

# Serendib

*Serving the Community since 1972*

*The oldest Sri Lankan Association in the UK*

7 Broadway Buildings, Boston Road,  
London W7 3TT  
membership@slia.org.uk

 The SLIA UK  
Registered Charity No. 1098114

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*This issue:  
Charity Sub-Committee Report  
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SLIA Eid Ul-Fitr Annual Dinner*

## Executive Committee

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## SLIA Vision

*To connect our members  
with their Sri Lankan  
heritage*

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa barakatuh

My Dear Respected Elders, Brothers and Sisters

I assumed the Presidency a few months ago and it has been a busy time for my team and me, who have had to work extra hard in delivering events, due to the current shortage in ExCo members. We have been working towards attracting new members and Insha'Allah hope to complete the ExCo team, please do let me know if you are interested.

The SLIA Ramadan programme held each Saturday was well attended and the Eid Ul-Fitr dinner in June was generally enjoyed by everyone. We received many positive comments as well as suggestions for improvements. Many thanks to the team, their families and, to my wife Shiffa, who all contributed towards the success of these events.

The Sri Lanka High Commissioner hosted the annual Muslim community Iftar event, with the SLIA being represented by many members.

The Ramadan Appeal generated much needed funds and, together with the existing funds held in the Charity account, we were able to carry out the annual Ramadan dry ration food distribution programme to the families in the villages in Sri Lanka. The charity Sub-committee report provides details on these projects.

The new GDPR law came into force recently and our Assistant Treasurer, Ikraam Fareed, is leading on this with the help from his sub team to ensure that we are compliant and working on updating the membership database. Please read the Secretary's report for further details.

The Hajj season has just ended with those members who had the opportunity to go on the Hajj pilgrimage this year will Alhamdulillah have returned safely. May Almighty Allah bless them all and grant them Hajj Mabroor. The Eid Ul-Adha lunch is on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September and we look forward to seeing many of the members along with the returning Hajj pilgrims.

JazakAllahu Khairan to the members, donors and sponsors for all your help and generosity and contribution towards the success of our events. My team and I take this opportunity to wish you all for a joy and prosperous Eid.

Was Salaam

**Ahamed Wahab, President SLIA**



# Treasurer Report

My dear Brothers and Sisters, Assalamu Alaikum

I have been busy getting to know and understand all the work that is required to be carried out when dealing with charity accounts. Also, the new GDPR regulations which have come into effect this year has resulted in additional challenges for us. This is also a busy period for us, ensuring that the collections and donations received following the four Iftar events, Ramadan Appeal and membership subscriptions are all assigned to the correct accounts and payments are made as required. The Eid Ul-Fitr event proved to be challenging; trying to keep ticket prices low despite venues, catering and all other associated costs having increased. We are now being asked to pay a 'deposit' to secure venues with final payment being in advance of the event. I would therefore request your help in settling your ticket payments promptly.

Please see below a summary of the four main SLIA accounts for your reference:

## **Membership Account - Subscriptions**

The current account balance stands at £1,325.58 as at 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and note that some membership subscriptions are still in arrears. This being our main source of income to cover SLIA annual administrative expenses, we kindly urge any members who have not yet paid, to pay your overdue subscriptions (due on 1st January annually) as soon as possible. You can choose to pay using any of the following methods:

- Cheque made payable to 'Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association'
- Set up an annual Standing Order
- Online Bank Transfer

The SLIA bank details are as follows: Account Name: **SRI LANKA ISLAMIC (UK) ASSOCIATION**  
Sort Code: **30-99-08**; Account Number: **01663411**; Bank: **Lloyds Bank PLC**

## **Charity Account**

The Charity Account funds at 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018, stands at £64,075.22. Alhamdulillah, I am pleased to report that our Ramadan Appeal 2018 resulted in donations being received of £16,000.00. Cheques for the total sum of £15,183.56 have been issued to Sri Lanka for the Dry Ration Food Distribution programme. Further, a balance of £4,993 is retained following the funds collected on behalf of 'Walk for Syria' and shall be issued to a reputable charity pending sign-off from the Executive Committee.

