



# *Shining Bright*

*Volume 1*

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District Editor (2023-2024)

**Lucy Barrock**

IWC Butterworth

My fellow sisters in Inner Wheel District 330,

It gives me great pleasure to present this first compilation called ‘**Shining Bright**’ for the Centennial term of Inner Wheel (IW). Our organisation which started with Mrs. Margarette Golding’s brilliant conception in 1924 of women getting together in friendship and service has grown exponentially to what it is today, worldwide.

IW which started in Manchester, England, reached our shores in 1948 after WWII and much was achieved by the women who got together then to form IW Clubs to help alleviate poverty and destitution in the post-war era. Our actual growth started once IW District 330 was formed in 1980.

A further two districts have sprouted out of our District as Districts 331 and 332 for East Malaysia and Singapore respectively. We currently have twenty registered clubs and are poised for further growth this term.

In this issue, we pay tribute to the amazing ladies whose dedication and resilience resulted in the continuity of our organisation to date. Let us learn about them and their journeys in IW as we hear from District Chairman Kamala A. Yeap, some of the Past District Chairmen of District 330 many of whom have served at International Inner Wheel (IIW). IIW Past Editor/ Media Manager Cheng Yeok San as one of our legends has been roped in as well to say a few words.

This term, we look forward to new members joining us, more clubs in our fold and increased participation in our communities as we **Shine a Light**. IIW’s flagship initiatives of **Brighten Lives for the Future** and **Mental Wellness Brightens Lives** will be our areas of focus, along with the ongoing social theme of **Strong Women Stronger World**.

Much love and in Inner Wheel Friendship,

Lucy Barrock

## *District 330's Brightest Lights*

No.	Name	Club	IW Term as District Chairman
1.	District Chairman (DC) Kamala Arumugam Yeap	IWC Apsaras	Current DC 2023-2024
2.	Immediate Past District Chairman (IPDC) Krishnaveni Mutthiah	IWC Klang	2022-2023
3.	Past District Chairman (PDC) Shamini Nair	IWC Selangor	2021-2022
4.	PDC Shanti Menon	IWC Subang Selangor	2020-2021
5.	PDC Padmini Menon	IWC Petaling Jaya	2019-2020
6.	PDC Peggy Khoo	IWC Kuala Lumpur	2018-2019
7.	Immediate Past National Representative (Districts 330 & 331) PNR Parimala Satheesan	IWC Subang Selangor	2016-2017
8.	Past National Representative PNR Ambika Panicker Menon	IWC Petaling Jaya	2015-2016

9.	National Representative (Current NR) Datin Dr Ramani Subramaniam	IWC Ipoh East	2014-2015
10.	International Inner Wheel Past Board Director IIWPBD Datin Seetha Lakshmi	IWC Klang	2013-2014
11.	PNR Juanita Lee	IWC Kuala Lumpur	2012-2013
12.	IIWPBD Rathy Mahendren	IWC Taiping	2003-2004
13.	PDC Sheela Wadhvani	IWC Kota Kinabalu	2002-2003
14.	IIWPBD Datin Ainol Ramli	IWC Kuala Lumpur	2000-2001
15.	IIW Past Representative IIWPR Datin Joan Salleh	IWC Petaling Jaya	1998-1999
16.	PNR Datin Gnanambigai Rajah	IWC Ipoh	1993-1994
17.	IIWPBD Jessie Wang	IWC Kuala Lumpur	1991-1992
18.	IIWPBD Datin Pearl Jai Mohan	IWC Ipoh	1988-1989

19.	IIWPR To' Puan Lam Lee Pin	IWC Kuala Lumpur	1986-1987
20.	IIW Past Editor/ Media Manager Cheng Yeok San	IWC Ipoh East	IIW Editor/Media Manager: 2021-2022

## *Let us hear from our 43<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman. . .*



District Chairman (2023-2024)

**DC Kamala Arumugam Yeap**

IWC Apsaras

Dear Ladies,

It is my delight and pleasure to invite you into my life, a rather very quiet one to a major extent, which thus far has only included my family, my work life, my immediate environment and my Inner Wheel Club. To think that now that I have a new horizon, is making me get all excited and at the same time a little worried. People associated with me by profession may know me as a strict lecturer who does not mince her words and refer to me as a subject matter expert. In Inner Wheel, many members outside my own club, Inner Wheel Club of Apsaras, and the District Executive Committee, might only know me by name. So, now that I am the District Chairman (DC) for District 330, it is only right on my part to invite you into my domain and introduce myself to you.

I, Kamala Nayagam Arumugam, (Kamala A. Yeap) was born on November 18, in Batu Gajah, Perak, but grew up in Ipoh. Ours was a joint-family setting, where my dad lived with his elder sister and her family, his younger brother and his family, as well as his nephew and family. So, ours was a home filled with noise, laughter, and everything else in a large homestead. This joint-family setting has ingrained in me the great value of family, so uncles, aunts, cousins, and siblings are an integral part of my life. As we grew up and as the extended family left for greener pastures, my immediate family stayed on in Ipoh until my siblings and I sprouted our wings and took to the sky. My late dad, Mr. N. Arumugam was well-known in Ipoh especially for his charitable work with the two main temples in Ipoh till his death 16 years ago. My mum was known for her devotional teachings and spiritual practices until her death earlier this year.

