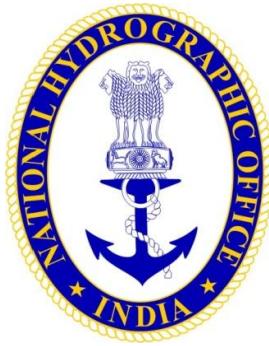


VARUNI

DEHRADUN



NWWA NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015 – APRIL 2016

NWWA COMMITTEE



From L to R- Mrs.Aasma Ashraf, Mrs.Anuradha Pawsey, Dr.Sulekha Nautiyal, Mrs. Amrita Badhwar (President NWWA, Dehradun), Mrs.Shubha Jolly

Middle row L to R- Mrs.Seema Saajan, Mrs.Vrinda Bekal, Mrs.Asma Keshri, Mrs.Megha Deshdeep

Top row L to R- Mrs.Gigi Thomas, Mrs.Nandini Arya, Mrs. Vinita Hardas, Mrs.Rajee Menon, Mrs.Sunitha Mathew

WELFARE MEMBERS



Mrs.Sunitha Rathi



Mrs.Kanti Devi



Mrs.Santosh Pal



Message from President,NWWA Dehradun



Dear Ladies,

It is an honour and privilege for me to assume the role of President NWWA, Dehradun. With the help of my team, I do hope that we will be able to make NWWA, Dehradun an even more vibrant and contributory organization to achieve what we aim for.

I am sure that there will be continuous and an energetic participation by all ladies in various activities. We, as a team continue to bring in new ideas to make our small community an example of what NWWA stands for. As another year rolls by, it is time to recall and apprise everyone about the NWWA accomplishments at Dehradun by rolling out 'The Varuni'.

I am glad to note that events steered by NWWA, in the past one year have been undertaken with the zeal and enthusiasm. I anticipate energetic participation by the members in the coming year.

I would like to compliment the Editorial team for bringing out this fine issue.

Jai Hind!

Dehradun
June 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amrita Badhwar".

Mrs. Amrita Badhwar
President, NWWA Dehradun

Message from the Editorial Team



Dear Ladies,

Here we are with yet another edition of Varuni. It has been a year full of exciting activities that kept us all busy in spite of our hectic schedule. We would like to thank all readers for an overwhelming response given to the efforts put in. In an initiative to go green and to reach out a wider range of readers, the pdf version of Varuni from Dehradun is sent to survey ships and attached units this year. An email address nwwadehradun@gmail.com is being introduced this year so that our readers can give their valuable feedbacks and suggestions.

Also, we thank all the contributors, who have helped us with their articles for the magazine.

Looking forward to your support in all our future endeavours and we wish you all a happy reading.

Dr.Sulekha Nautiyal

Mrs.Shubha Jolly

Mrs.Rajee Menon

The Positive Thinker
sees the Invisible,
feels the Intangible
and achieves the
Impossible.

From the Secretary's Desk



The year gone by at Dehradun has been exhilarating and we were witness to flurry of activities which kept all the ladies of NWWA busy. Though we are small community at Dehradun, there was whole hearted involvement and participation from all ladies in the multifarious activities organised over the entire year. Here is an overview of all that has kept us busy through the year 2015.

April 2015. Farewells are not mere formalities they are also warm gestures by the community to appreciate and acknowledge the inmate qualities of the person who is being bid farewell. During this month we bid farewell to Mrs.Babita Nair, Mrs.Sucheta Bhosale and Mrs.Pranjali Mangulkar.



July 2015. (a) A meeting was held to welcome Mrs.Gigi Thomas ,Mrs.Asma Ashraf and Mrs. Megha Deshdeep in the committee.

July 2015. (b) To showcase the hidden talent of ladies “Best out of Waste” competition was held in the NWWA Kendra. Ladies came up with innovative ideas and displayed ingenuity by making fascinating articles. One kept wondering as to, how a simple newspaper, silver foil roll, an empty bottle or plastic bottle could look so beautiful and desirable with just a bit of imagination.



August 2015. On the occasion of Independence Day, there was an enthusiastic participation by the ladies for hoisting the National Flag. Children from the Sharp Memorial School for visually handicapped were invited for the occasion and they presented an enthralling cultural programme.



September 2015. On 19th of Sept a Milan was organized to bid farewell to Mrs. Indu Nair (Vice - President NWWA, Dehradun). Entertainment programme was prepared and presented by the ladies and glimpses of the long and eventful career of Mrs Nair were also flashed.



