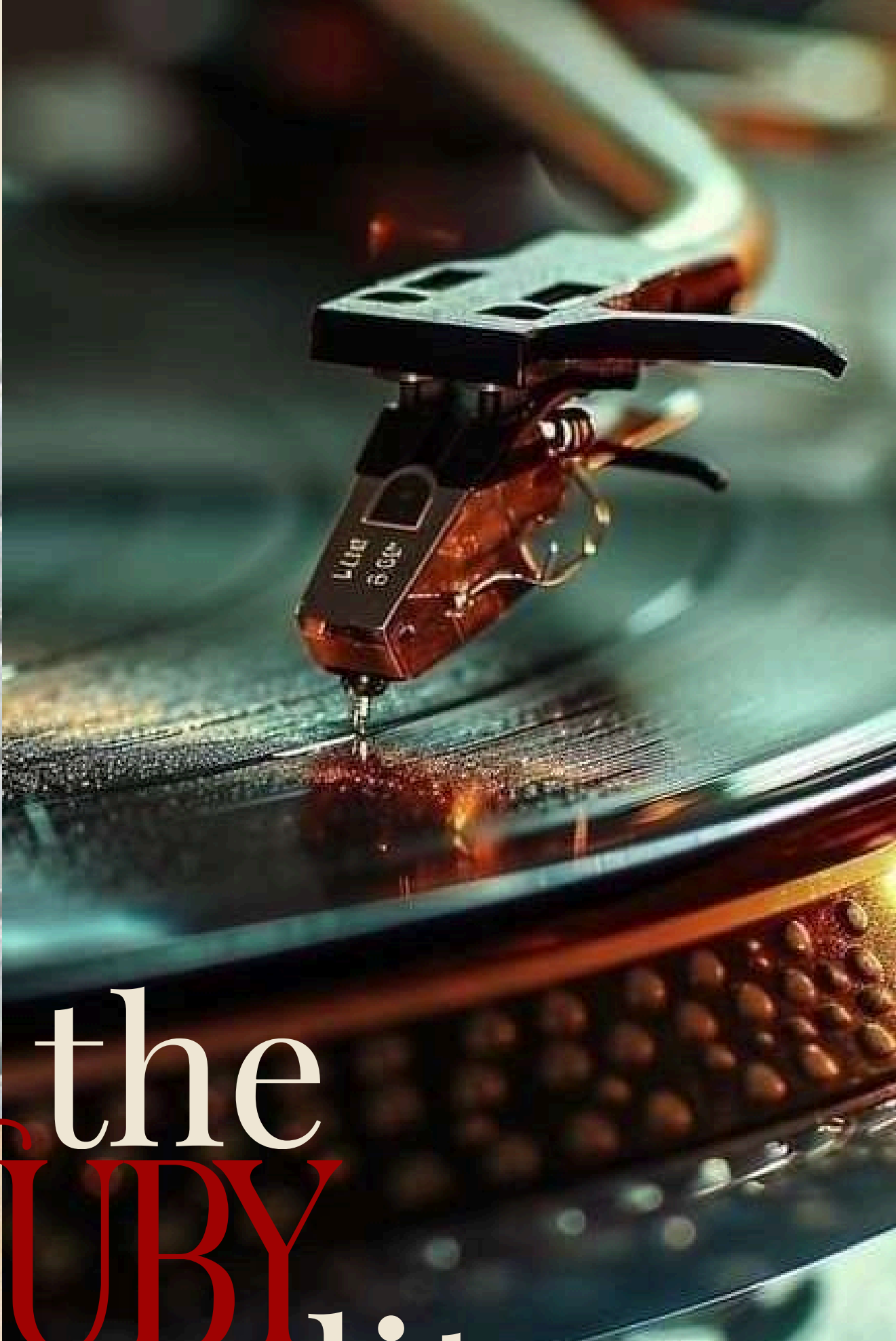
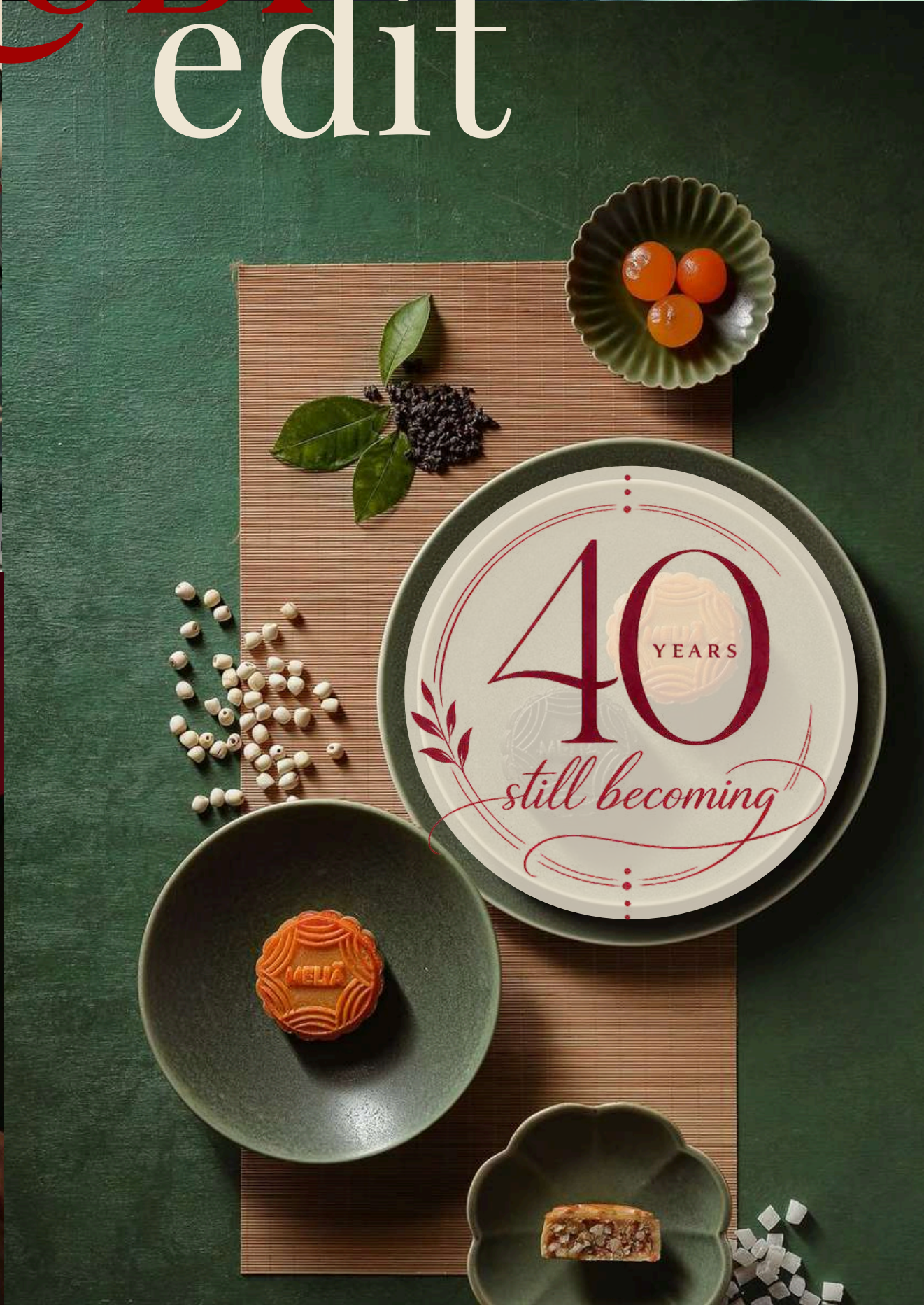




