



## BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1982

37 Chesters Way, Winthrop, WA 6150, Tel: 0423 962 808, Email: President@baawa.com.au

ABN: 46 446 858 132

### **BAAWA General Secretary's Report 2012-13**

#### **Annual General Meeting 2013**

#### **City Hall, South Perth**

**21 September 2013**

**Dear BAAWA Members,**

Good evening.

BAAWA has started its 31st year of establishment this year. In 2012 – 2013 the number of events, that BAAWA Executive Committee organised, has grown in line with the growth of our community. We organised 24 cultural, social and sports events including Annual Sports and Picnic, and Annual Concert. The cultural team lead by Tasneemul Galib Amit and assisted by Arif Qureshi and Shibly Hassan set high standards in planning, organising and managing BAAWA cultural events and observing days of National significance for expat Bangladeshis which will be briefly described in later sections. BAAWA executive committee (EC) more specifically EC member Professor Syed Mofizul Islam produced BAAWA Sponsorships Document which will work as a guideline for all future sports and cultural events especially Annual Concert and Banglar Mela. Last financial year, BAAWA executive committee had also been successful in getting EOIs from members who wanted to attend various events. On financial side we also achieved to maintain a strong account which will be explained in full detail in the Treasurer's report. Few other achievements of 2012-13 were - collecting AU\$6915 (£4158.20) for Savar Rana Plaza victims which was sent to Valerie Taylor Trust-UK, collecting around \$7000 sponsorships money from community businesses, getting a \$5000 fund from Department of Sports and Recreation for Active Women program and organising Nagar Baul James concert which was attended by many young community members.

The following are the key BAAWA events organised in the last 12 months:

#### **Cultural and Social Events**

1. Eid ul Adha/Puja Reunion - Saturday, 3 November 2012 at Kardinya Hall, Murdoch
2. Picnic and Annual Sports - Sunday 25 November 2012, Woodman Point Regional Park, Munster.
3. Nagar Baul James Concert – Sunday 10 February 2013 in the Lady Wardle Performing Arts Centre at St Mary's Anglican Girls' School
4. Bangladesh Fair and Bengali New Year 1419 celebration - Sunday 14 April 2013 at Bush Court, Murdoch University, Murdoch
5. Eid ul Fitr Reunion - Saturday 17 August 2012 at Kardinya Hall, Murdoch
6. Annual Concert – Saturday 7 September 2012 at Rixon Theatre, Penrhos College, Como.



## BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1982

37 Chesters Way, Winthrop, WA 6150, Tel: 0423 962 808, Email: President@baawa.com.au

ABN: 46 446 858 132

### Commemoration of Bangladeshi National Days

1. Victory Day – Social Soccer, BBQ and Cultural program – Saturday 15 December 2012 at the Centenary Reserve Park, Centenary Avenue, Wilson
2. International mother language day – Saturday 23 February 2013 at Cockburn Youth Centre, Success
3. Independence Day - Saturday 30 March 2013 at Jones Lecture Theatre, Building 402, Curtin University.

BAAWA Cultural Secretary Tasneemul Galib Amit, assisted by Assistant Cultural Secretary Arif Qureshi and Assistant Cultural Secretary Shibly Hassan very successfully executed the leading role in organising various cultural events or segments. He showed excellent leadership and extreme dedication. The team displayed and demonstrated innovation in planning, skills in organising and excellence in management. Quiz competition in the Eid-ul-Adha/Puja Reunion was well planned; the victory day soccer, BBQ and cultural program were well coordinated; Nagar Baul James concert was well attended; cultural competitions for the kids on 23 February were well appreciated and Annual Concert was highly praised by the members. Last year for the first time BAAWA organised an open air band show in Banglar Mela with two local bands - Bengal Rockers and Gramophone.

### Community Assistance Events

Consular Camp by the Bangladesh High Commission in Australia - Saturday 17 August 2013, Manning Hall, Manning.

### Community Assistance - Rana Plaza Victims

BAAWA EC 2012-13 ran a donation campaign for few weeks in April and May 2013 for the Rana Plaza victims. On Wednesday 24 April 2013 Rana Plaza, a nine story commercial building which housed five garments factories, collapsed in Savar claiming 1129 lives and injuring around 2500 workers. Community members donated \$6845 for the victims and BAAWA transferred AU\$6915 (£4158.20) to the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) which specialises in physical and psychological rehabilitation.

### Sports

BAAWA sports team headed by Mustafa Basher Raju and assisted by Khandker Rahman Shampad organized thirteen sporting events last financial year with the help of the sports subcommittee members and event coordinators. Sports Secretary Mustafa Basher was also instrumental in getting a \$5000 fund from Department of Sports and Recreation of Government of Western Australia for the 'Active Women' program. Full details will be provided in the Sports Secretary's Report.



## BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1982

37 Chesters Way, Winthrop, WA 6150, Tel: 0423 962 808, Email: President@baawa.com.au

ABN: 46 446 858 132

### **Pathshala Bangla School**

Pathshala Bangla School is a self-funding BAAWA initiative in its fourth year of operations which aims to impart Bangla language and numeracy skills to children in the Bangladeshi Australian community in Perth. It is managed by a school management committee drawn from parents, volunteer teachers, community members, and the Executive Committee of BAAWA. Current committee members are: Dr Mohammed Ali (Chairperson), Laboni Omar, Dr Shaikh Faiz Uddin Ahmed (Registrar), Dr Nasim Iqbal, Kamrul Ahmed, Anu Sharma, Nazmus Sadat Shibli, Dr Prabir Sarker, and Dr Md Zayedur Rahman.