As the eldest child, my parents' expectation was on me to be the role model, set examples and be the best in whatever I did, so that my six younger siblings could follow my path. This expectation of my parents is the key to many of the personal

successes that I have achieved. My dad was of the mind that there was no greater wealth than education, and this he cultivated in all our minds. In later years, when I got married, my husband, HC Yeap, too was of the same mind, that there was nothing greater than education. This enhanced my interest and ability to study.

My first degree is in Biology from the University of Madras, which enabled me to start my career as a Biology-teacher. After a few years, I took my second degree in Human Resource Management from the Asia Pacific University, New Zealand. Then, on a scholarship from the University of Sydney, I went off to pursue Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration. The scholarship was extended and this enabled me to complete my Masters in Business Management. With my husband's encouragement, I returned to Malaysia to pursue a Master's program in Educational Administration and Management at University Putra, Malaysia.

All these qualifications enhanced my growth and I progressed from high school teaching to university lecturing. This also opened new dimensions of being involved in the setting up of colleges. I was a pioneer in setting up the then International College Penang (now known as Inti International University, Penang). This exposure also opened new ventures in lecturing and setting up overseas branch campuses in Australia, Beijing (China), Jonkoping (Sweden), Hertfordshire / Coventry / Nottingham Trent (UK), Los Angeles (USA), and Saudi Arabia. These overseas assignments were not only mentally stimulating but gave me an insight into working in environments that were totally different from the ones that I was used to at home in Malaysia. In many cases, it was an eye-opener.

Today, my husband and I, who have been in the field of education in total for about 90 years, feel the blessings of students, parents and teachers who remember us for the encouragement, the gift of love and the wealth of knowledge that we have imparted to them. In our fold of success, we have professors, lawyers, doctors, ministers, CEOs, and many others who welcome us with open arms and keep us in their embrace. In fact, I am proud to say that one of my students is a close associate of mine in Inner Wheel.

I joined the Inner Wheel Club of Seremban in 2011 and have held various positions with them. In 2016, I joined then-DC Parimala Satheesan's Executive Committee as the District International Service Organizer. In 2017, I chartered the Inner Wheel Club of Apsaras with twenty-three members. It was a delight to form a club of our own. In late 2018, IWC Apsaras started to hitch on an idea to form an Inner Wheel Club in Butterworth and in early 2019 the idea materialized and the Inner Wheel



Club of Butterworth was born. In 2020, I joined then-DC Shanti Menon as her District Treasurer. In 2021, I was the District Secretary for then-DC Shamini Nair. In 2022, I was the District Vice Chairman and now in Inner Wheel Year 2023-2024, I am on the hot seat as the 43<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman of IW District 330.

I am an introvert when I am amongst not-so-familiar people but most of my friends find me to be full of ideas. I take responsibility very seriously as I believe being responsible is an important aspect of life. As such, I will take this huge responsibility that has been placed on me seriously and pledge to do all that it takes to make Inner Wheel District 330 **Shine a Light**, while supporting International Inner Wheel President Trish Douglas in her term's flagship initiatives which cover the themes of **Brighten lives for the future** and **Mental wellness brightens lives**. I plan to make our District grow and for all members to be proud to belong to District 330. This is the least I could do to fulfill the trust that has been accorded me. Ladies, let us move forward with the Inner Wheel ideals of promoting true friendship, encouraging the ideals of personal service, and fostering international understanding.

Yours in Inner Wheel friendship,

*Kamla Q. Yeap.*

## *Messages from Past District Chairmen*



District Chairman (2022-2023)

**IPDC Krishnaveni Mutthiah**

IWC Klang

### MY INNER WHEEL JOURNEY

I am indeed honoured and proud to pen a few lines about my journey in Inner Wheel. I joined this beautiful organization in 2002 and was introduced by PDC Datin Sakunthalai. I would say I enjoyed every moment with all the energetic ladies- a special thanks to my mentor IWPBD Datin Seetha who encouraged me to hold positions at club level and for that, I am truly grateful. I had my hands full then with 4 young children and was also running my own business.

Spending my time and doing a little charity work made me feel good to be in this women's organization. I also held positions in the District as Editor (2016/17), twice as District Secretary (2017/18) and (2020/21), District Vice Chairman (2021/22) and District Chairman (2022/23). I can say that every move I made forward, was an educational and memorable one. Last but not least “ENJOY INNER WHEEL LADIES...”

My best wishes and congratulations to District Chairman Kamala Yeap and the District Executive Committee Members of 2023/24. I'm sure all of you will **SHINE a LIGHT**.

Yours In Inner Wheel Friendship,

IPDC KRISHNAVENI MUTTHIAH



District Chairman (2021-2022)

**PDC Shamini Nair**

IWC Selangor

Mine is a journey that started 13 years ago when a dear friend and my Charter President called me and spoke to me about Inner Wheel. She had a very convincing story and being a stay-at-home mum, I was in need of a purpose. At that point in time, we needed a Rotary Club to back us up.

The President of the Rotary Club of Bandar Sunway, the Late PP Sinnu was the one who initiated the process with PDC Simone Wippern. We faced many obstacles in starting up the Inner Wheel Club of Selangor. Our Charter President Thana did not give up despite the numerous trips to ROS. Once we were given the green light we started and we are still roaring.

It was a great honour for me to have served in the District after hailing from a small club like IWC Selangor. All you need is the trust of your fellow members to do your best.

To District Chairman Kamala Yeap, by chance we met, by choice we became friends. I know you will do amazing work as you **Shine a Light** for the District and its members. I wish your Exco and you, nothing but the best.

