

1. Ernest (Ernie) Abraham



An ISWA 2023 Volunteer Awardee!

An Electrical Engineer with over 25 years of experience in various Industries, used those skills in successfully implementing the ICC building as the Lead E&I Engineer of the Project team & been working around budget constraints of optimizing each system, even resorting to DIY where professionally possible.

Elected to the 2022-2024 Council I have been providing constant support for the operation, maintenance, and upgrades of the E&I systems of the ICC and ISWA center. Helping Diwali Mela, Holi, ICC events & some of many achievements are:

1. FTTP Internet, Wi-Fi and LAN system.
2. Remote control of HVAC system.
3. Retractable seating inspection lights.
4. Board room Electrical and comms.
5. 3 Φ and 1 Φ Power points on Stage.
6. Stage lighting upgrade with 9 Fresnel.
7. Wireless CCTV to improve security.
8. Indian Tricolor lights on ICC on occasions.
9. Install shielded cables for AV system.
10. Acoustic testing of Auditorium.

Specified and estimated the costing to apply for the \$250K loan and after release of the grant, implementing a LED wall on stage and AV- E&I upgrades are in progress.

Implement the vision of a state-of-the-art ICC building.

2. Jigar Acharya



I am a postgraduate in Plastic Engineering and working as an Analyst/Planner at Water Corporation since 2013. I've been actively engaged in community service, with organizations like HSS and Shri Shirdi Sai Perth. As an ISWA life member since 2021, I've led various community initiatives, including coordinating the Youth Entrepreneur Market project and contributing to the Sewa Diwali initiative, where we distributed over 3 tons of food items for Food Bank and more than 5 tons for the Perth Homeless Support Group during the 2023 Diwali celebrations. I played a role in COVID-19 relief efforts, ensuring essential food items reached those in need in Perth.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

3. Binod Agarwalla



Binod Agarwalla, a water, and wastewater process specialist who has been working for the Water Corporation for the past 23 years and has been actively involved with the Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA) for the past 22 years, playing significant roles at various times.

Binod served as the treasurer in 2010-2011 and the secretary in 2011-2012. He was also actively involved in the Indian Community Centre project since the beginning, providing significant contributions and guidance for design development, project delivery, contract execution, and document management. He is currently elected as a General Committee member to the ISWA Management Committee and has served as the Chair of the Indian Community Centre for more than 12 months, developing processes and standards for good governance and management.

Binod values teamwork, transparency, and giving back. He seeks to lead ISWA with these principles, alongside Dr. Papori Barua. Their vision focuses on a strong, unified community, with goals like achieving financial stability for the Community Centre, empowering various demographics, and establishing essential services like an aged care centre and funeral home. They also aim to support businesses, bridge regional divides, and foster collaboration within ISWA.

4. Dr Jugal Agarwalla



Gold medallist from Guwahati University for Bachelor of Engineering, Doctor of Engineering from the Asian Institute of Technology, migrated to WA in 1988 and joined ISWA in 1989.

Recipient of the Lakhwara award.

Served ISWA as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, part of MC and auditor.

Changed ISWA financial year to calendar year and MC term 2yrs

Co-ordinated Independence Day function 2002 to have disciplined function to start and finish on time for the first time.

Lifted ISWA profile to make it known in whole of Australia.

Launched first ever strategic plan for ISWA in 2009, organised Diwali Mela outdoors for the first time.

Founding member: Hindi Samaj
Rajasthani Kutumb
Assam Association.

Served in MC of AAA, ECCWA and Ethnic School.

Vision:

- Empower ISWA council to participate in decision making process for major projects. Make ISWA management committee accountable to the council
- Establish strategies to manage ICC, make it self-sustaining to be able to payoff loan independently.
- Build retirement village and age care facility for Indian seniors.
- Work on getting benefits to the community through collective bargaining power.
- Establish network of community members having various professional skills for skill sharing.

5. Surya Ambati:



Surya Ambati has been committed to serving the Indian community in Western Australia for 14 years. Starting with Telugu community associations, he has held key positions in ISWA, including Committee Member, Secretary, Vice-President, and President; his dedication to making a positive impact has remained unwavering.

His notable contributions include:

- Establishing the ISWA Council, thereby elevating ISWA to peak body status.
- Spearheading the establishment of Australia's first Indian Community Centre (ICC), overseeing the project from conception to realization.
- Initiatives during COVID-19 pandemic to empower and support students.
- Increased female representation in ISWA leadership roles, fostering equality and inclusivity.
- Collaborating with esteemed organizations like White Ribbon Australia and WA Women's Health & Family Services to address domestic violence and offer vital support services.

The team's aim is to initiate an Indian Aged Care Centre, bridging regional gaps, creating an Indian funeral home, initiating an Indian school in Perth, and fostering resource sharing within our association.

Though not seeking an ISWA Management Committee position, Surya remains dedicated to serving on the Council in an advisory capacity. Alongside Dr. Papori Barua, he is committed to contributing to ISWA's vision for progress and development.

5. Rohan Amalani



With a Master's degree in professional accounting from UWA ,I have served as the Secretary, Principal (Hindi School), Marketing Lead, Grants, and Funding Coordinator at Hindi Samaj of WA. I coordinated the inaugural ISWA Business Bazaar in 2019. I served as Vice Chairperson for the ISWA Student Wing from 2020-22. I currently serve as the Partnerships Manager with TEDxPerth, and a Member of the Multicultural Advisory Board with the City of Armadale. I've been instrumental in drafting most of the grant applications for ISWA in 2022-24 The latest event I coordinated was the ISWA Holi 2024, which was the largest of its kind in WA.

Key objectives :

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- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

7. Dr Papor Barua



Dr. Papor Barua, a distinguished professional with a PhD in biosecurity, has served as a committed volunteer for the Indian Society of WA (ISWA) for 15 years, advocating for compassion, inclusion, transparency and effective governance.

During her tenure as Assistant Secretary (2018-2020) and immediate past Secretary (2020-2022), ISWA achieved significant milestones, including recognition as a peak body, establishment of the ISWA Council, and construction of the Indian Community Centre, funded with over \$4 million from governments. Dr. Barua also played a key role in establishing various wings and initiatives within ISWA, focusing on the welfare of women, youth, seniors, and families, garnering extensive leadership experience and trust with authorities.

If elected to the ISWA Council, Dr. Barua intends to run for the position of ISWA President (2022-2024).

She enjoys widespread trust and endorsement from past ISWA leaders and is supported by a capable team of 32 members who share her vision for ISWA's future. This vision includes goals such as achieving a debt-free Indian Community Centre, empowering youth and women, supporting seniors and the business community, bridging regional gaps, addressing social issues like domestic violence and disaster relief, and initiating strategic projects like establishing an Indian school in Perth.

8. Rakesh Bhan



Rakesh Bhan is a committed community leader with a passion for technology and social impact. Armed with a background in Project Management in the Reinforcing Steel industry, he founded various community-oriented groups and a successful small-scale business with software solutions.

Bhan's vision extends beyond profit, as he actively engages in community development projects, leveraging technology to address societal challenges. With a keen interest in environmental sustainability, he advocates for eco-friendly practices within the tech industry. Bhan's leadership and commitment to utilizing technology for positive change have earned him recognition as a thought leader in both entrepreneurship and social innovation circles.

Rakesh aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, alongside Dr. Papori Barua. Aligned with Team Papori's Shared Vision, they aim to achieve significant milestones, such as making the Indian Community Centre debt-free, establishing an ISWA Youth Wing, empowering women and seniors, and initiating an Indian Aged Care Centre.

9. Lavisha Bhatia



I'm a proud Indian migrated to Perth 20 years ago from the Middle East having more than 3 decades of professional experience spanning various industries. Over the last 10 years, I have been managing Phoenix Accountants and Advisors working alongside local businesses to foster growth and enhance profitability. I take great pride in my ability to navigate the complexities of the industry and deliver tailored solutions for my clientele. We have extended our expertise to several Not-for-Profit Indian and local community organizations, offering discounted /pro-bono accounting and audit services to support their financial endeavours.

As an active member of Indian community, I've participated in the community service with ISWA during Diwali Mela, Naari and other events further cementing my commitment to serving our community.

