



International  
Women's  
Association

AUGUST 1998

# IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XIV No. 3  
CHENNAI

AUGUST 1999

## MONTH AT A GLANCE

Friday	6th Aug	Board Meeting Executive Meeting	9.30 a.m 11.00 a.m
Monday	9th Aug	Endowment Lecture New Discoveries at Mahabalipuram	10.30 a.m.
Tuesday	10th Aug	Arts and Handicrafts Health and Ecology Think Before you Trash	10.30 a.m.
Thursday	12th Aug	Book Discussion An Equal Music	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday	17th Aug	Philosophy and Religion Harmony at Home	10.15 a.m.
Friday	20th Aug	Cooking Swapshop History, Culture and Tours Onam Celebrations	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday	24th Aug	Music and Performing Arts A Jazz Experience	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday Sunday	24th Aug to 29th Aug	History, Culture and Tours A Visit to Hyderabad	

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

After a hectic July we now enter the busy month of August, and move from the period of *Adi* to that of *Avani*. It is a month of festivals, as Lord Krishna's birthday and Ganesh *Chaturthi* are celebrated.

In North India, it is the month of *Shravan*, when on the full moon day, *Raksha Bandhan* is celebrated, and sisters re-affirm bonds to their brothers with a *Rakhi*.

We have some very interesting meetings this month and hope to have an enthusiastic response from our members.

Another major event which has affected us directly or indirectly, is the conflict in Kargil.

IWA, as a concerned ladies organisation has decided to give a cheque to the Welfare Fund for the families of our brave young heroes of Kargil. Members are welcome to contribute in cash, to any of the Board members or to us. A book will be kept beside the attendance register at all meetings. Please enter your name and contribution in it.

Thank you for your support in this noble endeavour.

GAYATRI BEWOOR  
CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM

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### BOARD MEETING

Friday, 6th August, 9.30 a.m.

### EXECUTIVE MEETING

Friday, 6th August, 11.00 a.m.

Both meetings at:

Meyyammai Murugappan's  
"The Laurels"  
4, Chittaranjan Road  
Teynampet  
Chennai 18



## WOMEN OF THE MILLENNIUM - VALENTINA TERESHKOVA, THE FIRST WOMAN IN SPACE

Tereshkova, Valentina Vladimirova, born in 1937, became the first woman to travel in space. In the spacecraft Vostok VI, Tereshkova made 45 revolutions around the earth in a 70-hour and 50-minute flight from June 16 to 19, 1963. Soviet cosmonaut Valery F. Bykovsky was launched almost two days before Tereshkova. The two spacecraft came within 5 kilometres of each other during the flight. Soviet officials said the dual flight was conducted for "*simultaneous observation of the reactions of a man and woman flying in space.*" Tereshkova orbited the earth once every 88 minutes during her historic journey and parachuted from Vostok VI after reentering the earth's atmosphere.

Tereshkova was the first space traveller with no previous experience as a test pilot. She became interested in parachuting as a hobby, and made more than 125 jumps before volunteering for space flight training school. At the school, Tereshkova also received training as an aeroplane pilot. Tereshkova became an active member of the Young Communist League. In November 1963, she married cosmonaut Andrian Nikolayev.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO

- Mano Bakthavatsalam for being awarded the *Ugadi Puraskar Award* for Voluntary Service by the Telugu Academy and for being nominated as Chairman, Maternity and Child Welfare and Family Welfare Sub-Committee, Indian Red Cross, Tamil Nadu Branch, Chennai.
- Vasanthi Sankaranarayanan for directing a dance theatre, *Outcaste Eternal*, in Singapore. Viewed by an audience of 300 people on 27th and 28th April at the Jubilee Hall, Raffles Theatre, it received comments such as, "*It was a sophisticated and moving production.*"

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### FAREWELL TO

Gale Madsen who has left for New Jersey, U.S.A. Gale had served as Chairperson of Book Discussion last year.

## ENDOWMENT LECTURE

Monday, 9th August, 10.30 a.m.

At: The Museum Theatre  
Pantheon Road  
Chennai 8

### NEW DISCOVERIES AT MAHABALIPURAM

Mr.K.T.Narasimhan, Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of India, Chennai Circle, will deliver the Endowment Lecture.

