



Eleventh Annual General Meeting Wednesday 19th September 2018

6.30pm - 9.30pm

at Shagor Restaurant,

108 Hamlet Court Road,

Westcliff on Sea,

Essex SS0 7LP

Chairperson Nirmal Gupta MBE

Registered Charity No. 1122198

EAWA MISSION STATEMENT

By providing a forum for dialogue and discussion, we aim to promote awareness of issues relating to women, provide support and guidance and improve quality of life in the community

VISION

To sponsor programmes and services which:-

- increase depth of knowledge and may help to break down barriers to employment
- develop health and social welfare facilities including support for those experiencing domestic violence
- offers the provision of advice and support to meet the needs of Asian women and others
- enhances the visibility of Asian women and their equal role in the community
- enlighten and strengthen the wider community

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (As at registration on 3 December 2017)

Mrs Nirmal Gupta MBE, Chairperson/Trustee
Mrs Veena Sood, Treasurer/Trustee
Mrs Shiv Varma, Trustee
Mrs Sheila Scott, Gen Secretary/Trustee
Mrs. Jamila Sarfraz (Committee Member)

MEMBERSHIP

EAWA welcomes new Members and the subscription fee has been kept at £5 per annum.

Would all Members please renew their membership!

Chairperson's Report 2017 - 2018

It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report for Essex Asian Women's Association (EAWA), for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

The Association was set up to provide a forum for Asian women in Essex, by gathering their views on local issues and working with them, to identify and address areas of education, social welfare and culture. In turn, it is hoped that this will result in an environment that promotes equality for everyone, a healthy respect for shared values and an empathetic understanding of the differences between individuals and communities. The Association was established on 8 December 2006, adopting its Constitution in July 2007, registering with the Charity Commission in January 2008.

EAWA has regular contact with the NHS, Southend Borough Council and it also works with other community and voluntary organisations e.g. SAVS, South Essex Advocacy Services, and the Hindu Association etc. It is by regular dialogue with these organisations that issues of mutual interest and concerns are raised and addressed. The trustees/committee members meet once a month to discuss EAWA events that have to be organised and/or any other issues that need attention.

We know that achieving our aims will not be easy and we will face many difficult challenges along the way. However, a very promising start has been made and we are confident that with your help and support we will be able to rise to those challenges and make a real difference to the lives of our families, friends, and neighbours. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the trustees, members, partners, supporters and all those who donate time, energy and money towards making this organisation a success. We would particularly like to thank Rakesh Aggarwal for independently examining the Annual Account for 2017-2018.

Since its inception, EAWA has expanded and (while retaining its name) invites membership from women of any background, religion or ethnicity who can subscribe to and work to achieve its aims and objectives.

1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 has been a very busy year for us. Here are some of the things that have happened this year:-

Watford Temple Trip

Tuesday 15th August 2017

EAWA organised a coach trip to Watford Temple to celebrate Krishna Janmashtami. Everyone enjoyed the trip to the temple, visited the many different stalls, and indulged in the plentiful food that was served at lunchtime. All guests appreciated the lack of queues in all areas of the temple!

AGM

Monday 25th September 2017 at Shagor Restaurant

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Derek Jarvis, and the Deputy Mayoress, Mrs Valerie Jarvis, attended the AGM and were introduced to the guests. Alexis Wright of SOS Domestic Abuse Projects gave an interesting presentation on the role of its domestic violence unit, which represents men, as well as women. I provided information about EAWA's events, and activities, in the financial year and Veena, Treasurer, gave information regarding EAWA's financial accounts. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed the buffet style meal and entertainment provided by great company.

Trip to Southall, Wembley and Neasden Temple

Friday 13th October 2017

EAWA organised a coach trip to these favourite of London destinations, so that guests could visit the Southall Gurdwara and then the Wembley Mandir, where guests also took the opportunity to do a lot of grocery shopping in the Indian shops of Wembley. Finally, we took a tour of the Neasden Temple, before returning home. All enjoyed the day out, although it was very tiring because of all the walking and shopping!

Social Quiz Night

Monday 4th December 2017

EAWA held a quiz night at Shagor Restaurant, where Rashmi Raichura did an excellent job of being the quizmaster for the evening, having previously taken a lot of time in preparing all the questions as well! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and were engrossed in trying to answer all of the questions.

New Year's Eve Party

Sunday 31st December 2017

EAWA held a New Year's Eve Party on Sunday 31st December 2017 at Maya's World Buffet, from 7pm until late.

The food was excellent and comprised an all-you-can-eat buffet of several world cuisines. Many people came with their children/families and everyone had an excellent time, seeing in the New Year together.

Bollywood Musical Nite

Saturday 24th March 2018

EAWA booked a suite at the Skylark Hotel in Southend as a venue for a musical evening. Mehfil Orchestra were hired to provide the music, band, and singing, and they played a mixture of old, and new, Bollywood songs. The standard of music was very high, and everyone had a great time tapping along, whilst also enjoying the great buffet style food menu from Durga Sweets.

Bhangra Exercise Dance Classes

Tuesday 6th March 2018 to Tuesday 8 May 2018

Bhangra exercise classes with Val started on Tuesdays from March at Balmoral Hall, Westcliff, however numbers could not be sustained, so the classes stopped in May 2018, but should resume in September 2018 with greater numbers!

