



# **THE ZOROASTRIAN TRUST FUNDS OF EUROPE (INCORPORATED)**

**COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2018 – 2019**

**Company Registration No: 01403266**

**Charity Registration No: 277185**

**Zartoshty Brothers Hall, Zoroastrian Centre for Europe,  
440 Alexandra Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 9TL, UK**

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**THE ZOROASTRIAN TRUST FUNDS OF EUROPE (INCORPORATED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2019**

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# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (Incorporated)**

**“Zoroastrian Centre”, 440 Alexandra Avenue, Harrow, HA2 9TL**

**Telephone: 020 8866 0765 • Email: [secretary@ztfе.com](mailto:secretary@ztfе.com) • Website: [www.ztfе.com](http://www.ztfе.com)**

## **Notice**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (Incorporated) will be held at the Zartoshty Brothers Hall, Zoroastrian Centre for Europe, 440, Alexandra Avenue, Harrow HA2 9TL on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 5.00 pm to transact the following business:

### **Ordinary Business**

1. To receive the Committee’s Report and the Audited Accounts as laid, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.
2. To elect members of the Management Committee in place of the ones who retire and are eligible for re-election:

Mr Malcolm M Deboo	Article 16(b)
Mrs Parivash F Kiani	Article 16(b)
Mr Rohinton F Munshi	Article 16(b)
Miss Shazneen Y Munshi	Article 16(b)
3. To elect the President of the Association from amongst the Members of the Managing Committee for the year 2019/2020.
4. To elect the House Committee under Rule 10 of the Zoroastrian House Rules.
5. To reappoint Brian Paul Limited, Chartered Accountants, as Auditors for the year 2019/2020.
6. To transact the other usual business of an Annual General Meeting.

Please note that non-members will not be admitted to the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

Rohinton F Munshi – Honorary Secretary

For and on behalf of the Managing Committee

13<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**P.S. In the interests of economy only one set of Management Committee Report / Annual Accounts and Notice are being sent to each family address. In case other family members wish to have their own separate set, please phone the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe Secretariat with your request.**

**ZTFE House Committee Member Hoshang R Khambatta chamsi (6 monthly) prayers will be held at 3.30pm, prior to the AGM. The Gahambar meal will be served after the AGM.**

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (Incorporated)**

## **April 2018 – March 2019**

### **Objectives**

The main Objectives, in accordance with the Constitution of the Association are:

1. To advance the study and dissemination of information and knowledge of the Zoroastrian Faith.
2. To protect and enhance the interest of Zoroastrians in Europe.
3. To maintain a separate Burial Ground for Zoroastrians.
4. To hold religious, social and communal functions.
5. To give assistance to Zoroastrian students by way of loans and grants and to render such assistance to Zoroastrians as may be considered necessary.
6. To provide a place of worship devoted to the promulgation and practice of the Zoroastrian Faith.

### **Committee**

The Managing Committee comprised of the following members:-

Mr Malcolm M Deboo	President
Mr Behram R Kapadia	Vice President & Social Secretary (until AGM 2018)
	Vice President (after AGM 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2018)
Mrs Shenaz B. Sadri JP	Vice President External
Mr Rohinton F Munshi	Honorary Secretary & YZ & Travel Coordinator
Mr Javid S Canteenwala	Honorary Treasurer
Mr Kobad S Avari	Joint Honorary Treasurer
Mr Gav D Buhariwala	Social & House Secretary
Mr Darius J. Karkaria	Communications Officer
Ms Jesmin Sorab	Special Projects Officer
Mrs Parivash F Kiani	Iranian Community Engagement Coordinator
Miss Shazneen Y Munshi	XYZ Fun Club Coordinator & Jt Communications Officer
Mr Dorab E Mistry OBE	Global Working Group Representative

### **Trustees**

Mr Rusi K Dalal  
Mr. Rustom K Bhedwar  
Mr. Ardeshir M Bilimoria

### **House Committee**

The following served as House Committee members during the year:

Gav D Buhariwala (Man Com)	Ratan D Buhariwala (Staff)	Ervad Yazad T Bhadha (Staff)
Nergish K Avari	Addie M Batliwalla	Mehernosh Billimoria
Freddy M Deboo	Hoshang R Khambatta	Benaifer N Menon
Phiroze H Munshi	Mahnaz Ostad	Hufris C Palkhiwalla
Freny H Writer	Sherri F Kapadia (YZ Rep)	

### **Ordinary Membership**

All Zoroastrians are eligible, on election, to be enrolled as Ordinary Members on payment of subscription of £15 per year in advance for the period April to March. Ordinary Members can transfer to Life Membership on making a donation of £150 or more.

### **Life Membership**

All Zoroastrians are eligible, on election, to be enrolled as Life Members on making a donation of £150 or more in one sum.

### **OAP Membership**

All Zoroastrians over 65, who have become OAP Members without payment of any membership fees do not qualify as voting members; i.e. they are not eligible to vote.

### **Notes**

Members' attention is drawn to the following Articles of Association

- Article Nos 14, 15(a), 16(a) (b) (c) & (d), 18(a), 32 & 35 - as amended.
- Under Article 14, line 4, "All members of the Association who have paid their full subscription before the date of convening the meeting shall have the right to vote at such meetings". The Managing Committee therefore wishes to advise OAP members who are non-fee paying members that they are not eligible to vote.
- The date of convening the Meeting is 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

### **Important Notes**

In the matter of Election to the Trusteeship, Managing Committee and the House Committee at the AGM, members are requested to observe the procedures listed below. This will greatly facilitate the conduct of the meeting.

1. Please send in nominations so as to reach the undersigned 48 hours prior to the meeting. Nominations from the floor will not be accepted.
2. Nominations must be duly proposed and seconded with the names in full in block letters, together with the written consent of the nominees.
3. Regarding House Committee elections, nominations are required for 12 members. The remaining 3 members will be filled from amongst the members of the Managing Committee.
4. All nominees, proposers and seconders must be fully paid up members prior to the date of Notice convening the Annual General Meeting.
5. Please submit all enquiries regarding the Management Committee Report / Annual Accounts in writing to the Hon Secretary / Hon Treasurer at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
6. The discretion of the Chairperson will stand at all times.

Yours faithfully

Rohinton F Munshi – Honorary Secretary  
For and on behalf of the Managing Committee

13<sup>th</sup> September 2019



# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Management Committee**

President	Mr M M Deboo
Vice President	Mr B R Kapadia
Vice President (External)	Mrs S B Sadri
Treasurer	Mr J S Canteenwala
Secretary	Mr R F Munshi
Joint Treasurer	Mr K S Avari
	Mr D E Mistry OBE
	Mr G D Buhariwala
	Mr D J Karkaria
	Ms J Sorab
	Mrs P F Kiani
	Miss S Y Munshi

**Company Secretary** Mr R F Munshi

**Auditor** Brian Paul Limited  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
Chase Green House  
42 Chase Side  
Enfield  
Middlesex  
EN2 6NF

**Bankers** National Westminster Bank Plc  
Harrow Town Centre  
315 Station Road  
Harrow  
Middlesex  
HA1 2AD

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe(Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Structure, governance and management**

The Company is limited by guarantee and was incorporated in 1978. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission. Its operations are governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Charity was set up to advance the Zoroastrian religious faith, provide and maintain a burial ground and to relieve poverty among Zoroastrians, as detailed in the Charity's constitution. In so doing the Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5)g of the 2011 Charities Act to have regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit.

## **Appointment of Directors and Trustees**

Management Committee Members are elected annually at the AGM by the Members of the Association, when one third of the Committee retire by rotation. Trustees are also elected directly by association members but serve for a period of seven years. Although the constitutional documents of the association draw a distinction between Trustees and Management Committee members, under Companies Act and for Charity Commission purposes both these above categories are treated as Directors and Trustees.

The President is elected directly by members present at an AGM from amongst the newly constituted Management Committee at its first meeting after an AGM.

## **Organisation and Management**

The Charity relies largely on the unpaid and voluntary services of its Trustees Management Committee and a large number of volunteers. The Charity is run by the Trustees and Management Committee, who meet on a monthly basis and also communicate frequently by email and on conference calls. The President, together with each portfolio holding member of the Management Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Charity. Specific sub-committees such as the Finance Sub-committee and the House Committee are charged with specific responsibilities. The Trustees provide periodic guidance and review the affairs of the Charity at meetings with the portfolio holders and at specific meetings of the Trustees.

## **Induction of Management Committee Members and Trustees**

Newly elected Members and Trustees are required to familiarise themselves with relevant publications of the Charity Commission and Companies House on their duties and responsibilities. A programme of mentoring newly elected Members by their more experienced colleagues is also in place.

## **Related Parties**

The Charity has no subsidiaries or related parties.

## **Risk Management**

The Management Committee and the Trustees undertake a review of the Charity's financial assets, available reserves and potential liabilities as a measure of prudent risk management at least once each year. From time to time other strategic and operational risks faced by the Charity in relation to its property and its activities are also reviewed. Appropriate measures including the use of insurance are taken to mitigate partially or eliminate completely their potential impact.

