

Trustees' Annual Report

Charity Name: International Vedanta Society

Address: Ground Floor, 55 Leroy Street, SE1 4SN

Charity Number: 1206868

Year Ended: 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by a board of trustees, appointed in accordance with the governing document.

During the year, the board of trustees consisted of:

- Laura Troupe
- Maria Krypa
- Swami Probuddhananda Puri
- Froukje Kokke (appointed in July)

Objectives and Activities

The charity's purpose is the advancement of education in the philosophy, teachings, and practices of Vedanta, and its practical applications in daily life, in ways that are charitable according to English law and for the benefit of the public worldwide.

In line with this objective, the charity delivered the following activities during its first year of operation:

- Two introductory sessions held at London Sri Mahalakshmi Temple
- Weekly Vedanta Course over two months at VHP, Ilford
- Celebration of Guru Purnima on 21 July 2024 — the charity's first large public event, attended by 50 people
- Opening of the IVS Centre, marked by an open day on 17 November 2024 with Mayor Naima Ali delivering the opening address
- Organisation of the charity's first spiritual tour to India, with three UK participants and overwhelmingly positive feedback
- Celebration event for Guru Ma's birthday on 12 February 2025
- Monthly inner-city retreats launched, with the first two held in February and March 2025

- Two children's workshops delivered in March 2025

All activities were provided free of charge. Optional donations were received from participants following some events and workshops, which helped to cover operational expenses.

Achievements and Performance

In our inaugural year, the charity is proud to have:

- Reached 65 individuals, 18% of whom were residents of the London Borough of Southwark
- Laid the foundations for meaningful partnerships with St Philip's Church, Yoga in Daily Life, London Sevashram Sangha, VHP
- Received consistent and encouraging feedback from participants

Many attendees reported improved mental wellbeing, greater self-confidence, and clarity of purpose. Several shared that the workshops helped them begin to understand the foundational teachings of Vedanta, opening new perspectives on self-awareness and inner peace. Participants also expressed a deep emotional and spiritual connection to the venue, which was described as "an oasis in London" — a peaceful and grounding space that supported reflection and personal growth, much needed in the context of city life.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £2,473, all of which came from voluntary donations.

Total expenditure for the year was £2,773, resulting in a net deficit of £300.

This deficit was covered by start-up reserves received prior to the charity's registration. All expenditure directly supported the charity's charitable aims.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to maintain modest reserves to ensure continuity of services and to absorb unforeseen costs. In this first year, the charity drew from its initial reserves to fund start-up activities. Future donations and potential grants will contribute to building financial resilience and sustaining charitable delivery.

Risk Management

The trustees are aware of the need to manage risks carefully, especially in the early stages of the charity. Key risks identified include financial sustainability and volunteer capacity.

To reduce financial risk, we keep our costs low, focus on activities that are affordable, and encourage regular voluntary donations. We are currently preparing to apply for grant funding to support future activities and reduce reliance on individual donations.

To support our volunteer base, we maintain regular contact, provide a welcoming environment, and plan to introduce a simple induction and training process to help new volunteers feel confident in their roles.

Risks are reviewed informally by trustees throughout the year, with updates discussed at trustee meetings as needed.

Plans for the Future

Looking ahead, the charity intends to:

- Expand the number and reach of Vedanta-based workshops and retreats
- Apply for grant funding to broaden our impact
- Recruit and train additional volunteers
- Strengthen partnerships and develop collaborations with new organisations
- Design and deliver tailored educational programs for children and young people, particularly in school and community settings

Receipts and Payments Account

Charity Name: International Vedanta Society

Charity Number: 1206868

Financial Year: 2 February 2024 to 31 March 2025

Basis: Income and Expenditure

Income

Income Source	Amount (£)
Unrestricted Donations	2,473
Total Income	2,473

Expenditure

Expense Category	Amount (£)
Set Up Costs	1,288
Running costs (including Utilities and Rates)	827
Insurance	165
Volunteer expenses	90
Event costs	403
Total Expenditure	2,773

Summary

	Amount (£)
Opening balance (1 April 2024)	300
Total receipts	2,473
Total payments	2,773
Closing balance (31 March 2025)	0

Notes

- The opening balance was carried forward from pre-registration reserves (donations made before the charity was formally established).
- All income was received as voluntary donations; no grants or trading income.
- No salaries or payments to trustees were made.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Name: Laura Troupe

Position: Chair / Trustee

Date: 30 May 2025