



International  
Women's  
Association

APRIL 1997



A DECADE OF FRIENDSHIP

# IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol XI No 11  
Chennai

APRIL 1997

## MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tuesday	1st April	<b>MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS</b> Devotional Music	10-15 am
Wednesday	2nd April	<b>BOARD MEETING</b>	10-15 am
Wednesday	2nd April	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</b>	11-15 am
Monday	7th April	<b>HEALTH AND ECOLOGY</b> M.S. Swaminathan Foundation	10-15 am
Thursday	10th April	<b>GALA EVENING</b> Theatre and Dinner	7-15 pm
Monday	14th April	<b>TOUR TO SOUTH AFRICA</b>	
Wednesday	16th April	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	10-00 am
Saturday	19th April	<b>TOUR TO NEPAL</b>	
Monday	21st April	<b>PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION</b> Tarot Cards	10-15 am

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Friends,

Another IWA year has come to an end and it is time for us to say "GOOD BYE" as Presidents. For both of us it has been a wonderful, gratifying experience made rich by the whole-hearted support and encouragement given to us by you, the membership. Thank you friends for the happy times we have shared.

We cannot thank our conscientious Board and Activity Chairpersons enough - Each of them has been a star in themselves making IWA so much the brighter - To our Vice Presidents - Shakunthala and Megan for the beautifully presented Newsletter welcomed each month. To Anneliese for safe keeping of IWA's funds - To Sushila for taking care of the membership and single-handedly producing our Telephone Directory - To Eira for keeping the minutes of all our meetings in a meticulous manner and to Sujaya for her spontaneous contributions to all our programmes, and to our Activity Chairpersons who have done remarkably well filling the IWA year with interesting, excellent and innovative programmes - They have truly been a super committee to work with - each giving of themselves their very best - to each and every one of them our sincere thanks and appreciation.

IWA is proud to present the second edition of the COOK BOOK. We would like to thank Sunita Shahaney and the members of the Cook Book Committee, who have worked tirelessly and with great dedication to make this possible. Also, thank you members for your contributions - Our sincere appreciation to you all. The Book Launch is to be held in the 2nd week of April. It will be a day of pride for all of us and we hope you will all be there to share this happy occasion. An invitation will follow.

To close the Tenth Year Celebrations your Committee has organised a special evening programme on April, 10th 1997 - Dinner and Theatre produced by Michael Muthu and sponsored by Skycell. More details will follow, so do join us.

The new slate of office-bearers has been announced. Thank you to Zubie and the Nominating Committee for a job well done! We congratulate the new Presidents and Board and wish them every success as we look forward to yet another wonderful IWA year.

**ALAGU MUTHU  
POONAM LALCHAND**

## FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

As we draw to the end of the IWA year we would like to take this opportunity of saying what pleasure it has given us to produce your monthly Newsletter. With our birds-eye view of all the events and programmes of this, IWA's tenth year, we cannot but recall so many fascinating programmes brought to us by our Activity Chairpersons. Your Board has worked hard and well to enable members to maximise their interests and talents. However, we must also remember the hard times. Megan particularly recalls the excessively wet day for the Christmas Party and thanks her lucky stars that it was successful notwithstanding the elements!

One problem that has concerned the Board this year has been that of members who come late and leave early. Suffice it to say that we think our campaign has paid off. There has been a noticeable improvement in recent meetings. Thank you, ladies, a big THANK-YOU!

The end of any working year brings with it both joy and sorrow - Joy that all has gone well and sorrow because the close working relationship we had built up with the Board and Executive Committee members has come to an end, though fortunately not the friendships we built up.

The greatest sorrow of the year has been the loss of our Founder-President, Nirmal Seshadri, whose dynamism may never be repeated or seen again. Will there ever be another like her?

The greatest joys of the year have been the festivities of the 10th year celebrations marking the end of a glorious decade. We are certain that, with the experience we have all gained, the next decade will be even better!

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN  
MEGAN UTLEY**

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### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday 2nd April - 10-15 am

Both meetings at :

Poonam Lalchand's  
3 College Lane  
Nungambakkam  
Chennai - 600 006

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday 2nd April - 11-15 am

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TREASURER

It's time to say 'adieu'. And what a wonderful year it has been, thanks to all of you!

This year we decided to admit quite a few new members, but we also decided to put a definite ceiling on the numbers, restricting membership to 280.

The Chairpersons have arranged such interesting meetings that we have had good attendance at most of these.

The happiest part of this year has been the opportunity to get to know so many of you a little better. My sincere thanks to colleagues on the Board and the Chairpersons, who were always so supportive and with whom it has been such a pleasure to work.

