

# KGA presents Goenkar

ISSUE 03

NOVEMBER 2010

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

## St. Francis Xavier Feast

The St Francis Xavier Feast will be celebrated this year with the same fervour, pomp and grandeur that has been the tradition over the years.

It's the time to honour St Francis Xavier during the Holy Mass (in Konkani) and appreciate and sing along with the wonderful choir organized by Mafalda Quadros and her melodious singers!

Its also the time "to catch up" with each other, renew friendships, have a sumptuous dinner and "shake a leg" to the awesome music which we have planned for you!!

Hope to see the whole KGA family there!!



Events to be...

### St. Francis Xavier Feast

4th December

### Children Christmas Tree - Little Elves

18th or 19th December

### Carol Singing

19th - 22nd December

### Members Day

26th January

**4TH DEC 2010**

St. Joseph's Boys'  
High School Chapel,  
Museum Road  
at 5.30 pm.

Members: Rs 150

Guest: Rs 250

5-12 yr: Rs 100

Below 5: Free

Contact Your Nearest KGA Committee Member for Tickets

### Carol Singing with the KGA 19th -22nd Dec

If You Have a Voice and Love to Sing Christmas Carols come Join the KGA as we Spread the Joy of Christmas.

Contact

Brenden Colaco - 99863 87984

Noel De Nazareth - 98450 52558



# KGA Annual Picnic

What do you get when you transport two bus-loads of people, a hundred and more of them, to a distant resort, with lovely lawns and a welcoming pool and great food and music and games and plenty of joyful liquidity? One heck of a picnic, that's what!

Having fun at the Emerald Isle Resort, on the outskirts of Bangalore, was easy.

All we had to do was let our hair down, and go with the flow of a beautiful day!



# Patricia Pereira-Sethi: India's first International journalist

Patricia Pereira was a bright-eyed young Bandra girl at St Xavier's College in Bombay, almost half a century ago. Fifteen years later she was the head of the renowned Newsweek Magazine's UN reporting team, meeting almost any of the world's most prominent people she wished to, writing a column for the magazine every week, travelling the world as one of the most prominent journalists in the business.

From international business leaders to Nobel prize winners, from dictators and despots to some of democracy's most respected icons, from artists and singers to authors and poets, Patricia Sethi (married by then to US-based architect Yogesh Sethi) met them all. An impressive woman, and not only because she is 5'9" tall, Patricia was known as "the journalist who would not take No for an answer".

And few said No, because they knew the world read Patricia Sethi. Not Indira Gandhi or Zulfikar Bhutto, not George Bush Sr or Augusto Pinochet of Chile, not Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua or Babrak

Karmal of Afghanistan or Mobutu of the Congo or Mugabe of Zimbabwe, not Gabriel Marquez Garcia or Dame Margot Fonteyn . . . not even Fidel Castro.

Two years ago, Patricia Pereira-Sethi decided to return home. And at home she is, in Goa, where she lives with Yogesh and is working on two books.



Bhutto



Fidel Castro



Majibur Rahman



Gen. Pinochet



Indira Gandhi



Robert Mugabe

We hope one day to invite her to Bangalore, where we will have the pleasure, indeed honour, to meet a Goan who climbed to the pinnacle of her trade long before anyone else from India had.

# KGA KIDS

## Going back to their roots

Early this month, a lively young group of five guys and six ladies, went on a special expedition to Goa, to explore, discover and celebrate facets of our homeland and its traditions and culture that are not often on the horizon when we go to Goa.



It was a KGA-sponsored trip, a short three-day dip into a programme that we hoped would open up the minds of our young people to the cultural splendour of Goa.

It started off with a visit to Old Goa, with museums covering elements of "Goenkarponn", our Goan-ness. One museum of note was the Museum of Christian Art, Asia's first museum of its kind, displaying the wealth of religious art & artefacts found in the various churches built by the Portuguese in Goa as well as some donations by private families.

Goan cuisine, a core component of our tradition and culture was thoroughly explored with the group sampling the Old & Traditional and the New & Surprising.

Evenings and nights were dedicated to the warm beaches and shacks with music and dance. After all, We're Goan!

*The KGA is grateful to the many who helped put this experience together for the kids. Vivek Menezes and Wendell Rodricks and others in Goa who contributed ideas to the programme; Ralph de Souza, Chairman of The de Souza Group, who generously provided subsidised living in one of his splendid resorts; Dona Margarida de Noronha Tavora e Costa who spontaneously insisted on treating the group to a definitive Goan banquet; Gavin D'Souza, our Hon. Treasurer, who braved all the dangers of eleven young terrors to mentor them through the trip; and a group of Members who contributed to the KGA coffers to lessen the financial cost of the trip.*

### Charmaine says:

Old Goa was simply amazing! The churches were breathtaking with their fabulous architecture. The Ancestral Museum was a one-of-a-kind experience. The pre-recorded voices took us down the Goan Ages - awe inspiring truly! Museu Vincento Joao de Figueiredo was really a feast for Goan eyes - the Portuguese architecture, furniture, utensils and artefacts were quite fascinating. How I wish we could live like that again - luxury and good taste rolled into one! Goa Chitra, the museum at Benaulim, displayed all the implements used by Goans in the bygone days in their day to day lives. It was so interesting to see how Goans were so self-sufficient as they used these tools to eke out a living. Yes, this experience was better than any history book!