## **Building Account\_ – Rent from Hanwell Building**

This account is for rent received from our tenant at Hanwell Building each month which Alhamdulillah continues to be received. The balance as at 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018 is £58,606.41.

## **Distress Account**

This fund is only utilised for payment of £250 to the family of a deceased member, subject to receipt of their annual subscriptions. We have issued one payment this year and the balance as at 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018 is £2,335.

Finally, I would encourage you to contact me should you have any questions regarding your membership subscriptions or any other issues/ valuable comments and suggestions.

Wa alaikum Salaam

**Nakeeb Atheeq, Treasurer**

To receive an online version of the Serendib Newsletter, please e-mail: [membership@slia.org.uk](mailto:membership@slia.org.uk)  
This will assist us in our endeavour to cut costs and provide valuable contributions towards protecting our environment.

# Secretary's Report

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa baraka tuhu

My respected elders, brothers and sisters

As a new Executive Committee Team we have come together with a wide cross section of different but complementary skills. This is founded on experience, as well as important professional and industry capabilities, which has helped bolster what the Team has delivered.

This year particularly has brought exacting challenges for the SLIA, including ensuring that we comply with the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) requirements. This has resulted in the Secretariat needing to ensure that the presently held membership data is brought in line with the requirements of this new EU legislation. To achieve this, we are working with Ikraam Fareed, our Assistant Treasurer who has contributed some valuable industry expertise. I am supported by a sub-team which includes Nakeeb Atheeq our Treasurer, Tariq Salih our Assistant Secretary and Khalid Mulhar on IT.

Given the long history of the SLIA, and the breadth of membership, this a considerable task. The Team are appreciative of Ikraams leadership on GDPR, and are grateful for the close team work we have developed.

As many of you are aware, organisational skills are a key element of any event that we deliver. This has never been as critical as for the Eid Ul-Fitr function. When a plan is well formed and executed this results in a good event which we hope you all enjoyed insha'Allah. This required considerable joined up efforts from the President, to the Secretary, to the Treasurer and Imran Harris liaising with the caterer from onset to the point of delivery. On the day, Khalid had to adeptly manage the children's activities and slide presentation whilst the rest of the team were working tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

I am confident that the team spirit will stand us in good stead to deliver the other planned activities, which will be further strengthened when the remaining ExCo positions are filled Insha' Allah soon. I urge anyone with an interest in joining the ExCo to contact the President—Ahamed Wahab. It provides a wonderful opportunity to help the community.

I wish you all a peaceful, happy and blessed Eid Ul-Adha Taqabbal Allahu minna wa minkum – may Allah accept from us and from you.

Wa alaikum Salaam **Sadat Sadiq, General Secretary**

 **sri lanka**  
islamic (UK) association  
Registered Charity No. 1098114

## *SLIA Eid-ul-Adha Annual Lunch*

*Sunday, 9th September at 12:30pm*

*Kenton Hall, John Billam Sports Ground*

*Woodcock Hill, Kenton,*

*Harrow HA3 0PQ*

*(Free Parking)*

*Adults £23*  
*Children (5-12yrs) £10*

# Charity Sub-committee Report

Thank you for your continued generous support and we pray that our charitable work is worthwhile and accepted by Allah (SWT). We continue to regularly monitor our projects and encourage site visits by SLIA members to assess the results and provide us with feedback and ideas. Below is a brief update on our projects:

## Ramadan Appeal - Dry Rations:



Your generous donations have a profound impact on the lives of the poor and needy in our sponsored villages in Mullaithivu and Hambantota. Challenges reported for resettled Muslims in the North include neglect, planned encroachment of their lands and internal agendas that result in this group becoming more economically and socially powerless. SLIA contributed LKR 1,474,650 for dry rations to help 200 Zakat-eligible families in Mullaithivu and approximately LKR 1,757,190 to feed 305

families in Hambantota during Ramadan. This included the provision of Khanji for 10 days in Tsunami Village, Hambantota.

