

Jalaram Mandir Greenford

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Newsletter ISSUE 2

AUGUST 2009

WEBSITE: www.jalarammandir.co.uk

Editorial

This is the second newsletter from the current Trustees. We appreciate that accountability and transparency should be at the forefront to succeed in our mission and objectives. This includes especially the financial transactions of Jalaram Mandir, which is a charitable organisation. The first set of accounts were published in December 2008, within two months of being elected. In our first newsletter, we published accounts to February 2009, and in this newsletter we are publishing accounts to June 2009, covering a period of eight months since the new Trustees were elected. Over this period, after expenditure, there is surplus of £82,385 after spending £21,909 for refurbishment of the premises and £8,906 for equipment.

Development

Noticeable and required improvements to the premises have been implemented including maintenance, for which there was a need. Besides the physical fabric of the Mandir, to continue to thrive and succeed there is a need to improve the skills of the Trustees, employees and volunteers. From time to time, therefore, when appropriate, participants should undertake training and attend courses. Nine of the eleven Trustees have attended a professionally organised full day course in June that touched on Governance issues concerning Trustees responsibilities and duties for charity organisations. This was very useful and gave us a good insight about the regulatory framework and the legal responsibilities of the Trustees. We will be sending our kitchen staff on further catering courses and are also intending to implement First Aid and Health and Safety courses for our staff and volunteers.

Website

The Mandir's website is now operational. Please visit www.jalarammandir.co.uk. You will find the latest news, forthcoming programs, our latest accounts and other information. If you wish to be advised by email about forthcoming programs, **please send an email to info@jalarammandir.co.uk**. We will then put you on our mailing list and you will be notified automatically.

Car parking

Mandir's programs continue to be well attended. The Thursday Bhajans regularly attract many devotees. The Trustees are conscious of the environmental as well as general issues and would recommend where possible for devotees to use public transport or where car use is necessary to share lifts. The devotees have to continue to be considerate to the neighbours, and therefore it is important to avoid using the surrounding residential streets and use the car parks instead. **Car parking has been arranged at Costons Primary School**, which is five minutes' walk from the Temple. A shortcut for this is to take Costons Lane on Greenford Road. This will be available on Thursdays from 6 to 10.15 pm. Can we request you please to use this facility, which is hired by Mandir and funded by donations. May we remind you that after 6 pm the car park opposite Greenford Town Hall is free; please make full use of this also. **Please under no circumstances block any driveways.**

Functions

Functions have been celebrated with full participation of many devotees. Shivratri on 17th March 2009, Ram Navami on 3rd May 2009 and the Hanuman Jayanti on 9th May 2009. Stephen Pound MP, Borough Commander Sultan Taylor and Sergeant Paul Bennett from the Metropolitan Police, Councillors and other dignitaries were our guests. We would also like to offer our thanks to Mr. Abhaybhai Lakhani for his support. On the 10th June 2009 the Ladies Activity Centre celebrated its third anniversary. On 11th June 2009, the Mandir hosted Bhajans by Shree Valjibhai Davda and Parivar of Jalaram Matru Seva Mandal which were appreciated by devotees of all ages. Our regular Bhajans on Thursdays and Hanuman Chalisa on Saturdays continue to attract more people. On Mondays and Wednesdays the Mandir holds a Ladies Activity Centre and on Tuesdays Gents Activity Centre. We could not organise the activities on such a scale without the commitment of volunteers and the devotees whose dedication is commendable. We thank them whole heartedly.

Please do not forget the Krishna Janmastami Utsav on Friday 14 August 2009 which starts at 10.30 am and will end at 11.30 pm, followed by Krishna janam at midnight. You can park your cars at the Costons Primary School from 6 pm to 12.30 am. Shrimad Bhagvat Saptha will be recited by Ashishbhai Vyas (son of Sharadbhai Vyas) will be from 5 to 12 September between 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm, followed by Aarti and Prasad. To be yajman on any day, please contact Pramilaben or Rajnibhai Davda.

