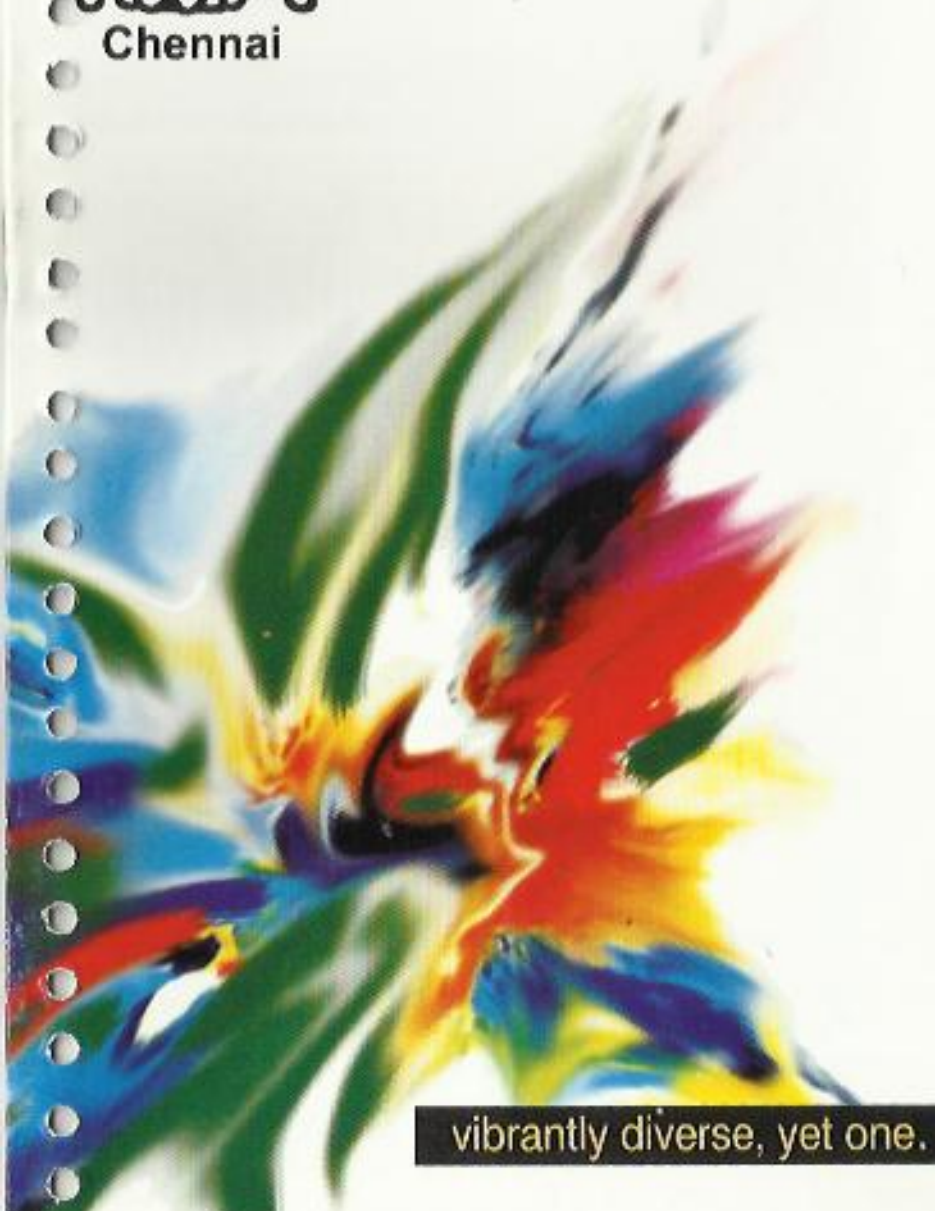




Chennai

January 2011
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 Meiyappan	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
Juliet Meikle	24531426	9566260268
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
Ann Mathew	2449 4847	9840025169
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION		
Usha Jawahar	26412688	9841025166
Reena Nirula	24961031	9884027722

IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XXV No.8

Chennai

JANUARY 2011

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tue. 4th Jan.	Managing Committee Meeting Executive Committee Meeting	10.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.
Thu. 6th Jan.	Book Discussion/ Philosophy and Religion <i>Heaven on Earth :</i> <i>The Universe of Kerala's</i> <i>Guruvayur Temple</i>	10.15 a.m.
Tue. 11th Jan.	Music and Performing Arts <i>The Power of Drums</i>	4.00 p.m.
Mon. 17th Jan.	Health & Ecology <i>A Million Years of Service to India</i>	10.15 a.m.
Tue. 25th Jan.	History, Culture & Tours/ Music & Performing Arts/ Philosophy & Religion <i>Annamacharya's Poetry of</i> <i>Introspection and Desire</i>	4.00 p.m.

IWA Blog Site : www.iwachennai.blogspot.com

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Friends,

2011 is here and we wish all our members and their families a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. It is the time for New Year resolutions and their inevitable follow up!

Our Christmas & New Year celebration had a good turnout and we hope you enjoyed it and we are grateful to all those who helped plan and execute the event.

The Membership Treasurer **Manisha Singhee** will make available your attendance at all meetings in January. **Do keep track of your attendance and make up any shortfalls.** We look forward to meeting you all in the New Year.

We propose to add a **Supplement/Addendum** to the existing telephone directory. We have enough stocks of the existing directory. Please write in or email by 30th January, 2011 if you wish any **corrections/updates** to be made in the existing telephone directory, to Vice Presidents:

Prithika Chary (chennaiprithika@gmail.com) and
Jansi Kishore (jansi_k@hotmail.com)

**MRIDULA SRINIVASAN
GANESAN**

UMA

MANAGING COMMITTEE
Tue. 4th Jan. at 10.00 a. m.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Tue. 4th Jan. at 11.00 a. m.

Meetings hosted by
Jansi Kishore
Russian Cultural Centre
74, Kasturi Rangan Road
(near Chola Sheraton Hotel)
Chennai

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

From among the applications received by the Membership Sub-Committee the following have been selected as Special Guests:

Lakshmi Menon
Shantha Narayanan
Kausalya Santhanam
Nidhi Thadani

I thank every member of the Sub-Committee for the effort and time spent and the care taken in the selection process.

ZAINAB KACHWALLA

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chandrika Chidambaram has completed her three year term on the Advisory Committee. She has been guiding and advising us and has been an invaluable member of the Advisory Committee. Thank you Chandrika.

We welcome **Meyyammai Murugappan** onto the Advisory Committee. With her years of experience and her quiet efficiency, we are confident she will be of immense value on the Committee.

The Advisory Committee members are:

Vanitha Mudaliar, Shyla Rau and Meyyammai Murugappan.

**MRIDULA SRINIVASAN
GANESAN**

UMA

BOOK DISCUSSION / PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Thursday, 6th January at 10.15 a.m.

At: The Presidency Club
Ethiraj Salai
Egmore, Chennai 600 008



Heaven on Earth : The Universe of Kerala's Guruvayur Temple

Every day thousands of pilgrims stream into the sacred precincts of Kerala's Guruvayur Temple . They come to seek the blessings of Lord Krishna, known locally as Guruvayurappan, a deity whose precious idol was, according to myth, originally worshipped by Lord Vishnu.

Pepita Seth, the author - photographer of this remarkable and unique record will speak to us about how she came to take up this project and her determination to not only portray all aspects of life within the temple but also its atmosphere of intangible divinity. Pepita was born in London and grew up on a farm in Suffolk . It was the chance discovery of her soldier great- grandfather's 1857 diary which, in 1970, inspired her to make her first visit to India . In 1972 she returned to India, more specifically, to Kerala. From then on she made regular visits to Kerala, finally basing herself in Thrissur where she now lives. By 1979 driven by her respect for the region's culture and traditions she began seriously photographing and writing about the rituals of Kerala's temples. In 1981 she received official permission to enter Kerala's temples, including Guruvayur temple.