Team goals:

- **Empower member associations** - grant writing, leadership mentoring & digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** + develop **retirement village**.
- Enhancing **outreach efforts and support services** - domestic violence, mental health, disabilities.
- To make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** + expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional.
- Boosting **youth representation and engagement**.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** in five years.
- Strengthen Health education, **especially or women's and mental health**.

10. SANJAY BHATIA



Sanjay is currently working as Project Delivery Manager managing a range of projects for a major LNG operator in Perth. Sanjay has a core degree in Chemical Engineering and post-graduation in Project Management. His professional experience spans more than 30 years in engineering, project management, project execution, cost control, governance, policy and procedures.

Sanjay has been actively involved in community work and worked in various ISWA sub-committees, events and activities since 2009:

- ISWA Council Member (from inception till 2022)
- COVID grant task force 2021
- Constitution Review Committee 2022
- Volunteer at ISWA Diwali Mela and India Independence Day Cultural Parades, Participation at Sangam 2022 and Naari 2024 events.
- Founding President of Western Australia Sindhi Association Inc.
- Volunteer at Heart Foundation Australia involved in spreading awareness on Mental Health among young Australians.

Sanjay is committed to fostering positive changes for progressive ISWA in collaborative manner to achieve good governance, accountability, transparency, integrity built on robust policies and procedures to achieve the vision, mission and values as stipulated in the ISWA constitution.

It is with the above objectives and mission that Sanjay is humbly seeking support from ISWA Life Members to vote for him as ISWA Councillor in the upcoming AGM elections.

11. Deepa Bhowmick:



Deepa Bhowmick, an active life member of the Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA), has been integral to the NAARI organizing team since its inception in 2017.

With two decades of service in the Australian Public Service (APS), Deepa is dedicated to promoting the values of respect and accountability to work with integrity, care, diligence and facilitating the development of people and institutional capabilities in leadership roles.

Appointed Officer-In-Charge by the Australian Electoral Commission for the last four federal elections, Deepa has demonstrated her commitment to upholding policies and procedures, vote reconciliation, staff supervision and managing voters and political party workers.

Deepa's leadership and expertise will contribute to the organization's continued growth and success.

Deepa aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion and integrity in partnership with Dr. Papor Barua. Together, they will work towards fostering an inclusive, stronger and more unified Indian community.

12 Rakhi Bose



Rakhi Bose, a healthcare professional with a postgraduate qualification in Mass Communication and Public Relations, founded the Academy of Indian Classical & Bollywood Dance in 2010. She is a trained Indian classical dancer and choreographer. Her journey with ISWA has been enriching, serving as a cultural coordinator for events like Diwali Mela 2018 and SANGAM 2021, and spearheaded ISWA Talent Hunt from 2018 to 2019.

Rakhi conducted Indian dance workshops at institutions like Curtin University, UWA, and ChristChurch Grammar School, public & private institutions, promoting Indian art to diverse audiences. Beyond ISWA, Rakhi is active in community organizations like the Hindi Samaj, Uttar Pradesh Awadh Manch and the Bengali Association of Western Australia.

Driven by a belief in selfless service, she seeks support as an ISWA life member representative on the council. Rakhi aims for ISWA to foster a pluralistic society where everyone feels empowered, especially women, seniors, youth, and children. Dedicated to transparency, commitment, compassion, and integrity, she pledges to lead ISWA towards inclusivity and progress.

Supported by her strong work ethics and strategic thinking, Rakhi seeks your support in this journey, endorsing Dr. Papori Barua's leadership for a unified Indian community. Let's work together for a brighter future.

13. Anil Kumar Chauhan



I am Anil Kumar Chauhan, a Life Member of ISWA and I am an independent candidate for the Life Members Representative to the ISWA Council. I have 13 years of Management experience in retail and logistics. I voluntarily worked with ISWA for 5 years, and I have collaborated with many ISWA management members to help organising the ISWA Diwali Mela, Sangam, etc.

Major Contributions in ISWA:

1. I was the first person to send an official email to ISWA in 2019 for resolving a non-vegetarian ISWA Diwali Mela. Due to my initiative of officially raising the issue, the Diwali Mela is now a vegetarian festival.
2. I helped distribute groceries to students through ISWA during COVID-19.
3. I voluntarily worked and helped Samskruthi Perth, HSS, HCA, VHP, OFBJP, HSWA, and NRI Rising Club in Perth. For example: the Ramayan Skit, Tree Planting, Keep Australia Clean, Guru Purav, Blood Donations, etc.

My Vision

As most of my heritage has served in the Indian Army, including my father as a Rt. Lt. Colonel, I have a slightly different vision for ISWA and India.

1. All ISWA Life Members will be given the privilege to elect the President.
2. Equal opportunities for both men and women in ISWA management.
3. You can become part of the main committee only twice in ISWA.
4. I challenge Indian organisations who have relations with Anti-India forces. For example: PAWA openly challenges the Sovereignty of India and disrespected Indian soldiers, so I keep awaking WA Indian organisation leaders to stay away from such people.

14. Jerry Cherian



I am an **Architect** with over 20+ years of global experience working on very esteemed projects.

Working with **ISWA since 2018**, I have served as the **Lead Architect**, actively shaping the **Indian Community Centre (ICC)**. Additionally, I've been integral to events like Diwali Mela and Sangam

My commitment extends beyond being an Architect; I prioritize **community empowerment**. Through outreach efforts, youth engagement, and enhancing senior care, I aim to foster growth and connectivity within our community. My passion lies in **enabling communities flourish** and creating meaningful impact through community engagement.

TEAM VISION:

- 1) To **empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives
- 2) we aim to improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- 3) We prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- 4) Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- 5) We're committed to boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- 6) Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- 7) Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**

15. Sudhir Chowdhary



With a professional background in Mechanical Engineering, I currently hold a position within the Department of Justice. Having migrated to Australia in 2004, my family and I have made Perth our permanent home. Previously, I served as Chairman at the Haryana Society of Western Australia, where we spearheaded various community initiatives. These included organizing blood donation drives, observing international peace and yoga days, offering language classes focused on Hindi, and coordinating multicultural events. Notably, during the COVID-19 pandemic, we directed proceeds from our events towards supporting the community during those challenging times.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
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Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

16. Dr Satish Devata



I have been working as a General Practitioner in Western Australia since 2006. I enjoy & pride of being a family physician providing comprehensive & continuing care for all age groups. I am happily married with two lovely girls; wife is a practicing dentist. I am a practice owner and enjoy teaching medical students, mentoring new doctors entering General practice.

Passionate about serving the community, I served as General Secretary for Australian Indian Medical Association WA for 2018-20 & as AIMA President from 2020-21. I was instrumental in strengthening the strong bond between ISWA and AIMA and Initiating various health promotion and charitable initiatives under my tenure at AIMA, which till date continue and provide a platform for learning towards a healthy community.

I continue to work in charitable activities and ideas which can make a difference in saving lives and promote a healthy society. I am currently actively volunteering for building JET Sri Balaji Temple in Baldivis.

If elected to ISWA Council, I am committed to contributing to our vision for progressive ISWA with compassion, inclusiveness, integrity & transparency alongside Dr Paopri Barua by working towards various projects & vision proposed our teams' flyer.

17. Sandhya Dinesh



As an employment consultant, Sandhya specializes in providing support to ex-offenders, guiding them towards a brighter future. Actively engaged in the community, she has served as a secretary for the Multicultural Association Karrassa and as a committee member for the Kairali Cultural Club. Her volunteer work includes active participation and contributions to ISWA as Sangam, as well as involvement in various other initiatives over the years.

Sandhya has taken the lead in organizing efforts to gather financial assistance and support for families affected by the Kerala floods. Additionally, she has profound compassion for music, finding immense joy in organizing and performing in high-quality music shows, aiming to entertain and uplift audiences. Sandhya lends her support to Dr. Papori Barua's leadership for ISWA, advocating transparency, commitment, compassion, and integrity to advance a unified and progressive Indian community.

18. Paramdeep Gill



I migrated to Australia in 2004 and have been involved with local associations like the SAWA and ISWA in organizing Diwali Mela and other community events. I have been a life member of ISWA since 2007. I had the privilege to lead the Virsa Club, where we run centralised sporting facility to help community member to prepare for the participation in local leagues. Additionally, we organise open days to provide health, legal, financial, and migration-related advice.

