cfuw PARKSVILLE QUALICUM Realizing potential. For all women.



Our Theme this year:

Conversations that Matter

October 2026

Leadership Circle Members:

President: Christine Pagan president@cfuwpq.ca
Co-Vice Presidents: Di Groffen, Dana Goedbloed vp@cfuwpq.ca
Treasurer: Kath Northrup treasurer@cfuwpq.ca
Webmaster: Erin Holmes website@cfuwpq.ca

Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: https://cfuwpq.ca

Meeting: Monday, November 09, 6:30 for 7PM at St Columba Presbyterian Church
Speaker: Doug Fraser
Program: How do I know it is true?

What To Look For:

President's Report
Program
Book Sale process
Craft Bazaar reminder
Bookish Things, Book clubs, Book review

President's Message



Many of you will be aware that Christine is on family leave at the moment. In her absence, the vice-presidents are ready to assist.

Program



We need another volunteer to help make coffee prior to our monthly meetings. If you're available, email Shelley at shelleypringle@gmail.com.

Feel free to bring your own mug to our meetings at St. Columba. We'll save a bit of money…and your coffee or tea will taste better.

Shelley is starting to plan our speaker program for 2027/28. If you have speaker ideas, please send your suggestions to shelleypringle@gmail.com.

(Contributed by Shelley P.)

Book Sale Activity

The theme is, "And the work goes on . . . " since the book sale team is at work all year. The moment a book sale is finished, the work towards next year starts. Community members drop donations into the book donation box at Save-on Foods or notify a team member. A worker picks up the books and delivers them to the storage unit. Team members sort the books and decide where to store each donation. Here, Joan M. gestures to the first three filled boxes of the 2027 sale.



To better understand the routine, she supplied pictures of the full storage unit (on the left) just before the trucks picked up the contents and delivered them to the hall, ready for the 2026 sale (on Sep 18). On the right, see the storage unit ready to be filled with sorted donations (on Sep 30). (Those are empty boxes piled up.)





(With pictures and information contributed by Joan M.)

