



## HINDU CULTURAL CENTRE OF LONDON ONTARIO

62 Charterhouse Crescent, N5W 5V5, London, Ontario

(<http://www.hcclondon.ca>)

### Board of HCC

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Dr. S. P. Singh 672 7540

The HCC Board may also be contacted via E-Mail at: [HCCBoard@HCCLondon.ca](mailto:HCCBoard@HCCLondon.ca)

## NEWSLETTER

September – October 2004

### MANDIR HOURS

#### Monday to Friday

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Arti at 8:00 pm

#### First Saturday of the Month

Subh Prabhatham and Vishnu Sahasranama.  
9:00 am – 11:00 am

#### Sunday

10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Arti at noon.

Havan is performed on the first Sunday of the month. Sri Satya Narayan Katha is said every month on the day of Puranmashi (Full Moon).

The Board is very grateful to Mrs. Kala Prasad and Mr. Kamal Prasad for opening the temple in the evenings of Monday through Friday. Also, we thank Oghad Bhai who comes with them and works outside on the temple property. They have volunteered to do this for few more weeks or until the new priest arrives. The hours may change in the future depending upon the availability of a resident priest and will be posted on our updated website <http://www.hcclondon.ca>

**WEBSITE.** We sincerely urge the entire community to start using our Website. There are a number of areas on the website where you may participate by: submitting comments, linking to other sites that are of interest, or helping us to develop a library of content, such as bhajans, prayers, articles, etc., etc. Please take the time to visit the website, and let us know if there are areas that we have not addressed – help us to

develop our website for everyone's benefit. You may address any specific comments to us via e-mail to the following address: [Webmaster@HCCLondon.ca](mailto:Webmaster@HCCLondon.ca)

**MEMBERSHIP.** Life and patron members do not need to pay the annual membership fee, however, the centre will gratefully accept their hefty donations any time. Regular members have to renew their membership every year. Therefore, we request those who have not renewed their membership for the current year of 2004, to do so on or before September 30, 2004. The reason for this is that the Board is in the process of drafting changes to present Constitution for the approval of the membership so that current ambiguities can be eliminated and the future democratic process of governance be simplified. Only the membership has the power to change the Constitution. Board will be convening a special meeting this fall of those members who are in good standing for the year 2004 to discuss and approve the proposed changes to the present Constitution. You only become a member in good standing after you have paid the dues so please treat this matter as important. A list of members who have not renewed their membership for 2004 will be posted on the HCC's website. If you find any discrepancy with this list, please contact the Treasurer Dr. R. Harricharan or the President Dr. A. V. Singh.

**CONSTITUTION.** Revised draft of the Constitution will be ready within the next few days and discussed in a Board meeting scheduled for September 26, 2004. After the Board has approved the proposed draft, it will then be mailed to every member of HCC who is in good standing. You will be

asked to: review it, make notes of any changes that you would like to see made to the draft, attend a general meeting to discuss them, and finally approve (or reject) the revised Constitution. Please take the time to study it carefully when you receive it and make notes for discussion at the general meeting. The Constitution Committee, which also includes Mr. Hari Ramkhelawan, a lawyer, will be on hand to answer questions in the meeting. Mr. Ramkhelawan assisted in drafting the new Constitution.

**RECRUITMENT OF A PUNDIT.** Pundit Maheshwari Parasad from Patiala, India has applied for the work visa to the High Commission of Canada in New Delhi. The Canadian High Commission wrote to HCC requesting some information such as the status of HCC with regards to its registration, proof of its charitable status, most recent tax return of the centre, number of members served by this centre, etc. We have sent the necessary documents. Once they are satisfied with our status, the High Commission in New Delhi will invite Pundit Maheshwari Parasad for an interview and hopefully, he will get a visa within the next couple of months. The Board and the entire membership are extremely grateful to Pundit Dwejendra Doobay for helping us out until our Pundit arrives from India.

**THE ISSUE WITH MR. MOHLA.** A claim has been filed by Mr. Mohla's lawyer to the Ontario Court of Justice. Our lawyer Mr. Norman Pizzale replied to this claim by agreeing on some items and disagreeing on most of them. This Board promised you transparency in its management and it intends to continue doing so. However, our lawyer (Mr. Pizzale) has instructed us, from a strategic point of view, not to publish (or announce) the full details of the claim at this point in time. When appropriate, we shall inform you of the full details.