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# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Objectives and activities**

The Charity seeks to provide services of a religious, social and cultural nature to Members of the Zoroastrian Faith, one of mankind's oldest religions, now recognised as one of the nine major religions practised in the UK and Europe. The Charity maintains the first Zoroastrian Place of Worship in Europe at the Zoroastrian Centre in Harrow as well as the only Zoroastrian Burial Ground in Europe at Brookwood in Surrey. The celebration of Zoroastrian festivals and the conduct of prayers, rituals and religious worship are a cornerstone of its activities. The Charity actively participates in worldwide Zoroastrian community affairs particularly in relation to education, welfare, and social uplift. The Charity also participates actively in UK and European Inter-faith organisations.

## **Strategic report**

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

## **Major Highlights of ZTFE activities**

The ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 has been another memorable year for the ZTFE. During the year:

- President Malcolm M. Deboo had the honour and privilege in representing the ZTFE and the Zoroastrians in the UK and the Commonwealth at the **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at Buckingham Palace**, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The live ceremony was aired on BBC News 24 and SKY. CHOGM was also uploaded on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrkBNYMKXEs>. Many Members had commented, that President Malcolm M. Deboo, looked very distinguished in his dugli and pudgri as he was prominently visible amongst the guests, **seated diagonally behind TRHs Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince Harry when footage of the event was aired hourly on television's "BBC News 24" and SKY.** Similar footage was also aired India in and other Commonwealth countries by their respective television networks.
- ZTFE Trustee **Rusi K Dalal** was invited to hear **Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi** at Westminster Central Hall on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The PM was visiting the UK for the 2018 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, which opened formerly at Buckingham Palace on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018. A day prior to the formal opening, Shri Narendra Modi delivered his 'Bharat Ki Baat, Sabke Saath' amid tight security in a packed Westminster Central Hall, opposite Westminster Abbey, where he spoke to an invited audience mainly made up of the Indian Diaspora, including Trustee Rusi K Dalal.

- On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018, **BBC World Service Radio** aired a 50 minute programme for ‘The Forum’ on Zoroastrianism, titled ‘**History of Zoroastrianism**’. The presenter was Rajan Dattar (BBC Travel Show) and the participants in the ‘History of Zoroastrianism’ on the BBC World Service were:
  - ❖ Professor Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies at Oxford University;
  - ❖ Dr Sarah Stewart, Shapoorji Pallonji Lecturer in Zoroastrianism and Co Chair, Shapoorji Pallonji Institute for Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS, University of London;
  - ❖ Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Resident Priest at Zoroastrian Centre, London;
  - ❖ Malcolm M Deboo, President Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe.

On their website, BBC World Service ‘The Forum’ advertised the programme summary under the heading; ‘Sacred flames that burn for hundreds of years’ with the caption; ‘Malcolm Deboo, President of the oldest Zoroastrian organisation on in Europe, tells Rajan Datar why it is important for his fellow believers to keep ritual fires burning for extremely long periods of time and how the flames enable them to communicate with Ahura Mazda, the Wise Lord.’

‘History of Zoroastrianism’ was aired in the UK initially on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 8pm. Between Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, it was aired again in the UK at different times and also in different parts of the world.

The programme is available online on its own webpage, via Forum homepage

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p004kln9>. Also Free podcast on

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/forum>, or through iTunes

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/podcast/forum-a-world-of-ideas/id284278990?mt=2>, or through

Parsi Khabar <https://parsikhabar.us3.list->

[manage.com/track/click?u=f13473290ffe04f87d1196ff5&id=ffab5f1d9f&e=5db4373691](https://parsikhabar.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f13473290ffe04f87d1196ff5&id=ffab5f1d9f&e=5db4373691)

- ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo, together with Life Members Dr Zar J Amroliya and Dr Shahpur Patell attended the introductory ‘**Indo – Iranian Philology Day: From linguistics to cultural understanding**’ at **Wolfson College, University of Oxford** on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The Iranian Philology section was conducted by Dr. Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies & Dr. Elizabeth Tucker, Jill Hart Senior Research Fellow in Indo-Iranian Philology (Emerita). Dr Tucker was the first speaker and spoke on ‘What is Indo – Iranian Philology’ followed by other speakers speaking on Avesta as sacred scriptures, Sanskrit texts and Vedic reading, using Old Persian philology to discover history. Another important aim of the philology day was to convey to the participants that Oxford is the only university in the UK with both a Chair of Sanskrit and Chair of Comparative Philology and is uniquely placed to establish a Chair of Indo – Iranian Philology, for which they are seeking endowments totalling between, £3 to £7 million. Indo – Iranian Philology is currently only kept going at Oxford University thanks to the largely unremunerated efforts of Dr. Elizabeth Tucker for the last 40 years. It was extremely heartening that a young Zoroastrian scholar – Dr. Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina was appointed as the Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies.

- **Dr. Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies, University of Oxford delivered the 21<sup>st</sup> Dasturji Kutar Memorial Lecture at SOAS,**

titled; “Birds of a Feather: On Zoroastrian Funerary Practices Then and Now” on Wed 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The annual lecture was attended by many members of the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community.

- **Professor John R Hinnells, Scholar of Zoroastrian and Parsee Studies & ‘Honoured Friend of the ZTFE’** sadly passed away peacefully in Oxford on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018, aged 76. He was born on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1941. ZTFE conveyed their deepest sympathies to his sons, Mark and Duncan, grandchildren and family. President Malcolm M Deboo, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, Nahib Dastur of the Anjuman Atashbehrām Dr Jamasp K Dastoor and Dr Shahpur Patell represented the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community attended the funeral of Professor John R Hinnells, on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Trustee Rusi K Dalal together with SOAS Zartoshty Professor Almut Hintze paid a warm tribute to Professor Hinnells at ‘The Study of Religions at SOAS and Beyond: An Event in Memory of Professor John Russell Hinnells’, SOAS Atrium, Paul Webley Wing, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Professor John R Hinnells was a well known Zoroastrian scholar. His academic work is particularly significant in four major areas; the question of Zoroastrian influence on Christianity, Mithraism, the Zoroastrian diaspora and the study of religions in general. He authored and edited many books on Zoroastrianism, Mithraism and Comparative Religion. The ZTFE will always be in his debt for his ‘Zoroastrians in Britain’, which continues to be the primary source of information for those wanting to find out more about the UK Zoroastrian community and the ZTFE, the oldest faith based voluntary organisation in the UK from its origins in the 19<sup>th</sup> century until the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Professor Hinnells’s hard work in establishing the Zartoshty Professorship of Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS, together with the late Professor Mary Boyce and our patrons the Zartoshty Brothers, is a testimony of the high regard he had for Zoroastrianism in the study of world religions. His work helped create awareness not only of the Zoroastrian faith, but more importantly the contemporary practitioners of Zoroastrianism. It was one of the reasons that the ZTFE & The Faridoon and Mehraban Zartoshty Fund for Zoroastrian Studies readily agreed to sponsor the publication of the Festschrift for John R Hinnells; ‘Holy Wealth: Accounting for This World and the Next in Religious Beliefs and Practice’ (2017). (See pages 86 – 87 for tribute to Professor John R Hinnells.)

- ZTFE President was invited to witness the historic **Installation Ceremony of Dr Sarah Mullally, the first Woman Bishop of London**, at St Paul’s Cathedral on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Dr Sarah Mullally is the 133<sup>rd</sup> Bishop of London.
- President Malcolm M Deboo, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, Life Members Dr Roshan R Dalal and Rukshana M Daruwalla represented the ZTFE at the **11<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Congress, Perth, Australia, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018**, the first World Zoroastrian Congress to be held in the southern hemisphere. 11WZC was attended by 330 delegates from 14 countries. The largest contingents were from India, Iran and Australia, whilst North America, Europe, Middle East, Pakistan, Hong Kong and Singapore had representations in single digits.  
President Malcolm M Deboo was invited to speak at the 11<sup>th</sup> WZC; his speech was titled; **‘Remembering the immense contribution and sacrifice made by Indians including**

## **Zoroastrians who served the King Emperor and Great Britain during the First World War.'**

The 11<sup>th</sup> WZC was hosted by the Business Association of Western Australia (BAWAZ) and chaired by Firoz Pestonjee. It was held at the prestigious Crown Complex, comprising of 4\*, 5\* and 6\* hotels, 24 hour casino, concert venue and a theatre. **The 12<sup>th</sup> WZC will be organised by ZAGNY in New York during summer 2022.**

- President Malcolm M Deboo and Trustee Rusi K Dalal represented the ZTFE at the **9<sup>th</sup> GWG meeting, held in Perth, Australia** on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 at the Crown Complex held in the morning prior to 11<sup>th</sup> WZC opening ceremony.
- President Malcolm M Deboo represented the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at the **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving 'Spirit of Windrush: Contributions to Multicultural Britain', Westminster Abbey, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018.**
- **The launch of the 'SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies' took place at the Brunei Gallery on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The 'SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies' is one of the successful legacies of 'The Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination' exhibition in 2013 core funded by the ZTFE, thus SOAS invited all the donors whose names are listed at the back of the Everlasting Flame Exhibition catalogue to the launch. The ZTFE Managing Committee and Trustees were invited too. There were over 150 invitees in total, of which 70 were Zoroastrians.**

The formal launch function commenced by Vada Dasturji Jamasp Asa being invited to bless the occasion with a short Zoroastrian prayer. In her welcome, SOAS Director Baroness Valerie Amos mentioned the Zoroastrian faith was one of the 9 faiths recognised in the UK, their participation in inter faith and community cohesion. She summarised the history of Zoroastrian studies at SOAS starting with the Parsi community lectureship in 1929, to Professors Boyce, Bivar, Hinnells, Kreybroek and Sims Williams, endowments by Zartoshty Brothers and Professor Boyce to establish the Zartoshty Professorship, Everlasting Flame Exhibition and the core funding by the ZTFE and thanking Shapoor Mistry and Shapoorji Pallonji And Company Limited for their £5 million endowment in 2017 to establish the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Zoroastrian Institute.

