

April at a Glance

1 Mon	10.00 ^{AM} Managing Committee 11.30 ^{AM} Executive Committee
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4 Thu	10.30 ^{AM} Health & Ecology
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6 Sat	11.00 ^{AM} - 03.00 ^{PM} IWA Elections
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9 Tue	10.15 ^{AM} Current Events
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16 Tue	10.15 ^{AM} Arts & Handicrafts
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April at a Glance

22 Mon	10.15 ^{AM} Board Event
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23 Tue	05.15 ^{PM} Board Event
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25 Thu	10.00 ^{AM} Annual General Meeting
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1 Mon	10.00 ^{AM} Managing Committee 11.00 ^{AM} Snacks 11.30 ^{AM} Executive Committee Hanu Reddy Residences 39/18, Binny Road Poes Garden, Chennai 600 086 Contact No. 044-24661021/22
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Committee Meetings hosted by **Anjali Sacheti** and **Chandra Seoni**

To learn more, visit the IWA web site: www.iwachennai.com

From the Presidents

Dear Friends,

Wow! What a year!

Got into it with lot of trepidation and soft-footing, wondering how the year will unfold itself especially after the Silver Jubilee year?

This year was possible due to the confidence of the General Body who reposed their faith in us as the Presidents and gave us constant encouragement as well as constructive feedback.

With warmth and generosity, some of our IWA members extended themselves beyond expectations: giving IWA its strength and continuity and thereby enabling meetings that were fabulous and extraordinary!

We appreciate **Vanitha Mudaliar** for her overwhelming large-heartedness and unstinting support in continuing to offer her premises to IWA as the registered office, as well as the venue for conducting elections, since IWA's inception. Sincere thanks Vanitha.

We are grateful to our Advisory Committee, Election Committee, Membership Committee and Music Committee for their vast experience and valuable guidance during the year.

We extend our best wishes to the elected team, who will carry IWA forward into the year ahead.

Team spirit is what moves IWA and this year our Board and Chairpersons made it happen all over again, for the 26th time.

We would like to express our appreciation to our team for their untiring efforts while they were assisting us -

Vice-Presidents: Nita Reddy and Priya Asokan

Quietly efficient, both Nita and Priya worked together to get the newsletters out on time every month. Their inputs for meetings and ideas were an asset for planning events. The fact that they worked perfectly in sync is the reason for marvellous results in outputs. We appreciate their timely prompting and reminders of IWA schedules that sometimes escaped our notice. This is what consolidates teams in any organisation.

From the Presidents

Secretaries: Asha Rammohan and Sharon Dean

Sharon's bubbly exuberance for purple helped us to get our theme on the road and produced beautiful lotuses and the various props designed exclusively for the Founder's Day. Asha who is a meticulous book keeper, helped us prepare detailed lists of members, sponsors, hostesses and convened the Membership Committee meetings with attention to every aspect.

Treasurers: Nabila Avais and Heather Charraudeau

Nabila, our charming "Mover and Shaker" who got the year rocking with spontaneous verve and vigour. In spite of her many demands as Treasurer, keeping track of records of accounts, persuading the accountant and auditor to deliver on time, she came out trumps! With great effort and lots of inputs she has helped to get the big meetings going. Heather came in as a Treasurer and then took over the dual responsibility of Secretary after Sharon left. She is our "Rock of Gibraltar", prompt, punctual, pleasant and super-efficient to work with. Thank you Heather.

Arts and Handicrafts: Nalini Acharya and Deborah Thiagarajan

Flamboyant Nalini and elegant Debbie worked out amazing programs and delivered artists, architects and puppeteers with relevance.

Book Discussion: Leena Suryaprakash and Jansi Kishore

This team persevered and succeeded in bringing the authors down for IWA meetings to review books. They had thoroughly researched to see that a wide variety of authors and titles were presented, so that IWA ladies were given a varied horizon of literature this year. Leena believed in the adage : Detailed planning is inherently essential for successful meetings!

Cooking Swapshop: Buddy Mahadevan and Chris Bomstad

They were the perfect amalgam of effervescent exuberance that produced a blend of varied cuisines. It was a harmonious fusion of mutual understanding and helpfulness. They strived to produce excellent programs and were always helpful in lending their hands to other activities. Buddy & Chris also enabled us to understand that it is important to include differently abled people into main stream jobs.