**GAYATRI KRISHNASWAMI JANET
QUARSHIE**

HAUGHTON

USHA JAWAHAR

REENA NIRULA

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday, 11th January at 4.00 p.m.

At: Lady Andal Venkatasubba Rao School
7 Harrington Road
Chetpet, Chennai-600031



The Power of Drums

The Drum is a member of the percussion group of musical instruments. It is the world's oldest and most popular instrument, coming in various shapes and sizes, and is also being used as a means of communication to the community even today.

Jus Drums is the brainchild of percussionist **Murali Krishnan**. It is a school of percussion for young students and adults. In each of their annual shows, Jus Drums conveys a unique message with their music. One of the popular messages is the concept of creating music from "Junk" articles like plastic cups, watering cans etc., The beats created with these articles go with an unsaid message of "RECYCLE and USE" and minimize the "USE OF PLASTIC".

Jus drums, have presented their music shows to NGO's and Corporates like "The Banyan", "The Cancer Institute", "Infosys", "CTS" etc. Their annual shows have been graced by musicians from all genres, like Shri Umayalpuram K Sivaraman, Shrimathi Sujatha, Shri Sivamani and many more.

We thank **Prema Kumar, Amita Bhatia** and **Susan Abraham** for graciously hosting the meeting.

We also thank **Visalakshi Ramaswamy** for hosting the meeting on Rabindranath Tagore at the M.RM.Rm Cultural Foundation. The venue was beautiful and apt for this meeting.

Cooking Swapshop (Somna Sachdev and Juliet Meikle) were part of the team organising the Tagore event.

Please note: This is an evening meeting.

ASHA RAMMOHAN

ANN MATHEW

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Monday, 17th January at 10.15 a.m.

At: Presidency Club,
Pearl Room, 51 Ethiraj Salai,
Egmore, Chennai - 600 008



CMC - A Million Years of Service to India

The question has often been asked why the 110 year old Christian Medical College at Vellore is still able to maintain its reputation of dedicated patient care and motivational training of health care professionals for service, even in the present scenario of the health care industry. Starting from 1819 the roots of the institution will be traced to an American family that spent over a thousand years in the service of India. The true story of Ida Sophia Scudder who was challenged to minister to the health needs of the women of India, who became the first woman graduate of Columbia Medical School in New York and returned to India to start a one bed clinic in Vellore in 1900 and the generations who followed her example, continuing her tradition and preserving her inheritance of service is inspiring. It is estimated that the Scudder family and the Graduates and Post Graduates of Vellore in Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health Sciences have contributed more than a million years of service to India.

Our speaker is **Prof. V. I. Mathan**, a medical scientist and Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, and Senior Consultant to the Indian Council of Medical Research. Prof. Mathan and his wife **Minnie** (one of our members) joined Vellore as medical students in 1955. He retired from there after four and a half decades of work as the Director and continues to be actively involved in Health Research and Public Health. All those who went on the trip to Syria and Jordan know that he is an excellent speaker. Come prepared to be inspired and motivated!

We thank **Premifa Jacob** for graciously hosting this meeting.

DEEPALI GOYAL

BESS SIMKIN

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Tuesday, 25th January at 4.00 p.m.

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



Annacharya's Poetry of Introspection and Desire

David Shulman is Renee Lang Professor of Humanistic Studies at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. He specializes in the languages and literatures of South India and has published some 20 books on topics relating to the cultural history of South India. His work focuses mostly on poetics, history of religion, history of ideas, historiography, and philological studies of Tamil and Telugu texts. He has worked closely with Velcheru Narayana Rao of the University of Wisconsin; their book of Annamayya padams, *God on the Hill*, appeared in 2006.

Our sincere thanks to **Sharada Rajamani** for her help in organizing this meeting.

Please note that this is an evening meeting.

NEENA SANGHAVI
ASHA RAMMOHAN
USHA JAWAHAR

SUE COOK
ANN MATHEW
REENA NIRULA

Our sincere condolences to **Nita Reddy** on the demise of her father.