I currently work as a generalist solicitor at SSCLS. Being a first-generation migrant, I have seen various issues our broader community is facing, particularly in relation to family violence and welfare rights. I have a keen interest in working on these issues and helping educate the community.

Team goals:

- **Empower member associations** - grant writing, leadership mentoring & digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** + develop **retirement village**.
- Enhancing **outreach efforts and support services** - domestic violence, mental health, disabilities.
- To make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** + expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional.
- Boosting **youth representation and engagement**.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** in five years.
- Strengthen Health education, **especially or women's and mental health**.

19. Kumar Goteti



I am a registered Homoeopath in Australia, boasting over three decades of experience in delivering Homoeopathic care to our community. Additionally, I actively participate in JET Australia's Perth Chapter, where I contribute to various endeavours such as organizing blood drives, tree planting activities, and community events. Moreover, I offer crucial first aid assistance whenever necessary. In my involvement with ISWA, I take charge of arranging Diwali mela events and conducting informative first aid training sessions. As a volunteer event paramedic with St John Ambulance, I prioritize ensuring the safety and well-being of individuals at gatherings. Furthermore, I lend my support to the community through organizations like WATA and TAP, aiding in event coordination and cultural programs. Alongside these commitments, I continue to provide Homoeopathic consultations, emphasizing my dedication to holistic healthcare solutions.

Alongside Mr. Deepak Sharma, I support the vision to:

- Make the Indian Community Centre debt-free and expand its facilities.
- Ensure transparent governance, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Enhance support services for seniors, family and domestic violence, students, mental health, and people with disabilities.
- Improve senior care services, develop a retirement village for aging community members.
- Implement capacity building initiatives for member associations through leadership mentoring, focused on grant writing and digital literacy.
- Expand footprint, north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Boost youth representation and engagement, exploring establishment of a charitable arm.
- Strengthen health education, especially for women's and mental health.

20. Sandeep Goyal



As a qualified Engineer with extensive experience in the Real Estate and Construction sectors, I have dedicated decades to building and expanding my company as an entrepreneur in the building industry. My journey in Western Australia began in 2007 when I moved to Willetton with my family, where we have since established deep roots within the community.

For the past 16 years, I have been actively involved in the Indian Community, serving as an ISWA council member for two consecutive terms. Additionally, I contribute to various Indian organisations such as AAWA, HSWA and HCA, where I work tirelessly to promote and preserve our cultural heritage.

Furthermore, I am honoured to serve as a Justice of Peace (JP) in south of Perth, where I volunteer my time to assist the community with legal matters. My dedication to community service and my professional expertise uniquely positions me to make meaningful contributions to the betterment of our society.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I share the below vision:

- Debt - free Indian Community Centre.
- Improving ISWA governance and transitioning to a possible board structure.
- Strengthening bonds with member associations.
- Help people with disabilities, address family issues and domestic violence.
- Enhance ISWA's presence north of Perth and regional WA.
- Explore residential aged care facilities to assist Indian community members.
- Develop synergistic opportunities for local businesses.
- Empower youth and women through enhanced engagement and skills development.
- Strengthen health education with emphasis on mental health.

21. Anand Gupta:



A Dedicated Community Volunteer and Finance Professional

Anand Gupta's association with ISWA goes back a long way, since he arrived in Perth and attended one of the organization's flagship events, the Diwali Mela, at the Herb Graham Centre in Mirrabooka. He has volunteered as part of many committees, both as an elected member and from outside, assisting in various roles, from ticket checking at the entrance gate to managing positions in the ISWA Youth Wing, Sports, Business, and Sponsorship Wings.

In addition to his involvement with ISWA, Gupta has been continuously assisting other community-focused not-for-profit organizations by providing support with incorporation applications, grant applications, and applying for Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. Currently, he is a father of two school-age children, supported by his wife.

Gupta came to Australia as a student in 2004 and completed his professional studies in Perth, including a Master's in Professional Accounting, as well as attaining professional qualifications and licenses such as Chartered Accountant, Financial Planner, Registered Tax Agent, and Registered Migration Agent.

Gupta believes in ISWA's ability to provide a cohesive and inclusive community, uniting people from different languages and regions, and fulfilling the "Unity in Diversity" aspect. He endorses Dr. Papan Barua's leadership and aims to assist ISWA in areas such as treasury functions, improving decision-making and transparency, and designing and implementing plans to secure long-term funding sources for the organization's community welfare programs.

22. Daisy Gupta



As an IT professional I retired as a technical director from Ministry of IT Government of India. At present I am the CEO and Business women and involved in managing the Education Institution in Perth. As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will uphold values of integrity, respect, and inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. Together with Mr. Deepak Sharma, I advocate for:

- Making the Indian Community Centre debt-free & expanding facilities.
- Enhancing governance through greater transparency, transitioning a Board structure within five years.
- Capacity building member associations through leadership development, support with grant writing & digital literacy.
- Strengthening services for seniors, family and domestic violence, women, students, and people with disabilities.
- Expanding footprint north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Developing synergistic opportunities for community businesses.
- Supporting mental and physical community health initiatives.

23. Deepak Gupta



Deepak Gupta with 25+ years of multinational professional experience, actively engaged in community development, social services, cultural activities, and for various causes across India and Australia.

His significant role in ISWA's recent growth includes serving as Asst. Treasurer in 2018-20, MC Member 2020-22 and Vice President in 2022-24. Deepak has taken many initiatives and successfully managed various events for ISWA including 'Holi, COVID relief program, International Day of Yoga, health and well-being programs, and senior day care and management of newly built Indian Community Centre (ICC) and etc.

As a certified Yoga and Mindfulness mentor he conducts regular Yoga classes to WA communities for all ages and groups for many years and actively engaged in senior day care.

Deepak is committed to empowering everyone in our community, especially women, seniors, youth, and children, fostering a pluralistic society and strongly believe in a harmonious, positive and inclusive approach for community service.

Gupta aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, alongside Dr. Papori Barua. His diverse experience, commitment to community service is an asset to the organization and society.

Deepak and his wife, Manisha, are enthusiastically engaged in selfless service to the community and are blessed with two sons.

24. Jagdish Halai



Jagdish Halai's story began in Nairobi, Kenya, where he honed his skills in construction, starting as a carpenter and progressing to become a builder. In 2001, seeking a brighter future for his family, he moved to Perth. His passion for construction led him to obtain his Building Registration in 2009. Since then, he has built dream homes and commercial spaces for Perth residents.

Jagdish felt a call to share his knowledge and give back to the community. He has volunteered for many years with construction projects at the Shree Swaminarayan Temple (Mandir) Perth and more recently, the Shreenathdham Haveli & Cultural Centre WA. He also served as Construction Supervision Lead for the Indian Community Centre (ICC).

Jagdish's vision for ISWA focuses on supporting the Indian community through effective initiatives, celebrating their heritage, and contributing to the wider Perth community.

Jagdish's extensive construction experience, technical expertise, and strong leadership skills make him a valuable asset to Dr. Papori's team. His engagement with diverse communities, coupled with a genuine passion for senior well-being and progression for the younger generation, uniquely positions him to understand and address the needs of elders and youth, a core aspect of the team's mission and goals.

25. Chanda Indurthi



My name is Chandra Indurthi. I served as President and some other executive committee roles in Western Australia Telugu Association, which serves Telugu Speaking community in Western Australia. I also work as volunteer teacher in Telugu Badi (Language School) which is running with the help of WATA. Professionally I am Rail Civil Engineer worked in numerous METRONET projects like Airport link, Morley Ellenbrook Line etc. Before I came to Australia I worked in Indian Railways and RITES.

Our vision is to empower member associations by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy. Additionally, we aim to improve senior care services and develop a retirement village for our aging community members. We prioritize enhancing outreach efforts and support services, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities. Financial stability for the Indian Community Centre is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.

We're committed to boosting youth representation and engagement, exploring the establishment of a charitable arm, and ensuring transparent governance. Transitioning ISWA's operational model to include a CEO within the next five years is strategic. Strengthening health education, especially for women's and mental health, is a priority, alongside increasing accountability and aligning with our values to serve the community better.

26. Vishal Jadhav



Hello everyone...!

I have been deeply involved in community for over seven years within WA particularly representing Marathi Association Perth. I am dedicated in fostering a strong sense of cultural identity and heritage preservation in our community.