October 2015. A Milan was organized to welcome Mrs. Amrita Badhwar as Vice - President NWWA, Dehradun. She took over the reigns of NWWA Dehradun. An entertainment programme was organized by the ladies in the evening.



"Optimists enrich the present, enhance the future, challenge the improbable and attain the impossible." William Arthur Ward

November 2015. On the occasion of Children's Day, a movie was screened for the children in the NWWA Kendra. Refreshments and gifts were also distributed to them.



December 2015. (a) On the occasion of Navy Week an Inter - School Quiz Competition was organized with participation from many schools of Dehradun. "Scholars Home" emerged as the winners of the Quiz competition. We also had a special participation by the differently abled children from Bajaj Institute of Deaf and Dumb, Dehradun. Mrs Sandhya Jha President, NWWA Dehradun presided over as the chief guest and gave away the trophies and certificates to the winners and runners - up.



December 2015. (b) A Milan was organized to bid farewell to Mrs. Sandhya Jha President NWWA, Dehradun. A fun filled programme was presented by the ladies with glimpses of the long and memorable association of Mrs.Jha with NWWA, Dehradun.



January 2016. (a) A meeting was organized to welcome Mrs. Amrita Badhwar who assumed the mantle of President NWWA, Dehradun.



January 2016. (b) UNNAYAN is an NGO running a school for children of slum dwellers and rag pickers. It is run on donations by the community. NWWA, Dehradun donated 3 ceiling fans and distributed biscuits to the children on the occasion of Republic day.



February 2016. On the occasion of NWWA day ladies had an outing. All ladies had a day out together, watched a movie followed by lunch.



Friendship
means understanding,
not agreement.
It means forgiveness,
not forgetting.
It means the memories last,
even if contact is lost.

March 2016. MAD “Making a Difference by Being the Difference” is an NGO run by youngsters who are mostly students. They collect and distribute old clothes to the poor, needy and homeless people of the city. To support them NWWA Dehradun collected old clothes and donated them to MAD.



April 2016. A meeting was held to bid farewell to Mrs. Anuradha Pawsey, Secretary NWWA and Mrs.Sunita Mathew, Library In-charge. Mrs. Gigi Thomas took over as the new Secretary.



It Snowed in Mussoorie



Capt Peush Pawsey

It was the weekend and it had snowed in Mussoorie. For someone born and raised in Dehradun this meant just one thing: a trip to the Queen of Hills. Not in large cars and SUVs as the present lot love to do, making a melee of cars from Rajpur to Picture Palace; but by the old fashioned way of taking the picturesque trail from Rajpur to Landour.

This is the original route to Mussoorie where one can enjoy the splendid sights of the Doon valley listening to chirping of beautiful birds who have made this valley their home and of course looking out for the mischievous monkeys. Having delicious bun omelette/bun samosa with piping hot tea at Barlowgunj en route is customary.



Along with my friend and colleague Commodore Ravi Nautiyal and his son Parth, aged 13 and my son Aditya, aged 15 we set off early Sunday morning armed with our binoculars and cameras. It was a beautiful morning and we certainly were in for a treat. We spotted some very beautiful birds and the kids were busy identifying and photographing them. We saw the Oriental White eye, Red vented Bulbuls, Sunbirds, Grey Bush chats, Plum headed parakeets, Brahminy Kites, Blue throated Barbets, Jungle babblers and Maynas. Both the kids had recently participated in the Uttrakhand Bird Festival and were keen to demonstrate their newly acquired knowledge.



While we were busy spotting the feathered beauties we realised we had company! Two cute little scrawny dogs whom we had seen near Shehanshahi Ashram had been following us. One was a skimpy mongrel who looked like he hadn't had a decent meal in ages, but he had a sparkle in his eyes and a continuously wagging tail. He was immediately christened Lucky. The other was an older, stouter, a mixed bred and was grudgingly following us lethargically. Parth named him Sleepy!



Now Lucky and Sleepy formed part of our group walking between us, stopping when we stopped, sitting when we sat, and looking where we looked. We assumed they would hang around for a while before returning to Rajpur where they obviously belonged. Couple of bends later we were met by four more dogs, probably their brethren as they made a huge fuss over meeting each other as long lost friends. There was an overdose of tail wagging, sniffing, jostling and barking. At end of their boisterous reunion, two more joined us.

