



**International
Women's
Association**

DECEMBER 1995

Wishing you
a
Merry Christmas



IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol X No 7
Madras

DECEMBER 1995

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tuesday	5 December	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10-15 am
Friday	8 December	HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS Travel Quiz	10-15 am
Tuesday	12 December	CURRENT EVENTS OF CAREERS "Vaastu Shastra" - Directions that dictate destinies	10-15 am
Wednesday	13 December	COOKING SWAPSHOP Christmas cuisine	10-15 am
Friday	15 December	PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION Silent Night Holy Night	4-00 pm
Tuesday	19 December	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS Koodiyattam	10-15 am

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

We would like to remind you that there are only two weeks left for us to research, select and nominate our favourite Woman Educationist in the State of Tamil Nadu for IWA's Woman of the Year Award for 1995-96. Please note that IWA members are not eligible for the award.

May we also remind you that membership responsibilities include serving as a hostess for one meeting or contributing towards meeting expenses once during the year. Some of the meetings for the rest of the year may be needing hostesses and it would be appreciated if you would inform the Activity Chairpersons of your availability.

November activities were most stimulating and deeply thought-provoking. December's however, will provide a change of mood in keeping with the Holiday Season - a mood of gaiety and joy. The Christmas Party is organised, primarily, for our children and grandchildren with loads of fun and games, eats and gifts. We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with the entire membership and the members of the Overseas Women's Club.

This brings 1995 to a glorious close, with the shining HOPE of continuing the fellowship and friendships we have enjoyed from this year to the next.

**ZUBEIDA ASGARALI
KHINTHIDA LWIN**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 5 December 1995 - 10-15 am

At : Rupa Kadhiresan's
25 Sriman Srinivasan Road
Alwarpet
Madras - 600 018



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENTS

This month we bid fond farewell to two activity chairpersons and welcome two new ones. It's also the month that the post got through and members received Newsletters on time. Let's hope the trend continues!

Christmas is almost here and IWA will lead us into this festive season with some stimulating programmes. Remember it's the season to be jolly and on behalf of your committee we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and New Year. We'll leave you with this image of what happens on Christmas Eve in most Irish and English homes.

It was the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hope that Saint Nicholas soon would be there.

- C C MOORE - A visit from St Nicholas

**SHYLA K RAU
TERESA KING**

AN IRISH BLESSING - contributed by Padmini Natarajan

*May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warmly on your face
May the rain fall soft upon your field
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the hollow of his hand.*

FROM THE TREASURERS

In this report, besides the income and major items of expenditure, we have given in detail the accounts relating to our Diwali evening. This will give members an idea of how much a celebration such as this costs.

As on October 31, 1995

INCOME

Subscriptions received after July 31 1995	11850-00
Guest charges collected	1450-00
Sale of 157 Telephone directories @ Rs 40 each	6280-00
Sale of Books - Book discussion	480-00

EXPENDITURE

Printing of 280 Telephone Directories @ Rs 36 each	10080-00
Preview theatre for screening of INDIRA	1650-00
Money advanced to Secretary	Rs 3000
Treasurer	Rs 1000
Book Discussion	Rs 2000
Music & PA	Rs 1000
Diwali evening	7000-00
	<hr/> 13722-60

DIWALI EVENING - Details

INCOME

Collection from Sale of Tickets	30150-00
Complimentary tickets were given as follows to participants who were not members of IWA (Adults - 48 Children - 15)	-----

EXPENDITURE

Taj Bill	27842-60
Expenses incurred towards lights/P A System/costumes/ hiring of costume jewellery/artistes/musicians/flowers etc.	16030-00
	<hr/> 43872-60
Excess of expenditure over Income (Rs 43872-60 - Rs 30150-00)	<hr/> <hr/> 13722-60

**RUPA KADHIRESAN
ANGELIKA MANDAIKER**

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME - THE LITTLE MERMAID

This year's Pantomime "The Little Mermaid" will be held at the New American International School in the Russian Cultural Centre. All are welcome to join in the underwater fun with Ariel, the mermaid and her sea creature friends. This production comes to us under the auspices of the Little Theatre and will be directed by Ehagirathi and choreographed by Joanne-Grady Huskey.

Tickets (Rs 100 and Rs 50) will be available from the British Council, the Alliance Francis and the Russian Cultural Centre from the beginning of December.

