



DECEMBER 2009

WIC NEWS



GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 16th December 2009, 3.00 pm

At the residence of Arabella Stagg

2 Rajaji Marg

New Delhi-110011

WIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

*Peace on earth
Good will to all*

The old Christmas message and story is brought to you in mime and tableaux, accompanied by explanatory readings and traditional carol singing.

The short program is performed by the children of Asha Sadan, a home for 0 - 40 girls, attached to a large Higher Secondary School. These children may be orphans or have parents behind bars but they keep in touch with their families, if they can. They are full of hope for a secure and happy future.



WIC COMMITTEE

2009 - 2010

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends and Members,

May I start off by thanking all our Circle Leaders and our Hostesses for organizing excellent programs and contributing great venues. Mrs. Delice Gan opened the Swedish Residence for a very informative – and practical - yoga afternoon, much enjoyed by all the members present. Anita Dua, our very own Yoga expert, is planning to organize yoga classes twice a month so do attend if you can – wonderful for your health and happiness. On 30th October, in our International Interaction Circle, Mrs. Riffat Masood gave us an interesting talk on the Indus Civilizations of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa. She is highly knowledgeable and shared her insight in a way that was both thought provoking and engaging. Many of our members asked interesting questions and the lively discussion was topped off with tea and elaborate snacks, courtesy of our hostess, Gazala Malik for her kind generosity and hospitality.

As we are coming closer to the crispy, cold and colourful Christmas Season, it is time to give and share joy and happiness with family and friends. Since I have been here for more than six years, I have noticed how Christmas has become more visible: These days you can buy anything from mince pies to singing Santas in the local markets.

Customs for Christmas celebrations vary in the vast expanse of India. These variations are largely because of the local cultural influence. In South India, for instance, Christians light clay lamps on the rooftops and walls of their houses, the same way as Hindus decorate their homes during the Diwali Festival. Besides, in several states of India a popular custom is to decorate banana or mango tree instead of traditional pine tree. In northwest India, the tribal Christians of the Bhil tribe go out night after night for a week during Christmas to sing their equivalent of carols the whole night through. In Mumbai, which has one of the largest Roman Catholic communities in India, there is a tradition to depict nativity scenes and decorate home with big stars. Most exhilarating celebration is in Goa, The Goans participate in the traditional midnight mass service locally called Missa de Gallo or Cock crow as they go well into early hours of the morning Christmas.

The joys of Christmas in India is that it is celebrated by people from many communities and backgrounds, so please come and celebrate the season at the residence of the British High Commissioner, hosted by Lady Arabella Stagg. We will enjoy a Christmas performance from the children of the Assisi Convent School, sing carols, taste traditional Christmas flavours and indulge in fun and games. Come and be merry!

On behalf of all of us in the Executive Committee, I would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2010.
With warm regards,

Vaneeta Podewils
President

CIRCLE LEADERS

The Written Word

Gita Devi Kapurthala 9810149150
Erica Chammas 9958436655
Reva Singh 9810135716

Gourment Delights

Sylvia Kaelin 9811376569
Rosy Sahni 9899117527

Pack a Bag: Voyages Limite

Barbara Bilman 9711371006
Sheila Ghataate 9868125252
Niti Judge 9810564346

Know Your City

Nandita Lahiri 9811988366
Emma Horne 9810579143

International Interaction

Gugu Anup Singh 9811007710
Fanciskano Toscano 9958555179
Josefina young 9810009634

Art Appreciation and

Museum Tours

Bina Deogun 9810136589
Marie Eve Celio 9711201457

Burning Issues

Nina Malhotra 9811031436
Rita Garekhan 24339740

Performing Arts

Nandini Pattini 9350818773
Radhika Birla 9811222402
Ala Madhu 9999986573
Ariane Gray 41756516

Relaxed Moments

Niru Kapur 9810076063
Leena Singh 9810032426

Secret of Good Health: Yoga

Anita Dua 9810989433

Fun and More

Nima Malhotra 9810128029
Meera Juneja 9810347333
Kelly Jarvis 9958870714

Tete a Tete over a meal

Bindu Talwar 9818077882
Vibhuti Sharma 9811061461

Shake a Leg

Vibhuti Sharma

Speak in Delhi like a Delhiite

Bina Deogun 9810136589

WRITTEN WORD



The Book Circle will be reading 'The curious Incident of The Dog in the Night' by Mark Haddon. A fascinating story of a young boy afflicted with Aspergers Syndrome (a form of autism). Sonya Phillip of 'learning Matters' will lead the discussion on learning disabilities .