Shapoor P Mistry, Chairman & Managing Director of Shapoorji Pallonji And Company Limited, in his speech mentioned that he has always been interested in knowing more about his religious heritage and supporting its priests. Shapoorji Pallonji Group has been around for over 150 years, thus their support to SOAS is for the long term and the launch is the beginning of the journey. The launch was a proud moment for him and Shapoorji Pallonji Group as they were the first steps to protect the Zoroastrian religion and culture, and assisting the priests. **Shapoor was impressed by 'The Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination' exhibition which inspired him to donate £5 million to SOAS in 2017.** He was convinced that his initiative to support SOAS in strengthening Zoroastrian studies was correct.

Dr Sarah Stewart, Co Chair of the Institute, spoke about the aims of the SP Institute, including outreach by having summer schools in Rome and school visits in London to generate awareness about the usefulness in studying Zoroastrianism, create a Digital Library

and Sound Archive at SOAS and plans to export the Everlasting Flame Exhibition to North America in 2022 to coincide with the 12<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Congress, New York.

Co Chair Professor Almut Hintze, spoke about the history of Zoroastrian research conducted by SOAS and the European Research Council Grant to film the Yasna ceremony, which was undertaken in Mumbai in late 2017 and early 2018. The film will form the basis of the 'Living Zoroastrianism Exhibition' at the Foyle Special Collection Gallery within the Brunei Gallery, from 12<sup>th</sup> October till 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018. After the formal function, guests were invited to put on VR glasses to see the impressive 5 minute trailer of the Yasna ceremony performed by Ervads Adil Besania and Asphandiar Dadachanji at the Vatcha Gandhi Agairy using 8 digital cameras simultaneously operating remotely.

President Malcolm M Deboo thanked Baroness Amos for inviting ZTFE and in her speech praising the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community for their interfaith participation. He reminded everyone that it was the government of Tony Blair in which Baroness Amos was a Cabinet Minister, which had first given Zoroastrians a level playing field with the other faiths in the Faith Zone, Millennium Dome. Although ZTFE had been associated with SOAS since the inception of the Parsi Community Lectureship, but our current relationship began with our Honoured Friend of the ZTFE Professor Hinnells meeting our benefactor and patron Mehraban Zartoshty in Mumbai in 1996, where he together with his brother Faridoon agreed within 5 minutes to assist SOAS to establish a Chair in Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS. This led to ZTFE in 1997, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress, felicitating Professor Mary Boyce in the very same Brunei Suite where the launch of the Shapoorji Pallonji Institute is taking place today, organised by our then president and current trustee Rusi K Dalal in the presence of an august gathering of Zoroastrians including Mehraban Zartoshty, Dasturjis Kotwal and Jamaspasa, Khojeste P Mistree, Phiroza Godrej, scholars and academics. Shortly afterwards Dr Almut Hintze was appointed Zartoshty Lecturer, but it was only because of the immense generosity of the visionary Professor Mary Boyce that the Zartoshty Professorship was established in 2011.

It was because of the Zartoshty Brothers and Honoured Friend of the ZTFE Professor Mary Boyce, ZTFE had agreed to core fund the Everlasting Flame Exhibition in 2013, which was one of the best investments the ZTFE made as its successful legacy continues. On behalf of the Zoroastrian community, the **ZTFE felicitated Shapoor Mistry by draping a shawl and presenting him with the ZTFE Sesquicentennial Medallion**, for his and his family's generous endowment to establish the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies. It will definitely benefit the ZTFE, the UK Zoroastrians and the wider community.

- Prior to the launch, the inaugural meeting of the **SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies Advisory Panel** took place at SOAS prior to the launch. The Advisory Panel is to offer guidance and support to the Shapoorji Pallonji Institute and its Co Chairs, Professor Almut HIntze and Dr Sarah Stewart. It is purely advisory as the decisions will be made by SOAS! Comprising of 9 members; Shapoor P Mistry is a permanent member, 4 members nominated by Shapoor Mistry and Shapoorji Pallonji And Company Limited and 4 members nominated by SOAS, one will be the Pro Director who will Chair the Panel. ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo was nominated by SOAS to join the advisory panel.
  - SOAS invited all the ZTFE donors whose names are listed at the back of the Everlasting Flame Exhibition catalogue together with ZTFE Trustees and Managing Committee to the
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**opening ceremony of ‘Living Zoroastrianism’ – A unique interactive exhibition engages the public in the Virtual Reality (VR) experience of a 3000 year old Zoroastrian ritual, Foyle Gallery within Brunei Gallery, SOAS on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.** The formal launch function commenced by ZTFE Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha and his younger brother Ervad Rayomand being invited by SOAS Zartoshty Professor Almut Hintze to bless the occasion with a short Zoroastrian prayer. Like the previous Everlasting Flame Exhibition, SOAS once again requested ZTFE to loan exhibits for the Living Zoroastrianism Exhibition. The exhibition was open to the public from Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October till Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

- **Trustee Rusi K Dalal** together with President Malcolm M Deboo conducted a successful **Walking Tour of the Zoroastrian Burial Ground, Brookwood on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018, for members of The Art Fund.** The tour was requested by the Art Fund and was advertised in their newsletter and website priced £24/- for their members. The entire proceeds going to the Art Fund to raise funds for Art related projects. The Art Fund is a reputed National Charity established in 1903, which raises funds and finances for Art related projects and activities. The tour covered the section of the cemetery which included the Wadia and Tata Mausoleums and the early graves dating from 1861 till prior to the Second World War. The Art Fund thanked ZTFE for their warm welcome and hospitality. They truly appreciated that the tour covered an incredible range in terms of historical background, the current position and for sharing the stories of distinguished members of the Zoroastrian community. They were not intrusive as they were extremely mindful that the burial ground is still in use by the Zoroastrian community and only one landscape photograph was taken.
- **A Zoroastrian introductory seminar with Dr Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies, University of Oxford, held at the Zoroastrian Centre** on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018. A positive feedback was received from the participants, many requesting a follow up seminar.
- **Dr Meherbod Khanizadeh gave a bilingual talk on Tirgan** following the Zartoshty Brothers sponsored Jashn-e Tirgan, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.
- **Dr Meherbod Khanizadeh gave a bilingual talk on** the importance of charity in Zoroastrianism following the 6<sup>th</sup> Varsi Jashan for our patron Mobed Mehraban J Zartoshty on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, ZTFE & Youth Representative for Harrow Inter Faith, facilitated a discussion group; **‘Developing a youth dimension to existing inter faith programmes’** at the National Meeting of The Inter Faith Network for the UK – ‘Young People and Inter Faith Engagement: Making a Difference Together’ at Derby County Football Ground, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo was invited by Lord Callanan, Minister of State, Department for **Exiting the European Union**, to a Faith Groups Roundtable to discuss EU exit by UK, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

- ZTFE members were invited to the 26<sup>th</sup> Vladimir G Lukonin Memorial Lecture titled, **‘Fashioning the Achaemenid Elite: Dress and Identity in Ancient Iran, c. 559 – 330 BCE’**, by **Professor Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones**, Cardiff University which was delivered at the British Museum on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Professor Llewellyn Jones explored the form and function of the clothing of the Achaemenid nobility at the time of the first Persian Empire. The Achaemenid Persians inherited a particular form of dress which linked them to their nomadic Eurasian ancestors. Consisting of trousers, a sleeved tunic and a long-sleeved coat, this ‘cavalry costume’ was intimately linked to the horse-riding identity which the Achaemenids had inherited from the steppe peoples of ‘greater Iran.’ Alongside the physical garments themselves, customs, traditions and meanings were encoded in their use and in particular the sleeved-coat was imbued with a semi-magical quality which made it the focus of significant ceremonial. The lecture was very well attended.
- ZTFE Life Member Soonu Engineer spoke on the **‘Parsi Contribution to Pakistan’ at a seminar titled, ‘A Tribute to Pakistani Religious Minorities’ Role in Nation Building’**, hosted by **Pakistan High Commission in London** on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018. His Excellency Sahibzada Ahmed Khan, the recently appointed High Commissioner of Pakistan to the United Kingdom, presided over the proceedings. The keynote speaker was the former Bishop of Rochester, the Right Reverend Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, President of the Oxford Centre for Training, Research, Advocacy and Dialogue (OXTRAD). Soonu Engineer made a short presentation on the Zoroastrian community in Pakistan. Several Zoroastrians were invited, including WZCC UK Chapter Chair Shernaz Engineer, President Malcolm M Deboo, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, Dr Roshan R Dalal, Jamshed Irani and Ruzbeh Hodiwala. The objective of this exclusive seminar, which was oversubscribed, was to acknowledge the rich contributions made by the Pakistani minorities beyond the headlines. It illustrated that religious minorities make four to five per cent of the Pakistani population but their role in the development of the country is phenomenal. Since the very creation of Pakistan (and even before) the role of Pakistani religious minorities has been eminent and commendable in nation building, social welfare, defence, education, health and cultural fields.
- Golden Tours Foundation in partnership with ZTFE had an exhibition bus parked outside Zoroastrian Centre on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2018 from 11am till 10pm, exhibiting; **‘Inspiring Young Minds!!! – Remembering the 1.4 million Indian Soldiers, The Forgotten Heroes of the First World War’**. This travelling exhibition is sponsored by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War. ‘Inspiring Young Minds’ is a centennial project remembering and saying ‘thank you’ for their immense contribution and sacrifice made by the countless volunteers from undivided India who served the King Emperor & Great Britain during the First World War. Their contribution changed our world! ‘Inspiring Young Minds’ is a follow up exhibition to ‘The Indian Soldiers in WWI’ seminar held at the Zoroastrian Centre during Inter Faith and Remembrance Week on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- **On the auspicious occasion of Shahenshai Navroze 1388 YZ, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018, ZTFE felicitated 3 Zoroastrians who were recently awarded their MA or PhD in Zoroastrian Studies by SOAS. They were:**