The third dog was rowdy looking, big eyed and was continuously scratching himself with his hind paw which immediately earned him the name of Scratchy. The fourth dog who followed us along the hilly trail had fluffy hair and round face and the kids lost no time in calling him Teddy. We didn't pay much attention to these stray dogs who were now seen trailing close to us, walking alongside. We must have seemed friendly to them, both families being owners of German Shepherd and Labrador respectively. Dogs do tend to sense that. We left it at that, not giving it much thought, and continued our climb taking in the breath-taking views of Shivaliks and the Saal forests.

Some distance away we passed few houses where the locals were busy with their morning chores and we heard fierce barking which made our friends' tails upright. There were three of them who immediately took guard to protect their territory and prevent the intruders from passing through. Our

gang of four quickly glanced at each other and decided to surge ahead. They returned the barks with equal fervour staring right into their opponent's eyes and pitched ahead. At the end of this barking and staring duel, which lasted close to two minutes, our gang of four prevailed and the home team sheepishly withdrew. Aditya and Parth cheered the victors and we followed the champion dogs through the fallen territory.

Much to our amusement, the four friends who had unilaterally decided to be part of our entourage, continued to keep us company as if it was the most natural thing to do. Soon we were at Barlowgunj where the same scene was repeated and once the streets of Barlowgunj were conquered by incessant barking and hard staring, we sat down for a well-deserved rest and breakfast. The gang of four did not need an invitation from us and they were at our feet eagerly waiting for their morning chow. While we dug into delicious bun omelettes they munched biscuits with abandon.

After breakfast while we were chatting and looking at the photographs shot so far, the four of them dozed at our feet probably exhausted by the day's activities. They felt completely at home a bystander could be forgiven for assuming they were ours. As we were leaving, the kids decided that we should try to leave the dogs here itself, lest they get into further trouble ahead. But barely had we taken a few steps when we heard a familiar voice. The foursome were back on their feet and leading us out of Barlowgunj without having the faintest idea where we were heading, just happy to be in our company!

From here on the climb was steep and there were settlements enroute... which meant more dogs. And sure enough within minutes we were surrounded by six dogs of different sizes and breeds barking ferociously challenging our ascent into their territory. Our gang of four immediately took refuge between our legs elevating us to the role of their protectors!

We wielded our sticks and formed a protective cordon around the gang of four who by now had their tails between their legs. We must have portrayed a formidable sight as the defenders grudgingly backed off barking at our rear. Our dogs gave us appreciative looks. We had passed the test and had earned their eternal friendship and gratitude.



It seemed they were escorting us. Giving us protection. Lucky and Scratchy led the squad, looking out for hidden danger. Their ears perched, ready to pick up slightest signal of an imminent attack. Teddy was giving us close protection walking around our feet, almost tripping us in the steep climb. But he was also the most playful of the lot, eager to please with continuously wagging tail. Sleepy brought up the rear, dragging his feet reluctantly, ready to sleep at first opportunity.

By now the pattern was established. We were a team. Partners in crime. No words were required to be exchanged. Only quick glances as signals and we all exactly knew what to do. We were on path to undisputed victory. The streets of Mussoorie and Landour belonged to us, as one after another in quick succession we trespassed into foreign territories and forced the local defending dog warriors into submission. It was a field day! The dogs of Rajpur had probably never tasted victory so often and so sweet. It was a combination of their teamwork and attack when they were confident and our intervention whenever they felt outnumbered or overwhelmed. And it worked!

Now they walked like champions, with a definite swagger looking for challenges probably hiding behind parked cars. They wanted more. There was no going back. These stray dogs who were probably

used to being shooed away and being pelted with stones, had the entire city under siege. They lost no opportunity in marking their newly acquired territory. Passersby were curious and our procession did receive few hostile glances which we ignored. We trudged along and soon LalTibba was in sight. We had not planned to scale this hill but were glad to be there for we had not only found snow, which was the initial aim of this entire exercise, but were also greeted by smell of yummy food being prepared at Char Dukan, the popular eatery of LalTibba.

