

AAFI AFICS *Newsletter*

ASSOCIATION DES ANCIENS FONCTIONNAIRES INTERNATIONAUX - Genève
ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS - Geneva

Geneva, 20 August 2026

Dear members,

AAFI-AFICS has the pleasure to enclose the invitation to the Greycells coffee morning of Thursday, 17 September 2026, 10:00 – 12:00, at Club Suisse de la Presse, Château de Penthes, Genève

Interested persons are invited to register by sending an email to greycells08@gmail.com

With best regards.

Odette Foudral, pour l'AAFI-AFICS

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Morning Coffee with Greycells

How to Tell a Story

With guest speaker **Carlotta Graffigna**

Thursday, 17 September 2026
10:00–12:00

Club Suisse de la Presse, Château de Penthes, Geneva
(Bus 20 • Parking available)

Have you ever thought, "*One day I should write a story*"?

Many of us have lived fascinating lives, travelled the world, met remarkable people, and collected experiences worth preserving. Whether you dream of writing a novel or simply expressing your ideas more creatively, the hardest part is often knowing where to begin.

Join Greycells for an inspiring Morning Coffee with **Carlotta Graffigna**, who will share practical insights into the art of storytelling and creative writing. Together we'll explore questions such as:

- Can creative writing be taught?
- What makes a story work?
- What happens in a creative writing course?
- What does the famous rule "*show, don't tell*" really mean?
- Which point of view should you choose?
- Is there an ideal writing routine?
- Why are beginnings, and endings, so important?

Carlotta combines an impressive international career with a passion for writing. A graduate in Law from the Universities of Turin and Amsterdam, and a former Executive Director at WIPO, she later pursued her love of fiction through creative writing studies at the University of East Anglia and Scuola Holden in Turin. She has also been mentored by acclaimed authors Charlotte Mendelson and Marco Missiroli.

Whether you're an experienced writer, an aspiring novelist, or simply curious about the craft of storytelling, this promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking morning. Bring your questions, your curiosity, and perhaps the first chapter of the story you've always wanted to tell...

Coffee, tea and pastries will be served. We look forward to welcoming you!