



EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE

33, Maybury Road, London, E13 8RZ

Tel/Fax No: 0207 476 0681

E-mail: info@elbcc.org.uk Web site: www.elbcc.org.uk

Annual Report 2022-2023

East London Buddhist cultural centre (ELBCC) also known as Lumbini Vihara is a UK registered charity (Registered number 1083830) under Charities act since November 2000.

This report reviews the activities of ELBCC from 26th November 2022 – 4th November 2023.

Administrative Information

The Chief resident monk Ven. Makure Mangala Thero will remain as the president of the charity as stated in the constitution amended in 2011.

The following office bearers were elected during the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 26/11/2022.

Vice President :

- Mr Upul ekanayake
- Mrs Suneetha Siriwardana

Secretary : Mr Supun Nuranga

Assistant Secretary : Mr Suba Fernando

Treasurer : Mr Senerath Boralugoda

Public relations officer : Mr Shamila De Silva

Independent auditor : Mr Sarath Jayarathne

Legal advisor : Mrs Ramani Gunasekara

Financial advisor : Mrs Chandrika Rajakulathunga

Committee members :

- Mr Chinthaka Karunathilakalage
- Mrs Kusum Pathirana
- Mr Sujith Rasnayake
- Mr Saman Jayarathne
- Mr Udayasiri Weragama
- Mrs Dinali Ambewatte
- Mr Ranjeewa Alahakone
- Mrs Nanda Karunanayake

Objectives of the charity include advancement of Buddhism per the philosophy and the teaching of Buddha, organising cultural and religious events. To achieve these objectives ELBCC organised various religious and cultural activities throughout the year.



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Religious Activities

- Daily buddha puja and pirith chanting is held at 7.00PM throughout the year. Depending on their availability devotees of ELBCC attend this daily puja. And monthly poya programmes were organised throughout the year where devotees observe sil, practice meditation and dharma discussion.
- ELBCC celebrated this year's Vesak poya, which celebrates the birth, enlightenment and the death of Gautama Buddha on 7th May 2023. Devotees celebrated this day by attending day filled with meditation, Dharma discussions and other religious activities. The Vesak programme was concluded by holding a Vesak dansala for all the members and devotees who attended the religious event.
- To Commemorate the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka, Special Sil programme and atavisi buddha puja was held on Poson poya day on 4th June 2023 at the temple premises. Devotees celebrated this day by attending day filled with meditation, Dharma discussions and other religious activities. The Poson programme was concluded by holding a special showcasing of Mahindagamanaya exhibit prepared by the Dhamma School students.

Cultural Activities

- To celebrate the 75th Independence Day of Sri Lanka, ELBCC held Independence Day celebrations event on 5th February 2023. Children from Sunday school attended this special programme along with other visitors. It was a very educational programme for the children where they learned about history of Sri Lanka before and after independence and about national heroes.
- Annual Sinhala and Tamil new year festival organised by East London Buddhist Cultural centre was held on 15th April 2023 at the Cumberland School. local Councillor Lakmini Shah and James Asser also attended the event as a honourable guest. The event included new year games and an evening filled with cultural performances. Sri Lankans across London attended this joyous cultural event.

Other Activities

- **Ayubowan London Live Concert**

A successful concert in aid of ELBCC was held on 7th January 2023 at the East Ham Town Hall, hosted by Thumindu Dodantenna with performance by Kokila Pawan. Sri Lankans across London attended this joyous musical event.

- **Special Aktha Pathra (award) ceremony and special pirith chanting**

To acknowledge and felicitate the appointment as the Chief Adhikarana Sanga Nayaka of Great Britain and the honorary title of Most Venerable Makure Dharma Keerthi Sri Hemaloka Mangalabhidana Nayaka Thero by Siyam Nikaya of the Malwatha Chapter, special felicitation ceremony and half night pirith chanting was held on 15th July 2023. Her Excellency Ms Saroja Sirisena graced this special occasion as the chief guest. Amongst others, Rt Hon Stephen Timms, Councillor Ann Easter, Councillor Jame Asser and Councillor Lakmini Shah also attended the event as a honourable guest.

- **Standing Advisory council on Religious Education (SACRE)**



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Ven. Makure Mangala Thero is a member of the SACRE for the London borough of Newham, where the local authority is advised on matters connected with religious education and collective worship.

- **Ranaviru seva Authority scholarship fund**

With the help of members, ELBCC sponsor 50 students in Sri Lanka whose parents have passed away or disabled who were once military and police personnel.

- **Religious Advisor for the local schools.**

Ven. Makure Mangala Thero attended various virtual and in person meetings throughout the year as a religious advisor to assist, as directed, special support for school causing concern or in particular need.

