



IWA
CHENNAI

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	10.15 a.m. Music & Performing Arts	9.45 a.m. Managing Comm. Mtg. 10.45 a.m. Exec. Comm. Mtg.	6	7	10.15 a.m. Current Events	9
10	10.15 a.m. Health & Ecology	12	13	14	15	16
17	4.15 p.m. Cooking Swapshop	18	20	21	10.15 a.m. Book Discussion	23
24	25	10.15 a.m. Philosophy & Religion History, Culture & Tourism	27	28	10.15 a.m. Arts & Handicrafts	30

IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XVIII No. 3

Chennai

AUGUST 2003

MONTH AT A GLANCE

- Monday 4th Aug *Music & Performing Arts* 10.15 a.m.
Take your Pick!
- Tuesday 5th Aug *Managing Comm. Meeting* 9.45 a.m.
Executive Comm. Meeting 10.45 a.m.
- Friday 8th Aug *Current Events* 10.15 a.m.
Richard Holkar
- Monday 11th Aug *Health & Ecology* 10.15 a.m.
*From Rain Forests to
Jungle Adventures*
- Monday 18th Aug *Cooking Swapshop* 4.15 p.m.
Flavours of the Mediterranean
- Friday 22nd Aug *Book Discussion* 10.15 a.m.
Jahanara by Lyane Guillaume
- Tuesday 26th Aug *History, Culture & Tourism* 10.15 a.m.
Egypt: A trip down the Nile
- Wednesday 27th Aug *Philosophy & Religion* 10.15 a.m.
Philosophy of Rituals
- Thursday 28th Aug *Music & Performing Arts* 3.00 p.m.
Onam at Dakshinachitra
- Friday 29th Aug *Arts & Handicrafts* 10.15 a.m.
*Varanasi!!! Seat of Arts &
Handicrafts.*

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

How time flies! Already we are in August - the first quarter of this year is behind us!

By the time you read this, **Founders' Day** would have been celebrated. A big 'THANK YOU' to all those who helped to put this function together.

The monthly newsletter is our way of getting in touch with each of you. So please read it with care. In the July newsletter, we had requested you to **hand in a copy of your passport photograph, and also to let us have your e-mail address.** Please remember to give us both at any of the monthly meetings.

And if you arrive early, do **GET INVOLVED!** The Chairpersons would welcome your help in manning the attendance register or some other task that needs to be done.

Hope you enjoy the choice of meetings for the month.

Sushi Natraj

Elaine Wood

MANAGING COMMITTEE MEETING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 5th Aug, 9.45 a.m. Tuesday 5th Aug, 10.45 a.m.

Both Meetings at:

Anuradha Uberoi

10 (Old No.6) 2nd Cross Street, Sterling Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

1st APRIL TO 30th JUNE 2003

	Rs.
INCOME	
Membership Subscription	1,97,600.00
Membership Contribution	19,200.00
New Membership Fee	3,000.00
Telephone Book	100.00
Guest Contribution	200.00
Bye Law Books	30.00
Total Income	2,20,130.00
Expenditure	
AGM Expenses	15,610.00
Speaker Gifts	6,501.00
Fellowship Meeting	8,750.00
Postage & Courier	4,570.00
Photographs	1,008.00
Printing and Stationary	3,175.00
Conveyance	50.00
Total Expenditure	39,664.50
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,80,465.50
Funds Position as on 30th June, 2003	
Opening Balance - 1st April 2003	29,549.26
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,80,465.50
Less Advance Paid to Chairpersons	16,000.00
Closing Balance - Cash	23,469.89
Bank	1,70,544.87
	1,94,014.76
Fixed Deposits	
Corpus Fund KD/01/008064	2,65,100.00
Entrance Fee KD/01/008066	69,500.00
Entrance Fee KD/01/008355	2,250.00
Entrance Fee KD/01/009312	2,250.00
Special Fixed Deposit KD/01/009312	1,00,000.00
Total Fixed Deposits	4,39,100.00

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 4th August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **Madras Boat Club**
Boat Club Road
R.A.Puram
Chennai 600 028



*Vengeful vamps or self-pitying matyrs?
Take your pick!*

T.V.Serials have become the main source of entertainment for housewives and elderly in the afternoons. Even young children and office-going men have succumbed to their charm (or rather hooked?) in the evenings and at night. One trend that has emerged in these marathon family dramas pertain to the portrayal of women. They are either stark black or pure white in character. Varying shades of grey are rarely seen. Are we really like this? Is life influencing fiction or vice-versa?

