



Volume IV

Newsletter of the Women's International Club

GENERAL MEETING

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



Who brings the presents on Christmas? Santa Claus? Little Jesus? Or the Three Wise Men?

Where do they put the Presents? Inside a sock hanging from the fireplace? Or in a shoe, by the Christmas Tree?

Are the Angels bringing an illuminated tree on Christmas Eve?

What is the Austrian "Gluehwein"? And the Portuguese "Rabanada"?

Advent is the time to prepare for Christmas. The combined circles International Cuisine, a

Pot of Cultures and Wonderful World have the great pleasure to invite you for an afternoon tea at the Austrian Residence.

Come and share with us some of the smells and flavors of this season of colors and lights while listening to Christmas Carols performed by the Delhi Vocalists Chamber Choir.

Please come wearing Christmas colours. If you like, bring one Christmas sweet from your home, state or country to share with us on this special occasion! Please get in touch with Anita Dua, 2nd Vice President, Programmes or Iris Vogel, Hospitality Chairperson to co-ordinate.



Date : Wednesday, 10th December, 2014

Time : 3.00 pm

Venue : Austrian Residence, EP-13,
Chandragupta Marg, Chanakyapuri

Hostess : Joana Daniel - Wrabetz

RSVP: Hospitality Chairperson, Iris Vogel, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001

WVIC NEWS
December 2014

Executive Committee
2014 / 15

President

Kiran Anand
Kiranand41@hotmail.com

1st Vice President (Circles)

Maria Allgeier
Mar.allgeier@gmail.com

**2nd Vice President
(Programmes)**

Anita Dua
Anitadua@rediffmail.com

Membership

Sunandini Kapur
Sykapur@gmail.com

Treasurer

Veena Dass
Veenadass1@gmail.com

Hospitality

Iris Vogel
Irisd.vogel@gmail.com

Secretary

Leena Singh
Leena_s455@hotmail.com

Newsletter

Sarah Schwering
Sarahschwering@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Ladies,

There is a slight nip in the air...wow winter cometh. With it cometh a "festive" December calendar for all at WIC.

Circles have joined hands and the December General Meeting is a not to be missed afternoon. Christmas and more.

The camaraderie and harmony with which the circles and the executive are working is equivalent to 'many in body but one in mind'. Every request, demand etc. is greeted with a smile and a single sentence 'no problem'...interactive all the way.

Aha the BANK ...your executive is still at work with the bank and the registration office to meet with all the new formalities and soon, very soon, we should have an account to put away the club funds.

Greetings for a peaceful and healthy Christmas. May you and your families shine and rejoice together.

Kiran Anand

SPECIAL EVENTS

This is a very special circle created for our members. It is a circle that creates events beyond borders, catering to a larger group and with no special agenda but something unusual. We have the freedom of expression to come up with something new and never explored before.

We shall be creating events that have multitude facets of different cultures culminating into a whole and we are very excited about what we shall come up with.

We shall open these events to SHOM as well as to the wives of the external ministry so that we get a larger viewership as these events will be larger than life.

Watch out for these events.

Lise Fredriksen
Natalie Maria Daalder
Ileke Indrakesuma

Anita Meattle
Sunita Kohli

CONDOLENCES

With great sadness we inform you of the passing away of two long time WIC members.

Ajinder Dugal passed away peacefully on the 11th of October. An active member until the end, many of you will have seen Ajinder at the October 8th GM, which she attended.

Amarjeet Bhagwant Singh, President, 1982-1983, passed away on the 20th of October 2014.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to both the families.

ARTS AND MUSEUMS

Movie on the Spanish Artist Antonio López García

In December, Arts and Museums is pleased to share the works of Spanish artist, Antonio López García, through the medium of a movie, *El Sol del Membrillo* or *The Quince Tree Sun*, made by Victor Erice. At the 1992 Cannes Film Festival, the film won the Jury Prize and the FIPRESCI Prize.

The film centers on Spanish painter Antonio López García (who acts himself in the film) and his attempt to paint the eponymous quince tree. López struggles to capture a perfect fleeting moment of beauty on canvas, and the film meticulously chronicles his work.

Born in 1936, Antonio López García is a well known artist both in his country and internationally. Solo exhibitions and retrospectives of his works have been held at prestigious museums such as Reina Sofía Museum and Thyssen-Bornemiza, Bilbao Fine Arts Museum in Spain and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, USA.

Date : Monday, December 15th, 2014

Time : 3.00 pm

Venue : Instituto Cervantes of New Delhi
48, Hanuman Road, Connaught Place (Tel: +91 11 43681900)

Limit : 35

RSVP: Hospitality Chairperson, Iris Vogel, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001

THE LIBRARY

Madhu Jain

Madhu Jain is an author, an art curator and a journalist, who has written on culture, society, the arts, and politics for more than three decades now. She has held senior positions at two of India's foremost newsmagazines, *Sunday* and *India Today*. She is currently the Editor of "IQ" a new quarterly magazine dedicated to a slow and deep inquiry about modern India. Madhu's first book was called "The Kapoors: The First Family of Indian Cinema" and in 2000, she curated an exhibition on kitsch and the contemporary imagination in Delhi, called "Kitsch Kitsch Hota Hai".