**YOUTH GROUP.** In the last newsletter, we informed you about the creation of two scholarships for our youths. The first scholarship is an Academic Excellence Award to be granted to the individual who scores the highest marks in the best six courses in Grade 12 completed. The other is a General Achievement Award to be granted to a graduating youth for his/her combined academic and extracurricular achievements. It is hoped that these awards will be announced at the annual Diwali Dinner and Musical Evening on October 30, 2004. An application form may be found on and downloaded from our website by following the Youth Groups link on the main page. So far only one application has been received and the Board has agreed to extend the closing date for applications to October 15, 2004. If you, i.e. High School graduate of this year, are interested in one of the above scholarships, we urge you to apply immediately. The youth group had a very successful day camp in our temple on Saturday, July 31, 2004. There were about 25 youths who participated in this event. The youth group under the able guidance of Dr. Arun Prakash deserves our fondest congratulations.

**JAGRITI (जागृति).** The Spring'04 issue of Jagriti turned out to be a huge success. Positive feedbacks were received from the members of the community. The Editorial Board and the authors who contributed articles did a remarkable job and in

each publication of this journal, a new standard is set. Congratulations !

The Publications Committee, headed by Dr. Dev Sainani, is now working on the next issue of **JAGRITI**. We are actively looking for people interested in helping out with the issue, in terms of soliciting articles, advertising, pre-production duties, editorial assistance and so forth. The deadline for articles submission is September 30, 2004, and all articles must be submitted electronically, typed – preferably in Microsoft Word. Terms of reference regarding article submission is posted on the website under the Publications section. While the issue will appear around Diwali time, we would like content that is not just limited to issues around Diwali – We would welcome submissions of a secular nature as well. In addition, we are interested in encouraging the submission of artwork, images, photos of Mandir events etc., to enrich Jagriti. For further information about getting involved or submitting material for inclusion in the upcoming issue, you may reach the Editorial Committee via e-mail to the following address: [Jagriti@HCCLondon.ca](mailto:Jagriti@HCCLondon.ca). We do accept advertisements in our journal to offset the cost of publication. Our advertising rates are as follows.

<p>¼ Page - \$ 60.00; ½ Page - \$ 120.00; Full Page - \$ 200.00; Inside Front &amp; Back Cover - \$ 500.00. In addition, special 1/6 page “Diwali Greetings from ...” and “Complements from ...” inserts may be purchased for \$ 25.00 each.</p>
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**BAL BIKAS AND HERITAGE CLASSES.** Indian heritage is very rich and covers topics such as arts (creative and performing), architecture, handicrafts, religion, philosophy, history, and traditions. HCC places very high priority on the development of the knowledge of the Hindu religion and culture. The Heritage classes of HCC will be conducted on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from 11am to 12 noon. At these classes, children are introduced to the Indian heritage covering bhajans, prayers, artefacts, religion and short stories related to our festivals. The children are encouraged to perform at such HCC functions as Diwali, Holi / Ugadi, Dashami / Durga Pooja, Shankranti, Independence day, Mothers day and others to display what they have learnt in this class. This very successful program is supervised by a small team of dedicated volunteers. Families with young children should phone Mrs. Suman Singh at 672 7540, or get in touch with her during our regular Sunday service.

**MAINTENANCE OF THE TEMPLE.** The excavation near the SE corner of the entrance to the temple and also outside of the NE corner of the prayer hall was done up to the footing of the foundation wall which was then cleaned, tarred and covered with a special membrane. Before, filling back, water hose was turned on for hours to check the functioning of the weeping tiles and they seem to be working well. This should ensure no-leak through the basement wall for many years to come. The cost for this job will be under \$ 6000.00. Sincere thanks to Mr. Tara Persaud for this job done well.

When the priest house attached to the temple was built, the grading around the temple was altered and was not properly done, resulting in the final grading inspection still pending.

Mr. Tara Persaud obtained a copy of the drawing from AGM Surveying Engineering, asked the contractor to complete the grading and have the final inspection done. But the contractors found serious discrepancy in the altered landscape. Consequently, we had to ask AGM Surveying Engineering to redo the grading survey of the property. After their advice, we shall ask the contractor to do the final grading. We were told that there are two catch basins (hole on the ground with cast iron grid) and a manhole on the property. We can see two catch basins, but the manhole is buried under the ground. AGM Surveying Engineering is expected to come back with what we are required to do and then contractor will complete the grading job for the final inspection to be done.