Repeat/Reminder: World Craft 23rd Bazaar

When: Saturday, October 31, 2026

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Where: Knox United Church

345 Pym St, Parksville

Coordinator: Louise Sosa, PQ Kairos & Aldea Maya

Contact: Norma Emerson, PQ Kairos, 250-752-9057

ANNOUNCEMENT & INVITATION

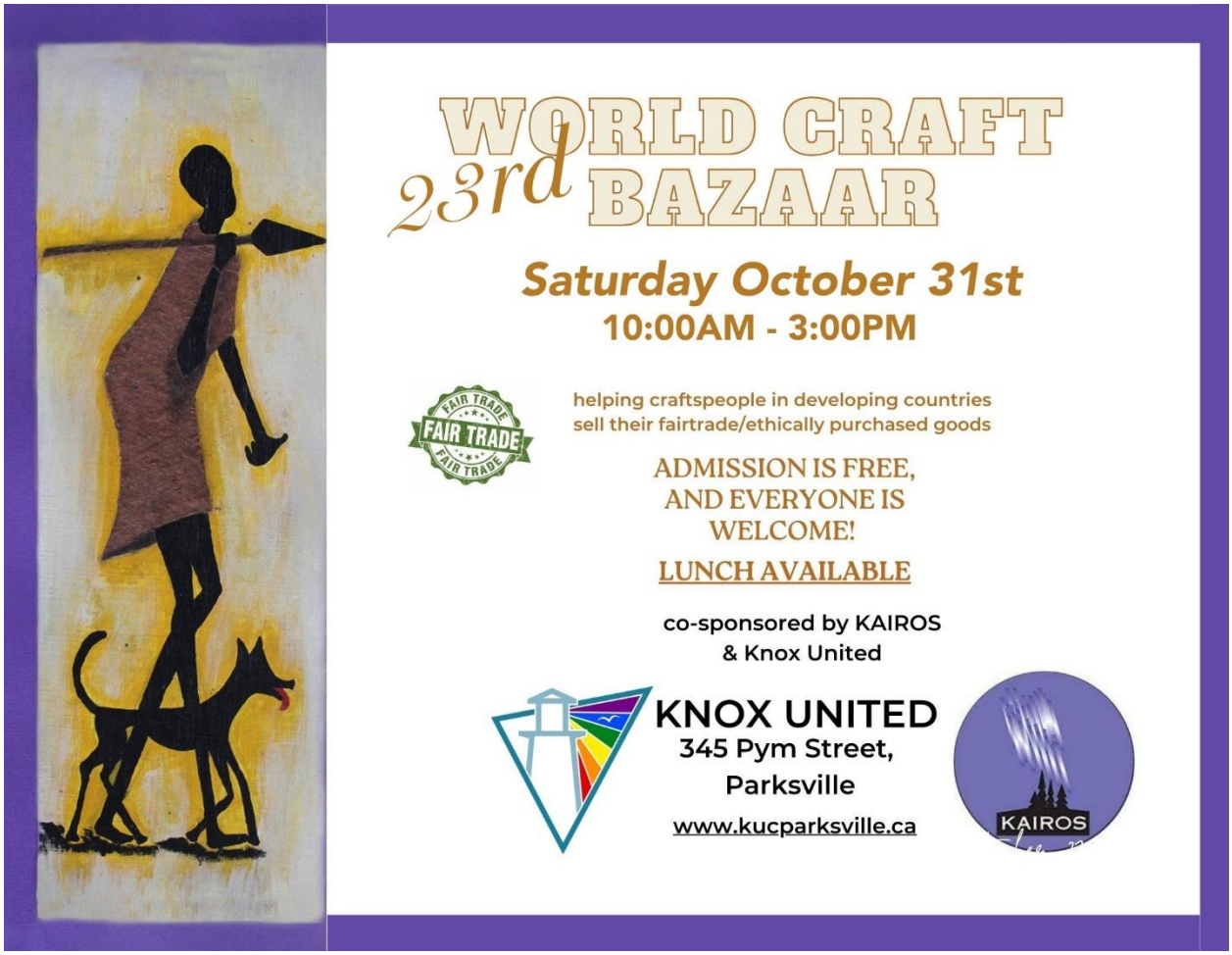
ALL ARE WELCOME

On Saturday, October 31, the 23rd Oceanside World Craft Bazaar brings artisanal treasures from around the globe to Knox United Church in Parksville. This PQ Kairos/Knox United Church event is part of one of the largest world craft fairtrade networks in BC. Vendors are the international artisans who have created the items being sold and representatives of non-profit organizations whose aid programs benefit humanitarian programs in developing countries. The Oceanside World Craft Bazaar will be open from 10 am to 3 pm on October 31, 435 Pym St, free admission, lunch available.

Items offered for sale will include: handwoven, hand printed textiles, clothing, pillows and blankets; individually designed rugs, baskets, and totes; beadwork and jewelry; greeting cards, toys and seasonal items for gift giving; ethically made personal care and cooking ingredients; plus much, much more.

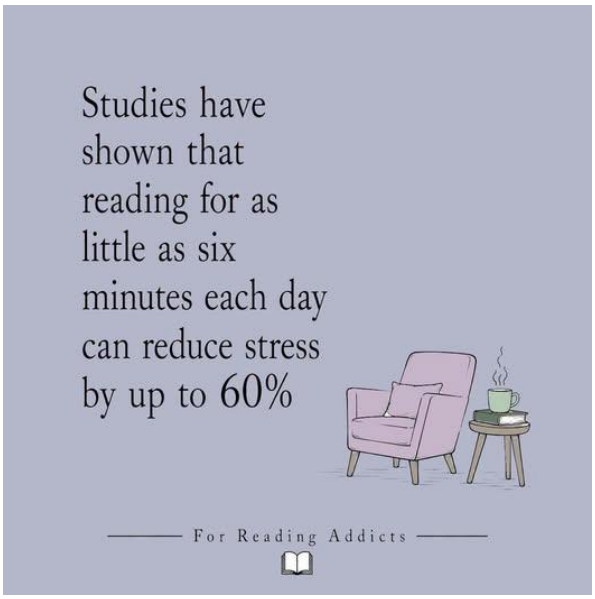
Countries of origin include Ukraine, India, Nepal, Vietnam, Kenya, Uganda, Guatemala, Peru and more. In addition, there will be opportunities to meet both artisans and volunteer service providers to learn more about techniques used in creating the items and about the educational, nutrition, health, and environmental programs supported by sale proceeds.