Finally, I leave you with this quote:

Friendships between women, as any woman will tell you, are built of a thousand small kindnesses... swapped back and forth and over again - Michelle Obama

PDC Shamini Nair



District Chairman (2020-2021)  
District Extension Chairman (2023-2024)

**PDC / DEC Shanti Menon**

Inner Wheel Club of Subang Selangor

Inner Wheel came to me one day in 2010 in the form of PNR Parimala Satheesan. Of course, she was just an ordinary member when she came to me and shared that she was starting a new Inner Wheel Club in Subang. I didn't know then, as I do now, that it is my ikigai.

I was a fast learner and I wanted to be in the thick and thin of all the happenings in my club from the very beginning. I became Club President by the year 2012 and in 2016, I found myself in the District exco assisting DC Parimala who was District Chairman at the time. With DC Pari's guidance, I helped organize the 4<sup>th</sup> South Asian Rally in 2017 here in Kuala Lumpur- a first of its kind in District 330 Malaysia. This paved the way for international recognition and cemented our place as a hotbed for International Presidents' visits.

It must have been my passion to be with people, my communication skills, organizational abilities, high-strung creative energy, and my attention to detail that led me back to the District to take on higher positions and finally as District Chairman in 2020. Although the COVID-19 pandemic ruled the world and our lives during my time as District Chairman, it did not deter me from playing my role to its best, surpassing milestones and setting good practices.

Thirteen years from the day I started my journey in Inner Wheel, I am thriving! I have taken another position in the District and I can't wait to get going again. Inner Wheel will be 100 next year and I still maintain that our organization is still the best-kept secret around. And so, my wish for Inner Wheel is that it gains popularity and momentum and becomes an organization like no other.

To DC Kamala Yeap, CONGRATULATIONS! Your perseverance, diligence and tireless efforts in various District positions have not gone unnoticed. I wish you JOY, I wish

you LOVE and I wish you LUCK! May your term as District Chairman be an unprecedented one where we **Shine a Light** together to propel District 330 to achieve greater heights.

Much Love

Shanti Menon

DC 2020-2021

DEC 2023-2024



District Chairman (2019-2020)

**PDC Padmini Menon**

Inner Wheel Club of Petaling Jaya

### **A Worthwhile Journey**

My Journey with Inner Wheel has been in one word **INTERESTING**. I expect it to continue in this vein.

I have always had a passion for service and came from a Lioness organisation, where Sight & Vision was a priority. I was introduced to Inner Wheel by Margaret Golding Awardee Girija Menon, who was a charter member of the Inner Wheel Club of Petaling Jaya. This leap from Lion to Wheel kickstarted an amazing adventure.

My growth in Inner Wheel from the 'kindergarten' days in IWC PJ and graduating to interclub and district/international activities has exposed me to the idea of **FELLOWSHIP THROUGH SERVICE**. The most meaningful and enjoyable moments of fellowship have been whilst conducting meaningful service projects and events.

It has made me realize the true meaning of the quote (by Hellen Keller),

***“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”***

Whilst the cornerstone of Inner Wheel is to be of service to others, the personal benefits cannot be denied. My personal growth as I took on responsibilities at the Club and District levels has enabled me to learn many lessons through the challenges, an education that no 9-5 job can provide. The memories and takeaways feed a constant mantra – TREASURE THE LITTLE THINGS ALWAYS!

With that being said, it gives me great pleasure to wish DC Kamala and her team for the year 2023-2024, “Have a wonderful INNER WHEEL year with an INNER WILL to **SHINE a LIGHT** as you travel your own journey in this great organization!”

**Good Luck and God Bless!**

PDC Padmini Menon

IWC Petaling Jaya.



District Chairman (2018-2019)

**PDC Peggy Lee**

IWC Kuala Lumpur

I joined IWCKL in 2002 and was President from 2011-2012. Later I moved to the District and was District Editor, District Treasurer (2 terms) and later District Chairman in 2018-2019. I first met DC Kamala when we were both on the organizing committee for the South Asian Rally (SARS). Somehow, we clicked and she is like my sister. I am very happy with her achievements from chartering the Inner Wheel Club of Apsaras and now she is the District Chairman. I wish DC

Kamala and her team all the best for the year ahead. I am confident she will rise to the occasion to **Shine a Light**. Congratulations again to DC Kamala.

PDC Peggy Lee

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National Representative of IW Districts 330 & 331  
(2022-2023)

District Chairman (2016-2017)

**PNR Parimala Satheesan**

IWC Subang Selangor

My Inner Wheel journey began 19 years ago. All it took was an invitation by PDC Ambika Menon to her club's installation dinner (IWC of Petaling Jaya) in 2004 and it has brought my family and me many unforgettable moments.

Friendship, bonding among members and fellowship was the top-most priority to make the club (IWCPJ) a big family, where each member has a sense of involvement and togetherness. A year later, I was selected as a club committee member, went on as a club treasurer and then as an Organising Chairman for District 330 AGM 2008/2009. Our special guest for the AGM was IIW President Suzanne Neilsen at the time.

Hosting such esteemed figures allows for fostering connections and inspiration among Inner Wheel members, and it offers a chance to showcase the work and impact of the organization on a larger scale. I am very grateful and thankful to Ilah Rangunathan for inspiring, guiding and exposing me to District 330.

