



WIC-News

December 2004

GENERAL MEETING CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

“A Christmas Pageant” Skit by Sohaila Kapur

Christmas is a time of cheer and joy. A time when families get together, exchange gifts and have good time. But Christmas is also a time to think about those less fortunate than us. In fact, love, forgiveness and sharing is what the Christmas spirit is all about. The skit, titled 'Parable Christmas' is the story of an Indian mother and her child, how they experience a transformation in their lives on Christmas eve. The skit is written and directed by Sohaila Kapur.

Sohaila Kapur is a writer/director, who has written popular musicals like Yeh Hai Mumbai Meri Jaan, which was premiered at the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh and subsequently invited by the Arts Council of England for a six city tour, and later toured Singapore too; 'Dracula meets page 3, Halloween, for children and is currently busy writing a musical to open at the West End, in London. She has also directed several plays starring eminent artists such as Zohra Sehgal. Sohaila also works with children and along with her partner Jotan Arora, conducts theatre workshops for children under Mirror Images, their company.

**Wednesday, December 15th, 3 p.m.
At the German Embassy, Shanti Path
Chanakyapuri**

Letter of the President

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Executive Committee and myself, I would like to thank you all for your positive attitude and co-operation in helping us to solve our financial crises. It is heartening to know that you all are with us, special thanks to Peggy Sood, Gugu and Shireen Kemchand for ensuring that the meeting went on smoothly. Roosevelt said "It is hard to fail but it is worse never to have tried to succeed."

With Eid around the corner, I would like to wish everyone Eid Mubarak. Now with the hectic season of Diwali and Dusshera behind us we are all left in a state of exhausted exhilaration not to mention overweight. But hey, Christmas the festival of good will cheer, plum pudding, mince pies, holly Santa Claus, reindeers and cards is just round the corner.

Taking advantage of the good weather, we have organized a day trip to Khurja, which was a great success earlier. Similarly Lucy Peck will introduce Mehrauli and its surroundings to our new and old members.

For XMAS, Sohaila Kapur is enacting a skit at the residence of the ever gracious and generous Fiorenza Richter. Let us come together in the spirit of sisterhood and enjoy the coming months. XMAS is all about giving and forgiving, so let us carry on the tradition of the Club with a true Christmas spirit.

Carolyn Wells aptly said

"I love the XMAS tide and yet,
I notice this. each year I live,
I always like the gifts I get,
But how I love the gifts I give."

This giving and taking not only sums up the spirit of XMAS and all the other festivals all over the world, but the essence of life on this planet.

Wishing you all a Happy Eid

Merry Christmas

Felix Navidad

Fröhliche Weihnacht



Mona Aggarwal
President

Important!

Membership dues can be paid till end of November.

A NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Dear WIC Members!

According to its constitution, the Women's International Club, Delhi, has got the following objective: "... to bring together as equals the women of Delhi for their mutual benefit, for the promotion of their common interests through cultural exchange, and for fostering friendship among women of different nationalities."

I appeal to all of you to respect this principle by refraining from bringing unrest to the club. This is equally valid for all its members including those representing the club ideals in the Executive Committee or other committees.

Those who do not respect decisions made by these groups should please contact the respective chairperson or co-members in order to clarify their questions. Any other way of publishing your personal discontent is going to upset the smooth running of the club.

Please be assured that pronouncements made by the Membership Committee in collaboration with the Executive Committee are only declared after thorough assessment of each single case.

I wish all of us from now on to enjoy an interesting club year based on mutual friendship and respect between all members.

With kind regards

Ute Laser

Membership Chairperson

HEALTH

The relevance of AIDS to the present situation By Dr. Jean- Lous Excler

Dr. Excler is Medical Director of JAVI (International AIDS Vaccine Initiative). He is a pediatrician and epidemiologist. He has studied in France, specialized in tropical medicine and worked for many years in different countries mainly in the field of prevention and treatment of diseases like AIDS. He will speak about the situation of AIDS worldwide and India in particular, about prevention, treatment and challenges.

**Wednesday, 1st December, 3 p.m.
At the home of Vimla Rajan
L-21 Green Park
Tel. 26519200**

Limit 50

FOCUS

“Sarama and her children” By Bibek Debroy

Well known economist Bibek Debroy and director of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Contemporary Studies in Delhi will speak about his forthcoming book “Sarama and her children”. The book tracks attitudes of dogs from the Vedic period downwards, across the epics, the Puranas, the Dharmashastras and the Nitishastras. Therefore, it is about Hindu attitudes, bearing a few Buddhist references.

**Friday, 3rd of December, 3 p.m.
At the home of Prama Bhandari
8 Padmini Enclave, Hauz Khas
Tel: 26862807**

Limit 45

CULTURE

“House Music”

organised by Reiko Kitano und Sibylle von Welck

A number of musicians will give a demonstrating concert of vocal and instrumental Music, guiding through the ages of Baroque, Classic and Romantic music.