From the Presidents

Current Events: Sudha Shivkumar and Kim Owens

Current events went with different topics from film, politics, human rights, women sensitive issues and many more. Their versatility in selecting topics that were relevant to world happenings especially issues of human interest were perfect in choice.

Health and Ecology: Asha Hemdev and Jennifer Meddick

The quiet and gentle duo got to the core of relevant issues pertaining to health and ecology. Always smiling, with an ever helpful nature, their team effort reflected on their programmes.

History, Culture and Tours: Achu Kurian and Rathi Nilakantan

Wonderful pair, the perfect balance – Yin and Yang of History, Culture and Tours. A balance of meticulous planning and people connectivity. Every trip of theirs had the IWA “Wow” moment! Their meetings were “out of the box” in co-ordination and execution.

Music and Performing Arts: Chandra Seoni and Anjali Sacheti

Chandra, the persuasive “Roller Coaster” of this year’s Music and Performing Arts who got the job done and produced excellent meetings with her gentle counterpart Anjali. These girls managed to provide wonderful venues that enhanced their meetings and created the perfect ambience.

Philosophy and Religion: Sharmila Ramji and Cecy Kuruvilla

Sharmila and Cecy have given us consistently stimulating and sometimes provocative, good meetings that made us sit up and think. We enjoyed their diverse topics from their desire to bring forth a range of lesser known facts of philosophy and religion.

We sincerely enjoyed our year filled with warm friendships, spontaneous moments, exciting outings and great camaraderie with our IWA family. We thank all of you for making this possible.

We are going to miss the crazy deadlines, the sometimes insurmountable obstacles, and the surprise elements during the IWA year!

RAMANI REDDY

VIJAYA RANGARAJAN

From the Vice Presidents

Yet another enjoyable IWA year has just flown by. Each term on the IWA Managing Committee hones our skills and makes us realize what we are capable of.

Our heartfelt thanks to the Activity Chairpersons for working with us to get the newsletters out each month in a timely manner. Many thanks to our Presidents, Ramani and Vijaya, members of the Managing Committee and Activity Chairpersons for their support and camaraderie during the year.

To all the IWA members who have shown enthusiasm and encouragement by attending meetings and contributing in ways big and small, a big thank you.

We wish you all ‘happy holidays’ and look forward to your continued friendship in the coming year.

NITA REDDY

PRIYA ASOKAN

From the Secretaries

It has been an enjoyable experience working with the Managing Committee and the Executive Committee. The camaraderie and support extended to us was exemplary. Our Presidents Ramani & Vijaya were superb in their leadership, steering us through another wonderful IWA year. We thank the Membership Committee for their guidance, and the Advisory Committee for their supportive input.

We also thank all our members for their unstinting support. We made every effort to ensure the newsletters arrived in a timely fashion for the start of the month and we appreciated your feedback and patience when there was a hiccup!

We hope you will support the new committee as warmly as you have done for us and we wish them the best of luck for the new IWA year.

ASHA RAMMOHAN

HEATHER CHARRAUDEAU

From the Membership Secretary

- * Please return your renewal forms together with your cheque for the annual membership fee of Rs 2000 made out to "IWA Chennai". Non-Indians can pay by cash. This can be done at the AGM or by post or hand delivered to the Secretaries. The closing date is June 30th, 2013.
- * To ensure our records are upto date, please complete all sections of the renewal form accurately.
- * In the case of Non-Indians who are departing from Chennai, please send a letter or email informing us that you will not be renewing your membership. This will enable us to fill your slot quickly with another interested applicant.
- * All members are reminded that they should inform us in writing or by email if:
 - a) They will be absent for the AGM, prior to the AGM
 - b) If they are likely to be absent for a month or more from IWA. This should be done prior to or at the beginning of each absence.

ASHA RAMMOHAN

 Our heartfelt condolences to our Founder member, **Lakshmi Padmanabhan**, on the loss of her husband.

