

## **Subject: Membership Message 1/2022**

Dear Members,

### **Happy New Year**

On behalf of the WACA Council, I wish all WACA members and their families a Happy New Year. Let us hope that in 2022 the COVID-19 pandemic will finally be over and we can once again return to our normal way of life.

### **53rd Annual General Assembly (AGA): The 2022 Interline Celebration**

The tour operator who will be handling the logistics is trying to establish how many WACA members are intending to take the post-AGA tour immediately following the AGA. The estimated number of participants is required to secure the deluxe phinisi sailing ship for back to back excursions exclusively for WACA if enough members participate. As a reminder, the post-AGA Tour: Land of the Dragons and the Lesser Sunda Islands is scheduled to take place from 21–25 October at a cost *to be determined* around USD 1,115.00 per person. It will depart from Bali following the AGA and conclude back in Bali.

The post-AGA tour will have two groups: the first group will commence the tour on the deluxe phinisi sailing ship and then transfer to the town of Senggigi; the second group will commence the tour in the town of Senggigi and then take the deluxe phinisi sailing ship.

*To help organise the logistics of this tour please let us know as soon as possible if you are thinking of participating. At this time there is no formal registration or payment required.*

### **Africana Festival — KwaZulu Natal Highlights Tour**

Organised by the Africa, Indian Ocean Islands and Middle East Region, the Africana Festival scheduled to take place from 19–25 April will take participants on a wonderful six day, five night, tour in South Africa visiting the Mkhuze Game Reserve, Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park, Umhlanga, The Wild Coast and Durban. Complete details can be found in the attached brochure.

### **Office Restrictions Update**

Very soon after Membership Message 16/2021 was issued, the Omicron variant of the novel coronavirus took hold in the province of Quebec and various restrictions were reinstated by the government which are still in effect. This includes the closing of offices to all but essential workers so once again I continue to do all the WACA work I can remotely from my home.

### **Blind Children Drawing and Painting**

## **Welcome to my Studio and The Scent of Colour**

WACA's Ambassador for Blind Children, *Suheil Baqaeem*, welcomes you to his gallery in Amman, Jordan, to see the projects undertaken by the blind children "By smelling and touching".

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## **Membership Messages**

### ***Communicate***

"Membership Messages" are sent out on a regular basis to WACA Member Clubs, Members-at-Large and other individuals closely connected to WACA. Recipients in Member Clubs are requested to forward these messages to all members of their respective Club or direct their members to the News and Press Releases section of WACA's website where the messages are posted:

[www.waca.org/news/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.waca.org/news/Pages/index.aspx).

### ***Contribute***

If any WACA member has anything they would like to contribute to the next "Membership Message" please send the information to the attention of the WACA Administration Manager at WACA Headquarters.

Yours in interlining,

Keith Miller

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