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SIKH ASSOCIATION OF WA INC.

sawa



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Newsletter No.3 : Jan/Feb 2011

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1. Message from the President – Devraj Singh JP

Dear Sadh Sangat Ji,

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

Please let me welcome you to the first news letter of this year 2011.

Your committee is working hard to head start the new projects and completing the old ones such as the car park which has been completed with the line markings and kerbing. Special thanks go to S Kanwal Jit Singh for overseeing this project. The planting of the appropriate trees in the car park will be done, soon after the weather cools down.

The SAWA Planning and Development Committee (SPDC) is also working hard in planning a multipurpose building (Education and Library block) along with other projects based on the needs of the Sikh Community. They will be coming to you with the Master Development Plan for your input/comments soon, therefore you are requested to cooperate with them by giving your honest opinion on the projects.

The dementia Project is coming to its completion, thus a special function has been arranged on 27th March at Gurdwara Sahib. To give it a wider coverage, we have invited some ministers and other dignitaries along with other Indian communities. On behalf of the SAWA and the whole Sikh community, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Dementia Project Team for their hard work in completing the project successfully.

To revive and keep alive our Sikh Heritage, on 3rd of April, we are going to re-install the plaque at Adenia Park, the cremation site of our early Sikh settlers, with the assistance and co-operation of the City of Canning Council. We will be inviting some local members of Parliament to witness the event along with media. Please look for more information coming your way soon.

Vaisakhi Games – We, in conjunction with PCSC, are going to have our Vaisakhi games on 10th of April at Curtin University. Please look for more details in this issue and mark your calendar accordingly.

My humble request to all of you to co-operate and support the committee to enable us to conclude the programs on time by giving the secretary at least one week notice of your request to avoid disappointments.

A big thanks to all the langar donors and all the sewadars who are doing the sewa in cash and kind. May Waheguru bless us all with Naam Daan. I would also like to thank all the sub-committees and their coordinators for their time and efforts, they are putting in for the benefit of our community at large.

A warm welcome to all the new comers and their families to Australia and to our Gurdwara Sahib.

I would like to congratulate you all for the forth coming *Khalsa Saajna Diwas* (Vaisakhi) in advance.

Thank you and I look forward to your ongoing support.

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

2. SAWA News

DEMENTIA AWARENESS REPORT – AMARJIT SINGH PABLA

Raising the awareness of Dementia among the communities of the Indian Sub-continent

To mark the successful completion of the Dementia Awareness Project, a special function is going to be held on 27th March 2011. The brief details of the function are as follows:

Venue:	Sikh Temple 280 Shreeve Road, Canning Vale WA	
Date	27 th March 2011	
Program	10.30am - 11.00am	Tea & refreshments
	11.00am - 12.00noon	Main program
	12.00noon – 12.15pm	Ardas
	12.15pm – onward	Vegetarian lunch

Hon Helen Morton MLC, Minister for Mental Health; Disability Services, and Hon Sue Ellery MLC, Leader in the Legislative Council; Shadow Minister for Child Protection; Community Services; Seniors and Volunteering; Disability Services have accepted our invitation to attend the function.

We are also inviting all other communities from Indian sub-continent who participated in this project. All members of the public are welcome. May, I request you to invite your friends, relatives, neighbours and members of public to our place of worship on this occasion. We need volunteers to carry out the whole programme successfully, if you can assist, please contact Dr Amarjeet Singh or Amarjit Singh Pabla at the earliest possible.

- **PCSC REPORT – Gurdarshan Singh Kailley**

First of all I extend my gratitude to all the PCSC volunteers and donors, who assisted SAWA in raising funds for the Queensland Flood Relief. With the generous support of all the Sangat, we have been able to raise an amount of \$10K for the relief fund.

PCSC has organised a Boat Cruise for 20th March, 2011 on the Swan River, embarking from Barrack Street Jetty at 5pm Sharp, offering you the opportunity to enjoy the impressive Perth skyline after sunset for 3 hrs in a luxurious vessel, cruising between Perth and Port of Fremantle. The tickets are on sale now, priced at \$35 for an adult, \$25 for 5-15 yrs and children under 5yrs are free. Delicious snacks will be served on board. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy the family orientated, alcohol free evening full of fun.