Sisters **Lakshmi Ravichander** and **Saraswathi Krishnakumar** are Directors of the serial "Enna Satham Indha Neram?" currently being aired on Raj T.V. They will talk to us about this disturbing feature and will also give us an insight into the production side of T.V.programs.

We thank **Prithika Chary**, **Umayal Chettyappan**, **Dhun Dalal**, **Mohini Gill**, **Premila Jacob**, **Rupa Kadhiresan** and **Jaya Naidu** for hosting the meeting.

Seema Bhargava

Uma Ganesan

CURRENT EVENTS

Friday, 8th August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **The British Council**
737 Anna Salai
Chennai



*From the palaces to the people ...
Richard Holkar*

Today, India's heritage is being projected with great depth to the outside world. Most erstwhile royals have used their properties and heritage to package their states to international travellers and culture aficionados.

Richard Holkar, scion of the Indore royal family, and **REWA** are synonymous with reviving and creating a successful project for women weavers of Indore. He will describe the changes in his life, family and city and the struggle he faced in preserving the soul and culture of Indore.

Come and listen as **Richard Holkar** addresses us about India's royal past and where it is heading in the future.

We thank **Nunu Mgelodze** and **Shobana Thomas** for hosting the refreshments.

Nina Kothari

Amulya Mandava Rao

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Monday 11th August, 10:15 a.m.

At : **Sharmila Ramji's**
13 (Old 9) Valliamma Achi Street
Kotturpuram
Chennai 600 085



From Rain forests to Jungle Adventures!

Shekar Dattatri has crisscrossed India in search of its magnificent wildlife, first as a **photographer** and later, during the last 15 years, as a professional **wildlife filmmaker**. Camping in the deepest jungles and on remote beaches he has recorded the lives and fortunes of a wide variety of endangered creatures. His films make a strong plea for preserving India's shrinking wilderness areas.

He has worked with some of the leading broadcasters of natural history programmes and his films have aired on **National Geographic Television**, **Discovery Channel** and the **BBC**, among others. Shekar will share with us some of his jungle adventures and his insights into the state of India's wildlife.

Our grateful thanks to **Sharmila Ramji** for hosting the meeting.

Rekha R Rangaraj

Isabelle Badrinath

CAR POOL

Chairpersons are extremely happy to see a large number of members at meetings.

But often this causes a problem with parking of cars. This leads to discomfort for members who either have to park their cars some distance away, and walk over often uneven ground, or are compelled to wait after the meetings for quite some time, as their drivers manoeuvre cars through the snarl of vehicles. In both cases, members are inconvenienced.

May we therefore suggest that members form carpools - not only will this solve the parking problem, it is a definite energy-saving device, and most important, this is a great opportunity for members to get to know one another better!

So - try it! And do let us know how it works.

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Monday, 18th August, 4.15 p.m.

At : **Cedars**
29 Gandhi Mandapam Road
Kotturpuram
Chennai 600 085



Flavours of the Mediterranean

Lebanese Chef Georges el Hajj will demonstrate two salads - **Fattoush** and **Tabbouleh** and **Hummus** a dip, at the exclusive '**Cedars**' Restaurant, Cedars serves authentic Mediterranean cuisine, specialising in Lebanese, French and Italian food using fresh ingredients and imported condiments. Coffee and snacks will be served after the demonstration. Recipes and gifts from Cedar will also be distributed.

Please warn-in to **Bilkis Moosa** Ph:2434 9934 / 32 or **Urmilla Agarwal** 2820 5327 Limit 50 persons. NO GUESTS PLEASE.

Urmilla Agarwal

Bilkis Moosa

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY will be celebrated on 1st October.