Mahabalipuram, situated close to Chennai on the shores of the Bay of Bengal, is famous for its monolithic stone carvings, the five *rathas* and the exquisite shore temple. However, researchers and archaeologists continue to be fascinated by it and recent excavations have revealed that a harbour with jetties had existed. Mr.Narasimhan will tell us about the work and latest findings of the Archaeological Survey of India in Mahabalipuram.

GAYATRI BEWOOR  
CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM

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*There once was a man called O'Brien  
Who, whatever he did, kept his tie on:  
In the shower, or deck chair,  
He was heard to declare  
That "it shows I'm a man to rely on!"*

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**ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS**  
**HEALTH AND ECOLOGY**

Tuesday, 10th August, 10.30 a.m.

At: Mahmooda Haja Shareef's  
'Nihal', 17 Haddows Road  
1st Street, Nungambakkam  
Chennai 34



**THINK BEFORE YOU TRASH**

An empty Maggi Noodle wrapper would qualify as trash for most of us. Not so with Anne Mazlan. Her creative mind and expert hands transform mundane things like empty wrappers, old stockings, rags, straw and almost everything into the most exquisite objects of beauty. Here is an opportunity for us to watch Anne while she works wonders with these materials, which would otherwise find their way into the trash can. For a hands-on-experience, members can bring their own bits and pieces to work with.

Anne is a new IWA member from Malaysia and we are proud to welcome her into our fold. Members are invited to stay on after the demonstration for a *biryani* lunch.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS AT 10.30 A.M.**

**FAZEELA NURDEEN**  
**SUSHI GOKLANEY**

**KUSUM CHADDA**  
**MICHELLE KUNG**

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*Judge people from where they stand, not from where you stand.*

*If you want to do something and you feel in your bones that it's the right thing to do, do it.*

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Many thanks to Urmilla Agarwal and Javanthi Prabhakaran for sponsoring the hiring of the sound system for the meeting on Urban Crime on 25th June, 1999.



## BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday, 12th August, 10.15 a.m.

At: Vidya Singh's  
10, Satyanarayana Avenue  
Boat Club Road  
Chennai 28



### AN EQUAL MUSIC

Vikram Seth's finely researched novel, released in London amidst much fanfare in April, will be reviewed by our own IWA member - Vasanthi Sankaranarayanan.

The dominant theme of *An Equal Music* is a relationship, where the joy of union and grief of parting is etched in a manner that makes these emotions almost physical. It is a story about love and its many facets. At another level, this is a book about music, Western Classical music. It is also a book about loneliness, the loneliness of an artist.

A fast-paced book, the conversations between the characters have a pace and pitch often leaving the reader a little breathless.

This year too, we would like to continue with the system whereby each chairperson keeps a copy of the book to be discussed. All those interested in reading the book should contact one of us between 8.30 and 10.00 a.m.

Shalini Virmani  
3B Bougainvillae  
3, Adyar Club Gate Road  
Chennai 28  
Tel.No. 43410147 / 4994101

Nalini Panday  
6D Ramaniyam Towers  
20-L, Greenways Road  
Chennai 28  
Tel.No.4933773 / 4935338

This book is also available at the Madras Club and the Madras Gymkhana Club. We shall keep track of the books, so please do let us know when you pass the books to someone else. HAPPY READING!

SHALINI VIRMANI  
NALINI PANDAY

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We thank our IWA friends - Padma Ashok, Seema Bhargava, Shalini Biswajit, Alok Guha, Thayabe Kakar, Era Kalra, Rita Lal, Aseel Mathur and Shweta Mohapatra - for hosting the film show *Shakespeare in Love*.

## PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Tuesday, 17th, August, 10.15 a.m.

At: Meyyammai Murugappan's  
"The Laurels"  
4, Chittaranjan Road  
Chennai 18



## HARMONY AT HOME

In today's competitive world, everyone is under pressure to cope with the stress and pace of their lives. We all have to make an effort to create harmony in the home.

Dr. Sukumaran, who is a Reiki Grand Master, a holistic healer and a mind science consultant with twenty years of experience, has travelled all over the world, healing and helping thousands of people. He will give us practical and simple tips, which we can take home and put into practice immediately to bring joy into our lives.