From the Treasurers

Handling the coffers of IWA this year has truly been an exhilarating experience...Besides getting a first hand insight into the working of this wonderful organisation, we were enthralled by the support and co-operation extended by all members and the super efficient activity Chairpersons. Be it in the form of hosting, co-hosting, sponsoring, sourcing talent and resources, conducting and organizing meetings or just appreciating and attending meetings in large numbers; whole hearted involvement and participation demonstrates the bubbly joyous spirit of what IWA denotes and thrives upon- Wholesome Generosity, Open Minded Sharing of Views, Fun Filled Fellowship and of course, unstinting support and encouragement from genuine Friends!

Thank you-dear activity chairs for enabling us to present IWA accounts and membership attendance on time periodically! We will surely miss calling you to say, "Receipts, bills, budget and attendance sheets please!"

Dear Presidents and Board Members, thank you for sharing your invaluable managerial skills and wise, timely advice with us.

We assure the incoming treasures of all our help and support whenever needed and wish the incoming team of office bearers all the very best for another great IWA year ahead!

NABILA AVAIS

HEATHER CHARRAUDEAU

Errata:

We erroneously credited Asha Hemdev and Jennifer Meddick with the Philosophy & Religion blurb in March. The meeting was organized by **Sharmila Ramji**. The error is regretted.

The Election Committee has submitted its report for election of its office bearers for the year 2013 – 2014. The voting will be at the IWA Registered office.

At: IWA Registered Office
857, Poonamallee High Road
Kilpauk
Chennai – 600 010
(Enter NIIT gate immediately after Breeze Hotel)

RAMANI REDDY

VIJAYA RANGARAJAN

From the Election Committee

Based on the nominations received, we are happy to announce that the following members have been elected unopposed to the posts mentioned against each:

	Indian	Non-Indian
Presidents	Nita Reddy	Priya Asokan
Vice President		Heather Charraudeau
Secretary		Christine Bomstad

Our Congratulations to them and our very best wishes for a successful term.

Elections shall be held for the following posts:

Post	Candidates (names in alphabetical order)
Vice-President - Indian	Nabila Avais Asha Hemdev Surekha Kothari
Membership Secretary - Indian	Prithika Chary Sharmila Ramji
Treasurer- Indian	Zainab Kachwalla Achu Kurian
Treasurer - Non- Indian	Phyllis Stathis Tineke Sysmans
Withdrawal	Meena Naru

Voting shall take place on **Saturday, April 6th, 2013 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.**

At: **IWA Registered Office**
857, Poonamallee High Road
Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010
(Enter NIIT gate immediately after Breeze Hotel)

On completion of counting votes, successful candidates for the above four posts shall be announced.

Chairperson : Kusum Chadda
Members : Elizabeth Aston
Usha Chandrakumar
Dhun Dalal
Raziye Sheerazie

4^{Thu}	<p>10.30^{AM} Park Hyatt, Chennai 39 Velachery Road (Near Raj Bhavan) Guindy, Chennai 600 032</p>
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Spa . . . Holistic Treatments to Wellness & Tranquility

Just three little letters put together can have you envisioning so many wonderful feelings such as relaxation, calmness, well being, pampering, beauty and so many more. A holistic spa's approach is to restore equilibrium with the mind and body. The **Antahpura Spa** will connect with your truest sense of inner peace and solitude.

Dr. Anuradha Mathad, BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurveda Medicine & Surgery) will instruct us on how they use rich and ancient Indian wellness treatments, ranging from Tamil herbomineral healing to Chettinad therapies. She will clarify myths about spas and highlight how different an authentic Antahpura spa experience is compared to what most people in today's society consider spa treatments.

Dr. Mathad is a DNM (Doctor of Natural Medicine) from the Examining Board of Natural Medicine Practitioners, Canada. She is currently the spa manager at the Antahpura Spa, Park Hyatt, Chennai.

We would like to thank the **Park Hyatt** hotel for graciously hosting this meeting.

We would like to thank **Anuradha Sachdev** for being our day facilitator.

ASHA HEMDEV

JENNIFER MEDDICK

We would like to thank the following members for sponsoring the Audio Visual equipment for the History, Culture and Tours meeting in March - **Chandra Lulla, Shanta Narayan** and **Jayanti Rajaram**.

