



IWA
Chennai

Newsletter

APRIL 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30						1
2	3 10.30 a.m. Arts and Handicrafts	4 10.30 a.m. Arts and Handicrafts	5 11.00 a.m. Mtg. Comm. Mtg Exec Comm. Mtg	6 11.00 a.m. Mtg. Comm. Mtg Exec Comm. Mtg	7 10.30 a.m. Philosophy and Religion	8 10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Election Day
9	10 10.15 a.m. Current Events	11 10.15 a.m. Current Events	12 10.15 a.m. Book Discussion	13	14	15
16	17 5 p.m. Music and Performing Arts	18 5 p.m. Music and Performing Arts	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 10.45 a.m. Annual General Meeting	26 10.45 a.m. Annual General Meeting	27	28	29

IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XX No. 11

Chennai

APRIL 2006

Month At A Glance

Tue.	4 th Apr.	Arts and Handicrafts <i>Statesman Revelling In Art</i>	10.30 a.m.
Thur.	6 th Apr.	Managing Committee Mtg. Executive Committee Mtg.	11.00 a.m.
Fri.	7 th Apr.	Philosophy and Religion <i>Indian Festivals</i>	10.30 a.m.
Sat.	8 th Apr.	Election Day	10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Tue.	11 th Apr.	Current Events <i>Hat Debate & Quiz Time</i>	10.15 a.m.
Wed.	12 th Apr.	Book Discussion <i>Cooking with Pedatha</i>	10.15 a.m.
Tue.	18 th Apr.	Music & Performing Arts <i>World Music & Dance</i>	5.00 p.m.
Wed.	26 th Apr.	Annual General Meeting	10.45 a.m.

From the Presidents

Dear Friends,

Here, we are, at the end of our term and what a year it has been! Fantastic meetings, fabulous activities, fun-filled trips - all making this a memorable year for this 19 year old 'joint-family' venture!

We remember all the effort put in by the Managing Committee and Activity Chairpersons and owe the year's undisputed success to them. Our grateful thanks to all the members of the Advisory Committee, Music Committee, Membership Committee and Election Committee for the excellent co-operation, efficient handling of matters and 'ever willing to help', attitude they have had this year.

A special word of thanks to our Founder Members and Past Presidents for their unstinted support and encouragement to us.

Of course we couldn't have received all the bouquets if not for the cooperation of the membership who have come forward at every step in hosting / contributing towards meetings, taking part in various programs, their help in arranging speakers, coming in such large numbers to all the meetings... the list continues. A big thanks to each one of you!

Humble apologies for any short-comings on our part.

Now, with hearts filled with warmth, we look forward to the 20th year of IWA - to greater celebration and growth, as only IWA knows....

PRINCESS NAIK

RATHI NILAKANTAN

MANAGING COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Both Meetings on Thursday 6th April at 11a.m.

Hosted by Princess Naik and Rathi Nilakantan
at Cricketeer, Madras Cricket Club
No.1, Babu Jagjivanram Salai, Chennai - 600 005.

From the Vice Presidents

11 newsletters and 1 telephone book later, we bid you goodbye. We thank you all for your suggestions and cooperation in giving us your announcements, reports on outstation trips and information for the new telephone directory in time. Thank you Chairpersons for your blurbs too.

It was fairly challenging printing the newsletters before the deadlines but we thrived on it. We hope you enjoyed reading them as much as we enjoyed putting them together.

Our best wishes to the in-coming Vice-Presidents.

Happy holidays!

SEEMA BHARGAVA

AMULYA RAO

From the Secretaries

Another pleasant IWA year is about to come to an end! We have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their unstinting support and encouragement through the year.

We thank you for promptly calling in to indicate address and telephone number changes and for being very patient when the newsletters failed to reach on time.

We wish everyone all the very best for the coming new and exciting IWA year.

REKHA R RANGARAJ

NALINI PANDAY

From the Treasurer (Finance)

At the end of the year I thank you all for being wonderful home hostesses, cohostesses and sponsors. Your generosity has been overwhelming.

It has been a pleasure being Treasurer for IWA. The experience has given me valuable insight into the working of IWA. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I wish the incoming team all the very best.

NINA KOTHARI

From the Membership Treasurer

Please remember:-

To return your renewal forms on time along with you cheque payable to IWA, Chennai.

To fill in all the required information.

To inform me if you are leaving Chennai (especially the expat members). A note to that effect would be most helpful.

As we approach the end of the IWA year, I would like to say thank you to the IWA members for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the IWA board. It was most certainly a learning experience. It gave me a better understanding of the workings of IWA and the opportunity to get to know several members whom I might otherwise have got to know only in passing. It afforded me the chance to make some new friendships. I value that very much.