**Ervad Yazad T Bhadha MA, Resident Priest at the Zoroastrian Centre**, was awarded a MA in Zoroastrian Studies, from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**Mr Ruzbeh Hodiwala MA from Ahmadabad, India**, was awarded a MA in Zoroastrian Studies, from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**Dr Meherbod Khanizadeh from Kerman, Iran**, who received his ‘confirmation of award letter’ by SOAS dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018 confirming that he has successfully completed his **PhD on his thesis; ‘Reward for Sacrifice: The Paharvi Version of Yasna 9.1-15’**. From October 2018, Dr Khanizadeh will be employed as a post doctoral researcher at SOAS for 3 years, assisting Professor Almut Hintze with the ‘Multi Media Yasna Project’ funded by Euro €2.5 million grant from the European Research Council.

**Professor (Dr) Perses J. Amroliya and his brother Dr Zar J. Amroliya** presented a copy of, ‘ASHAVANS: A Legacy of Zoroastrian Leadership’ by Meher Bhesania on 101 prominent Zoroastrian leaders, to commemorate the occasion. **Dr Meherbod Khanizadeh was also presented with a ZTFE Gold Sesquicentennial medallion for completing his PhD.**

**In their acceptance, all of them thanked the ZTFE and the ‘Faridoon & Mehraban Zartoshty Fund for Zoroastrian Studies’ for sponsoring their further studies in Zoroastrianism at SOAS.**

- ZTFE once again sponsored the **Dhansak Food Stall at the annual Indian Independence Day** celebrations, Nanvat Centre, Hayes UB3 1AR, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018. The food stall was organised and manned by Trustee Rusi K. Dalal, Joint Social Secretary Gav D. Buhariwala, Mehernosh Bilimoria, and Zarir Chacha, who serving ‘Dhansak’ to 300 hundred guests at this event. The turnout was low compared to previous years, because it was a rainy day, but our volunteers endured and ensured a Zoroastrian food stall was maintained as in past years. Links with the Indian High Commission in the UK have been kept strong since the early 1990s by the good work of Trustee Rusi K. Dalal.
- On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018, the Zoroastrian All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) held an event at the House of Lords to commemorate **Zoroastrian and Indian women involved the British Suffrage (votes for women) movement**. The event was attended by parliamentarians, civil servants, academics, faith leaders, inter faith friends, and the Zoroastrian community. Dr Sumita Mukerjee, Historian and Senior Lecturer at the University of Bristol, was the invited guest speaker. She delivered an informative and inspiring talk titled, ‘Zoroastrian and Indian women in the British and Indian Suffrage movement’ In her talk Dr Mukerjee's mentioned four Parsi women:  
Herabai Ardeshir Tata and her daughter Mithan Jamshed Lam (nee Tata), the first woman called to the bar in 1923. Avabai Bomanji Wadia (nee Mehta) and her mother Pirojbai Dorabji Mehta. Avabai was world famous in the field of family planning. Her obituary was in The Guardian, UK, in 2005. Mrs Jaiji Jehnagir Petit, who was a leading figure in Bombay Women’s Suffrage Union and well known to Mahatma Gandhi. Mrs Hilla Rustomji Faridoonji, a high profile Parsi suffragette and was vice-president of the All-India Women’s Conference.  
A detailed report of the above APPG event by XYZ Children’s Educational Fun Club Coordinator Shazneen Y Munshi was printed in Jam-e Jamshed, Parsiana, WZO Hamazor and Parsi Khabar.

- The Zoroastrian Centre was once again visited by the members of the **London Appreciation Society** on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018. On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, the **ZTFE once again participated in the annual Open House and opened Zoroastrian Centre to the general public**, thus giving over 300 visitors the opportunity to marvel the art deco grade 2\* listed building including the Zartoshty Brothers' Hall and view the historical photos of the building on display by Robert Douglas Law. He once again volunteered to mount all the historical photographs and conduct the hourly tours at the Zoroastrian Centre from 11am till 4pm for Open House and also for the London Appreciation Society.
- ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo was invited for the first time by the 'Chattri Memorial Group' to the Indian Memorial Gate, Royal Pavilions, Brighton, to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWI on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2018. The Indian Memorial Gate at the Royal Pavilions in Brighton was unveiled in 1921 to mark the military hospitals established in Brighton during WWI, when approximately 12,000 Indian troops were treated in the town between late 1914 and early 1916. The Royal Pavilion was the most famous of these hospitals, and over 4,300 patients were treated in the buildings of the Pavilion. Noted community historian Marzban J Giara in his book, 'The Contribution of the Parsi Community during the First World War (1914 – 1918)', mentions names of Parsi doctors who served the wounded Indian troops in these hospitals, including Dr Sohrab B Warden – ZTFE's 10<sup>th</sup> President elected 10<sup>th</sup> October 1954.

The 'Chattri', unveiled in 1921, is a memorial built to honour the Indian dead of WWI. It stands on the Brighton Downs at the place where Hindu and Sikh soldiers who died in Brighton war hospitals during 1914-1915 were cremated in the open. The Muslim soldiers who died were buried in Brookwood cemetery within walking distance from the Zoroastrian Burial Ground.

- Z Club Coordinator Mrs Gul R Billimoria and ZTFE Special Projects Officer Ms Jesmin Sorab organised a coach trip to the **Inauguration of Gandhi Peace Centre, Balaji Temple, West Midlands on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018**. The Gandhi Peace Centre is sponsored by Aditya Birla Group to foster legacy of Mahatma Gandhi. It was a very informative event, enjoyable and well attended by ZTFE Members, including Social Secretary Gav D Buhariwala and Trustee Rusi K Dalal. It gave many of them the opportunity to revisit 'Parsi Hill' at the Balaji Temple and also to thank friends of the ZTFE – Mr Raaj Shamji and Dr Narayan Rao, for their invitation, kind hospitality, including lunch and dinner.
- For nearly two decades, the ZTFE had been lobbying the UK Government to include a Zoroastrian representative as part of the faiths and belief groups at the annual National Service of Remembrance held at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, on Sunday closest to 11<sup>th</sup> November. **On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the UK Government website, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-faith-and-belief-groups-to-join-the-national-service-of-remembrance>, reported that Zoroastrians will be represented from this year on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018, being the centenary of the WWI Armistice.** This breaking news was reported in the UK and Indian press, including The Times on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and also the Business Standard in India. It should be noted

that this happy outcome would not have been possible without the relentless campaigning of our patron Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL on behalf of our community. ZTFE recognises and record our thanks and gratitude to the Faith Minister Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), for pursuing this matter with Lord Aston of Hyde, his counterpart at the Department of Culture, Sports and Media (DCMS). **ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community was represented at the annual National Service of Remembrance held at the Cenotaph, Whitehall**, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 11am by our patron Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL and President Malcolm M Deboo. The ceremony was aired live on BBC1 and SKY. Being represented at the Cenotaph was proud moment for the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community. It was a major achievement! Due to the participation and contribution made to Great Britain in both world wars by the Zoroastrians, thus over the decades every year members would inquire why are the Zoroastrians not represented?