OCTOBER 2026



the RUBY edit



October
AT A GLANCE

Utsav

*Celebrating life, culture, creativity and connection.
A month of stories, traditions, experiences & togetherness.*

01 THU	International Music Day Board Event Shamiana, Madras Club 10:15 am	
06 TUE	Breast Cancer Awareness Health & Ecology Apollo Proton 3.15 pm	
08 THU	Writing Workshop Book Discussion Library Cafe @ Alliance Fracaise 10.15 am	
15-17 TRIP	Kolkata goes Maximal Durga Puja Immersion Trip History, Culture & Tours	
23 FRI	Gulaab - IWA Diwali Celebration Board Event ITC Grand Chola 11.45 am followed by lunch	
28 WED	Deo Bagh - a Garden, a Legacy History, Culture & Tours Shamiana 10.15 am	

Click on the  to go to the meeting page.



from the **PRESIDENTS**

Dear Members,

October is here, and with it, a season of sparkle, joy, and togetherness! We're calling it ***Utsav*** - *a celebration of life, culture, creativity and connection.*

1st October – International Music Day at Madras Club

A morning of melodies and memories as we honor the cherished legacy of our dear Nirmal Seshadri. A heartfelt thank you to **Nirmal Mirza** and the **Music Committee** for generously sponsoring this event.