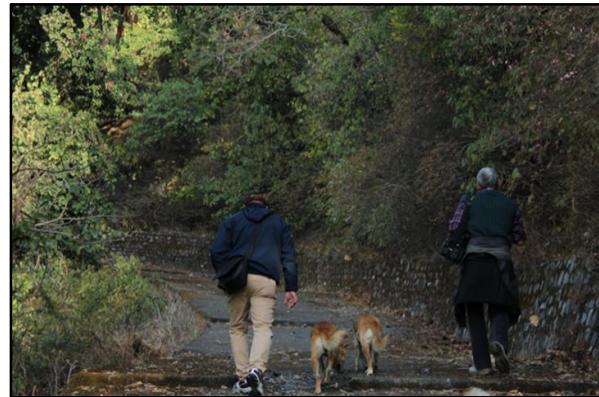
We stopped for our victory feast; our gang of four had truly earned it. It must have been a sight: Two adults, two kids and four stray dogs sitting peacefully together. And I suppose right about there, some 7500 feet high above the sea, with the fresh snow at LalTibba behind us and breathtaking views of the valley before us, in a moment that may have been just fleeting but one that will always stay with me, I realised I had finally found it.

Soon we realised that now come what may, we could not abandon them and it was our duty to safely escort them back to where they belonged. There was no other way it could be. Satisfied that we had our next plan of action well charted, we set off to where snow was. The gang of four too seemed pretty excited and followed the kids up and down the snowy slopes without any hesitation. They seemed to be lapping it all, literally! With sun threatening to disappear, we set on reverse trail conscious of the fact that these dogs were now dependant on us to safely take them to where they belonged.

The downhill trek was easier compared to climbing but the resistance offered by the defending regional dogs only had grown in intensity. Probably humiliated by their defeat earlier in the day by unknown stray dogs who were probably way too low in their pecking order, they had reinforced and were waiting in our trail.

To our surprise, this time around our foursome had a new found confidence and they were surging ahead leading from the front, attacking the chargers with josh and vigour which we had not seen whilst climbing. We were certainly delighted to see this transformation, but nevertheless kept close to them lest they get hurt by false bravado. The four of them kept close to each other and we kept close to them and they barked and howled and growled and were undisputed champions of the day once again!

As we approached Rajpur their confidence grew further and all of them including Sleepy were excited and racing ahead of us. Probably due to the fact that they were in familiar territory once again. Their energy levels seemed to have suddenly elevated to a new high. But we were tired having walked close to nine hours on a hilly terrain, and stopped for rest on a culvert. They were far ahead not even visible, and we thought we have missed saying our good byes. After couple of minutes we saw Lucky turning back and searching for us! He was soon followed by Scratchy and Teddy, who seemed to be in two minds about whether to go home or to follow us. Before they could decide, Sleepy raced ahead and returned to the culvert where we were resting. Sure enough rest followed, and we were actually left speechless. Thereafter we walked in close company mindful of the fact that with the end of this journey we would be parting company for a long time, probably till it snows again. As we reached Rajpur, our pace reduced as if we didn't want the journey to end. Once we reached our parked cars, they had already disappeared into the by lanes and rows of houses.



We truly felt proud of them and of what we had seen. These scrawny, skinny dogs had taught us so many lessons in a single day that we were overwhelmed. Companionship, loyalty, teamwork, leadership

and endurance could not have been better demonstrated as was done by these street mongrels who do not even get a second glance on a normal day. They had walked almost 30 kilometres for over nine hours without knowing or caring about their destination and where we were headed. They liked us and followed us. They protected us from wild attacks and meekly surrendered themselves to our protection when they were overwhelmed. No questions asked. No explanations given. Give me a dog for company, any day!

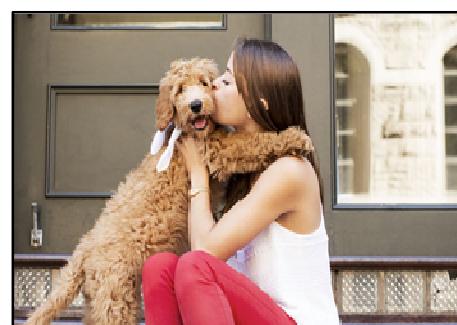
10 Signs you're a Pet Parent!



Aditya Pawsey

A lot of people own pets. They keep their names, feed them, bathe them and keep them healthy. But some of us go the extra mile- they are what you call the Pet Parents. They are over-protective; some might even call them borderline crazy. Read on to see if you're one of them.

