



# Serendib

*Serving the Community since 1972*

*The oldest Sri Lankan Association in the UK*

Issue 127 Jumada Al-Akhirah 1440AH February 2019

*This issue:  
2019 AGM Nominations  
Building Sub-Committee Report  
Charity Sub-Committee Report*

## Executive Committee

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### Treasurer

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## Committee Members

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07961 983146  
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## Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh

My Dear Respected Elders, Brothers and Sisters

All Praise to Almighty (SWT), I became the President of the prestigious Sri Lanka (UK) Islamic Association last year and my goals were to engage with other communities, increase our membership and continue the work with our charity projects in hand as well as our religious activities.

I am pleased that our Eid-al-Fitr dinner at the Novotel was well attended and represented by people from other organisations and communities, as well as our hardworking ExCo and others who helped made this event a success. The Eid-al-Adha lunch in September was well led by Imran Harris and his team, who worked tirelessly to deliver a good event.

The Charity Sub-Committee, led by Jazal Marzook, continued with their excellent work on various projects, as detailed in their report in this Newsletter. Although Jazal is not going to be a part of the Exco for 2019/20, he has assured us of his support.

The new GDPR laws came into force last year and thanks must go to our Assistant Treasurer, Ikraam Farid, for leading this and I am pleased that our membership database is being finalised by our Treasurer, Nakeeb Atheeq, and should be up and running.

Rafat Hashim has led the Building and Religious Sub-Committees, which occupied a lot of time, and I extend my thanks to him and all the other members who contributed.

The nominations for 2019/20 for the Office Bearers and Committee are now closed, and the names are being presented in this edition of the Newsletter.

We are sorry to see our Treasurer Nakeeb, leave due to business and family commitments and also Secretary Sadat, to dedicate more time to his family.

## SLIA Vision

*To connect our members  
with their Sri Lankan  
heritage*



I thank the Exco team for their hard work during the year and due to lack of a full complement of the Exco, this made our work a lot harder.

I am delighted that Mohamed Saleem, our former President, Manjula Ossman and AHM Hilmy are coming into this year's Committee.

I must also thank Khalid Malhar and Tariq Salih for their work during the year, and not forgetting my wife, Shiffa, for all the support extended, and also to our sponsors and the donors who contributed year on year.

As I have been nominated for another year, 2019/20, for the Presidency, I can assure you of my dedication to continue our work for the coming year.

Was Salaam

**Ahamed Hussain Wahab, President of SLIA**



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

As we start a new calendar year, the Team is busy preparing for the conclusion of the current year of the ExCo. The next few weeks requires diligent work from the Secretariat and Treasury functions to ensure we fully capture the activities of the previous months.

Much of the current work will also feed into preparing for the imminent AGM in April. Nominations have closed for the Executive Committee positions. We see some experienced hands stepping back, making room for some new and returning faces. However, there is still opportunities for members to step forward to make a difference to our community.

It is through the generosity of volunteers, selflessly contributing their time and energy, that the SLIA has endured and thrived. As we look to renew the ExCo Team, we still search for others to step forward in this spirit of goodwill.

We also look for members to support the various sub-committees that feeds into the ExCo. We would really like to hear from our community, whether it is to learn more about the various rewarding positions available, or indeed to contribute just a little of your time. Please contact the President or myself to find out a little more.

Wa alaikum Salaam  
**Sadat Sadiq, Secretary**

***Abu Dharr (May Almighty Allah (SWT) be pleased with him) reported  
That the Prophet (SAS) said:***

***"In the morning, charity is due on every joint bone of the body of every one of you. Every utterance of Allah's Glorification (i.e., saying Subhanallah) is an act of charity and every utterance of His Praise (i.e., saying Alhamdulillah) is an act of charity and every utterance of declaration of His Greatness (i.e., saying La ilaha illallah) is an act of charity; and enjoining Maruf (good) is an act of charity and forbidding Munkar (evil) is an act of charity, and the two Rak'ah Duha prayers which one performs in the forenoon is equal to all this (in reward)."***  
*(From Riyad as-Salihin, Book 9, Hadith 1140)*

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## SLIA ExCo Nominations 2019/20

The SLIA Constitution, last amended on 26th March 2006, states that the nominations for the posts of Office Bearers should be received on the first working day in January.

We are pleased to announce that the following nominations were received by Wednesday 2nd January 2019, and shall be presented at the 47th Annual General Meeting (AGM) for confirmation:

	Position	Nominee	Proposer	Second
1	President	Ahamed Wahab	Imtiaz Muhseen	Sis. Azmi Hassen
2	Vice President	Rafat Hashim	Shamique Ismail	Ahamed Wahab
3	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>VACANT</b>
4	Assistant Treasurer	Ikraam Fareed	Mohamed Ismail	Sis. Azmi Hassen
5	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>VACANT</b>
6	Assistant Secretary	Tariq Salih	M H H Ossman	Ahamed Wahab
7	Committee Member	Sis. Manjula Ossman	Ahamed Wahab	Sis. Shiffa Wahab
8	Committee Member	Khalid Malhar	Rizmi Ahamadeen	Ahamed Wahab
9	Committee Member	Mohamed Saleem	Farook Zavhir	Ishack Thahir
10	Committee Member	A H M Hilmy	Sis. Manjula Ossman	Ahamed Wahab
11	Committee Member	Imran Harris	Farook Zavhir	Ahamed Wahab

We have two vacant positions in the Committee and are urgently seeking volunteers who can devote some time and skills to fill these vacancies.

