

Women's International Club Newsletter



APRIL 1998

Dear Member,

We are on our way into Spring and Summer is around the corner, although the El Niño effect is doing its best to fool us.

After an extremely full calendar for March, we are back to our normal pace, and more of the circles and events will take place indoors. I am so grateful for the enthusiasm with which the Circle leaders and Committee members have tried to find a rich array of speakers and cultural events over these past months. I think you will agree that we have been spoilt for choice.

Several of you have said how much you enjoyed the poetry at the February General Meeting -- so did I. Our thanks to all those who took part particularly since they had to make themselves heard over the sound of electioneering!

We shall have had our Extraordinary General Meeting by the time you read this and I also wish to thank the Membership Working Group on courageously pinpointing important issues.

The Committee on Nominations has also received your nominations and drawn up a slate for your approval. Thank you to all of them, under the able leadership of Bapsi Nariman, for their hard work.

So many thanks to so many people. But I believe that this is the strength of the Club. The greater the participation by a larger number of members the better we all are for it.

For April's General Meeting, we will be screening a film "Ladakh, Desert in the Sky". The film has been made by the Bedi brothers who have been filming wildlife in all its natural beauty. The Meeting is at the Hungarian Cultural Centre, 1-A Janpath, on **Wednesday, April 15th, at 3:00 pm.** Please note the change. We cannot hold the General Meeting on the second Wednesday since it falls on a public holiday. (See further details inside.)

I look forward to seeing you there.

Mary Gore-Booth
President

WIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1997-1998

Mary Gore-Booth	President	3013117, 3014123, 3013671(fax)
Shyama Gurbachan Singh	1st Vice President	332 9611
Lakshmi Chandra	2nd Vice President	6145545, 6149503(fax)
Darshan Inderjit	Treasurer	3730684, 4698877
Rupa Sahni	Hospitality	4611977, 4619553
Mako Lutyens	Membership	4649557, 4649556, 4624965(fax)
Anita Meattle	Secretary	3012289, 3012221(fax)
Virginia Hawkins	Newsletter	6149204, 6149205(fax)

CIRCLE LEADERS 1997-1998

BOOKS	Gopika Nath	6827190
	Nina Dey Gupta	6434836
	Titia Knoops	6147274
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	Kanta Stanchina	6113643
	Meera Rao	6887200, 6873383
	Sushma Nanda	6113091, 6872921
FOCUS	Nandita Lahiri	8360539
	Mariana White	6148208
	Monica Modak	6132836
CULTURE	Gita Devi Kapurthala	6484029
	Alexandra Tomasikova	601015, 6885340
	Anna Sturgess	6851287, 6851766(fax)
GOURMET AND GARDEN	Veena Dass	3012713, 3010128
	Sophie Devred Neat	6866147
	Amrita Mankad	6888761
CREATIVE SELF EXPRESSION	Ramindra Ajit Singh	6176507
	Prama Bhandari	6862807
	Janet Chawla	4611821
EXCURSIONS	Sheila Ghatate	3329823, 3329346
	Zakia Zaheer	3327382, 3329472
	Sigrun Srivastava	6468908, 6442756
	Ina Von Welck	6873658
DANCE	Maya Caroli	685-9153 6863936, 6969743
	Usha Venketeshwaran	2256804, 2250730
	Priscila Confiado	6519020

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 15th, 3 pm at the Hungarian Cultural Centre, 1-A Janpath.

The film "Ladakh, Desert in the Sky" will be shown. This film has been made by the Bedi brothers and was judged the best film at the International Video Festival on Science, Society and Development recently. The film runs for 50 minutes and will start promptly at 3:10 pm so please be on time.

Books

Our author this month is E. Jaiwant Paul. Most of his working life was spent in the corporate world as a Director of Brooke Bond. This took him to Muscat for 7 years but, bored with his corporate life after returning to India, he took to writing. His most recent publication is "Laxmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi", the legendary ruler who personally led her forces against the British in the Mutiny of 1857. "By my Sword and Shield" traces the development of weapons of the Indian warrior from the earliest to the modern times. The author has promised to talk to us on both these titles and has graciously offered the hospitality of his own home: 6 Western Avenue, Maharani Bagh, (683-0155) on **Tuesday, April 14, at 3 pm.**

Creative Self-Expression

Grandmothers' Stories: Women's creativity has traditionally been expressed via stories. This month we will sip tea and tell stories we first heard from our grandmothers or the narratives of grandmothers' lives. We will meet at the home of Minakshi Gupta, 35-A Friends Colony East, (683-9072, 684-9046), on **Monday, April 6, at 3 pm.**