In the year 2010, I moved on to charter a new club IWC Subang Selangor, with 30 friends and I was the Charter President in terms 2010 /2012. I am also very grateful to my IWC Subang members for supporting me and for looking out for me. I have been a supportive leader for all club members. I act as a facilitator for club activities and most importantly – ensure the planning and budgeting are carried out in accordance with the rules of Inner Wheel. At this juncture, I would like to take this opportunity to thank, my dear Inner Wheel sisters.

As the District Chairman in 2016/2017, I took up the challenge to organize the Fourth South Asian Rally in Malaysia. Organizing the Rally was undoubtedly a remarkable achievement. Events like these, require meticulous planning, coordination, and teamwork, and the success of the Rally reflects the hard work and commitment of the entire District Committee, especially the Organising Chairman Shanti Menon and her team.

The surplus collected during the event was used for charitable purposes- further highlighting the spirit of service that lies at the heart of Inner Wheel. Donating to the Dialysis Centre, Cancer Society, and flood victims in Sri Lanka demonstrates the meaningful impact that Inner Wheel can have on communities in need.

Another feat we achieved was in organising the biggest hamper of foodstuffs and gaining recognition in the Malaysia Guinness Records. These foodstuffs were then distributed to refugees.

I have been active in the District Extension Committee for a protracted period of time i.e., from Inner Wheel Year 2017-2018 to date and was Extension Chairman 2019-2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. I was involved in the setting up of the IWCs of Apsaras, Alor Setar, Johor Bahru and Butterworth. I also initiated a sisterhood agreement between IWC Subang Selangor last term when I was the NR, with IWC San Fernando La Union via my friendship with the Past National President of the Philippines, Mary Jane Ortega from IWC SFLU.

My Inner Wheel journey has taken me to various international conventions, triennial meetings, and other Inner Wheel activities. Participating in these events not only expands my horizons, but also offers valuable opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals from all around the world, share experiences, and learn from one another.



It is wonderful to have supportive and inspiring mentors like IIWPRep Datin Joan Salleh and IIWPBD Jessie Wang. Having someone to guide, advise and encourage me throughout my Inner Wheel journey is invaluable. Mentors play a crucial role in personal and professional growth, and it is evident that their influence has had a significant and positive impact on my involvement in Inner Wheel.

Lastly, my heartiest congratulations to District Chairman Kamala Arumugam Yeap and her team of the Centennial Committee. I feel so gratified that the Charter President of IWC Apsaras which we sponsored is heading District 330 now. I wish you all the best as you **Shine a Light**.

PNR Parimala Satheesan

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National Representative of Districts 330 & 331

(2021-2022)

District Chairman (2015-2016)

**PNR Ambika Menon- Panicker**

IWC Petaling Jaya

INNER WHEEL ...wheeled its way into my life. It was gently pushed by a few ladies of IWC Kuala Lumpur helmed by PIWBD Jessie Wang who as the wife of then Rotary DG John Wang visited the Rotary Club of Seremban. I was an active Rotary Ann in clubs wherever my husband was posted, Terengganu, Melaka, Seremban and Alor Setar.

I enjoyed charity work, fellowship with Rotarians, helping them with fundraising, and also working as well as helping Rotaractors. Jessie approached me regarding forming an Inner Wheel club in Seremban.

Apparently, there was one before which fizzled out. Now, this is something we must guard against. We must find committed members, be active to lure growth in membership and work together. We must remember to be selfless in our mission and sans ego but full of friendship

Anyway, between Dr. Harinder and I, we entertained Jessie and her team to a tea meeting at Sg. Ujong Club. We gathered a few potential members to the meet and finally decided to form a club. I was supposed to be the Charter President and Dr. Harinder the Secretary.

Unfortunately, before it could take root, my husband got a transfer to Johor Bharu. I must thank and applaud Dr. Harinder for stepping in and taking over the reins. Salute to my dear friend, Harinder.

She, as the Charter President and the long-serving Secretary Sharan have been battling membership enrolment for a while. When you have senior members who have health issues and some have even passed on, it is not easy. Anyway, I must say they have done a great many commendable projects before they disbanded this June 2023

After my stint in JB (no IW Clubs there then), I returned to Kuala Lumpur for good and joined IWC Petaling Jaya. I truly enjoyed being a member of this club. It was made up of elegant ladies, full of energy ...a fun-loving kettle of fish. Be it singing, dancing on stage, meet-ups for shows, a drink at the club/pub and attending sister clubs' functions...all were game. However, the vitality has slowed down a bit. Yes, aging certainly has its issues.

I went on to take up posts in the club and then on to be District Treasurer for two years before becoming Vice Chairman, Chairman, Extension Chairman, Deputy NR and National Representative of Districts 330 and 331.

My journey in Inner Wheel has made me humble, compassionate, and knowledgeable. I have gained respect, love and friendship. It has taught me to think before I open my mouth, to be kind, generous, to forgive and forget and above all to apologise for my mistakes

I have now taken a back seat- cheerleader's position as pain and immobility from my knee replacement and femur fracture have put me in a wheelchair. I assure you; Faith and Time will heal me.

To DC Kamala n her Committee, I say go forth and **Shine a Light** for District 330. You all are a dynamic team that will heal yesterday's wounds and bring Clubs together in Friendship through Fellowship and Goodwill.

