

Dear Members,

53rd Annual General Assembly (AGA): The 2022 Interline Celebration Quarantine Rules Ended

On 21 March the government of Indonesia lifted all quarantine rules for fully-vaccinated visitors to end two years of border closure. This follows measures taken by its neighbour countries in easing entry restrictions as Southeast Asia moves past the worst of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. The government expanded its quarantine-free travels to the rest of the country following a successful two-week trial of the programme in Bali, Batam and Bintan islands where infections have remained low. A Zoom video conference call will now be arranged with the tour operator, who will be handling the AGA logistics, to ensure negotiations with the hotels and ground handling companies are resumed to ensure everything is completely in order for our AGA and tours to proceed smoothly.

Dates

As a reminder, dates and locations of the 53rd AGA and tours in Indonesia are as follows: pre-AGA tour: Java Grand Tour, 9–16 October 2022; venue: departs from Yogyakarta, concludes in Bali. 53rd Annual General Assembly (AGA): The 2022 Interline Celebration, 16–21 October 2022; venue: Bali. Post-AGA tour: Land of the Dragons and the Lesser Sunda Islands, 21–25 October 2022; venue: departs from Bali and concludes in Bali. The brochures that were issued in 2020 are being amended for 2022 and will be issued once the package costs have been confirmed.

Post-AGA Tours: Land of the Dragons and the Lesser Sunda Islands

Thank you to all members who advised it was their intention to take the post-AGA tour immediately following the AGA. The response indicates that there will be enough members participating on the tour to secure the deluxe Phinisi boat for back to back excursions exclusively for WACA. The first of two groups on the tour will commence in the town of Senggigi and then take the deluxe Phinisi boat. The second group will commence the tour on the deluxe Phinisi boat and then transfer to the town of Senggigi.

Africana Festival — KwaZulu Natal Highlights Tour

Regretfully, the Africa, Indian Ocean Islands and Middle East Region has found it necessary to cancel the Africana Festival due to be held from 19–25 April.

Membership Dues

Chief Finance Officer, *Sharon Slessor*, advises that she will be sending the annual membership dues notices by the end of this month.

Office Restrictions Update

More restrictions imposed by the province of Quebec, due to the Omicron variant of the novel coronavirus, have now been lifted. Companies can now have staff working in their offices in a hybrid mode, i.e. working from both home and the office. I have, therefore, starting working in the office on a reduced number of days per month.

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.

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,

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