Date : Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014

Time : 11 am

Venue : 2B Tata Apartments, 23 Prithviraj Road

Hostess : Niti Judge

Limit : 25

RSVP: Hospitality Chairperson, Iris Vogel, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001

Arts and Museums

Seema Bhalla 9316120551
Radhika Birla 9811222402
Sunaina Suneja 9811059724

Healing Touch

Shakuntala Dawesar
9811440101
Janie Haskell 9717422055
Surrinder Sarna 9811701071

High Tea, a Celebration

Shawn Runagres
9811300610
Gugu Singh 9811007710
Bindu Talwar 9818077882

Indian Heritage

Sunaina Aggarwal
9810400482
Josien Bansema - Cost
8586930950
Leena Singh 9810032426
Suneeta Trivedi 9910335938

International Cuisine, a Pot of Cultures

Zahra Echarif 9560694953
Trhas Gutsche 8800409933
Christine Samandari
9910400276
Joana Daniel Wrabetz
8588829652

The Library

Lakshmi Chandra
9910000254
Marjan Franzen 9650118773
Gita Devi Kapurthala
9810149150

Travel Desk

Emma Horne 9810579143
Parbeen Kaur 9810625869
Devika Anand Puri
9810010547

Wonderful World

Nayana Goradia
9873441744
Ala Madhu 9999986573
Elena Petrov 8375824750
Jeannie Tien 9810669647
Iris Vogel 8826144001
Josefina Young 9810009634

Women of Substance

Kusum Ansal 9810016006
Sunita Kohli 9811101080
Antje Lux 9717773100
Neena Malhotra 9811031436
Eliese Steiner 882688666
Sandra Walker 9560682956

Special Events

Natalie Maria Daalder
8527355022
Lise Fredriksen 011 24617980
Ike Indrakesuma
Sunita Kohli 9811101080
Anita Meattle 9811199111

INDIAN HERITAGE

Akshardham Temple

Please join us for a visit to Delhi Akshardham. This temple complex, built in only five years and consecrated in 2005, features a blend of architectural styles from across India. The temple is surrounded by sixty acres of beautiful lawns and lush gardens, known as Bharat Upvan (Garden of India).

Akshardham holds a Guinness World Record as the world's largest comprehensive Hindu temple and is considered a showcase of India's ageless art, borderless culture and timeless value.

For those who would like to have a bite to eat, there's a nice vegetarian restaurant inside the temple complex (optional).

Please note that cameras, mobile phones and other electronic devices are not allowed inside!

Date : Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014

Time : 11.30 am

Venue : Swaminarayan Akshardham
National Highway 24, near Noida Mor, New Delhi

Meeting Point : At the temple entrance

Limit : The more the merrier

RSVP: Hospitality Chairperson, Iris Vogel, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001

HIGH TEA, A CELEBRATION

A surprise tea party so be prepared to spend a good afternoon!

Date : Tuesday December 9th, 2014

Time : 3.00 pm

Venue : 27 Aurangzeb Road

Hostess : Veena Dass, 9811292020

Limit : 30

RSVP: Hospitality Chairperson, Iris Vogel, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001

TRAVEL DESK

Picnic at Tikli Bottom

Do please join us for a day trip to Tikli Bottom, the delightful home of Annie and Martin Howard. The day will include a visit to Martin's School which thanks to the enthusiasm and energy of Martin and his team has been transformed into a wonderful educational establishment for the local children. After the visit to the school we will relax and picnic in the delightful garden at Tikli. The weather should be at its most perfect for a relaxing day out.

We will car pool so do let Parbeen or Emma or Devika know if you will have space in your vehicle, or arrange with your friends to travel together. The plan is to meet at the car park next to Nehru Park at 10 am - on the road behind the Australian Embassy. The journey to Tikli will take about an hour depending on traffic conditions. We will return in the afternoon as per individual preferences

Please bring a savoury picnic to enjoy in the garden. Annie Howard is graciously providing us with drinks and dessert.

Date : Monday, December 8th, 2014

Time : 10:00 am

Venue : Meeting point at the car park next to Nehru Park, on the road behind the Australian Embassy

Hostess: Annie Howard

Limit : None

RSVP :

Emma Horne, horneemma@yahoo.co.uk, 9810579143

Devika Anand Puri, devikaanand@hotmail.com, 9810010547 or

Parbeen Kaur, parbeen.kaur@gmail.com, 9810625869

CLUB MATTERS

- Ladies who would like to help out with snacks and / or hosting circle events please get in touch with Iris Vogel, Hospitality Chairperson, Irisd.vogel@gmail.com, 8826144001.
- The Travel Desk regrets to inform that the planned weekend trip to Nagaur has had to be cancelled due to insufficient participants

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A very warm welcome to our new members