- a) Your day starts with their sloppy kisses and baggy tails.
- b) Breakfast and Lunches are never a lonely affair.
- c) Even the tiniest scratch on your pet has sent you running to the vet at least once.
- d) You have a literal library of Pet care books and manuals.
- e) Your camera roll is dedicated to your 'baby'.
- f) Wallpapers, Desktop backgrounds, screensavers- you name it, they're on it.
- g) Most of your vacations are limited to where your little buddy can go.
- h) They occupy a large part of your social media posts.
- i) House Décor is not as important as your pet.
- j) Those learning to do something new are the Pet equivalent of your kid getting into Harvard.



Attractions in Dehradun



Aditya Menon

As we all are aware that Doon is a valley filled with attractive places to visit. So, here I would like to share some places that I myself have experienced the goodness and the scenic beauty....

Robber's Cave

Robber's Cave (locally known as Guchhupani) is a river cave formation located approximately 8 km from the centre of Dehradun City (Uttarakhand, India).

The cave is about 600 metres long, divided into two main parts. It has a highest waterfall of about 10 metres. In the central part there is a fort wall structure which is now broken. It consists of an extremely narrow gorge formed in a conglomerate limestone area on Doon Valley's Dehra plateau.

It is a natural cave formation where rivers flow inside the cave. The place is a popular tourist spot and is now being maintained by Uttarakhand State. Local bus services are available up to Anarwala Village, from where it is a kilometre's trek away.



Cloud's End

Cloud's End is situated at a distance of around 6 km from the west of the Library in Mussoorie. The name of the site is derived from its location, lying on one of the ends of Mussoorie. Tourists visiting this place can witness beautiful views and enjoy the pleasant atmosphere. The path to reach this place is covered by thick and dense forests. Further, a 2 km path from this place takes tourists to the Benog Wildlife Sanctuary. Tourists can witness variety of species of flora and fauna, while following the path to reach the attraction. The site can be reached on foot by travelling through the Hathipaon Road from Happy Valley. Further, tourists can also hire cars that are available from the city centre.



Mind rolling Monastery

Famous for housing the world's largest stupa, Clement Town is situated nine km south of Dehradun in Uttarakhand. Set amidst the foothills of the Shivaliks the Mind rolling Monastery in Clement Town is one of the largest Buddhist centres in India.

Khenchen Rinpoche, a prominent lama of the Kayo School of Tibetan Buddhism and other monks began the process of re-establishing Mind rolling Monastery in 1965. Mind rolling means "place of perfect emancipation" in Tibetan. In Tibet, Mind rolling was a prominent centre of Vajrayana Buddhism.



Clock Tower

The Clock Tower in Dehradun is the most renowned landmark of the city. It is the largest non-chiming six faced clock today. The Clock Tower has six faces and is the unique structure of this kind in the Asian continent. The Clock Tower was built before independence. It's located on the Rajpur road, and encircled by the city's commercial centre. The concept of Clock Tower started in the ancient Roman period. The Clock Tower of Dehradun is the most aesthetic structure in the city. It can be seen from a distance. Previously, the chime of the clock was audible from distant places of the hill city. But now the Clock Tower of Dehradun is nothing but an important landmark of the city around which you will find shopping complex, important institutions, renowned schools, government buildings, tourist's spots and some eminent hotels and more.



Forest Research Institute (FRI)

Established as Imperial Forest Research Institute in 1906, Forest Research Institute (FRI) Dehradun is a premier institution under the Indian Council of Forest Research and Education (ICFRE). Styled in Greko Roman Architecture by C.G. Bloomfield, the main building is a National Heritage which was inaugurated in 1929 .The Institute's history is virtually synonymous with the evolution and development of scientific forestry, not only in India, but over the entire Indian sub-continent. Set in a lush green estate spread over 450 hectares, with the outer Himalaya forming its back drop, the Institute's main building is an impressive edifice, marrying Greco-Roman and Colonial styles of architecture, with a plinth area of 2.5 equipped laboratories, library, herbarium, arboreta, printing press and experimental field areas for conducting forestry research, quite in keeping with the best of its kind anywhere in the world. Its museums, in addition to being a valuable source of scientific information, are a major attraction for tourists.



