

Australian Residents & Anglo-Indian Association



ARAIA

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Chairman's Message



David Conquest

On behalf of ARAIA Committees and active members I wish all members and your families a very "Happy and enjoyable Easter".

Article 46.2 of the constitution of "ARAIA" has envisaged acquiring suitable land/ building to stabilize our operations, offering our community a Club Hall for Socials, Dances, Meetings & other Functions, akin to our Railway Institute, Halls in India, and a project to build/acquire a Home for the Aged.

Trustees have been given the task of raising funds for this cause.

ARAIA continues to build the "TRUST FUNDS" to achieve our goal of purchasing a suitable community centre.

We have had interest from a number of our members prepared to invest, but unless ARAIA raises "Trust Funds" to at least \$100,000 we cannot initiate any meaningful dialogue with investors.



Noel French
Finance

Our accounts for the year ending June 2012, briefly totals as under

Equity	
Contributed equity	\$ 6500
Reserves	\$ 2,900
Retained profits	\$ 45,777
Total Members' Funds	\$ 49,327

The trust fund as on 28th February in the bank has risen to \$ 37,176.

Any member who requires an audited copy of the accounts for the year ending June 30th 2012 can email info@araia.org.au and a copy would be emailed to them.

Any ideas, assistance or suggestions to help in building the Trust Funds, is welcomed. Please contact us as your input is important to us. Also, if you know of a possible asset to be purchased that suits our objective, please contact us.

ARAIA had its NYE function as usual, at the Don Moore Centre, Carlingford. Even though a lot of our committee members were in Calcutta for the 9th International AI, the remaining members put together a fabulous show. With two bands in attendance, members had a non-stop

supply of dance music which kept them rocking all night long.

Quite a few also mentioned that it was great to see so many of the younger generation there enjoying themselves. We will be organising similar functions, catering to the tastes of our younger members.

The success is attributed to the following that need special mention:

Sylvester Jacob for advice and organisation of the function.

Glynnis Soans for the skilful decorations, the hall so beautiful and attractive.

John and Elaine D'Silva for setting up the hall, and balloons.

Phillip Ellis for the decorations and giveaways.

Andrew Enos, an excellent job as MC, kept the guests rocking through the night.

Juene Walmsley and Jill Lord for the front desk and getting everyone to their tables.

Rebecca Ellis for the tasty food prepared and served on the night.



**We're on the web
www.araia.org.au**

“Report on the Anglo- Indian owned education Institutions in South India ”

by Max French



We had the privilege of spending two months in India and the good fortune of meeting the people that matter in the control of Anglo-Indian Institutions. Along with Noel French we have visited these establishments and were impressed with the enthusiasm, dedication and courage to rise above their levels to help the disadvantaged Anglo Indian families.

There is ample capacity in South India to cater for the indigent Anglo-Indian child.

Given below is a short account of the way in which they are meeting their objectives.

1. Doveton Corrie Schools.

The largest number of Anglo-Indian day scholars (over 500) are to be found in the Doveton Group of Schools, Chennai at its six (6) campuses.

Quote:

“Concessions are in place for tutorial fees for poor, deserving “bona fide” children.

Also for needy students - free breakfast, lunch as well as vitamin tablets, books, uniforms, conveyance fares etc;

Also highlighted that several parents of our financially disadvantaged students are employed by the Doveton Group of Schools, with no strings attached”.

In the words of the Chairman Hugh E. Wilkins, “ India is our Country, Doveton is our Home, we need every Anglo Indian child in Chennai to enrol in Doveton.”

Doveton has purchased a School near Perambur to accommodate the large number of Anglo Indians living there & also at Madhavaram.

Financially very stable, Doveton

Finances support shortfalls in FINS at Chennai.

2. St. Georges Chennai.

This citadel stands a mute spectator to the changing sands of time from British Rule to present free India but it has always stood for the purpose of serving the under privileged child of the **Anglo-Indian** community for which it was founded.

The priority of the institution is for the very destitute taken at any period of the year. Understand that they have received a Financial windfall from the lease of Land to metro railway and in the process of building new dormitories. The largest number of Anglo Indians boarding under one roof is found in their boarding establishment.

Geoffrey Francis the correspondent in charge of this institution stated needy children will be accepted wholeheartedly.

3. St. Georges, ketti.

This exclusive, expensive Institution in a campus of over 300 acres, under a stable management has increased the needy Anglo-Indian content from 30 to 60 and is seeking more numbers to admit in advance of its centenary year in 2014.



Norman Woods is the Chairman ably supported by the Vice Chairman Chris Hawkes and the newly appointed Principal, Michael James.

4. Mountain Home Coonoor.

Owned by the Home Missionary Society of India (HMSI), it is an Anglo Indian Missionary society founded by the women of the community.

Located on the Blue mountains, Coonoor, South India in Idyllic surroundings, Mountain Home caters exclusively for the boarding and education of disadvantaged Anglo-Indian girls..



HMSI has a number of Auxiliaries in India. There is an auxiliary in Sydney that supports 14 children out of the 20 presently in the boarding home.