AQUILINA Ann
(Amb John)
Malta, 2014

N 60 Panchsheel Park
New Delhi 110017
E. annaquilina@me.com

GRAY HUBERT Ariane
(Vijay Phadke)
France, 2014

J 10 Green Park Main,
2nd Floor, New Delhi 110016
M. 9871492722
E. contact@arianegrayhubert.com

PINI SOOD Joanna
(Abhinav)
USA, 2014

49 Regency Farms
PO Sawan Public School, Chatterpur Road
New Delhi 110074
M. 9911149000
E. joannapini@hotmail.com

BAYOUMI Dalia
(Dr. Ahmed El Saman)
Egypt, 2014

E 64 Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar
New Delhi 110057
M. 8527512181
E. daliaelhakeem@gmail.com

RUECK Sonja
(Alexander)
Germany, 2014

F 138 Malcha Marg, New Delhi 110021
M. 8527176664
E. sonjarueck@web.de

The DCWA Bazaar takes place on December 7th from 10am to 6pm.

A TRIBUTE

Tributes to our dear recently passed members, Ajinder Dugal and Amarjeet Bhagwant Singh

AJINDER DUGAL

Dear All,

It is difficult to believe that Ajinder is no longer there. I had complimented her on her "new look" at the GM and then again at the meeting at L'Opera. Her last months seem to have been happy ones. It showed on her face, and her new hairstyle was looking really good. She had just come back after being with her daughter in New York for 4 months. She looked happy and I am glad Bani, her daughter was with her. May her soul rest in peace.

Anita Meattle

AMARJEET BHAGWANT SINGH

Amarjeet Bhagwant Singh, President WIC 1982 - 1983, found release from this mortal world on the 20th of October 2014. Until it was physically not possible, Amarjeet was so much a part of the Club, always ready and willing to extend help whenever needed. Hospitable, kind and generous, she always put her best foot forward, exuding elegance in her lovely silks, exquisite shawls and beautiful jewellery. A stickler for punctuality she never failed to attend a meeting on time, simply because it was courteous to do so. Her long life was nobly lived. She will be remembered with great affection.

When I visited her last, she did not really know me any longer. I stopped going thereafter. I did not want to be intrusive.

She was a true Lady.

Gita Devi Kapurthala

PHOTOS FROM THE OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING



DECEMBER FESTIVALS

Bodhi Day, December 8th. It was on this day in 596 BC that the Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. It was here he came to several realisations which were to become the principles of modern Buddhism after fasting and meditating for a week and the basis of The Noble Eightfold Path and Four Noble Truths were born.


Bodhi Day, is celebrated as a day of remembrance and meditation. Often, coloured lights are strung about the home, symbolising the many pathways to enlightenment. They are turned on evenings from December 8th for 30 days. A candle is also lit on these days to symbolise enlightenment. In homes, you will sometimes see a Ficus tree and on Bodhi Day, these are decorated with multi-coloured lights, strung with beads to symbolize the way all things are united, and hung with three shiny ornaments to represent the Three Jewels - The Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. A meal of rice and milk is significant on this holiday as according to legend, Sujata offered this to the Buddha upon his awakening to help him regain strength.

Hanukkah, December 17th – 24th. Hanukkah is known as the festival of lights and the Feast of Dedication celebrated by the Jewish community all over the world. The festival lasts for eight nights where a candle is lit every night on a menorah. The literal meaning of Hanukkah is to dedicate. The Jews regained control of Jerusalem and rededicated the Temple on that day. There is series of rituals each day. Addends to the daily prayer are made and an additional prayer is added on to the blessing after a meal. Many families give each family member and even friends one gift per night. Additionally, people eat an abundance of fried food during this time to celebrate the important role oil plays during Hanukkah celebration. There are three kinds of blessings which are recited throughout this eight day festival. Some families sing Hanukkah songs instead of lighting candles. Other activities include making baked goods such as pastries, cookies and other traditional Jewish food and playing games.

Christmas, December 25th. Christmas is celebrated by Christians, to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Christians believe that Jesus is the son of God, the Messiah sent from Heaven to save the world. It is believed that Jesus was born to Mary in Bethlehem around two thousand years ago. Jesus was born in a manger because there was no room for him and for his parents, Mary and Joseph. The word Christmas comes from "Cristes maesse", an early English phrase that means Mass of Christ. Christmas is a festival that fills joy, happiness and love in people's life. On this day, people go to church, sing carols, take part in special religious services, exchange gifts, decorate their homes with holly, mistletoe, lights, ornaments and Christmas trees and organize family gatherings. On Christmas Eve, churches around the world hold evening services. At midnight, most churches hold special candlelight services.

New Years Eve, December 31st

WIC PROGRAMMES DECEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 THE LIBRARY 11 AM	3 INDIAN HERITAGE 11:30 AM	4	5	6
7	8 TRAVEL DESK 10 AM	9 HIGH TEA, A CELEBRATION 3 PM	10  GENERAL MEETING* 3 PM	11	12	13
14	15 ARTS & MUSEUMS 3 PM	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	* Combined with Wonderful World and International Cuisine, a Pot of Cultures		