Culture

We will see a film by Juraj Jakubisko -- 'An ambiguous report about the end of the world'. A classical phenomenon in Czechoslovak cinematography, Juraj Jakubisko has created a passionate artistic vision of the end of civilization. It is a film about the denial of humanism within us, the eternal relationships between man and wolf with uncertain flickers of light presented by Nostradamus's vision of a thousand years of peace. It is about how things were, are, and will be, for the prophesy of Nostradamus to come true. We will meet at the Slovak Embassy, 50-M Niti Marg, (6885228) and our hostess is Sandra Tomasikova, on **Friday, April 3, at 3 pm.**

Dance

To celebrate both 'Holi' and 'Baisakhi' (New Year) the dance group is presenting what was earlier planned in March, the 'Bihu' dance -- a folk dance from Assam. Lunch will follow the dance and we will meet at the home of Aruna Varma, A123 New Friends Colony, (6848925, 6926743), Directions: go past the big marble temple, Mata Ka Mandir, turn right at the "T" junction, then first left and first right. **Tuesday, April 7, at 11:00 am.**

Focus

Captain Lakshmi Sehgal was one of the Founders and the Commander of the Ram Jhansi Regiment of the Indian National Army. She will talk to us on the 'Women's Role in the Freedom Movement' and the role of women at the present time. Lakshmi is a doctor by profession and has recently been awarded the Padma Vibhushan. We will meet at the home of Liz Perchard, 16 Kautilya Marg (6111834), on **Thursday, April 16, at 3 pm.**

Excursion

Immortal Delhi -- an excursion into history. "I am Delhi", as told by Delhi itself. The story of the city of cities - Delhi, where great empires rose and fell before the dawn of history. A city of mysterious eternity whose old ruins proclaim a majestic past and whose present pulsates with the ever flowing force of India. The Club has organized a visit to the spectacular 'Son et Lumiere' (sound and light show) at the Purana Quila (old fort), Mathura Road, on **Monday April 13, at 8:30 pm.**

This show captures Delhi's 5000 year old saga, from Indraprastha to Lutyen's. It lasts one hour and then we will visit Karim's "Namaat Kada" a restaurant in Nizamuddin to taste typical Mughalai food. Husbands are welcome to join us for the show and dinner. Tickets are Rs.25 for the show and the dinner depends on your own appetite. Please let us know how many of you wish to join so we can make table reservations. Assemble at the entrance of the Old Fort, Mathura road by 8:15pm.

Summer Excursion

As members have shown interest in a China tour, we are negotiating an 8-12 day trip to China. Please contact one of the Excursion leaders: Sheila, Zakia or Ina if you are interested.

Gourmet and Garden

This month Meenu Dugal has very kindly offered us a demonstration at her restaurant, "Spice". We will then have a tasting of Indonesian and Thai food. The "Spice" restaurant is on the first floor of the Ambavata Centre in Mehrauli Village. Directions: go towards Qutab Minar and Mehrauli Bus Terminal go past the Qutab Colonnade. (For further directions please phone restaurant: 652-6872) We will meet on **Wednesday, April 22, at 10:15 am.** Limited to 40 people.

Visual and Performing Arts

Vidya Rao is among the most gifted of the younger generation of Indian Classical musicians. She is one of the few singers specializing in the delicate form of thumri-dadra and the traditional ghazal. (Vidya was for many years the disciple of Smt. Naina Devi.) Vidya has also been the recipient of a research fellowship for the study of thumri from the Ford foundation. Heralding in the summer, she will sing "chaiti" and other forms of the light-classical genre. We will meet at the home of Shanno Khurana, C-42 Defence Colony (4617236, 4693886), on **Friday, April 24, 3 pm.**

VISIT TO RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN -- Wednesday, March 18, 10:30 am.

Please note that the time for this visit is 10:30am. Foreigners should bring their passports with them. No guests will be permitted. No cameras, cell phones, pagers, etc. will be allowed. Directions: proceed along South Sunken Road and come to the Reception at South Court by 10:15am.

Changes of Telephone Numbers

Zohra Shaw new telephone numbers: 6867976, 667467

Maya Carolli new number: 6859153

Our apologies for misspelling **Tuli Mirchandani's** name since 1996.