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR

May we take this opportunity of thanking all those members who contributed to and participated in the Christmas and New Year celebrations:



- 1 Rita Saldanha for her guidance on menu selection, the programme itself and the wonderful 'OT' drink she made for us
- 1 Shyla Rau for coordinating with Madras Club staff for the lunch
- 1 Dorothy Saldanha for her thoughtful Christmas message delivered so beautifully
- 1 Elizabeth Aston for coordinating the speakers who spoke about Christmas celebrations in their countries:
 - *Tineke Sysmans Belgium
 - *Angelika Schwering Germany....talk read out by Liz Aston
 - *Stina Vasu Sweden
 - *Alexandra Thompson UK
 - *Karen Krizman USA
- 1 Carol singing— Premila Jacob, Rupa Kadhiresan, Prema Kumar, Darley Mathew, Sushi Nataraj, Rita Saldanha, Shobana Thomas, Reena Verghese.
- 1 Kiran Rao for the Decorations
- 1 Bess Simkin for the Christmas Tree
- 1 Sudha Shivkumar for sponsoring the orchestra
- 1 Valli Murugappan for sponsoring the gifts for the Lucky Dip
- 1 Leila Diraviam for sponsoring the audio equipment

MRIDULA SRINIVASAN
GANESAN

UMA

Potent Hindu Karma

Potent Hindu karma has definitely been permeating a certain area of suburban Washington D.C. the past several months! It was almost 14 years ago that a fresh-faced young woman in her third year at University lit the lamp that signaled the birth of this organization. Amy Stempel was chosen to do the honours because she was the daughter of Nancy, co-founder with Nirmal Seshadri of the International Women's Association.

Flash forward to the present. Now Amy Stempel Bedi—she and 12 year old Olivia will be moving to Bangalore after the first of the year. They are joining Param, Amy's architect husband, who became director of design for Venkataraman Associates several months ago.

I am already planning a visit to Bangalore to coincide with IWA's 25th anniversary celebration. See you then!

Nancy Dean

New Non Indian Member

Malini Balakrishnan B-8 (U.S.)
17/10, Crescent Street
Chennai - 600 028
Mobile no. - 91766 87337
Land line - 044 4211 2690

New Temporary Member

Sharmilee Neilsen TN-11
702, Regency
No.3,4,5 Sardar Patel Road
Taramani
Chennai- 600 113
Mobile no. - 94446 86630
Landline no. - 044- 2220 1000

Change of Address/Phone no:

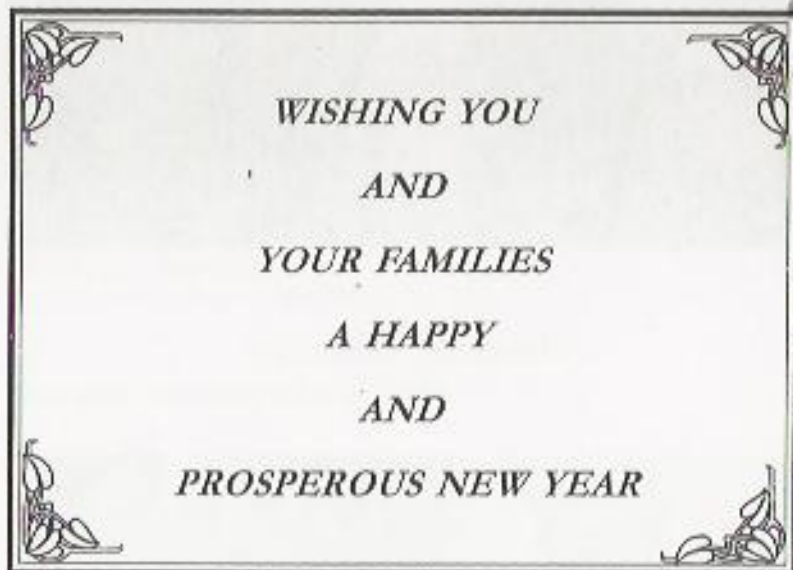
Ambika Mammen
"Deerhurst"
17, Boat Club Road
3rd Avenue, R.A. Puram
Chennai 600 028

Sujaya Menon
Mobile No: 99 400 17464



Christmas Celebration





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.	