I thank all IWA members for having co-operated with my various requests. Most of you now remember your code numbers very well - except when your generosity occasionally propels you to grant your attendance to another!!! But that is OK. Isn't that quite in the spirit of IWA-friendship and fellowship - we are even willing to share attendance! I do believe that the attendance record being made available to the members generated some excitement amongst us - and you were all so good about checking them. Keep it up ladies!

And finally, this post compelled an otherwise easygoing person who just loves to have a good time - like "yours truly" - to sit down and attempt at becoming methodical!! Well, I have not yet decided whether that is a blessing! The jury is still out!!

Cheers!

UMA GANESAN

Election Committee

The nominations received by the 10th of March, 2006 was opened by the Election Committee.

Subsequently the consent of the candidates nominated was sought and the list was finalized by the election committee.

The election committee is pleased to present the following slate of Nominees for Election to the Managing Committee of IWA for 2006 - 2007 in alphabetical order.

PRESIDENT

Indian	IWA Posts Held	Non-Indian	IWA Posts Held
Seema Bhargava	Activity Chairperson 2001-2002 - Philosophy & Religion 2002-2003 - Current Events 2003-2004 - Music & Performing Arts Treasurer - 2004-2005, Vice President - 2005-2006.	Amulya Rao	Activity Chairperson 2002-2003 - Current Events 2003-2004 - Book Discussion Secretary - 2004-2005 Vice President 2005-2006.
		Sabine Erlich Salam	Activity Chairperson 1992-1993 - Music & Performing Arts 1994-1995 - Hist, Culture & Tours 1997-1998 - Music & Performing Arts

VICE PRESIDENT

Indian	IWA Posts Held	Non-Indian	IWA Posts Held
Sangeet Chopra	Activity Chairperson 1989-90 - Philosophy & Religion 1990-91 - Philosophy & Religion	Bernadette McEwen	Activity Chairperson 2005-2006 - Philosophy & Religion

continues....

Election Committee continues....

Nina Kothari	Activity Chairperson 2003-2004 - Current Events 2004-2005 - Arts & Handicrafts Treasurer 2005-2006.	Vijaya Bharati Rangarajan	Activity Chairperson 1989-90 Health & Ecology 1990-91 Arts & Handicrafts Secretary 1991-92.
--------------	---	---------------------------	---

SECRETARY

Indian	IWA Posts Held	Non-Indian	IWA Posts Held
Rani Ananth	Activity Chairperson 1991-92 - Music & Performing Arts 2005-2006 - Philosophy & Religion	Susan Hopper <u>Mcwen</u> Joined IWA this year	
		Jyoti Somani	Activity Chairperson 2005-2006 - Health & Ecology

Rekha Rangaraj	Activity Chairperson 2003-2004 - Health & Ecology, 2004-2005 - Current Events Secretary 2005-2006
----------------	---

TREASURER

Indian	IWA Posts Held	Non-Indian	IWA Posts Held
Urmilla Agarwal	Activity Chairperson 2003-2004 - Cooking Swapshop 2004-2005 - Music & Performing Arts 2005-2006 - Arts & Handicrafts	Raziyeh Sheerazie	Activity Chairperson 2005-2006 - Current Events
Prithika Chari	Activity Chairperson 2001-2002 - Health & Ecology 2002-2003 Philosophy & Religion		

Debbie Thiagarajan (Chairperson), Shyla K Rau,
Chandra Padmanabhan, Sheela K Sarath, Umayal Chettyappan.

Arts and Handicrafts



Tuesday, 4th April at 10.30 a.m.

At : Meena Muthiah's
Chettinad Palace
Raja Annamalai Puram
Chennai 600 028.

As per protocol you are requested to be in your seats by 10.50 a.m. sharp.

Mobiles should be switched off. His Excellency, the Governor of Tamilnadu will arrive at 11.00 a.m.

STATESMAN REVELLING IN ART

We are indeed honored to have His Excellency, the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Sardar Surjit Singhji Barnala, accept our invitation to speak to us on his talent as an artist and a lover of nature.

His Excellency went to jail nine times for various political reasons and it was during the 3½ years spent in jail that his artistic talents were further nurtured.

The first exhibition of the Governor was held at the Punjab University Patiala in 1997. The second was at Hyderabad in 2004 to raise funds for the homeless Sikligars and other charities.

We thank Meena Muthiah for hosting today's meeting. We also thank Sangeet Chopra for arranging this meeting and Asha Ram Mohan for sponsoring our March meeting.

