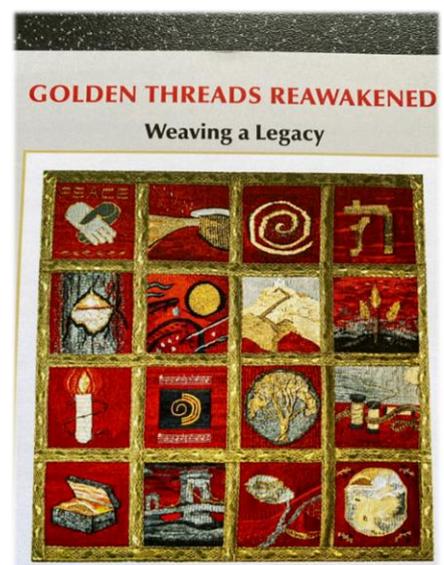
In February Hilary Watkinson and Joan Huston spoke about the *Golden Threads Tapestry* which they had worked on. This was a community project woven and assembled by 17 amateur weavers in Edinburgh.

Hilary did the third row down on the left, candle, which depicted a Glimmer of Hope and Joan did the fourth row down and second from the right, leaf, depicting New Life Sycamore.

The Golden Threads belonged to a German Jew who narrowly avoided the Holocaust when she and her husband left Berlin in 1941 to join family in Pennsylvania. The threads were later passed on to their daughter and granddaughter.

Their granddaughter wanted something purposeful and interesting to be done with the threads.

The weavers each designed a panel drawing on the themes refugee travel and survival, avoiding conflict, reaching out, building bridges and seeking to make the world a better place.



Thank you to Rosemary, Hilary and Joan for such interesting talks which the club members enjoyed so much.

**Diane Burrow**

**President of the International Lyceum Club of Edinburgh**



**Muriel Hannart, International President**



**Elisabeth Dragon, Editor**



**Eva-Maria Sima-Meyer, co-Editor**



**Véronique Courtemanche, Web Manager**

