

## Leisure Newsletter

### Editor's Note

Here we are with our second Newsletter of this term. It got delayed due to various reasons but the idea was to carry in this issue the details of the programme for the Barcelona Forum. As the sessions are many more than usual and many of them are being held jointly with other RCs it may be useful to have them all available on one site. It might also motivate fence sitters to attend the Forum!

It was mentioned in the earlier Newsletter, the idea is to make this a space for dialogue and debate on leisure related issues and provide information on ongoing activities and research which have a bearing on related topics. As such, we look forward to greater inputs from leisure scholars. Leisure is not limited to one stream, for this reason those engaged in different pursuits can look at their disciplines from the perspective of leisure thus enriching the subject.

This issue carries a lengthy section on the RC13 Barcelona Forum sessions. A book review by Francis Lobo is a welcome addition to this issue. Those interested in adventure tourism as a leisure activity will find it of special interest.

Announcement with regard to a Young Leisure Scholar Award to be given out at the various upcoming ISA RC13 conferences and a Form for Membership of RC13 is also given in as a part of this newsletter – the idea is to request members to encourage people to become members with a view to enhancing the membership quality and quantity of RC13.

In India, we are having a season of festivals – from *Basant Panchami*, which in February marks the advent of spring to *Holi* in March which is a sign of the resplendent colours of spring and joy of life. The festivals are markers of goodwill and bonhomie. They also help to mend cracks in relationships – be they individual or community. This year *Holi* comes together with Good Friday and Easter Sunday as also *Id*, marking a natural convergence of religious and cultural beliefs. These leisure related events have an important role in the continuance of social harmony, reconciliation and faith while providing time for freeing the mind from mundane day-to-day rhythms. The embedding of festivals in the normal flow of life is an important part of Indian life. Every state and ethnic group has its own variations on similar themes and are enjoyed by anyone who wishes to participate in them.

We extend all good wishes to members and look forward to their greater and more active participation in making this Newsletter more dynamic!

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