Our vision is to empower member associations by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy. Additionally, we aim to improve senior care services and develop a retirement village for our aging community members.

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Transitioning ISWA's operational model to include a CEO within the next five years is strategic. Strengthening health education, especially for women's and mental health, is a priority, alongside increasing accountability and aligning with our values to serve the community better.

27. Dr Padma Jatoth



I am a specialist Obstetrician and Gynaecologist working in Perth since last 10 years. I have been actively engaging with ISWA since coming to Perth. I have participated in educational talks for women's health during Naari. I am part of Hindi paathshala as parent board member and promote education of an Indian language for our diaspora.

I am passionate about prevention of cervical cancer. I advocate to address health inequalities for women and their families. I believe my experience in the health system will enable me to empower the Indian community to make a significant and sustainable impact on women's' health.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will work alongside Mr Deepak Sharma and team to:

Improve outreach efforts and support services for Indian community.

Health education initiatives for women's' health

Enhance youth engagement.

Enhance senior care services

Capacity building initiatives for member associations

Expand ISWA's presence in North of the river (Perth) and regional areas.

28. Raveesh John



As a Justice of the Peace, I uphold justice and integrity. My involvement in the ISWA Constitution Review Committee in 2020 shaped our governance framework. With experience as an ex-member of the ISWA Council, I contribute to decision-making, aiming to enhance governance. My tenure as PUMA secretary emphasises effective organisational management and communication, contributing to ISWA's governance improvement.

This is the matching vision for all -

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29. Sandeep Kale



Sundeep Kale has acquired substantial expertise in operations and logistics through roles at renowned organizations, honing his skills in managing complex issues collaboratively.

Since 2007, Kale has dedicated his time to volunteering with the Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA), holding positions on its executive committee, and actively participating in cultural events like Sangam, Holi, and Diwali Mela. Additionally, he has contributed to the Maharashtra Mandal of Perth and engaged in various community initiatives with organizations such as the Hindi Samaj of WA, Telugu Association, and Gujarati Samaj of WA. Kale's participation in events hosted by the Office of the Consulate General of India in Perth has further enriched his community engagement.

Through Shamira Entertainment, Sundeep has empowered Perth's local talent and raised funds for the Cancer Council of WA and the Royal Flying Doctor Service, all driven by a passion for philanthropy and a commitment to advancing ISWA's objectives.

Sundeep aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, alongside Dr. Papori Barua. His extensive experience in operations and logistics, combined with his dedication to community service, make him an asset to the ISWA team. Kale's vision is to continue building a stronger, more inclusive, and unified Indian community in Western Australia.

30. Shilpa Kamdar



I am a finance professional with over twelve years of experience in the banking and financial services industry. Alongside my career, I am deeply committed to community service, volunteering with organizations such as the Isha Foundation and the ISWA.

I support global causes and have participated in initiatives like Save Soil and The Rally for Rivers. Additionally, I have coordinated programs for the Isha Foundation, led community events by ISWA and have volunteered to teach Hindi at Hindi Paathshala.

My ultimate goal is to promote holistic well-being by advocating for Yoga, meditation, art, music, and dance.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will uphold integrity, respect, inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. Alongside Mr. Deepak Sharma, I support the vision to:

- Make the Indian Community Centre debt-free and expand its facilities.
- Ensure transparent governance, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Strengthen services for seniors, family and domestic violence, women, students, and people with disabilities.
- Explore residential aged care facilities to assist Indian community members.
- Implement capacity building initiatives for member associations through leadership mentoring, focused on grant writing and digital literacy.
- Empower youth and women through enhanced engagement and skills development.
- Advocate for mental and physical health initiatives.

31. Bithika Kastha



With 18-year experience as Manager Community Supports within the NDIS sector, I strongly advocate inclusivity, diversity, creating equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Nominated for Workmate of the Year 2022 and an Emerging Leader in 2024 WA Disability Support Awards, I bring strategic planning expertise.

I've served on the 2022 -2024 ISWA Management Committee as Coordinator Family and Domestic Violence, coordinated community initiatives like Naari 2024, achieving positive community experience involving ISWA members and volunteers.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I'll uphold integrity, respect, inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with stakeholders. Alongside Mr. Deepak Sharma, I support the vision to:

- Make the Indian Community Centre debt-free and expand its facilities.
- Ensure transparent governance, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Enhance support services for seniors, family and domestic violence, students, mental health, and people with disabilities.
- Improve senior care services, develop a retirement village for aging community members.
- Implement capacity building initiatives for member associations through leadership mentoring, focused on grant writing and digital literacy.
- Expand footprint, north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Boost youth representation and engagement, exploring establishment of a charitable arm.
- Strengthen health education, especially for women's and mental health.

32. Bimal Kaul



I am an IT sales professional, fitness enthusiast with Master in Business Administration and working as Head of Business.

As founder member and immediate past president of Kashmiri Pandits Perth, I have worked closely with the community to maintain our culture and language. In the wider society I have conducted Youth Leadership Workshops and actively driven ISWA's initiative of COC. I am an analytical thinker that helps me suggest constructive solutions to help ISWA and all its members make work collectively on various grounds to meet ISWA's core objectives.

My engagement with ISWA as a council member has given me opportunities to work and support ISWA led initiatives at larger scale and making me feel involved with greater zeal to contribute more.

Team Deepak Sharma Vision:

- • Ensure transparent governance.
- • Enhance support services for seniors, family and domestic violence, students, mental health, and people with disabilities.
- • Improve senior care services, develop a retirement village for aging community members.
- • Implement capacity building initiatives for member associations through leadership mentoring, focused on grant writing and digital literacy.
- • Expand footprint, north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- • Boost youth representation and engagement, exploring establishment of a charitable arm.
- • Strengthen health education and benefits thereof.

33. Nivedita Kelkar



With CA India and CPA Australia qualifications and a robust governance background, Nivedita serves as Financial Controller for a major Aged Care service provider. Over two decades, she has dedicated herself to volunteering for various community organisations.

Notably, she is actively involved with Maharashtra Mandal Perth and teaches at Chinmaya Mission Balvihar weekly classes, focusing on values-based education for Children and Youth. At Chinmaya Mission, she played a pivotal role in establishing the Chinmaya Prastha Vedanta learning center in Forrestdale.

Within ISWA, she has served as Treasurer (2018-2020) involved in the iconic multimillion-dollar Indian Community Centre project from the beginning and NAARI Coordinator (2019). She was the Vice Chair of ISWA Women's Wing (2020-2022) heading the women empowerment initiatives, including Domestic Violence awareness campaigns and Job Readiness programs, collaborating with local and state government agencies.

Additionally, she serves on the Board of Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Services. She is the recipient of the ISWA Naari "Shakti" award 2024 and a nominee for the Office of Multicultural Interest Individual Achievement Award 2024. If elected, Nivedita will collaborate with Dr. Papori Barua to further the team vision, especially for senior's welfare, women empowerment, and Children and Youth programs.

34. RAJESH KHANDELWAL



I am a Project Management Professional for 28 years, Engineer and a double Postgraduate .I am also a dedicated volunteer with MMP since 2010 and served as the secretary in 2021-22, part of various initiatives aimed at enriching our community. I am also a committed volunteer to Chinmay Mission since 2018. I have led many key events of Ashram inauguration and Shivmurti sthapana, showcasing my dedication to fostering spiritual and cultural enrichment. I have been General secretary at University 1995-96, with a track record of delivering events /projects across cultural, social, sports (leading teams) making a positive impact on the communities.

As an ISWA Councillor, uphold values of integrity, respect, inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. With Deepak Sharma I advocate for:

- Making ICC debt-free, expanding its facilities.
- Enhancing governance through greater transparency, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Capacity building member associations through leadership development, support with grant writing & digital literacy.
- Strengthening services for seniors, family domestic violence, women, students, people with disabilities.
- Expanding footprint both north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Developing synergistic opportunities for community businesses.
- Supporting mental and physical community health initiatives.

35. Damji Mohan Koriya



I bring over five decades of experience as a devoted Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) volunteer. Serving as the president of the Hindu Council of Australia WA chapter, I have led initiatives to foster unity and promote cultural awareness within the Hindu community. In 2011, I founded Gayatri Parivar, a significant milestone in my journey of community empowerment and engagement.

