



International  
Women's  
Association

**NEWSLETTER**  
**JANUARY 2002**

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI   | SAT |
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| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18    | 19  |
| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25    | 26  |
| 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  | Feb 1 |     |

## IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI No. 8

Chennai

JANUARY, 2002

## MONTH AT A GLANCE

|           |                      |                         |         |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Thursday  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan  | Board Meeting           | 9.45am  |
|           |                      | Executive Meeting       | 11am    |
| Wednesday | 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan | HC&T – Pongal           | 8.30am  |
| Friday    | 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Self Awareness Workshop | 10am    |
| Tuesday   | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan | IWA Endowment Lecture   | 11am    |
| Thursday  | 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan | HC&T – Trip to Orissa   |         |
| to        | to                   |                         |         |
| Tuesday   | 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan |                         |         |
| Friday    | 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan | BD – 'Atonement'        | 10.15am |
| Wednesday | 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan | CS – Finger food        | 10.15am |
| Thursday  | 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan | CE – Meet Leander Paes  | 5pm     |
| Friday    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb  | M&PA – Theatre Workshop | 10am    |

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS



A VERY HAPPY 2002 TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!!!

Our Activity Chairpersons, with all their enthusiasm have some wonderful programmes lined up for us. We wish to thank them for all their hard work.

### **Hyderabad Trip**

Many thanks to Vidya Singh and Pat Alter who painstakingly organised this trip. The Nizam's jewels were so huge and so unbelievably beautiful. Photographs could not do them justice. The Sound and Light show at the Golconda Fort was stunning and the Falaknuma Palace was breathtaking. We thank our members Bharathi Reddy, Ramani Reddy and Nita Reddy who overfed us and pampered us thoroughly!

### **Christmas**

Christmas Brunch, hosted by our members of the Christian faith, was extremely well organised. A time for 'loving and giving' and this was very evident in their generosity.

Our special thanks to Shirley Verghese, who opened up her beautiful home to us. We would especially like to thank those members who participated in the very elegant Christmas Tableau, carol singing and those who contributed towards hosting this beautiful morning.

### **IWA's Supper Theatre**

We are planning a Supper Theatre in March and in this connection, we are having a Theatre Workshop followed by an audition. All our budding actors, directors and scriptwriters, please do participate!

### **Woman of the Year**

### **Girl Child of the Year**

Please do send in your nominations by January, 15<sup>th</sup> for both Woman of the Year (Category – Women who have achieved great status in the Corporate World) and Girl Child of the Year (Category – A girl child who is afflicted with cancer, but has achieved in spite of it).

### **Self-Awareness Workshop**

The second Self-Awareness Workshop will be held this month. We hope many of our members will attend.

**RANI CHADA**

**SEEMA SAIT**

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TREASURER

The membership total is as follows:

Indians            213 + 5 Seniors  
                             + 4 Outstation  
  
Non-Indians    71 + 1 Senior

Therefore, we have maintained the 1:3 ratio.

### Change of Address:

#### **Iset Meijers**

Casuarina Drive 23

Neelangarai

Chennai 600 041            449 3327

### BOARD MEETING

Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2002  
9.45 am

### EXECUTIVE MEETING

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2002  
11 am

**Both meetings at:**

**Princess Naik's**  
83 (Old No.12), 4th Main Road,  
Gandhinagar,  
Adyar  
Chennai - 600 020

## HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2002

- 8.30am to 4pm

At: **Seetha Muthiah's Farm House**  
Chunampet



### **PONGAL LUNCH**

Pongal, a festival celebrating the harvest of the new year, is the most important occasion in Tamil Nadu.

We will be visiting Seetha Muthiah's farm house near Chunampet village, where we will witness harvesting in the fields by the villagers, and experience all the other traditional activities of the villages. We will be entertained by the little girls of the village, who will perform a traditional dance. There will be a festival lunch at the farm, with all the traditional varieties of food that are cooked on this occasion.

### **Programme**

8.30am - Meet at Vidya Singh's

9.00am - Departure

11.00am - Arrival at farm

12.30pm - Lunch

2.00pm - Departure

4.00pm - Return to city

Please warn in to Vidya Singh (Call Gayathri - 10am to 4pm - 433 8782, 435 9035). **Limit - 35 persons.**

We may have to collect a small amount towards transport.