9^{Tue}	<p>10.15^{AM} Indira Dutt No.2, Dr.PV.Chेरian Crescent Egmore, near Ethiraj College Chennai 600 008</p>
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It is quiz time

The annual IWA Quiz is here again!!!
 Meticulously researched and well orchestrated, the questions will cover a wide range of topics based on our meetings. With the inimitable **Saranya Jayakumar** as our Quizmaster, let's look back and bring to our mind all those enjoyable meetings we had over the year!!!

Quizzing in IWA has its own unique flavour, so don't miss this right and left brain exercise!!!

We thank **Indira Dutt** for graciously hosting this meeting.

We thank **Shirley Verghese** for being our day facilitator.

SUDHA SHIVKUMAR

KIMBERLY OWENS

Our grateful thanks to **Kiran Rao** for generously sponsoring the March 8th Women's Day Meeting.

Hearty congratulations to **Meera Raghavendra Rao** on the release of her books 'Slice of Life' and 'Feature Writing'.

Change of Address:

Christine Bomstad
 B-10-1 Navin's Dayton Heights
 76, Nelson Manickam Road
 Chennai 600 029

16 Tue	<p>10.15^{AM} Hanu Reddy Residences 39/18, Binny Road Poes Garden, Chennai 600 086 Contact No. 044-24661021/22</p>
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Creations in Ceramic

Kaveri Bharath, a ceramist, describes herself as “Potter, Mother, Organiser, Coordinator, Stage Manager, Actor (stage), and Resource Person for Useless Info”. Kaveri worked with Ray Meekar and Deborah Smith of Golden Bridge Pottery in Pondicherry for over six years. She now resides in Chennai.

Kaveri will give a presentation on the challenge and fun of working with clay and glazes to create the everyday stoneware we all use as well as beautiful art objects. She will share some of her experiences of working with Ray Meekar and Deborah Smith and meeting and interacting with some of the most famous international luminaries in the field. She will show parts of a film on Golden Bridge Pottery and its history.

We thank **Nabila Avais** for so generously sponsoring the meeting.

We thank **Latha Barathan** for sponsoring the audio visual equipment.

NALINI ACHARYA

DEBORAH THIAGARAJAN

We thank the following members for their beautiful rendition of the poems, “The Crocodile and the Monkey” and “The Hare and the Tortoise” from Vikram Seth’s “Beastly Tales: from Here and There” at the Book Discussion meeting in March:

Heather Charraudeau, Prithika Chary, Rani Das Gupta, Eira Doshi, Uma Ganesan, Shobha Hebbar, Prema Kumar, Badrunissa Mahadevan and Rita Saldanha.

22 Mon	<p>10.15^{AM} Hotel Savera 146, Dr. Radhakrishnan Road Chennai 600 004</p>
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IWA - Cinema Extravaganza

Movies on celluloid were the major source of entertainment for decades. They influenced the life styles of all Indians to such a large extent that the “aam aadmi” or the “common man” began to emulate their favourite heroes and heroines in attire and behaviour. It goes without saying that film fashion, dance and music played an uplifting role in their humdrum lives!

We have our talented IWA women, costumed in fitting flashback fashion, replicating some of the most iconic song and dance routines of the past five decades in Hindi & Tamil cinema.

Ladies, come join us in this fun tribute to fashion and frolic in Indian cinema!

This is not just a regular cinema show, but an artfully choreographed and professionally put together creative work, fully sponsored by our IWA member, **Jeyasree Ravi**. We thank Jeyasree and her team from **Palam Silks** for this enormous effort.

Co-ordinator – **Princess Naik** MC – **Sushi Natraj**

Please note this meeting is for **members only**.

Our thanks to the following for their enthusiastic participation – **Rani Ananth, Padma Ashok, Nabila Avais, Anita Bhatia, Chris Bomstad, Rani Chada, Usha Chandrakumar, Heather Charraudeau, Rehane Yavar Dhala, Muriel Dutton, Zainab Kachwalla, Surekha Kothari, Poonam Lalchand, Sujaya Menon, Usha Moorthy, Mridula Narasimhan, Raji Ramesh, Sharmila Ramji, Amulya Rao, Vidya Singh, Manisha Singhee, Usha Umapathi, Ranjini Venkatraghavan and Lakshmi Viswanathan.**

We thank **Rathi Nilakantan** for sponsoring the make-up.

