



**International
Women's
Association**

JANUARY 1999

IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XIII No. 8
CHENNAI

JANUARY 1999

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Friday	8th January	BOARD MEETING	9.30 am
		EXECUTIVE MEETING	11.00 am
Monday	18th January	HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS	10.15 am
		Talk-South Indian temples	
Thursday	21st January	PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION	10.15 am
		Talk-Zoroastrianism	
Wednesday	27th January	BOOK DISCUSSION	10.15 am
		Review "The God of Small Things"	
Thursday	28th January	CURRENT EVENTS	10.15 am
		Talk-Water supply in Chennai	

PRESIDENTS' PAGE

A Happy New Year and a Prosperous 1999 to everyone. Let us hope that in this year, there will be Health, Wealth, Happiness, Peace and Unity for all. With these hopes in our hearts, let us move into the 20th Century smoothly. We are fortunate to be able to experience two centuries in our lifetime. This is such a blessing and as we march forward, let us learn to strike a balance between culture and tradition on the one hand and modernisation on the other. May this year bless you with happiness and peace.

Guidelines for nominations for IWA's "Woman of the Year" and "Girl Child of the Year" awards were announced in a previous newsletter. We are extending the final date for receiving nominations to January 5th, 1999. The Awards ceremony itself will take place on March 12th, 1999.

The Christmas Party was enjoyed by all. We take this opportunity to thank Meena Muthiah very sincerely for so graciously giving us her school premises for this purpose. With the monsoon about, it was a comfort to know that the venue could easily cope with the heaviest downpour. Thankfully, the afternoon was clear and a good time was had by young and old. The looks on the faces of the children as Santa made his way to them in his bullock cart said it all! We thank all our members who gave of their time and expertise, and contributed food, gifts and decorations. Our thanks too to Gunit, our friendly caterer, who provided us with the best of food and service.

An important event in January is the Harvest Festival, called "Pongal" in Tamil Nadu. It is said that it is the dawn of Uttarayan, the sacred day marking the northern movement of the sun. May the effulgence of the Sun bring good thoughts, deeds and words into our minds and may all success prevail in our endeavours.

We wish you all "PONGALA PONGAL."

**SHYLA K. RAU
MEGAN UTLEY**

VICE-PRESIDENTS' PAGE

Many of us would have begun the New Year brimming with new ideas - and with new resolutions too - Could we add one more to that list, please? Could we resolve to wear our IWA badges to all IWA meetings? It helps

1. New members identify existing members with whom it is useful and important to build up an immediate rapport, and
2. Existing members who need also to familiarise themselves with those whom they otherwise rarely find occasion to meet.

So members, please bear in mind the importance of pinning your IWA badges whenever you attend meetings, which, in the New Year, promise to be as interesting and exciting as they have been in the year that's just gone by.

We wish you all a Happy New Year.

**GAYATRI BEWOOR
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

BOARD MEETING

Friday, 8th January, 1999 -
9.30 am

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Friday, 8th January, 1999 -
11.00 am

Both meetings at: Gayatri Bewoor's,
20, Gilchrist Avenue,
(off Harrington Road),
Chennai - 20

THE IWA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In accordance with the Constitution, Article 111 - 40, the IWA Board, at their meeting held on December 8th, 1998 at 10.00 am at the residence of Shyla K. Rau, nominated the following members to serve on the Advisory Committee of IWA:-

LAKSHMI PADMANABHAN

ARUNA VIJAYAKUMAR

STINA VASU

Their term of office will be three years; however, as specified in the Constitution, the term of office of the member of the First Advisory Committee will be decided by the draw of lots, so that out of three members, one member will have a term of one year, the second, a term of two years and the third, a term of three years, each member retiring in rotation every year. The new Constitution will be effective from December, 1998.

Thank you, Maureen, for serving on the First Advisory Committee. Our thanks also to Lakshmi, Aruna and Stina for consenting to serve on the new Advisory Committee.

SHYLA K. RAU
MEGAN UTLEY

A laugh is just like music
It lingers in the heart,
And where the melody is heard,
The ills of life depart.

SAUNDERS

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Monday 18th January 10.15 am

At: The KCP Office,
Dr.P.V.Churian Crescent,
Off C-in-C Road, Chennai - 8



THE SIGNIFICANCE AND BEAUTY OF SOUTH INDIAN TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE

How often we pass a temple and admire the beauty of the "Gopuram" or the gateway and take in the details of the structure of the Temple? There is so much more to this than just the form. These are based on the age-old and time tested Shastras. To explain all the features of our Temples we have Dr.K.V.Raman who is a Ph.D. in Archaeology and conducted excavations and research in Kanchipuram, Kaveripattinam and Karaikadu. He has given lectures in India, Canada, Thailand and Japan and participated in numerous seminars, besides holding the office of the President of Tamilnadu and National History Congress etc.