This is a wonderful opportunity to help the community with organising/planning community events and gain valuable and rewarding experience in a large charity organisation.

Please contact the President, Ahamed Hussain Wahab, for further details on: 07970 103160

# Treasurer Report

My dear Brothers and Sisters, Assalamu Alaikum

## Subscriptions

So far this year, we have received the sum of £2,086.00 in membership subscriptions.

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

### Membership Account – Subscriptions

The current account balance stands at £2,767.80 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 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:

1. Cheque made payable to 'Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association'
2. Set up an annual Standing Order
3. 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, stands at £62,742.95. I am pleased to report that we remitted £3,436.31 to VOSD who undertook a project to supply School Materials for 200 children in Mullaithivu. Further, a balance of £4,993.00 is retained following the funds collected on behalf of 'Walk for Syria' and shall be issued to a reputable charity pending sign-off from Executive Committee.

### Building Account

This is rent received from our tenant at the Hanwell Building each month. The balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 stands at £63,606.41.

### Distress Account

This fund is only utilised for payment of the £250 to the family of a bereaved member and, is subject to receipt of their annual subscriptions. This year we have issued one payment and the balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 is £2,335.00.

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**

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# Building Sub-Committee Report

## Sub-Committee

### Chair:

Rafat Hashim

### Members:

Jezri Mohideen  
Shamique Ismail  
Jazal Marzook  
Latiff Abdeen  
Althaf Zahir

## Current Status

The SLIA Building has been let out for the past 5 years (since Aug 2013), to a Muslim tenant, Hanwell Kitchen Centre, and Alhamdhulillah we have had a largely trouble-free period until recently. In the period July to Sept 2018 and then again from December 2018, we have had delays or no payment of the monthly rent and despite two face-to-face meetings with the Tenant – which had the desired effect to restart/payback rent payments – we are in the unfortunate position that the tenant is in arrears by six months.

We have now sought advice from our lawyers and have instructed the lawyers to start proceeding in the most effective way possible to ensure we recover all rents due to us and, if the case persists, for us to terminate the tenancy. We are also in touch with the local agents from the area to assess the market condition for re-letting the property, if and when the tenancy is terminated.

Finally, the Sub-Committee is also working with the architect / engineer to restart and re-assess the various building options / timescales and costs, so that we may also consider our options to develop the premises before we let the property again, to a new tenant. Planning application for the 2 storey rear extension was granted in 2017, and therefore remains an option if we are able to get a break in the tenancy to develop and then re-let, under a new tenancy agreement.

Was Salaam,

**Rafat Hashim, Chair Building Sub-Committee**



SLIA Building  
Rear aspect



Adjacent building  
with rear  
extension

## SLIA Mission

*SLIA's mission is to promote charitable, social, cultural, sports and educational activities to achieve unity and strengthen relationships in line with our religious and cultural values for the benefit of our members and the communities we engage with*

# Charity Sub-Committee Report

Thank you for your continued generous support and we pray that our charitable work is accepted by Allah (SWT). We continue to work with experienced local organisations that can provide detailed budgets and reporting. Below is a brief update on our projects:

## **VOSD - School Supplies Distribution in Neeravipitty Village, Mullaithivu District:**



SLIA agreed to transfer £3,436.31 in December 2018 to a zakat-eligible education project managed by a local charity, the Volunteer Organisation for Social Development (VOSD). Children from poor families are often held back from accessing the basic education provided by free schools in Sri Lanka due to the prohibitive costs of school materials, books and stationery, which

are not provided free. Since education of children is vital for community development and long-term poverty-relief, SLIA were happy to support VOSD in procuring a carefully costed package of school supplies for 200 poor and needy boys and girls in Grades 6 -11. Each child was provided with a school bag, shoes, exercise books, pens, pencils and other necessary supplies based on equipment lists provided by their schools. This vital package of school supplies meant that the children were able to attend school at the start of term in January 2019.



## **Legacy Projects: Neeravipitty Village - School Building Initiative and Toilet/Water Project:**

£22,500 (donated for this specific initiative) was allocated to fund a joint project with VOSD to build an educational and vocational training centre for returning refugees and their children, on land to be donated to VOSD. The returning refugees were primarily Muslims, but VOSD is committed to helping the poor and needy, irrespective of race or religion. Although legal documents were drafted to allow a trust to hold the land and future building for the benefit of the local community, the donation of the land to the trust is unfortunately not going ahead. VOSD has identified a possible alternative plot of land and building that the trust could purchase using the funds set aside for this project.

Alhamdulillah, the SL government has taken over from us in funding toilets and water for the area.