Tuesday, 7th of December, 3 p.m.
At the Home of Sybille von Welck
18, Green Avenue,
Vasant Kunj
Tel. 26891015

Limit 40

CUISINE

“Japanese Cuisine”

by Yumiko Goto

Japanese food is very popular, it is light, health and well-known.
Yumiko Goto will demonstrate the way most Japanese people prepare their food at home with minimum fuss and maximum flavour.

Friday 10th of December, 11 a.m.

At the home of Yumiko Goto
10 A Kastruba Gandhi Marg (First Floor)
Tel. 23358113

Limit 25

Change of addresses and telephone numbers

Kamla Sondhi

1401 A, Beverly Park II,
Phase II
Mehrauli- Gurgaon Road
Gurgaon 122 002
Phone: 95124 – 5102109
33032339

Sigrun Srivastava: New phone numbers are: 5143 6804 (r), 9810118345 (m)

Nimmi Khanna: New address: J 510 Western Avenue, Lane W – 17, Sainik Farms, New Delhi

Kiran Anand new phone number 9810122700 (m)

Farewell

We bid farewell to Alexandra Faesler, we wish her all the best for her next posting.

GERMAN COFFEE MORNING

December is a busy month with Christmas preparations to be done. Looking for last minute gift items, baking and meeting friends keeps everybody active in this time of the year. Let us get together and take some time out, enjoying self-made Christmas cookies in a relaxing atmosphere.

We will meet on Thursday, 9th December, 11 a.m.

At the home of Ute Laser

9 Ashoka Avenue

DLF Chattapur Farms

Delhi 110 030

Tel. 2680 5666

9811103594

FRENCH CONVERSATION

In addition to our German coffee morning, our member Marie-Anne Derron will organize French Conversation groups meetings at her home. We will meet for the first time on

**Monday, 29th November at 10: 30 a.m. and
Tuesday, 14th December at 10:30 at the home of
Marie Anne Derron
B – 32, Malcha Marg
Chanakyapuri
New Delhi – 110021**

Christmas in Austria

The **feast of St Nicholas** marks the beginning of Christmas in Austria on December 6th. The saint accompanied by the devil asks children for a list of their good and bad deeds. Good children are given sweets, toys and nuts. Gifts that are placed under the tree are opened after dinner on Christmas Eve.

Silent Night was composed by the **Austrian Franz Mohr** and was first sung in 1818, in the village church of Oberndorf near Salzburg. There is a story told of how Christmas was almost spoiled for the villagers that year:

“On Christmas Eve, the priest went into the church and found that the organ was not working. The leather bellows that are used to pump the air through the pipes were full of holes. Christmas without music would not do so the priest showed the organist Franz Mohr a new Christmas hymn he had written. Franz quickly composed a tune for it that could be played on a guitar. So Oberndorf had music after all”.

On the evening of December 24, the birth of the Christ Child is celebrated and it is the Child itself who brings presents and the Christmas tree for the children. The children wait until they hear a bell tinkling. Then they enter a special room where the Christmas tree is waiting all decorated with candles, ornaments and candies. The whole family sings Christmas carols and wishes each other:

FROHE WEIHNACHTEN

Events Calendar December 04

Wednesday, 1 st December, 3 p.m.	Health – L – 21 Green Park
Friday, 3 rd December, 3 p.m.	Focus – 8 Padmini Enclave, Haus Khaz
Thursday, 7 th , December, 3 p.m.	Culture – 18 Green Avenue, Vasant Kunj
Friday, 10 th December, 11 a.m.	Cuisine – 10 A Kasturba Gandhi Marg (First Floor)
Thursday, 9 th December, 11 a.m.	German Coffee Morning , 9 Ashoka Avenue, DLF Chattapur Farms
Tuesday, 14 th December 10:30 a.m.	French Conversations – B 32 Malcha Marg, Chanakyapuri

WIC Committee 2004-2005

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Sibylle von Welck, 1st Vice President Phone: 2689 1015 Mobile: 9810030845
Kusum Ansal, 2nd Vice President Phone: 23737755/44, Mobile: 9810016006
Sophia Blake, Hospitality Phone: 24198000
Sushma Nanda, Treasurer Phone: 55633930, 2651 8935 Mobile: 9810122184
Ute Laser, Membership Phone: 26805666 Mobile: 9811103594
Bina Singh, Secretary Phone: 24640144, 24640145 Mobile: 9811117421
Cosima Klinger-Paul, Newsletter Phone: 5160 3275, Mobile: 98 11 22 83 75

Circle leaders

Cuisine	Bapsi Nariman Kiran Anand Bubbles Suneja
Culture	Shameem Varadarajan Benu Bharany
Focus	Sunaina Aggarwal Radhika Birla Rita Gharekhan
Health	Dr. Shakuntala Dawesar Serita Kakar Neena Malhotra
Trips & Tours	Sheila Ghatate Zakia Zaheer Yasmita Metha