As you are aware, an endowment has been set up in memory of our **Founder President Nirmal Seshadri**, by her family. The fund will be used each year to honour a young and promising musician, who will be chosen by a Committee set up for this purpose. The members are : **Saroj Ramamrutham, Stina Vasu, Indira Dutt and Shrikanta Jhaver.**

IWA members are invited to send in suggestions for recipients of this honour. The candidates should be, preferably, under 18 years of age. They should have documents like certificates, awards, etc., to prove their standard.

Please send in your suggestions by post with appropriate copies of certificates, and a brief write-up, to **Sushi Natraj**, to reach before 15th August.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Friday, 22 August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **Mahmooda Haja Shareef**
6 (Old 17) 1st Street
Haddows Road, Nungambakkam
Chennai 600 006



The Book: Jahanara by Lyane Guillaume

Jahanara was the daughter of the Emperor Shah Jahan and his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. She was beautiful as well as intelligent, well-educated and well-informed about religion and state affairs. **Lyane Guillaume, Professor of French Literature in Paris** has lived in India for several years with her archaeologist husband.

The book has been translated from French by **Uma Narayanan** and **Prema Seetharam** who will both be present to discuss the book and the translation of it.

We thank **Mahmooda Haja Shareef** for hosting this meeting.

Saranya Jayakumar Cecile Malet Peterson

A few guidelines for reading and circulating the books

1. Please put your name and phone number in the right book according to the part of the city where you reside.
2. Make a note of the name immediately above your name on the list and contact her for getting the book.
3. Please try to finish the book within 4 days and ask the member whose name is next on the list to pick it up.

The books will be sold at a reduced price soon after the discussion on a first come basis.

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Tuesday, 26th August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **Madras Boat Club**
Boat Club Road
R.A.Puram
Chennai 600 028.



Egypt: A trip down the Nile

Usha Kris, is a renowned photographer of Chennai who has turned photography into an art form, constantly producing thought-provoking and visually-challenging images. She has held exhibitions in India and abroad. She will speak on the ancient history and culture of Egypt, supported by her wonderful photographs of the country.

To experience the splendour of Egypt, IWA is organising a trip mid-October. Details of the trip are given below.*

We thank **Malathi Ramachandran, Shyla Rau, Anita Reddy** and **Ramani Reddy** for hosting this meeting.

Shobha Hebbar

Libby Meyer

Splendours of Egypt - details of the trip

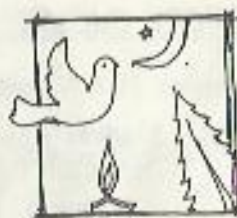
Between the 10th and 18th October, a trip to Egypt is being organized. We will stay for two days in Cairo and visit the **Pyramids, the Sphinx, do a tour of the city and the Egyptian Museum.** We then embark on a **romantic cruise on the Nile for four days, which will take us to Luxor, Karnak, Edfu, the Valley of the Kings, Thebes, Kom Ombo and Aswan.**

The **cost of the trip will be approximately Rs.54,000/-** that will include economy airfare, accommodation in four-star hotels on a twin-sharing basis, cost of the cruise, most of the meals the cost of guides and sightseeing. Members interested in joining the trip may contact the **Chairperson Shobha Hebbar (Ph : 2641 1248)** before the 20th of August.

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Wednesday, 27th August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **Anuradha Sachdev**
10, Chinniah Street
T.Nagar
Chennai 600 017.



Philosophy of Rituals

Rituals have been perceived as an inseparable component of our psycho-social existence.

Rituals help us in understanding how we grow from **I to you to we**. They also educate us on our responsibilities at various levels - psychological, personal, social, community and spiritual. A ritual comprises of knowledge, skill and desire, but in today's age our knowledge and understanding of rituals needs honing.

Tatwamasi Dixit is going to do just that! He has been practising and teaching vedic sciences for more than 20 years and is an authority on the Vedas and Shastras.

We thank **Anuradha Sachdev** for hosting this meeting.