Indian Military Academy (IMA)

The academy is located in the foothills of the Himalayas, about 8 km west of Dehradun in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand. The campus is on National Highway 72, which separates the North and South Campus. The campus of the academy originally spanned 206 acres which was transferred to the academy along with existing buildings from the Railway Staff College. The academy area is 1,400 acres (5.7 km²).Built in 1930, the Chetwode Hall on the Drill Square houses the administrative headquarters of the IMA and is also the hub of academic training. It has lecture halls, computer labs and a cafe. On the opposite side of the Drill Square is the Khetarpal Auditorium. Inaugurated in 1982, it has a seating capacity of over.



सीखना हो तो यह सीखो



कान्ती प्रसाद

बोल सको तो मीठा बोलो, कटु बोलना मत सीखो ।
बता सको तो यह बताओ, पथ भटकाना मत सीखो ।
जला सको तो दीप जलाना, दल का जलाना मत सीखो ।
कमा सको तो पुण्य कमाओ, आग लगाना मत सीखो ।
लगा सको तो बाग लगाओ, आग लगाना मत सीखो ।
पा सको तो प्यार पाओ, तिरस्कार पाना मत सीखो ।
रख सको तो विद्या रखो, बुराई रखना मत सीखो ।
हँस सको तो सब को हँसाओ, किसी पर हँसना मत सीखो ।

बेटियाँ



है समस्या बेटे पर, समाधान है बेटियाँ ।
तपते धूप में जैसे ठंडी छांव हैं बेटियाँ ।
होकर भी धन पराया, है सच्चा धन अपना ।
दिखावे की दुनिया में, गुप्तदान है बेटियाँ ।
अपनी बदहाली की, सबने की बहुत चर्चाएँ ।
हैं ढांपती कमियों को, मेहरबाँ हैं बेटियाँ ।
है बेटा कुलदीपक, घर हो रोषन जिससे ।
दो घर रोषन जिससे, आफताब है बेटियाँ ।
हैं लोग वो जल्लाद, जो खत्म उन्हें हैं करते ।
टिका जिनपे परिवार, वह बुनियाद है बेटियाँ ।

नदी

कलकल करती नदी
और उसका मीठा स्वर
उसके किनारे सुस्ताता पथिक
मिटा रहा अपनी थकान ।

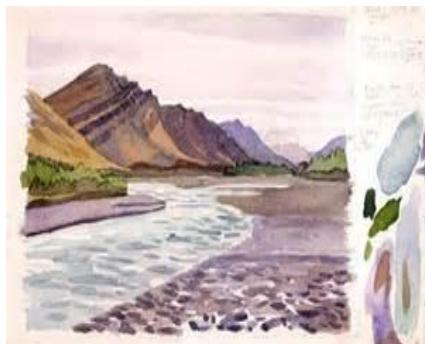


शुभा जौली



नदी का शांत निर्मल रूप
कितना मनोहारी
कितना आकर्षक
स्वच्छंद बह रहा ।

पथिक बैठा सोच रहा
उसका जीवन कितना संघर्षमय
और नदी कितनी स्वतंत्र
अबाध गति से है बहती ।



नदी कितनी मिलनसार
हँसती, इठलाती, बलखाती चलती
और फिर मिल सागर में
सागर ही हो जाती ।

सूर्यास्त और सूर्योदय

सूर्य के अस्त होते ही
पंछी उड़ चले नीड़ों को
कलरव कर गति हुए
दूर क्षितिज के पार ।



रात्रि का अंधकार तो
अजगर से व्यापक है
स्वयं का सांचा भी
लगता है विकराल सा ।

रात्रि का नीरव अंधकार है
चमकता है नक्षत्र आच्छादित आकाश
नीले आकाश का चंद्रमा
ही है संसार का प्रहरी

रात्रि के सुनेपन से त्रस्त
अंधकार से भयभीत
मानव और पंछी इंतजार में
सूर्य की लालिमा देखने को ।

सूर्य के उदय होते ही
लालिमा ही लालिमा छा गई
पंछी ने छोड़ा अपना नीड़
मानव ने छोड़ा निद्रा का साथ ।



सूर्यास्त और सूर्योदय का
संबंध है कैसा गहरा
सूर्योदय है प्रारंभ दिन का
तो सूर्यास्त अवसान का

प्रारंभ और अवसान अवश्यंभावी है
मानव जीवन की सार्थकता में
मानव का है गहरा संबंध
प्रारंभ और अवसान से ।

BLOOMS OF NHO, DEHRADUN



Cover Pages Designed By Mrs. Rajee Menon

ACTIVITIES OF DEHRADUN