FAREWELL

We say goodbye to Georgia Ioannou, Keiko Tanino and Antoinette Verspoor.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

The new slate for the Executive Committee 1998-1999 are as follows:

President	Gita Devi of Kapurthala
1st Vice President	Alexandra Tomasikova
2nd Vice President	Jyotsna Govil
Treasurer	Sohinder Nabha
Secretary	Jacqueline Dalbousiere
Hospitality	Amrita Mankad
Membership	Michiyo Sielecki
Newsletter	Priscilla Conflado

Gardening Notes for April

Flowers: The flower beds should be cleared of the winter annuals which have finished flowering and prepared for the summer season flowers. Proper care should be given to the seedlings in the nursery. Cannas will be in full bloom this month. Select the ones which are to be propagated in May. Seed collection from the late winter annuals can be done. Chrysanthemum suckers should be transplanted into bigger pots and kept in the sunlight.

Roses: Watering of the rose beds should be done every 2 to 3 days. Spray insecticide once a month, preferably in the evening. A forceful jet of water spray used on both sides of the leaves and the stem will dislodge and wash away most of the red spider-mites. This should be done once a week in the morning. This spray also washes away the dust and makes the bushes more healthy. Remove dead flowers, dead wood and suckers regularly.

Vegetables: Clear the area where the winter vegetables were sown and prepare it for the summer vegetables.

Lawns: Throughout the summer leave the water pipe on every third night but sprinkle water on the grass every morning.

General: Casualties in the shrubs can be filled up. Shrubs can be pruned, manured and fertilizer given. Foliage plants should be kept in the shade to avoid direct sun. Propagation of foliage plants by seed, division and cutting can be done in the first fortnight.

REMEMBER -- send regrets for the General Meetings in writing to Mako Lutyens, 88 Sunder Nagar, New Delhi, 110003.

Postal rate for printed postcards is Rs1.50 -- please add stamp before mailing to Rupa and please mark your postcards clearly when you select programs!

SPECIAL PROGRAMME

Visit to the National Museum, Janpath, New Delhi - **Thursday, April 2, 10:30am.** Shobita Punja is the author of the illustrated Guide to the Museums of India. Dr. Punja has agreed to take the members of the Club to the National Museum, one of India's finest museums. The guided tour will include some of the most important objects of the Indus Civilization, Bronze and Buddhist Galleries which Shobita describes as 'her favourite pieces'. I am sure the members recall a most scintillating tour of the "Enduring Image" she conducted for us last November. Please wear comfortable shoes. Phone Shyama (332-9611) or Virginia (614-9204) if you would like to join us at the museum.

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members into the Club:

Irina M. Curto 19-A Rajdoot Marg Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021	Portugal (Ambassador Manuel Marcelo) Tel: 688 8189, Fax: 360 1252
Chikako Takagi A-55 Vasant Marg Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110057	Japan (Ryo) Tel: 614 1723
Moina Simcock 50N Nyaya Marg Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021	New Zealand (H.C. Adrian) Tel: 688 3170, Fax: 688 3165
Virginia Elsemon B 8/7 Vasant Vihar New Delhi, 110057	Canada (Thomas) Tel: 614 2996
Francoise Perrier 28 Friends Colony West New Delhi 110065	France (Gerard) Tel: 692 6514, Fax: 692 7106
Nada Plavek 7A Malcha Marg New Delhi, 110021	Yugoslavia (Zoran) Tel: 611 1944
Etelka Dallos 2/50M Niti Marg Chanakyapuri, Delhi 110021	Hungary (Ambassador Andras) Tel: 611 4737, Fax: 611 6742
Sharon Graefe A 27A West End New Delhi 110021	Australia (Lex) Tel: 467 9248

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CLUB -- CALENDAR

APRIL 1998

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.	Sun.
		1	2	3	4	5
			SPECIAL PROGRAMME Visit to the National Museum 10:30 a.m.	CULTURE FILM FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3:00 p.m. Slovak Embassy 50-M Niti Marg		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CREATIVE SELF-EXPRESSION "Grandmothers' Stories" 3:00pm Minakshi Gupta, 35-A Friends Colony East	DANCE "Bihu" Dance 11:00 a.m. Aruna Varma, A123 New Friends Colony	ID-UL-ZUHA	MAHAVEER JAYANTI			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
EXCURSION "I Am Delhi" Son et Lumière Show at Purana Quila - Old Fort 8:30 p.m.	BOOKS E. Jaiwant Paul 3:00 p.m. 6 Western Ave, Maharani Bagh	GENERAL MEETING "Ladakh, Desert in the Sky" Hungarian Cultural Centre 1-A JANPATH 3:00	FOCUS Lakshmi Sehgal 3:00 p.m. Liz Perchard, 16 Kautilya Marg.			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		GOURMET Visit "Spice" restaurant 10:15 a.m. Mehrauli Village (6526872)		VISUAL and PERFORM. ARTS Vidya Rao 3:00pm. Shanno Khurana C-42 Defence Col.		
27	28	29	30			