



# WIC *News*

## The President's Letter - November, 1998

Dear Members,

November is the month we definitely need to put away the frothy styles of summer! Silks and woollies, come out of storage at last....we shall be needing them now.

May the weather gods be kind, for this is a lovely time for dining out of doors. New birds, visitors from colder climes, enchant us with their song while they hop about the garden. The aroma of peanuts, roasting in little earthen pots, replaces the cry of the ubiquitous ice-cream wallah!

The back lanes of our homes will resound to the twang and thump of the cotton carder, as quilts are refreshed and renewed with heaps of fluffy cotton...these are some of the November smells and sounds.

The gorgeous festivals of Dussehrah and Diwali are behind us with the year racing towards its conclusion, but December yet awaits us with much merriment in store...

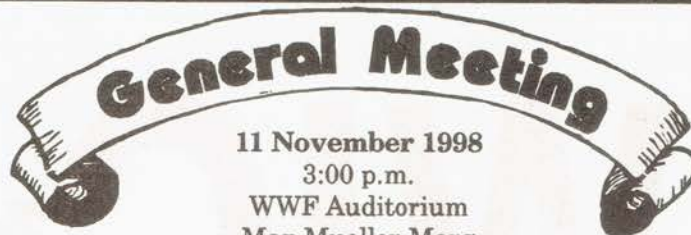
Thus it is quite natural if our thoughts turn towards 'The Winter Wardrobe,' which must, of course include shawls! I hope, Belinda Wright, our guest for the November General Meeting, will persuade us all to shun the famous "shahtoosh" shawl, unquestionably linked to the extermination of an endangered species, and look, instead, at the range of fabulous alternatives, including the newly manufactured 'look alike,' which has to be seen to be believed.

So ladies, please a very firm NO to 'shahtoosh' from now on.

Wishing you all a joyous Thanksgiving.

All good wishes,

President



11 November 1998  
3:00 p.m.  
WWF Auditorium  
Max Mueller Marg

## "FASHIONED FOR EXTINCTION"

**F**or centuries, people were led to believe that 'shahtoosh' came from wool shed seasonally by wild goats of the Himalayan Ibex. When the truth emerged that slaughtered antelopes were the source of 'shahtoosh', and that this precious new wool is the main barter item for tiger bones from India, the conservation world was stunned and the fashion trade moved into action. A prominent India wool trading company has spent many years developing a fabric that has virtually the same weight, texture and warmth of 'shahtoosh'.

Belinda Wright, one of India's most renowned conservationists, whose exposé on the 'shahtoosh' trade brought the critical connection in the grizzly trades that have brought two animal species to the brink of extinction, to the attention of the fashion world, will speak to us. Belinda will also show us a positive way to avoid the temptation to patronize the trade by introducing us to a beautiful alternative.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIN OF OFFICE

**I**n 1970, a group of like-minded ladies in Delhi, both from the Indian and International community, gathered together at the IIC for the purpose of promoting international understanding and cooperation, and finding ways of how to best interact with each other's way of life. Out of this get together was born the Delhi International Women's Club (as it was then known) on the 11th of November 1970. Mrs. Vijaya Laxmi Pandit (sister of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and former Chairperson of the United Nations General Assembly) was the guest speaker on this occasion. She was not only an Indian lady of stature, but also had a prominent international background.

Shakuntala Mahesh Chandra, the first President of the Club (1971-72) handed over the reigns of the office to Louise Schouten from the Netherlands. At the annual general membership meeting of 1973, I was elected President (1973-74). During the turnover, we were all pleasantly surprised when Mrs. Schouten put a Tibetan necklace on my neck, and announced that henceforth it would be the symbol of office of the President, and it would be handed over to the succeeding incumbents. The name of the club was later changed to **Women's International Club - Delhi** "in order to bring it in line with other Women's International Clubs around the world, thereby enabling us to affiliate with such clubs and offer reciprocal memberships."

During my incumbency, I organised a competition for a Club Logo. The prize was awarded to Joanna Douglas, A South African member and wife of the British Airways' representative in Delhi, on 31 October 1973. In 1976, a delegation from the Ville de Nice Women's International Club visited us and presented a Medallion of their Club. This Medallion is also handed over with the "Presidential Necklace" to the incoming President each year and the tradition carries on.

*Deep Duggal*

## *From the Editor*

**N**ovember is a time when the whole of Delhi wakes from the slumber of the summer months. The flowers start to bloom and the city bustles with life and activity. The pleasant climate invigorates the texture and tempo of Delhi life. International conferences and meetings and trade fairs are held side by side with various social engagements like bazzars, melas, dinner-dance balls in and all around the city.

November is also a time for Thanksgiving, specially in North America. Thanksgiving is usually a family day, celebrated with big dinners and joyous reunions. The very mention of Thanksgiving often calls up memories of kitchens and pantries crowded with good things to eat. Yet, Thanksgiving is also a time for serious religious thinking, church services and prayers. In the United States, the fourth Thursday of November is observed as Thanksgiving Day.