Additionally, my role as a trustee of Gujarati Samaj of WA has allowed me to oversee and coordinate senior gatherings, ensuring a supportive and vibrant community environment in the Willetton and Girrawheen areas of Perth. I am the recipient of ISWA Lakhwara Award in 2021.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

36. Mahesh Latkar



Since my arrival in Perth in 2012, I've been wholeheartedly involved in serving the Indian Community, showcasing a steadfast commitment to community upliftment. At Maharashtra Mandal Perth (MMP), where I've dedicated my time since 2012, I've taken up leadership roles, serving as Treasurer in 2020 and President in 2021 and 2022. Throughout my tenure, I've meticulously orchestrated major community events such as the Ganesh Festival, securing grants from esteemed organizations like Lotterywest and OMI to bolster our association's financial health. Moreover, I've provided compassionate support to community members during challenging times.

Furthermore, I've devoted three consecutive years (2020-2022) to the ISWA Council, actively contributing to event planning and execution, and lending my expertise as a judge in ISWA-sponsored events. My enthusiasm for Indian culture transcends formal roles; I consistently champion it within the broader Australian community through ISWA and other relevant associations. Through my ongoing volunteer efforts, I remain steadfastly committed to enhancing community welfare and eagerly welcome new challenges and opportunities to make a meaningful difference.

With a vision to strengthen ISWA and introduce initiatives that align with community goals, I humbly request your support by casting your vote in my favor during the upcoming election.

37. Rashmi Loyalka



I am a Chartered Accountant living in Perth since 2003. I have held committee positions with Hindi Samaj (President & Paathshala Founder Principal) , Modern Language Teacher's Association (Treasurer & Committee member) and Ministerial advisory Committee OMI (2014-2016). I have actively participated as a volunteer at various ISWA events, especially NAARI, within wider community including school & senior day care centres. In my role as a leader, I have fostered good governance, transparency, inclusivity, and capacity building for Hindi Samaj. I played a key role in formulating OMI's Community Languages Program in 2015 and getting Hindi into School curriculum in 2021.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

38. Bijan Mahapatra



With a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from NIT Srinagar (1983), I've held senior leadership roles in multinational companies across various countries in my 38-year career in offshore subsea engineering and construction.

From Dubai to Singapore, Jakarta to Paris, Mumbai to Perth, I've garnered extensive experience and expertise.

I take pride in being one of the founding members of Odia Samaj WA and an active member of ISWA. My recent service to ISWA includes being a council member (2022 - 2024) and a member of the ISWA constitutional review team (2022 - 2023). Driven by a belief in selfless service, I am eager to give back to the community, which is why I am seeking ISWA's life member votes for the council representatives.

I'm excited to announce my candidacy for the ISWA Life Member election as your Life Member Representative to the ISWA Council. If elected, I pledge to ensure that ISWA truly reflects and represents the needs and values of our community.

I'm dedicated to leading ISWA with transparency, commitment, compassion, and integrity, fostering the growth and integration of an inclusive, stronger, progressive, and unified Indian community. With my strong work ethic and strategic thinking, I am confident in my ability to effect positive changes.

39. Rajyashree Malaviya



Rajyashree Malaviya, a philanthropist and educator, has dedicated over 30 years to the Indian community in WA. She co-founded Hindi Samaj, Sanskriti Seniors, and other organizations, promoting Hindi language, culture, and senior well-being. Rajyashree has also volunteered extensively, teaching Hindi to migrants, women, and children, and coordinating cultural events.

Her dedication extends to public schools, where she volunteered for many years. Currently, she leads Sanskriti Seniors and Uttar Pradesh Awadh Manch. Rajyashree's numerous awards recognize her selfless service which includes Volunteering WA's multicultural volunteer of the year award 2017, ISWA Lakhwara community service award 2010 and recognition from Consulate general of India.

Passionate about seniors, women, migrants, and youth connection to heritage and Hindi Language, Rajyashree endorses Dr. Papori Barua's vision for ISWA's growth and integration.

40. Bindiya Manchanda



Since 1992, my family has nurtured and served ISWA, believed in its core values and have risen its profile in the wider WA. I have held various positions on ISWA committees and sub committees in the past. In 2018 I played a pivotal role in establishing mandatory female representation on the ISWA Management Committee and initiating ISWA women's wing. ISWA NAARI is my brainchild, that has thrived for seven years.

I am a founding financial member of the ISWA Indian Community Centre.

I Hold Life membership and volunteer positions with the Hindi Samaj of WA, Sikh Association of WA, and Hindu Temple Canning Vale (committee Member 2014 and 2022-2024).

Being Chair, Women's Wing ISWAMC (2022-24) and only woman member on ISWAMC (2017-19) I have a fresh insight of ISWA matters. Capacity to lead and being a team player I have tremendous energy, passion, and vision for promoting the welfare of women, children, youth, and seniors in ISWA initiatives while adhering to the ISWA constitution framework.

In the wider community I am actively involved in volunteering and charity work with various organisations. I am a qualified Electronics and Communications Engineer, WA trained Teacher and a Commonwealth Registered Marriage Celebrant.

41. Dr Bhaskar Mandal FRCP FRACP



Head of Geriatric Medicine, Fiona Stanley Hospitals

Clinical Lead for WA Older People Health Network at Department of Health

Aadjunct clinical professor Curtin Medical School

It has been a privilege to serve the Indian diaspora and wider Australian communities as a doctor and community member. An elected member of ISWA council since 2020, I draw on my clinical expertise, professional & community connections to advocate for culturally appropriate care services.

An alumnus of JIPMER (Pondicherry), I underwent specialist training in Oxford UK & worked in NHS as senior specialist before taking up my present role at Fiona Stanley hospital.

I have spearheaded numerous innovative, award winning clinical and community services for older people across Western Australia. Of these accolades, the most recent was the 2024 Premier's Public Sector award at WA Multicultural Awards for the multicultural, collaborative **Ageing Well Series to OPHN**: These community education events engage, enable and empower seniors from Indian, other CaLD and mainstream communities.

My vision for ISWA include: Enhancing involvement in state health and social care policy; Improve health and dignity of all Australians; Establishing culturally sensitive aged care facilities for Indians; Supporting migrant families, international students and youth to achieve their potential.

42. Nirbir Kaur Mann



Nirbir, a Punjabi Sikh who arrived in Australia in 2003, is a Registered Nurse at Perth Children's Hospital with a passion for children's well-being. After graduating with a Bachelor of Nursing from Edith Cowan University in 2006, Nirbir has dedicated herself to both professional and volunteer work with children.

Actively involved with ISWA as a member and MC spouse (2018-2020 & 2022-2024), Nirbir consistently volunteers actively participated in ISWA initiatives such as ISWA Sangam, Holi celebrations, and the Naari 2020 committee and a contributor to ISWA Women's Wing activities.

Her passion for kids extends beyond her work, as she currently manages a Punjabi language school and choreographs dance routines for children. Nirbir's commitment to community service is evident in her volunteer work with NAARI, Holi, Vaisakhi, and Virsa Club Teeyan events.

Nirbir is passionate about Youth engagement to empower and connect young members, a strong advocate of women empowerment, family & domestic violence prevention senior welfare and initiate the Indian Aged Care Centre.

Driven by a desire to give back, Nirbir seeks ISWA's life member votes to become a council representative.

Alongside Dr. Papori Barua, she aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity.

43. Dr Selva Marimuthu



Dr. Selva: An accomplished Hydrogeologist Committed to Community Service

As a Principal Hydrogeologist with over three decades of experience, Dr. Selva specialises in providing high-quality hydrogeological and environmental consulting services to a diverse clientele. Since 2009, he has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to community service.

From 2010 to 2016, Dr. Selva served as the Principal of the North Tamil School, where he played a pivotal role in fostering educational growth and cultural awareness. Additionally, he held various leadership roles within the Tamil Association of Western Australia, culminating in the position of President from 2016 to 2018.

Dr. Selva's extensive experience, technical expertise, and strong leadership skills make him an asset to Dr. Papori's team. His engagement with diverse communities, coupled with a genuine passion for senior well-being, uniquely positions him to understand and address the needs of elders, a core aspect of the team's mission and goals.