### Brenden says:

At the Big Foot Museum we experience Goan lifestyle of the past.

We then headed for lunch to Mrs. Dona's AMAZING restaurant. She is a very, very sweet lady who came running out to greet each one of us! The place was fascinating as we first took a walk around looking at all her beautiful collections and we then sat down for lunch. There was something very unique and nice about the buffet as we felt at home the way the food was presented ... almost something like when we have our Christmas lunch! Everybody must make a visit to Mrs. Dona's place! It's called Figuerida!

Mr. Edward Rodricks.... Uncle Eddy... wanted to take us for dinner that night. So we dressed in our best and were off to a place called Sweet Chili! We had a ball that night... full of excitement, lots of dancing and great food as well followed by a relaxing stroll on the beach!

This was truly a great expedition! First time it has ever been done. It was magnifico!

Thank You to all who made this trip possible! Thank you so very much! :-)



# The KGA Education/Welfare Fund

*The Fund exists for the sole purpose of making resources available for people in need of assistance for Education or simple Welfare. Funds are contributed from surpluses arising from the KGA's activities, and from contributions by generous donors.*

## The Scholarship Fund

The KGA Education/Welfare Panel invites applications from Goans in Bangalore for ongoing educational assistance through the KGA scholarship fund. This fund provides for the following type of assistance:

- Scholarships towards fees for High School, PU, Degree and Professional courses
- Assistance for purchase of books, uniforms, etc
- External and private tuitions
- Student counselling as required.

The financial aid may be in the form of full or partial grants or soft loans repayable when the beneficiary starts earning. All loans are free of Interest.

## The Welfare Fund

The Welfare Panel supports a number of members who may be advanced in age or physically challenged. The Panel reaches out to such members, visits them and provides logistical assistance wherever possible

Financial assistance is rendered to such members who are economically challenged. This assistance takes the form of regular grants towards medical, nursing care, hospitalisation and in the face of natural disasters and accidents. Short-term interest free loans are also given to tide over emergencies till the beneficiaries can arrange for their own funds.

If you wish to access any of the above forms of assistance or are aware of Goan families in Bangalore who would benefit from them, please contact any of the Panel members listed below.

The assistance by the Education and Welfare Panels is administered by a Team comprising 8 senior Members of the Association who assess the merit and need of each applicant. All information/enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## Your Contribution

If you would like to contribute financially towards these schemes either on a general or specific basis, your assistance is very welcome. Your cheque/DD may be made in favour of "Karnataka Goan Association."

## Contact of specific Panel Members

Keith Rosario  
keith.rosario@gmail.com  
25491325

Stephen Gonsalves  
sag@sify.com  
98451-63807

## The Little Elves Christmas Party

Santa is coming around once again to make Christmas very special for all little girls 'n boys! And, if you were extra good this year, he's got lots of goodies for you!!

It will happen on the 18th or 19th December 2010 ( you'll get the exact date by way of a flyer in the first week of Dec) at the Kiddies Corner in St Joseph's Boys High School, Museum Road, at 4 pm.

So, put on your thinking caps and write to Santa mentioning what you would especially like to have. Send your letters to me and I promise to mail them to Santa!

Bye Kids... See You there!!

**Adele Britto**  
No 16/1, 1st Cross,  
Vivekanandanagar  
Bangalore 560033

delspice@yahoo.co.in

Entry Rs. 100 per child.



# India discovers the Kunbi Sari!

The Kunbi sari is all set for a major revival as our celebrated fashion designer Wendell Rodricks presented his Kunbi Tribe collection to the only standing ovation at the Wills Lifestyle India Fashion Week in New Delhi on October 24.

Wendell is Goa's most constructive maverick, exemplified by his comment to the press that "Marginalised by mainstream society, the Kunbis deserve to be addressed as the original inhabitants of the land".

Expertly mixing cotton and silk, woven and knitted textures, reviving the traditional Kunbi sari was a daunting task considering the many social stigmas Kunbi fashion associated with it. "Goa needed to have its own place in ethnic and traditional collections; have its own sari. I have always felt embarrassed that Kashmiris had their own shawl and many States had their own saris, but that Goa didn't," says our impassioned genius.

Wendell has presented the sari to President Pratibha Patil, AICC president Sonia Gandhi and New Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dixit. We may yet see our sari on the ramparts of Red Fort!





## “I didn’t hear about that!”

That is an often heard sentence from many members who have missed out on an event, only to find out later that people had an amazing time there and sadly, we missed you there.

Fear not though! By providing us your contact details (especially your emails address) you can stay in touch with what’s happening with the KGA and all the events that are being conducted by us.

We don’t want you to be missing from any of our events.

Please help us get our records updated and accurate.

Adele Britto

Hon Secretary

## All new KGA Website

Logon to our Brand New Website

[www.KgaBangalore.com](http://www.KgaBangalore.com)



## Konkani Classes

*KGA requires a TUTOR to train interested members in Konkani. We intend conducting 20 classes at a centralised location.*

*The KGA will pay a Fee to the tutor for services rendered.*

*So, those of you who are fluent in the Mother Tongue and who are willing to coach a bunch of enthusiastic members, please contact the Secretary Adele Britto.*

*Likewise, members who are interested to learn Konkani, please mail or call Adele.*

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