



Planters Welfare Association

(AN ASSOCIATION OF MUTUAL BENEFITS)

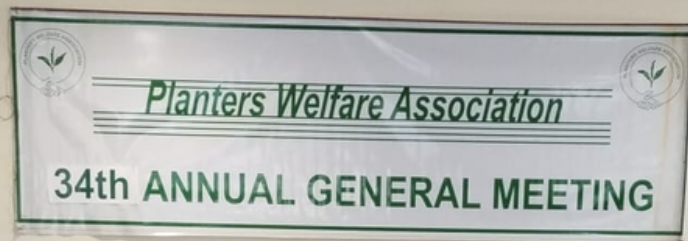
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(Kindly cc your mails to Mr R.K. Patney – rkpatney@gmail.com,

Text/Whatsapp – 09810020533)



EC at AGM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: V.Lall

Vice – President: A. Batra

Ex- Officio: Mrs. Dipika Nanjappa

Secretary : R.K.Patney

Treasurer: B.Chhabra

Members : Capt. V.K.Mehra, A.K.Saxena, A.Ganguly, S.Choudhary, R.Wazirchand

Members Meeting (Socials): Mrs. Nirmla Lall, Mrs. Rani Patney, Mrs. Sunanda Chhabra

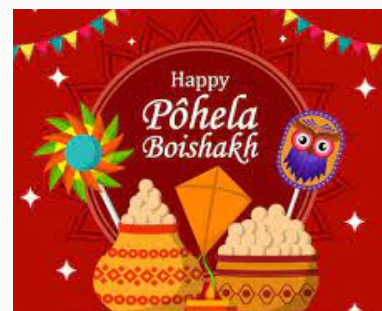
Member Mailing: Mrs. Rani Patney

Editor: Ashok Batra

Period 1 – May 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It gives me great pleasure to present the first message of the year.

I am pleased to inform that our Member Socials and the AGM have been attended with increasing support. The generous sponsorship from the Tea Companies enabled us to have a great meeting followed by a sumptuous lunch.

Our thanks to Mr. Ashok Batra for the hard work done to receive healthy donations.

I would like to thank the Members, who have arranged the various functions at different Venues with great effort and care, with the help of the Ladies Catering Sub - Committee to select and assure excellent menus. The Social Lunch in January was Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Sayal at their Farm. The Venue was a welcome change and the relaxed ambience with the greenery was amazing. The arrangements made were excellent on a delightful day. The delicious cuisine prepared by their Village people was greatly enjoyed & personal attention by Mrs Sayal made it special.

In February, the yearly Social was held at Mr. & Mrs Tibbs Residence Garden. Once again a good attendance and enjoyed by all.

Our next event in April, was held at The Fraternity Club, Free Masons Hall, which was arranged by Mr. & Mrs Sunil Khanna. A good day, well arranged and a good attendance, enjoyed by all.

We are deeply grieved at the passing away of Mrs. Shirin Paul, who was our Patron since the inception of the Association. Her contribution to the Planters Association for Sponsoring our Annual General Meetings & Socials on many occasions has been invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Condolence Messages have been sent to the family members.

During the Summer we are not having any functions, but will commence our next Social in August at the DSOI New Delhi.

Our association has been well supported over the years and we would like to continue our get to gathers of retired & serving Planters.

I will be delighted to receive your comments.

With Best Wishes,

- Vishnu Lal

President



MEMBERS MEETING (SOCIAL) FOR THE YEAR 2022 – 2023

The Events held and the up – coming Activities for the year 2022 – 2023, are as under -

S. No.	Date	Venue	Venue booked by
1.	Sun 27th March 2022	Annual General Meeting - 2021 at Delhi Gymkhana Club, New Delhi Sponsored by Mr. Avijit Ganguly & Mr. Sanjay Choudhary (Lunch)	Mr. V.Lall
2.	Sun 21st August, 2022	DSOI Dhaula kuan, New Delhi (Lunch)	Capt. V K Mehra
3.	Sun 25th Sept 2022	Delhi Gymkhana Club , New – Delhi (Jamun Tree) (Lunch)	Mr. B.Chhabra
4.	Sun 06th November, 2022	Air Force Sport Complex , New – Delhi (Pool Side) , Lunch	W/Cdr. Gullu Kapur
5.	Sun 18th December, 2022	Annual General Meeting - 2022 at Golf Links Community Centre, New Delhi (Lunch)	Mr. V Lall
6.	Sunday 22nd January, 2023	Hosted at their Farm House by Mr. & Mrs Narotam Sayal (Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs N. Sayal)	
7.	19th February, 2023	Residence of Mr. P.S Tibb , Gurgaon (Lunch)	Mr.& Mrs P.S Tibb
8.	Sun 16th April, 2023	The Fraternity Hall , Janpath, New Delhi (Lunch)	Mr. Sunil Khanna