As such, I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and succeeding ones. All contributions are welcome.

*Priscila R. Confiada*

# Circle Programmes



## BOOKS

**M**r. K. Natwar Singh, a distinguished diplomat turned politician, held various portfolios as Minister of State, will talk to the club on his book "**Profiles and Letters**". At a very young age, he came into intimate contact with world renowned personalities-some of whom are mentioned in his book. He has also written a book on his wife's grandfather, the legendary Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala called the "Magnificent Maharaja". Mr. K. Natwar Singh is the recipient of the prestigious Padma Bhushan Award.

**Thursday 5th of November at 3.00 p.m.**  
at the residence of Pushpa Vadera,  
20-E Prithviraj Road,  
Tel Nos. 301-2021, 301-6552  
**Limited to 35 persons**



## "KALI FOR WOMEN"

**U**rvashi Butalia, feminist activist and writer, will address us on 12th November 1998. She has been publishing since 1972. In 1984, she felt a need for a publishing house that would serve the cause of women's writing. The imprint "**Kali for Women**" appears on some of the contemporary writing in India. She will share the challenges she faced in building this landmark institution.

**Thursday, 12th November 1998 at 3.00 p.m.**  
At the residence of Jyoti Wazir,  
C-515 Defence Colony  
**Limited to 40 persons**

## Errata

### GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMME

has been moved to Friday October 23, 1998  
at 3.00 pm. same venue instead of 21st October  
Please re-confirm with Hospitality.

## Recipe for Living

**C**ome let us together discover healthy ways of **COMMUNICATING** with each other and enhance our **CREATIVITY** for stress-free joy-filled lives.

The ways in which we normally communicate with each other, often gives rise to moments when misunderstandings, real or imagined, have disturbed our peace of mind. This in turn prevents us from obtaining the results and the fulfillment we all seek for that most precious of needs: a tranquil mind.

Mr. Ravi Boothalingam will explore with us some simple and hopefully enjoyable methods and exercises, through which we can improve our **COMMUNICATION** skills and unlock the **CREATIVITY** that lies dormant within each one of us.

Ravi Boothalingam is the President of the **OBEROI GROUP**. He was also Head of Personnel Worldwide with **BAT plc** (London). Ravi is an Experimental Psychologist with a Masters Degree from Cambridge University, UK and an AMP from Harvard University, USA.

**Monday, 2nd November 1998 at 3.00 a.m.**  
at the residence of Elizabeth Perchard  
No. 16 Kautilya Marg  
Tel. No. 611-1834  
**Limited to 30 persons**



## CULTURE/ PERFORMING ARTS

**I**ntroducing New Zealand "**Land of the Long White Cloud**"- featuring Pip Hill. Come and share New Zealand's rich culture in a programme that will highlight the country's songs, dances, food and beautiful sights.

**Wednesday 25th November, 1998 at 3:00 p.m.**  
at the resident of Moina Simcock  
New Zealand High Commission  
50-N Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri  
**Limited to 40 persons**



# NOTICE BOARD

CELEBRATING  
**28th**  
YEAR

## 1. Members of the Welcome Committee WIC 1998

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| a) Deep Duggal - <i>Convenor</i> | j) Mona Aggarwal    |
| b) Maki Mehta                    | k) Darshan Inderjit |
| c) Kamla Sondhi                  | l) Dhun Mehta       |
| d) Sushma Nanda                  | m) Smita Divan      |
| e) Shanno Khurana                | n) Abidha Qazi      |
| f) Dolly Dadachanji              | o) Noni Singh       |
| g) Bapsi Nariman                 | p) Anita Meattle    |
| h) Nandita Lahiri                | q) Kiran Anand      |
| i) Rupa Sahni                    | r) Indu Sahni       |

New Members, Please Call Mrs. Deep Duggal - Convenor for further information, Tel. Nos. 556-3525, 91340010 (Please note that all Delhi telephones will change in November)

2. We say goodbye to Carol Measham

3. We welcome the following new Members :

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) Lindy DRUMMOND - <i>Australia</i><br>C665 New Friends Colony<br>New Delhi 110065<br>Tel : 692 3226  | e) Ayfer TANGOR - <i>Turkey</i><br>Turkish Embassy<br>50 N Nyaya Marg<br>New Delhi<br>Tel : 688 9101    |
| b) Titiek Asiati ISNIANTO - <i>Indonesia</i><br>Indonesian Embassy<br>A8/22 Vasant Vihar<br>New Delhi 110057<br>Tel : 614 9065                         | f) Martien VANDERSMISSEN - <i>Belgium</i><br>C 506 Defence Colony<br>New Delhi 110024<br>Tel : 469 2987 |
| c) Kathy MOIGNARD - <i>Australia</i><br>Australian High Commission<br>1/50 G Shanti Path<br>Chanakyapuri<br>New Delhi 110021<br>Tel : 688 8223 ext 226 | g) Madhumanti SENGUPTA - <i>India</i><br>D 4 Hauz Khas<br>New Delhi 110016<br>Tel : 651 8253, 651 3248  |
| d) Angelina TAILLANDIER - <i>Germany</i><br>C217 A Defence Colony<br>New Delhi 110024<br>Tel : 464 5154  | h) Barbara WITTENBERG - <i>Holland</i><br>15/9 A Sarvpriya Vihar<br>New Delhi<br>Tel : 686 3299         |

