



WIC *News*

The President's Letter April 2000

Dear Members,

I can hardly believe that the club year is almost over, or that three months have already passed since the turn of the century! Time certainly flies ... especially when you're involved with WIC!

We were very lucky to have had so many special programs in February; I'm glad that many of us had the chance to enjoy them. A major highlight was when about fifty of us had a fascinating meeting with the First Lady of India, Shrimati Usha Narayanan, at Rashtrapati Bhawan. The ever gracious hostess that she is, Mrs. Narayanan spent the morning of Friday, February 25th with us, talking about the important role that women can play in fostering international understanding and cooperation, and about her own personal experiences while living overseas. After a delicious tea we toured the beautiful and fully blooming Moghul Gardens and the Palace. It was a truly delightful and inspiring morning with the First Lady, who totally overwhelmed us with her gracious hospitality, warm welcome and spontaneity. There is an inscription on the base of the Jaipur Pillar facing the Palace that I liked so much as to want to share it with you. It reads: "In thought faith, in word wisdom, in deed courage, in life service so May India Be Great".

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to congratulate the new slate of Officers for 2000-2001. We wish you good luck, patience and great fun throughout your term! I also want to thank the Nominations Committee, chaired by Prama Bhandari, for doing a fine and conscientious job in recruiting the new Executive Committee.

April's program will start off on April Fool's night (this is no joke, though, ladies!) with a very special Millennium Gala Night the theme of which will be "Timeless ... Friendship Without Borders". Each country represented in WIC, including India, of course, has offered eight special personalities that the guests will "become" for the evening. Also on the evening's menu - besides good food - will be piano-accompanied singing, music, dancing and a special surprise performance. We have a special sub-committee that's working very hard on planning and organizing this special gala night, and I know it will be a great success. The venue will be the beautiful garden of the Belgian Ambassador's residence, and I want to thank Ambassador and Mrs. Trouveroy for their warm and enthusiastic hospitality. So, I'm personally inviting each and every one of you to reserve the evening of April 1st, and join us in making this a special, fun-filled, unforgettable, unbeatable Millennium Gala Night.

Sincerely,

Mona Madi

President

Executive Committee: Slate for 2000 - 2001

Making a choice from a wealth of talent and experience is difficult and agonizing. The task before the Nominations Committee would have been well nigh impossible had it not been for the numerous suggestions sent in by the members which has guided its path.

Several meetings have been held and many hours have been spent pouring over the suggestions, deliberating the alternatives, discussing the pros and cons. The eventual decisions have been unanimous and have been made keeping the goals and aspirations of the Club in mind.

The members of the Committee on Nominations, Fakhri Akbar Zeb, Sheila Ghatate, Krishna Kakar, Diana Laurie, Michiyo Sielecki, Ramindra Ajit Singh under the Chairpersonship of Prama Bhandari, take pleasure in presenting the following Slate of nominees for the Executive committee for the year 2000-2001.

President	Shireen Khemchand	(India)
First Vice-President	Catherine Young	(Britain)
Second Vice President	Maya Carolli	(India)
Secretary	Amrita Mankad	(India)
Treasurer	Nandita Lahiri	(India)
Membership Chairperson	Geraldine Hoekstra	(Holland)
Hospitality Chairperson	Stella Kirton	(France)
Newsletter Editor	Susan Boggs	(USA)

According to the Constitution, nominations for a particular post may be made from the floor following the verbal presentation of the slate at the April General Meeting, provided written permission for a floor nomination has been obtained from the nominee and is presented at the time the nomination is made. Endorsement of the slate or elections will be held as the case may be at the AGM in May.

GENERAL PROGRAMME APRIL - 2000

Anita Anand, Director of the Women's Feature Service, an international news service, with headquarters in New Delhi, will show a short film on her organisation and speak of their work.

WFS provides material on development issues to mainstream media. Two hundred women journalists from 65 countries contribute articles to the agency which then distributes them to major newspapers throughout the world.

Mrs. Anand also consults with NGOs on advocacy and media initiatives relating to gender issues.