RAMANI REDDY

VIJAYA RANGARAJAN

BOARD

<h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">23</h1> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">Tue</p>	<p>05.15^{PM} Taj Connemara Binny Road Chennai 600 002</p>
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An enchanting musical evening - Abhishek Raghuram

Abhishek Raghuram, a child prodigy who hails from a family that brims with legendary musicians, has flowered into a high caliber artist with rare talent. Through the unique guidance of his grandfather, the mridangam legend, Sri Palghat Raghu and as a disciple of Vidwan Sri.P.S.Narayanaswamy, Abhishek has gained a deep insight into the intricacies of music.

He has created a new genre in the field of vocal music, combining virtuosity, aesthetics and intellect in equal proportion. His music has been called "food for the intellect, mind, heart and soul."

Abhishek has released several albums. His recent albums Makarandam and Ecstasy in Annamayya for Home Records have been sensationally well received. He has also composed many Thillanas that have been raved about by frontline artistes.

The program will be for an hour and will be followed by an interactive session.

Don't miss this evening of soul stirring music!!

This program is a "thank you" from the Board and all the Activity Chairpersons for the successful conclusion of 2012-13.

This meeting is for **members only**.

We acknowledge the support of **Chandrika Chidambaram, Rehane Yavar Dhala, Deepali Goyal, Sharada Khemka, Tina Malhotra, Usha Moorthy, Amulya Rao, Bala Rao, Kanama Ranga Rao, Linda Raymond, Sharada Reddy, Urmilla Reddy, Sabita Shetty, Sheela Shetty, Balveer Singh, Manisha Singhee, Indira Srinagesh, Naaz Tyebbhoy, Usha Umapathi** and **Shanthi Verghese**.

RAMANI REDDY

VIJAYA RANGARAJAN

BOARD & ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

"Bhagavath Krupa" - A visit to remember

All the trappings that were part of a VIP welcome were in place for the visit of the IWA ladies to the Krishnans' farmhouse, "Bhagavath Krupa" in Uthukadu village.

The Krishnan family, along with their staff were ready with poornakumbha honours, the melam aptly rendered an English "note" and the curious folk from the village were out to gaze at the festivities. The warmth, sincerity and simplicity that were woven into it stood out. The elegant farmhouse that stands in the midst of the flora and fauna is the brainchild of Lalitha and architect Baskar Raman made it a reality with all things green and beautiful.

Lalitha's daughter, Gowri, her children, Viswajit and Bhavani took us on a tour of the garden which housed vegetables, chillis and medicinal plants that could be the answer to many a health problem. Flowers were in bloom and the beds of portulaca were awash with flowers.

There was plenty of cool buttermilk, the traditional panakam and tender coconut water and snacks. Amazing how much we could tuck in after that good breakfast that Vijaya Rangarajan served on board the bus!

The Krishnans had done meticulous planning. Pongal cooked in decorated earthen pots and a few rounds of kummi plus a visit to the Elli Amman temple nearby took the ladies in two bullock carts while the melam played and heralded the arrival of the ladies at the temple! A cooking demo by Uma, daughter of Vatsala Mami, the caretaker, a traditional south Indian meal with goodies that were the epitome of nutrition was enjoyed by all.

The village folk presented Therukoothu, Puli Vesham and Silambam. Their enthusiasm was infectious and the Krishnans compensated them generously so that these arts stay alive.

After paan made so professionally by Vatsala mami's son-in-law, Ramesh, the group had to make its way back home. A bunch of fresh keerai and sugarcane was given to all of us.

If the keerai poriyal tasted extra special when it was cooked it must have been because of one ingredient that cannot be computed or displayed on the consumer label-oodles of love and good wishes!

GEETHA IYENGAR

Nirvana in the Himalayas

Our motley group of intrepid travelers shared one thing in common- a love of the mountain ranges! The *oohs and ahhs* were clear testimony to that!

Our journey really began from DehraDun, where we left the blah and the boring behind! Our guide was a foodie, he stopped enroute to Mussoorie and we picked up what unanimously earned the sobriquet "*best samosa ever*"! And as we labored up the foothills of the great Himalayas, the gob-smacking beauty and untamed wildness took our breath away! We passed Woodstock School and Tom Alter's charming tudor-style cottage and spotted the unusual Burass tree with its spectacular red flower that is much sought after as a health drink in the mountain regions.