13th October – Nominations Open

A special chance to welcome extraordinary women into our circle and make IWA shine even brighter.

15th - 17th October – Kolkata goes Maximal : Durga Puja Immersion

The highlight of our season! Bengali culture at its finest.

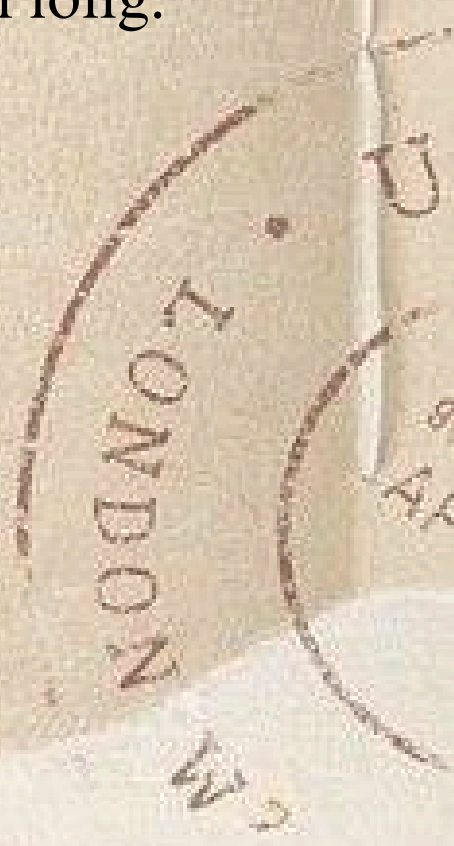
23rd October – Gulaab: IWA Diwali 2026

A glamorous crescendo to the art of celebration and an exclusive preview of an extraordinary space specially opened for IWA to enjoy.

Our Activity Chairpersons have planned a month filled with inspiration, fun, and fellowship to keep the festive spirit flowing. Here's to love, laughter, lasting memories. We can't wait to celebrate with you all month long.

Forty years of friendship. Still becoming.

With warmth,
Deepali Goyal & Swati Reddy



from the MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Dear Friends,

If you are planning to sponsor a worthy candidate for IWA membership this year, please be present with all the necessary documents on **Tuesday, 13th October 2026 between 10 am and 12 pm at Madras Boat Club, 3rd Avenue, Boat Club Road, Chennai 600 028.**

Please check the September newsletter for more details on sponsoring a candidate. In addition to all the documents mentioned in the September newsletter, please make sure that a **passport size photograph** of the candidate is also included.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The sponsor and/or co-sponsor should carry these documents to the stated venue and hand them over personally.

We look forward to this wonderful opportunity to add talented personalities to our vibrant organization

Thank you.

With warmth,
Roshan Poncha

from the
**MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY**

Change of Address:

Shefalii Dadabhoy
16 Rutland Gate, 4th Street,
Chennai 600-006

Chandra Lulla
Apt 7B, 103 Chamiers,
Chamiers Rd, R.A. Puram,
Chennai 600-028

Farida Majid
No.1 Vennu Gopal Avenue,
Spur Tank Road,
Chetpet, Chennai 600-031

Nirmal Mirza
No. 15, Casurina Drive,
Neelangarai, Chennai 600-041

Preeya Reddy
2A Adya Chaitanya,
8/11 Venus Colony, First Street,
Chennai 600-018

Naaz Tyebbhoy
C1916, 19th floor Giardino Altezza,
Rajiv Gandhi Salai,
OMR Perungudi, Chennai 600-096

