

A Message From Our President - Raja Mohan Kambhoji

Sairam Dear Devotees!

We are pleased to bring out our first newsletter of the Saibaba Sansthan. Henceforth we will strive to bring out a quarterly newsletter with new developments.

At the outset, we wish to record our sincere gratitude to all devotees for their generous contributions and support. We are receiving amounts ranging from \$7.00 to \$100.00 every month from devotees. Further we are also raising funds in the form of brick contributions - \$5,000.00 for Gold Brick, \$1,000.00 for Silver Brick - we have around 50 people in this category. We appeal to other members to consider contributing towards bricks, so that we can realise our dream of constructing the temple at the earliest.

Note that we will be organizing the following events during 2018.

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| 1. Sri Rama Navami | 24/03/2018 |
| 2. Guru Purnima | 28/07/2018 |
| 3. Dussehra | 20/10/2018 |
| 4. Sri Datta Jayanthi | 22/12/2018 |

Additionally, we are also planning to celebrate Sri Krishna Janmashtami on 2nd September 2018.

Your experience and feedback about these events will be much appreciated. Do not hesitate to give us your feedback. We welcome your constructive criticism and strive to implement good activities within our reach and resources.

To raise awareness about our community, we participated in Indian Mela on 3rd March 2018 organised by Indian Australian Association of South Australia Inc. We had good response from the public who visited the Mela including the opportunity of interacting with our Premier Jay Weatherill, who visited our stall in the Mela.

We are pleased to bring to your notice that, we have acquired 3.3 acres (13,355 square meters) of land in Playford Council area for constructing Baba's temple. We are in the process of obtaining engineering designs for the temple. Further, we need to start our construction



activities by September 2018 as per the council's condition of purchase of land. In this direction we have approached some banks for financing the construction activities and the process is taking time due to the special type of financing required. Hopefully we will be successful in obtaining the loan at the earliest.

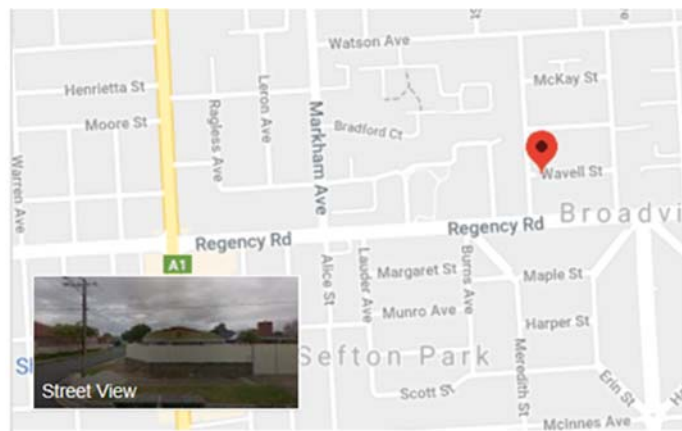
The Story So Far

Sai Seva in Adelaide began around October 2005. A devotee of Baba who had visited the Sai temple in Sydney was inspired by Jack Tulani from the Sydney Sai Sansthan who had an Idol of Baba to start the Sai Seva in Adelaide. In March 2006 another devotee of Baba who visited Sydney was given some books and information about Baba's idol in Adelaide and was encouraged to start Sai Seva in Adelaide. These devotees forming a group of three families started Sai prayers in the living room of Dr Hiwase.

Baba's presence was now being felt very strongly in Adelaide and he started bringing all his devotees together and the number started growing very rapidly. The living room became inadequate and activities moved to the backyard shed which was cleaned up and carpeted to establish a prayer hall. From October 2006 the weekly Sunday pooja started and devotees started doing Kaakad Aarthi and Madhyaan Aarthi. Subsequently functions like Dusshera, Guru Poornima, Sri Datta Jayanti were celebrated including Dhoop Aarthi and Shej Aarthi followed by prasad. Finally, a group of eight people (including three initial families) came together in October 2007 and the Sansthan was officially registered as "Shirdi Saibaba Community and Cultural Organisation of South Australia".

CONTACT	INFORMATION
Website:	www.sainathsa.org
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/sainathsa
Email:	secretary@sainathsa.org
COMMITTEE	
Raja Mohan Kambhoji (President & Treasurer)	0401 093 153
Manoj Mansukhani (Vice President)	0406 518 176
Sri Chowdarappu (Secretary)	0423 259 045
Devendra Hiwase (Public Officer)	
Tejas Kapadia	0435 956 119
Kalpesh Gajera	0425 132 642
Murli Iyer	0432 502 645

These eight people were Nageshwar Rao Mallampati (President), Vijay Settippalli (Secretary), Raja Mohan (Treasurer), Devendra Hiwase, Manoj Mansukhani, Sachin Nanche, Prem Panicker and Param Ramanan. The sansthan was thus dedicated to all the devotees of Baba in South Australia. The committee has since endeavored to regularise prayers and activities for creating awareness in the community. From March 2008, the Sansthan leased a hall from IAASA at 6 Blamey Avenue, Broadview to provide for regular Sunday prayers.



By Baba's grace devotee numbers are constantly increasing and there are now more than 300 families who regularly come for Sunday prayers and annual events. Four major events are enthusiastically celebrated every year, namely Sri Rama Navami, Dasara (Vijaya Dashami), Guru Purnima and Sri Datta Jayanthi. Devotees eagerly bring Prasad from home, decorate the prayer hall with lights and flowers, take turns carrying Baba's Paalkhi, and sing the glory of Lord Sainath.

"However distant - even thousands of miles away - my people might be, I draw them to myself, just as we pull birds to us with a string tied to their foot." Baba

Land Purchase at Waterloo Corner

By Baba's grace, your generous donations, and tireless efforts, the Sansthan has managed to purchase land for the Temple at Waterloo Corner. The plot is off Supple Road and situated between Curnow Road and Brown Road (next to No. 254 and opposite No. 267).



The time has come when we need to courageously take on the challenge of building Baba's Temple in Adelaide. To achieve our dream the Sansthan is involved in various fund-raising activities and we are certain that Baba will bless us in achieving our vision. We need many volunteers to help and support us both financially and physically for this cause. Together we will establish a permanent home for Baba in South Australia.

New Fundraising Initiatives

The Sansthan has planned two new fundraising activities during upcoming months.

Piggy Bank Appeal

During the upcoming Sri Rama Navami function Money Boxes from the Sansthan will be available for collection. Families that take a Money Box home are requested to encourage their children to save towards Baba's temple construction. These Money Boxes will need to be returned at the Guru Purnima function. The Sansthan will publish names of children with their donation amounts in the quarterly newsletter.

Garage Sale

The Sansthan is also planning to hold a garage sale during the latter half of May 2018. Devotees are requested to accumulate any items that are not being used and which could be sold to raise funds at the garage sale. Please start putting aside any items such as furniture, toys, shoes, clothing, among others, that you are ready to give away.