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SIKH ASSOCIATION OF WA INC.

**sawa**



280 Shreeve Road (formerly Saddleback Grove),  
Canning Vale W.A. 6155.

Telephone: (08) 9256 1314

## **Newsletter No.1: Sept/Oct 2010**

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### **1. Message from the President – Devraj Singh JP**

Dear Sadh Sangat Ji,  
Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.  
Welcome to the first news letter from your new committee.

I am very much humbled to be given the sewa of the Mukh Sewadar by the Sangat. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the whole Sangat for demonstrating the unity as usual by electing the new committee unopposed. A special thanks to our returning officer S Sarawan S Vegal for the job well done as an RO.

Your committee has a good mix of experienced members and youth, who will try their best to cater for all the sections of the community. To make the job easier we have formed a few sub-committees such as for Langar, Religious, Seniors, Youth, Ladies, Maintenance and Sports & Cultural etc.

I would like to request for the maximum support and participation from our Sangat in our all programs because your input is vital for SAWA. The SAWA committee would not be able to work effectively without Sangat's support and co-operation.

At the AGM, the committee has been given a few tasks by the Sangat. The one of the main task is to establish a special project team to develop a master plan for future.

Your committee has already started working on it and we will come back to you with the progress report from time to time. We are open for your valued comments/suggestions in the above matter.

We would be organising a Blood Donation Day on our next Vaisakhi in conjunction with Red Cross depending upon the numbers of donors.

Apart from our usual regular events/programs and Gurdwaras, the committee is considering to organise a combined mela/fair for Vaisakhi and Sikh Sports. As we all know that our Sangat is growing and sometimes, it is a struggle to accommodate every one in the langar hall, therefore every possible effort will be made to address the problem.

The Sikh Association as in previous years is participating in Diwali Mela along with other three associations. I, on behalf of the committee would like to offer my greetings for Diwali and also like to congratulate all the Sikh Sangat on our Bandhi Shhod Gurdwarab which will also be celebrated at our Gurdwara Sahib.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank S Daljit Singh Dhillon and his team for the job very well done. I look forward to the support and co-operation from the entire sangat.

May, Waheguru bless all of us with naam daan.

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

## **2. Contact Details of SAWA Executive Committee (2010-11):**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>
<b>Devraj Singh JP President</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:devaction@hotmail.com">devaction@hotmail.com</a> Phone: <b>0411 834 336</b>
<b>Shingara Singh Vice President</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:shingara.singh@asc.com.au">shingara.singh@asc.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0432 887 959</b>
<b>Gurdarshan S. Kailley Secretary</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:kailley@telstra.com">kailley@telstra.com</a> Phone: <b>0408 001 053</b>
<b>Juginder Kaur Assistant Secretary</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:psjkrajpal@yahoo.com.au">psjkrajpal@yahoo.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0408 927 639</b>
<b>Tarunpreet Singh Assistant Secretary</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:tarun.singh@igadist.com.au">tarun.singh@igadist.com.au</a> Phone: <b>9457 1492</b>
<b>Ajal Singh Treasurer</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:hundal@inet.net.au">hundal@inet.net.au</a> Phone: <b>9249 5289</b>
<b>Dr.Jagjit S.Pannu Assistant Treasurer</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:jag@pannu.id.au">jag@pannu.id.au</a> Phone: <b>0403 039 008</b>
<b>Paramjit Singh Nagra Assistant Treasurer</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:psnagra@hotmail.com">psnagra@hotmail.com</a> Phone: <b>0423 966 939</b>
<b>Gurjit Kaur Sandhu Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:sandhu6@iprimus.com.au">sandhu6@iprimus.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0412 542 971</b>
<b>Ajmer Singh Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:asingh.comrail@optusnet.com.au">asingh.comrail@optusnet.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0402 853 987</b>
<b>Bahadur S. Mann Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:bsmann70@yahoo.com.au">bsmann70@yahoo.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0433 795 380</b>
<b>Dr. H.S. Dhammu Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:hsdhammu@agric.wa.gov.au">hsdhammu@agric.wa.gov.au</a> Phone: <b>0403 156 942</b>
<b>Kanwaljit Singh Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:kanwal.singh@kalamunda.wa.gov.au">kanwal.singh@kalamunda.wa.gov.au</a> Phone: <b>0427 081 805</b>
<b>Kulvinder Singh Sidhu Committee Member</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:k_gorasidhu@yahoo.com.au">k_gorasidhu@yahoo.com.au</a> Phone: <b>0422 719 440</b>

