



Chennai

October 2010  
News letter



vibrantly diverse, yet one.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010 - 2011  
MANAGING COMMITTEE**

**PRESIDENTS**

Mridula Srinivasan	24321028	9840931812
Uma Ganesan	24472682	9940652588

**VICE PRESIDENTS**

Prithika Chary	24997878/2310	9840038752
Jansi Kishore	24961145	9841589896

**SECRETARIES**

Zainab Kachwalla	28292274	9840853652
Jennifer Moore	9940065292	9840892782

**TREASURERS**

Archana Melyappan	28473932	9840998800
Manisha Singhee	24991482	9841035003

**ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS**

**ARTS & HANDICRAFTS**

Nita Reddy	24990717	9962530717
Karen Krizman (Saurer)	42112251	9789027090

**BOOK DISCUSSION**

Gayatri Krishnaswami	28331789	9444383455
Janet Haughton Quarshie	24512401	9884187719

**COOKING SWAPSHOP**

Somna Sachdev	28330232/ 45040001	9841022922
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Juliet Meikle	24531426	9566260268
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**CURRENT EVENTS**

E. Rajeshwari Sathyanarayana	26211934	9443946789
Shanta Narayan	24421707	9840040486

**HEALTH & ECOLOGY**

Deepali Goyal	24313144	9840442260
Bess Simkin	24333565	9791172021

**HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS**

Neena Sanghavi	28362313	9381029132
Sue Cook		9677020407

**MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS**

Asha Rammohan	28332006/ 28330858	9840039958
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Ann Mathew	24494847	9840025169
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**PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION**

Usha Jawahar	26412688	9841025166
Reena Nirula	24961031	9884027722

**IWA NEWSLETTER**

Volume XXV No.5

Chennai

**OCTOBER 2010**

**MONTH AT A GLANCE**

Mon. 4th Oct.	Managing Committee Meeting	10.00 a.m.
	Executive Committee Meeting	11.00 a.m.
Fri. 1st Oct.	<b>International Music Day</b>	10.15 a.m.
Tue. 5th Oct.	Arts & Handicrafts	10.15 a.m.
	<i>Diamonds – A Girl's Best Friend</i>	
Wed. 6th Oct.	Cooking Swapshop	10.15 a.m.
	<i>Vegetarian Eggless Desserts</i>	
Thu. 7th Oct.	Current Events	10.15 a.m.
	<i>The Maoist Movement – The hidden truth</i>	
Tue. 12th Oct.	Music & Performing Arts	10.15 a.m.
	<i>The Japanese Wife</i>	
Thu. 14th Oct.	History, Culture & Tours	10.15 a.m.
	<i>Marine Archaeology</i>	
Tue. 19th Oct.	Health & Ecology	10.15 a.m.
	<i>Effortless Wellness through Homeopathy</i>	
Sat. 23rd Oct.	<b>Festive Splendour</b>	11.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.
Thu. 28th Oct.	Book Discussion	10.15 a.m.
	<i>'Mistress' by Anita Nair</i>	

IWA Blog Site : [www.iwachennai.blogspot.com](http://www.iwachennai.blogspot.com)

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS

We celebrate International Music Day on October 1st.  
Do come and enjoy the concert by the awardees.



IWA celebrates the festival season on Saturday, October 23rd with Festive Splendour. Come and participate in the Festive Splendour, beginning with *Vinayaka Chaturthi* and ending with *Deepavali*.

Do contribute generously to the *Khazana* stall. Please hand over your contributions in cash or kind to any of the Chairpersons or Committee members by October 18th.

Wishing you all a happy festival season!

MRIDULA SRINIVASAN

UMA GANESAN

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MANAGING COMMITTEE  
Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. at 10.00 a. m.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. at 11.00 a.m.

Meetings hosted by  
**Deepali Goyal**  
Towers Club, 26<sup>th</sup> floor  
Park Sheraton Hotel  
Chennai 600 028

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

### GUIDELINES FOR IWA MEMBERSHIP

#### Indian Members

1. An applicant must have two sponsors (who are well acquainted with her) and the applicant must submit a brief resume of her background, interest and hobbies
2. She should include the following details without fail:  
Name, Date of birth, Profession, Designation, Address (residence and office), Telephone (residence and office), Mobile no., Email address, Name of husband, his Profession and Designation.  
Does she have any relative in IWA? If so, name and relationship of that member / members.
3. Applications cannot be carried over to the following year and must be re-submitted each year.
4. The membership sub-committee makes decisions regarding membership by majority vote. The Managing Committee will ratify the new members.
5. Applicants should be made aware that a member has to attend at least ten meetings in the IWA year and should be encouraged to serve on the executive committee.