Now, we are in a position to move inside the temple for the repair and paint jobs for which we need significant amount of help from you. Please let us know your availability and expertise so that we can contact you for help.

**HOUSE ATTACHED TO THE TEMPLE.** A notice to correct the building code deficiency to the entrance of the house was given to the Board on December 10, 2003. Now, this has been fixed and successfully inspected by the City Hall building inspector. This was the final inspection and the building permit has now been closed. The help by Oghad Bhai in completing this job is highly appreciated. The Board invited “*suggestion*” from you in the last newsletter, regarding the possible usages to which the building could be put. So far no suggestion has come to the Board. Please forward your suggestions via e-mail at

[HCCBoard@HCCLondon.ca](mailto:HCCBoard@HCCLondon.ca).

One can also hand in written suggestions to Dr. A. V. Singh. The Board will not proceed with any alteration of the space areas or structures in the house without the full consultation with the membership.

**PREETI BHOJ.** We appreciate the following members of the community who sponsored the recent and forthcoming Preeti Bojes.

DATE	SPONSORS
July 04, 04	Dr. Asha Bhardwaj
July 18, 04	Mr. and Mrs. Sanjay Singh
July 25, 04	Nepali Community
August 08, 04	Dr. Jaisimha Rao and family
August 15, 04	Festivals Committee
August 29, 04	Mr. and Mrs. Pankaj Jogi
September 05, 04	Families of Dr. Surti and Mr. Saxena
September 12, 04	Mrs. Meera Goela
September 19, 04	Shri Ganesh Festival Committee
September 26, 04	Mr. and Mrs. Shekhar Sharma
October 17, 04	Dr. and Mrs. P. K. Lala
November 7, 04	Mr. and Mrs. Rama Murty

A member wishing to sponsor Sunday Preeti Bhoj, should send an e-mail to: [Events@HCCLondon.ca](mailto:Events@HCCLondon.ca) (or contact Dr. Anand V. Singh at 471 2968, if you like to inform us directly). We ask for your kind understanding for any mistakes made with regards to spelling of the names and mix up with dates.

## EVENTS

On July 11, 2004, there was **A Discourse by Swami Kripamayanda**, Head – Vedanta Society of Toronto. The topic is: “Place of Vedanta for the Modern Age”. HCC acknowledge the sincere efforts by Professor and Mrs. P. K. Lala, Mr. and Mrs. Sircar, and their friends.

**Golf Tournament.** We had a very successful golf tournament in which about twelve members of the community took part. The event took place on August 14, 2004 at 1:00 pm in Oxbow Glen Golf Club, Kamoka and was organized by Mr. Agrim Jajal, whose e-mail is: [ajajal@uwlondon.on.ca](mailto:ajajal@uwlondon.on.ca).

**Celebration of India’s Independence Day.** On August 15, 2004, members of the Festivals Committee, with the help of many other respectable members of our community, put an extraordinary effort to present an excellent show in the auditorium of the temple. Songs and dramas (scenes from the movie Gandhi) presented by the children and youths were fabulous. More than two hundred people packed the auditorium. The food served was superb. The Board also would like to thank the community for the support. The event was a grand success. The event netted a profit in excess of \$ 2000.00. *Congratulations to the Festivals Committee.*

**Janamasthmi** – HCC celebrated Janamasthmi on Sunday, September 5, 2004 from 9:00 pm – Midnight with prayers, bhajans, and pooja in the glory of Lord Krishna. Pundit Doobay was the officiating priest. Mr. Vijay Kumar delivered an excellent speech on the significance of “Reincarnations”. Mr. Kishan Dhir and Dr. Suman Dhir prepared prasad for this occasion, which was very well attended. *Many thanks to the Dhirs.*

**Shri Ganesh Festival: September 18 – 27, 2004.** The program for this event is given in the following table.

Date	Time	Program
Sept. 18, 04	5:00 pm	Ganesh Sthapana
Sept. 19, 04	10:30 am – 12:00 noon	Bhajans by Mr. Narendra Datar. Priti Bhoj will follow aarti
Sept. 20–26, 04	7:30 pm	Aarti and prasad
Sept. 27, 04	5:00 pm	Pooja at HCC at 3:30 pm. Visarjan at Fanshawe Conservation Area

For further information, please contact one of the following. Mr. V. G. Pande at 473 1959, Mr. Suresh Kamath at 668 3350, or Mr. Ratnakar Bhandarkar 657 8950.