The school has four terms every year, with classes held at the Canning Vale Community Centre on Sunday afternoons. Currently, there are 15 students enrolled, with five volunteer teachers: Laboni Omar, Jahanara Islam Mimi, Anu Sharma, Kamrul Ahmed, and Sohela Silvee. The Registrar administers the school through maintaining school records and finances, booking classroom venues, sending out official notifications to parents, and carrying out other essential tasks.

The school curriculum underwent a significant development in 2013 with the creation of 10 standardised modules and study plans. Under the new curriculum, at the beginning of each school term a student is allocated to a module and study plan that is appropriate to his/her skill level.

The school is self-funded, with school fees of \$ 50 per student per term covering all expenses. During 2012-13, the school had total revenues of \$ 2,130 and expenses of \$1805.62. A balance of \$2140 was carried over from the previous year thus the net balance this year is \$ 2464.38.

The school children performed the national anthems of Bangladesh and Australia at the BAAWA Annual Concert 2013, with several children also participating in the Bangla Natok at the concert. In this regard, BAAWA is requested to consider adding a Bangla singing class for the school which students can take up as an optional subject. Such an initiative would enrich the cultural curriculum of the school, and help in increasing student enrolment and retention.

Pathshala Bangla School and BAAWA wish to thank students, parents, teachers and the community for their active support and patronage of the school which has made it into a well-regarded educational initiative for children of the Bangladeshi community.

### **BAAWA Membership**

Total Member at present: 331

Number of Members at the end of 2011-12: 312



## BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1982

37 Chesters Way, Winthrop, WA 6150, Tel: 0423 962 808, Email: President@baawa.com.au

ABN: 46 446 858 132

### **BAAWA Website**

This year BAAWA registered a new web address <http://www.baawa.org.au>. Tasneemul Galib Amit has been managing the website and updating its content periodically as requested by BAAWA EC.

### **BAAWA Music System**

BAAWA music system was successfully used at various events. This year we used the full sound system in Banglar Mela 2013 and also added few more sound equipment to make it an efficient system. Thanks to all volunteers who worked as sound technicians especially Assistant Cultural Secretary Shibly Hassan.

### **Finance and Budget**

Full details of BAAWA financial statement 2012-13 are reported in Treasurer's Report.

### **Sponsorships**

BAAWA executive committee maintained good relationship and received funds from a number of government organisations, universities and businesses. These include Lotterywest, Department of Sports and Recreation, Curtin University, Murdoch University and Alvina's Collection. These grants and sponsorships were invaluable in supporting BAAWA activities such as the Annual Concert and Bangladesh Fair.

We also received handsome donations and sponsorships from the local and interstate community businesses namely Ananyna Fashion & Jewelleries, Ausbangla Enterprise, Cheap Mega Travel, DKD Accounting & Business Services, Faith Express, Fast Remit Money Transfer, Holly Indian Grocery, King India, Lumya Talk, Mahi's Homeloans & Financial Services, Pharmacy 777 Nollamara and South Lake, Sevenoaks Halal Butcher, Signs & Print, Texas Business & Accounting Solution, and TJ Group. BAAWA Nagar Baul James concert organising subcommittee received the highest financial support from local and interstate businesses.

Sports Secretary Mustafa Basher will acknowledge names of BAAWA members who have donated money or sponsored prizes in various sports events.

### **Acknowledgements**

BAAWA is a community organisation which is run by volunteers. I cannot thank everyone enough for their involvement and willingness to take on the completion of various tasks beyond their comfort zones. On behalf of BAAWA Executive Committee 2012-13 I like to extend our hearty thanks to the following individuals and groups of people for their generous and selfless support.

Mr Matt Taylor, MLA, member for Bateman, WA Legislative Assembly



## BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1982

37 Chesters Way, Winthrop, WA 6150, Tel: 0423 962 808, Email: President@baawa.com.au

ABN: 46 446 858 132

Mr. Graham Droppert, Honorary Consul General, Government of Bangladesh

Members of BAAWA executive committee 2012-13 as well as the Cultural, Food, Annual Sports and Picnic, Pathshala Bangla School, Bangladesh Fair and Annual Concert sub-committees.

Volunteers and coordinators who were involved in organizing various BAAWA events specifically Bangladesh Fair 2013, Nagar Baul James concert, sports events and Annual Concert 2013, including the participants, performers, their parents, MCs, choreographers etc.

Finally, I like to especially thank BAAWA President Associate Professor Ruhul Salim, Vice President Sabbir Hussain, AGS Wahid Khan Nipu, Social Welfare and Communication Secretary Deepok Kar, Cultural Secretary Tasneemul Galib Amit, Sports Secretary Mustafa Basher Raju, Executive Committee member Professor Syed Mofizul Islam and ex-officio member Nazmus Sadat Shibli for their hard work in the past twelve months.

### Conclusion

BAAWA Executive Committee 2012-13 organised 24 cultural, social and sports events successfully and efficiently last year. BAAWA is as strong now as ever due to selfless supports of many admirable individuals which were evident in planning, organising and management of every event in the last twelve months especially in cultural and sports events. Despite much success we need to concentrate in increasing new members and retaining existing members in future. The next executive committee should also amend BAAWA Constitution to fit it with current trends, space and time. I like to finish thanking those individuals whom I missed to mention by name but you are the gem of our community. Thank You.

Signature Nasim Iqbal

**Dr Nasim Iqbal, General Secretary, BAAWA Inc.**