



International  
Women's  
Association

JUNE 2000





**THE BOARD  
AND  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**WELCOME YOU TO**

**IWA 2000-2001**

**AN EVENTFUL, INTERESTING AND**

**ENJOYABLE YEAR**



# IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XV No. 1  
CHENNAI

JUNE 2000

## MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tuesday	6th June	<b>Board Meeting</b> <b>Executive Meeting</b>	9.45 a.m. 11.00 a.m.
Friday	16th June	<b>Fellowship Morning</b>	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday	20th June	<b>History, Culture and Tours</b> Tour of Historic buildings in Chennai	10.00 a.m.
Thursday	22nd June	<b>Health and Ecology</b> Waste is precious	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday	27th June	<b>Philosophy and Religion</b> Dawn to Greater Dawn	10.15 a.m.
Thursday	29th June	<b>Cooking Swapshop</b> Mother-in-law's recipes	10.15 a.m.

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Welcome to the New IWA year - the first in the 21st Century. A new year always holds promise of pleasant and exciting surprises, as a fresh set of Activity Chairpersons, infused with eagerness and creative ideas are ready to take off. We on the Board and Executive Committee look forward to keeping our Members entertained and mentally stimulated. The participation and suggestions of Members has always made a significant contribution to the success of IWA and we anticipate the same this year as well.

### **Our theme**

We have chosen "Natural Living" and the earth colours of gold and green as the theme for this year. The destructive onslaught of synthetics is alarmingly visible around us and all over the world there is a move to adopt natural alternatives and solutions. We in IWA also felt this year could be the ideal opportunity for us to take a fresh look at the richness of nature and our environment and examine how it could make our lives more fulfilling and sustainable.

### **Guest charges, screening of films and hotels**

It has always been the practice in IWA to look at us as one big family. As this family has grown in size, so have its needs. The point is that our income, which is solely from subscription, is largely accounted for by printing, postage and the three major events, viz., Founder's Day, Presentation of Awards and the Annual General Meeting. But the generosity of our Members has made it possible to conduct our meetings. The pressure of growing costs however compels us to increase Guest Charges to Rs.50/- in homes and Rs.100/- in hotels. The screening of films and meetings in hotels - excluding the three major events - are getting to be very expensive and hence Members will be required to pay a charge for such meetings, which will however be limited in number. We believe that these changes will help us to serve our Members in a better and bigger way.

### **Hostesses for meetings**

For the convenience of all our Members, we have provided Chairpersons of each activity with a list of about 34 hostesses, whom they will be contacting, for their meetings. The inconvenience caused to Members by repeated requests to host meetings



by different Chairpersons will cease. This will also help the Chairpersons to plan with the hostess both the ideal time of the year and the programme suitable for her and her home. Group Hostesses will be asked to contribute a minimum of Rs.300/-.

### **Cellular telephones and early departures**

In deference to our esteemed speakers and ourselves, we request Members to switch off their cellular telephones while a meeting is in session. Similarly, leaving a meeting while the speaker is still addressing us, disturbs the concentration of both the speaker and the audience and is highly contradictory to the culture and tradition of IWA.

*WE WISH ALL OF YOU AN ENJOYABLE YEAR.*

**JAVANTHI PRABHAKARAN  
EIRA DOSHI**

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### **BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, 6th June, 9.45 a.m.

### **EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Tuesday, 6th June, 11 a.m.

**Both Meetings at:  
Rathi Nilakantan's  
14 Chinniah Road  
T.Nagar  
Chennai 17**

## FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Warm colourful greetings to all our IWA members.

Many of us have been flying around the world over various lands and seas. At times we are overwhelmed at seeing the unbelievable beauty and variety of our earth and feel we are indebted to our Mother Earth for all the strength, food and beauty she provides us.

An excerpt from Rabindranath Tagore's poem "The First Jasmines" expresses these sentiments beautifully.

I have loved the sunlight the sky and the green earth;  
I have heard the liquid murmur of the river  
through the darkness of midnight;  
Autumn sunsets have come to me at the bend of the road in the  
lonely waste, like a bride raising her veil to accept her lover.  
Yet my memory is still sweet with the first white jasmines  
that I held in my hands when I was a child.

KAMALA MUTHIAH  
ANGELIKA MANDAIKER

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## MEMBERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2000-2001

Gayatri Bewoor	Immediate Past Presidents
Chandrika Chidambaram	
Kamala Prasad	Present Treasurers
Maureen Thadani	
Zubeida Asgarali	Two members not on the
Vijaya Balasubramaniam	Executive Committee
Rathi Nilakantan	Immediate Past Membership
	Treasurer
Javanthi Prabhakaran	Presidents
Eira Doshi	

## FROM THE SECRETARIES

We understand that a few IWA Members have not been receiving their monthly Newsletter. In order to prevent this recurring you are requested to please forward any change in Address and Telephone Number to the Secretaries. This will eliminate a major reason for non-receipt of correspondence.