**Monday, 10th April at 3.00 pm.
at the Park Royal Hotel, Nehru Place**

WIC's Annual Gala Night

Friendship Without Borders

This year's gala will be held at the residence of the Belgian ambassador, Mr. Guy Trouveroy, and his wife Nathalie, to whom we are deeply indebted for their generous hospitality.

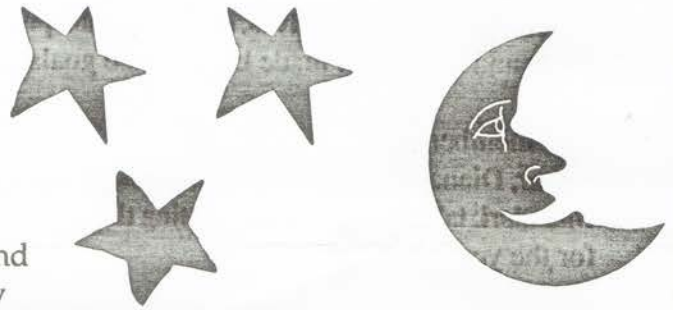
The evening will feature food, music and dance; and as an inducement to jolly discussion, countries represented in WIC have offered lists of eight of their national millennium "greats", and no doubt someone will be heard asking, "Amy Johnson? Who was she?" Having had a splendid time, we shall, no doubt, come away the wiser for the experience.

Attendance at the event is limited to members and their live-in families and visiting house-guests, and will be by ticket only.

Invitation cards, are available from all members of the Executive Committee, at a price of Rs. 800 per person for members and their spouses or partners and, Rs. 900 for other eligible family members and house - guests.

Please note that in order to avoid handling money on the night, tickets will not be available at the entrance.

Saturday 1st April, at 8 pm.
at the Residence of the Belgian Ambassador
50 N Shanti Path



CIRCLE PROGRAMMES



Spotlight - Spotlight bids farewell with "Costumes Around The World"

A scintillating display of national costumes will be modelled by members. Those attending are invited to come in national costume. Please be seated by 2-45 pm.

Monday, 3rd of April, at the Norwegian Residence,
The home of Leena Husso Hanevold,
50 C Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, Tel : 688 5508
Limit - 50

Healthwise

Ha-Ha

(= *Health a Habit always*)

Ha-Ha is the theme of the talk to be given by Sunita Malkani, psychologist, social activist and creative writer.

Good health cannot be attained in a single day, week, month or year. It has to be made a habit, and one which is life-long. Simple ways of improving and maintaining good health, and of freeing oneself from dependence on medicines will be the highlight of her presentation, which will encapsulate her A-Z of a healthy life-style.

Wednesday 5th of April at 3 pm.
at the home of Komal Dhindsa,
40 Golf Links, New Delhi - 03
Tel : 461 9137 • Limit - 50



Book Mark

Beloved Witch

by Ipsita Roy Chakraverti



Ipsita Roy Chakraverty's story is one women's research into the ancient science of *wicca*, or witchcraft, and her dedication in life to remove the stigma attached to witches. In her latest book - *Beloved Witch* - published by Harpers and Collins, Ipsita has written about the strong and magical courses her life has taken. She has highlighted *wicca's* power of healing wisdom and justice.

Let us understand from her how it is to be a witch.

Friday 7th of April at 3 pm.

at the home of Susan Boggs, 5 Aurangzeb Lane,

New Delhi - 11 • Tel : 301 5068

Limit - 40

Food & Flowers

Harappan Culture and Sindhi Food

A talk by barrister and Supreme Court advocate, Jai Mukhi, will explain who the Sindhis are, giving an insight into their antiquity, and covering Harappa, and their characteristic ways, leading into a short cultural programme; and concluding with lunch of typically delicious Sindhi fare.