Date : Wednesday, 2nd December, 2009
Time : 3:00 pm
Venue: Residence of Smita Divan
B-39, Gulmohar Park
Tel : 9811770405

Limit : 30

INTERNATIONAL INTERACTION

Visit to Turkey by WIC members

The members of the group will exchange their impressions and experiences of their visit to Turkey - a country replete with history, architecture, culture and theosophy followed by Turkish tea and delights.

Date : Thursday, 3rd December, 2009
Time : 3:00 pm
Venue : Residence of Mrs. Malini Khanna,
156, Mehrauli Gurgaon Road, Sultanpur, New Delhi.
Tel : 9811706601

Limit : 30

BURNING ISSUES



Rape-Compounded

A powerful film on the burning issue of rape, whose incidence is rising disturbingly, will be screened. It will be followed by a discussion by the film maker Dr Lavlin Thadani. She is passionate about socially relevant issues and has produced or directed about one hundred films. She is an alumni of the Pune film institute and has a doctorate in Russian literature from Moscow State University.

Date : Monday, 7th December, 2009
Time : 2:30 pm
Venue : Hungarian Cultural Centre
1-A, Janpath, New Delhi

Limit : 35

THE PERFORMING ARTS



Fun and Dance at The F Bar & Lounge

Enjoy an afternoon of 'Salsa' followed by tea at the popular F Bar, a 24X7 party and event destination at The Ashok.

'Salsa Es Vida' means 'Salsa Is Life'.... Originating in the Caribbean, the 'Salsa' is a Spanish dance form mixing African and European dance influences through music and dance fusions. It is a vibrant dance with a lot of passion, fluidity and quickness.

A performance by professional 'Salsa' dancers will be followed by a short workshop especially organized for those who truly believe ... "Salsa Es Vida"

Date : Tuesday, 8th December, 2009
Time : 3:00 pm
Venue : Hosted by Mrs. Ala Madhu at
The F Bar & Lounge
The Ashok
New Delhi
Tel : 9999986573
Limit : 50-60



KNOW YOUR CITY

Heritage Walk in Red Fort Led by Surekha Narain

This morning we have arranged a Heritage Walk in and around the Red Fort. Our walk will be led by Surekha Narain, who runs a fascinating programme of Delhi walks. In Surekha's company we will be able to visit areas of the Red Fort not normally open to the public including the Hammams (Royal baths) and the Moti Masjid and she will give us an insight into the Moghul architecture with references to the Taj Mahal and other buildings of this period.

So put on your walking shoes, bring your water and join us for an informative and enjoyable morning. I am sure we will all learn things about the Red Fort that we didn't know before!

Date : Wednesday, 9th December, 2009
Time : 10:30 am
Venue : Red Fort, Old Delhi – exact meeting
place will be informed as we are trying to
arrange car parking at the Fort
Cost : Entry Fees

GOURMET DELIGHTS



Rhea our guest for September is an inspiration for the first time cooks because her recipes are easy to follow. She has traveled the world and has brought for us savories from different parts of the world. She will demonstrate Asian wasabi prawn cocktail, Middle-eastern feta and mint cheese rolls, European parmesan, crisps, Chinese chicken wontons, Lebanese grilled peppers, guacamole, curd and honey dip. Ladies please make full use of this interesting afternoon and you are expected to contribute Rs. 100/- towards the food.