ROSHAN PONCHA

MEET OUR TEAM



DEEPALI GOYAL
98404 42260
deepali_gyl@yahoo.com



SWATI REDDY
98841 77777
swati_reddy@yahoo.com

PRESIDENTS



SHEETAL PARAKH
98400 27222
sheetalparakh@gmail.com



GEETHA MUTHUSAMY
93804 24699
saathvika@hotmail.com

**VICE-
PRESIDENTS**



ROSHAN PONCHA
98403 50510
roshanponcha@gmail.com



CATHERINE REDDY
73583 87519
catherinecapozzi@gmail.com

SECRETARIES



NIRUPA SUNDARAVADANAN
98402 34623
bss_nimmu@yahoo.co.in



NIRMALA RAJA
97891 11000
pvnirmala_raja@me.com

TREASURERS

Managing Committee

MEET OUR TEAM



RACHITA CHOUDHARY
95000 42397
rachita.aman@gmail.com



MANISHA SINGHEE
98410 35003
manisha@singhee.com

ARTS &
HANDICRAFTS



SHEFALII DADABHOY
97898 8995
shefnochef@gmail.com



ANJALI SACHETI
98840 56000
anjali456@gmail.com

BOOK
DISCUSSION



ANURADHA UBEROI
98410 42520
anuradha@uberui.net



COOKING
SWAPSHOP



TULSI REDDY
98401 70863
tulsireddy21@gmail.com



ARTHI BEZAWADA
99947 78696
arthibez@gmail.com

CURRENT
EVENTS

Activity Chairpersons

MEET OUR TEAM



DEEPIKA GOYAL
98410 86752
goyaldeepika@hotmail.com



STEFANIE ANDRUCHOWITZ
63802 83166
s.andruchowicz@gmail.com

HEALTH &
ECOLOGY



NIDHI THADANI
89390 76660
nidhithadani@gmail.com



MAHIMA PODDAR
93810 63421
m@thekindnessfoundation.in

HISTORY,
CULTURE
& TOURS



PARVATHI NAYAR
98840 14576
thottakat@gmail.com



ROHINI GOPINATH
99890 98640
rohinigopinath@hotmail.com

MUSIC &
PERFORMING
ARTS



SABAH SHIRAZI
98400 68538
sabshi@hotmail.com



ALINA BURNETE
91768 87203 / +44 7594948271
alina.burnete@gmail.com

PHILOSOPHY
& RELIGION

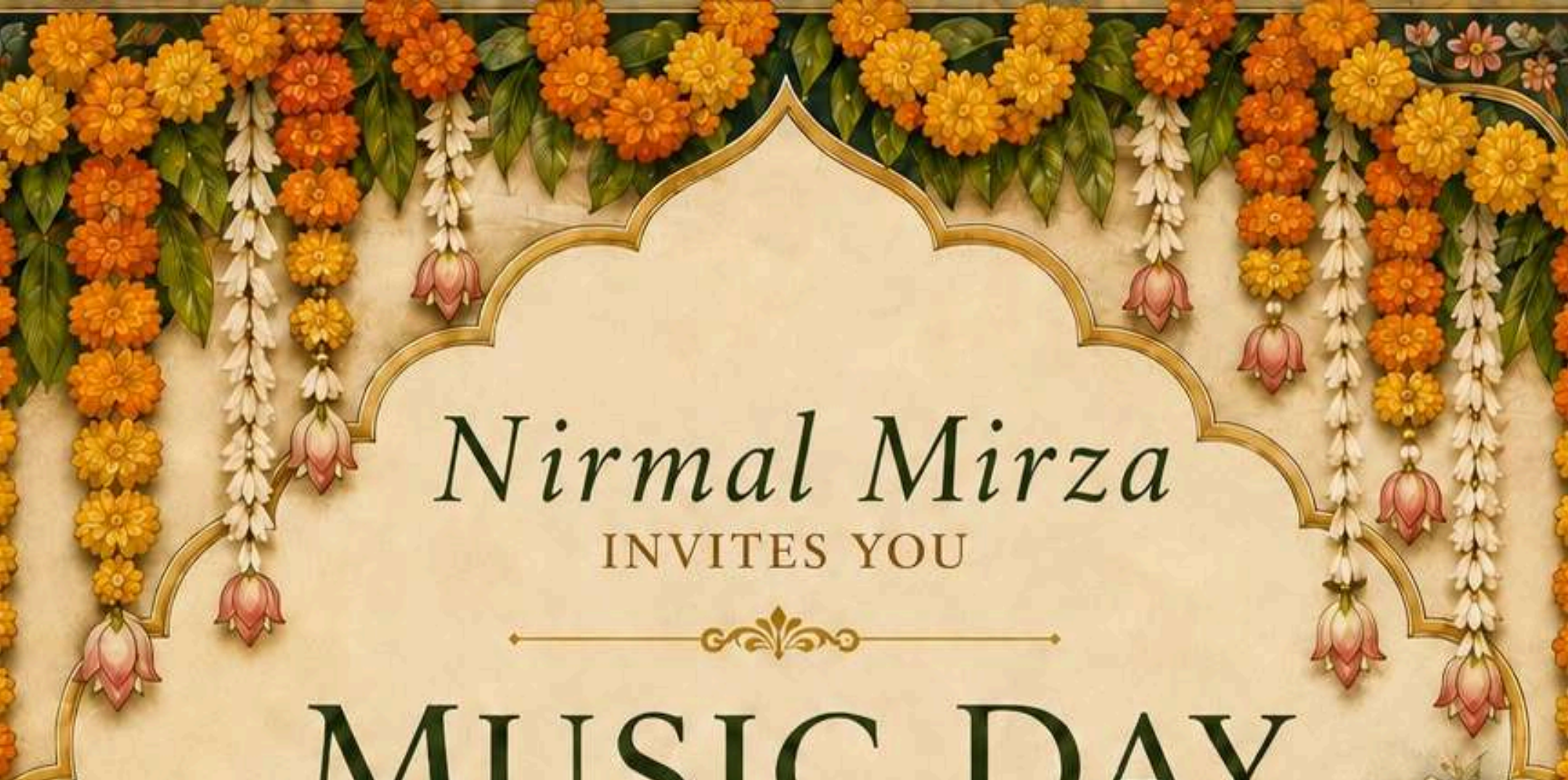
Activity Chairpersons

Heartiest CONGRATULATIONS

To Jeyasree Ravi
on becoming a grandmother

To Vidya Gajapathi Raju Singh
for winning Gold in 50m Freestyle, 50m
Breaststroke and 100m Breaststroke & Silver in
100m Freestyle at the
22nd Masters Swim Championships.





Nirmal Mirza

INVITES YOU

MUSIC DAY



FEATURING

Pranjal Ghatak

Acclaimed Flutist

Child Prodigy

*Immerse yourself in a morning
of soulful melodies as the enchanting
bansuri weaves a magical journey
through tradition and timeless artistry.*



THURSDAY
1 OCTOBER 2026



10:15 A.M.



SHAMIANA,
MADRAS CLUB

DRESS CODE:

*Celebrate tradition in
shades of yellow and green.*

CLUB DRESS CODE:

*Ladies to be decorously attired.
No faded or torn jeans allowed.*



MUSIC COMMITTEE

NIRMAL MIRZA INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY

Date: Thursday, 1st October

Time: 10:15 am

Venue: Shamiana, Madras Club

8, Adyar Gate Club Road

R.A Puram, Chennai - 600018