Tuesday 18th April at 12.00 noon

at the home of Aruna Varma,

A-123 New Friends Colony, New Delhi - 65

Tel : 684 8925, 692 6743

Limit - 50

From the Editor's Desk



1. With deep regret we announce the passing away of Maya Carolli's father. Coming so close on the heels of Maya's car accident, our deepest sympathies are with her at this time.
2. Telephone number correction - Usha Srivastava
Her new number is 601 4939
3. Change of Address - Narjis Rizvi
Her new address is - A 30, West End Colony, New Delhi - 110 021
4. Attendance at Circle Meetings - To avoid confusion, it is essential that those who have signed up for a particular event, to contact Hospitality and confirm that they have been included on the permitted list ie under the limit. **-PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT BECAUSE YOU HAVE APPLIED THAT YOU ARE INCLUDED.** The limits are imposed for the greater comfort of those that can sensibly be accommodated. We apologise for any inconvenience that may have been caused at one of the February Programmes.
5. Resignations - the following members have either tendered their resignation, or are considered to have resigned, having departed the country -

Janice Ferguson

Winnie Bedi

Ursula Gomes

Jane Hancock

Sasha Moss

Carol Parker

Kathy Moignard

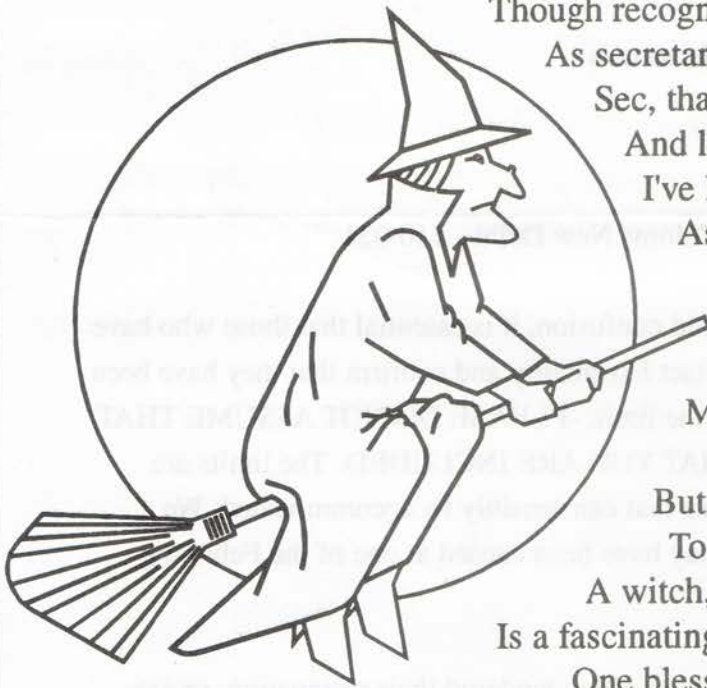
Ina von Welck

Heidi Benz

We send them our very best wishes for the future.

6. Bit of Fun - Many of you will be aware that, the editor of the Newsletter, draw from time to time on the assistance of he who I call my secretary. Just as a bit of fun, below are my secretary's thoughts on this month's Book Circle event.

Witches All



Though recognition I've not earned,
As secretary, this last year, I've learned-
Sec, that is, to the Newsletter,
And least said there so much the better,
I've learned, such details and titbits rare
As "Wicca" is witchcraft just laid bare.
And with that noun I judge that
there
Must be a verb - to WIC (bewitch).
My dictionary, Chambers, has no stitch
of evidence of such a word,
But it leaves out many, so it's not absurd
To continue thought along this line.
A witch, says Chambers, in mood benign,
Is a fascinating woman - and speaking lower-
One blessed with supernatural power.
So ponder this, if you will, a while,
Then raise your hands and with a smile,
All of you who now support
My belief that WICs are witches of a sort,
Albeit free from any taint
of entrapping spells, or other complaint
Associated with hags or evil,
Or even compacts with the devil...
Now raise your hands and dispel the rumour
That WIC-ers have no sense of humour!



April - 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30						1 GALA NIGHT Belgian Residence 8 pm.
2	3 SPOTLIGHT Costumes Around the world Norwegian Residence 2.45 pm.	4	5 HEALTHWISE Health a Habit always 40 Golf Links 3 pm.	6	7 BOOKMARK Beloved Witch 5 Aurangzeb Lane 3 pm.	8
9	10 GENERAL MEETING Women's Feature Service Park Royal Hotel Nehru Place 3 pm.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 FOOD & FLOWERS Sindhi Food A-123, Friends Colony 12 noon	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29