This is a lunch meet.

URMILLA AGARWAL

MERETE KOEFOED

Philosophy & Religion

Friday, 7th April, at 10.30 a.m.

At : The VIP Hall,

Mayor Ramanathan Chettiar Hall,
75/2, Santhome High Road,
Raja Annamalaipuram,
Chennai 600 028



KNIT INDIA THROUGH HER FESTIVALS

Characteristic of the Indian cultural mélange, Hindus in various states of India celebrate the new year in their own ways. The people of Kerala celebrate their new year - Vishu, Andhra Pradesh-Ugadi, the Maharashtrians with Gudi Padwa, and Punjab gets agog with Baisakhi. We bring you a small insight into how the people celebrate these festivals.

To top it all we have the great Tamil novelist Sivasankari to talk to us about Knit India Through Her Festivals.

Come dressed in your Kerala sarees, the lovely Paithanis, rich Kanjeevarams, Gadwals and Venkatagiris and elegant salwar-kurtas and savour the delicacies typical of the region.

We thank Visalakshi Ramaswamy for sponsoring the hall and Gayatri Bewoor for the lunch spread. We would also like to thank Jayanti Rajaram, Ramani Reddy, Leena Suryaprakash and Anuradha Uberoi for co-ordinating the various thematic presentations.

Puthandu Vazhathukal!!

RANI ANANTH

BERNADETTE MCEWEN

Election Day

Saturday, 8th April, from 10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

At : IWA Registered Office

857, Poonamallee High Road,
Kilpauk,
Chennai 600 010.

(Immediately after Breeze Hotel,
enter NIIT gate)

Voting for election of Office Bearers on the Managing Committee for 2006-2007 will take place on Saturday, 8th April, 2006 from 10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. only.

Counting of votes thereafter.

This will be followed by the announcement of the new slate of Office Bearers on the Managing Committee 2006 - 2007.

Be an active member, come and cast your vote.

PRINCESS NAIK

RATHI NILAKANTAN

Current Events

Tuesday, 11th April, at 10.15 a.m.

At : The Park

601, Anna Salai,
Chennai 600 006.

3 gifts
30 candles



HAT DEBATE AND QUIZ TIME

A very relaxed and interesting morning for you lovely ladies! Come prepared with your thinking caps on for a Hat Debate and Quiz.

For the "Hat Debate", pick a topic from the hat and speak for 2 minutes. We hope you will participate in large numbers. Please give your names to Rani or Razlyeh by 10th April, if you would like to take part in the Hat Debate.

T.T. Srinath will be the Judge / Moderator.

Apart from this we will also have a short Quiz, which will be held in groups of ten.

We thank Shobha Mahtani for graciously hosting the morning's programme and some of the prizes.

For Members only.

RANI DAS GUPTA

RAZIYEH SHEERAZIE

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Rukku Seshasayee on the birth of her granddaughter.

Indira Srinagesh on the marriage of her daughter Lakshmi with Hariprasad on 2nd March 2006 at Virginia, USA.

Book Discussion

Wednesday, 12th April, at 10.15 a.m.

At : Madras Club Ball Room,
Adyar Club Gate Road,
Chennai - 600 028



COOKING AT HOME WITH PEDATHA

The inspiration for this book is the culinary genius of an 85-year-old grand lady Subhadra Rau Parigi. Fondly called as Pedatha, she is the eldest offspring of India's former President Bharat Ratna Dr.V.V.Giri.

A passionate cook, Pedatha's recipes are much sought after by friends and relatives. Her cooking has remained unchanged in the face of changing times, retaining the traditional flavours and an old world charm. At her best and happiest in the kitchen, she has taught many younger sisters, daughters, grand - daughters and daughters-in-law, and has once again shared these age-old recipes with Jigyasa Giri and Pratibha Jain.

Through a journey of love and learning, the authors take the initiative to record this culinary legacy for posterity and will be sharing it with the IWA members.

We thank Shanthi Thomas for hosting this meeting and Dhun Dalal for sponsoring the Audio Visual equipment.

SHALINI BISWAJIT

RADHA GOPALAKRISHNAN

IWA thanks Preeya Reddy, Nabila Avais, Deepika Goyal, Premila Jacob, Rita Lal, Tina Malhotra, Anuradha Sachdev, Sheela Sarath and Lita Srinivasan for their help for the Grand Finale.

Music & Performing Arts

Tuesday, 18th April, at 5 p.m.

At : Susan Hopper's

River House

12, Turnbolls Road Extn.

Chennai-600 035.