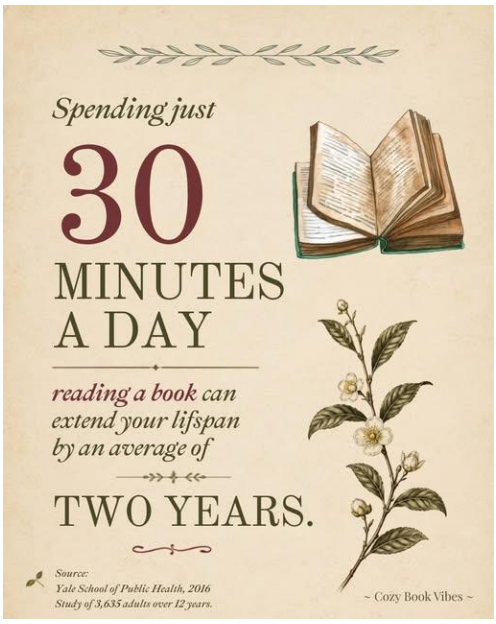
October is celebrated widely as Fair Trade Month. Visitors to the Oceanside World Craft Bazaar can feel confident that they are making an ethical purchase and are also part of a movement that supports fair wages, sustainable practices and community development. Participating artisans and organizations, together with cosponsors PQ Kairos and Knox United Church, look forward to welcoming one and all to the 23rd Annual Oceanside World Craft Bazaar, Knox United Church, 345 Pym Street, Parksville. For more information, please contact Norma Emerson, 250-752-9057.

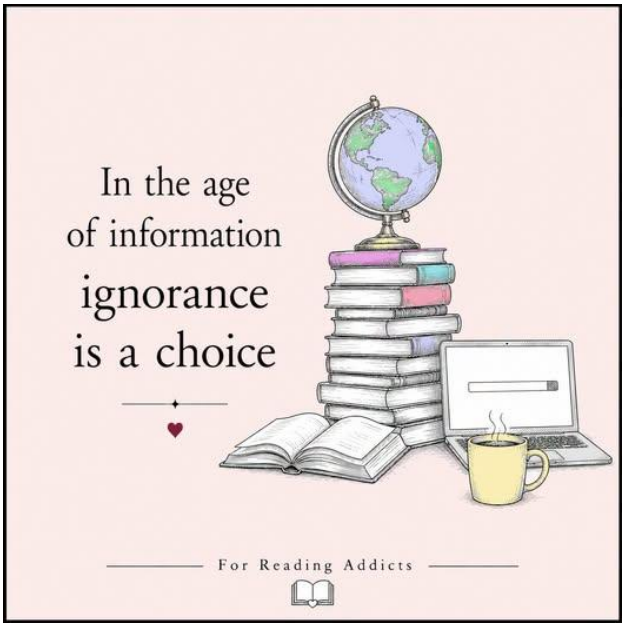


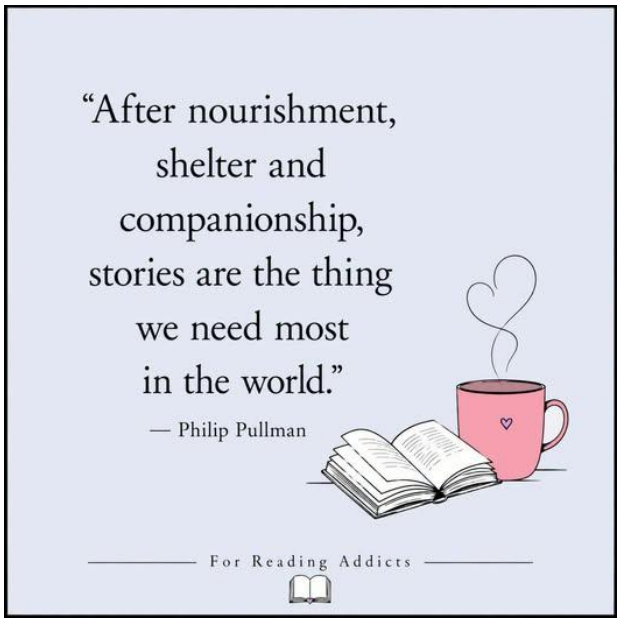
(Contributed by Perry P.)