## Legacy Projects: Neeravipitty Village Capacity Building Initiatives:

### School Building Project

SLIA intends to use allocated funds of £22,500 (donated by an SLIA member) to partner with a local charity, Volunteer Organisation for Social Development (VOSD), to construct a building on land that was donated to VOSD by a local, generous well-wisher. Trust deeds for the building and land project have now been drafted. The project aims to support sustainable out of school educational facilities and vocational training for returning refugees in Neeravipitty Village (Mullaithivu District). The returning refugees are primarily Muslims, but VOSD is committed to helping the poor and needy, irrespective of race or religion. The total estimated cost of the project is £42,000, and we hope to raise the additional money through fundraising initiatives, once the due diligence and legal framework are finalised and signed off. We encourage SLIA members of all ages to participate in this project by assisting with the educational and vocational training activities in Neeravipitty.

### Water/Toilets Project

We have not funded any further toilet construction and distribution of clean water to houses since the May 2018 Newsletter. We will continue to look at the feasibility of funding at our future meetings. There remains an ongoing need for such facilities, especially to protect the dignity and well-being of the ladies and young girls in the village .

## Muslim Aid/Syria Project:

We hope to have a book or magazine commemorating the 2017 Inscribe Hope Writing & Art competition ready for publication by the end of September 2018. We will let you know how to obtain a copy in due course. Proceeds of sale will go to local Syrian charities.

**Manjula Ossman, Charity Sub-Committee**

# Ramadhan Iftar Programme

Alhamdulillah the SLIA ExCo hosted the 46th annual Ramadan Iftar Programme this year starting on Saturday, 19th May with a different programme each Saturday providing Iftar, Dinner and Tharaweeh prayers.

We are pleased to report that all events proved to be successful with a record of 150+ attending all events.

The first iftar was held on 19<sup>th</sup> of May which included the Nakshabandhi Zikr, prior to breaking fast and dinner cooked by many volunteers. We had an attendance of approximately 200+ people.

The second iftar too, was held in Isleworth with Shazulia Halara and recital of Yaseen.

The SLIA Hisb Thamam was held at Claremont High School, where two Quran's recited by our members were completed and Thamammed. Over 180 members attended and enjoyed the breakfast, dinner and tharaweeh prayers, conducted by two Hafiz's.

The fourth and final event on 9th June was also held at Claremont High School with Guest speaker Dr Yusuf Abdul-Jobbar from the Islamic University of Madinah who gave a speech titled 'Befriending Ramadan—Be forgiven not forgotten'. Alhamdulillah, the speech was well received by the audience with attendance to this event exceeding expectations.

JazakAllahu Khairan to all our members, sponsors and donors for your support and generous contributions towards our programmes and May Allah Bless you and reward you in abundance for your efforts.

Was Salaam

**Imran Harris, ExCo Member**



# SLIA Eid Ul-Fitr Annual Dinner



Assalamu Alaikum Warahmathullai Wabarakathuhu

Following the blessed month of Ramadan we came together as a community to celebrate Eid Ul-Fitr on 30th June 2018 at Novotel Heathrow, London. Year after year, SLIA's Eid Ul-Fitr celebration is a sell-out success story. The event was attended by over 250 guests and it was great to see other Sri Lankan communities join us in our celebrations.

The laughter, smiles and conversation conveyed the energy in the room, which can be seen from some of the photos from the event. We were honoured to host His Excellency Sugesh Gunaratna (Acting Sri Lankan High Commissioner), Cllr Kareema Marikar (Mayor of Harrow), Jezima Marikar (Mayoress ), Nizam Ismail (the former Mayor of Harrow), Sarath Abeysundera (Lord of Lower Elkstone) and Suraj Wijendra (President of the Association of Professional Sri Lankans) at the event. Their support throughout the years has been greatly appreciated by SLIA.

The SLIA Executive Committee would like to send our thanks to the Novotel Heathrow, Nasheed Artists and importantly all the guests that attended the event and made it such a success. The event offered SLIA the opportunity to reach out to new members and expand our network of Muslims in the UK.

Finally, on behalf of the ExCo, we would like to send our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors and for the donations received, which contributed towards the success of the event. May Almighty Allah (SWT) bless you and your families.