- Also at 11am, Hon Secretary Mr. Rohinton F. Munshi, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, Z Club Coordinator Ms. Mahtab F. Munshi and her husband ZTFE well-wisher Dr. Subodh Kant represented the **ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community together with members of other faiths at the Remembrance Sunday Ceremony, held at the War Memorial, Harrow Town Hall**. As part of the service, The “Shared Act of Commitment,” similar to previous years was recited by Harrow Inter Faith members. There was a parade by members of the Armed Services and respective cadets from those services. Joining the parade was police cadets and various organisations such as the British Legion, Scouts and a number of schools. Harrow’s Parade is now the second largest in London, after the Cenotaph in Whitehall. A wreath was laid by the Mayor of Harrow Councillor Kareema Marikar and Harrow’s Deputy Lord Lieutenant Chief Superintendent Simon Ovens DL.
- **ZTFE also participated in ‘National bell ringing in the UK’ to mark 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WWI Armistice** at 12.30pm, when ZTFE Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha performed the ‘Thanksgiving Maachi ceremony’ in the Setayash Gah, Zoroastrian Centre, which was witnessed by the Children’s Educational Fun Club. Ervad Yazad also performed the Satum ceremony, during which he invoked the Fravashis of those who sacrificed their lives during World War I and II, as listed on the Zoroastrian War Memorial in Kharghat Colony, Mumbai.
- Zoroastrian Children’s Educational Fun Club Coordinator Shazneen Y Munshi also organised the Fun Club class on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 on the importance of Zoroastrians serving their community and their country. The children and their parents participated in the two minute silence at 11am and then watching on TV the first few minutes of National Service of Remembrance in which they saw ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo represent the Zoroastrian community. **The children were taught about the Zoroastrian contribution in WW1 and the Importance of Service in Zoroastrianism to our community and our country**. The younger children made their own poppies and the older children used their skills to crack a puzzle!
- At 3pm, President Mr Malcolm M Deboo, Hon Secretary Mr Rohinton F. Munshi and Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha represented ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at

**‘A Service of Thanksgiving and Prayer for Peace to mark the Centenary of the Armistice signalling the end of World War I’ in Southwark Cathedral.**

- At 6pm, President Malcolm M Deboo represented **ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at The National Service of Thanksgiving to commemorate the centenary of the WWI Armistice in Westminster Abbey, which was aired live on BBC1 and SKY.**
- ZTFE was invited by **BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha to ‘Honouring the contribution of India and the Commonwealth during WWI’ in collaboration with the Royal British Legion, at the Swaminarayan Mandir, Neasden, on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018.** The event was attended by many from UK Government and the Indian High Commission. A number of ZTFE Members and well-wishers also attended, including President Malcolm. M. Deboo, (Hon) Secretary Rohinton F. Munshi, Iranian Engagement Officer Mrs. Parivash F. Kiani, Trustee Rusi K. Dalal, Past Trustees Noshir J. Avari and Dr. Firoze R. Munshi, Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Past Administrative Secretary Kerman F. Munshi, Z Club Coordinators Mrs. Gul B. Bilimoria and her two sisters Manek and Sheroo, Ms. Mahtab F. Munshi, Mrs. Ashraf F. Falahati, House Committee member Freddy M Deboo accompanied by Mrs Roshan M Deboo and well-wisher Dr. Subodh Kant. In total 25 Members of the ZTFE attended.

**ZTFE Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha was invited to light the ceremonial lamp together with the priests of other faith communities and recited a short Zoroastrian prayer for the departed. President Malcolm M. Deboo was invited to speak on the contribution of Zoroastrians during World War I.** His speech was widely appreciated by members of the other faiths, because many did not realise the great contributions made by the Zoroastrian Community despite being exceptionally few in numbers compared to other communities of India at the time.

- On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018, ZTFE members and well-wishers including President Malcolm M Deboo, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha attended the **book launch at SOAS; ‘Voices from Zoroastrian Iran Volume I’ by Dr Sarah Stewart in collaboration with Mandana Moavenat, which is the first publication on the Zoroastrians in Iran after the Islamic Revolution in 1979.** Past ZTFE (Hon) Secretary Mrs Mandana Moavenat, now resides in Toronto, was the first Zoroastrian student sponsored by the ZTFE / Zartoshty Brothers Fund for Zoroastrian Studies to undertake a MA in Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS at the turn of the millennium. Mandana is from Yazd, Iran and is fluent in Dari. After obtaining her MA, she collaborated with Dr Sarah Stewart in conducting interviews with the Zoroastrians in Iran, especially in the villages of Yazd.

Prior to the book launch, there was a lecture, **‘Zoroastrian Studies and the question of Orality’ by Professor Kreyenbroek,** which was a tour de force on Zoroastrian studies. He also wrote the preface in Dr Sarah Stewart’s book.

- President Malcolm M. Deboo represented the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community together with other faith leaders including, the Chief Rabbi and the Archbishop of Canterbury at **‘80 Years On’ A commemoration of The Kindertransport, Friends**

**House, Euston, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.** This event was organised by Lord Alf Dubbs and Barbara Winton, daughter of Sir Nicholas Winton (1909-2015), who organised the Czech and Slovak Kindertransport in 1939 to rescue endangered children from the Nazis just prior to the Second World War.

- Vice-President External Shenaz B. Sadri, YZ Coordinator Shazneen Y. Munshi, Resident Mobed Ervad Yazad T. Bhahda and (Hon) Secretary Rohinton F. Munshi represented the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at the **Diwali celebrations at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.** Sadly this event did not take place at 10 Downing Street as planned due to pending Brexit issues, but was switched on the day to the Durbar Hall of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Prime Minister May did not attend but Communities and Local Government Secretary James Brokenshire deputised for the Prime Minister.
- Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, presented President Malcolm M Deboo with a 'Certificate of Recognition' for ZTFE's Inter Faith Work at the London Faith & Belief Community Awards, Royal Society of Medicine on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The **ZTFE was "Recognised for services to and for faith and belief communities in Greater London."** This was a proud moment for the ZTFE and Zoroastrian Community as it is a recognition for all of us in the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community who have volunteered our services and worked hard to promote good inter faith relations and community cohesion over the years.
- Ervad Yazad T Bhahda represented ZTFE at the **interfaith Tree Planting Ceremony** at St George the Martyr churchyard, Borough High Street, London SE1 1JA, sponsored by Mayor of London and organised by Faiths Forum of London, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
- ZTFE patron **Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL and Gareth Thomas MP for Harrow West, were once again unanimously re-elected as Co Chairs of the Zoroastrian All Party Parliamentary Group at its 5<sup>th</sup> AGM, held in the House of Lords on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018.** The other Office Bearers remain the same per the AGM held after the 2017 General Election. **ZTFE President continues to head the APPG Secretariat.**
- As our nation commemorated the centenary of the WWI Armistice on Sunday 11th November 2018, **the Zoroastrian APPG remembered the Zoroastrians and Indians in WWI, following the Zoroastrian APPG AGM.** Lord Bilimoria invited President Malcolm M Deboo to make his PowerPoint presentation titled; 'Remembering the immense contribution and sacrifice made by Indians including Zoroastrians who served the King Emperor and Great Britain during the First World War'. The President informed the Zoroastrian APPG that the **Zoroastrian contribution to Britain during the WWI can be divided into 5 categories; Soldiers, Doctors in the Indian Medical Service (IMS), use of Parsee property for treating the wounded, Monetary and Economic contribution to the war effort and lastly, countering German propaganda.** He concluded his presentation with the following words; "On behalf of the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community in the UK and globally, Lord Bilimoria and I are thankful to Her Majesty's Government, especially Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, Minister of Religion and Under Secretary of State

and his Team at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MCLG) and his counterpart Lord Aston of Hyde, Under Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), for formerly recognising the service and sacrifice of the Zoroastrians in WWI and WWII and inviting them to attend the Remembrance Sunday Ceremony on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018.”

**Chairman of the Cobra Foundation Field Marshal Sir John Chapple, GCB, CBE**, was accompanied with Lady Annabel Chapple. Besides being one of the leading career British Army Officers of the second half of the 20th century and Chief of Staff during Operation Desert Storm - 1<sup>st</sup> Gulf War to liberate Kuwait, the Field Marshal is one of the world's leading authority on Indians in WWI. In his address he informed the Zoroastrian APPG that his grandfather was a pilot in the newly formed RAF in WWI. While flying over Mesopotamia, either an Ottoman Turkish soldier or an Arab tribesman shot at the plane and bullet hit his testicle. He experienced a painful journey being brought back to Basra, from where he was shipped to Bombay and **treated in the Parsee General Hospital, which was commandeered during WWI.**

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple also mentioned the valour of the Gurkha troops at Gallipoli and narrated the story of a young British Officer Lieutenant Slim who witnessed them charge up a hill to take on an Ottoman machine gun fortification. Slim was so inspired that he requested to be transferred to Gurkha regiment. In WWII Field Marshal Viscount Slim was one of talented commanders and developed guerrilla warfare fighting the Japanese in Burma. He concluded by speaking of his long standing relationship with India which started when he was the Command Officer of the British 1st Battalion, 2nd Gurkha Rifles regiment, when he met Lord Bilimoria's father who was commanding the Indian Gurkha regiment. Both families developed a close bond. Hence Field Marshal Sir John accepted the position of being the second Chairman of the Cobra Foundation, Karan father being the founder Chair.

- Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha and Facilities Coordinator, Ratan D Buhariwala represented ZTFE at **Holocaust Memorial Day** on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 at City Hall.
- On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, **Harrow Arts Centre hosted Harrow's annual Holocaust Memorial Day event.** The Mayor of Harrow, Councillor Kareema Marikar commenced the evening's memorial with a short speech of welcome. It was a proud moment for the ZTFE when **XYZ Miss. Janine Z. Daruwalla was invited to light a candle on behalf of the Zoroastrian faith at the candle lighting ceremony** which followed the Mayor's address. Holocaust survivor Mrs. Helen Chmura's memories of her experiences were conveyed to the audience through an "interview," setting taken by journalist Mr. Steve Levinson. Jean-Paul Samputu told of his struggle, through song and narration; to come to terms with the murder of his parents and three siblings during the genocide of Tutsis in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The evening was very moving.

ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community was represented by (Hon) Secretary Rohinton F Munshi, Janine's parents and ZTFE Members Anahita and Zubin Daruwalla, Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T. Bhadha, Facilities Coordinator Ratan D. Buhariwala, Past ZTFE Trustee Dr. Firoze R. Munshi, Past Administrative Secretary Mrs. Kerman Munshi, Z Club Coordinator

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Ms. Mahtab M. Munshi, House Committee Member Mr. Hoshang Khambatta, Past (Hon) Secretary Mrs. Rushna P. Master, ZTFE Members Mr. Phiroze S. Master, Mrs. Minnie S. Poonawala, Mr. Cyrus S. Poonawala, well-wisher Dr. Subodh Kanti. This was the **largest contingent of Zoroastrians attending Harrow's Holocaust Memorial Day event to date.**

- Trustee Rusi K Dalal represented ZTFE at the **70<sup>th</sup> Indian Republic Day** Flag Raising Ceremony at India House on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 70<sup>th</sup> Indian Republic Day Reception at the Guild Hall on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January and Martyrs Day Death Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at Tavistock Square on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the presence of the new Indian High Commissioner, Her Excellency Mrs. Ruchi Ganashyam. She is the second woman Indian HC to hold this post since independence in 1947. The only other woman was Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, sister of PM Jawaharlal Nehru, who was HC 1954-1961.
- ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo was invited to lay a wreath for the first time on behalf of the Zoroastrians who served during WWI at the annual Memorial Service at Commonwealth Gates on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 by the newly appointed Chairman Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL. He was previously Chairman from 2003 till 2009.
- ZTFE President Malcolm M Deboo represented the Zoroastrian community at the annual **Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey** on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019, in the presence of H M The Queen, Senior Members of the Royal Family, UK Prime Minister and High Commissioners of the Commonwealth Countries. The theme for 2019 was, 'A Connected Commonwealth'.
- **ZTFE celebrated the auspicious occasion of Jamsheedi NoRuz by inviting members of the UK armed forces to the Zoroastrian Centre** on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019. In attendance was Warrant Officer Ashok Kumar Chauhan, MBE of the British Army, who is also the Council Member of the Memorial Gates at Constitution Hill. The Royal Air Force were represented by Squadron Leader Cyrus Pocha, Squadron Leader Amir Khan, Warrant Officer Balbir Singh Flora MBE, and Sergeant Shiv Chand. **The ZTFE 113<sup>th</sup> Jamsheedi NoRuz celebrations in the UK were reported in the British Asian News.**
- Similar to the previous 2 years, ZTFE was delighted to once again receive a celebratory message for Jamsheedi NoRuz from our Prime Minister Rt Hon Theresa May on 10 Downing Street letterhead. The text is pasted below.

**The Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AA**

**I would like to wish all Zoroastrians in the United Kingdom and abroad a blessed Nowruz.**

**The Zoroastrian community has done so much to help make the UK a strong and vibrant country. As we look ahead to this new year, I know that your commitment to ensuring good deeds lead to a good future will serve all well.**

**I hope that you all have a very happy and prosperous new year.  
Nowruz Pirouz.**

**Theresa May  
21 March 2019**

### **After Year end**

- ZTFE member **Mrs Soonie Godrej Talati celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019.** Soonie was born on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 1919, Aspandarmad Roj Ava Mah 1288 YZ Shahenshai. She received a telegram from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and news of this auspicious occasion was distributed electronically to the ZTFE membership, with President Malcolm M. Deboo's write up also being published on Parsee media web sites such as Zoroastrians.net, Jam-e Jamshed and Parsi Times. The momentous occasion was celebrated by all those attending the Z Club on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019. We wish Mrs. Soonie Godrej Talati good health and contentment and by the Grace of Ahura Mazda looked forward to many more birthday celebrations.
- Hon Secretary Rohinton F Munshi and Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha represented ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at **Mayor of Harrow's Civic Service of Thanksgiving** for Mayoralty of Cllr Kareema Marikar on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha represented ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at the Harrow Civic Centre at solidarity event on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019, organised by Harrow Council, for those affected following the **terrorist attacks on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka.** President Malcolm M Deboo represented ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community at the Harrow Civic Centre, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019, at a Candlelight Vigil, organised by Cllr Kareema Marikar, The Worshipful Mayor of Harrow and Rayners Lane Ward Cllr Krishna Suresh, Former Mayor of Harrow, for those affected following the terrorist attacks on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka.
- Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha and President Malcolm M Deboo were invited to speak at **'London's Communities United Against Extremism'** at The Clothworkers' Company on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- President Malcolm M Deboo and Trustee Rusi K Dalal were invited to the High Commission of India to celebrate the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 'Gujarat Day' on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019. The President was invited to speak on the Parsis of Gujarat and their contribution to India. **The Contribution of Parsis was recognised by Vijay Rupani, Chief Minister of Gujarat.** He mentioned; "Gujarat is the land of brave and literate people, having universal brotherhood in their mind, heart and blood. The horizons and borders have never become a barrier in the pace of development of commercial, cultural and emotional bondages with the rest of the world, since time immemorial. **The Parsis are the prime**

**example of universal brotherhood of acceptance for the people in trouble**, and similarly the Gujaratis have blended nicely in their contemporary background all over the world.”

- ZTFE Patron Lord Karan F Bilimoria and President Malcolm M Deboo were invited to the launch of, **‘Persia & Rome: Tale of Two Empires’ exhibition**, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Lord Bilimoria being the Chancellor of Birmingham University gave the keynote speech and launched the exhibition. The exhibition explored how the ancient superpowers of Rome and Sasanian Persia spun humiliating defeats and promoted their bloody victories on the small pieces of art circulating in the pockets of the masses, through Roman and Sasanian coins and seals (<http://barber.org.uk/a-tale-of-two-empires-rome-and-persia/>).
- **Dr Roshan R Dalal**, former House Committee Member, was presented with a ZTFE **Sesquicentennial Gold Medallion** at her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party celebrations at the Zoroastrian Centre on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019. She was thanked for her continued support to the ZTFE together with her husband, Trustee Rusi K Dalal, over many decades.
- The SOAS **Dastur Dr Sohrab Hormasji Kutar 22<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Lecture** was delivered by Dr Saloumeh Gholami (University of Frankfurt) on **“Endangered Zoroastrian heritage of Iran: New insights from recently discovered manuscripts”** on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The memorial lecture was well attended and very informative as it highlighted the challenges faced by the Zoroastrians in Iran to preserve their literal and cultural heritage. Dr. Gholami was requested to give the same presentation at the Zoroastrian Centre on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2019 after Mobed Meheraban Zartoshty’s 7th varsi prayers.
- ZTFE Life Member **Mr Khojeste P Mistree conducted a one day Zoroastrian workshop** at the Zoroastrian Centre on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019, titled; **‘A Life Well Lived: Zoroastrian Values in Today’s World**. The 8 hours workshop was informative and well attended. It was **sponsored by Mrs Bapsy Dastur and her son Ervad Shayan Dastur**, in memory of Mrs. Dastur’s mother Mrs Sheroo Framroze Darukhanawalla. The day’s proceedings were reported in the community media; Parsi Kabar and on the front page of Jam-e Jamshed.
- Following the workshop, several parents approached the sponsor Mrs Bapsy Dastur and Ervad Shayan Dastur to organise a similar workshop for their teenage children, because many were unable to participate due to pending exams. They generously acceded to their request and sponsored another Zoroastrian Q&A pre lunch workshop titled; **‘Relevance of Zoroastrianism in the world of Google’, specifically targeted only for teenagers, which was conducted by Khojeste P Mistree** on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019. It was also decided to have a post lunch workshop with Khojeste on the same day open for all ages titled; **‘Civilizing the World and Safeguarding the faith – The legacy of the Nine Zoroastrian Kings’**. Both these workshops were also very informative and well attended. The proceedings were also given coverage in the community media.
- Hon Secretary Rohinton F Munshi and President Malcolm M Deboo represented ZTFE and Zoroastrian community at the **75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day** church service on Harrow on the Hill on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019, which was organised by Harrow Council.