- **Sunday School:**

Following the Covid Pandemic, The Sunday school was resumed this year and is held on every Sunday at the temple premises which is catered to children. ELBCC Sunday school is recognised by the YMBA (Young Men's Buddhist Association) of Sri Lanka. Sunday school which is run by volunteer teaching staff and the monks provides the opportunity to study and encouragement of the practice of Buddhism.

- **Regular visits to public institutions:**

Resident monks regularly visit local schools, hospitals, care homes, prisons to deliver sermons and guidance who seek counsel.

- **Local student visits to the temple:**

Both local school students and teachers regularly visit the temple where they are given an insight in to Buddhism. This is an exceptional opportunity for them to learn about the religion itself and to learn about methods of practising Buddhism. Teachers also get advice on methods of teaching Buddhism.

- **Fund Raising Events**

During the period 2022-2023 one fundraising event was held by organising Food stalls at community event to raise money for the charity.

Supun Nuranga
Secretary, ELBCC



Minutes from the ELBCC Annual General Meeting on 26th November 2022	
1.	<p><u>Observe five precepts and welcome speech</u></p> <p>Ven. Makure Mangala Thero Observed Pansil with the members who attended the meeting via live webcast. Then he welcomed all the members to the annual general meeting and expressed his gratitude to everyone for working together for the benefit of the community and the organisation. He also acknowledged all the individuals and the members of the executive committee who helped to successfully organise cultural and religious programmes throughout the year.</p>
2.	<p><u>Reading and adaptation of the minutes from the AGM 2021</u></p> <p>Secretary Supun Nuranga circulated the minutes from the previous AGM which was held on 4th December 2021.</p> <p>Mr Palinda Samarasinghe Proposed that the meeting minutes from the previous AGM were correct and was seconded by Mr Shamila De Silva.</p>
3.	<p><u>Tabling Annual Report</u></p> <p>Secretary Circulated the annual report which covered the period from 4th December 2021 to 26th November 2022.</p> <p>Makure Mangala Thero suggested the following items should be added to the annual report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending the local schools as a religious advisor to assist, as directed, special support for school causing concern or in particular need. • Medical aid donations to Sri Lanka that were carried out throughout the year. <p>Mr Weerasinghe proposed that the remainder of the annual report were correct and was seconded by Mr Senarath Boralugoda.</p>
4.	<p><u>Treasurer's Report and Annual accounts</u></p> <p>Treasurer, Mr Senarath Boralugoda, circulated the copies of annual financial report which has been examined by the independent Auditor Mr Sarath Jayarathne.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Palinda Samarasinghe suggested that the donations during the katina ceremony could added under the festival income section and the expenses can be added separately. Treasurer mention as the katina ceremony was held via live webcast and the donations were made to temple account these have been reported under 'Donations Other' and that there were no expenses. • Mr Palinda Samarasinghe enquired if there is a reduction in standing orders compared to the previous consecutive years. Treasurer mentioned that even though there is a reduction of the standing orders in the Bank of Ceylon account, however, as new standing orders been added; there is no noticeable overall reduction over the past two years. <p>Mr Palinda Samarasinghe proposed the annual accounts to be correct and this was seconded by Mr Upul Ekanayake.</p>
5.	<p><u>Election of office bearers</u></p>



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	<p>This year's nominations received have proposed to retain the executive committee for the 2022-2023.</p> <p>All members agreed to the nominations received, Mr Palinda Samarasinghe Proposed to adhere with the nominations received by the members and this was seconded by Mr Udayasiri Weragama.</p> <p>Therefore, the office bearers for 2022-2023 are as follows:</p> <p>Two Vice presidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Upul Ekanayake• Mrs Suneetha Siriwardhana <p>Secretary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Supun Nuranga <p>Assistant Secretary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Subha Fernando <p>Treasurer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Senerath Boralugoda <p>Public Relations Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Shamila De silva <p>Committee members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Chinthaka Karunathilakalage• Mrs Kusum Pathirana• Mr Saman Jayarathne• Mr Udayasri Weragama• Mrs Nanda Karunanayake• Mr Sujith Rasnayake• Mrs Dinali Ambewatte• Mr Ranjeewa Alahakone <p>Independent Auditor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Sarath Jayarathne <p>Legal Adviser:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs Ramani Gunasekara
7.	<p><u>Resolutions</u></p> <p>Ven. Makure Mangala Thero informed the members that no notice has been received for resolution and the members did not have any new proposals.</p>



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8.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ven. Mangala Thero suggested switching the Llyods and Barclays bank accounts of the temple for online banking service as this method would be more convenient. Members discussed the benefits and the process of this and agreed to switch to online banking service.• Ven. Managala Thero informed the members about a query the independent Auditor; Mr Sarath Jayarathne, had regarding any steps the executive committee or the members have taken regarding the welfare of the resident monks post-retirement. Following the discussion, Mr Palinda Samarasinghe and Mr Jayampathi Perera suggested that a separate account can be created for the welfare of the resident monks and a monthly standing order can be set up from the temple bank account for this welfare account.• Mr Chinthaka Karunathilkalage enquired about restarting the Dhamma School. Mangala Thero informed the members that a meeting will be arranged with the teachers to discuss the necessary requirements.
	Meeting Concluded at 6.00PM.