### **Auditors for 2010-2011:**

Harpreet Kaur Gill  
Harveer Singh Sekhon

### **3. SAWA NEWS:**

- **SAWA SUB-COMMITTEES:**

#### **1. Langar**

- o Bahadur S. Mann
- o Gurjit Kaur
- o Shingara Singh
- o Parmjit S. Nagra

#### **2. Maintenance**

- o Ajmer Singh
- o Parmjit S. Nagra
- o Shingara Singh
- o Kanwaljit Singh

#### **3. Religious/Ladies/Istri Satsang**

- o Juginder Kaur
- o Dr H.S. Dhammu
- Sarbjit S Pannu
- Satvir Singh

#### **4. Sports & Culture**

- o Kuwinder S. Sidhu
- o Gurdarshan S. Kailley

#### **5. Punjabi School & Library**

- o TarunPreet Singh
- o Bahadur S. Mann

#### **6. Seniors**

- o Dr Jagjit S. Pannu
- Dr Amarjit Singh

#### **7. Youth**

- o Devraj Singh
- o Juginder Kaur
- o Dr H.S. Dhammu

#### **8. SAWA Radio**

- o Kanwaljit Singh
- Amritpal Singh
- Gurdeep Kaur

#### **9. Public Relations & Social Events**

- o Devraj Singh
- o Gurdarshan S. Kailley

NB: Please, contact any of the sub-committee members on matters relating to their portfolios.

- **DEMENTIA AWARENESS REPORT – AMARJIT SINGH PABLA:**

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

The 2001 Australian census recorded more than 100,000 persons from Indian Subcontinent. Western Australia contains the highest proportion of overseas born population. Older people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) back ground constitute a significant proportion of the older Australian population, as the first generation ages, there will be a rapid increase in the proportion of people with dementia from non-English-speaking background. The main areas of focus of this project include: Dementia among the people from Indian Sub-Continent; Raise the awareness of Dementia among the communities of Indian Sub-Continent; De-stigmatise the Dementia in the communities of Indian Sub-Continent and Remove Social isolation.

Several events are planned over next few months to achieve the objectives of the project, and Dementia Open Day was the first such event.

**Dementia Open Day - 1st August 2010**

This event took place on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 at the Sikh Temple and several speakers including Professor Ralph Martins, Chair of Ageing and Alzheimer's at The Edith Cowan University, Dr Mathew Samuel Consultant Psychiatrist, Carol Joseph Clinical Psychologist and carers from community organization took part in the Dementia Open Day. It was attended by more than three hundred people, included members from 12 different communities. The Q and A session was most interesting one, and brought some issues to surface which have been simmering within communities. The visitors were provided with bags printed with national and states telephone contact numbers and literature related to dementia. This event was resounding success and we received extremely positive feed-back from many visitors, this was all due to your support and efforts. The next event is Focus Group trip to Northam.

**Dementia Focus Group Trip to Northam - 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

This is one day trip to Northam. The coach is scheduled to leave at 9.00am for Northam and return to Perth at 4.00pm via York. This trip is only open to those, who are over the age of 65 (sorry if you too young!!), and there are only 65 seats on the coach. All seats are reserved now and there are five people on the waiting list at the moment. If you need more information please contact Dr Harinder Kaur (9386 6379). Following sessions are planned for the focus group:

Session 1 – Diagnosis, Treatment and related topics	Session 2 – Impact and care of dementia
Session 3 – Prevention of Dementia	Session 4 – Resources available
Session 5 – Legal and financial issues	

We need volunteers, if you can assist in this project please contact Dr Amarjeet Singh or Amarjit Singh Pabla.

- **PCSC REPORT – Gurdarshan Singh Kailley**

Punjabi Cultural & Sports Club is consistently achieving its objectives with the support and tireless efforts of the members. Recently another milestone conquered by Club's Volleyball team, by representing the club in Collie Coal Cup (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> August). The state championship was held in Collie and our team contested in the semi-finals. On behalf of the club, I commend the team for their courage, hard work and sportsmanship. Kamalpreet Singh Brar was awarded as the best smasher, while the other players; Kashmir Singh, Nirmal Singh Gill, Raminder Garcha, Onkar Viridi, Manpreet Singh, Sukhjot Singh and Navinder Laddi showed their skills and impressed not only the spectators but their rival teams as well. Our Club co coordinators, Parmdeep Gill and Kulwinder Sidhu have done an excellent job getting all this together.