Please contact Amritpal Singh (0426825142) or Harbir Singh (0433764283) for the tickets.

The SAWA Vaisakhi games are on 10th April, 2011 at Curtin University. A world class facility, newly built, Curtin Stadium has been booked for indoor Soccer, Netball, Badminton, Volleyball and Basketball. The magnificent grassy grounds will be marked up for Hockey, Kabbadi and Athletics for all the age groups. The Collier Park Golf Course, adjacent to Curtin University is booked for the keen Golfers to Tee Off for Vaisakhi Competition. Please contact any PCSC/SAWA member to register your interest or contact the names mentioned above.

As you are all aware, Adelaide is hosting the Australian National Sikh Games 2011, over the Easter long weekend. SAWA/PCSC Netball and Volleyball teams are representing the state in these games. We wish them best of luck. Once again we are thankful to all the club supporters and welcome the new members who recently joined the club.



- **SAWA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT –Sarawan S Vagel**

Since its inception, the SPDC has been holding regular meetings to itemise the 'Issues & Needs' which is an activity that must be done before we can look at available options and solutions. As part of this exercise, the SPDC has been having discussions with the SAWA ExCo, other Sikh groups and members to gather this information. There has been very good input, but please feel free to contact any SPDC member if you have any views to put forward.

Once this is finalised, the next step will be to send this out to the general membership for further input and comments. We expect to send this out within the next month. We will look forward to your active participation in this.

- **HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT – Ajmer Singh**

Health Officer Visit:

The Health inspector visited the Gurdwara on 30th December. He not only carried out the Food Premises Assessment for the kitchen but also conducted the Public Building Risk Assessment check for the whole Gurdwara premises.

He approved most of the items in the Kitchen. The kitchen was thoroughly cleaned the night before. Thanks to Gianiji and Baldev. It was recommended that the kitchen area should be kept clean all the time as it could be inspected any time. Pest control is also required on a regular basis.

He then inspected the Langar Hall and the main prayer Hall. We had some non-conformances: The EXIT signs did not work properly; Certificate of approval for the premises and an Evacuation Plan were required. We were given 14 days to complete these outstanding items.

The concerns expressed in his report were taken seriously. Proper Fire & Evacuation Plan was drawn for both First floor & Ground Floor. It has been displayed in the Prayer Hall near main entrance & on the notice board in the Langar Hall. Everyone in the community is advised to have a look at it and follow the directions in case of any fire or other hazard. Fire Instructions and Evacuation Drill will be carried out shortly on a Sunday.

All EXIT Signs have been replaced with new signs. The signs need to be regularly tested, hence, a Log book has been prepared. Thanks to Bahadur for Sign installation. All the Fire Extinguishers, Fire Hose Reels & Fire Blankets have also been checked and some replaced.

After above work was carried out, Vic Andrich, the inspector was contacted for further inspection. He came & handed over the maximum accommodation certificate. We are pleased to inform our community that the maximum capacity of our Gurdwara has been increased to **677** persons.

Vic was very appreciative of the presentation of all the documents and the response to his concerns. Quote from his email: *“Please pass on my compliments to the Sikh Association for their prompt and professionalism in arranging these items.”*

Chapati Machine:

The Chapati machine required an Exhaust Canopy in compliance with the requirements of Australian Standards AS 1668.2 – 1191. To get approval, the Environmental Health Officer from City of Gosnells was invited who made some suggestions. The Exhaust Canopy has now been installed. Thanks to Simrat Singh for Electrical connection to the Exhaust Fan. All electrical section, conveyor Motor etc are fully operational.

The gas section of the machine is being replaced by Complete Combustion Company. This replacement had to be done for Australian Standards Compliance. Western Australian laws are most strict as compared to other states.

This company is directly communicating with the Inspector for the machine approval. Various options have been put forward to the inspector. The company will test the scheme on bench before getting approval.

