



**International
Women's
Association**

AUGUST 1993

IWA NEWS LETTER

Vol. VIII No. : 3

Madras

AUGUST 1993

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tuesday, 3rd August	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10-30 a.m.
Friday, 6th August	HEALTH AND ECOLOGY Honey & Bees — a talk by Mr. A. G. Matheson, Director International Bee Research Association	10-15 a.m.
Monday, 9th August	CURRENT EVENTS AND CAREERS Mr. Akbar Khaleeli, Indian High Commissioner in Australia talks on 'Diplomacy in different countries at different times'.	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 10th August	HEALTH AND ECOLOGY 'A Healthy Family is a Happy Family' — a demonstration of Home Adulteration Kit	10-15 a.m.
Thursday, 12th August	COOKING SWAPSHOP Demonstration of 'Exotic' Continental preparations by Mr. Y. B. Mathur, the Executive Chef of W. G. Park Sheraton Hotel & Towers	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 17th August	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION Talk on the "Arya Samaj" by Mr. Jaidev Choudhry	10-15 a.m.
Thursday, 19th August	HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS A talk by Dr. Loknatha Sarma on India's Heritage of Indian Musical Instruments at the Mylapore Museum of Indian Musical Instruments	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 24th August	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS Hollywood to Bollywood	10-15 a.m.

Friday, 27th August	ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS A demonstration of the art of Applique by Ellen Blaesbjerg	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 31st August	BOOK DISCUSSION This month's Book is the Pulitzer Prize Winner 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison	10-15 a.m.

IWA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fond Farewells

To Ernestine Heck who returns to the U.S. to her new assignment in Washington.

To Rashmi Verma who has moved to Delhi/Jaipur.

To Rupa Kapur who has moved to New York.

Congratulations to

Zubeida Asgarali for becoming a proud grandmother of a grandson.

Change of Telephone Number

Rini Kumar — New Number is 452845

Condolences to

Malathi Ramachandran on the demise of her husband.

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

We hope you enjoyed the Founder's Day. We would like to give a special thanks to all the various members who contributed in so many ways to make it a success.

With the increased membership of IWA and the good attendance at meetings, we find that individual homes are not large enough to accommodate all of us. It has, therefore, become increasingly necessary to resort to group hostess and organise the programme in a public hall, which can seat more people. We find that the same members come forward each time, and many members have told us that they were not aware, nor given an opportunity. To avoid this, we are contacting in alphabetical order, all those who are not offering their homes for hosting a meeting. Please do co-operate with our Chairpersons when they call on you.

If there is a meeting in somebody's house, please do not bring guests.

NANDITHA KRISHNA
ARUNA VIJAYKUMAR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 3rd August, 1993 — 10-30 a.m.

At : Poonam Lalchand
3, College Lane
Madras-600 028
Tel. : 8272947



DOWN THE GARDEN PATH

We are sure that all the members who were able to attend the Founder's Day, found it a memorable occasion. Our Founder President, Nirmal Seshadri has pointed out that the date for the Formal Inauguration of IWA was 24th July 1986, and so we apologise for the error in the July issue of the News Letter. In August, we move from the month of Adi to the month of Avani when we celebrate Lord Krishna's Birthday. On August 2nd Padinettamperukku celebrates the flooding of the River Kaveri to auger a good harvest. Raksha Bhandan or Rakhi also falls on 2nd August this year.

Mr. O. T. Ravindran tells us that for a casual visitor, Ferns may not be the plants for Madras. Strangely, the hills nearby Madras shelter "The Walking Fern" **Adiantum Candatum**; but the plant can only be seen in the cooler months. The garden ferns that grow satisfactorily here are the Boston Fern **Nephrolepis Exaltata**, **Blechnum Sap**, **Phyllitis Scolopendrum** and **Preris Cretica**. Certainly ferns are a delightful addition to the greening of any garden or balcony.

We will end in a more light hearted mood this month with a limerick. We hope members will create their own limericks so we may publish them later in the year — the subject IWA or its members.

"There was an old person whose habits
Induced him to feed upon Rabbits
When he'd eaten eighteen, he turned perfectly green
Upon which he relinquished those habits".

— EDWARD LEAR, 1846

MARGARET SEKHRAN
LILY MADHOK

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Friday, 6th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : British Deputy High Commission
British Council Division
737, Anna Salai
Madras-600 002



HONEY AND BEES

Nature in its bounty, wild flowers are in plenty ; can the Bees be far behind ? Of course not ! It is with Bees we get our delicious nector — be it to spread it on hot toast or added into our fresh tea or spooned into a jack fruit ! Do you know that these very Bees are getting extinct with our Ecology changes ! And not before long, we may not have famous "Coorg Pure Honey" to sweeten our lives. In order to save these Bees, a lot of research has been done. Mr. A. G. Matheson, Director — International Bee Research Association, U. K. will be in Madras shortly. British Council has very kindly arranged this illustrious speaker to specially speak to our IWA members. This will be an interesting programme.