There is no limit to what can be accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit\_ with this spirit club is preparing our teams to participate in the coming Sikh Games. We request all the sports enthusiasts, who want to participate in Hockey or Kabaddi, to contact the club secretary Gurdarshan Singh Kailley on 0408 001 053.

Another significant objective of the club is to uphold and promote the Punjabi values and language. We encourage kids to learn and speak Punjabi. Parents are requested to bring their kids to the Bhangra classes, which are conducted time to time for the preparation of cultural events. The PCSC Bhangra team (Nachda Punjab) has been representing the community for more than 9 years on different multicultural and SAWA platforms. PCSC is a stalwart supporter of traditional values and community service. Please keep supporting the club in the forthcoming events and making it stronger.

ਬੋਲੀ ਜਿਉਂਦੀ ਰਹੀ ਤਾਂ  
ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਜਿਉਂਦੇ ਰਹਿਣਗੇ

- **SAWA's PUNJABI RADIO PROGRAM:**

SAWA's Punjabi RADIO is doing a great job. It not only entertains us, but also satisfies our spiritual needs by broadcasting Gurbani Kirtan sung by famous Ragis and Hukamnama from Guru Granth Saheb delivered by Giani Balbir Singh Ji. There is still need for more volunteers to present the program. Your Suggestions and feedback are always most welcome. Requests for your favourite songs or dedications can be made in advance to Amrit Pal Singh : 0471911803. Don't forget to tune in SAWA's PUNJABI SANGEET on 95.3 FM 6EBA every Thursday from 7.am-8am.

#### **4. Community News:**

- **Gurbani Vichaar:**

Gurbani Vichaar Programme is held fortnightly i.e every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month in the Canningvale Gurdwara Library after Langar, at about 1.00p.m.  
For more information contact Dr. Amarjit Singh on 9386 6379.



- **Births      Birthdays!      Engagements!      Weddings**

**Congratuatiions are due from SAWA and Sadh Sangat to**

- \* Sasha and Shelly Grewal for being blessed with a baby boy and congrats to the grandparents Stephnie and Sid Grewal (9mary).
- \* Mr & Mrs Devraj Singh on the 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday of their daughter Manreet Kaur ( Ritu )
- \* Mr & Mrs Gurdarshan Singh Kailley on the 13<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday of their sons Gurkamal & Manvir.
- \* Mr & Mrs Inderpreet Singh Aulakh on the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday of their son Gurupdesh .
- \* Mr and Mrs Amritpal Singh on the 14th Birthday of their daughter, Jasgeet.
- \* Mr & Mrs Sucha Singh Khaira on the birthday of their daughter Keshwinder and grand-daughter Simran.
- \* Inderjit Kaur, wife of Satwinder Singh Sidhu on her birthday.
- \* Mr Amritpal Singh on his 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- \* Mr & Mrs Hardial Singh Khaira on the engagement of their son Balvinder Singh to Nishadip Kaur.
- \* Mr & Mrs Rajinder Singh Bassi on the wedding of their daughter Nikki to Vilas Menon.
- \* Dr Raj Sekhon on starting up his own private clinic.
- \* Mr. Sarawan Singh Vagel and Mrs Bachan Kaur Vagel for being blessed with a grand son.

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

**5. Forthcoming Events/ Visits:**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| ▪ Sangrand (Katak)                              | 15 October (Evening Prog) |
| ▪ Diwali Mela                                   | 31 October                |
| ▪ Bandi Shhod Diwas (Diwali)                    | 5 November (Evening Prog) |
| ▪ Guru Nanak Dev ji's Avtar Diwas               | 21 November (Sunday)      |
| ▪ Akand Path(Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Prakash Purub) | 19 Nov. – 21 Nov.         |
| ▪ Shaheedi Guru Teg Bahadur Saheb Ji            | 24 november               |

**❖ Mr John Moorhouse, State Director, Dept of Immigration and Citizenship and his fellow officers are visiting our Gurdwara Saheb in Canning Vale on Sunday, 17th Oct 2010.**

In the end, I would like to say that a newsletter is a unique mode of communication among its members and other ethnic organisations. Your valuable suggestions would always be welcome.

Last but not least, I would like to thank sincerely all those, who contributed to this newsletter and especially the Sangat for their positive feedback. Thanks for giving me the opportunity of compiling the newsletter again.

NB: This newsletter is also available on SAWA's website. For more information Contact Ajmer Singh (0402853987).

**WAHEGURU JI KA KHALSA WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH.**

**Juginder Kaur**

**Assistant Secretary, SAWA**