Bookish Stuff



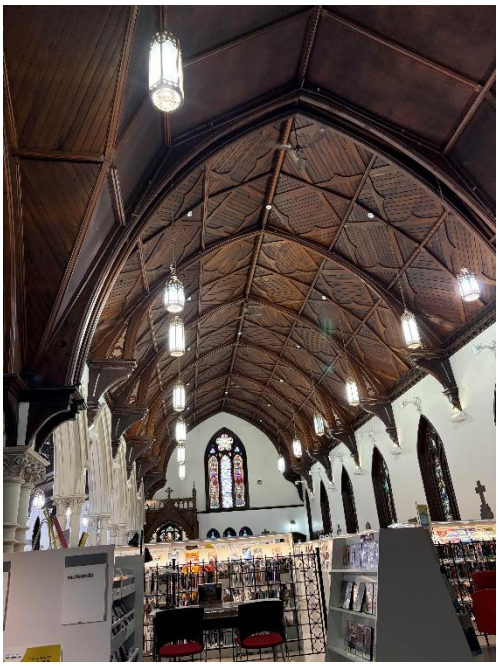






Of interest to bibliophiles

This library (in Quebec City) was once a church.



QFP (Quality Foods Parksville) Booklovers

We meet upstairs the third Thursday of the month at 7 p,m.
Sep 17 Small Things Like These - Claire Keegan11
Oct 15 Ellen Finding Flora - Elinor Wingate8
Nov 19 Remarkably Bright Creatures – Shelby Van Pelt
Dec 17 Searching For Terry Punchout -Tyler Hellard
Jan 21 The Finest Hotel in Kabul - Lyse Doucet
Feb 18 The Correspondent - Virginia Evans
Mar 18 The Frozen River - Ariel Lawhon
Apr 15 Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books - Kirsten Miller
May 20 not yet decided

(Contributed by Maureen W.)

Shrinking Violets Book Club

Theme: No report this time.

(Contributed by Noreen B.)

Book Review of the Month

Everything Was Beautiful and Nothing Hurt (2026) by Ben Reeves

This is a very unusual book. I doubt you have ever experienced the plot or the characters before. As the back cover says, Travis lives a quiet life with a cat in an apartment in a small town. He is "the cosmic force of Death." His role is to be with people who are dying. Mostly, they know who he is and why he has come to them. He is unemotional and there simply to perform a function. He helps them accept what will happen. If there is time, he releases them to relive their happiest moments.

His life is overturned by an eight-year old girl (Layla) who lives across the hall with her mother Dalia (who is a midwife) and baby sister. She very much wants to know Travis better and spend time with him. Against his better judgment, he becomes almost a part of their family. He even cares for the children when Dalia is called to work. Layla is a fizzing bundle of energy and fun. But, but, we know, as Travis does, that this cannot, should not continue. Life (and Death) come to us all. He will attend and do as he is intended to do. But, the scenario is vividly depicted and sorrowful indeed. Events leave protracted sorrow in their wake.

You could call it a meditation on the reality of our existence – what it is to live and love and what it is to lose someone dear. Dalia becomes persuaded that it is not yet her time to die, that she has the opportunity to live and love and continue for some time to come, hard as it can be. At the very end of the book, we learn that it is not always that particular escort. There will be an escort, but he will not always look or sound the same. It can be a very difficult role to play, but it is a kindly thing to have done for you. Much is unexplained, but you can play around with the idea and decide if such a thing is good, needed, helpful. I thought it was rather lovely.

(Contributed by Barbara B.)