



**The ICCA**  
Building for the future



**THE ATRIUM**

# NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2013

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10' Achievements



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# When The Going Gets Tough, The Tough Work Harder!

An update from the Chair of The ICCA Management Board, Gurmeet Vohra



Welcome to our latest newsletter. This is the fourth and final year of the current ICCA Management Board who has made tremendous progress and has together with staff and volunteers of Team ICCA got us through recessionary times, and more.

Only some of our best highlights have been listed in our 'Top 10' article, but rest assured there are plenty of others.

As a Team we are particularly proud of the fight we put up to protect our Day Care service from cut backs. The petition of over 2000 made the authorities take note of what we had to say.

Also the upgrades to our building have made a positive impact and have attracted more events to our venue. For example, the star light backdrops, dance floor and kitchen dumb waiter have made The Atrium a streamlined venue with plenty to offer. We are particularly pleased with our hall hire sales and overall Team ICCA has achieved a 14% increase in revenue since 2010/2011. And importantly, we responded to feedback about the pricing of our venue and changed our structure to help our members choose our centre first.

My inspiration to become an ICCA Board member came from my father and grandfather who had a 'give back to the community' philosophy. Good role models need to be commended for their hard work and I hope that this generation and the next take on board this same constructive philosophy and join, not only Team ICCA, but to also participate in our Gurudwaras, temples, local political forums and together make a difference for the Nottingham community. Our members have the opportunity to join The ICCA Management Board through our forthcoming elections, so please visit your centre to find out more.

**A big thank you to ICCA volunteers Dial Basi, Surinder Rai, Pushkar Lail, Santokh Dhaliwal and Anoop Gorecha. And fond farewell to Amardeep Bhattal who is changing roles at the City Council.**

A drinks reception at The Atrium ▶





- We ensured the first floor building works were completed to a high standard, championed by ICCA Board member Resham Aujla.
- A dedicated space for our Day Care users was created, who are right at home in the 1947 suite, also supported by Resham Aujla.
- Our Board member, Kashmeera Gorecha worked on expanding our marketing campaign and introduced an electronic bulletin called The ICCA Newsflash, which has almost 1,000 subscribers. As part of the campaign a sales website was launched and receives much good feedback from customers. Also the ICCA went viral with the launch of its very own Facebook page which provides regular updates to its followers. And to tie all our marketing efforts together, we developed a suite of professional publicity literature and corporate branding which helps to sell our hall suites to prospective customers.
- Led by Hasmukh Mistry, ICCA Board member, we expanded our events calendar and partnered with local organisations to deliver events such as our annual Navratri celebrations. Hasmukh has ensured our events are well organised and family friendly and has tried to incorporate different types of entertainment at our dinner dance.
- The ICCA went green and reduced its carbon footprint with the installation of solar panels, championed by Board members, Resham Aujla and Nick Singh.
- Our members were quick to protect our Day Care Services from closure and launched a successful petition signed by over 2000 people to help fight for our service, coordinated by ICCA Board member Sudheer Gupta.
- Gurmeet Vohra and Parminder Samrai, ICCA Board members, launched on the back of the Olympics vibe, The ICCA Sports and Arts Foundation. This includes the new Badminton and planned Hockey Clubs.
- Our Finance systems went online and had a thorough overhaul, assisted by ICCA Board member, Kamal Bowry. We now have a team of finance staff and Kamal keeps a close eye on our income and expenditure.
- Our sales targets were met and exceeded, and for the first time the centre made a financial surplus, aided by Board members Nick Singh and later monitored by Steve Sanghera.
- We worked tirelessly to streamline all our work activity and allocate resources more effectively; therefore reducing costs, all assisted by Board members Manoj Tugnait, Satinder Sharma and Atma Dhillon.

All this and more has been achieved in the past four years with the hard work of the Catering staff, Day Care team, Office staff, volunteers of Team ICCA and the Management Board.