All the events held during the Financial year, (as indicated above) were a roaring success, and thoroughly enjoyed by us all. The events were well attended , great comraderies, super and delicious lunch menu's by the E.C. Ladies.

Thirty Fourth AGM – 2022

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Golf Links Community Centre , New Delhi on Sunday 18th December 2022 . The event was sponsored by a host of Tea Companies, namely : M/s Mcleod Russel, Sudhir Prakash -Khongea Tea Estate, Amalgamated Plantations, Goodricke Group Ltd, J.Thomas, M.K.Shah Exports, Gujarat Tea Processors (Wagh Bakri), Ajay Jalan - Mokalbari Kanoi Tea Estate, Fairlie Exports (HMP Group), S.P. Saharia -Palasbari Tea Co, Rossell Tea and Jorehaut Tea.

Our grateful Thanks and Gratitude to them for their generous contribution and unstinted support.

The event was attended by a large number of members and the event was a run - away success . We are thankful to Mr & Mrs V.Lall & Mrs. Venita Vohra for all the arrangements made by them for the event.

CHAMPAGNE & ROSES

BIRTHS: Nothing to report

WEDDINGS: Nothing to report

Note: Members are once again requested to inform us by email or by post regarding Births, & Marriages. This helps us to include the announcements in the Newsletter.

NEW MEMBERS (JOINING APRIL 2022 ONWARDS)

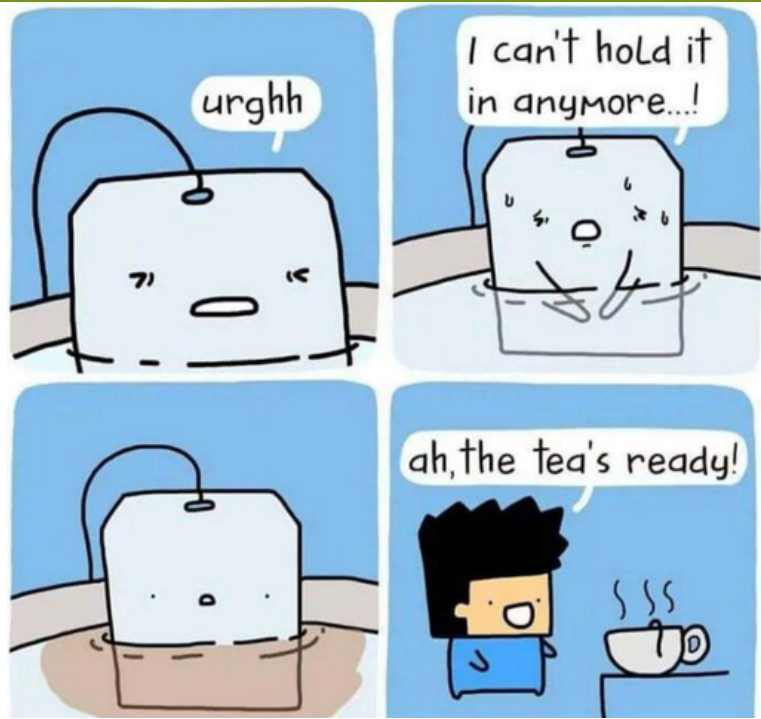
1. Mr. Aseem Dar – E – 401, Suncity Heights, Sector 54 , Gurgaon – 122011, Mobile – 9953659403, E-mail: aseem_dar@indialinx.com
2. Mr. Ashish Bali – Flat 48 (GF) , Sector 29, Noida (UP) , Mobile: 9733530306, E – mail: ashishbali576@gmail.com
3. Mr. Amarpal Singh Shaw – Village & P.O – Goripur Kalyana , Shahbad (M), Kurukshetra , Haryana – 136135, Land Line – 174 4299742, Mobile : 8295141041, E- mail: amarpalsingh1947@gmail.com
4. Mr Dhiraj Kakati - Ashiana Upvan, Flat 424, Tower 5, Ahinsa Khand 2 Indirapuram – 201014, Mobile: 7042838989, E- mail: dkakati1972@gmail.com
5. Mr. B.B.Tandon - Purvanchal Heights, Flat A3/ 08, Tower - 9, Zeta -1, Greater Noida, Mobile: 7002941035, E- mail: bbtandon@gmail.com
6. Mr Dinesh Prakash – 1723 Pebble Beach, Ct, Hoffman Estate, Chicago, IL 60169 , U.S.A ,Mobile : 987315503, US Prefix 2242399442, E mail: dinvin19@hotmail.com
7. Mr. Jaskaran Singh. Uniworld City, Flat 702 , Tower F – 1, Sector 30, Gurgaon – 122001 Mob: 9779393939, E – mail: singh.jaskaran1@gmail.com