Aligned with the Shared Vision, the team aims to achieve significant milestones, including making the Indian Community Centre debt-free, establishing an ISWA Youth Wing, empowering women and seniors, and initiating an Indian Aged Care Centre. Additionally, they strive to support the Indian business community, bridge regional gaps, prevent family violence, establish disaster support, create an Indian funeral home, initiate an Indian school in Perth, explore visitor insurance options, and foster resource sharing within the association.

Dr Selva pledges his utmost support to Dr Papori Barua's leadership, aiming for transparency, commitment, compassion and integrity, fostering a stronger, progressive, and unified Indian community.

44. Capt. Rajesh Mittal



As a former Indian Naval officer, an Indian military veteran, and a merchant marine captain I have called Perth home for twenty-one years. I have proudly led the Indian Veterans' Group here while also dedicating my time as a marine consultant from 2003 to 2021. Being a life member of ISWA I am deeply involved with the Indian community. As the head of the Indian Veterans, I assist the veer naris and the veterans with their official issues. I organise participation of the Indian veterans in ISWA India Day Parade and annual ANZAC Day parade. I facilitate successful conduct of Indian Naval ships' visits to Fremantle. Through my numerous activities I remain engaged with Perth's Indian community.

As a candidate for ISWA Council I share with Mr. Deepak Sharma the below vision:

- Debt - free Indian Community Centre.
- Improving ISWA governance and transitioning to a possible board structure.
- Strengthening bonds with member associations.
- Help people with disabilities, address family issues and domestic violence.
- Enhance ISWA's presence north of Perth and regional WA.
- Explore residential aged care facilities to assist Indian community members.
- Develop synergistic opportunities for local businesses.
- Empower youth and women through enhanced engagement and skills development.
- Strengthen health education with emphasis on mental health.

45. Arun V Nair



Arun Vijayakumaran Nair is a skilled professional with over twenty years of experience in the field of engineering and IT. His passion for public service drives his dedication to uplifting the Indian community in Australia.

For over eight years, he has served the Malayalee Association of Western Australia (MAWA), holding the position of President twice. With his vision, forward-thinking approach, and administrative expertise, he aims to make a positive impact on the Indian community under the leadership of Dr. Papori Barua.

His goal is to unite the community for substantial progress, fostering collaboration and advancement within the Indian community. Arun humbly requests the support of every ISWA life member to empower him to effectively represent their interests in the ISWA council.

Arun is passionate about making the Indian Community Centre debt-free and senior welfare, youth engagement through ISWA Youth Wing to empower young members. He is a strong advocate of women's empowerment and enablement.

Arun lends his support to Dr. Papori Barua's leadership for ISWA, advocating transparency, commitment, compassion, and integrity to advance a unified and progressive Indian community.

46. Sindhu Nair



With nearly 30 years of experience in Bharatanatyam and Mohiniyattam, I've passionately served the Indian community for over a decade, leading cultural initiatives in organizations like ISWA, MAWA, and Kairali.

I've choreographed captivating dance dramas, drawing crowds of over 15,000 at Diwali Melas. Honoured as the cultural ambassador of the City of Canning, I prioritize philanthropy, evidenced by a Rs.100,000 donation to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund in 2006. I prefer to work diligently behind the scenes, leveraging my exceptional interpersonal skills to support and uplift the community.

Alongside Mr. Deepak Sharma, I support the vision to:

- Make the Indian Community Centre debt-free and expand its facilities.
- Ensure transparent governance, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Enhance support services for seniors, family and domestic violence, students, mental health, and people with disabilities.
- Improve senior care services, develop a retirement village for aging community members.
- Implement capacity building initiatives for member associations through leadership mentoring, focused on grant writing and digital literacy.
- Expand footprint, north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Boost youth representation and engagement, exploring establishment of a charitable arm.
- Strengthen health education, especially for women's and mental health.

47. Prashanth Nallan



Reflecting on Prashanth Nallan's journey since migrating to Australia as a Hydrogeologist in 1994, he is filled with immense gratitude for the warmth and support extended by the vibrant community in Perth over the past 25 years. His commitment to community service has only deepened with time, as he had the privilege to serve through esteemed organizations, like the Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA), the Hindu Association of Western Australia (HAWA), and the Western Australia Telugu Association (WATA).

Since 2000, Prashanth has dedicated himself to volunteering and serving as a committee member and leader in these organizations, nurturing the community's growth and cohesion. In 2010, under the guidance of Acharya Sri Sri Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji, he established the Jeeyar Educational Trust (JET) Australia Foundation – Perth Chapter. Through JET, he has orchestrated over 75 impactful community events spanning social, religious, educational, and environmental domains, fostering peace and harmony.

Driven by a profound commitment to nurturing future leaders, Prashanth launched Prajna, value based education classes for children in 2010, which now flourish with over 100 students across three centres in Perth. Their mission remains steadfast: to cultivate global citizens who honour our shared humanity and ancestral wisdom, paving the way for Equality and Harmony. Presently, Prashanth is wholeheartedly engaged in advancing the community's vision through JET, striving to establish the Sri Balaji Temple in Perth, enriching the spiritual landscape.

Alongside Dr. Papori Barua, the prospective ISWA President, Prashanth is deeply committed to realizing the collective aspirations of the community. He pledges to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, fostering a culture of growth and integration, where every member finds a voice and a place to thrive.

48. Dr Rekha Nanda



I am a General Practitioner who specialises in women's health.

As a General Practitioner I see patients from all walks of life with various needs from childhood to adulthood and I am closely associated with the community.

I migrated with my husband and two children to Perth in 2004 and have been associated with ISWA since.

When my children were young, the ISWA Independence Day celebration was a great platform for me to introduce my children to the diverse cultures of India, the traditions and how unique every state is.

I have also been privileged to have given a talk on women's health at the breakfast meet organised by ISWA and subsequently have actively participated in conducting workshops and supervising medical students at health education stalls as a representative of AIMA WA at many ISWA events.

I have also been associated with cultural programs as a participant in dance performances and as Master of ceremony for Naari 2020 and Diwali Mela 2023. I was also in the panel of Naari 2021 and interviewed eminent women in the online Naari event. As such, I worked in close association with ISWA committee.

Vision:

1. Increase health awareness in the Indian community by supporting workshops and seminars.
2. Workshop initiatives for youth and adolescents regarding issues faced by children of Indian origin.
3. Increasing public involvement and transparency regarding ISWA activities.
4. Supporting community mental health campaigns.

49. Subramanya Pailoor



I am a professional Engineer residing in Perth with my family since 2008. Widely involved in community and social service. Always ready to help people who are in need and helped many new comers with various job opportunities or accommodation support, mentoring and helping them in settling down in Perth.

Mining Engineer by profession and working with Mining Constcion Company lives with Wife and two daughters. Management Committee Member of The Vedic Training and Cultural Serivces of Western Australia (Inc.,) for last 8 years and well established with community work through Vedic Training and Cultural services (VTCS). Also a Life Member of ISWA and member of Western Australia Kannada Sangha since its formation.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will uphold values of integrity, respect, and inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. Together with Mr. Deepak Sharma, I advocate for:

- Debt - free Indian Community Centre.
- Strengthening bonds with member associations.
- Help people with disabilities, address family issues and domestic violence.
- Explore residential aged care facilities to assist Indian community members.
- Develop synergistic opportunities for local businesses.
- Empower youth and women through enhanced engagement and skills development.
- Strengthen health education with emphasis on mental health.

50. Virendra Parikh



I have held various positions including Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Committee Member, and Councillor in ISWA in the past . Additionally, I have served as Secretary for the Ethnic Community Council of WA , Jain Community of WA, and the Gujarati Samaj of WA.. Furthermore, I have actively participated in community events such as Sangam, Diwali Mela, Holi, and the ISWA Cricket League for the past eight years.

Contributing to the community's educational needs, I have conducted free computer classes. I also serve as a Justice of the Peace in WA.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

51. Chittaranjan Pathak



Chittaranjan Pathak, an energy professional residing in Perth since 2005 with his wife and two children, holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering and a master's in engineering science from Monash University. Alongside his professional commitments, he's an accomplished author with two published books, including the well-received fiction "The Elephant Girl" and upcoming works on the Mahabharata.

As a life member of ISWA for sixteen years, Chittaranjan actively advocates for the rights of life members and proper utilization of ICC amenities. He has contributed to ISWA committees, including awards and constitution reviews, and served as the founding president of the Assam Association of Western Australia. Additionally, he's a life member of Hindi Samaj.