The prominent active members are Effie & Colin Martin, Stan & Vicky Fredericks, Pastor Robert Wright and Margaret, Colleen Shunker, Pam Peters & Darren French. Visit web page hmsi.com.au

They recently lost Edwin Fredericks whose life was dedicated to the cause of the needy Anglo Indian.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

BRUCE SOANS the Sydney Branch President



addressed the branch Annual Meeting and expressed his pleasure about the performance of the present Committees and the Annual events.

WELFARE:

Marina Soans – President of this committee, has done a wondrous job this year. Anyone in trouble, or someone who needs a shoulder to cry on, Marina has been there to try and help.



But, there is only so much a small committee can do. Marina! in spite of her own health issues has always been a rock.

The best events were the Bingo & Hop and Mother's Day functions and our Weekends at Crosslands Youth & Community Centre. Galston.

SPORTS:

Ashley Aviet – The Captain and President of this committee has a vital part in ARAIA's Sports. September 2012 he lead our ARAIA team players to win the Manglorian Cup, Soundly beating the opposition and Playing a great game of Cricket.

SOCIAL:

Peter Khare – President of this committee, has done a wonderful job this year, working very hard and has been very dedicated. His eventful thoughts at every Committee meeting has had a very inspiring touch with great success in the Planning and Preparation to each function. I suppose that there has been a hidden force behind his dedication, that is Tangerine Khare – his Wife. Who is always there by his side.

Yolande Gibbons. Yolanda's position as Social Secretary has been a Driving factor. A dedicated member of ARAIA driving each function successfully. Peter's other committee members who won't say no when help is called upon are **Mel Andrews, Elaine D'Silva and Jenny Scholfield,** and also **Benny & Colleen Hill** who are visible at the functions throughout the year and are always willing to lend a hand.



Mel Andrews Jenny Scholfield

FUTURE:

With New committees in place, Our concentration in the coming year will be on young families. Target is to get more functions on Sports, more get together for the Youth including camps and to have a Youth Committee.

The Elected members for the year are as under:

Councillors

David Conquest	Chairman
Max French	Hon. Secretary
Joe Dillon	Public Officer
Noel French	Financial Controller
Bruce Soans	Branch affairs
Hector Soans	Welfare
Ashley Aviet	Sports
Peter Khare	Social



Trustees

Ron Holmes - President



Audrey Murton
Vice President

Glynnis Soans
Secretary

Noel French
June De Souza
Max French

Treasurer
Member
Nominated
Councillor

Sydney Branch President

Bruce Soans



Membership Secretary
Win Conquest

Social Committee

Peter Khare	President
Yolanda	Secretary
Jenny Scholfield	Treasurer
Mel Andrews	Member
Tangerine Khare	Member
Elaine D'Silva	Member
John D'Silva	Member

Welfare Committee

Phillip Ellis	President
Marina Soans	Vice President
Elaine D'Silva	Treasurer
Hector soans	Member
John D'Silva	Member



Migrant Committee

Joe Dillon	President
Coral Dillon	Secretary
Margaret Gerrard	Member



Sports Committee

Ashley Aviet
President



Greg Manuel	Vice President
Michael Ryan	Member
Heather Ryan	Member
Avril Soans	Member



Avril Soans, John D'Silva, Elaine D'Silva & Tangerine Khare dependable and always in demand from all committees.

"International Anglo Indian Meet" by Yolanda gibbons.



I always I always find it exciting travelling to India even with all its bustling crowds, dust, yet this trip in January 2013 was very special to me as it was my 9th attendance to the World Anglo-India Reunion held in Calcutta. Calcutta was buzzing with all the overseas visitors like the good old days

The Meet & Greet and the Church Thanksgiving service at St Pauls brought back such golden memories for me as it was the church I used to attend while living in Calcutta in the early Sixties (60's). It was well conducted and thereafter a grand spread of food was laid out under the stars

The concert and the food festival at St James School gardens which is a great old Anglo-Indian school still standing strong and proud and a wing named after the Late Anglo-Indian Principal, Phyllis Fernley Pearson were other great highlights of my trip. The weather was not kind as most of the functions were held outdoors, but nevertheless most had a great time as we always do and who were happy to return to their adopted homes!!

9th International Anglo-Indian Reunion (Kolkata. Jan 6th to 12th 2013)

Excerpts from report: Courtesy Blair Williams—Abbreviated

Blair Williams is the founder and administrator of CTR (a USA NGO helping Anglo-Indians in India) and the publisher of the “Anglo-Indian Heritage series” (seven books on Anglo-Indian culture and way of life). He and his wife Ellen live in the USA. Website: <http://www.blairrw.org/ctr> email: blairrw@att.net. Here is his version of the reunion with comments – understand that these are his personal views, and his comments are made with affection and respect.

Firstly he states that CAISS are to be congratulated on staging what must be one of the best, if not *the* best International Anglo-Indian reunion. Up front the reunion was characterized by excellent organization. Also noteworthy was the attitude of the volunteers and leaders of the reunion committees – they met every request with patience and equanimity - despite some very impatient and rude demands – and were extremely helpful.