**VIDYA SINGH**

**PAT ALTER**

## SELF-AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2002 -  
10am to 12.45pm

At: **Russian Cultural Centre**  
Kasturi Ranga Road  
Chennai 600 018



### **FROM 'NOWHERE' TO 'NOW HERE'**

Do simple solutions elude us at the best of times? Do we curse the darkness instead of simply lighting a candle? Does our cup of life appear to be half empty or half full? Let us learn through some interactive moments, to shift perspectives and create another world for ourselves, thereby fostering friendship, trust and mutual empathy. Let us cease our aimless roaming in the maze leading NOWHERE and be present HERE and NOW to take stock of our lives.

Please warn in to Rani Chada (7am to 8am - 234 4233) or Seema Sait (8am to 9am - 820 6065)

**SUREKHA KOTHARI**



### Congratulations to:

- ◆ **Surekha Kothari** on being nominated as the National President designate of FICCI Ladies' Organisation.

## IWA ENDOWMENT LECTURE

Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2002 - 11 am

At: **Museum Theatre**  
Government Museum  
Chennai

### **'FEMININE FORMS IN INDIAN ART'**

IWA's annual Endowment Lecture will be delivered by Dr. Choodamani Nandagopal, art historian and director of the Chitrakala Parishad, Bangalore.

All IWA members and their guests are cordially invited to join us for this event.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We welcome **Anneliese Hazari** as the new member of our Advisory Committee. She succeeds Stina Vasu, who retired by rotation on 1st December, 2001. The members of the Advisory Committee now are (by order of seniority)

- ◆ **Vanitha Mudaliar**
- ◆ **Rupa Kadhiresan**
- ◆ **Anneliese Hazari**

## HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

### **IWA JANUARY EXCURSION – ORISSA: TEMPLES AND CRAFTS**



Our trip to Orissa is on! We depart on 24<sup>th</sup> January morning on the Coromandel Express. We arrive in Bhubaneswar the following morning. We visit Bhubaneswar's temples and market and overnight in the city. Day 2 we drive out to Nuapatna for weaving and Cuttack for silver filigree; overnight in Bhubaneswar. Day 3 we head south to Puri, stopping en route at Pipli for appliqué and Raghurajpur for paintings. In Puri, we visit the Jagannath Temple and overnight. Day 4 we spend the day at the spectacular Sun Temple at Konark. We board the Coromandel Express that evening and are back in Chennai around 5.30 pm on 29<sup>th</sup> January.

The cost of the trip is Rs. 8,500, inclusive of return rail tickets (2<sup>nd</sup> AC), 3 nights hotel (twin share with breakfast), coach, guide and entry fees. To check if there are any spaces left, phone Vidya Singh (call Gayathri – 10am to 5pm – 433 8782)

**VIDYA SINGH**

**PAT ALTER**

A big THANK YOU to Ramila Sreedhar, Sabita Shetty, Radha Gopalakrishnan and Indira Satyamurti for hosting our November meeting - 'Walk the Labyrinth'.

**SEEMA BHARGAVA**

**EILEEN THOMPSON**

## BOOK DISCUSSION

Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2002 – 10.15am

At: **The British Council**  
737, Anna Salai  
Chennai 600 002



### **ATONEMENT by Ian McEwan**

'Atonement' is Ian McEwan's finest achievement. Brilliant and utterly enthralling with its depiction of childhood, love and war at its center - it is a profound - and profoundly moving, exploration of shame and forgiveness, of atonement and the difficulty of absolution.

Renuka Rajaratnam who will lead the discussion, is a critic and writer who has been published in India and abroad.

Copies of the book are available with Gayatri and Amulya.

**GAYATRI KRISHNASWAMI**

**AMULYA RAO**

Our thanks to Sushi Natraj for hosting last month's meeting in her home. Also to Vasanthi Sankaranarayanan for so valiantly standing in for Geeta Doctor at very short notice.

## COOKING SWAPSHOP

Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2002 – 10.15am

At: **Madras Cricket Club**  
1, Bells Road (off Wallajah Road)  
Chepauk  
Chennai



## **FINGER FOOD**

Appetizers, Finger food, Hors d'oeuvres, Starters ...whatever name they go by, these simple treats are one of the most important ingredients for a successful party. Our international and Indian members have joined together to show you a variety of their favourites in finger food. Hayati Abbott, Krishnambika Nambiar, Irma Gros and Isabelle Badrinath will do the honours.