God Bless

PNR Ambika Menon/Panicker



National Representative Inner Wheel Districts 330 & 331  
(2023-2024)

District Chairman (2014-2015)

**NR Datin Dr. Ramani Subramaniam**

### **My journey in Inner Wheel**

It has been a fabulous journey for me – I became an Inner Wheel member in 1993-1994. It has been a long-term relationship with many ups and downs!

It took me quite some time to realise that I will meet people from different walks of life – some will treat you somewhat atrociously whereas most of the people I have met in Inner Wheel have remained my friends spanning the thirty-odd years. It needs strong willpower to remain grounded.

Through my years in Inner Wheel, I have slowly climbed the ladder from club level to District level. My journey started off as an ordinary member of the Inner Wheel Club of Ipoh and I was the President when the club celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In 2007 I moved on and was the Charter Vice President of the Inner Wheel Club of Ipoh East, becoming the President in 2008. I was elevated to the district level – as District ISO, District Vice Chairman and was the District Chairman 2014-2015.

The year after holding the Immediate Past District Chairman's position, I was the Extension chairman for two years. I was elected as Deputy National Representative in 2022-23 and at present hold the post of National Representative.

It has been an amazing journey – each position gives you new experiences and gives you so much self-confidence. It is also a great platform to form strong friendship bonds with members of other Inner Wheel clubs and in the international arena.

So, my fellow Inner Wheel members - enjoy your years in Inner Wheel and gladly accept positions at Club and District levels – you will be surprised at your own capabilities! Let us together **Shine a Light**.

In Inner Wheel Friendship,

Datin Dr Ramani Subramaniam

National Representative

District 330 and 331.



International Inner Wheel Board Director (2021-2022)

National Representative of Districts 330 & 331

(2018-2019)

District Chairman (2013-2014)

**IIPBD Datin Seetha Lakshmi**

IWC Klang

MY INNER WHEEL JOURNEY

I was introduced to Inner Wheel in the late 90s. I had attended some joint club projects organized by the Rotary Club of Titiwangsa and the Inner Wheel Club of Bangsar. This instigated me to start my own Inner Wheel Club in Klang. The Inner Wheel Club of Klang was chartered in 1999 and I have always considered IWC Klang as my baby. My baby is now 23 years old and I couldn't be prouder of our achievements.

After 7 years of serving at club level, I was invited to join the District Committee as the District Secretary to the late IIWPBD Joy Sundram. That was my stepping stone into the District Committee. After that, I took on the positions of District Treasurer, Vice Chairman and District Chairman in the year 2013/2014. I had many teachers who guided me along the way. Since my husband is a Past District Governor of Rotary District 3300, it gave me much exposure to the modules of Club/ District Officers' Training.

When I was District Secretary, we organized the updating of the Club Officers' Guidelines. There were many ladies involved in that project. The late Joy Sundram as District Chairman at that time was very particular in the way we worded the modules for printing. I am grateful that I learned a lot about Inner Wheel from her.

My journey in Inner Wheel continued after my Chairmanship, to include National Representative for Districts 330 and 331 in the year 2018/2019. In the year 2021/2022 I was nominated and elected as International Inner Wheel Board Director.

Being in Inner Wheel has introduced me to many friends, both locally and in foreign countries. Inner Wheel has taught me to be more tolerant of different opinions, different viewpoints and it has taught me to be more inclusive, also to be more respectful. A family of five people can have five different characters. So, what more in a District of four hundred members? I have learnt a lot and I am still learning. Joining Inner Wheel has been the best decision I have made in my life.

I take this opportunity to congratulate District Chairman Kamala Yeap and her committee and I wish them all the very best as they **Shine a Light**.

Thank you.

IIWPBD Datin Seetha Lakshmi



International Inner Wheel Board Director  
(2010-2011)

National Representative (2007-2008)

District Chairman (2003-2004)

**IWPBD Rathy Mahendran**

IWC Taiping

Congratulations DC Kamala Yeap and your team for leading the District in this Centennial year and I know you will have a very successful term as you **Shine a Light**.

My IW journey began 65 years ago, first as a member's daughter, then as a daughter-in-law of a member and finally as a member myself. Six months after my induction, the post of Secretary was thrust upon me. Furthermore, even before I could recover from that shock; a pile of books, files, regalia and the necessary paraphernalia landed on my lap.

The minutes had to be handwritten into this thick, hard-cover, book where mistakes were not easily erased without making a mess. However, I not only survived but thrived and continued my journey to become President, District Chairman, National Representative and finally IIW Board Director.

In the early years, Inner Wheel and Rotary worked as a team and with the addition of the Rotaractors and Interactors, it was one big family contributing to society. All this was possible only with the support and encouragement of my husband, family, friends, and most importantly my very own wonderful IWC Taiping's club members.

I am proud to be part of a team conceived in loyalty, guided by love, expressed in charity, illuminated by happiness and a gift to humanity.

IWPBD Rathy Mahendran

IWC Taiping



District Chairman (2002-2003)

**PDC Sheela Wadhvani**

IWC Petaling Jaya

My heartiest congratulations to our District Chairman Kamala A. Yeap on being installed as the District Chairman for the term 2023-2024. This is a special year for IIW clubs as it is our centenary year.

Inner Wheel in the past 100 years has grown from humble beginnings to having clubs all over the world. District 330 is no exception given the 20 clubs in the District. The role of the District Chairman is extremely important therefore in the fostering of friendship, service to the underprivileged, and teamwork in collaborations within our district and with our sister clubs in other districts.