**SUREKHA KOTHARI  
MEYYAMMAI MURUGAPPAN**

## COOKING SWAPSHOP HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

Friday, 20th August, 10.15 a.m.

At: The Coconut Grove  
Harrington Road  
Chennai 31



### *"Kanam Vittum Onam Unnanam"*

This is an old saying in Malayalam, which means that we must celebrate *Onam* festival even if we have to sell some of our lands. Such is the significance of *Onam*, that Malayalees (people from Kerala) celebrate it wherever they are.

*Onam* is a secular, pre-harvest festival, celebrated in Kerala during this month of *Chingam* (August-September). The monsoon rains will be over, the Sun's rays give the welcome warmth and heat, the trees and plants take on a lush green sheen, the lakes and rivers are full and the rice stalks, ready for harvesting, sway in the wind, heavy with the golden grain. *Onam*, is a celebration of plenteousness, happiness and beauty. As the festival has no religious significance, everyone - Hindus, Muslims, Christians and others - celebrates it alike.

The IWA *Onam* will be celebrated with a typical Kerala feast - hosted by our Malayalee members - Kerala dances and an explanation of the significance of *Onam*.

## FOR MEMBERS ONLY

**NAINA SHAH  
FRANCOISE DROWN**

**RADHA SESHADRI  
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**



## MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday, 24th August, 10.15 a.m.

At: Elizabeth Herridge's  
"Cottingley"  
24, Anderson Road  
Chennai 6



### **A JAZZ EXPERIENCE**

Mr. Rainer Pusch hails from Heidelberg in Germany. He opted to major in Mathematics, but settled down to Jazz music and now plays Carnatic music on the saxophone. Coming to Madras for a serious study of Carnatic music, Mr. Pusch has not only found satisfaction in the music field, but also swears by the goodness of vegetarian food - our good old *idly*, *dosa* and *sambar*. He interacts with our Nadaswaram players and also learns the intricacies of our 'Thalas', the rhythmic backbone of our musical system. Our members will have the opportunity to hear Mr. Pusch on the saxophone and also of his experiences so far.

**SAROJA RAMAMRUTHAM  
ELEANOR DARUWALLA - NITZCHE**

We thank our last meeting's co-hostesses, Mridula Narasimhan and Chandra Padmanabhan.

## HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

### **A VISIT TO HYDERABAD**

By popular request, we have chosen a tour of the historic and vibrant city of Hyderabad. Details are as follows:

**Dates:** 24th August - 29th August, 1999

**Mode of transport:** Evening trains to and from Hyderabad

**Accommodation:** 3 - star hotel in Hyderabad

**Transport for sightseeing trips:** Air-conditioned coaches

**Places we will visit:** Char Minar, Mecca Masjid, Golconda Fort, Qutb Shahi Tombs, Salar Jung Museum and Film City, with time for shopping

**Cost per member - Rs.6,500/- (all inclusive)**

Please call Radha - 4913820 or Lalini - 6411654 for reservations  
on or before 8th August



**RADHA SESHADRI  
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

## ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

### A DESIGN WORKSHOP



**Date :** Monday, 27th September and Tuesday, 28th September

**Time :** 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on both days

**Venue :** Will be given in the next Newsletter.

This forum is meant for those who are involved in the pursuit of excellence in interior design.

The workshop will be conducted by none other than IWA's Founder Member and Past President, Sunitha Shahaney, who has a Diploma in Interior Design from Chicago, U.S.A. She has been and continues to be involved in the designing of some of the most prestigious homes in Chennai. Discussions, visuals and trips to homes in Chennai will be an important part of this workshop, followed by a field trip to Coonoor and Ooty the following week, from 4th to 8th October.

**Limit :** Only 25 participants on a first come first serve basis.

**Cost :** Rs.150/-, which includes one lunch and course material. One lunch will be sponsored.

It is important that you participate on both days. Priority will be given to those who are committed to a two-day session.