**SUSHILA NATRAJ**

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## FESTIVALS OF THE MONTH

### **Sri Rama Navami – April 15th**

This is a day celebrating the birth of Sri Rama, one of the avatars of Vishnu, and is observed in homes and temples with great piety, chanting of prayers, and singing of ballads. Repeating Ramanama on this day is believed to give great spiritual strength.

### **Bakr-Id – April 18th**

This festival is of great importance in Islam, as it celebrates the sacrifice of Prophet Hazrat Ibrahim. To test his faith, God asked him to sacrifice his son Ishmael to which he willingly agreed, so great was his faith and trust in God. He blindfolded himself and killed his son, but when he opened his eyes, he found his son alive and a slain ram in his place. To celebrate this event, Muslims sacrifice (if possible) one animal per family, a goat, sheep or camel. Men attend mass prayers in mosques and distribute alms to the poor. New clothes are worn and greetings exchanged.

### **Mahavir Jayanthi – April 20th**

This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, a highly ascetic religion which places great emphasis on Ahimsa or non-violence. It is a day of prayer and celebration in all Jain temples and homes.

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN**

## THE IWA BOARD - 1997-98

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of Office-Bearers for the Executive Board of IWA, 1997-1998.

	<u>INDIAN</u>	<u>NON-INDIAN</u>
Presidents	<b>RUPA KADHIRESAN</b>	<b>ANNALIESE HAZARI</b>
Vice-Presidents	<b>SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN</b>	<b>MEGAN UTLEY</b>
Secretaries	<b>JAVANTHI PRABHAKARAN</b>	<b>SEEMA SAIT</b>
Treasurers	<b>LALITHA KRISHNAN</b>	<b>ANGELIKA MANDAIKER</b>

We wish the new Board all the best.

**Zubelda Asgarali (Chairperson)**

**Leila Diravlam**

**Maureen Hudson Murari**

**Saroja Ramamrutham**

**Aruna Vijaykumar**

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Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers but to be fearless in facing them

Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain but for the heart to conquer it

Let me not look for allies in life's battlefield but to my own strength

Let me not crave in anxious fear to be saved but hope for the patience to win my freedom

Grant me that I may not be a coward, feeling your mercy in my success alone, but let me find the grasp of your hand in my failure

**RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

## TENTH YEAR COOK BOOK PROJECT – A REPORT

Dear Friends,

The second Edition of the IWA Cook Book is going into print and it is with a great sense of pride that we will announce the Launching of the book in the second week of APRIL.

Foremost, we would like to place on record our grateful thanks to ASHOK LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED, who have more than generously sponsored the entire project.

Our heartiest congratulations to SUNITA SHAHANEY and her dedicated team - RANI CHADA, MADELAINE LEONE, MEENAKSHI MEYYAPPAN, LILY MADHOK, VIJAYA BALU, EIRA DOSHI, ANNALIESE HAZARI, NAINA SHAH and MOHINI GILL. Mention must also be made of 'ROSMUND REBELLO' a friend who was responsible for all the computerisation. We have watched each and every one of them work tirelessly giving IWA hours of their time for the successful COMPILATION of your recipes - our deepest appreciation and thanks to them all - they truly deserve to be applauded.

We would also like to thank our members who contributed their favourite recipes to the Book, making it truly Global in nature - We now have a book which brings to our homes, the cuisines, and flavours, aromas and tastes of lands both far and near - taking us to the very heart of IWA, which stands for the fusion and appreciation of the cultures of the world. During the compilation, our members from different countries and backgrounds came together and worked as one - experiencing the wonderful feeling of IWA CAMARADERIE and spending many many happy hours of togetherness. This Book has been dedicated with our deepest respect and love to our Founder President - NIRMAL SESHADRI.

The second Edition of the IWA COOK BOOK has been our Tenth Year Project, to commemorate our Decade of Friendship. Now that the Book is going into print we would like to share with you some thoughts about its future. One of the CBC-96's very first objectives in bringing out the book was that IWA too like many other Women's Clubs in India could be proud of its very own COOK BOOK - a Book that will LIVE, spread its wings and fly, keeping up IWA's ideal of International Friendship and Understanding. In order to do this, we would like to keep aside

2/3rds of the money, that comes in through the sale of books towards a reprint or revised Edition of the Book when the present stocks are sold out. The Balance 1/3rd of the money could be used for the sponsorship of IWA's Cultural Programmes i.e. : Sponsoring the payment made towards Speakers / Artistes / Entertainers. This way we would be encouraging talent and skills in the fields of IWA's interests. The Presidents and Treasurer of every year will look after the funds. We are always in need of such funding and I am sure this money will go a long way in helping us out... At this point, I would like to reiterate our objective of keeping the BOOK ALIVE.

Our next consideration would be the care and distribution of the books. We thought it a good idea to request a group of interested members living in different areas to come forward and volunteer to keep the books, so that it could be sold area-wise. This would take care of stocking and distribution - making it easier to handle. The Book will be made available for Distribution among Members. One member could volunteer to co-ordinate this exercise.