- Resident Ervad Yazad T Bhadha organised **Tree Planting Ceremony in Harrow** for Faiths Forum of London, in the presence of The Worshipful Mayor of Harrow Cllr Nitin Parekh, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- Ervad Yazad T Bhadha and President Malcolm M Deboo were invited to **Metropolitan Police Annual Remembrance Ceremony** at Peel Centre on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- Hon Secretary Rohinton F Munshi represented ZTFE and Zoroastrian community at **Mayor of Harrow Civic Service** for Cllr Nitin Parekh on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019.
- **ZTFE Honorary Life Member, Philanthropist and Industrialist Dr Cyrus S Poonawalla of the Serum Institute was awarded Honorary Degree of Doctor of Sciences by University of Oxford** on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019. ZTFE Patron Lord Karan F. Bilimoria CBE DL, President Malcolm M. Deboo, Trustee Rusi K. Dalal, Dr Roshan R Dalal and Rukhshana R. Dalal were invited by Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla to witness investiture ceremony at the Encaena ceremony at the Sheldonian Theatre. **Dr. Poonawalla is only the second person specialising in vaccines to receive an Honorary Doctorate from Oxford University.** The first was Edward Jenner (1749 – 1823) FRS FRCPE, pioneer of smallpox vaccine, the world's first vaccine. Indeed a great honour for Dr Poonawalla.
- From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> till Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019, around 25 Young Zoroastrians headed by YZ President Sheherazad F Kapadia, went to Los Angeles to represent the ZTFE at the **Seventh World Zoroastrian Youth Congress**. Registration cost for each YZ was subsidised by the ZTFE. The 7WZYC was made up of various panels that discussed a variety of current issues that the Zoroastrian Youth face today. The talks were extremely insightful and educational. In addition to the panels, there were many social events, including a cruise on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July which allowed the Youth from around the world to come together and make lifelong friendships.
- Prior to the 7WZYC, the Global Working Group (GWG) accepted the **YZ bid for the ZTFE to host the Eight Zoroastrian World Youth Congress in London in 2023**. At the conclusion of the 7WZYC our YZs were awarded the 8WZYC. Similar to the successful ZTFE hosted 2WZYC hosted by the ZTFE in 1997, chaired by then YZ President Kerman Y Jasavala, ZTFE is confident that our current YZ Team chaired by President Scheherazad F Kapadia will also work diligently for the success of the 8WZYC 2023.
- On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the **Zoroastrian APPG at the House of Lords celebrated the Sesquicentennial Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (1869 – 1948) by examining his relationship with the Parsees**. The Chief Guest was Her Excellency The High Commissioner of India to UK, Ruchi Ghanashyam and the Special Guest Speaker Lord Parekh. The event was a success and there was standing room only. Lord Parekh highlighted the relationship between Gandhi and the Parsees in the drive for an independent India, including the intense dialogue between them on the loss to Parsee businesses following of implementation of prohibition. For Gandhi, prohibition was necessary because of the breakdown of society among the rural and tribal community, especially in Gujarat, but

it severally affected the Parsee farmers selling the fermented date palm drink, 'toddy'. HE Ruchi Ghanashyam praised the Parsee community for their continued loyalty to India, which was aptly demonstrated during the drive for Indian independence by many Parsees, including Dadabhai Naoroji, Madame Cama, Jamshetji N Tata, Godrej family and others.

### **1886 Trophy Cricket Match Kia Oval Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019**

Not many outside the Zoroastrian community are aware that the first international cricket team from India to tour the United Kingdom was in 1886. The 15 man squad captained by Dr Dhunjishah Patel was entirely made of Parsees, 12 from Bombay and 3 from Karachi. They won one game, lost 19 and drew 8. The second tour was in 1888, which also was entirely made up of Parsees.

The Parsee Gymkhana of Mumbai versus Surrey County Cricket Club's Charles Alcock XI cricket match for the '1886 Trophy' was played at the world famous Oval cricket ground on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019. Celebrating the tour of England by the intrepid team of Parsees in 1886 these two teams have met regularly in Mumbai to compete for the '1886 Trophy'.

The previous evening – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019, the ZTFE celebrated Khordad Sal and hosted a pre – match dinner at Zoroastrian Centre, for the Parsee Gymkhana, the Surrey County Cricket Club's Charles Alcock XI and the celebrated and well known A Listed Zoroastrian Bollywood Actor Boman Irani. The Khordad Sal jashan and dinner was sponsored by the Dr Homi Pithawalla Khordad Sal Ghambar Fund and attended by over 310 Zoroastrians and inter faith guests, including The Worshipful The Mayor of Harrow Cllr Nitin Parekh, former Mayor Cllr Rekha Shah, Navin Shah AM for Brent & Harrow, noted Asian Journalist C B Patel, Sonoo Malkani and others of Harrow Inter Faith, members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, Ron M Kalifa OBE of the ECB and the celebrated and well known A Listed Zoroastrian Bollywood star Boman Irani. He is the first Bollywood actor to visit the Zoroastrian Centre. He readily mingled with all, graciously posed with everybody, young and old, to take their photographs with him. Boman brought the house down when he sang 'I did it My Way' by Frank Sinatra. The video via WhatsApp was cascaded globally. The ZTFE video link is <https://www.ztfe.com/boman-irani-sings-at-zoroastrian-centre-august-2019.html>.

The '1886 Trophy' was the idea of Matt Greenwell, former Captain in the British Army, who was living in Mumbai at the time. Having read the relatively unknown story of the first Indian cricket team to visit UK in 1886 comprising of all Parsees, Matt proposed the annual fixture to the Parsee Gymkhana in Mumbai, which was met with enthusiasm by the committee and the fixture is played annually ever since.

The Charles Alcock XI are named after the then Surrey County Cricket Club Secretary who organised the original tour of the Parsee pioneers to the UK in 1886. Alcock was instrumental in establishing a number of sporting traditions including Football's FA Cup and the Ashes.

This year's match was the first time since the Parsee's second tour of 1888 that an all Parsee XI has toured England from India.

It should be noted that in 1986, the then ZTFE – YZ President Rumi Y Jasavala of Wimbledon organised a Zoroastrian cricket team from Canada to visit the UK to play a series of matches against the Zoroastrians of UK, which they then reciprocated by visiting Canada. However, this year was the first time since the Parsee's second tour of 1888 that an all Parsee cricket team from India toured the UK.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August, the two teams were given a tour of the Houses of Parliament by ZTFE Patron Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL.

The touring Parsees played warm up fixtures at Chiswick CC on Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, which they lost and Lurgashall in Sussex on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>, which they won, before the big clash at the Kia Oval on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> for the 1886 Trophy. Witnessed by over 200 Zoroastrians, the Parsee Gymkhana captained by Kaizaad Wadia set a target of 203 for 2 wickets in the T20 format. It was clear the tourers had prepared well for English conditions. Despite their best efforts of the Charles Alcock XI captained by Matt Greenwell managed to score only 135 for 7 wickets. The Parsees were victorious on the day by 68 runs, laying down the gauntlet for next year's 1886 Trophy fixture in Mumbai which will see the Charles Alcock XI visit Mumbai.

Reports of the Parsee Gymkhana Tour to the UK were covered extensively in the UK by the Asian press and internationally by the community media, including Jam-e Jamshed, Parsi Times, Parsi Khabar and Parsiana.

It was reported that the Bollywood A Listed Actor Boman Irani and the Parsee Gymkhana Team were touched by the warmth and hospitality of the ZTFE and the Zoroastrians in the UK. At the Zoroastrian Centre, Boman Irani had very kindly agreed to entertain us. He informed all that he had flown to London early that morning and had not developed the appetite to consume the heavy celebratory meal. He remarked that; "Not a single person came up to me and inquired why I was not eating, instead 38 persons came to persuade me to eat something."

Captain Kaizaad Wadia in an interview to Parsiana mentioned, that prior to the 1886 Trophy match the entire Parsee Gymkhana Team and their mascot Boman Irani prayed for divine help and shared the apple which was consecrated - chasni, the previous evening during the Khordad Sal Jashan at the Zoroastrian Centre by our Ervad Sahebs; Yazad T Bhadha, Zubin R Bhedwar, Yazad C Unwalla, Mahiar Vajifdar, and Zal N Sethna. They were also hugely grateful to SPF Private Finance, Cobra Beer, RED Tours and the ZTFE for their assistance.

### **ZTFE & General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

The new law regarding the collection and retention of personal data came into effect on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The changes brought through are under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The ZTFE holds personal information about its members which was provided initially to the ZTFE by the members themselves. ZTFE uses this to communicate with the membership via email, post and telephone. ZTFE does not give personal information about their members and well-wishers to any other organisation or third party.

With references to the GDPR and the information provided by the “Information Commissioner’s Office,” (ICO) website, the Managing Committee concluded that the GDPR required ZTFE to have formal permission from its membership and well-wishers for ZTFE to continue to communicate with them. Thus after year end, ZTFE emailed all its members and well-wishers the GDPR consent form and the Safe’s Privacy Policy and also posted to all its members. They were urged to reply before 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018, informing them that if they did not respond it would be challenging for the ZTFE to communicate with them, after this date if they have not given ZTFE express permission for us to do so. The ZTFE GDPR consent form required the express consent of all of its members and that of its well-wishers to process their personal details in compliance with the GDPR. The majority of the ZTFE members responded, after few reminders, mainly by email.

The Safe’s Privacy Policy was also uploaded onto the ZTFE website, also explaining our “Cookie Policy,” which is relevant when one browses the website. The Privacy Policy refers to what personal information ZTFE hold, how we came to hold it and what rights you have in respect of your personal information.