## Dedication's what you need

'Caring for you is our business' is the mantra of Amardeep's Angels. The devoted Day Care team continues to provide sustained support, care, means of social inclusion and promotion of people's independence, and all in partnership with other statutory and voluntary organisations. In its latest feedback survey, 97% of citizens said that The ICCA Day Care Services met their needs through a range of stimulating activities on offer including:

- Regular input from health professionals holding surgeries
- Yoga and exercise classes
- Meals on Wheels service
- Shopping and day trips
- Links with library services
- Healthy nourishing meals

Our head Angel, Amardeep Bhattal, after 21 years of ICCA service, is also moving on to a new role within Nottingham City Council. Team ICCA and all the day care users will miss him immensely. We wish Amardeep much luck in the future.



## The One Stop Indian Visa Shop

The ICCA visa service has been busy this past year. Our customers are now able to surrender their Indian passport through our shuttle service, this is essential for those wishing to obtain an OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India). Although The ICCA cannot take OCI applications to Birmingham we can put together the entire application for a nominal fee. Since April 2012 almost 900 visa applications have been processed through the centre, nearly 50 OCI applications and 146 Passport Surrender applications were also handled by The ICCA.

**Good news first...** The ICCA has not increased the price of its visa shuttle service and fees remain at £13.80. Unfortunately, Indian Visa fees have gone up considerably, with an increase from £42.20 for a six month visa to £92.20. This increase has come from the High Commission of India and is in keeping with visa price hikes for most countries. For help with your visa application please call The ICCA.

# A Communal Kitchen is the Dosti Luncheon Club

“A brilliant idea, a communal kitchen that you just pop along to and enjoy with friends, and family - seriously good food at an amazing price”

Said the award winning Left Lion magazine, about the Dosti Luncheon Club food offering.



# Culture Vultures are Having a Ball at The ICCA

The centre's events calendar continues to be popular with family-friendly dinner and dances, formal flag raising ceremonies, Navratri celebrations with nine nights of garba and new year's festivities to name a few. All our events are as always, well attended and enjoyed by party goers.

to get your tickets, please visit our website, or become an ICCA BFF and join our Facebook page (see article further on). ICCA membership is now due for renewal, do this and you will get ticket discounts.

To refresh the calendar, we are hoping to set up a youth enticing Independence Day event. All you young people out there please come forward with ideas to help mark this special day but also encourage a younger audience to attend. **Please email your ideas to Hasmukh Mistry of Team ICCA on [Cultural.Events@TheICCA.co.uk](mailto:Cultural.Events@TheICCA.co.uk)** and offer your ideas or why not complete an online enquiry form from our website.

## What's coming up in 2013

Hot of the press; don't forget the forthcoming Vaisakhi celebrations for which tickets are now available. Planned for Saturday 20th April, tickets for adult members cost £15 and include a three course Indian meal, DJ and dancing and of course welcoming company. For information on how

Vaisakhi Dinner and Dance	Saturday 20th April 2013
Independence Day	Thursday 15th August 2013
Navratri	Saturday 5th to Sunday 13th October 2013
Diwali Dinner and Dance	Saturday 9th November 2013
New Years Eve Dinner and Dance	Tuesday 31st December 2013
Republic Day	Sunday 26th January 2014

# The Atrium A Venue for all Occasions



Large or small, formal or intimate, The Atrium is a venue fit for all occasions. The Atrium Events team can cater for your every need and pride themselves in assuring a successful function every time.

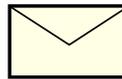
Call our experienced team on  
**0115 969 3402**  
to book your  
special event



## ICCA BFFs

Become a Facebook Friend and Join The ICCA to view the latest updates including the daily Dosti Luncheon Club menu, how to book tickets for ICCA events and view photos of our cultural activities with members and local dignitaries.

[www.Facebook.com/The-ICCANottingham](http://www.Facebook.com/The-ICCANottingham)



## You Have Mail...

Keep up to date on what's happening at your Centre with The ICCA Newsflash. Receive updates straight to your inbox about activities, events, services and how to get your hands on tickets to cultural occasions. Produced by Kashmeera Gorecha, Team ICCA Board Member; and Bally Sahota also of Team ICCA, the bulletin has a huge mailing list of interested subscribers. Register online to be added to The Newsflash mailing list:

[www.TheICCA.co.uk/maillinglistform.htm](http://www.TheICCA.co.uk/maillinglistform.htm)

## Stop, Look and Listen – We Did!

There have been a lot of changes made at The Atrium since our last newsletter. We listened carefully to feedback given from our members and community and have reverted back to the 'price per room' formula instead of a 'price per head' cost structure for suite hire. We hope this makes The Atrium a more attractive option for special occasions.