4. When proposing a new Member for the Club, please note the following :

- 4.1 The proposer and seconder must have been a member of WIC for at least one year.
- 4.2 The new Member, must attend a General Meeting, where she is introduced to members of the Executive Committee, before submitting the application.
- 4.3 Ensure the form is completed in full, especially listing interests and activities.

5. **Saturday, 28th November 1988--International Bazaar**

Well worth a visit, this scheduled Bazaar is one of November's big attractions. All for a worthy cause. Ashoka Hotel grounds from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

6. **Please Note : The Newsletter Editor does not deliver NewsLetters.**

## NOTIFICATION

All proposals which carried the vote at the EGM in March 1998 and the AGM in May 1998 have been compiled. These in turn have been carefully scrutinized by a Review Panel, specially appointed for the purpose. These are now ready to be incorporated into the revised, updated Constitution. However, prior to doing this, it is necessary to have your approval on the following few points. These are being circulated to you now and we shall ask for your vote by a show of hands at the General Meeting on the 11th of November. Thereafter, the Constitution will be reprinted and distributed to the membership in November.

### 1.1 Amendments to the Constitution:

Article V--Officers, Section V-- Duties

#### (b) *First Vice - President*

(3) to approve programmes, supervise and co-ordinate activities with the help of Group Leaders and to find venues for them.

#### (g) *Membership Chairperson*

(7) to review monthly the membership lists and to ensure the smooth retirement of members in the 3 year and 10 year category

### 1.2 Amendments to the By-Laws:

1.2.1 Article III-- Membership

**Section 2-Ratio.** (This is merely to regularize the present position, as members who originally joined as 'International Members' have stayed on permanently)

(c) 10% of the total International membership shall be reserved for foreign members who are permanent residents of India.

1.2.2 Article VI-Nominations

#### Section 2

(c) The committee on Nominations shall be comprised of women who have been members of the Club for a minimum of two years and at least one of whom shall have served on the Executive Committee

(d) All members of the Committee on Nominations shall make themselves familiar with the Constitution, on the duties of each member of the Executive Committee and the Guidelines for the Committee on Nominations

(e) All members of the Committee on Nominations shall meet at least three times before finalizing the slate for the Executive Committee



## THANKSGIVING

**T**hanksgiving Day is a day set aside each year for giving thanks to God for blessings received during the year. On this day, people give thanks with feasting and prayer. The holiday is celebrated in the United States and Canada.

The first Thanksgiving Days in the American colony of New England were harvest festivals, or days for thanking God for plentiful crops. For this reason, the holiday still takes place late in the autumn, after the crops have been gathered. For thousands of years, people in many lands have held harvest festivals. The American Thanksgiving Day probably grew out of the harvest home celebrations of England.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a family day, celebrated with big dinners and joyous reunions. The very mention of Thanksgiving often calls up memories of kitchens and pantries crowded with good things to eat. Thanksgiving is also a time for serious religious thinking, church services, and prayer.

Between 1893 and 1938, Thanksgiving Day in the United States was celebrated on the last Thursday of November. But in 1989, President Franklin D. Roosevelt set it one week earlier. He wanted to help business by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas. The U.S. Congress ruled that after 1941 the fourth Thursday of November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal federal holiday.



## Special News

### HONOURED MEMBERS

**Two successive Executive Committees have held a ballot in order to decide whether the category of Honoured Members should be retained. However, in each case, the requisite mandate of a 2/3 majority, present and voting (under Article X of the Constitution) could not be arrived at. Hence, the category of Honoured Members stands. Honoured Members will be required to pay annual dues and will have the same obligations as ordinary members. The Guidelines will include strict criteria regarding this category.**

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Recipe for Living Home of Elizabeth Perchard 16 Kautilya Marg 3:00 p.m.	3 Hazrat Ali Birthday	4 Guru Nanak's Birthday	5 Books Home of Pushpa Vadera 20-E Prithviraj Rd. 3:00 p.m.	6	7
8	9	10	11 Fashion for Extinction 3:00 p.m. WWF Auditorium	12 Focus Home of Jyoti Wazir C-515, Defence Colony 3:00 p.m.	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>Excursion Shimla 11-16 November</b>						
22	23	24	25 CULI UHE Home of Moira Simcock 50-N, Nyaya Marg, Chankyapuri 3:00 p.m.	26	27	28 DCWA International Bazaar Ashoka Hotel
29	30 International Cuisine & Garden Home of Dr. Vimla Rajan L-21, Green Park 11:00 a.m.					