**Siddheshwari Devi Ji.** Siddheshvari Devi Ji (fondly known as “Didi Ji”) is an eloquent speaker, completely dedicated to preaching the eternal message of the Vedas and Shastras to seekers. She has been invited to deliver a weeklong lecture series in our temple. Please come and benefit from her lectures.

Sunday, Sept. 26, 2004 – 11:30 am to 12:00 noon; Monday, Sept. 27 – Saturday October 02 – 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

**ANNUAL DEWALI DINNER.** The Festivals Committee has decided to hold the annual diwali dinner on Saturday, October 30, 2004 at the John Paul II Secondary School at Highbury and Oxford St. Please mark your calendar for this event. There will be live performance by the team of Afzal and Munni Subhani. Details will be posted on the website as well as announced regularly on Sundays.

**BHAJAN CLASSES.** Every Tuesday from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm Mrs. Mani Bhashyam teaches bhajans to our community members, both young and adult. She has been helped by Pundit D. Doobay. If interested, please come on any Tuesday evening and join in. Also, you can contact Mrs. Bhashyam on Sunday during our regular service. On behalf of the Hindu Community, the Board gratefully acknowledges contributions Mrs. Bhashyam has been making to HCC.

#### **FESTIVALS OF INDIA 2004 BY KALA MANJARI.**

Building on the success of last year, the Steering Committee of Kala Manjari is planning to hold the Festival of India 2004, on September 25, 2004 from 10:00am – 6:00pm downtown at the Covent Garden Market. **ADMISSION IS FREE**, so please come down, one and all, to enjoy a day of fun, food, entertainment, handicrafts, shows & demonstrations, and much more. Kala Manjari hopes, as with last year, that you will all come out and support us, celebrate with us and showcase all that is India, to the local London Community. If you would like to help out in any way either through Sponsorships, Volunteering, Putting up a Booth, Putting on a Show, Being a Master of Ceremonies, etc., please contact one of us immediately: Dr. Lalu Mansinha 433-0854; Mr. Ram Sainani 473-1642; Dr. Raju Shah 641-6665.

#### **SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUSIC GROUP (SONG)**

Presents a debut Concert of Popular Light Classical Music

#### **SWAR-SAMMELAN “A Meeting of Melody & Rhythm”**

Mandar Jog – Vocal  
Amarjit Soora – Tabla  
Sanjay Deshpande – Violin  
Nachiket Deshpande – Harmonium  
Mohan Khandekar – Master of Ceremonies

Date: Sunday, October 17, 2004  
Time: 2:00pm to 5:00pm  
Place: Wolf Auditorium, London Public Library  
251 Dundas St. (Entrance off King St)  
Tickets: \$5.00 per person

All proceeds will be donated to the Parkinson’s Society of Canada – Southwestern Ontario Chapter. Additional donations are also welcomed.

For bookings, please call:  
Mr. Mohan Khandekar – 519-660-1183  
Mr. Sanjay Deshpande – 519-663-9190  
Dr. Mandar Jog – 519-435-0000

#### **WORK AND ITS SECRET**

*One of the greatest lessons I have learnt in my life is to pay as much attention to the means of work as to its end. He was a great man from whom I learnt it, and his own life was a practical demonstration of this great principle.*

*Our great defect in life is that we are so much drawn to the ideal, the goal is so much more enchanting, so much more alluring, so much bigger in our mental horizon, that we lose sight of the details altogether.*

*But whenever failure comes, if we analyse it critically, the ninety-nine percent of cases we shall find that it was because we did not pay attention to the means. Proper attention to the finishing, strengthening, of the means is what we need. With means all right, the end must come. We forget that it is the cause that produces the effect; effect cannot come by itself; and unless the causes are exact, proper, and powerful, the effect will not be produced. Once the ideal is chosen and the means are determined, we may almost let go the ideal, because we are sure it will be there, when the means are perfected. When the cause is there, there is no more difficulty about the effect, the effect is bound to come.*

Excerpt from the lecture by Swami Vivekananda delivered at Los Angeles, California, January 4, 1900.