In addition, we have made a number of upgrades to the venue and its suites including a very popular sparkling star light backdrop around the edge of the room with LED lights which can change according to any colour theme you may have.

This year has been full of activity at The Atrium and our busiest since moving to our new premises four years ago. We have continued to target the public sector conference business and found ways of attracting not only large scale regional events but also smaller meetings and training sessions from commercial organisations.

The Events team has had structured sales training and are better equipped to address enquiries and ensure these are converted to lucrative bookings. For more information or to book your event, please visit our website: **[www.TheAtriumNottingham.co.uk](http://www.TheAtriumNottingham.co.uk)**

**Some Atrium stats:** Both the financial value of events and volume of events has increased year on year at The Atrium. Since 2010 we have seen an 8% increase in the number of events taking place at The Atrium and a 14% increase in hall hire revenue.



## Calling Dhol Enthusiasts coming soon

Learning to play an instrument has many benefits which are transferable into all areas of your life such as; concentration, coordination, relaxation, patience and self confidence. Join The ICCA Dhol classes and learn to play a traditional instrument which is renowned all over the world.

For more information or to register please contact [Jyoti Agheda](#) of Team ICCA.





Over 50s is now the new over 40s, particularly at The ICCA. Many of the members will know that The 50+ Association started in September 2008 with just a handful of enthusiasts who had a common goal; to improve and live an active life in their golden years and to organise social and physical activities. We are very proud to say that there are now more than 60 active members and

a calendar packed with activities such as Yoga for all, and a men only trip to Scotland (to sample the finest Scotch no doubt) to list a few.

For more information on how to join the 50+ Association please contact our valued volunteer Santokh Dhaliwal of Team ICCA.

## Your Welfare, Our Concern

The Nottingham welfare rights service continues to work in partnership with The ICCA and offers sessions at the centre every Thursday morning from 10am to 2pm. The consultant can offer advice on benefits, debt guidance and more, and in Hindi if necessary.

To book an appointment please call the welfare rights office directly on: 0115 9151355.

## Ashwariya or Rani?

Bollywood dance has become a popular way to keep fit and learn a new style of dance. Register for ICCA Bollywood Dance classes with Jyoti Agheda of Team ICCA.





## Arty Antics at The ICCA

For the past three years ArtCore of Derby has been working in partnership with The ICCA and manages The Atrium Gallery. Artcore has showcased a programme of exciting and varied exhibitions at The ICCA for all to enjoy. There has also been a number of community engagement workshops providing an opportunity to explore art and creative techniques. All have been well attended by the younger and older generations alike such as long standing ICCA member Mrs. Kaur who produced a creative portrait of mendhi patterns for hands.

For more information on art exhibitions and workshops please sign up to The ICCA Newsflash, our electronic bulletin.

## Here by popular demand - ICCA Badminton

You asked for a Badminton Club and guess what....a new club has been set up and is supported by The ICCA. The club members strike a good balance between competitive spirit and communal atmosphere with excellent facilities provided by Djanogly College. It's the perfect opportunity for people of different ages and backgrounds to exercise and socialise.

For more information or to join the club please visit [www.TheICCA.co.uk/sports.htm](http://www.TheICCA.co.uk/sports.htm)





## Tiger Woods Eat Your Heart Out

2012 evidenced the worst downpours since...well a long time, and this played havoc with the golfing season. But even in these adverse conditions The ICCA Golf Society grew from strength to strength and from event to event. A grand total of 73 members joined the Society, with many taking up golf for the first time. In support of those new to the game, and for those wanting to develop their game, coaching was set up with a golf professional - something quite new for the Society. This year will see even more golfing events, coaching sessions and some fantastic overnight golfing

occasions as well as the much anticipated end of season overseas trip - last year was a really good success.