17 GOING ON 70 - THE SOUND OF MUSIC Meet Pranjal Ghatak, a Wizard with the Bansuri

Close your eyes and feel his sound - warm, lush, and all-encompassing. One understands why the bansuri has been a quintessential Indian sound since the time of Krishna. It beckons, promises to mesmerise, and tugs at your heartstrings.

Pranjal Ghatak, 17, has been learning to master the bansuri for a mere ten years, but he brings a confidence and presence to his performances that are far beyond his years.

He is a Senior Scholar at the ITC Sangeet Research Academy, training under Shri Paramananda Roy and guided by Padma Bhushan Ajoy Chakrabarty. He has received numerous awards and accolades, and is the proud recipient of the Telegraph School Award for Excellence for three consecutive years. He was also honoured with the Telegraph Online Edugraph 18 Under 18 Award for Outstanding Talent in Music, where he was ranked first.

We at IWA are privileged to recognise young Pranjal and present him with the IWA Music Award, instituted in memory of our Founder, **Smt. Nirmal Seshadri**.

This celebration of music is proudly presented with the support of Nirmal Mirza and the IWA Music Committee led by Ramani Reddy with Anupama Shivaraman, Jansi Kishore, Padma Ashok and Suchitra Girish, for their dedicated efforts in bringing such exceptional talent to IWA. Our thanks to Sushila Nataraj for her support with the citation. Please join us in celebrating the power of music and the brilliance of a rising star.

Dress Code Ladies: *To be decorously attired. Faded or torn jeans are not acceptable. This is a members-only meeting.*



HEALTH & ECOLOGY



DR. SELVI RADHAKRISHNA
DR. VENKAT RAMAKRISHNAN

Hope, Healing, & Beyond
Navigating the Breast Cancer Journey



Tue | 6th October | 3:15 pm
Apollo Proton Cancer Centre



DEEPIKA GOYAL & STEFANIE ANDRUCHOWITZ



Date: Tuesday, 6th October
Time: 3:15 pm (afternoon event)
Venue: Apollo Proton Cancer Centre
4/661, VSI 1st Street
Dr Vikram Sarabhi Instronics Estate Phase 2
Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai 600096

HOPE, HEALING AND BEYOND: Navigating the Breast Cancer Journey

Join us for an **intimate fireside chat** shedding light on the full continuum of **breast cancer care**—from honorings, diagnosis and treatment to life after survival. Featuring a **young breast cancer survivor, a breast surgeon, and a reconstructive surgeon**, this panel brings together personal courage and medical expertise to explore emotional resilience, advanced surgical options, and post-treatment reconstruction.