We are pleased to inform that 25 new members joined the Association during the year 2022 - 23, which the highest numbers in recent years.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS / E MAIL/ MOBILE NO

All changes advised to the Association till date, have been made in the Members Directory, which is circulated to all members at regular intervals. The same is also available for viewing at our website - www.pwa.in

**So little time,
so matcha to do.**



COMMUNICATION

We are happy to report that we have 258 members, which includes NCR / Out Station / Hony. Members.

E-mail - As communicated earlier, all our communications are forwarded by E-mails . We earnestly request those members who have not yet forwarded their E - mail ID's , to kindly forward the same to the Hony. Secretary at rkpatney@gmail.com to enable us to update our records and forward all documents by e - mail. It is our fervent hope that more and more members will opt for communication by e mail.

WhatsApp Messages - As conveyed earlier, the WhatsApp group (PWA – NCR) has been introduced, since the Bulk SMS facility has been withdrawn . Members who do not use WhatsApp , are requested to install the same, so that they could be added to this Group. The information may be forwarded to the Hony. Secretary at mobile no 9810020533. It will be prudent to mention that few members have exited the group , and they are requested to join the Group to avail this facility.

Tested positive for being a...



WEBSITE

Our Website has been revamped and up – dated, with newer features recently . You are requested to view and give us your valuable comments to enable us to improve further. We encourage you to visit the site

SUBSCRIPTION:

Annual subscription for the year 2023 is due now. There are few members who have not paid their subscription for the year 2021 - 2022 and are requested to clear their dues . It may please be noted that Subscription for NCR members is Rs 500/- per annum and Rs 200/- for out station members.

Kindly note that Annual subscription is payable by all members irrespective of their Age. This is as per the resolution passed at the A.G.M 2018.

The rules under Societies Act are very stringent . As per the rules of the Association for delayed payments are as under –

1. One year default - Member will not be able to vote at the AGM
2. Two year default -Member will not be allowed to attend the AGM.
3. Three year default - Membership will be terminated

Mode of Payment of Subscription:

- a. **Cheque** - Cheque favouring PLANTERS WELFARE ASSOCIATION, may please be forwarded by Courier/ Speed Post to our Registered Office (Residence Of Mr. B.Chhabra) Addressed to Mr. B.Chhabra , D- 247 (GF) , Defence Colony , New – Delhi 110024, Mobile no – 9818025579
- b. **Bank Transfer – The required details are as under –**
 - i. **Name of Beneficiary – Planters Welfare Association**
 - ii. **Saving bank account - A/C no 004601050068**
 - iii. **IFSC Code - ICIC0000046**
 - iv. **Bank & Branch- ICICI Bank, New Friends Colony , New – Delhi – 110025**
- c. **Kindly note that Subscription will not be accepted in cash.**

OBITUARY (January 2023 – April 2023)

We regret to inform sad demise of -

Our Members:

Mrs Shirin Paul (Chairperson, Emeritus , Apeejay Surrendra Group, who has been our Patron of our Association from its inception. This has truly been a great loss to our Association
Mrs. Paul was a kind , gentle and a very humble personality , who always gave us a helping hand whenever requested .

Sponsored events at the Park Hotel , New Delhi in the years 1994, 2000, 2005 and 2013 (Silver Jubilee of PWA , celebrated with her generosity, in grand style) were supported by Mrs. Paul and the Apeejay Group

Many AGM's of the Association were also supported by Mrs. Paul and the Group. The unstinted support will be written in Golden words in the history of our Association.

