

Australian Residents Anglo-Indian Association Inc.



News Letter January 2024

ARAIA

ABN 39 071 862 336

PATRONS: *Hector Soans OAM*
Noel French

Honorary Life Member:
Marina Soans

Dear Members,

Happy Easter to the whole family! I hope it's a family fun day for all of you. May hope and happiness fill your home.

Anglo-Indians, as in India dress up in their best, and attend church services. Afterwards, the day focuses on family togetherness, with a lavish Lunch or Dinner, thereafter, dancing in Railway institutes.

If we do miss seeing you at **ARAIA Easter dance**, we need you, for additional hands for festivities and events. A helping hand, greeting our elderly and everything in between. If you maybe interested please contact the membership secretary.

Failing Health of Senior members.

We recently shared news about the declining health of members who dedicated significant time and labour to build ARAIA. This Easter, let's remember Hector Soans and Mark Cotter in our prayers as they continue their recovery.

New Generation.

The "New Generation" was the central discussion point at this year's XII World Reunion in Canberra. It was **Elaine Roache's** presentation that garnered wholehearted support from leaders and scholars. India has committed to bring 200 Anglo-Indians between the ages of 18 to 40 years to attend the next reunion.

ARAIA will facilitate and extend students up to University level free at ARAIA functions. This initiative is likely to continue for others up to approximately 40 years, with ongoing discussions by Councillors about small fees and subsidies.

The community's future lies in their capable hands, as many have already graduated and hold responsible positions. Their ascent to greater achievements is only a matter of time. Prudence Ann Car MP of the state of NSW about 40 years, parents from Durgapur is currently the 20th deputy Premier of the state of NSW.

Annual General Meeting.

The Council cordially invites you to the Annual General meeting on **Friday, April 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM** at the **Guildford Leagues Club** in Guildford. Notices have been dispatched to both members and non-members.

Our objective is to encourage every proud Anglo-Indian member to participate. **All attendees are welcome to engage in the discussions on the agenda.** Eligible members who have kept their subscriptions current will have voting privileges. Please pass this message to every Anglo-Indian on your data base.

Look forward to your attendance.

Max French
Chairman, ARAIA

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The phrase '**Lest we forget**' is from a line in 1897, Rudyard Kipling, an Anglo-Indian poet. His poem is often sung as a hymn at Anzac Day services for Australians & New Zealanders.

God of our fathers, known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle line,
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget! - Lest we forget! Lest we Forget!

Mark Young

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our esteemed Founder and Life member of ARAIA. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family during this difficult time.



MARK LESTER YOUNG

30/07/1946—12/02/2024

Age 77 years

Mark migrated to Australia in 1964, blessed with three children, Carl, Kevin and Jeanine. He will be remembered for the contributions he made to our community through ARAIA. An excellent hockey player and an umpire in the games.

Our deep condolences go out to his family, who are shown below with members of ARAIA at the funeral.



XII World Anglo-Indian REUNION CANBERRA March 2024

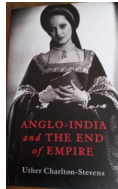


Joe Bailey and his family deserve credit for the event's success. Skilfully managed the proceedings and pricing. The events drew the community's finest, all deeply committed to their community's future. The budget was balanced.

Beginning with the "Thanks giving Service" at a historic church, followed by a packed hall to "Meet and Greet" that included Music by Terry Morris, and hosted by Maria Binny. A good start to an eventful week.



DAY 2 was followed by "The Anglo-Indian workshop of scholars and writers", taking us through the lens of our history. Among the new books published was by Dr. Uther Charlton-Stevens with Merl Oberon on the front cover was in demand.



Day 3 and Day 4 - Participants enjoyed sightseeing in Canberra and indulged in wine tasting at the vineyards near the city

Day 5 - The Annual General Meeting of the International Committee, was held where engaging discussions took place.

During this meeting, Gordon Maher was re-elected as the President, poised to lead the community in a fresh direction. The reunion witnessed a significant expansion, with the number of member organizations growing from 3 to 15. The All-India Anglo-Indian Association from New Delhi and the Anglo-Indian Suburban Front joined the fold.



Dr. Charles Dias assumed the role of Convenor for the upcoming XIII World Reunion, scheduled to take place in Cochin from January 11 to January 17, 2026. The twin cities of Fort Cochin and Ernakulum will host this exciting event. The hosting organization presented



Few members at the "GRAND BALL"

its plans. Estimated costs US \$400 for the week's functions. The attendees included Barry O'Brien, President-in-chief of the Anglo-Indian Association, who eloquently shared his insights.



The evening was the "Schools Gathering", a number of speakers. Michael King spoke on St. Georges Homes, Ketti, and said the school changed its name to honour its largest benefactor Sir Robert Laidlaw. A philanthropist, ventured to India as a draper's assistant, established a thriving retail business that extended across major towns in India and even further east, Singapore, Hongkong, Malaysia. His generosity, founded and built boarding schools such as The Calcutta Boys' Homes, Dr. Graham's Homes in Kalimpong, and St. George's Homes.

The evening was casual where school mates caught up with each other and danced to the Music of Conrad and Tanisha Macdonald.

Day 6 - The Seminar on the future of the community was eagerly anticipated. Unfortunately, the discourse was dominated by past events until Elaine Roache gave a compelling presentation on the topic that engaged the attention of the leaders and audience. This stimulating performance prompted scholars and policymakers to reassess their plans. Nonetheless, she pointed out that ARAIA in Sydney was already initiating steps towards the future.



THE GRAND BALL - An elegantly arranged contemporary venue, housed in a spacious hall. Two musical groups from Sydney and Melbourne set the rhythm for the evening.

The cream of the community graced the event. The night filled with dance and fun was broadcasted live to Canada, Australia, and India. A spectacular end to a week of activities.



Prominent ARAIA Members



ARAIA TRUST BOARD

This year's Annual Premier event in August is themed "GREAT GASBY", a Dinner and Dance extravaganza designed to draw the crème de la crème of society. The event is likely to offer discounted rates for students up to the university level.

The theme is inspired by "The Great Gatsby", the iconic novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and will typically feature fashion, jazz music, and a festive atmosphere evocative of the Roaring Twenties.

However, this event will have a modern twist, such as contemporary music with a vintage feel, LED lights or digital displays, complimentary champagne, wines, beers, and soft drinks upon entry and at your table, with Sydney city's best dance Band "The Silva Stars" to thrill you.

The menu features Greek cuisine tailored to international tastes, and attendees are to dress impressively to outdo closest competitors. There will be photographers, professional dancers to capture the unforgettable night of fashion, fun and music.

This event you won't want to miss. Secure your tickets now. Please refer the next page for more details.



The International Committee.

YOU CAN'T MISS IT!



ARAIA TRUSTEES

present their spectacular

GREAT
GATSBY
DINNER DANCE

AUG | 3 | 2024

6.30 PM

Fontana Amorosa Function Centre

51 Balmoral Rd, Blacktown

Be entertained by the dynamic 5 piece

SILVER STARS BAND

\$60

(adult)

\$30

(11-13yrs)

\$15

(5-10yrs)

price includes

Meze appetizers, Greek food buffet Dinner & Dessert
plus complimentary Coffee, Tea, Beer, Wine & Softdrinks

Deposit monies **ARAIA Trust Acct: Bsb: 611100**

Acct: 900077602 then text **Glynnis** the amount
banked, guests names & children's ages for door
list. **gsoans1@gmail.com** or **#0402078184**