#### Non-Indian Members

1. Non-Indian applicants should send a letter/email to the IWA secretary and attach a resume of her background, interests and hobbies. A copy of her passport and one passport sized photograph should also be attached. Sponsors are not required.
2. Applicants will be admitted throughout the year depending on vacancies available. Preference will be given to those in the consular community and who are in Chennai on short term basis.
3. Applicants should be made aware that a member has to attend a minimum of 10 meetings in the IWA year and should be encouraged to serve on the Executive Committee.

ZAINAB KACHWALLA

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE

### IWA REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS:

857, Poonamallee High Road  
Kilpauk, Chennai 600 010

We invite applications for new Indian members who reside within the postal zones of Chennai, including Kanchipuram and Thiruvallur districts. The procedure for sponsoring applicants is given below. Please read the instructions carefully and follow the same. **Incomplete applications will not be entertained.**

- a. A new applicant will have to be sponsored and co-sponsored by two active members of IWA who have been members for at least 7 years.
- b. The sponsor and co-sponsor should introduce the candidate and give suitable reasons as to why the new member would be a suitable candidate for membership into IWA. This letter should be signed by both the sponsor and co-sponsor. Both these letters are a **MUST** for an applicant to be considered for membership.
- c. The sponsor and co-sponsor should enclose along with their letter of introduction an application from the candidate enclosing a passport size photograph, a copy of the passport, and a brief resume of her background, interest and hobbies along with the following details:

Name, Date of Birth, Profession, Designation, Address (residence and office), Telephone (residence and office), Mobile No., Email address, Name of Husband, his Profession and Designation. Does she have any relative in IWA? If so name and relationship of the member/members.

- d. Both the sponsor and co-sponsor should personally be well acquainted with the candidate.
- e. The sponsor and co-sponsor should not have sponsored any candidate who has been accepted into IWA in the last 3 years.
- f. Members of the Managing Committee and the Membership Sub-Committee may not sponsor or co-sponsor a candidate.
- g. The sponsor and/or co-sponsor must come in person to the IWA Registered Office (address given above) on **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 between 10.00 am to 12.00 noon** with the new member's application. Applications for new members will be accepted only on this date and at the place and time specified.
- h. The Membership Sub-Committee will scrutinize all the applications received and will inform the sponsors of the procedure to be followed thereafter.

ZAINAB KACHWALLA

## INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

At: Sheraton Park Hotel  
132 TTK Road,  
Chennai 600 018.



### Awards and Awardees concert

It is that time of year, when we celebrate International Music day on Founder President Nirmal Seshadri's birthday. Remembering her love for music, the Seshadri family instituted an award to be given to an upcoming young musician.

This year's Music Committee was chaired by Padmini Natarajan, supported by Chandra Padmanabhan, Usha Saravanan and Sushu Goklaney. After listening to and reviewing the performances of all the candidates, the Music Committee unanimously decided that the award should go to two performers who were of equal merit.

Master N. Visweshwar	Age 14	Flautist
Kumari Aswini	Age 12	Mridangist

We look forward to our IWA membership turning out in large numbers to come and listen to an unique concert where both awardees are going to perform together.

We thank Vijay Goyal, Shashi Malhotra, Chandra Seoni and Deepali Goyal for hosting this meeting and for their continuing support year after year.

Thank you and we look forward to your presence and participation on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

This meeting is for members only.

MRIDULA SRINIVASAN  
THE BOARD

UMA GANESAN

## ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

At: Madras Boat Club  
Boat Club Road  
Chennai - 600 028



### Diamonds - A Girl's Best Friend

Diamond in ancient Greek means unbreakable, and is an allotrope of carbon. Diamonds are one of the most sought after gemstones known to mankind and used as decorative items since ancient times; some of the earliest references can be traced to India.

Our speaker, Abhay Gothi is the managing director of "Gothi's Diamond Jewellers". Abhay's encounter with the diamond industry started when he was 17 when he went to study diamonds in Bombay as a trainee. His training started from scratch with rough diamond assortment, laser marking, cleaving etc and then cutting and polishing the raw diamond stone and finally grading and valuation of polished diamonds.

Abhay will enlighten us on how to grade and certify diamonds based on the 4 C's - cut, colour, clarity and carat, maintenance of diamonds and diamond jewellery.

We thank Lalitha Naidu for facilitating this talk. Our sincere thanks to our gracious hosts Lalitha Naidu and Veena Swamy.

NITA REDDY

KAREN SAURER

Our sincere condolences to Uma Ganesan on the demise of her father-in-law.

## COOKING SWAPSHOP

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.



At: **Anita Kapoor's**

3, Masilamani Road,  
(Same Lane as Ehrlich laboratory) Balaji Nagar,  
Royapettah, Chennai - 600 014

### Vegetarian Eggless Desserts

Trying to stay vegetarian and meet the strict criteria of no eggs in desserts can prove very difficult but **Kanchan Bathija** has managed to overcome this obstacle and produce a collection of dishes that are extremely delicious.