Beyond his professional and community engagements, Chittaranjan enjoys badminton and has a passion for nature and wildlife.

Aligned with Team Papori's Shared Vision, Chittaranjan aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity. Their goals include initiatives like making the Indian Community Centre debt-free, establishing an ISWA Youth Wing, empowering women and seniors, initiating an Indian Aged Care Centre, supporting the Indian business community, and fostering resource sharing within the association.

52. Ashok Patil



Ashok Patil, a Civil Engineer with over 35 years of professional experience, served as Lead Civil Engineer for the construction of ICC. He served as Past President of Basava Samithi Perth and member of Kannada Sangha WAKS. He has volunteered in various ISWA events such as Diwali Mela, Independence Day parade, and Yoga Day. Particularly notable is his support for Indian students, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, where he provided assistance and guidance.

Ashok's vision for ISWA, alongside the Papori team, includes several key initiatives:

- Making the Indian Community Centre debt-free.
- Providing support and guidance to newcomers to Perth/Australia, including students and professionals.
- Advocating for direct flights to major Indian cities to save travel time.
- Increasing ISWA membership by reaching out to Indian friends and families.
- Supporting seniors' welfare and establishing aged care centres for the Indian community.
- Combating domestic violence and focusing on women empowerment.
- Establishing an Indian school in Perth and Australia.
- Planning multiple Indian Community Centres across different locations in Perth
- Strengthening connections with other organizations.

Ashok is proud to be part of the Papori team, if elected he is committed to contributing to the progressive vision of ISWA alongside Dr. Papori Barua, the prospective President of ISWA.

53. Naveen Potluri



Having established roots in Western Australia for 21 years and achieving a master's degree in IT from ECU, I've honed my expertise as a Test Manager, leaving an indelible mark on significant ICT ventures like Fiona Stanley Hospital and WA GOV NEXT. My commitment extends beyond professional realms into the realm of community service.

As an integral part of the Telugu Association of Perth (TAP), I've served diligently in numerous capacities, culminating in my recent tenure as President. As a 13-year tenure life member of ISWA, I played a pivotal role as a member of the constitution review committee from 2017 to 2018.

Driven by the ethos of selflessness, I aspire to channel my experience and passion into a profound impact on the community. It is with great enthusiasm that I announce my candidacy for the ISWA Life Member election, vying for your esteemed support to serve as your Life Member Representative to the ISWA Council.

ISWA bears the noble mandate of fostering a pluralistic society wherein the empowerment and enablement of women stand at the forefront. With your endorsement, I aim to leverage this platform to effect transformative change and champion the aspirations of our community with unwavering dedication and resolve.

54. Oomman Rappayel



I am the former President of the Malayalee Association of WA (MAWA) and the tenure has equipped me with valuable skills in fostering unity and addressing community needs. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, I played a crucial role in ISWA's relief efforts, personally attending to the needs of affected individuals and demonstrating unwavering compassion. In my professional capacity at Transperth, I prioritize enhancing people's experiences and satisfaction, values that I seamlessly integrate into my community leadership endeavours. As an active participant in Healing WA, I lead various charitable initiatives, earning recognition as a compassionate and effective leader within the Indian community.

Key objectives :

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- Improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village**.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health**.

55. Dr SHWETA REDDY



I am a **Doctor (General Practitioner)** serving patients of various age groups (child health, Women's health, Mental health, and Geriatric and aged care).

I have worked closely within ISWA since 2019 and have been involved in Diwali Mela, Sangam, and NAARI.

I believe it is important to serve back to my Indian community and hence stand with this team to bring **Health education** and awareness especially related to **Mental Health, women's health, and elderly health care to my community.**

TEAM VISION:

- 1) To **empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership mentoring, and digital literacy.
- 2) we aim to improve **senior care services** and develop a **retirement village.**
- 3) We prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities.
- 4) Aiming to make **Indian Community Centre Debt free** is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- 5) We're committed to boosting **youth representation** and engagement.
- 6) Transitioning ISWA's operational model **to include a CEO** within the next five years is strategic.
- 7) Strengthening health education, **especially for women's and mental health.**

56. Dr Ashis Roy



As an agribusiness professional, I founded Flower Plant Technology, two decades ago, expanding reach globally. With a PhD from IIT, Kharagpur, my passion for agribusiness is rooted in education. Over the past twenty years, I have been actively involved in BAWA and have the privilege being the BAWA President for 9 years. Involved at various community initiatives includes Durga pujo, particularly at the grassroots level.

During Covid, I led initiatives supporting international students and raised \$100K for Ramkrishna Mission, Kolkata. As a longstanding Life member of ISWA, I've contributed to community initiatives.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will uphold values of integrity, respect, and inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. Together with Mr. Deepak Sharma, I advocate for:

- Making the Indian Community Centre debt-free & expanding facilities.
- Enhancing governance through greater transparency, transitioning a Board structure within five years.
- Capacity building member associations through leadership development, support with grant writing & digital literacy.
- Strengthening services for seniors, family and domestic violence, women, students, and people with disabilities.
- Expanding footprint north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Developing synergistic opportunities for community businesses.
- Supporting mental and physical community health initiatives.

57. Jeena Saju



With 17 years of experience working for the State Government across various departments, Jeena Saju has consistently demonstrated her dedication to enhancing the lives of Western Australians. Apart from her professional endeavors, she is deeply passionate about dance and is the founder and instructor of Bollywood Dance N Beats, A School of Fusion Bollywood Dances.

Through her dance school, Saju is committed to not only performing but also teaching the art form. She strives to instill in the younger generation an appreciation for Indian festivals and culture, while advocating for the message of "Unity in Diversity." Additionally, Saju actively participates in several community associations, including the Malayalee Association of Western Australia Inc. (MAWA), Perth Malayalee Islamic Association Inc (PMIA) and Perth Kerala Sports Club Inc. (PKSC)

As a dedicated volunteer for ISWA for over a decade, Saju has contributed to fostering cultural cohesiveness and understanding within and beyond the Indian community. In recognition of her efforts, she was honored with the ISWA Cultural Excellence Award in 2022.

Saju aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, alongside Dr. Papori Barua. Her diverse experience, passion for dance, and commitment to community service make her a valuable asset to the organization. Saju's vision is to continue building a stronger, more inclusive, and unified Indian community in Western Australian.

58. Kirtida Shah



With over 30 years of expertise Kirtida Shah is currently contributing her skills and passion towards patient care to the North Metro Hospital as an allied health professional. Her leadership progress is evident through her roles as a Management Committee Member and Vice Chair of ISWA's Women's Wing (2020-2022), followed by her tenure as ISWA's Assistant Treasurer (2022-2024).

She has also served as Secretary for Vaishnav Sangh of WA (VSWA) and Gujarati Samaj of WA (GSWA), and as a Cultural Ambassador for the City of Canning. Kirtida has further enriched her field through board and advisory positions with Health Council Australia and Naala Djookan.

Recognized for her unwavering commitment, Kirtida received the esteemed GSWA Shiromani Award and founded Saptapadi Matrimonial Services, fostering connections within the Indian diaspora. She has been instrumental in ISWA projects, including the ICC advisory group, COVID grant task force, and leadership of the citizenship ceremony team (2024). She co-created the popular ISWA Taste of India cooking show and led initiatives for Holi, Diwali, and domestic violence awareness.

A constant advocate for women's rights, Kirtida champions the cause of domestic and family violence victims. Endorsing Dr. Papor Barua's ISWA leadership, she advocates for transparency, commitment, compassion, and integrity, aiming to advance the Indian community.

59. Hema Shankar



Hema Shankar, with over two decades of teaching experience both internationally and in Australia, specializes in language education and is deeply engaged in educational initiatives and community service. Her unwavering commitment to serving the community is evident through her roles within the Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA) and various committees.

She has contributed significantly to the Hindi Samaj of Western Australia, serving as a committee member, Principal, and school coordinator, earning recognition for her dedication with an appreciation award from OMI. As a founding member and Vice President of the Hindi Language Teachers Association, she demonstrates a strong dedication to language education.

Beyond professional endeavours, she volunteers at the Perth Hindu Temple and as a teacher at the Hindu School of WA, reflecting her passion for language education and community service. Committed to promoting equality, empowering women, supporting seniors, and connecting youth to their ethnic roots, she aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity in partnership with Dr. Papori Barua.