### **Sandwich Secrets**

The potential to create exciting taste sensations with sandwiches is enormous. Members please prepare and expand your sandwich making repertoire for February. Creative talents? A show? A Contest! Look out for details in the February newsletter.

**BEENA RAM MOHAN**

**CHERRY VENKATESAN**

A big **THANK YOU** to Renu Jalan, Renuka Ishwariah and Sharda Khemka for their contributions to our January meeting.

## CURRENT EVENTS

Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2002 – 5pm

At: **Madras Cricket Club**  
1, Bells Road (off Wallajah Road)  
Chepauk  
Chennai



## **MEET LEANDER PAES**

Even the child on the street will tell you about him, for he has brought enthusiasm to every tennis fan in India. He has been steady in his progress and the achievements have been many.

How did he manage to do all this, and what are the secrets of his success? What is his exercise schedule and how many hours does he spend on the court every day? If you have these and many more questions, come and meet and find out from this energetic youngster who has put India on the world map in tennis.

**PRINCESS NAIK**

**BILKIS MOOSA**

A big **THANK YOU** to Farida Majid, Shobha Mujumdar and Premila Jacob for co-hosting the December meeting – 'The morning: post September 11'.

## MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2002 - 10 am to 4 pm

At: **The YWCA Club Room**  
1086, Poonamallee High Road  
Chennai 600 084



## THEATRE WORKSHOP

Rajiv Chowdry, Paul Mathew and T. T. Srinath of the Madras Players will enlighten our members on the elements that comprise the putting together of a short skit or even a 3-act play. This workshop will cover all the elements of drama, such as voice, expression, body language, props, lights and sets.

Through short exercises, ice-breakers and games, they hope to explain all these aspects and how they come together to give you the final product.

This workshop will help you to make a connection with the actor and with what actually transpires within when he transforms into a character other than himself.

This promises to be a day full of fun, so all our talented members – please attend. Vegetarian lunch will be provided at a nominal charge of Rs. 100.

**Please warn in before 26<sup>th</sup> January 2002 :**

Rani Chada – (6.30am – 7.30am – 234 4233)

Naina Shah – (7.30am – 8.30am – 432 0706)

**NAINA SHAH**

**KANOKWAN SANDHU**

## IWA'S WEEKEND TRIP TO HYDERABAD

After attending Dr. Usha Balakrishnan's lovely slide presentation and lecture on the Nizam's Jewels, we thought it would be interesting to see them personally in the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

Our Activity Chairpersons, HC&T, Vidya Singh and Pat Alter, arranged a beautiful weekend in Hyderabad (30<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December). Most of us left by the Charminar Express on the 30<sup>th</sup> and a few joined us on the 1<sup>st</sup> morning.

After a shower and breakfast at the Taj Banjara, where we stayed, we had a packed schedule for the day. Though the train was late by 20 minutes, we managed to reach the Museum on time. The tickets had been arranged earlier.

The Curator of the Museum, Dr. Kedareswari, had arranged the jewellery beautifully, with the history and origin of each piece and whom it belonged to, clearly marked. The pieces of jewellery were magnificent and awesome, even I was speechless! (it is very difficult for me to be so!) Our thanks to Dr. Kedareswari for her beautiful arrangements and her co-operation. After this feast for the eyes, we went to Bharathi Suresh's house for lunch, which was superb; she seemed to have all the dishes possible. We had to work off this lunch, so some of us went shopping for bangles, which are famous in Hyderabad.

At 5.30pm, after a rest, we went to the Sound and Light show at Golconda Fort, which was very interesting.



Dinner was hosted by Bharathi Suresh at the Grand Kakatiya Hotel. All of us fed to the teeth with superb food. Went happily back to the hotel for the night and much needed rest.

Next day – another busy day. We took a tour of old Hyderabad and Falaknuma Palace – it was the Palace of the Heavens. It was built by the 6<sup>th</sup> Nizam's minister for himself, but the Nizam liked it so much that the Minister gifted it to him. The Nizam, being a gentleman, paid him for the Palace. It is interesting to note that the Minister never lived in the Palace he built.

The Taj Group of Hotels now owns it.

Ramani Reddy hosted lunch with all the delicacies of Hyderabad.

Unfortunately, after this, our tour had to end. We left for the station after a short rest.

More such short trips should be planned by IWA.