Friends, do remember this is your COOK BOOK. It was brought out BY you and FOR you and FOR IWA. It has been done with a tremendous amount of dedicated effort so lets join hands in its promotion and make it a success.

**ALAGU MUTHU  
POONAM LALCHAND**

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#### **OUR THANKS TO :**

BELA KHALEELI for the leather writing case gifted to Dr. Karan Singh as a memento from IWA and to PADMA ASHOK for her glass painting for Mrs. Karan Singh  
BINA MATHEW for hosting the Health and Ecology meeting last month  
Mr. V.K. CHANDRAKUMAR for sponsoring the Cooking Swapshop meeting at the Coconut Grove

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO :**

RANI CHADA, winner of the SKYCELL WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT, Ladies Section.  
RASHIDA DARUWALA on the opening of her leather boutique, "Hide Out", in Prince Plaza on Pantheon Road



## GALA EVENING

Thursday, 10th April - 7-15 pm

At : The Connemara Hotel  
Ball Room

## **THEATRE AND DINNER**

This evening, sponsored by SKYCELL, will be the Jewel in the Crown of the Tenth Year. We hope as many people as possible will support this evening of theatre, a presentation by MICHAEL MUTHU, followed by a delicious Indian Buffet dinner in the garden.

The food, setting and atmosphere should be wonderful and a fitting finale to our special year.

Donation Cards at Rs.200/- will be available with MEGAN UTLEY, POONAM LALCHAND, MADELEINE LEONE, SUJAYA MENON, GAYATRI BEWOOR and at IWA programmes.

Initially, these cards will be only available to IWA members and their spouses.

**ALAGU MUTHU  
POONAM LALCHAND**

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## **CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS / NEW NUMBERS**

Mano Bakthavatsalam	- 4953184
Mahema Devadoss	- 4982484
Shakunthala Jagannathan	- 459199 / 4323337
Rohini Jhuremalani	- 4901703
Malini Krishna	- 4901301

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## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

SARAH CHANDA  
39 B Landons Towers  
47 Landons Road  
Chennai - 600 010  
Tel : 6411294

RITIKA DHINGRA  
34 Ranjith Road  
Kotturpuram  
Chennai - 600 085

## HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS



April 14th and 19th

The trip to South Africa leaves on 14th April.

The tour will visit Johannesburg, Potgietersrust, Kruger Park, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Knysna, Oudtshoorn and Cape Town.

The tour to Nepal leaves on April 19th visiting Kathmandu, Patan, Bhadgaon, Pokhara and Nagarkot.

Thank you IWA members for your encouragement of our programmes of this year.

**KAMALA PRASAD  
STINA VASU**

Our thanks to POONAM LALCHAND for the use of her Beach House for the Dakshinachitra Tour.

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## PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Monday 21st April - 10-15 am

At : Gita Jain's  
24 G.N. Chetty Road  
T.Nagar  
Chennai - 600 017



## **TAROT CARDS**

Reading Tarot Cards is something like Palmistry, involving psychological understanding and interpretation of different minds. Mr. K.B. Gopalakrishnan who teaches in the Psychology Department of Madras University is an expert on this subject and has many articles published to his credit.

It sounds intriguing and we hope you will enjoy our last programme of the year.

**JAYASHREE PRABHAKAR  
MARIKO IBARA**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS	:	Alagu Muthu Poonam Lalchand	(R) 4938683 / 4937050 (R) 8257157 / 8272947 (O) 8559110 / 8559108
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan Megan Utley	(R) 459199 / 4323337 (R) 4343348
SECRETARIES	:	Sujaya Menon Eira Doshi	(R) 4917464 / 4910044 (R) 4911126
TREASURERS	:	Sushila Natraj Anneliese Hazari	(R) 4911015 / 4910707 (R) 4919505

### ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS	:	Rini Kumar Irene Pruller Das	(R) 4349319 (R) 4990865
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Shyla K. Rau Teresa Mary King	(R) 8276676 / 8276893 (R) 4341066
CURRENT EVENTS AND CAREERS	:	Gita Chandrasekaran Madeleine Leone	(R) 412935 (R) 4340824
COOKING SWAPSHOP	:	Usha Chandrakumar Lata Murugan	(R) 8275341 (R) 6428215
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	:	Bina Mathew Seema Sait	(R) 4941874 (R) 8261018
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	:	Kamala Prasad Stina Vasu	(R) 6262035 (R) 8278900 (O) 8275792
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	:	Gayatri Bewoor Lalini Gautamedasa	(R) 8264035 (R) 6412868
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	:	Jayashree Prabhakar Mariko Ibara	(R) 4342147 / 453394 (R) 8275755