## **Muslim Aid/Syria Project:**

The 2017 Walk for Syria event raised over £20,000 to help civilians trapped in Syria's civil war, of which £17,882.70 was sent to Muslim Aid's Syria Appeal. As Muslim Aid did not provide detailed reporting on where the funds were applied, the Charity Sub-Committee would welcome suggestions for a suitable local charity working in Syria to which we can donate the remaining funds, provided it can give us reports and receipts for Charity Commission and AGM purposes.

**Manjula Ossman, Charity Sub-Committee**

## SLIA Eid-al-Adha Annual Lunch

Alhamdulillah the SLIA celebrated the 46th annual Eid -al-Adha event at Kenton Hall, Harrow. The event was organized by the SLIA and was the first after a long time where the SLIA arranged majority of the elements of the event including decorating of the tables and serving the food.

The event was a successful family gathering where a bouncy castle and children's entertainment was provided. We also mashallah had good weather on the day. In addition there was a talk by Brother Imtiaz Muhseen on "the significance and benefits of the days of Ashura".





## Upcoming Events

### APSL Young Professionals Event

**13th March 2019 at Sri Lankan High Commission 6.00pm to 8.30pm**

It is important that the SLIA ExCo and its members continue to reach out to other communities and build our networks across the Sri Lankan community in the UK. A further ambition for the ExCo is to engage the younger members (and non-members) to participate and contribute to the SLIA. Tariq Salih is also on the ExCo for the charity, Association of Professional Sri Lankans (APSL), and he will be hosting a Young Professionals event at the Sri Lankan High Commission on 13th March 2019 from 6.00pm to 8.30pm.

If you are interested in attending the event please **contact Tariq Salih** directly ([tariqsalih24@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tariqsalih24@yahoo.co.uk)) so he can add you to the list. We hope to see you at the event inshallah.

## Important Islamic Dates

20th April	Shab e Barat – 15 <sup>th</sup> Shaban
6th May	Ramadan – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ramadan
1st June	Laylat ul-Qadr – 27 <sup>th</sup> Ramadan
4th June	Eid al-Fitr
8th August	7 <sup>th</sup> Dhul Hijjah
11th August	Eid al-Adha
1st September	1 <sup>st</sup> Muharram 1441
9th September	Ashura – 9 <sup>th</sup> Muharram
9th November	12 Rabi Al-Awwal

*Please check with local mosques as dates may vary*

***The Prophet Muhammed (Peace and blessings be upon him) said: "What actions are most excellent? To gladden the heart of human beings, to feed the hungry, to help the afflicted, to lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful and to remove the sufferings of the injured"***

*(From Sahih Bukhari)*

# SLIA Community News - Births, Marriages and Obituaries

## **Births**

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

**14th September 2018:** Ahmed and Fadiya Ismail (Canada) on the birth of their daughter **Leena Himaya Ismail**. Granddaughter to founder member late Sabir Ismail and Hanum Ismail (Edgware, Middx).

**23rd January 2019:** Hussain and Ayesha Ismail (Canada) on the birth of their daughter **Eliana Iyna Ismail**. Granddaughter to founder member late Sabir Ismail and Hanum Ismail (Edgware, Middx)

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

## **Marriages**

Alhamdulillah we would like to congratulate the couple, their parents and their families on this special occasion:

**8th September 2018** - Nikah & Reception was held at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel at Heathrow For **Zafna** (daughter of Mrs Azmi Hassen & late Al haj M Zafir Hassen ) To **Faisal** (son of Mr Mohomed Amin & Mrs Farida Amin )

## **Obituaries**

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

**28 September 2018: Brother Mohammed Niyas Junaideen** (Watford, Herts, UK) It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Brother Mohammed Niyas Junaideen on Friday 28 September 2018. Loving son of the late Abdul Majid Junaideen and the late Lathifa Hanoon Junaideen (Wellwatte, Colombo, SL), son-in-law of the late Mohamed Rasheed and Sithy Rafeela Rasheed (Gampola, SL), husband of Rizana, father of Hishaam & Ramlah, and brother of the late Fauzia Mailvaganam (High Wycombe, UK), Muzammil (Wellwatte, Colombo, SL), Rauff (Epsom, UK), the late Azeema Ghouse (Nawalapitiya, SL), Hanoon Hameed (Ruwanwella, SL), Rahim (Los Angeles, USA) and Aysha Hamid (St. Albans, UK).

Janaza prayers and burial took place on Saturday 29 September 2018 after Zuhr prayers at North Watford mosque and cemetery.

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

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

## SLIA Membership Subscriptions 2019

Please can all members pay the 2019 subscriptions which was **due on 1st January 2019**. 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, contact one of the following:

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



Your generous support can help the SLIA make a difference.

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

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Zakat     £ \_\_\_\_\_

Sadaqah     £ \_\_\_\_\_

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**



## Notice of the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019

10:00am – 1:30pm

Refreshments from 10:00am

Claremont High School Claremont

Avenue, Harrow, HA3 0UH

Free Parking available

Contact:

Sadat Sadiq, Secretary

Tel: 07967 658516

Email: [membership@slia.org.uk](mailto:membership@slia.org.uk)

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