Thanks once again to Vidya and Pat for a meticulously planned holiday.

**NALINI RAMAKRISHNA**

**'THANK YOU' TO ALL MEMBERS WHO  
CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE CHRISTMAS BRUNCH:**

Susan Abraham  
Anke Arnold  
Sarah Chanda  
Janet De Penning  
Eira Doshi  
Irma L. Gros  
Renuka Ishwariah  
Leelamani John  
Shanthi Karunakaran  
Svetlana Krikounove  
Kristina Larsson  
Darley Mathew  
Maureen Hudson Murari  
Pascale Poncon  
Francoise Queval  
Rita Saldanha  
Lita Srinivasan  
Shanti Thomas  
Stina Vasu  
Reena Verghese  
Galina Zakharova

Sulochana Alexander  
Isabelle Badrinath  
Mahema Devadoss  
Leila Diraviam  
Amala Emmanuel  
Barbara Hanel  
Premila Jacob  
Julie Johnson  
Anita Koshy  
Sindhu Kuruvilla  
Bina Mathew  
Asha Mohan  
Princess Naik  
Helga Potschke  
Linda Raymond  
Dolly Simon  
Maureen Thadani  
Shobana Thomas  
Cherry Venkatesan  
Shanthi Verghese  
Lalitha Zachariah

**WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Alberta Shores</b><br>Mayflower Apartments #4<br>9/23, Sathyanarayana Avenue<br>Chennai 600 028              | <b>Canadian</b><br><br><br><br>435 8530   |
| <b>Hilde Mattens</b><br>94/95, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate<br>Alcatel<br>Guindy<br>Chennai                    | <b>Belgian</b><br><br><br><br>98411 39313 |
| <b>Rani Das Gupta</b><br>6A, Dev Apartments<br>13 & 14, Sundararajan Street<br>Abhiramapuram<br>Chennai 600 018 | <br><br><br><br>497 0884                  |
| <b>Prema Kumar</b><br>Madras Seva Sadan<br>7, Harrington Road<br>Chennai 600 031                                |   |
| <b>Ranjani Venkataraghavan</b><br>8/7, Anna Avenue<br>Adyar<br>Chennai 600 020                                  | <br><br><br>491 9177                      |

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2001 - 2002****THE BOARD**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>PRESIDENTS</b><br>Rani Chada<br>Seema Sait                | <br>234 4233, 232 4972<br>820 6065, 824 2244    |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENTS</b><br>Sushi Natraj<br>Rathi Nilakantan   | <br>497 1581, 467 1796<br>826 5250 (O) 811 3691 |
| <b>SECRETARIES</b><br>Gita Chandrasekaran<br>Françoise Drown | <br>442 1035, 442 0235<br>823 0412              |
| <b>TREASURERS</b><br>Kusum Chadda<br>Padma Ashok             | <br>825 4217, 823 3751<br>826 7801, 827 6591    |

**ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>ARTS &amp; HANDICRAFTS</b><br>Shalini Biswajit<br>Sushi Goklaney   | <br>433 8216, 434 0315<br>435 3714             |
| <b>BOOK DISCUSSION</b><br>Gayathri Krishnaswami<br>Amulya Mandava Rao | <br>827 1789 (O)826 4428<br>499 5434, 499 1272 |
| <b>COOKING SWAPSHOP</b><br>Beena Ram Mohan<br>Cherry Venkatesan       | <br>6214278, 621 3923<br>829 3436              |
| <b>CURRENT EVENTS</b><br>Princess Naik<br>Bilqis Moosa                | <br>441 8448, 445 3830<br>434 9934, 434 9932   |
| <b>HEALTH &amp; ECOLOGY</b><br>Prithika Chary<br>Meena Naru           | <br>499 7878 (O) 436 3551ext 1510<br>825 2499  |
| <b>HISTORY, CULTURE &amp; TOURS</b><br>Vidya Singh<br>Pat Alter       | <br>433 8782, 435 9035<br>811 2000             |
| <b>PHILOSOPHY &amp; RELIGION</b><br>Seema Bhargava<br>Eileen Thompson | <br>434 3129, 435 6707<br>98400-30114          |
| <b>MUSIC &amp; PERFORMING ARTS</b><br>Naina Shah<br>Kanokwan Sandhu   | <br>432 0706<br>496 5556, 496 1061             |