An ardent cook, Kanchan has tried thousands of recipes from various international recipe books, attended numerous culinary classes - and mastered the art of fine cooking. Most international dessert recipes call for egg - this resulted in creating her own desserts and recipes.

Kanchan feels that cooking like any other art is a journey - a continuing learning experience which results in her using every opportunity to learn and innovate. Kanchan will demonstrate some vegetarian eggless desserts for us.

We sincerely thank **Anita Kapoor** for hosting this meeting and **Geeta Rajagopal** for sponsoring the video equipment.

Our sincere thanks to **Bilquis Chida** for sponsoring the video equipment for the September meeting.

**SOMNA SACHDEV**

**JULIET MEIKLE**

Our sincere condolences to **Anuradha Bhasker** on the demise of her husband.

## CURRENT EVENTS

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

At: **Madras Boat Club**

Boat Club Road,  
Chennai - 600 028



### The Maoist Movement - The Hidden Truth

The Maoist movement in India has grown to grave proportions in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. It has resulted in mass killings and abduction of civilians and policemen. Maoist demands include redistribution of land and end to repression by the security agencies.

**Dr.R.K.Raghavan** joined the Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1963 and rose to be the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). In this assignment he was the head of Interpol in India. At present he is Adviser (Security) to Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. He is also a member of the International Advisory Group on the counter-drug-gang strategy and heads the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to handle the criminal cases arising from the major Hindu-Muslim riots of Gujarat of 2002.

There is a belief that once economic development of the regions in these States, where a large number of tribal's live is taken up on a war footing there is a possibility of ending Maoist violence. There is the opposite point of view that whatever the government does the Maoists are bound to continue to disturb peace in the area.

After tracing the history of the Maoist movement, **Dr.Raghavan** who has written extensively on law and order will examine the rival points of view.

We thank **Sucharita Prasad** for graciously hosting this meeting. Our sincere thanks to **Lalitha Krishnan** for having hosted the September meeting.

**RAJESHWARI SATHYANARAYANA**

**SHANTA NARAYAN**

## MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m

At: Madras Boat Club  
Boat Club Road  
Chennai - 600 028



### The Japanese Wife

Director Aparna Sen brings together Snehamoy (Rahul Bose), a school teacher in the Sunderbans, and Miyage (Chigusa Takaku), a girl in Japan. They meet through letters, fall in love through letters, and eventually get married through letters! They are married for 15 years, but have never met. A tender, lyrically told, stunningly photographed film, where Snehamoy and Miyage go the distance for their love.

Aparna Sen made her debut as an actress in 1961, while she was still in school, in Satyajit Ray's "Three Daughters". She has acted in films of several directors including Mrinal Sen, James Ivory, Tapan Sinha and Hrishikesh Mukherjee. Aparna Sen has received the Best Actress Award for her performance in Sen's "Mahapriithibi". Ms. Sen's other movies that have won awards are "36 Chowringhee Lane", "Mr and Mrs Iyer", and "Yugant".

This movie is based on the title story of "The Japanese Wife and Other Stories" by Bengali author Kunal Basu.

Some quotes;

"Extremely well crafted story", Zoya Akhtar

"It's a precious little gem, I love the film", Shabana Azmi

"If you have a heart, you will love the film", Konkona Sen Sharma

**RUNNING TIME- 105 MINUTES**

We thank Zainab Kachwalla, Princess Naik and Seema Bhargava for hosting the meeting.

ASHA RAMMOHAN

ANN MATHEW

## HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

At: Madras Cricket Club,  
1, Bells Road,  
Triplicane,  
Chennai - 600 005.



### Marine Archaeology

Marine archaeology deals with the study of underwater objects and activities of the sea. The National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, headed by S.R.Rao has the objective of discovering and preserving history as gleaned from the findings of these excavations. Through the marine treasures found, the history of maritime trade and the habitational remains of the lands consumed by sea is reconstructed.

In India, the most sought after site for marine excavation is the Gujarat coast. Excavations show that the beautiful city of Dwarka met a sudden end due to the fury of the sea. The NIO is also studying the aspects of the sea closer to Korakai, Puhaar, Vizag, etc.

Our speaker, K.R.A. Narasiah, a retired marine engineer and also a passionate historian by profession will talk to us about such excavations found off the Indian coast. He will also tell us about the works carried out by the NIO, the results obtained and their future programs.

We thank Daksha Sheth for graciously hosting this meeting.

We also thank Anuradha Uberoi for providing snacks at the Endowment Lecture.