**Sign in :** From 10th August to 30th August.

**Contact :** Kusum Chadda at 8233751, from 8.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

Ms.Uvarani at 8254217, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

**KUSUM CHADDA  
MICHELLE KUNG**



### CONDOLENCES TO

- Sunanda Sundaram on the demise of her husband
- Koshu Lalchand on the demise of her husband
- Vanitha Mudaliar on the demise of her mother
- Rita Saldanha on the demise of her brother



## HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

### A VISIT TO OOTY AND COONOOR

As a follow-up to the Design Workshop, a 3-day field trip to Coonoor and Ooty has been planned. Details are as follows:

Departure : Evening of 4th October.

Arrival : Morning of 8th October.

Cost : Rs.5,500/- approx. (inclusive of travel, accomodation and transport)

Places we would visit - Staff College, Ooty Club, Planters' and Army homes in Nilgiris.

Also : A session on history of the area and living conditions of its people.

Please register between 10th - 31st August with Radha - 4913820 or Lalini - 6411654

**PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE WORKSHOP**



**RADHA SESHADRI  
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

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### IN THE NEW IWA YEAR...

Take time to think;  
it is the source of power  
Take time to read;  
it is the foundation of wisdom.  
Take time to play;  
it is the secret of staying young.  
Take time to be quiet;  
It is the opportunity to seek God.  
Take time to be aware;  
it is the opportunity to help others.  
Take time to love and be loved;  
it is God's greatest gift.  
Take time to laugh;  
it is the music of the soul.  
Take time to be friendly;  
it is the road to happiness.  
Take time to dream;  
it is what the future is made of.  
Take time to pray;  
it is the greatest power on earth.

Contributed by  
**SHALINI VIRMANI**

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## WELCOME TO

**Sumiko Ishii**

5, Chittaranjan Road  
Teynampet  
Chennai 600 018  
Tel. No.

**Japanese**

4364655

**Bilkis Moosa**

19, Cenotaph 2nd Lane  
Alwarpet  
Chennai 600 018  
Tel. No.

**Sri Lankan**

4349934 / 4349932

**June Payne**

3, Mayflower Apartments  
9, Sathyanarayana Avenue  
Raja Annamalaipuram  
Chennai 600 028  
Tel. No.

**British**

(R) 4347197

(O) 4670907 / 4995744



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Prem Batra**

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Apartment 3-A  
Chennai - 600 018

**Soma Mathew Cherien**

"Hill Top Manor"  
2, Tiger Hill Cottage  
Tiger Hill  
Nilgiris 643 161

**Meena Rawley**

Flat No.2B  
"Shyams Villa"  
3, II Main Road, C.I.T.Colony  
Mylapore  
Chennai 600 004

**Nita Reddy**

281R, Road No. 10B  
Jubilee Hills  
Hyderabad 33



## CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

Soma Mathew Cherien

0423-32436

Meena Rawley

4971005

Nita Reddy

98480-87675

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### THE BOARD

1999-2000

PRESIDENTS	: Gayatri Bewoor	(R) 8264035
	: Chandrika Chidambaram	(R) 4611253
VICE - PRESIDENTS	: Javanthi Prabhakaran	(R) 6411579
	: Catherine Brunet	(R) 4992273
SECRETARIES	: Kamala Muthiah	(R) 6411141/6411142
	: Sue Williams	(R) 4341595
TREASURERS	: Kamala Prasad	(R) 6262035
	: Rathi Nilakantan *	(R) 8260744/8265250

### ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS	: Kusum Chadda	(R) 8254217/8233751
	: Michelle Kung	(O) 2387230/31/32
BOOK DISCUSSION	: Shalini Virmani	(R) 4341047
	: Nalini Panday	(R) 4933773/4935338
COOKING SWAPSHOP	: Naina Shah	(R) 4320706/4320564
	: Francoise Drown	(R) 8230412
CURRENT EVENTS	: Rani Chada	(R) 2344233
	: Bernadette Macdonald Raggett	(R) 2300715
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	: Fazeela Nurdeen	(R) 6260674/6216561
	: Sushi Goklaney	(R) 4353714
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	: Radha Seshadri	(R) 4913820
	: Lalini Gautamadasa	(R) 6412868/6411654
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	: Saroja Ramamrutham	(R) 4915549
	: Eleanor Daruwalla-Nitzche	(R) 4970127
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	: Surekha Kothari	(R) 8257145/8257198
	: Meyyammai Murugappan	(R) 4348207