IWA is honoured to welcome **Dr. Selvi Radhakrishna, Senior Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon** and founder of Chennai Breast Centre, and **Dr. Venkat Ramakrishnan, Senior Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon** and an internationally renowned specialist in breast reconstruction. Their extensive experience and expertise will bring valuable medical perspectives to this important conversation.

Whether you seek to learn, support, or find inspiration, step into a compassionate space dedicated to honoring survivor journeys and championing holistic recovery.

We are most grateful to **Dr. Preetha Reddy, Executive Vice Chairperson** of Apollo Hospitals, for **hosting us at this special venue**, and our members Vidya Singh for supporting us with the venue and Indira Srinagesh for connecting us to the speakers.

DEEPIKA GOYAL & STEFANIE ADRUCHOWITZ

IWA

Crafting WORLDS with WORDS

AN IMMERSIVE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Got
stories
in you?



WITH
**VASUSRI
JHAVER**

Educator, entrepreneur
and founder of
The Scribble Society.

EXPECT



WRITING
PROMPTS



CREATIVE
EXERCISES



SHARE
& LISTEN



INSPIRATION
& FUN

YOU'LL LEAVE WITH...

FRESH IDEAS

NEW PERSPECTIVES

WORDS THAT ARE YOURS



THURSDAY
8 OCTOBER 2026



10:15 AM



LIBRARY CAFÉ
ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE OF MADRAS
24, College Road, Nungambakkam
(Opp. Good Shepherd Matriculation
Higher Secondary School)

SPACES ARE LIMITED.

PLEASE RSVP TO

Shefalii +91 97898 89955 | Anjali +91 98840 56000

SHEFALII DADABHOY & ANJALI SACHETI



Date: Thursday, 8th October

Time: 10:15 am

Venue: Library Cafe @ Alliance Francaise of Chennai
24, College Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai 600006

CRAFTING WORLDS WITH WORDS: An Immersive Creative Writing Workshop

*Forget all the rules on the page,
Let your wild imagination take stage!
With prompt-based delight,
We'll learn how to write,
And unlock your inner creative sage!*

Are you ready to break past rigid grammar rules and rediscover the sheer joy of language? **Whether you are an aspiring novelist, a casual blogger, or someone looking to sharpen your daily communication**, true storytelling begins with observation and an open imagination.

Join us for a **fun, prompt-based creative writing masterclass led by Vasusri Jhaver**. Known for her signature philosophy that "*writing goes beyond rules*," Vasusri creates vibrant literary spaces where pop culture icons like Darth Vader meet the quirky logic of Sheldon Cooper. This workshop is designed to help you shake off creative blocks, look closely at the world around you, and construct unforgettable narratives.

Vasusri Jhaver is an educator, entrepreneur, and lifelong lover of words. A **gold-medallist postgraduate** originally from Kolkata and now based in Chennai, she **founded The Scribble Society** in July 2024 to mentor children in creative writing and engage adults through immersive poetry and novel studies.

Space is limited so please warn in to Shefalii (+91 97898 89955), or Anjali +91 98840 56000).

SHEFALII DADABHOY & ANJALI SACHETI

IWA CHENNAI PRESENTS



KOLKATA GOES MAXIMAL



Three days.
One extraordinary city.

15 – 17 OCTOBER 2026

KOLKATA GOES MAXIMAL

Three days. One extraordinary city.
15–17 OCTOBER 2026



**This Durga Puja, come with us to a Kolkata that refuses to be understated - where Art. Faith. Food. Fashion. Dance. Design. come together in one spectacular celebration.
And a little bit of madness.**

15 OCTOBER | THE CITY UNFOLDS **ART • FAITH • SPECTACLE**

Arrive in Kolkata and begin at the Kolkata Centre for Crafts, going behind the scenes of a Durga Puja pandal with the artist who created it - exploring the inspiration, artistry and making of the spectacle. Then it's time for South Kolkata Pandal Hopping - extraordinary installations, lights, artistry and the electric energy of Durga Puja. Return to Taj Bengal for a curated dinner.