NEENA SANGHAVI

SUE COOK

## HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

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



### Effortless Wellness through Homeopathy

While the past one century has been a boon to mankind, catapulting us to an era with gigantic strides in science, technology and unimaginable modernisation, its complexities has brought with it the bane and scourge of a multitude of 'life style disorders' and other disease conditions, that has forced the medical and science fraternity to take a second look to help man-kind out of this predicament that's effecting them - mind, body and soul. The world over, the answer has come in the form of 'Wellness' and a variety of methodologies and protocols are being adopted for both the individual and mass well-being.

The talk initially focuses on the definition of 'Wellness'; the how's and why's of its tremendous necessity and importance in our present day life-style; the complex and not so complex solutions being adopted to help out - especially on how Homeopathy so amazingly has an answer to this issue and finally the emergence and efficacy of this one of its kind in the world, unique programme - "Effortless Wellness" through Homeopathy.

Through his 27 years of experience, hard work & clinical research Dr. Jayesh V. Sanghvi, a renowned homeopath of our city, came up with the "Effortless Wellness" program, which helps one assume charge of life and channeling life energy for the better.

We thank Cibi Mammen for graciously hosting this meeting for us.

DEEPALI GOYAL

BESS SIMKIN

## FESTIVE SPLENDOUR

Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October from 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

At: Abirami Chidambaram Hall  
1/3A River View Road,  
Kotturpuram  
Chennai 600 085



Entertainment: 11.30 am - 12.30 pm. Lunch: 12.30 pm onwards

Tickets: Available from September 14th with all committee members

Adults- Rs. 250/-

Children under 12 - Rs.100/- Tickets available with the Presidents

Children under 6- Free

Our festive season in Chennai has begun and so have the preparations for IWA's **Festive Splendour!** We are looking forward to welcoming you, your families and friends to this morning of fun, culture and celebration.

**Gowri Ramnarayan**, celebrated author, musician, playwright and raconteur is scripting a wonderful morning for us, filled with stories, songs, and descriptions of the various Hindu festivals, beginning with *Ganesha Chaturthi* and culminating in *Diwali*.

Gowri is an erudite and delightful communicator - we are fortunate to have her guide us through a fun filled morning. Words, music, visual depictions, dance and much more is planned..

Come and enjoy a *Kolam* display, immerse yourselves in the festivities, try your hand at *Kolams* (floor decorations). In fact, we would like some of our members to bring boards or platters on which they can display their skills and take them home as well!

For those who want to learn, please bring large platters, *thalis* or boards on which designs with powders can be made and taken back.



Members and guests are encouraged to try their luck at the ever-popular *Khazana* stall. Please remember to hand over your gifts for the stall to any committee member at the meetings.

After the feast for the soul, join us for a feast for the palate. A variety of festival treats await you in the tradition of 'Ellai Sappadu'.

So come in your festive best- Kanjeevarams, Banarasis, Paithanis, etc - and let us together enjoy the celebrations in the spirit of friendship and camaraderie.

**NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO GENDER DISCRIMINATION: MEN FOLK ARE MOST WELCOME!!**

MRIDULA SRINIVASAN

UMA GANESAN

THE BOARD

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We congratulate Aruna Prasad on the birth of her grandson

## BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15 a.m.

At: **Alagammai Alagappan's**  
10 (Old 17), Chittaranjan Road  
Teynampet,  
Chennai - 600 018



### 'Mistress' by Anita Nair

With its poetic prose and grand subject matter *Mistress* is reminiscent of our age-old epics such as the Mahabharata. In this, Anita Nair's third novel, love and history clash when cello-playing travel writer Chris arrives at *Near-the-Nila* holiday resort in Kerala to interview famed traditional actor-cum-dancer Koman. There, Chris falls for Koman's beautiful niece Radha, who is trapped in a loveless marriage to the resort's possessive and scheming owner, Shyam.

Anita Nair cleverly compares and contrasts the complex web of deceit that ensues with a series of flashbacks to a youthful dalliance Koman indulged in with Anglo-German artist Angela in 70s London. The result is a sharply observed character-driven story, built on the structure of a Kathakali performance, that uses the lives of small-town people with ambitious dreams as a framework for discussions about big issues.

IWA member, Dr Vasanthi Sankaranarayanan who reviews this book is a translator, writer and freelance critic who has served on literary and film juries in India and abroad.

Our thanks to Alagammai Alagappan for graciously agreeing to host this event.

GAYATRI KRISHNASWAMI

JANET HAUGHTON  
QUARSHIE

We would like to thank Mahmooda Haja Shareef for her generous hospitality when she hosted last month's book discussion.

## FOUNDERS' DAY



## KEEP TABS ON YOUR ATTENDANCE

Every month jot down the meetings you have attended in the column below. This will help you keep track of whether you have completed your ten meetings.

MEETING	DATE
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	