Hugging the hilltop, stood our plush multi-tiered Hotel Jaypee Manor with a pristine view of Dehra Dun! We were welcomed with "*Burass*" and a piping hot lunch. After which we hit the Mall Road (pronounced *maa*) and emerged with spiffy warm wear, we were sure to make use of, as temperatures fell drastically that night.

For starters we wore our mood, some with spirits in hand toasted our unfolding trip; the naturally high-spirited worked out at the bowling alley; whilst the 21- card gamers played in real earnest and others relaxed stiff muscles before dinner.

Day 2: We woke up to zero visibility. Freak rain in February (the first time in 52 Years) played spoilt-sport, so sight-seeing was out, slippery roads were a big no-no on winding ghat roads! We gathered in the lobby trifle disappointed but not for long, our self-styled "*Kuppe Rani*" kept us riveted with facts and figures on garbage collection in Chennai, a topic of interest that soon got enmeshed with political overtones, and we steered away to safer grounds. To kill time we coaxed our expats into watching an in-house video movie with English subtitles, the one with the 3 hunks and Senorita! Luckily they loved it.

The skies partially cleared after lunch, as we egged the driver on to higher terrain on twisty roads that were broken and rough, in search of promised snow! We passed *Satish Sharma*'s helipad in the middle of nowhere! Despite freezing extremities we pulled up near snow banks and

indulged in proverbial snowfights with photographs to prove that '(Footnotes) we've been there, done that'. Good Morning Sunshine! We woke up to clear skies and live bird tweets. Our Ganesha mascot had done the trick, all obstacles cleared. Soon we were on our way to the land of the Rishis and Munis, heading towards '*The Glass House at the Ganges*' *Neemrana hotel* on the banks of the fast-flowing Ganges. *Ten bravehearts of many faiths, went for the proverbial Ganga Snanam* (dip in the Ganges). Not wanting to be swept away, we posed hand in hand with frozen smiles and chattering teeth for photographs.

The evening Arathi at Parmarth Niketan Ghat in Rishikesh was a sublime experience. We travelled by bus, 6-seater auto and then crossed over by boat and walked through mystical alleys selling trinkets, brushing against cattle as we stumbled our way through milling crowds to the ghat area. We were in our seats as the sun went down. A surrealistic spectacle unfolded, replete with cymbals, chanting and lighting of myriad diyas that got handed around. Satiated we walked past the famed Laxman Jhoola and on to the Ram Jhoola that swayed with our steps!

Early morning risers, yoga and camera enthusiasts were up nice and early, collecting memorabilia, filling water sachets, while others meditated in the calmness of the surroundings.

... And then it happened! Eight IWA Dare Devils got ready for a raw-boned, white-water rafting adventure. The equation was scary... 4 could swim, 4 could not!! What followed was not part of the script! One DD (no marks for guessing!) decided to test the chilly waters after convincing the instructor that she had done this before and jumped in before you could say gingersnaps!

All was well till they hit the rapids, within minutes she began drifting away, she tried to clamber aboard, despite assistance from trainee rafter instructors that had followed the raft, she couldn't. The other fellow rowers were struck dumb with fear. One more push and shove and she made it. Sanity prevailed. At dinner each had a story to tell. Yes, they had earned their boasting rights!!

Meanwhile others visited Haridwar, quite literally known as "the gateway to the Gods". We visited the Shantikunj Ashram (one of 700!) almost a township with 1100 rooms.

Our local guide got into an ugly spat and it was Ashanti for a while, till we beat a hasty retreat. We passed the famed Sapta Rishi Ashram and Bharath Mata Mandir, a modern temple with 7 floors housing all the deities. We travelled by cable car to Chandi Devi, survived an angry onslaught of Monkeys at Mansa Devi and paid homage to the ghat at Sati Devi Temple.

The Har Ki Pauri Arathi at the Haridwar ghat did not disappoint. We saw the convergence of humanity regardless of manmade distinctions of caste, ethnicity and nationality. Mesmerised, the sight and sound spectacle with 16 arathis was something to behold. We watched our lit offering being devoured in a trice by the Ganges.

Back at our peaceful haven we sat around the crackling log fireplace soaking in the calm after a frenetic-paced day!