For further details please contact :

Joanne Grady Huskey, Tel : 450288 or **Aysha Rau**, Tel : 8257968

Pantomime dates are:

Friday 22nd December : 7 pm

Saturday 23rd December : 3 pm and 7 pm

PANTOMIMES - by Jasper Utley

Pantomimes are a traditional British form of dramatic entertainment. They have several specifics with regard to performance and format. They are performed just after Christmas, around New Year time. Traditionally, a pantomime, abbreviated sometimes to 'panto', is a dramatisation of a classic children's story. The usual stories used include Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk, Mother Goose, Aladdin, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and Sleeping Beauty. There are several gender irregularities among the characters. The 'DAME' is a comic slapstick role played by a man. The 'male' lead, usually a prince, is played by a woman. You will be relieved to read that the female lead is played by a female.

The format relies on the fact that the story line is extremely well known to the audience. This liberates the drama from the need to do too much story telling. The story is sketchy but the bones are fleshed out with lots of songs, audience

participation, slapstick scenes and jokes. The drama can be enjoyed on both an adult and a child's plane. Usually the jokes have a political or other satirical element in them which is missed by the child audience but picked up by the adults accompanying them.

Having given you this outline it goes without saying that there are many variations on a theme. You can include more satire and target only an adult audience, you can have a new story but with a traditional format, or you can go the whole hog.

I hope you will enjoy this year's panto - 'The little Mermaid' - a new story but with a traditional format. GO GET THEM DAME TIDY TENTACLES!

CHRISTMAS

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The Christmas Story according to St Luke

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Friday, 8 December 1995 - 10-15 am

At : CPRA Foundation
1 Eldams Road Alwarpet
Madras - 600 018



TRAVEL QUIZ

We are all either travel fiends, or those who would love to travel but cannot get away. Either way, we read up all about going around the world or reaching out to dim distant places.

To satisfy the dreams of the armchair traveller and the regular tourist, we are organising a Travel Quiz. We invite IWA members to participate in full strength and join in the fun!

✓ TOUR TO CAMBODIA

February 1996

At the request of members, we are planning a weeks tour of Cambodia (visiting Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom etc.), Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and Pnom Penh.

Interested members should give in their names **with a deposit** by Dec 31st, as this is the high season and bookings have to be made rightaway.

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN
POONAM LALCHAND**

WITH SYMPATHY

Our heartfelt condolences to Vijay Goyal and Aruna Goyal on the demise of their father-in-law Mr O P Goyal, Managing Director of the Park Sheraton Hotel.

Also condolences to Rini Kumar on the death of her father.

CURRENT EVENTS

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Tuesday, 12 December 1995 - 10-15 am

At : Vidya Srinivasan's
2 Sathanarayana Avenue
Off Boat Club Road
Madras - 600 028



'VAASTU SHASTRA' - DIRECTIONS THAT DICTATE DESTINIES

Vaastu Shastra is the ancient science dealing with the earth in context to human beings and places. For example when a house, office or factory is constructed the direction in which the entrance is located is very important to determine the owner's prosperity, happiness etc.

Mr Pulla Rao, our guest speaker is from Andhra Pradesh and has a degree in Botany. He briefly worked as a teacher and then joined the Electricity Board. His interest in film direction brought him to Madras where he became interested in Vaastu Shastra in 1975 and has since been totally involved in this science.

NO GUESTS PLEASE

**PADMINI NATARAJAN
CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM**

**ALAGU MUTHU
IRENE PRULLER DAS**



FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Adieu to Sonia Carter, activity chairperson (Music and Performing Arts) and Brit Jackson, activity chairperson (Cooking Swapshop). We wish them well for the future. Welcome to our new activity chairpersons - Lalina Gautamadasa (Music and Performing Arts) and Helga Hombach (Cooking Swapshop).

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Wednesday, 13 December 1995 - 10-15 am

At : The Trident Hotel
1/24 GST Road
Madras - 600 027



CHRISTMAS CUISINE

Delectable Christmas fare awaits us this morning, when the chefs of the Trident Hotel will demonstrate special delights of the Christmas season.

This meeting comes to us through the kind courtesy of Geetha Jetley, General Manager of the Trident. We thank her for hosting this meeting.

NO GUESTS PLEASE

**LALITHA KRISHNAN
HELGA HOMBACK**

News... News... News...