Please wait until the 5th of every month before informing us about non-receipt of Newsletter.

Ladies please contact the following for getting / giving information.

For	Contact
Intimating change of address or telephone numbers	Rani Chada Rathi Nilakantan
Not receiving Newsletter	Rani Chada Rathi Nilakantan
Contributing articles/poems/quotes for the Newsletter	Kamala Muthiah Angelika Mandaiker
Announcements to be Included in Newsletter	Kamala Muthiah Angelika Mandaiker
Information regarding Attendance	Maureen Thadani
Hosting a Meeting	Maureen Thadani
Warning in for a meeting	Concerned Activity Chairpersons

**RANI CHADA  
RATHI NILAKANTAN**



## FROM THE TREASURERS

Warm greetings to all IWA members! We are looking forward to your co-operation and active participation to make this year also a successful one.

Here are some important points to remember.

1. Last date for submission of renewal forms along with subscription is 15.7.2000.
2. Attendance - Out of the compulsory requirement of ten meetings during the IWA year (1st April to 31st March 2001) a minimum of seven meetings should be attended by every member before the end of December 2000. This applies to members of all nationalities.

Any member who is unable to attend meetings for two consecutive months or longer must intimate the Membership Treasurer in writing and there after make up for lost attendance.

New members please note that 10 meetings have to be attended before 31st March 2001 irrespective of date of joining IWA.

3. If badges are required please let the Membership Treasurer know before 15th July 2000.
4. Members are requested to remember and write their code number clearly and print their name in block letters next to it.
5. Members are advised to call Kamala Prasad for matters regarding finances and Maureen Thadani for membership details.

**KAMALA PRASAD  
MAUREEN THADANI**



## FELOWSHIP MORNING

Friday, 16th June, 10.15 a.m.

At: The Madras Club  
Adayar Club Gate Road  
Chennai 28

We welcome our Members after the summer break to a morning of fun and fellowship. It will be a time to share holiday experiences and greet our New Members. Games in groups (what will it be this time?) and gifts for the lucky will help us pass the time.

In keeping with our theme Members are requested to dress in earth colours of gold, rust, green and bronze. Keep it simple, cool and natural.

JAVANTHI PRABHAKARAN  
EIRA DOSHI

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## COOK BOOK

Members are reminded that the IWA Cookbook is available with the following members.

Gayatri Bewoor  
Chandrika Chidambaram  
Alagu Muthu  
Beena Ram Mohan  
Sunitha Shahaney

Usha Chandrakumar  
Poonam Lalchand  
Kamala Prasad  
Naina Shah

A few copies of the Mini Cookbook brought out in April 1999 are also available with Kamala Prasad at Rs.20/- each.

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## OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO

- Vimal Shivdasani on the birth of her grand daughter, Shlōka
- Alagu Muthu on the birth of her grand daughter.
- Alagammai Alagappan on the birth of her grand son.

## HISTORY CULTURE & TOURS

Tuesday, 20th June, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

At: Madras Club



### **TOUR OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN CHENNAI**

We have often passed beautiful old buildings in the city and wondered if we could possibly go inside and have a look. We have also wondered why these buildings are not better looked after.

Benny Kuriakose who is a conservation architect has prepared a conservation report on the Senate house.

We will be driving through the streets of Chennai in an A/C coach to visit some of these buildings with Benny as our guide.

This tour will cost Rs.125/- including packed lunch. As only 32 persons can be seated in the coach members are requested to call Aruna Vijayakumar by the 10th of June and confirm with payment.

**VISALAKSHI RAMASWAMY  
ARUNA VIJAYAKUMAR**

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### BOOK DISCUSSION

Book lovers,



The book chosen for July is "Interpreter of Maladies" by Jhumpa Lahiri

3 copies of the book are available with Kamala Prasad for Anna Nagar, Kilpauk and Chetpet areas, Vidya Singh for Boat Club and Adyar, and Ingrid Charlton-Briggs for Egmore and Nungambakkam. Please get in touch with them and start reading it.

**VIDYA SINGH  
INGRID CHARLTON-BRIGGS**

## HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Thursday, 22nd June, 10.15 a.m.

At: Kausalya Jaganmohan's  
"Shree Vishwa Vandita"  
10/1 Poes Garden  
Chennai 600 086



### 'WASTE IS PRECIOUS'

Urban refuse tends to increase with the economic levels of countries and cities. Solid waste not collected and disposed efficiently, pollute and degrade essential land and water resources. Uncollected or untreated garbage creates serious human health hazards by attracting diseases carrying vermin and insects. Solid waste disposal is a large expenditure with the cost varying with the type of disposal.