Jan 6th: The reunion started with a wonderful ecumenical service at St Paul’s Cathedral. The choir was excellent and their soaring rendition of “My God, How great thou art” reverberated in my mind for the whole week. It was then on to ‘Meet and Greet’ in the cathedral ground and over a thousand of us, from all over the world, met, in many cases after decades and renewed friendships. A warm glow of affection and happiness hovered over the entire event. Some good Indian cuisine - kebabs, fish fry, Biryani and excellent Bengali sweets only added to the enjoyment of the evenings.

Jan 7th: The reunion was officially inaugurated and followed by a “Symposium”. Rather a dull event redeemed by some home truths that surfaced. Out of all the formal verbiage came three concerns on the community in India.

- 1. The nominated MP’s and MLA’s are not using their resources adequately to help the community.**
- 2. The Anglo-Indian schools are not honoring their requirement to allocate at least 20% of their admissions to Anglo-Indian children.**
- 3. The community is not united (this was starkly brought home by a young Anglo-Indian speaker – the highlight of the symposium).**

Jan 8th: “Pub Quiz” – which I missed, but hear it was full of fun and enjoyable.

“Those were the days” – a musical presentation in the evening. A wonderfully stimulating evening with Priscilla Connors and Bryan Kennedy, Usha Uthup (Iyer), Shane Hyrapiet and many other distinguished Anglo-Indian singers entertaining for over two hours (with some fine team dancing in between), nostalgia. What an evening!

Jan 9th: Morning: “Anglo-Indian Superstar”– this community can sing and all the participants were so talented. Evening – choice between “River Cruise” and “Let’s go Country”. We attended the later at the Boat club and had a grand time with Western singing, dancing and a superb buffet and the mood was upbeat and happy.

Jan 10th: The “AI exposition and a Food festival”. The exposition was opened on the 8th and it closed on the 10th. There were many interesting exhibits and posters of prominent Anglo-Indians. CTR had a stall and sold the “Anglo-Indian Heritage Series” books. I had about 40 books sent across and they were sold out, and had requests for more. We have a plan to have the series published by AITW in 2014, so hang in there.

Jan 11th: Again a choice between “Kolkata Highlights” a bus trip; “A visit to Bandel” and “Catching up at the Rangers Tent”. In the evening there was a fund raiser at Bengal Taj “An evening with the Stars”. A most enjoyable event with wonderful singers and (yes again) appetizing food. A few of us who help CAISS were felicitated with a plaque and a scarf.

In my thanks, I mentioned a ‘fourth’ concern (remember the three from Jan 7th) – **Anglo-Indians in India are not helping their community adequately.**

Jan 12th: “Caring for the Aged of the community” held in the morning at St Catherine’s old age home.

“The Grand Ball” at Nicco Parks and Resorts. A fitting stage to the climax of the reunion. It was brisk in the night air, but the music and the food compensated for the chill. In all these events the emotional stimulus transcended the physical conditions and this was no exception. The fitting end to a memorable reunion.

In the final analysis we were again proud to be Anglo-Indian.

The Australian Residents Anglo-Indian Association Inc:-



The BOARD OF TRUSTEES presents
" The Maharajah's Grand Ball "

**The Annual Premier Fund Raising Function for its own
Community Centre.**



Dress Code: "Colourful and Dashing";
Dress in your finest rich silks, ROYAL 'gold dipped' outfits !! - dripping in jewels with Hookahs & turbans . A PRIZE for the best dressed Maharajah & Maharani



A colourful Bollywood show, **Exotic Bollywood dancers,**
Enchanting - two dance bands, non stop dancing to bollywood tunes **"THE LOOSE CONNECTIONS"** and **"The Silva Stars"**

Saturday 20th July 2013

**6.30pm to 11.30 pm at The Don Moore Community Centre
CNR. NORTH ROCKS ROAD & FARNELL AVENUE, Carlingford**

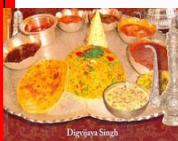
A grandly decorated hall, Auctions, raffles, door prizes, dance prizes,
Complimentary wines and nibbles on tables, Prizes galore !!
A Sumptuous delectable feast - fit for India's ROYALTY,
BYO all for the Ticket price of just \$40 each



Music:- Two Bands—Non Stop Dancing

"THE LOOSE CONNECTIONS" & "THE SILVER" STARS

Bollywood strains and of course dancing to our favourite Tunes !!!



Bookings:

Scrumptious Food provided	Adults (over 14yrs)	\$ 40
BYO DRINKS	Children (5-14yrs)	\$ 20
	Advance Table Reservations	\$10

TICKETLESS Function - Please deposit monies into "ARAIA TRUST"

BSB: 802 184 Acct #: 95756 or Contact any member below. If booking online please email your phone #, date, amount of deposit, list of attendees and # of children - to Glynnis Soans at glynniss@optusnet.com.au

**Non internet users: contact Bruce Soans: 0418 247 920 Yol Gibbons: 0404977620
Coral Dillon: 0246284152 David Conquest: 9896 0715 Marina Soans: 96291066**