Having had the privilege of being District Chairman from 2002-2003 I understand the challenges you may face during your term. You, having reached this senior position, is testimony to your dedication to Inner Wheel. My journey of 40 years from club member, to the club President and then to various committees, allowed me to have a good understanding of what it takes to lead the District. It is the same for you. The benefit you have is the availability of technology that will allow you to accelerate all your plans during your term. I am excited to see the innovation that will result.

I know that with your past experience and the support of your committee, your year will be an exciting one as you **Shine a Light**. Congratulations once again.

Yours fraternally,

PDC Sheela Wadhvani



International Inner Wheel Board Director  
(2012-2013)

National Representative (2005-2007)

District Chairman (2000-2001)

**IIWPBD Datin Ainol Ramli**

IWC Kuala Lumpur

My journey in Inner Wheel started as a member of IWC Kuala Lumpur in 1983 after being introduced by To' Puan Lam Lee Pin. My husband was the President of the Rotary Club of Kuala Lumpur DiRaja. I later served as IWC KL's Treasurer in the term 1985-1986 before moving up to the post of Vice President in the following term. However, the President had to relocate, and I stepped in as President.

I was elected Club President in my own right in Inner Wheel Year 1987-1988. I next moved to the District Committee and served first as the International Service Organiser, prior to serving as the District Treasurer for three terms i.e., from 1992-1995. I then became the District Secretary in Inner Wheel Year 1999-2000. I headed the District as Chairman in term 2000-2001.

After a stint as the Deputy National Representative in term 2004-2005, I became the National Representative in Inner Wheel Year 2005-2006-2007. From 2012-2013, I was International Inner Wheel Board Director. International Inner Wheel President Carole Young from New Zealand had her board meeting in Manchester, United Kingdom in 2012 which gave me many good experiences and treasured memories.

In the course of my stint at IIW, I have helped count votes in Florence, Italy; participated in and helped with the organizing of International Conferences as National Representative in New Zealand; Turkey; and Melbourne, Australia.

It has been a joyous and inspirational journey that has taken me to many places and given me the opportunity to meet many people, particularly women. I have



experienced personal growth while enjoying myself thoroughly and I thank my club members who stood by me throughout my years of service.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our newly minted District Chairman Kamala A. Yeap and her team. It gives me great pleasure to support the theme of **Shine a Light** with her and all members of Inner Wheel District 330.

Yours in Inner Wheel Friendship,

IIWPBD Datin Ainol Ramli.



International Inner Wheel Representative  
(1993-1995)

District Chairman (1998-1999)

**IIWPR Datin Joan Salleh**

IWC Petaling Jaya

The World of Inner Wheel opened up for me when I joined the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur, the second Oldest Club in Malaysia, in 1970. After a few years as an ordinary member, the usual happened with 'New Blood' & I progressed from Committee Member, Treasurer (for three years- I think the rationale was that as a wife of a practicing Accountant, I must be well-versed in money matters), Vice President and finally, I took on the Presidency in the following Inner Wheel Year

In the late 1970s, it was discussed between the clubs the possibility of forming a District and in 1980, District 330 was born with the late Dr. Mrs. Bakshish M Singh from IWC Ipoh as our first District Chairman. Although I was very involved in helping with the formation of the District, I kept a low profile concentrating more at club level. However, as fate would have it, I attended the AGM held in Tawau, Sabah in 1985 and returned as the District Vice Chairman for the term 1985/1986

but with the proviso that I would not have to take on the post of Chairman the following year.

In view of having served as a District Vice Chairman, I was eligible to be appointed as IIW Representative & Board Member in 1993/1994. As fate would destine once again in my Inner Wheel life, this was a Convention Year & I attended the 9th IIW Convention in Sydney, Australia as a Board Member for Malaysia. I served again for the second year 1994/1995 attending the Board Meeting in England.

The system of appointing IIW Representatives/Board Members changed the next year and from then on Nominations & Elections were held for the new position of IIW Board Directors where sixteen members became part of the IIW Governing Body. In turn a new position National Representative was created as the liaison between Districts & International Inner Wheel

After being a very happy member of IWCKL for 25 years I made a very difficult decision to transfer my membership when I helped to Charter IWC Petaling Jaya and served as their Charter Secretary for two terms. Once again destiny intervned and in 1998/1999 at the AGM held in Tawau, would you believe, I was elected as District Chairman.

My Inner Wheel Journey has taken me to many Conventions since my first one in Sydney. In fact, I have been fortunate enough to attend in Berlin, Stockholm, Florence but sadly I missed Christchurch for family reasons, Kota Kinabalu, Istanbul, Copenhagen and Melbourne. This really opened up the meaning of International Understanding for me & I feel truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful Organisation.

In this Very Special Centenary Year, I would like to Congratulate District Chairman Kamala and Wish her and her Committee every success as they **Shine a Light** & bring District 330 to even Greater Heights.

Yours in Inner Wheel Friendship,  
Joan Salleh  
IIWPBM



National Representative of IW Districts 330 & 331

(2004-2005)

District Chairman (1993-1994)

**PNR Datin Gnanambigai Rajah**

IWC Ipoh

I joined the Inner Wheel Club of Ipoh in February 1980 and attended the first meeting at the late Datin Lata Sharma's residence.

Thirteen years later I was elected as District Chairman 1993-1994 for District 330 which covered the Inner Wheel Clubs in West Malaysia, East Malaysia and Singapore. District 330 held a record for being the only district separated by a sea.