The Obituary by the Apeejay Group is below



It is with deep sorrow and heavy hearts we inform you that our Chairperson Emeritus - Mrs. Shirin Paul passed away on April 18, 2023. A person of immense vision, strength, and kindness, Mrs. Paul had taken over the Chairmanship of the Apeejay Surrendra Group in April 1990 under dire circumstances due to the sudden demise of then Chairman Mr. Surrendra Paul. Mrs. Paul has been an advisor in the Educational and Philanthropic activities of the Group. She has guided the management of the Apeejay Schools and was the Chairperson of The Paul Foundation, which has awarded scholarships to outstanding scholars committed to making a difference in society through their work. Her absence will be felt deeply by everyone whose life she touched. We pray for her exemplary spirit to rest in peace

- **Mrs. Kanchan Arora**

Near & Dear ones of our members:

- Mrs Sundri Ponappa w/o Mr. B.C (Poni) Ponappa
- Father in law of Mr. R.P.Singh
- Mother of Mr. Jasbir Singh Randhawa
- Mrs Harjeev Kaur Sidhu, wife of Mr. M.P.S. Sidhu

Our friends:

- Mr. Prabhakar Singh
- Mr. Girish.C. Dutta (Ex Makum Namdang)
- Dr. Gojen Gogoi
- Mr. Dhiraj Kakati (Ex ABITA)
- Mr. Monmoy Upadhyay (Ex Mcleod Russell)
- Mr. Sunil Behl (Ex Tata Tea)
- Dr Rehman (Ex TRA)
- Mr A. K (Babloo) Choudhuri (Ex Assam Frontier)

Condolence letters to the bereaved families have been sent out by the Hony. Secretary on behalf of the Executive Committee of the PWA.

ACHIEVEMENTS

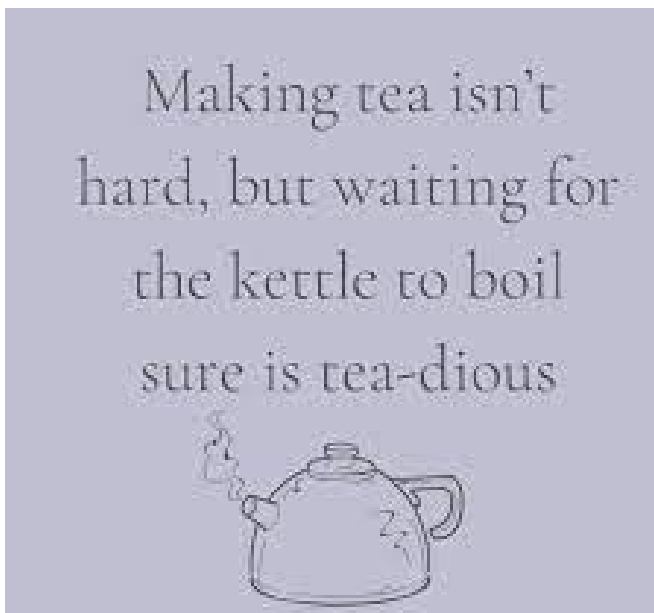
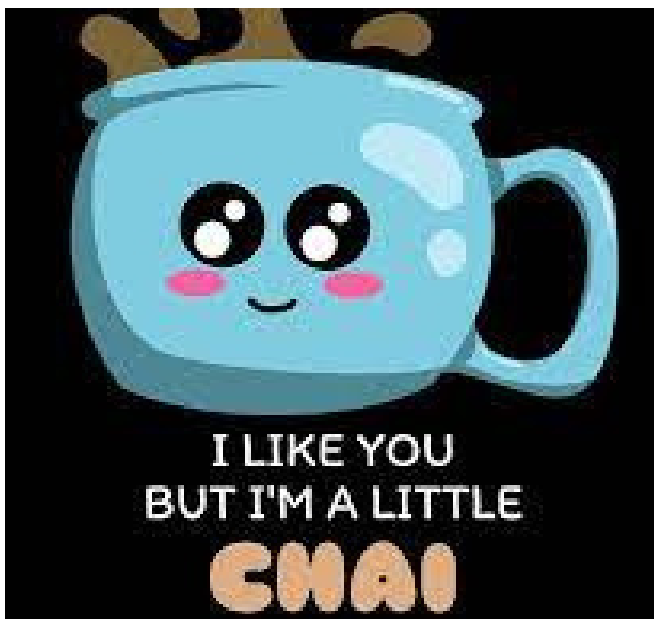
Mr Anand Bhargava was awarded the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Group of Engineering Colleges at IIT Delhi on the 22nd April' 23

Our heartiest congratulation on this honour

DONATIONS

Rs 10000/- was received from Mr. N.Salkan .