TAMIL NADU WOMEN'S CRICKET ASSOCIATION

The English Women's Cricket Team (holders of the World Cup) is making a full tour of India (holders of the New Zealand Centenary Cup) from 9 November to 19 December 1995. Tamil Nadu Women's Cricket Associations are hosting the V One-day International on 15 December 1995 at the M A Chidambaram Stadium, Chepauk, Madras. Ticket rates are : Pavilion Rs 200, Pavilion Terrace Rs 100 and will be on sale at Dr C P Ramaswamy Iyer Foundation, 1, Eldams Road, Madras - 600 018 from 10 am - 5-30 pm from 1-12 December 1995 for IWA members, their families and friends. Car passes will be available (T Car Park) for Rs 50 each.

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Friday, 15 December - 4 to 6 pm

At : Meera Jayakar's
No17 Shafee Mohammed Road
Madras - 600 006



SILENT NIGHT — HOLY NIGHT

"ADVENT" in CENTRAL EUROPE is the month before Christmas. It is a quiet time for reflection and introspection, for kindness and sharing, good deeds and thoughts, a time to prepare for a NEW YEAR.

Today, we take you through ADVENT, celebrated with CAROLS and songs. The afternoon will be filled with lots of fun, games and goodies for all ages. ENJOY YOURSELVES!

We will have a Christmas tree, to which we hope every member will bring a small gift, (costing a **minimum** of Rs 25 please) for a less privileged friend (Please feel free to bring as many gifts as you wish).

Tickets will be on sale at Rs 50 per head with all Board Members.

This programme is restricted to MEMBERS OF IWA and OWC, their children and houseguests. Please be punctual.

Programme :

- 4-00 pm - Arrival of Guests and Fellowship
- 4-15 pm - Screening of Xmas Cartoons and Games
- 4-45 pm - Tea
- 5-15 pm - Start of the Christmas Celebration of "ADVENT"

**ALAGU MUTHU
IRENE PRULLER DAS**

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday, 19 December 1995 10-15 am

At : The Park Sheraton Hotel
132 TTK Road
Madras - 600 018



KOODIYATTAM - A GLITTERING JEWEL IN THE TREASURE TROVE OF INDIA'S PERFORMING ARTS:

KOODIYATTAM is notable for its complexity, sophistication and its rhythmic and stylised movement. The performances are elaborate and extended since its actors are free to go beyond the verbal text of the selected play. The movements of the body and the gestures of the hand are highly codified. The movement of the eyes and eyebrows has a lot of significance. Every movement of every limb, every gesture and every utterance is controlled by the rhythm of the percussion instruments, especially the Mizhavu. The entire choreography is closely linked to the beats of the drum.

KOODIYATTAM, native to Kerala is among the traditional forms of dance and theatre. This aesthetic art form will be presented to us by the renowned artistes from Thiruvananthapuram - Margi Sathi and Margi Madhu amidst the razzle - dazzle of contemporary creations - Koodiyattam and Nangiar Koothu are known only to a few. Hence we urge you not to miss this performance.

This special performance has been sponsored by Ashok Leyland. Our grateful thanks to them and to Sunita Shahaney for coordinating this for us. Our thanks also go to our hostess for this morning, Rini Kumar.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

Congratulations to Nanditha Krishna whose book "**Painted Manuscripts of the Sarasvati Mahal Library**" has just come out. It establishes for the first time that there is a South Indian school of miniature paintings.

The photographs in the book are by V K Rajamani, husband of Sharada Rajamani.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

Presidents	:	Zubeida Asgarali Khinthida Lwin	8271614 4347961
Vice Presidents	:	Shyla K Rau Teresa Mary King	8276893 4341066
Secretaries	:	Sujaya Menon Ellen Sorensen	4917464/4910044 4919291
Treasurers	:	Rupa Kadhiresan Angelika Mandaikar	4992847 611265

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Arts & Handicrafts	:	Nandita Chaudhuri Sangeetha Thapa	452720/4347871 4913078
Book Discussion	:	Sushila Nataraj Seema Sait	4911015 8261018
Current Events & Careers	:	Padmini Natarajan Chandrika Chidambaram	8280244 4917609
Cooking Swapshop	:	Lalitha Krishnan Helga Hombach	4991853/4992341 4938874
Health & Ecology	:	Bela Khaleeli Padma Ashok	418653 8276591
History, Culture & Tours	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan Poonam Lalchand	459199 8272947
Music & Performing Arts	:	Nirmal Seshadri Lalina Gautamadasa	4913820 6412868
Philosophy & Religion	:	Alagu Muthu Irene Pruller Dass	4937050 4990865