The District Annual General Meeting cum rally was held over a weekend from Friday to Sunday alternating between West Malaysia (including Singapore) and East Malaysia. Members eagerly looked forward to the AGMs to share friendship and fellowship, meet new friends and connect with their old friends. Friday night concerts displayed the talents of the clubs as each club produced its own items which included dances, plays, and sketches. It was a night of fun and laughter. On the business side, meetings were conducted successfully.

In 2010, my club accorded me "Honoured Active Membership" for services to club, district and National spanning 30 years.

In 2013, the Inner Wheel Club of Ipoh sponsored a "New Generation Club" the Inner Wheel Club of IORAS. District Extension Chairman PDC Simone Wippern, together with PNR Ila Ragunathan and I, PNR Gnana Rajah formed the working committee. I am the mentor for the club.

I have supported all the activities of our clubs over the last 40 years and still continue to do so.

Dear District Chairman Kamala Yeap, and members of the District Committee,

My heartiest congratulations to all of you on being elected to serve the District this year. I am delighted that DC Kamala will lead the way and **SHINE a LIGHT** on the district's activities this centennial year of International Inner Wheel.

Wishing you all a fruitful and rewarding year ahead.

PNR GNANA RAJAH



International Inner Wheel Board Director  
(2001-2003)

National Representative (1997-1998)

District Chairman (1991-1992)

**IW/PBD Jessie Wang**

IWC Kuala Lumpur

I joined the Inner Wheel Club of Kota Kinabalu in 1973 and served as President in term 1976/77 and later joined the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur in 1983 and served as President again in 1985/86.

I was Inner Wheel District 330's Secretary in 1986/87 and became Inner Wheel District 330 Chairman in the 1991/92 term.

I served as National Representative in 1997/98 and later served two terms as IIW Board Director 2001-2003. I have attended International Inner Wheel Conventions held in New Zealand, Kota Kinabalu, Copenhagen, Melbourne and Jaipur India (Virtual Convention)

I was the First Lady of Rotary District 3300 when my late husband PDG John Wang served as District Governor in 1992/93.

My personal beliefs have always been "small things done are better than big things planned" and that donating your own time and getting involved personally is more

fulfilling than just raising and donating money. True voluntary service gives much personal satisfaction even without recognition.

### **Message to District Chairman Kamala A. Yeap**

“The Old Order Changeth, giving place to the New”

It is this regular changing of the guard that constantly brings new ideas, new vigour and new life to Inner Wheel, and makes for much strength and dynamism in our serving others. Much of Inner Wheel's strength and unity comes from quiet consultation, compromise, and give-and-take, with malice towards none and charity to all.

Congratulations and best wishes to District Chairman Kamala and her Committee for a meaningful and rewarding year of office. May we all continue to enjoy Friendship and Service as we **Shine a Light** and **Brighten lives for the Future**.

IIWPBD JESSIE WANG



International Inner Wheel Board Director  
(2016-2018)

National Representative (2014-2015)

District Chairman (1988-1989)

**IIWPBD Datin Pearl Jai Mohan**

IWC Kuala Lumpur City Centre

### **IIW Past Board Director Datin Pearl Jai Mohan**

I joined IWC of Ipoh, Perak in August 1980 and have been an IW member for 43 years until this year 2023. The motivation to join Inner Wheel was the desire to join like-minded ladies in serving the community. I have served at Club, District and International levels. My journey in resume form is as follows:

## **Club Level**

IWC Ipoh: Secretary, Vice President, President of IWC Ipoh (1988/1989).

IWC Bangsar: President (2000/2001)

IWC Kuala Lumpur City Centre: President 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

## **District Level**

District Extension Chairman (6 terms-formed the IW Clubs of Teluk Intan, Bangsar, Mutiara, Intan, Pearl of the Orient, Kuala Lumpur City Centre and Kuching)

District Secretary

District Chairman (1988/1989)

National Representative (2015/2016)

## **International Level**

International Inner Wheel Representative / Board Director (2016/2017)  
(2017/2018)

Delegate for District 330 and 331 at the 16<sup>th</sup> IIW Convention, Copenhagen, Denmark

IIW Board Director at the 18<sup>th</sup> IIW Convention, Melbourne, Australia (2017/2018)

Margarette Golding Award (2020)

CONGRATULATIONS TO DISTRICT CHAIRMAN KAMALA YEAP AND HER COMMITTEE MEMBERS. WISHING YOU A WONDERFUL YEAR OF OFFICE AND FELLOWSHIP AS YOU SHINE A LIGHT.

IIWPBD DATIN PEARL JAI MOHAN

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International Inner Wheel Representative

(1988-1989)

District Chairman (1986-1987)

**IIWPR To' Puan Lam Lee Pin**

IWC Kuala Lumpur

Allow me to congratulate District Chairman Kamala Yap (2023/24). I wish her a HAPPY, FULFILLING year in one of the biggest women's organisations in the world as she and her team **Shine a Light**.

I joined Inner Wheel in 1979 when my late husband, Dato Seri Langat diRaja Lam Peng Chong was President of the Rotary Club of Kuala Lumpur.

I have served as the President of the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur in term 1983/84; District Chairman of Inner Wheel District 330 in 1986/87; International Inner Wheel Representative in 1988/89 and International Inner Wheel Extension Officer (IIWEO) for Indonesia/Thailand.