Date : Friday, 11th December, 2009
Time : 11:00 am
Venue : Residence of Deepak Chopra
E-2 Defence colony
Tel: 9810074136
Cost : Towards the cost of ingredients Rs. 100/- for the Lavish Spread

TÊTE A TÊTE OVER A MEAL

Dining Out at Oh! Calcutta

One of the few restaurants in Delhi to offer authentic Bengali Cuisine. Food from this part of the country has a distinct flavour, rather different from the typical North Indian dishes one is familiar with. Bengali food is famous for the variety of fish preparations quite often uniquely flavoured with mustard.

Date : Friday, 11th December, 2009
Time : 8:30pm
Venue : O'Calcutta-E block International Trade Towers, Nehru Place
(This restaurant is located right next to the Eros Intercontinental, formally called the Park Royal)
Cost : Approx. 900 per head –Drinks extra.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME

By Frenny Billimoria for Art Lovers

Exclusive presentation of contemporary works featuring a curatorial walk and Meet-the-Artist Session at the Lalit Kala Academy. The show features close to 150 contemporary art works by 37 prominent Indian and International artists. This is followed by tea.

Date : Monday, 14th December, 2009
Time : 3:30 pm
Venue : Lalit Kala Academy
Tel : 9811286353
Limit : 30

PACK YOUR BAG TO ORISSA

Welcome Friends. Get ready to pack your bags to visit the ancient city of Orissa in January. Kalinga of the Mauryan age and Utkala of Mahabharata, popularly is known as Orissa today. It boasts of splendid architecture and culture. The scenic beauty of the place so much overpowers your spirit that the poet inside you is awakened.

So lets seek the blessings of The sun god at the famous Kkonark temple and enter 2010 with new spirit, vision and enlightenment. Please contact- Niti Judge, Sheila Ghatate and Barbara Bilman at the earliest.



LUNCHING OUT AT NATHU'S SWEETS

Once a regular hangout for the arty crowd, from the Mandi House Area. The Nathu Sweets outlet at Bengali Market is today more of a curious mix between a landmark institution and inexpensive snack joint.

Come and join us for the experience in street food-an absolute must in Delhi!!

Date : Tuesday, 15th December,
Time : 1:00 pm
Venue : 23-25 Bengali Market, New Delhi
Cost : Rs.200 per head

In My Absence

In one of my lonely moments
Engrossed in the storyline...
of my new novel... I wondered
In a state of self delusion, self hypnosis
What will happen when my main character dies?
Fear of death revealed
Vaguely, concretely or subtly...
Or in most refined manner
What will happen of 'me'
When 'I' die... will 'I' really die?
My character whispered, softly...
Yes, time will come, you will vanish
You will exist nowhere...

Obviously my character could say so...
As he had no biological existence.
But I am real... I have a body
Which is always projecting, acting, asserting itself...
Then... will my organs reabsorbing themselves
Will my consciousness sink within myself...
Is my body my 'real' reality...
Is my body my authentic Being... is it What?
With all these thoughts
Convincing myself of my existence
My consciousness got fragmented.
And I watched the whole flow of thoughts.

Suddenly to traverse time and space
My books came to my rescue
My writing filled me with inequitable power
My courage never stopped creating myself
I felt, I was there breathing softly
Inside the cover of my books
Asserting myself with domineering inertia of matter
N explicit happened... and I felt
I will not die...
As life is mental activity.
In one's psyche... an act of behaviour
Life is only a continuity of habit.

- Dr. kusum Ansal

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1. Please pay your membership subscription at the earliest.
 2. We would appreciate if you could inform us to email your New letter

With all our love

We all wish Mrs. Amarjeet Bhagwant Singh, Mrs. Shireen Khemchand, Mrs. Raj Nanda
and Mrs. Urmila Sahay good health

DECEMBER 2009

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--|--|--|--|--|-----|
| | | 1 | 2  Written Word 3:00 pm | 3 International Interaction 3:00 pm | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7  Burning Issue 2:30 pm | 8  The Performing Arts 3: 00 pm | 9 Know Your City 10.30 am | 10 | 11 Gourmet Delights 11:00 am Tête a Tête over a Meal 8.30 pm | 12 |
| 13 | 14 Special Programme 3:30 pm | 15 Lunching Out 1.00 pm | 16  General Meeting 3:00 pm | 17 | 18 | 19 |
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