Solutions are evolving as the problems and costs of urban waste disposal are increasing. Most of the solid wastes are being recycled and/or reused. The most important approach of recycling waste and generating energy is recovery of inorganic materials.

Vermicompost is a very important aspect of organic farming package today.

Prof. Sultan Ahmed Ismail will talk to us on how we have tampered with nature, what best we can do which is possible by us.

**NAINA SHAH  
SUSANNE PLANTENER**



### CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

Ramila Sreedhar      447 1352 / 447 3661



## PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Tuesday 27th June - 10.15 a.m.

At: The Russian Cultural Centre  
27, Kasturi Ranga Road  
Chennai 18



### **DAWN TO GREATER DAWN**

In the evolution of species, man developed from animal. Once he was endowed with a mind, he discovered the art of making fire, turning the wheel and sowing crops. Then came the various religions - the Dawn of moral values. Though the several religions are scattered over the world, there is an amazing oneness in their basics. Yet we feel the impact of mutually antagonistic divisive forces.

Dr. Prema Nandakumar, well known for her articles, books and debates on philosophy and religion, will take us from Dawn to a Greater Dawn based on Spirituality, which will help us understand the oneness on which universal brotherhood and fraternity depend.

**LALITHA KRISHNAN  
SEEMA SAIT**



### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Shobha Mujumder**  
Lunkad Heritage II  
Flat No 704  
Plot No 126  
Viman Nagar  
Pune 411 014

**Catherine Brunet has sent her corrected telephone number in France. The Number is 0033 254784451.**



## COOKING SWAPSHOP

Thursday, 29th June 10.15 a.m.

At: Seetha Muthiah's  
Coromandel House  
12 Boat Club Road  
Chennai 600 028



### MOTHER-IN-LAW'S RECEIPES

Mrs. Ayesha Mohammed, a special mother-in-law will share her cooking skills with the IWA family on this morning. Whether it's her native Moplah fare or exotic cakes and bakes, Mrs. Mohammed handles cooking with an ease and style perfected over the years.

Come to enjoy and master a few tried and tested dishes.

**FAZEELA NURDEN  
SUSHI GOKLANEY**

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### WE ARE RE-PRODUCING A LETTER TO ALL THE MEMBERS FROM FRANCA GEORGE

TO MY FRIENDS AT I.W.A.

18/4/2000

Dear Friends,

It is with a sad heart that I write to say that I will be leaving India in the very near future, but I will be happy to be with all my children in the same country.

I want to say arriverderci and thank you to all the people who made me feel so welcome and at home in Madras during the nine years that I have been here.

I shall miss you and because of it, I am already trying to plan my next visit to India. (the plans are still a bit nebulous, but I am working on it!)

Take care and keep in touch and until we meet again I will be thinking of you.

**Franca  
USA**

**Tel No. 1-864 288 6866**

**Fax No. 1-864 627 8434**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### THE BOARD

2000-2001

PRESIDENTS	: Javanthi Prabhakaran	(R) 6411579
	: Eira Doshi	(R) 4911126
VICE - PRESIDENTS	: Kamala Muthiah	(R) 6411141/6411142
	: Angelika Mandaiker	(O) 8553821/8553861
		(R) 6461265
SECRETARIES	: Rani Chada	(R) 2344233/2324972
	: Rathi Nilakantan	(R) 8260744/8265250
		(O) 8213691/8274700
		8229932
TREASURERS	: Kamala Prasad	(R) 6262035/6283809
	: Maureen Thadani	(R) 4913194

### ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS	: Sharmila Ramji	(R) 4422414
	: Kyoko Kashima	(O) 8279020
BOOK DISCUSSION	: Vidya Singh	(R) 4338782/4359035
	: Ingrid Charlton-Briggs	(R) 8241878
COOKING SWAPSHOP	: Fazeela Nurdeen	(R) 6260674/6216561
	: Sushi Goklaney	(R) 4353714
CURRENT EVENTS	: Kusum Chadda	(R) 8254217/8233751
	: Pat Alter	(R) 8273040
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	: Naina Shah	(R) 4320706/4320564
	: Suzanne Plantener	(R) 4901613
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	: Visalakshi Ramaswamy	(R) 4939829
	: Aruna Vijaykumar	(R) 8271284/8272732
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	: Gita Chandrasekaran	(R) 4420235/4421035
	: Ann Moradian	(R) 4331582/4356243
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	: Lalitha Krishnan	(R) 4991853/4992341
	: Seema Sait	(R) 8242244/8261018