Domestic Violence

EAWA are involved in efforts to eliminate Domestic Violence (DV), we offer advice to DV Victims to access different agencies' support networks, and also provide names of EAWA members who are willing to help. We, as a group, are not trained to be directly involved with the DV victims and are only, legally, allowed to provide advice and support.

Supporting other Community Groups

EAWA takes part in the activities organised by the Ethnic Minority Forum, SAVS etc. and works in partnership with the NHS, Parkwood Health, South Essex Advocacy Services, and many others.

Thanks to...

We wish to thank South Essex Advocacy Services for letting us use their office for EAWA meetings.

We wish to thank Rakesh Aggarwal for independently examining our accounts, again!

We wish to thank Suneet Gupta for his help in the computer work and producing the EAWA Data Protection Policy, the EAWA Privacy Policy and ensuring that EAWA is GDPR compliant.

Thanks, also, to Rashmi Raichura for single handedly organising, preparing, and hosting the EAWA quiz night, as well as helping to organise and co-host the EAWA Bollywood Nite, along with providing all of his DJ equipment for the evening.

Many thanks to Ajay Jobanputra, of A J Consultants Ltd, for setting up the new EAWA website and for updating it on a regular basis!

I also pay tribute to my fellow EAWA committee members who have given their time and expertise to enable us to realise our many achievements, during the past year.

Thanks to all members for supporting these events and please let us know what sort of activities you would like us to organise in the future.

Nirmal Gupta, MBE

EAWA Chairperson

Forthcoming Events

Bhangra Exercise Classes, weekly, starting in September 2018

AGM—Wed 19th September 2018 at Shagor Restaurant

Quiz Night – Mon 29th October 2018

New Year's Eve Party - Mon 31st Dec 2018

Musical Evening – March 2019 - Date and Venue to be decided

Treasurer's Report, 2017-18

I have now served over 11 years as the membership secretary and EAWA Treasurer. I have enjoyed working with the committee members and as Treasurer am pleased to present to this AGM meeting: the eleventh annual report and the independent examination of the annual accounts for the period ending 31st March 2018. For this, I am once more greatly indebted to Mr Rakesh Aggarwal for his time and continued support in completing this work on a pro bono basis. On behalf of EAWA, I thank him.

As a voluntary organisation and registered charity, we are reliant on external funding and donations. These continued times of economic hardship and austerity means that obtaining funding remains a challenge, but I am pleased that we were able to secure some external support. During 2017/18, we received a total sum of £5,100.00 in grants and a further donation of £150 from a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. I would like to thank the following organisations for their generosity by financially supporting us:

- * ROSCA Trust - £2,600 (5 June 2017)
- * Southend Borough Council - £1,000 (22nd August 2017)
- * Anonymous donation - £150 (22nd September 2017)
- * Southend Borough Council - £1,500 (21 March 2018)

As an organisation, at some of our events, EAWA also raises funds for local charities by way of raffles. I am delighted to announce that we were able to donate £700 to the Urology Department at Southend Hospital in May this year, intended to be used for the benefit of patients with prostate cancer. This was in addition to a donation of £160 to the Macmillan Nurses last October, which was raised in 2016/17.

The annual membership subscription is £5.00, which has remained unchanged since the inception of EAWA. I would thank all the ladies who have become EAWA members. We also welcome the guests to join us at our events for a nominal fee.

A schedule of money received and spent is shown in the accounts which follow. As stated in the Chairpersons report, we hold several events during the year. Our funds are used to subsidise the costs of our events (such as the hire of coaches and premises, cost of materials, insurance, printing and postage, refreshments etc.). The EAWA committee members offer their services in running the charity on a voluntary basis.

All members are very welcome to join our social events, and encourage others to take an interest in our work. A larger membership will strengthen our community and increase opportunities for all our members.

Veena Sood, Treasurer

19th September 2018

List of Supporters

We wish to thank all those who so generously supported us this year.

The following Major Funders supported us with grants or donations in 2017/2018:-



EAWA would also like to thank:-



South Essex Advocacy Services
(formerly South East Essex Advocacy for Older People)

for the free use of their facilities for meetings and all those individuals who supported us so generously with donations during the year.

Essex Asian Women's Association Membership



How You Can Help: - **Volunteer** - if you are able to devote a little time, **Make a donation** - a single or regular monthly donation, and **Become a member** - by completing the tear-off strip at the bottom

If you would like to know more please speak to any member of the Trustee Board, or the Chair Mrs. Nirmal Gupta MBE on 01702 584959, e-mail: info@EAWAsouthend.org

EAWA Membership Application Form **1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019**

(Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: Date:

Telephone Number:

(Please tick boxes if you consent to receive telephone and/or e-mail communications from EAWA)

I consent to EAWA telephoning me to provide me with information about events/news/activities

E-mail address:

I consent to EAWA e-mailing me to provide me with information about events/news/activities

Information

Membership fee is £5 per annum for year 2018/2019, from 1 April 2018 to 31st March 2019, payable with application form.

Please return completed form to - EAWA Treasurer, 99 Carlingford Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 0SD.

Cheque – please make any cheque payable to EAWA.

If you no longer wish to receive telephone and/or e-mail communications from EAWA, please contact any EAWA trustee by telephone, e-mail or post. EAWA is GDPR compliant and respects your privacy. Please see our Data Protection Policy at <http://eawasouthend.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/EAWA-GDPR-Data-Protection-Policy.pdf> and our Privacy Policy at <http://eawasouthend.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/EAWA-Privacy-Policy.pdf> for more information.