Wa Alaikum Salaam

**Tariq Salih (Assistant Secretary)**

# SLIA Community News - Announcements, Births, Obituaries

## Births

Alhamdulillah we would like to congratulate the parents and their families on their new arrival:

**11<sup>th</sup> June 2018:** Tariq and Ilma Adele ( Melbourne, Australia) on the birth of their daughter **Aamina Tariq**. Grandparents: Sithy Neumath and late Abu ma'ad Hammard and niece to Gazali Hammard (Melbourne, Australia).

**13<sup>th</sup> July 2018:** Thabith and Hasna Naja (Mill Hill, London) on the birth of their baby daughter **Huda Naja**. Grandparents: Dr Mohamed and Dr Afsa Dulfeker (Welwyn, Herts).

*May Almighty Allah make the children a blessing to their parents and a blessing for the Ummah of Prophet Muhammad (SAS)*

## Obituaries

*Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Raji'un - 'Surely we belong to Allah and to Him we shall return'*

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2018:** Janaza for **Sister Khyre Nisa Sanoon**. Wife of late A H M Sanoon and mother of Shameem, Faruna and Shameel; Mother-In- Law of Judith, Samuel (Sammy) and Andrea. Youngest sister of (all Late) Noorul Jennah Caffoor, Sithy Shakira Wahab (Bullion Exchange), Atheeka Siddick Mahuroof and Noorul Enaya Noor Mahuroof; Brother of Hassan/Sharaza Sheriff and Nizar/Noor Sheriff; Nephew of Fahmy/Lizana Noor Mahuroof.

Janaza held on Friday, 9th February 2018 after Jum'uah prayers at Greenford Central Mosque, (West London Islamic Centre), 412 Greenford Road, Greenford UB6 9AH.

Following the service, the burial took place at Greenford Park Cemetery, Muslim Section, Windmill Lane, Greenford UB6 9DR.

**10th August 2018:** Hajiani Zanimathul Kadeeja Thahir wife of late Abdul Thahir; loving mother of Azmi, Fareeda, Fatima, Roziya and Rizvi. Grandmother of Shafraz, Haya and Zafna.

Janaza prayers took place on Saturday 11th August after Zuhr prayers at Hounslow Jamia mosque, Wellington Road South, Hounslow with burial at Hotus Cemetery, Merrick Road, Southall.

The family wish to extend their thanks to everyone for their duas and support during this difficult period.

*May Almighty Allah grant them Jannat-ul-Firdous. Ameen*

## SLIA Membership Subscriptions 2018

Please can all members pay the 2018 subscriptions which was **due on 1st January 2018**. In addition to paying any previous outstanding subscriptions could you also ensure we have your current contact details. If not already in place, please also consider paying your subscriptions by standing order.

Should you wish to action any of the above, please contact one of the following:

Nakeeb Atheeq: [nakeeb123@yahoo.com](mailto:nakeeb123@yahoo.com)

Iqraam Fareed: [Ikraam.fareed@aol.co.uk](mailto:Ikraam.fareed@aol.co.uk)

If you are aware of new members who wish to join the SLIA please request them to contact any member of the Committee for Membership Application and Standing Order mandate.

Bank Account	Lloyds, Walthamstow
Sort Code	30-99-08
Account No.	01663411

Membership Type	Price
Life Membership (Single)	£250
Family Membership (Husband, wife & children under 18)	£30
Family Membership (Husband & wife over 60)	£15
Individual Membership	£15
Individual Membership (Over 60)	£7.50
Student Membership	£4

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 This will assist us in our endeavour to cut costs and provide valuable contributions towards protecting our environment.



Your generous support can help the SLIA make a difference.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other \_\_\_\_\_ Forename \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post code \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque No. \_\_\_\_\_

Zakat      £ \_\_\_\_\_      Muslim Aid Syria Appeal:      £ \_\_\_\_\_

Sadaqah      £ \_\_\_\_\_      Education Programme:      £ \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Aid     

Please make cheques payable to Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association and return to:  
**The Treasurer, SLIA (UK), 7 Broadway Buildings, Boston Road, London W7 3TT.**

Direct/Electronic payments to the Lloyds Bank Account:  
**Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association      Account Number      21061860      Sort Code      30-99-08**