**SHYLA RAU
MARGARET PACE**

CURRENT EVENTS AND CAREERS

Monday, 9th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Padma Ashok
No. 4, 4th Street
Rutland Gate
Madras-600 006



DIPLOMACY IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AT DIFFERENT TIMES

It is a well known fact that Diplomats have to be sensitive to changing conditions worldwide and particularly to individual countries, attitudes and reactions to any particular issue.

Indian High Commissioner in Australia, Mr. Akbar Khaleeli will talk to us about the art and practice of diplomacy. Mr. Khaleeli was earlier High Commissioner to Iran and Italy. He will draw upon numerous examples from his various assignments to help us understand the delicate role of a Diplomat.

**JAVANTHI PRABHAKARAN
PADMA ASHOK**

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY & CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, 10th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Mrs. Mahmooda Shareef
"Nihal"
17, Haddows Road
Madras-600 006



A HEALTHY FAMILY IS A HAPPY FAMILY

We all think that we have done right when we buy our groceries, provisions and all the essentials we need to run our home as long as we buy them from a reliable supplier. Now, is he supplying us with quality commodity? Do you want to know if your tea/coffee or condiments/spices are adulterated? How to test their quality?

Dr. S. Geetha, a pioneer in this new project will demonstrate a specially designed Home Adulteration Kit — Water! The most essential drink for survival has now turned poisonous and is at the moment, the most dreaded drink killing many innocent lives. Do we know that the water that we drink is adulterated or not? Are you concerned? Mr. K. Krishna Mohan will demonstrate with his Water Analysis Kit.

**SHYLA RAU
MARGARET PACE**

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Thursday, 12th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Welcomgroup
Park Sheraton Hotel & Towers
132, T. T. K. Road, Madras-600 018



CONTINENTAL DELIGHT

The Cooking Swapshop team welcomes you to yet another sensational morning with IWA, to witness the most exotic Continental preparations, right out of the Sheraton Tower's Kitchen by their Executive Chef — Mr. Y. B. Mathur whose culinary talent is incomparable.

**AMRITA BHALLA
RATHI NILAKANTAN**

Our last meeting was jointly hosted by Meera Jayakar, Kusum Chadha & Naina Sheh.

The hostesses for this meeting are Seema Salt, Bilkis Moose, Padma Ashok, Gargi Prabhu, Ramila Breadhar, Anupama Pasari, Urmila Agarwal, Chandrika Chidambaram, Amrita Bhalla & Rathi Nilakantan.

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Tuesday, 17th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Lalitha Krishnan
38, Oliver Road
Mylapore
Madras-600 004



TALK ON "ARYA SAMAJ" by Shri Jaidev Choudhry

'Arya Samaj' is a reformist movement of Hinduism. It was founded by Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati in 1875 to remove the superstition and Casteism which were so deep rooted in Hinduism. One of its important crusade was to get equal rights for women for Social, Religious and Educational matters.

Today, 'Arya Samaj' has spilled into the broad fields of education, uplift of backward classes etc. It's contribution to the intellectual and moral life of new India is manifold. Mr. Jaidev is one of the Founder Fathers of 'Arya Samaj' in Madras and will enlighten us on this subject.

**LALITHA KRISHNAN
MARIE WILLIAMS**

AUGUST

This month received its present name from the Emperor Augustus, and was selected not as being his natal month, but because in it his greatest good fortune happened to him. As July contained 31 days, and August only 30, it was thought necessary to add another day to the latter month, in order that Augustus might not be in any respect inferior to Julius.

(Enc. Brit.)

AUGUST MOTTO

"If the 24th of August be fair and clear
Then hope for a prosperous Autumn that year".

AUGUST

"Fairest" Fairest of months | ripe Summer's Queen
The hey-day of the year
With robes that gleam with sunny sheen,
Sweet August doth appear".