DDay dawned. We headed high into the upper echelons of the mountain range towards ANANDA In The Himalayas, the palace of the erstwhile Maharaja of Tehri Garhwal, also known as the Viceregal Palace, surrounded by 100 acres of serenity! Veritably the last word in 'sophisticated retreat!' The welcome befitted royalty. Vignettes of the past unfolded... antique art, period furniture sepia-tinted portrait galleries.... Yet the old coexisted pleasantly with contemporary and somehow did not seem out of place!

The superbly-appointed bed and bathrooms, the swimming pool, the sauna, not forgetting the global food specialities at every meal made for a multi-sensorial experience overload!

On our guard against wildlife; engrossed in watching the sunset, the bushes moved, and something big and black emerged, fearing the worst we nearly took to our heels, when lo and behold it turned out to be a local Bagpiper taking position to play the taps, to enhance the sunset experience!

By dinner we all felt born again. The massages, the facials, the rubs had done the trick, our skin glowed. Also, we had our laughable moments at the spa. A novice (read dumb!) awaiting a facial, misunderstood instructions, donning the robe and what she thought was a cap, pulled her ponytail through and was primly awaiting her turn. Others went by

wondering if they had made a mistake. A curious comment... "What are you doing with 'that' on your head" and realization dawned on the "Panty Princess" much to her chagrin and amusement of fellow travelers who were in splits at dinnertime!

A visit to the 300-odd steps Kunjapuri Temple, high up in the Shivalik range, the abode of the Gods and a trip way down to the Vashishtmuni Caves was a study in contrasts... so like heaven and earth!

Our last supper... Dinner in the amphi-theatre was a hit! The warm fire urns, the crisp night air, the quietness, the delectable food, made it a night to remember!

When it was time to say goodbye, a part of us stayed back in Ananda! The princely send-off, the splash of Ganga Jal (water), the tying of the sacred thread, the continuous wave by the staff manning the driveway right down to the gate, will remain with us.

Thanks to the fine detailing of the team that made it happen. Lalitha, our tour guide who put up with all our shenanigans (and there were many), Chairperson Achu, behind-the-scenes Chairperson Rathi, Presidents Vijaya and Ramani. And to all my fellow travelers.... Here's to many such journeys together!

SHEELA K. SARATH



Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of IWA will be held on Thursday, the **25th of April, 2013** at the following address.

Samavesh
Hotel Savera
146, Radhakrishnan Road
Chennai 600 004

REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS: **10.00 a.m.**
AGM Commences: **10.45 a.m.**

The Agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

- Welcome Address **Vijaya Rangarajan**
- Secretary's Report **Heather Charraudeau**
- Membership Secretary's Report **Asha Rammohan**
- Treasurer's Report **Nabila Avais**
- Adoption of the Audited Accounts for the year 2011-2012
- Appointment of Auditors for 2012-2013
- Special Resolution 1
- Special Resolution 2
- Remarks by the outgoing President **Ramani Reddy**
- Any other business
- Introduction of Election Committee **Kusum Chadda**
- Presentation of the new Managing Committee 2012 – 2013
- Address by the incoming Presidents **Nita Reddy & Priya Asokan**
- Introduction of the new Executive Committee
- Vote of Thanks **Prema Kumar**

Note: Copies of the Accounts and Reports of the various Activities will be available for members to peruse.

To consider and if thought fit, to pass with or without modification the following as a Special Resolution:

"RESOLVED that the sub-clauses under Bye-Law 11, clause M : Election of Managing Committee, as shown in the left hand column be rewritten as suggested in the right hand column":