So if you want to enjoy a sport and aspire to play the perfect round of golf...well try to...or you just want to learn some new skills then please contact Resham or Bally on [Golf@TheICCA.co.uk](mailto:Golf@TheICCA.co.uk)

## Boost Your CV and Your Confidence

Give your CV an edge and volunteer at The ICCA. We have had many success stories with ICCA volunteers moving into employed positions elsewhere as a result of showing that they are proactive and have gained skills in an established charitable organisation.

Other benefits of volunteering include: personal development, increasing self-confidence, making new friends and contributing to the community as a whole through The ICCA.

To find out more about volunteering opportunities at The ICCA please contact Jyoti Agheda of Team ICCA.

  
*“Working with Team ICCA gave me useful experience which in turn helped me to enhance my CV and gave me the chance to work with people from all backgrounds and of different ages.”*

Miss Sheetal Sharma.





The outdoor cricket nets season is upon us once again and is due to commence on Saturday 4th May and run to 17th July 2013. Outdoor training will take place at the well equipped Grove Farm, Nottingham University ground. Sessions run from 3pm to 5.30pm and are aimed at children aged over 9 years and from 3pm to 4.30pm for those aged under 9 years.

Past Cricket club successes include members who have entered matches in the Nottinghamshire County League, Nottingham Youth League, and softball under 11s Kwik Cricket League.

For more information on fees or to join the club please visit: [www.TheICCA.co.uk/sports.htm](http://www.TheICCA.co.uk/sports.htm) or contact our dedicated volunteer organiser Hemant Patel on: 07767070746.

## Go Team ICCA

The ICCA continues to operate with an enthusiastic team of employees who strive to provide an excellent service and ensure all day-to-day activities, events, and services run smoothly. This includes our team of Day Care Assistants, revered by the older members especially, and our Catering team who receive much good feedback from users of the Dosti Lunch Club.

The latest addition to Team ICCA is Harminder Sandhu, who volunteered with us at The ICCA last year and is now working in the reception area.

Above all, is our tireless group of centre volunteers who are also an essential part of Team ICCA and include: The ICCA Management Board, Dial Basi and Surinder Rai who help at the Visa Service, Pushkar Lail who provides advice and form filling assistance, Santokh Dhaliwal of The 50+ Association and Hemant Patel and Bally Hayer from ICCA Sports, amongst others who give their time outside the centre in sport and youth activities.



## Financial report

The charity continues to operate in a challenging environment. The past year has seen the local authorities' financial support decrease yet again. Despite these changes the Charity continued to provide, and even started new services, for the membership and the Day Care citizens.

ICCA Trustees and Management Board have seen positive results from rebranding exercises and continued marketing and communications effort and the investment made on marketing collateral in the previous year has paid off. Venue hire at The Atrium has increased year on year and coupled

with reducing running costs has had the desired effect, which shows on the indicative bottom line for the financial year of 2012/13.

Going forward the Trustees and Management Board are reviewing the groups' structure and are aiming to set up as a social enterprise in the next financial year. This will enable the Trustees and Management Board to consolidate the trading arm and the charity arm of the company so The ICCA can take the first steps towards the ultimate goal of becoming a self-sustained business.

	ICCA Charity	ICC (Property)
Year to March Indicative Income	£88,891	£194,823
Year to March Indicative Expenses	£83,541	£184,296
Year to March Indicative Surplus/Deficit	£5,352	£10,527

## Team ICCA needs you!

ICCA Board elections take place on Sunday 9th June 2013 (nominations for candidates 15th – 29th April 2013). If you think you have what it takes, please contact Santokh Dhaliwal, ICCA Election Officer:

## Member Benefits – Renew Now

For £5, each of our valued members gets access to a host of services and ICCA discounts. Renew your subscriptions now and get money off dinner dance tickets, preferential rates at our Visa Service, access to sports activities, and plenty more. Membership runs from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2017 and can be renewed at the centre or by downloading a form from our website. Why not join now!