The machine will work on LPG cylinder. There will be 100% spare capacity. Gas section will have Flame failure detection and cut off valves for stopping the gas supply. The gas will be supplied by Kleenheat. Their Business representative visited the site and confirmed the location of the cylinders. Pipe work will be laid at the earliest possible

- **SAWA's PUNJABI RADIO PROGRAM –Amrit Pal Singh**

The SAWAs Radio Program SIKH SANGEET started well in 2011 and is getting popular. We want to thank our listeners for the support they have been providing.

Radio program is looking for new sponsors for the program. We have got very reasonable rates. Monthly, quarterly, half yearly or yearly rates are available. For more information, Please contact **Amrit Pal Singh** on 041 7911 803, or email jgeet24@gmail.com.

We are pleased to inform you that you can now listen to this programme on the web on www.6eba.au so stay tuned on every Thursday from 7am-8am on **World Radio 6EBA 95.3 FM**

- **PUNJABI SCHOOL REPORT - Tarun Preet Singh**

The Punjabi School has started again after the long break. We are grateful to the teachers who are trying their best to educate our children in their mother tongue. Their success lies in the support they get from the parents. We strongly recommend that you speak Punjabi at home and bring your children to the Punjabi School on time. Do remember that it's better to light the candle than to curse the darkness. The co-operation from the parents would certainly bring great results. Besides, language is the only way to retain a culture and as parents we must endeavour to do our very best. Thanks in advance for your co-operation.

3. Community News:

- **Gurbani Vichaar:**

Gurbani Vichaar Programme is held fortnightly i.e every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after Langar, at about 12:30pm.

For more information contact Dr. Amarjit Singh on 9386 6379.

- **Istri Satsang:**

Istri Satsang is usually held on every second Saturday of the month at Gurdwara Saheb from 2.00 – 4.30 pm. The programme starts with Sukhmani Saheb Path, followed by Kirtan, Ardas and Langar. Thanks to the following ladies for organising the Satsang and doing the Langar Sewa:

08 January 2011

Sangat

12 February 2011

Gurdev Kaur, Manjit Kaur Sunner & Juginder kaur

In February, we had a special visit from two members of the SPDC committee : Dr Amarjit Singh and Mahesh Inder Singh Bassi who held a meeting with the interested ladies, giving them the opportunity of identifying the varied needs of the Sikh Community from their points of view. It was an interesting session.

The Satsang booking for the month of March has been done. Please contact Juginder Kaur, Tel : 9276 3923 or Giani Balbir Singh Ji at Gurdwara Saheb, if you would like to book the Istri Satsang for any month this year.

- **FOR SANGAT'S INFORMATION:**

The sangat is growing and so are our programs at Gurdwara Sahib, therefore your committee is humbly requesting your cooperation in the following;

1. Please park only on the marked bays. Disabled bays are only for people with disabilities.
2. No sweets, milk, flour or any other items of food to be left upstairs. Please donate for the langar fund instead.

3. Please, Treat Guru Ka Langar with respect. Do not waste.

4. Sehaj Paath - We would prefer ONE WEEK NOTICE for the Starting of the Sehaj Paath and Bhog for the Sehaj Paath so that keeping the time factor in mind, the Sunday program does not get delayed.

If you would like Giani ji to do the Sampuran Sahej Paath, the recommended Bheta is \$250.00

5. If any one wants to do Kirtan/katha/Gurbani Vichaar, please give us one week notice in advance so that a proper time allocation could be made to the participants.

6. On Sundays, Asa di Vaar Kirtan starts at 7:00am and finishes at 8:30am followed by Breakfast Langar. Then the prog starts again at 10:00am with Japuji Saheb Path, followed by Kirtan till 11:30. Incase of Sahej Path Bhog, the Kirtan will finish at 11.15, followed by Path da Bhog, Anand Saheb, Ardas and Hukumnama.