16 OCTOBER | THE CITY EXPLODES **FASHION • DANCE • PHOTOGRAPHY • CONTEMPORARY CALCUTTA**

Start with a leisurely breakfast before our Bengali transformation. Drape a Bengali sari. Learn the Dhunuchi dance. Playfully embrace Sindoor Khela. And capture the moment in photographs. By evening, we travel back in time to OLD CALCUTTA. Vintage. Elegant. Theatrical. Step inside the world of Frieze and Art Basel artist Suhasini Kejriwal, discovering Calcutta through her eyes. Then unwind at a sundowner at Glenburn Penthouse, with spectacular city views, old-world music and the lights of Calcutta stretching before us.

17 OCTOBER | THE CITY LINGERS **HERITAGE • PUJA • BONEDI BARIS • FOOD**

An early start takes us into North Kolkata for more pandal hopping and visits to magnificent Bonedi Baris — ancestral homes where Durga Puja has been celebrated for generations. Then back to the city for a leisurely farewell lunch on Park Street before heading to the airport.

**KOLKATA DOESN'T DO UNDERSTATED.
NEITHER SHOULD WE.**



GULAAB

IWA DIWALI 2026





GULAAB IWA Diwali 2026

A Ruby Year Social Celebration

A morning of roses, revelry and a little bit of nostalgia.

Join us at **ITC Grand Chola** at **11.45 am** for an exclusive preview of **63GC** — a new dining experience where vintage music, gourmet cuisine and modern design come together. And because no IWA celebration is complete without a little play, discover our **Gulaab-themed interactive stations**, including the much-loved **Khazana** stall.

DRESS CODE 🌹 **Elegant as a Rose** 🌹

Enchanting. Dramatic. Impossible to miss. Celebrate the **Ruby IWA Year** in shades of rose, crimson, scarlet and everything in between.

Deepest Gratitude to **Banu Singh** and **Deepam Ravindran** for magnanimously sponsoring this festive meeting.

Where roses bloom and the Ruby year comes alive.

This is a members-only meeting.



ASHA RAM MOHAN
INVITES YOU TO A TALK ON
HERITAGE & RESTORATION



UMADEVI RAJE JADHAV &
ROHINI JADHAV
in conversation with
VIDYA GAJAPATI RAJU SINGH

DEO BAGH: A GARDEN, A LEGACY,
A STORY OF RESTORATION



Wed | 28th October | 10:15 am
Shamiana, Madras Club

ASHA RAM MOHAN
INVITES YOU TO A TALK ON
HERITAGE & RESTORATION

Date: Wednesday, 28th October
Time: 10:15 am
Venue: Shamiana, Madras Club
8, Adyar Gate Club Road
R.A. Puram, Chennai - 600018



DEO BAGH: A GARDEN, A LEGACY, A Story of Restoration

Join us for a fascinating **mother-daughter conversation** moderated by our own Royal **Vidya Gajapati Raju Singh** on the story of **Deo Bagh Palace in Gwalior** — a remarkable garden palace built over five generations and comprising almost a dozen heritage structures.

Umadevi Raje Jadhav comes from the distinguished **Jadhav family of Gwalior**, one of the five major Sardar families of the erstwhile Gwalior State of which **Chattrapati Shivaji was a descendent**. She and her daughter **Rohini Jadhav** offer two generations of the family's perspective **on preserving** this remarkable heritage **and transforming** this historic family home into a **Neemrana Heritage hotel**, while retaining its character, history and deep connection with nature.

Home to more than 30 species of birds within Gwalior's municipal limits, Deo Bagh has also **received the coveted Heritage Classic Award from the Government of India**.

Umadevi Raje Jadhav is a heritage and conservation writer and speaker with a background in education and journalism. Her interests include heritage, textiles, the environment and organic farming.

Rohini Jadhav is a Los Angeles-based production designer and art director, trained in architecture, who has worked across international and Indian film productions.