A recipient of the UNESCO award, Dr.Raman will support his talk with slides and illustrations.

**SUJAYA MENON
RITA NORDENGREN**

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Thursday, 21st January - 10.15 am

At: YWCA International Guest House,
1086, Poonamallee High Road,
Chennai - 84



THE TRADITIONS OF ZOROASTRIANISM

The prophet Zoroaster lived in Iran in the 7th C.B.C. He is said to have received a vision from Ahura Mazda, the Wise Lord, who appointed him to preach the truth. And thus was born a new religion - Zoroastrianism. Presently it is practised in India by the Parsis - a small but illustrious community - which has given us luminaries like Dadabhai Nowrojee, Dr.Homi Bhabha, Dr.J.R.D.Tata, and many others.

Today, Dr.Feroza J.Panday, a pathologist by profession, will speak to us of the history and customs of this ancient religion.

To give the meeting an appropriate finishing touch, our Parsi members will provide Parsi fare! So the morning promises more than just food for thought! Look forward to seeing you all there.

**MRIDULA NARASIMHAN
HENNY DE GROOTE PAAUWE**

BOOK DISCUSSION

Wednesday, January 27 - 10.15 a.m.

At: Margaret Kelly's
5D Valliammai Achi Street,
Kotturpuram, Chennai - 85



"THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS" by Arundhati Roy

"The God of Small Things" was the much-talked about Booker prize winner for last year, and we feel that we should have a review and discussion on it.

We are sure that most of our regulars at the Book Discussion meetings would have read this book, enjoyed it and will have interesting comments to contribute to the discussion, which will be triggered off by Vasanti Shankaranarayan's review.

Since we feel that most members have read the book, and since both Madras Club and Gymkhana Club have more than one copy each in the library, we are not keeping any copies for circulation.

**KAMALA MUTHIAH
GALE MADSEN**

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

ANNA ABRAHAM	4358486
ISOBEL ARCHER	4330386
ANGELIKA MANDAIKER	6461265
NALINI RAMAKRISHNA	6461864
DAKSHA SHETH	4723623 / 4734356
LALITHA ZACHARIAH	4356032

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

ISOBEL ARCHER
6B, Sucharita Apts.,
71, Chamiers Road,
R.A.Puram
Chennai - 28

CURRENT EVENTS

Monday, 28th January, 1999 - 10.15 am



At: Kausalya Jaganmohan's
"Sri Vaishnavi",
16, Kasturi Ranga Road,
Chennai 600 018
Phone: 4990201

"WATER SUPPLY IN CHENNAI - NEXT 20 YEARS"

Speaker: Mr.C.P.Singh
Chairman & Managing Director,
Metro Water,
Chennai Metro Water Supply & Sewage Board

Mr.Singh will speak about the current status and the development plans for sustaining the water supply to Chennai over the next twenty years.

Members are requested to bring or put up questions and grievances 'in writing'. Mr.Singh will give on the spot 'face to face' replies.

**KANTA GUPTA
ANJANA DAS-HASPER**

As life goes on we discover that certain thoughts sustain us in defeat or give us victory, whether over ourselves or others; and it is these thoughts, tested by passion, that we call conviction.

W.B.YEATS

LAUGH AWHILE

Patient : "Doctor, I keep thinking I'm a bridge."
Doctor : "What's come over you?"
Patient : "A lorry, two buses and ten cars already!"

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

1998-99

PRESIDENTS	: Shyla K. Rau	(R) 8594578
	: Megan Utley	(R) 4343348
VICE - PRESIDENTS	: Gayatri Bewoor	(R) 8264035
	: Lalini Gautamadasa	(R) 6412868
SECRETARIES	: Javanthi Prabhakaran	(R) 6411579
	: Meyyammal Murugappan	(R) 4420520
TREASURERS	: Lalitha Krishnan	(R) 4991853
	: Chandrika Chidambaram	(R) 4917609

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS	: Visalakshi Ramaswamy	(R) 4939829
	: Eira Doshi	(R) 4911126
BOOK DISCUSSION	: Kamala Muthiah	(R) 6411142
	: Gale Madsen	(R) 4901613
COOKING SWAPSHOP	: Rani Chada	(R) 2344233
	: Sheela K. Sarath	(R) 4938524
CURRENT EVENTS	: Kanta Gupta	(R) 4926273
	: Anjana Das-Hasper	(R) 4320737
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	: Sharmila Ramji	(R) 4422414/4918135
	:	
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	: Sujaya Menon	(R) 4917464/4910044
	: Rita Nordengren	(R) 8241312
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	: Surekha Kothari	(R) 8257145/8257198
	: Regina Schroeder	(R) 4346599
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	: Mridula Narasimhan	(R) 8269630
	: Henny de Groote Paauwe	(R) 4331640