Believing in the power of selfless service, she invites you to join her on this journey to make a difference. Your support in this endeavour is invaluable. Thank you for considering Hema Shankar for this important role in building a brighter future together!

60. Deepak Sharma



As the **current Secretary at ISWA**, I've driven its success as a management committee member since 2020. A seasoned finance professional, I serve as Senior Principal at Water Corporation. I've orchestrated key engagements and relationships with government stakeholders to strengthen ISWA, including spearheading the monumental India Day Parade in 2023.

Prior achievements include leading the commercial procurement process for **construction of the Indian Community Centre** and contributing to extensive COVID assistance efforts in 2021. I've honed my leadership and governance skills through programs by OMI and AICD. Contributed at Board's of MIDLAS and Willetton Senior High School, and HSS Perth. If elected **aspire to be the President of ISWA**.

Along with 32 other team members I endorse a vision to:

- **Empower member associations** by providing capacity-building initiatives.
- **Improve senior care services** and develop a retirement village.
- Prioritize enhancing **outreach efforts and support services**, addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities aspects.
- Make **Indian Community Centre Debt free**, along with its expansion.
- Enhance ISWA's presence in North of the River and regional areas.
- Boost **youth representation** and engagement.
- Transition ISWA's **operational model to a Board structure** with a CEO.
- **Strengthen health education**, especially for women's and mental health.

61. Dr Divya-Jyoti Sharma



I'm a specialist anaesthetist residing in Perth with my family since 1997. I am passionate about making a difference for my communities. I have served on the 2022-2024 ISWA management committee as Chair of ISWA Seniors' Wing. I initiated the first community survey of seniors' needs, organised the inaugural 2022 Sahara expo for seniors and people with disabilities, and established Commonwealth Senior Day Care at the ICC. I've helped spearhead ISWA's constitutional reform & sustainable fashion initiatives. I am most proud of improving ISWA member and volunteer engagement for a more positive experience.

As a candidate for ISWA Council, I will uphold values of integrity, respect, and inclusivity, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders. Alongside Mr. Deepak Sharma, I'll advocate for:

- Making the Indian Community Centre debt-free & expanding its facilities.
- Enhancing governance through greater transparency, transitioning to a Board structure within five years.
- Capacity building member associations through leadership development, support with grant writing & digital literacy.
- Strengthening services for seniors, family and domestic violence, women, students, and people with disabilities.
- Expanding footprint both north of the river and regionally to better serve our community.
- Developing synergistic opportunities for community businesses.
- Promoting mental and physical community health initiatives.

62. Dr Renu Sharma



Dr. Renu Sharma is a highly accomplished professional and community leader with extensive experience in advancing education, research, innovation, and inclusivity. As the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Translation and Impact at ICRAR, along with her team she is contributing to building the cutting-edge Square Kilometre Array project in Western Australia. Dr. Sharma is dedicated to promoting equity, diversity, and inclusivity through various roles, including the Vice Chancellor's Equity and Diversity Committee at UWA.

Renu is a Fellow of Leadership WA, a Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Director, and served on ISWA's management committee and is a Trustee of Hindi Samaj of WA. She actively contributes to cultural events and advocates for mother language learning through her Hindi poetry. Her dedication to the community has been recognized through ISWA Personal Excellence Award, HCA National Gargi Award, and ISWA Shakti Award. UWA has established a Scholarship in Renu's name.

With Team Papori Barua, Renu's vision for ISWA emphasizes strong ethics, independence, inclusivity, and service-oriented values that cater to the diverse needs of the community, including youth, elderly, new migrants, and international students. Her commitment to good governance, transparency, and selfless service aims to make ISWA a beacon of progress and inclusivity.

63. Yudhishter Singh



Yudhishter Singh is an ISWA Life Member and dedicated volunteer who relocated from Melbourne in 2006. He holds a Master's Degree in Engineering from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and has resided in Australia for over 22 years. He is a highly skilled and results-driven IT professional with several years of diverse experience in the IT and Telecommunication industry.

Yudhishter has been actively involved in various ISWA initiatives like Diwali Mela, Sangam, and Holi. His experience as the Vice President of the Assam Association, along with leading a badminton club catering to diverse age groups for over 12 years, has provided him with invaluable insights into our community's needs and aspirations.

Our shared vision, we aspire to achieve significant milestones such as initiating an Indian Aged Care Centre, creating an Indian funeral home and few more.

Yudhishter also wants to address an important issue. It has come to his attention that a significant number of email addresses and contact details are not accurately updated, despite repeated written confirmation. Additionally, it is disheartening to discover that data of deceased members is still present. Recognizing the importance of this task, he assures that he will prioritize resolving this matter as priority.

64. Satyajith Suvarna



Satyajith Suvarna: A Dedicated Mechanical Engineer Committed to Community Service.

Satyajith Suvarna is a Mechanical Engineer working in the mining industry and a current ISWA Council member. He has been actively involved in social service in India for more than 25 years, serving in various organizations such as Rotary, YHAI, MPC, and MMA.

After migrating to Australia in 2007, Suvarna has been actively involved in the Executive Committee of the Western Australia Kannada Sangha (WAKS) from its inception, serving as the President for four years. He has been a Life member of ISWA for about 14 years and has been actively involved in various cultural activities, including Sangam and Diwali Mela, since 2010. Suvarna has served as the Cultural Coordinator for Sangam in 2018 (Golden Jubilee year), 2019, and 2022, as well as the Cultural Coordinator for Diwali Mela in 2021.

Currently, Suvarna is a Life member representative on the ISWA Council. If given the opportunity, he would like to work in the ISWA Council, representing Life members with the sole intention of bettering the lives of Life members and the Indian community.

Satyajith aims to lead ISWA with transparency, compassion, and integrity, alongside Dr. PaporiBarua, and strongly support her vision for ISWA.

Suvarna's extensive experience in community service, both in India and Australia, combined with his dedication to the Indian community, make him a valuable asset to the ISWA team. His commitment to representing the interests of Life members and working towards the betterment of the community aligns with the organization's vision.

65. Tojo Thomas



Tojo Thomas has been actively involved in the health field since 2014, currently holding the position of project officer at North Metro. Dedicated to community service, Thomas has further demonstrated their commitment through their role as a founding member of the Indian Community Centre and their service as a council member for two terms at the ISWA.

As the former president of PUMA, Thomas has led numerous impactful initiatives, encompassing the organization of community events, sports activities, educational seminars for students, and various charitable endeavors benefiting both Indian and Western Australian communities. Thomas is passionate about establishing an ISWA Youth Wing to engage and empower young members.

Thomas is committed to collaborating with Dr. Papori Barua, the prospective ISWA President, to actualize their shared vision for a progressive ISWA. Thomas endorses Dr. Papori Barua's leadership and aims to create positive change alongside the team.

Thomas's dedication to community welfare, their experience in the health field, and their proven track record of leading impactful initiatives make them a valuable asset to the ISWA team. Their commitment to engaging and empowering the youth, as well as their collaborative approach, align with the organization's goals of fostering a more inclusive and vibrant Indian community in Western Australia.

66. MANSI ZAVERI



As a dedicated sustainability entrepreneur, board member, corporate governance expert, educator, and active community volunteer, I advocate for gender equity and sustainable development. I have supported ISWA projects over many years through Naari, Diwali Mela, Holi and other Sustainability projects within wider community. With a fervent commitment towards elevating ISWA's strategic profile and fostering community cohesion, I aim to leverage my expertise to deliver our vision.

Our vision is to empower member associations by providing capacity-building initiatives focused on grant writing, leadership, mentoring, and digital literacy. Additionally, we aim to improve senior care services and develop a retirement village for our aging community members. We prioritize enhancing outreach efforts and support services, particularly addressing domestic violence, mental health, and disabilities. Financial stability for the Indian Community Centre is crucial, along with expanding ISWA's presence in North of the river and regional areas.

We're committed to boosting youth representation and engagement, exploring the establishment of a charitable arm, and ensuring transparent governance. Transitioning ISWA's operational model to include a CEO within the next five years is strategic. Strengthening health education, especially for women's and mental health, is a priority, alongside increasing accountability and aligning with our values to serve the community better.