Existing Subclause	Suggested Amendment
(i) Through the newsletter the members shall be invited to nominate persons for each office on the Managing Committee.	(i) All candidates for elected office on the Managing Committee shall be Active Members. The criteria for their nomination shall be based on years of membership, contribution to the Society and a proven ability to fulfill their responsibilities and work as a team.
(ii) All candidates for elected office on the Managing Committee shall be Active Members. The criteria for their nomination shall be based on years of membership, contribution to the Society and a proven ability to fulfill their responsibilities and work as a team.	(ii) Candidates for President shall have served on the Managing Committee for at least two years. They should have been members of IWA for at least seven years. This may be relaxed only in the case of non-Indians.
(iii) Candidates for President shall have served on the Managing Committee for atleast two years. They should have been members of IWA for atleast seven years. This may be relaxed only in the case of non-Indians.	(iii) Candidates for Office Bearers for the Managing Committee should have served as Activity Chairpersons for at least two years. This may be relaxed only in the case of non-Indians who have been members of IWA for three years or less.
(iv) Candidates for office bearers for the Managing Committee should have served as Activity Chairpersons for atleast two years. This may be relaxed only in the case of non-Indians who have been members of IWA for three years or less.	(iv) Once the Election Committee has identified such candidates who are qualified and eligible to stand for office, the Election Committee shall verify from such candidates as to whether they are willing to serve on the Managing Committee.
(v) The Election Committee shall scrutinize the nominations received and study such nominations to examine if such nominated persons are eligible and qualified in accordance with (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) above to stand for the office that they have been nominated for. The Election Committee may remove the names of members who are not	(v) Through the newsletter the members shall be invited to nominate persons for each office on the Managing Committee along with a photograph and posts held in IWA.

eligible and qualified from the list of candidates. If there are insufficient names for any office, to make up such shortfall the Election Committee shall call for nominations from the floor of the house at the Annual General Meeting and conduct the election by secret ballot. If only one nomination is received, and there is no opposition to such a nomination, the candidate shall be elected by consensus.

- (vi) Once the Election Committee has identified such candidates who are qualified and eligible to stand for office, the Election Committee shall verify from such candidate as to whether they are willing to serve on the Managing Committee.
- (vii) It shall be the responsibility of the Election Committee to identify the name of atleast one Indian and one non-Indian candidate for each office
- (viii) The Election Committee shall present to the members the names of Indian and non-Indian candidates who are eligible and willing to stand for election to the Managing Committee **along with a photograph and posts held in IWA**, one month prior to the Annual General Meeting. They shall inform the date, time and venue of the election.

Explanatory Note

The rearrangement and renumbering has been suggested in order to clarify, step by step, the procedure to be followed.

The only two changes are:

1. Under sub-clause (v) in the left hand column, the no. (iv) appearing in the fourth line has been omitted as it is now irrelevant.
2. Under sub-clause (viii) in the left hand column, the words "along with a photograph and posts held in IWA" are now included in sub-clause (v) of the right hand column.

Sub-clauses (ix) to (xiv) remain unchanged.

Special Resolution 1

- (vi) The Election Committee shall scrutinize the nominations received and study such nominations to examine if such nominated persons are eligible and qualified in accordance with (i), (ii), and (iii) above to stand for the office that they have been nominated for. The Election Committee may remove the names of members who are not eligible and qualified from the list of candidates. If there are insufficient names for any office, to make up such shortfall, the Election Committee shall call for nominations from the floor of the house at the Annual General Meeting and conduct the election by secret ballot. If only one nomination is received, and there is no opposition to such a nomination, the candidate shall be elected by consensus.
- (vii) It shall be the responsibility of the Election Committee to identify the name of at least one Indian and one non-Indian for each office.
- (viii) The Election Committee shall present to the members the names of Indian and non-Indian candidates who are eligible and willing to stand for election to the Managing Committee one month prior to the Annual General Meeting. They shall inform the date, time and venue of the election.

Special Resolution 2

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without modification, the following as a Special Resolution:

"RESOLVED THAT the consent of the members of the Society be and are hereby given to shift the registered office of the society from 857, Poonamallee High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai, 600 010 to Traders & Traders, RA Building Annexe, No. 74, Marshalls Road, First Floor, Egmore, Chennai, 600 008 w.e.f 1st May, 2013".

"FURTHER RESOLVED THAT consent of the members of the Society be and are hereby given to amend the bye-laws of the society by alteration of the following clause in the existing bye laws":

Sl. No.	EXISTING BYE-LAW	AMENDED BYE-LAW
2	The Registered Office of the Society shall be situated at 857, Poonamallee High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai 600 010.	The Registered Office of the Society shall be situated at: Traders & Traders RA Building Annexe First Floor No. 74, Marshalls Road, Egmore, Chennai 600 008.

"FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Management Committee be and are hereby authorised to take necessary steps to give effect to the above resolution and intimate the Statutory authorities concerned of the Change in Situation of Registered Office".