We are deeply grateful to **Asha Ram Mohan** for graciously hosting this meeting,

Dress Code

Ladies: To be decorously attired. Faded or torn jeans are not acceptable

MEETING GALLERY

COOKING SWAPSHOP



MEETING GALLERY

CURRENT EVENTS



MEETING GALLERY

BOOK DISCUSSION



MEETING GALLERY

HISTORY CULTURE & TOURS



MEETING GALLERY

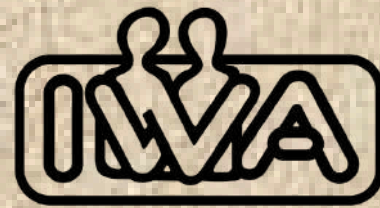
HEALTH & ECOLOGY



MEETING GALLERY

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS





HELPLINE

NOT RECEIVING NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL OR IDN

Roshan Poncha | 98403 50510 | roshanponcha@gmail.com

Sheetal Parakh | 98400 27222 | sheetalparakh@gmail.com

CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP STATUS OR

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST

Roshan Poncha | 98403 50510 | roshanponcha@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE RECORD OR BYE-LAWS COPY

Nirmala Raja | 97891 11000 | pvnirmala_raja@me.com

CHANGE IN DIRECTORY DETAILS

(Address | email | phone | mobile)

Roshan Poncha | 98403 50510 | roshanponcha@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sheetal Parakh | 98400 27222 | sheetalparakh@gmail.com

MEETING SUGGESTIONS

Deepali Goyal | 98404 42260 | deepali_gyl@yahoo.com

Swati Reddy | 98841 77777 | swati_reddy@yahoo.com

HOSTING A MEETING

Deepali Goyal | 98404 42260 | deepali_gyl@yahoo.com

Swati Reddy | 98841 77777 | swati_reddy@yahoo.com

Sheetal Parakh | 98400 27222 | sheetalparakh@gmail.com

**Please call between 10.00 am & 6.00 pm Monday to
Saturday**

FOUNDER MEMBERS

**Nirmal Seshadri - Lakshmi Padmanabhan - Nancy Dean
Saroja Ramamrutham - Anneliese Hazari - Sunita Shahaney - Reva Singh**

PAST PRESIDENTS

1986–1988	Nirmal Seshadri	Nancy Dean
1988–1990	Vanitha Mudaliar	Barbara Clarkson
1990–1991	Sunita Shahaney	Janet Picken
1991–1992	Nirmal Mirza	Stina Vasu
1992–1993	Malini Vijayaraghava	Maureen Hudson Murari
1993–1994	Nanditha Krishna	Aruna Vijaykumar
1994–1995	Lily Madhok	Margaret Sekharan
1995–1996	Zubeida Asgarali	Khinthida Lwin
1996–1997	Alagu Muthu	Poonam Lalchand
1997–1998	Rupa Kadhiresan	Anneliese Hazari
1998–1999	Shyla K. Rau	Megan Utley
1999–2000	Gayatri Bewoor	Chandrika Chidambaram
2000–2001	Javanthi Singaram	Eira Doshi
2001–2002	Rani Chada	Seema Sait
2002–2003	Kusum Chadda	Meyyammai Murugappan
2003–2004	Sushila Natraj	Elaine Wood
2004–2005	Vidya Singh	Padma Ashok
2005–2006	Princess Naik	Rathi Nilakantan
2006–2007	Seema Bhargava	Amulya Rao
2007–2008	Kamala Prasad	Raziyeh Sheerazie
2008–2009	Rani Ananth	Lynne Connor
2009–2010	Shobha Hebbar	Elizabeth Aston
2010–2011	Mridula Srinivasan	Uma Ganesan
2011–2012	Nina Kothari	Cherry Venkatesan
2012–2013	Ramani Reddy	Vijaya Rangarajan
2013–2014	Nita Reddy	Priya Asokan
2014–2015	Asha Rammohan	Jo Frogbrook
2015–2016	Achu Kurian	Malini Krishna
2016–2017	Nabila Avaïs	Jansi Kishore
2017–2018	Badrunnisa Mahadevan	Farah Bangera
2018–2019	Usha Jawahar	Mahvash Sait
2019–2020	Nidhi Kapoor Thadani	Anjali Sacheti
2020–2021	Jeyasree Ravi	Manisha Singhee
2021–2022	Tehnaz Bahadurji	Shobha Jesudasen
2022–2023	Jeyasree Ravi	Mangai Kamal
2023–2024	Ritu Sahi	Sanyukta Gill
2024–2025	Sadiya Khaleel	Stefanie Andruchowitz
2025-2026	Somna Sachdev	Jinwah Park

IWA REGISTERED OFFICE

C/o Golden Sunshine Services LLP

**No. 148/231, Royapettah High Road, Royapettah, Chennai 600 014
www.iwachennai.com**



the
RUBY
edit