Trustees: Messrs. Rajnibhai Chhotalal Khiroya, Rajnibhai Morarji Thakerar, Prakashbhai Gandecha, Sharadbhai Trikamlal Bhimjiyani, Manishbhai Popat, Mansukhbhai Morjaria, Rajnibhai Davda, Kiritbhai Vinda, Rashmibhai Chatwani, Dhirajbhai Kataria and Mrs. Pramilaben Davda.



Virbai Maa's Murti has been donated by family of (late) Trikamlal

Vallabhdas Bhimjiyani and Tarlaben Trikamlal Bhimjiyani

VIRBAI MAA

At the tender age of 16, Jalaram Bapa married Virbai, daughter of Thakkar Pragji Somaia. It was obvious that Jalaram Bapa was inclined to completely withdraw from marital life. Fortunately his wife, Virbaima decided to follow the path of Jalaram.

To her, Jalaram's work was her work, Jalaram's wishes were her wishes and all that Jalaram decided to do she was but prepared to do that. She was following Jalaram in every respect. In Vikram Savant 1888 (1831 AD) God visited Jalaram in the guise of a recluse to try his truth by asking him to handover his wife Virbaima to serve him (realize) in his old age. It was an awkward event where a husband was asked to hand over his wife to a stranger. But Jalarambapa and Virbaima were made of spiritual stuff and they know their truth would be vindicated by this trail. Virbaima followed the recluse at the behest of her husband. God in the guise of the recluse gave a staff and a bag to Virbaima and disappeared. It was God's vindication of Jalarambapa and Virbaima's truth and devotion. The staff and the bag proclaimed to the world the supreme action of the Lord to glorify the devotion couple. It was a sanction of the supreme Lord to their mission and bhakti. It fulfilled Bhojabhagat's prophecy of God's visit to vindicate Jalarambapa's greatness **In 1878 AD (1935 Vikram Savant) Virbama died and in 1880 AD (1937 Vikram Savant) Jalaram Bapa left his body in his prayers**

SHREE JALARAM MANDIR GREENFORD			Forthcoming programmes	
INCOME & EXPENDITURE			Aug-09	
20 OCTOBER 2008 TO 30 JUNE 2009				
INCOME				
DONATIONS & COLLECTIONS	£184,330		14/08/2009	Friday - Shree Krishna Janmashtami
				(Krishna's Birthday)
GIFT AID REFUNDS	£11,107		23/08/2009	Sunday- Ganesh Utsav begins.
			Sep-09	
			03/09/2009	Thursday - Ganesh visharjan.
			5/9/09	Saturday- Sharaddh begins.
			05/09/2009 to 12/09/09	Shrimad Bhagvat Saptha
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	£195,437		18/9/09	Friday- Sharaddh finish.
LESS EXPENSES				
WAGES & PAYE	29,587		19/9/09	Saturday - Navaratri begins (ghatsthapan) In Mandir
FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT	8,906		26/9/09	Durgasthami havan In Mandir.
			28/09/2009	Vijya Dashmi (Dashera).
Repairs, refurbishment & cleaning	21,909		Oct-09	
RUNNING COSTS	52,650		03/10/2009	Saturday-sharad purnima.Vijya Dashmi (Dashera).
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£113,053		15/10/2009	Thursday - Dhantrayodashi (dhan pooja)
NET SURPLUS	£82,385		16/10/2009	Friday - Kali chaturdashi.
REPRESENTED by			17/10/2009	Saturday- Diwali (Choopda Poojan) in Mandir
BANK BALANCES:	30/06/2009	18/10/2008	18/10/2009	Sunday-New year (Ankot Darshan in mandir)
TOTAL BALANCE AT BANK	155,009	59,597	19/10/2009	Monday - Bhaibeej
BILLS OUTSTANDING TO PAY	-19,827	-6,800	25/10/2009	Sunday- Shree Jalaram Jayanti – Ankot Darshan in Mandir
			31/10/2009	Saturday -Tulsi vivah in Mandir
TOTAL	£135,182	£52,797	Nov-09	
NET INCREASE IN BALANCE	£82,385		02/11/2009	Monday -Dev Diwali