Anuradha Uberoi

Anita Kapoor

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE

Pronoti Banerjea	2836 3715
C.Prema Kumar	(R) 2836 3821
	(O) 2836 5403 / 2836 3404
Rita Saldanha	2836 0083
Mridula Narasimhan	2836 5150
Prabha Nair	2836 5403

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Thursday, 28th August, 3.00 p.m.

At : **Dakshinachitra ***
New Mahabalipuram Road



Onam Celebrations - Harmony of Man and Nature

Onam at Dakshinachitra will showcase the nature-based culture of ancient Kerala. This is your opportunity to witness **Pullavan Pattu, Mudiattom, Velakali and Kirattom** - four folk performances which include song and dance, theatre and martial arts. Traditional craftsmen from Kerala will demonstrate coconut leaf and bamboo work.

Special Kerala delicacies prepared by Arusuvai Arasu will be served, followed by the performance (3.45 - 4.30 p.m.). Guests are welcome to visit the Craft Shop and wander through the homes after the performance or before 3 p.m.

For those who need transportation, a Dakshinachitra van will be available, departing from The Madras Crafts Foundation Office at 2.15 pm. (6 Uroor Olcott Road, Besant Nagar, Chennai-90). The bus will return at 6 p.m.

Please call in your reservation for the van by August 24th.

(If there are few reservations for the van, we can arrange car pools). Members who wish to car pool and who can offer their vehicles please call Seema Bhargava 8-10 a.m. at 24356707, Uma Ganesan 24919276.

Our grateful thanks to **Debbie Thiagarajan** for hosting this meeting.

* For IWA Members only

Seema Bhargava

Uma Ganesan

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Friday, 29th August, 10.15 a.m.

At : **Meenakshi Arunachalam**
Chamundeswari Baugh
3, (Old 1) Bishops Garden
Off Greenways Road
Chennai 600 028



Varanasi!!! Seat of Arts & Handicrafts

Monika Singh has done her M.A. in ancient history, culture and archaeology from Benaras Hindu University. She belongs to the very old, educated royal family of Raja Shiv Prasad. With the heritage of the family and the rich culture of Varanasi, she developed a keen interest in old jewellery and handicrafts of Varanasi. Based on her collection of ancient textiles and her innovative ideas, she is at present making sarees, garment materials, scarves woven by exclusive weavers of Varanasi. Come and hear her give us a glimpse of the rich heritage of Varanasi.

We are thankful to **Meenakshi Arunachalam** for hosting this meeting.

Mansha Bhatia

Josie Newman

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- ◆ **Ranjani Venkataraghavan** on the wedding of her son Vikram to Pooja.
- ◆ **Jayanthi Rajaram** on the wedding of her son Jayakar to Sindhu.
- ◆ **Mridula Narasimhan** on the birth of her grandson - Rahul.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2003-2004

MANAGING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENTS

Sushila Natraj 2498 2435 / 2467 1796
Elaine Wood 2447 1356

VICE PRESIDENTS

Vidya Singh 2433 8782 / 2435 9035
Sheela K. Sharath 2493 8524

SECRETARIES

Princess Naik 2441 8448
Suk Hee Lee 2435 9144

TREASURERS

Gita Chandrasekaran 2442 1035 / 2442 0235
Malini Krishna 2447 4830 / 2447 1046

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Mansha Bhatia 2827 3251 / 2827 3189
Josie Newman 2434 3910

BOOK DISCUSSION

Saranya Jayakumar 2826 1942
Cecile Malet Peterson 2431 5848

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Urmilla Agarwal 2820 5327 / 2821 4586
Bilkis Moosa 2434 9934 / 2434 9932

CURRENT EVENTS

Nina Kothari 2827 5859 / 2827 8388
Ananya Mandava Rao 2499 5434

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Rekha R. Rangaraj 2499 4756 / 5211 0761
Isabelle Badrinath 2447 1677

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Shobha Hebbar 2641 1248
Libby Meyer 2433 9112

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Anuradha Uberoi 2820 2467 / 08623-242170
Anita Kapoor 2825 6484 / 2825 6474

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Seema Bhargava 2435 6707
Uma Ganesan 2491 9276