I helped form the Inner Wheel Club of Kuantan Atabara-now IWC Kuantan/ Indera Mahkota and the Inner Wheel Club of Teluk Intan when I was the District Chairman. I also managed to get the three Singapore clubs into District 330, acting as advisor...

IIWPR To' Puan Lam Lee Pin

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# The Marvellous Inner Wheel World: IIW Editor/Media Manager 2021-2022 shares her experience

Greetings, friends.

**District Chairman Kamala, congratulations and best wishes to your team of 2023-2024. I pray that under your leadership, this new team will be blessed with good health and wisdom.**

Friends, I take this opportunity to thank members of Districts 330 and 331 for electing me to serve as Editor/Media Manager of International Inner Wheel in IWY2021-2022 together with IIW President Ebe Martines, VP Zenaida Farcon, Treasurer Sarita Lunani, Constitution Chairman Sissel Michelsen, and the Board Directors notably our own member, Datin Seetha Lakshmi.



**Serving in this post before me** were eleven others (counting from 1998-1999). Succeeding me is Prabha Raghunandan.



It was a good experience. My first time working with almost a full house of ladies, which is quite a contrast to my career life. I say "almost" because the IIW Administrator is Mr Alan Phillips, a man with a sense of humour, who is always patient and obliging.

**My role in a nutshell**, is to publish matters of IIW in magazines, website and social media. No one tells me exactly what to do apart from the official duties and responsibilities (shortened to D&R in IIW lingo). Not forgetting, my mission writeup in the nomination booklet, I had thoughts of what to do from the start of term. Those thoughts were put to the test when I was invited to attend a segment of the first IIW Executive Committee (EC) meeting. In anticipation (thank God!) I had prepared a presentation.

The meeting was over Zoom because international borders were still locked due to COVID-19. It was my first meeting with anyone in IIW. It was the first conversation with EC members. Of course, I was excited with a bit of trepidation. I asked to screen share. It was a short presentation.

**According to my D&R**, I need EC approval. Each of them made comments. They were all pleasant and supportive. Their verdict: I could go ahead! Throughout the year, there were several other meetings. All were on Zoom. Unfortunately, with COVID-19, I didn't have the chance to travel.

Travel was unnecessary. I am born into this new era where telecommunicating with members worldwide is the new frontier. There was a **communication protocol** to adhere to. I had to message (bcc by email, of course) to NRs and not DCs unless the country has no NRs. There are clubs not administered by districts (NDCs) and to these, I would message to Vice-President who in turn would forward to the respective Board Directors assigned to the NDCs. The VP would also inform the IIW UN representatives. However, many emails were sent to me directly from Clubs or districts or national officers, which was the interesting part. Inner Wheel members worldwide practice a culture of decorum, politeness, and gentleness. Often, I would receive kind, inspiring and encouraging words. **Just have to remember that English may not be the first language of everyone but love is universal.**







The rest of my IW term sped past quickly. Work wasn't much different from my publishing business. What I needed to keep in mind in editorial work was to ensure the right terminologies, salutation and branding of IIW and IW. (Do I hear gasps from past District Editors, "Oh! That's what I did, too!")

The Editor/Media Manager is not required to have technical know-how of website development. IIW appointed a company to take care of it. At that time, the IIW website was already a decade old and getting heavy laden. There was also the legal aspect of UK's GDPR (data privacy). I was on home ground and so, I offered what I could in reviewing the website and had discussions with the EC members on various options. By the end of my term, the IIW website was revamped with a new simplified concept, look and functions, and embedded with the power of social media platform. Google Workspace was adopted; its modern system of cloud-based storage for all members to access, productivity and collaboration tools were installed, with its flexible robust online security.

The Board Directors and later, the NRs were invited for the presentation and Q&A before being launched to the members worldwide in a new IW year. The truth was, the real work had just begun because members would have to learn to adapt and to embrace change.

**Embracing change** is not about whether we are old or young but whether we are willing to learn. This is about technology and communication. It changes fast. The longer we delay, the more steps we have to catch up until it is too late because it is too much and too costly to catch up! Therefore, if we don't embark on the new now, then when? I salute the ECs for their cohesive courage and decisiveness. It was gratifying to have worked alongside them.

Although my tenure is now completed, relationships formed did not end. I have friends now in all parts of the world. The experience has enriched me with knowledge and understanding of other cultures, traditions, and languages. **What a marvellous world we live in.**

Of all the posts in IIW, so long as we are not a National Governing Body, District 330 can only nominate members to the posts of Editor/Media Manager or Board Director. It is easy to qualify for nomination to be Editor/Media Manager. I encourage our past District Editors to submit their nomination. Our District may not be large in numbers but we have quality!

To all members, our role is to **prioritise on increasing membership**. Whoever you meet, speak for Inner Wheel. More members mean more hands for good works. A large membership gives us the might to be impactful in uplifting communities.



In closing, my best wishes and may God bring fulfillment to the 2023-2024 team of District 330. As we **Shine A Light**, let's also promote **PEACE** and **JOY** in what we **THINK**, what we **SAY**, and what we **DO**.

 *Yeok San* 



## *Acknowledgment:*

*Our heartfelt appreciation to all the lovely ladies, the 'Brightest Lights' of District 330 for their kind contributions to this first issue of our Newsletter in IJW's Centenary Term. This is our way of paying tribute to their tireless efforts to keep our District's flag flying over the years. A special shout out to PDC Shanti Menon for her encouragement and help.*

*Thank you all so much, ladies.*