(Residence of US Consul

Next to Madras Club)



YET ANOTHER FINALE A COSMOSIS OF WORLD MUSIC AND DANCE!

We end the year on a truly international note.

World music by Funky Bodhi is a cosmosis where musicians of varied backgrounds get a platform to integrate and collaborate. Combining traditional Indian forms of music and prevalent contemporary forms, this spunky cocktail has helped people understand the sounds and music that are indigenous to Indian culture, while universalizing the listener's experience. Over 150 musicians of varying backgrounds have supported and enriched this platform taking it to the international arena. Performances have included the "Sacred Music Festival"-Berlin and over 200 performances around the country, including festival appearances.

The current performance would be a collaboration of Carnatic Musicians with the Baul tradition of West Bengal. They would be interacting with Jazz musicians drawing a parallel between improvisational music from around the world.

The evening would begin with a short Bharatnatyam performance by Mio from Japan and Sarra from England, making the evening truly international.

We thank Susan Hopper for graciously hosting the meeting.

continues....

Music & Performing Arts Continues...

Members kindly note:

Members are requested to warn in for this event so that their names could be submitted to the security at least 5 days in advance. Guests are welcome. However, their names should be given to the Presidents five days prior to the evening.

All people entering the River House compound must have photo identifications.

Members are requested to park their vehicles at the Madras Club.

Only members who cannot walk the distance could enter the premises in their vehicles. Vehicles entering the compound need to have their registration numbers submitted in advance. All drivers and passengers are required to present photo identifications. Vehicles not identified on the list to security will not be admitted.

GEETA VASUDEVAN

SANDRA LECOZ

THE BOARD

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Vidya Singh and Lakshmi Padmanabhan for winning first and second prizes respectively at the Inter Club Swimming Competition held at Madras Club in the Veterans - Women Category.

Geetha Chandrasekaran and Sushil Natraj for winning II prize in the Quiz "Quest" organized on International Women's Day by The Duchess Club. Lakshmi Padmanabhan won three audience prizes.

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 26th April, 2006 at 10.45 a.m.

At : The Taj Coromandel Hotel
37, M.G. Road,
Chennai 600 034

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of IWA will be held at 10.45 a.m. on Wednesday, April 26th, 2006 at Taj Coromandel Hotel, 37, M.G. Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.

The Agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

- Welcome Address RATHI NILAKANTAN
- Secretary's Report REKHA R RANGARAJ
- Treasurer's Report NINA KOTHARI
- Membership Treasurer's Report UMA GANESAN
- Appointment of Auditors for the year 2005 - 2006
- Adoption of the audited accounts for the year 2005 - 2006
- Remarks by the outgoing President PRINCESS NAIK
- Any other Business
- Introduction of the Election Committee
- Presentation of the New Managing Committee for 2006 - 2007
- Introduction of the New Executive Committee
- Address by the Incoming President
- Vote of Thanks BILQUIS CHIDA

Note: Copies of the Accounts and the Reports of the various Activities will be tabled for the perusal of Members.

PRINCESS NAIK

RATHI NILAKANTAN

Cooking Swapshop

We thank our hostesses for the Cookery Competition held on Feb 23rd at the Madras Club - Anuradha Bhasker, Meenakshi Dhamija, Achu Kurien, Beena Ram Mohan and Mridula Srinivasan,

We also thank Latha Chohan, Premila Jacob, Rekha Rangaraj, Seema Bhargava and Reena Varghese for helping with the arrangements that morning.

The prize winners for the different categories are mentioned below...

Starters -	Non veg.	Nabila Avals Susan Koshy
Starters -	Veg.	Nabila Avals Alagu Muthu
Rice		Rukku Seshasayee Bilquis Chida
Main Dish -	Non veg.	Susan Koshy Fazeela Nurdeen
Main Dish -	Veg.	Beena Ram Mohan Umayal Chettyappan
Cakes		Stina Vasu Rukku Seshasayee
Desserts		Leelamani John Usha Chandrakumar

Reena Varghese won a special prize for taking part in the maximum number of categories.

ANITA KOSHY

MANISHA SINGHEE

IWA thanks Anita Koshy and Manisha Singhee for sponsoring the Cooking Swapshop meeting in March.

Khajuraho Trip



Outside the temple at Khajuraho



The Group in Sanchi



In the Lobby of one of our beautiful Hotels

IWA Beach Picnic



History Culture and Tours

What a well planned variety of destinations! From the bedrock of prehistoric man at Bhimbetka (thanks to Dr. Wakankar's intuition) to the 'Festival of Music and Dance', with the backdrop of the ancient Khajuraho Temple, it was a wonderful experience for the 20 of us.