7. Your committee has decided that the Kirtan time before the Anand sahib will be given to our Giani Ji except visiting Parcharaks

Condolences :

SAWA expresses sincere condolences to:

- Manjinder Singh and family on the demise of his respected grandmother Bibi Bhan Kaur in Bhatinda, India.
- Jaginder Singh (Joe) and family on the demise of his elder sister Bibi Sarjit Kaur in Singapore.
- Dr. Jagjit Singh Pannu and family on the demise of his respected mother Bibi Gurdeep Kaur in Malaysia.
- Monish Paul and family on the demise of his dear mother Mrs Sushma Paul (Ex Honorary Consulate of India in WA).
- Romana family on the untimely and unexpected death of their daughter-in-law Gurpreet Kaur Romana in an accident.
- The families of Narian Singh who passed away on 19th January 2011 in Perth.
- Belated condolences to the families of Dr. Manmohan Singh who passed away in Nov. 2010

Births

Birthdays!

Weddings!

Congratuatiions are due from SAWA and Sadh Sangat to

- S Harpreet Singh and Surjit Kaur on being blessed with a baby boy. Special congratulations to Giani Balbir Singh Ji and Mrs Savinder Kaur on the birth of their grandson (dohtra).
- Mr & Mrs Harpreet Singh on the birth of their daughter Dnaya.
- Deepak Singh and Komalwant Kaur Chahil on being blessed with a baby boy, Balwinraj Singh Chahil. Special congratulations to Dadi Ma Gurcharan Kaur.
- Mr & Mrs Manvir Singh Uppal on the 1st birthday of their daughter Sitara Uppal.
- Ashwin Kaur (daughter of Manjit Singh Furh) on her 21st Birthday.
- Ashwin Singh (son of Satpal Singh) on his birthday.
- Mr & Mrs Rajinder Singh Sunner on the 21st birthday of their daughter Navraj Kaur Sunner.
- Mr Darshan Singh Sidhu on the 21st Birthday of his daughter Rajvinder Kaur
- Mr & Mrs Balbir Singh on the 18th Birthday of their son Deshbir Singh.
- Mr & Mrs Amarjit Singh Hansra on the 16th Birthday of their son Gurvinder Singh.
- Mr & Mrs Balvir Singh Dhillon on the 1st Wedding Anniversary of their son & daughter-in-law Darshan Singh & Dilshad Kaur Dhillon.
- Mr & Mrs Hardial Singh Khaira on the wedding of their son Balvinder Singh Khaira to Nishadip Kaur Bal daughter of Mr & Mrs Manmohan Singh Bal.

- Mr & Mrs Horbex Singh Swaddi on the wedding of their grand-daughter Simran Kaur to Meharban Singh in Singapore.
- Mr & Mrs Devraj Singh on the wedding of their daughter Jugreet Kaur to Gurpreet Singh (son of Dupinder Singh & Dr Harleen Kaur)
 - Reana Kaur (daughter of Navjit Singh & Irindeep Kaur) on her great results and on receiving the Certificate of Excellence in TEE.

Please, note that the condolences and congratulations section is based on the information made available to us. We apologise for any omissions.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Raghu Pat Tah for shampooing the carpet upstairs with the industrial equipment
- Manviderpal Singh Nagi for cleaning the windows and
- Mrs Renuka Kumar for donating books to the library

4. Forthcoming Events:

▪ Istri Satsang	12 March 2011
▪ Sangrand	14 March 2011
▪ Boat Trip	20 March 2011
▪ Dementia Function	27 March 2011
▪ Plaque Installation	03 April 2011
▪ Vaisakhi Games	10 April 2011
▪ Vaisakhi Programme(Evening)	14 April 2011
▪ Vaisakhi Akhand Path	15-17 April 2011

As it is the 1st newsletter for this year, I would like to wish all the readers a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2011. May Waheguru ji shower his Blessings on us all and bless us with the ability to Naam Jappo and Naam Japao. Sincere thanks to all those, who contributed to this newsletter. Please don't forget to give your email address to the SAWA Secretary Gurdarshan Singh Kailley or to me so that we could email you the newsletters promptly. If you would like a hard copy i.e the printed version only, do let us know.

**NB: This newsletter is also available on SAWA's website <http://www.sikhwa.org.au/>
For more information Contact Ajmer Singh (0402853987).**

WAHEGURU JI KA KHALSA WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH.

**Juginder Kaur
Assistant Secretary, SAWA**