We wish record our sincere thanks and appreciation.



REJU GEORGE- BYGONE PLANTATION DAYS – A LEGACY OF STORIES

This vintage photograph of Leslie and Gwendoline Dickens at Tipperary Bungalow speaks of old style glamour of plantation heydays of colonial times. They were the last occupants of the Tipperary bungalow in Yeracud which finds its connection & roots from the Victorian author Charles Dickens, of the original owners Dickens family who sold the property in 1950s before leaving India.

Tipperary Bungalow, once upon a time, this ole house with its wooden dance floors saw a lot of music , dance , tennis parties , fancy dress parties , picnics and was the popular meeting spot of the British community in Yercaud , the hill station nestled in the Shevaroy range of the Eastern Ghats around 1,500 metres above sea level,

This bungalow which is part of a coffee plantation is a colonial-era house that is considered to be among the oldest buildings (approximately 120 years) in Yercaud, perched upon a mini peak of its own. The house now is part of a eponymous 70-acre working coffee farm that also cultivates jackfruit, avocado, banana, wild turmeric and pepper.

Like many relics of the British Raj, Tipperary Bungalow has a storied past that lives only in oral recollections. "Though my father purchased this property in 1970, we weren't really aware of its original British owners, the Dickens family, until quite recently," says N Satyendran, a former engineer and commercial pilot who runs the estate today.

The Dickens family of Yercaud belonging to the legendary author Charles Dickens family as claimed was the India-based British clan did much to develop the commercial cultivation of coffee and other crops in the hill station.

The 81 year old Anna Dickens is perhaps the Tipperary Bungalow's last link to its British owners. She visited Yercaud in 2005, and was reportedly moved to tears when she saw her birthplace (she was born here on August 7, 1941).She recalls ...

"My great grandfather Alfred Ernest Stark Dickens (1844-1898) came to Yercaud in 1881; he had five sons and five daughters, and most of them were in the coffee business. Before that, he grew coffee in Ooty. Five generations of our family were based in Yercaud from the 1880s until 1950s, so there were at least 15 coffee plantations, each with their houses, run by us in that period,"

According to family sources, the Tipperary Bungalow was already part of the estate that Alfred Dickens had purchased. Anna says that it was maintained as plantation guesthouse for some time before it was used as a family home.

The cemetery at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Yercaud shows the number of members from the Dickens family who are interred here.

"We have tried to maintain the original style of the building, though quite a bit of it was in disrepair when we acquired it," says Satyendran. "The polished red oxide floors are still the same, and the thick stone walls keep the building insulated from extreme cold and heat through the year."

Anna remembers the Tipperary as being a popular meeting spot for the local British community. "We were a very musical family; and I played the antique grand piano that is still there in the reception room when I visited in 2005, though we don't really know how it was transported up there in those days!" laughs Anna, as she recounts hearing stories of people being carried up the rough mountain trail to Yercaud by bearers.

The Dickens had a very busy social life, she adds. "We used to have picnics, dance and tennis parties very frequently. And people also used to dress up a lot, because I've got photographs of my aunts in fancy dress as well," says Anna.

The dance floor of the Tipperary has long been demolished, but one sturdy tennis net post is a silent reminder of those leisure-filled weekends of yore.

Anna's father Alfred M Dickens, studied locally in the Montfort School, like many British children in those days, and later served in the Royal Navy. "We left Yercaud during the Second World War, and my mother and I stayed in Bandra, Bombay for a few years as my father was posted on war duty.

"We left India in 1947, and soon the rest of the Dickens family also started moving out. I miss Yercaud, even though I was there for a very short while. I remember dal and rice being my favourite Indian dish as a child," says Anna, who has worked as an actress in theatre and films, and later as a professional artist.

#rejuageorge #coffee #yercaud

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/1133836964162069/permalink/1227349714810793/?mibextid=IURqYx>

Credit courtesy : Picture & Article shared from The Hindu Nahla Nainar March 2021