Our hotel Usha Kiran Palace was luxury beyond doubt and it had the most beautiful accessories in its rooms.

Our guide Pramod at Bhopal was knowledgeable though his pronunciation was confusing-DOOM for DOME!! And gender mishmash when he pointed a finger at Shobha and said 'Follow Him'.

The hoary antiquity of Sanchi engrossed and totally absorbed our group of women with our lone male escort (BRAVE) Dr. Acharya into its extended history.

The Tribal Village Habitat had homes of tribes from all over India replicated to complete detail and authentication. A beautiful sojourn.

The next visit was the Taj ul Masjid, the largest in India and referred to as "The Living Mosque". A pleasant surprise was that we were not asked to cover our head or adhere to any dress code.

Bhimbetka: Aah!! Primordial. Awe inspiring is too trite a term to describe the experience!! The rocks, the caves, the drawings, what fantastic sentinels of the Almighty's creation with a little help from man! The photographs say it all.

Gwalior. The entire episode was memorable from the ride on the plush Shatabdi (sofas, tables and all) to the Son et Lumiere at the Fort, the deep rich voice of Amitabh Bachchan narrating legends of generations, the lighting, the acoustics, the fantastic music of Bhimsen Joshi and Pandit Jasraj blew us away into another sphere of enchantment. If only the stones could talk!

The Scindia museum houses the famous drinks trolley in a silver train which works perfectly till date. We also saw the worlds two largest and heaviest chandeliers in the world.

Orcha was lovely in its distinctive architecture with spires reaching skywards, all cenotaphs for its kings. How apt that there were vultures sitting like sentinels on them all!!

Khajuraho. So much anticipation for the final leg of our tour. Beautiful complex of temples built by the Chandela Kings in the 10th and 11th Century. The sculptures depict everyday life and show woman as equal to man. Inspired by the erotic sculptures, one of them had our guide terming the pose as 'mission impossible'.

We visited the Panna Reserve where we were able to see a tiger resting majestically in the wild grass. Everyone of us, the able as well as the not so able, got on to the elephant for this safari!

Dahiya Govind Palace : This precious chunk of history is completely untouched by the ravages of time and Man. Its Indo-Islamic architecture and its beautiful paintings on Krishna-lore in vegetable dyes are still unrestored and almost intact. What a fabulous view of the surrounding landscape! Was worth the detour on the way to Khajuraho

We would like to profusely thank our Activity Chairperson Thayabae Kakar for her thorough planning and impeccable arrangements which went a long way in making our trip memorable. An extra special thanks to Shobha Hebbar and Fazeela Nurdeen for taking charge. Kudos to Lalitha Krishnan, our tour escort who rose again and again beyond the call of duty.

By Ramani Reddy and Shobha Hebbar.

We thank Kusum Chadda, Renuka Ishwariah, Kausalya Jaganmohan, Prabha Nair, Preeya Reddy and Saranya and Ramila Sridhar, Jayakumar for sponsoring the Temple Trip in March.

THAYABAE KAKAR

BONNIE KING

Grand Finale



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2005 - 2006

MANAGING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENTS

Princess Naik	2441 8448 / (O)4205 4989 98406 77703
Rathi Nilakantan ✓	(R) 2822 9932 / 2826 5250 (O) 2811 3691 / 98410 73060

VICE PRESIDENTS

Seema Bhargava	2434 7062 / 2435 6707
Amulya Rao ✓	2499 5434 / 98409 25434

SECRETARIES

Rekha Rangaraj	2499 4756 / 4211 0761
Nalini Panday ✓	2461 0944 / 98410 48629

TREASURERS

Nina Kothari	2827 5859 / 2827 8888
Uma Ganesan ✓	2452 9276 / 98410 34449

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Urmilla Agarwal	2820 5327
Merete Koefoed ✓	4215 4358

BOOK DISCUSSION

Shalini Biswajit	2433 8216 / 2434 0315
Radha Gopalakrishnan ✓	2491 8186

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Anita Koshy	2656 2152
Manisha Singhee ✓	2499 1482 / 2499 1483

CURRENT EVENTS

Rani Das Gupta	2499 1084 / 94440 71084
Raziyeh Sheerazie ✓	2836 3161

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Mridula Srinivasan	2432 1028
Jyoti Somani ✓	2432 0797

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Thayabae Kakar	2826 8018 / 2823 4880
Bonnie King ✓	2461 7482

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Geeta Vasudevan	2491 5913
Sandra Le Coz	4210 2017

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Rani Ananth	2449 0854
Bernadette Mcewen ✓	5549 7307