R. CAMBE MILLER

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

Thursday, 19th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Sangita Vadyalaya
Development Centre for Musical Instruments
86, Mundakanni Amman Koil Street
(Near Sanskrit College,
Royapettah High Road)
Mylapore, Madras-600 004



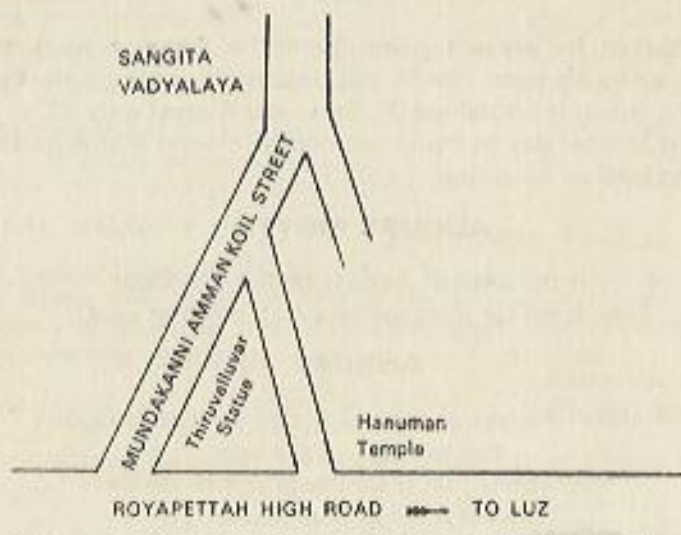
THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF INDIAN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

A trip to the quaint by-lanes of Mylapore to visit the museum of Indian Musical Instruments.

Dr. T. Loknatha Sarma, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Sangita Vadyalaya, will talk about India's rich heritage of musical instruments. The museum has a rare collection of wind, reed and percussion instruments both ancient and modern from all over India.

PADMINI NATARAJAN

All are welcome



MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday, 24th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : American Center Auditorium
220, Mount Road
Madras-600 006



HOLLYWOOD TO BOLLYWOOD

Mr. v. a. k. ranga rao will "share the joy that musical film has brought me". He has been a 'afficionado' of American Musicals and Indian Films for many decades, and will draw upon his wealth of information as he compares the two forms. He will illustrate his presentation with numerous lively film clips.

All are welcome

**KAUSALYA JAGANMOHAN
BARBARA CORTEZ-GREIG**

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Friday, 27th August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Women's Christian Hostel
73, E. V. K. Sampath Road
Off Poonamallee High Road
Madras-600 007



APPLIQUE — How to put this unique art form on your walls

Demonstration by **Ellen Blaesbjerg**

Turn ordinary bits of fabric into pretty pictures. Ellen Blaesbjerg who has lived in India for twenty five years away from her home in Denmark has been perfecting the art of applique for several years. On display will be some of Ellen's work as she shares her talent and technique with us.

Limit : 50 members

**BELA MISTRY KHALEELI
MAUREEN THADANI**

R.S.V.P. :

BELA KHALEELI — 8258272

RAKSHA BANDHAN

This 'festival of threads' or Rakhis is celebrated especially in North India in the Hindu month of 'Sawan' which coincides with the month of August of the English calendar. This year it falls on 2nd August. 'Raksha Bandhan' means a 'Bond of Protection'. On this day, all sisters tie a sacred thread on the wrist of their brothers and the brother reaffirms his vow to protect his sister with all his might against all odds that she might encounter.

There is a lot of excitement and merriment in the heart of every sister on the morning of the auspicious day of Raksha Bandhan. Some of them use their artistic skills in making the most beautiful rakhis. After the intense heat of summer, the monsoon showers bring relief. Swings are hung on the mango trees and in the courtyards. The sisters dress up in their best clothes, sing songs and wait for their brothers to come. If a girl has been newly married, she makes the long awaited trip to her parents house to tie 'Rakhi' to her brother.

The brother is made to sit on a special stool. A tikka is applied on his forehead, the rakhi tied on his wrist and a little sweetmeat fed to him. The brother in return, gives money or a gift to his sister. It is a token of acknowledgement to the love bestowed on him by his sister.

Mrs. SOMA MIRZA

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 31st August, 1993 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Dorothy Saldanha
462, Kilpauk Garden Road
Kilpauk
Madras-600 010



"BELOVED" by Toni Morrison

'Beloved' is the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1988, a powerful novel about a black family immediately after the abolition of slavery.

"IF THERE WERE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT HER STATURE AS A PRE-EMINENT AMERICAN NOVELIST, 'BELOVED' WILL PUT THEM TO REST" says the New York Times Book Review.

We give below a tentative list of the books we intend to read and discuss over the next few months, so that if you come across any of them, you can read them at leisure.

**KAMALA MUTHIAH
ANGELIKA MANDAIKER**

We have tried to make a selection of international authors and hope to be able to get all these books.

- September — 'SIDDHARTHA' — by Hermen Hesse — German
October — 'CRANES MORNING' — by Indrani Aikath Gyaltzen — Indian
November — 'READING OF POEMS'
January — 'CANDLE OR THE SUN' — by Dr. Gopal Bharatan — Singaporean
February — 'UP THE GHAT' — by Zai Whittaker — Indian
March — 'REMAINS OF THE DAY' — by Ishiguro — Japanese/British

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