Supun Nuranga
Secretary
ELBCC

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE

Annual Financial Report

31 July 2023

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE

Committee Information

President : Ven Makure Mangala

Secretary: Mr Supun Nuranga Loku Enderage

Treasure: Mr Senarath Boralugoda

Trustees:

Ven.Makure Mangala

Ven. Eetalawetunawewa Gnanathilaka

Mr Methsiri Wijerathne

Mr Palinda Samarasinghe

Auditor

Sarath Jayaratne BA(Hon) FCCA

Excel Accounting Solutions

119 Belgrave Avenue

Gidea Park

Romford

Essex

RM2 6PS

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank

Barclays Bank

Bank Of Ceylon

Charity no: 1083830

Address

33 Maybury Road

Plaistow

London

E13 8RZ

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 July 2023 which are set out on the page 3-6. My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from you as Trustees concerning and such matters. In my examination, no such matters of concern has come to my attention.

In my opinion of the financial statements give true and fair view of the Charity's income and expenditure for the year ended 31 July 2023

Sarath Jayaratne BA(Hon) FCCA

Excel Accounting Solutions
Accountants

119 Belgrave Avenue
Gidea Park
Romford
Essex
RM2 6PS

4 November 2023



Sarath Jayaratne BA (Hon) FCCA
Excel Accounting Solutions
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EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE
Income and Expenses Account
for the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	41,355	49,103
Other income	5	4
Total Income	<u>41,360</u>	<u>49,107</u>
Expenses		
Travel expenses	-	250
Rent, rates, power and insurance costs	15,469	8,383
Repairs and renewals of property and equipment	15,714	6,563
Telephone, fax, stationery and other office costs	1,128	1,428
Interest on bank and other loans	2,646	1,194
Bank, credit card and other finance charges	199	181
Legal and other professional fees	-	536
Other expenses	1,619	5,313
Total Expenditure	<u>36,775</u>	<u>23,848</u>
Income Over Expenses	<u>4,585</u>	<u>25,259</u>

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE
Balance Sheet
as at 31 July 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Other fixed assets	2	318,756	318,756
Current assets			
Bank/building society balances		<u>17,814</u>	<u>18,311</u>
Current liabilities			
Other liabilities and accruals		<u>5,000</u>	<u>4,998</u>
Net current assets		12,814	13,313
Loans due after more than one year		(42,603)	(47,687)
Net assets		<u>288,967</u>	<u>284,382</u>
Capital account			
Balance at start of period		284,382	259,123
Net profit		4,585	25,259
		<u>288,967</u>	<u>284,382</u>

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2023

1

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Donation -Standing Orders	15,071	14,558
Donation-Other	10,855	14,410
Donation Box	1,704	1,731
Festival Income	9,240	8,085
Gift Aid Tax Refund	4,484	10,319
Other	1	-
	<u>41,355</u>	<u>49,103</u>
Other income		
Interest receivable	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Car, van and travel expenses		
Travel expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>250</u>
Rent, rates, power and insurance costs		
Water and Council Tax	1,451	1,402
Light & Heat	4,028	3,485
Festival expenses	6,605	2,500
Property insurance	943	896
Hall& Stall hire	2,442	-
Cleaning	-	100
	<u>15,469</u>	<u>8,383</u>
Repairs and renewals of property and equipment		
Repairs and maintenance	<u>15,714</u>	<u>6,563</u>
Telephone, fax, stationery and other office costs		
Telephone and fax	1,128	1,022
Postage ,Stationery and printing	-	163
Website cost	-	243
	<u>1,128</u>	<u>1,428</u>
Interest on bank and other loans		
Mortgage Interest	<u>2,646</u>	<u>1,194</u>
Bank, credit card and other finance charges		
Bank charges	<u>199</u>	<u>181</u>
Accountancy, legal and other professional fees		
Other legal and professional	<u>-</u>	<u>536</u>
Other expenses		
Subscriptions	159	-
BOC Scholarships	1,460	1,913
Covid donation	-	3,400
	<u>1,619</u>	<u>5,313</u>

EAST LONDON BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2023

2 Other fixed assets

	2023	2022
	£	£
Premises - Freehold Building	318,756	293,433
Property Improvement	<u>-</u>	<u>25,323</u>
	<u>318,756</u>	<u>318,756</u>

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