#### **ZTFE recognises donors and volunteers**

**Dr. Meher & Dr. Derek Wells Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund**

**ZTFE is grateful to Dr. Meher & Dr. Derek Wells for their generous bequest of £50,000.**

**The donors of the Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill, Mobed Fund, Poor Peoples Project for their ongoing support.**

#### **ZTFE Remembers**

- During the year ZTFE commemorated the 1<sup>st</sup> death anniversary of Past Social Secretary Godrej Bhumgara on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019.
- ZTFE commemorated the 34<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Dasturji Dr Sorabji H Kutar on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018; 5<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Mrs Khorshed M Sodhi on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018; the 6<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Mobed Mehraban J Zartoshty on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and the 18<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of his elder brother Mobed Faridoon B Zartoshty on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018; the 22<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of Mehraban Farhangi on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018; 3<sup>rd</sup> death anniversary of Mrs Amy Rustom Bhedwar on Khordad Sal, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 and the 6<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Ervad Jalbhai K Karkaria on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019. Afterwards all partook in a Gahambar meal.
- ZTFE was saddened by the demise of **Kitty Bailey Irani**, on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018. She was the last of those who studied under the famous child psychologist, Madame Montessori. Kitty was the wife of Bailey R Irani who served as the 19<sup>th</sup> ZTFE President and later Trustee. Their Heritage Hotel in Central London was a popular destination visited by all Zoroastrians during their time in UK’s capital. (See page 93 to read tribute).

- ZTFE was saddened by the demise of **Burjor J Avari MBE, founder member and former President of North West Zoroastrian Community (NWZC)** & Honorary Research Fellow, Department of History, Manchester Metropolitan University on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Burjor and his wife Zarin, their daughters Rushna and Anahita, were founder members of the North West Zoroastrian Community (NWZC). Both Burjor and Zarin served the NWZC as Presidents / Chairs. Burjor was an educationist. He was a pioneer of multi-cultural education in the UK who inspired many. He was well known to Professors John R Hinnells and Professor Lord Bhikhu Parekh, both well-known friends of the Zoroastrian community. A biography of Mr. Burjor J. Avari's life was written up by his brother Counsel Emeritus Noshir J. Avari and later published in the newspaper "Asian Voice." (See page 94 to read tribute).
- ZTFE was saddened by the demise of **ZTFE House Committee Member Hoshang Rustomji Khambatta** who passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019. He and his wife Dolly served the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian Community of the UK with exemplary dedication. For about five decades they supported Zoroastrian community activities across the ZTFE, WZO and the Zoroastrian organisations of South London and Harrow. Their association with the Zoroastrian community in the UK began in the 1960s. They always put their community above self! Hoshang and Dolly were loyal grass roots supporters of the ZTFE. They were amongst the early supporters of the New Premises Project and following their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary they donated their cash gifts to the cause. Their kindness and generosity also extended to the children they met showering them with sweets and chocolate. On 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011, in recognition for his dedicated services to the ZTFE, Hoshang was felicitated at the Zoroastrian Centre at the time of Prince Philip's visit. The ZTFE requested Prince Philip to present Hoshang with a Sesquicentennial Gold Medallion. Hoshang was again felicitated by the ZTFE at the Zoroastrian Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 at his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration an occasion at which he again generously donated his cash gifts to the ZTFE. (See pages 95 – 96 to read tribute.)
- ZTFE was saddened by the demise of **Honorary ZTFE Life Member Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa, High Priest of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram Mumbai. He passed away in Kent, on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019.** He had only arrived in the UK to be with his son and daughter on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May. Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa (1932 – 2019) was installed the High Priest of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1956. He continued to hold this position for over 60 years until his passing away, making him the longest serving high priest of the Parsee Zoroastrians in India. He had been in poor health for several years. In recent years he was wheelchair bound. Yet he continued to perform his religious duties and show leadership as the High Priest of the Anjuman Atash Behram. He also urged the authorities in Mumbai to realign the construction of the Mumbai Metro tunnels away from the H B Wadiaji and Anjuman Atash Behrams.

Vada Dasturji was a highly respected Zoroastrian scholar priest, who was able to converse in French and German and worked closely with several academics teaching Zoroastrianism in Universities. One of his closest academic friends was ZTFE Honoured Friend Professor John R Hinnells, who dedicated his book 'Zoroastrians in Britain' jointly to Vada Dasturji and to Dasturji Dr Sorabji Hormusji Kutar, High Priest of the Zoroastrians of UK and

Europe. Together with Vada Dasturji Dr Firoze M Kotwal, he was elected Honorary Life Member of the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe during its sesquicentennial, on Friday 14th October 2011, in recognition for his leadership, scholarship and dedication for the Zoroastrian community. He delivered the key note address at the Second World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in London on Saturday 5th July 1997, hosted by the ZTFE. Shortly after the opening of 'The Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination' exhibition at SOAS, Vada Dasturji together with ZTFE Honorary Life Members Vada Dasturji Dr Firoze M Kotwal and Trustee Ervad Rustom K Bhedwar, attended and blessed the launch of the Zoroastrian All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in the Houses of Parliament on Monday 14th October 2013. At the behest of the ZTFE, Vada Dasturji attended the launch of the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies (SSPIZS) on Wednesday 27th June 2018. The formal function commenced by Vada Dasturji invited to bless the occasion with a short Zoroastrian prayer. This was the last time Vada Dasturji was seen on a public occasion in the UK. (See page 99 - 100 to read tribute).

- ZTFE was saddened by the demise of former **ZTFE Managing and House Committee Member Osta Faridoon M. Madon MBE** who passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Faridoon M Madon served on both the ZTFE's Managing and House Committees in the 1970s under President Dr. (Mrs.) Shirinbanoo S. Kutar. Under his guidance, the Managing Committee of his time changed the Constitution by terminating Trusteeship for life and introduced elected trustees for a 7 year term, as per salutatory requirements. In the 1980s he founded the North London Zoroastrian Association (NOLZA), in the London Borough of Haringey. Here he and his colleagues organised many activities for Zoroastrians living in the area. NOLZA under his stewardship did a lot of advocacy work to Zoroastrians and also for the local community. He also spearheaded the campaign in the London Borough of Islington to install a plaque at Finsbury Town Hall and rename one of their streets to "Naoroji Street" in order to commemorate the historical victory of Dadabhai Naoroji being elected the first Asian / Indian, Zoroastrian MP to the House of Commons in 1892. He had a distinguished career in the Civil Service and on 30th December 1995 newspapers reported that he was to be awarded an MBE for his work as a former Chairman of the Greater London Action for Racial Equality. The ZTFE felicitated him by requesting Vada Dasturji Khurshed Dastoor of Iranshah Udvada to present him with a ZTFE Sesquicentennial Gold Medallion for his services to the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community, on Dae Mah, Hormuzd Roj, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017. (See page 97-98 to read tribute).

### **Religious Activities**

During the year the ZTFE House Committee organised religious activities at the Zoroastrian Centre revolving around the Zoroastrian Shahenshai (Parsi) and Iranian Zoroastrian Calendars. These included the annual ten day muktad (remembrance) prayers during August followed by the celebration of the Shahenshai Navroze (Parsi New Year), Khordad Sal (birth anniversary of prophet Zarathushtra), Zartosht – no Diso (death anniversary of prophet Zarathushtra), monthly parab Jashans (thanksgiving ceremonies) and the Fravardigan (prayers for the departed) at Brookwood cemetery. As per the Iranian Zoroastrian calendar, panjeh (remembrance) prayer in March followed by the celebration of the Jamsheedi NoRuz (Iranian New Year), Khordad Sal (birth anniversary of prophet Zarathushtra), Zartosht – no Diso (death anniversary of prophet Zarathushtra) and seasonal festivals including Tirgan

Mehergan and Sadeh. The ZTFE also organised the annual varsi (remembrance prayers) for its departed patrons Dastur Dr Sohrabji H Kutar, Ervad Jalbhai K Karkaria, Mobed Faridoon B Zartoshty, Mobed Mehraban J Zartoshty, Mehraban Farhangi, Ervad Bahman S Mobed, Mrs Khorshed M Sodhi, Mrs Amy Bhedwar, and Mr Godrej Bhungara.

Since employing a full time resident priest in November 2013, the ZTFE commenced the practice of having a boi ceremony five days a week. During Jamsheedi NoRuz, Shahenshai Navroze, Khordad Sal and for the entire duration of the annual ten day muktad period, five boi ceremonies were performed daily to ensure the fire in the Setayasht Gah was kept burning for twenty four hours. At 1 am in the morning on the last day of the muktad an additional ceremony was performed in the Zartoshty Brothers Hall to bid farewell to fravashis prior to their departure to the spiritual world. Navjote prayer classes also commenced at the Zoroastrian Centre, which are held every Sunday.

### **Social Activities**

During the year the ZTFE House Committee organised various social activities at the Zoroastrian Centre including the annual Shahenshai Navroze Dinner & Dance on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018, Jamsheedi NoRuz Dinner & Dance on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019, New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

The YZs together with the XYZs and ZSCH – CZC organised the Bekhradnia Sports Day on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Z Club coordinator Gul R Bilimoria together with Soonu Engineer organised a Qawali musical evening on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019, which attracted over 130 persons. Valentine Bazmeh Shab on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019, organised by ZTFE Iranian Community Engagement Coordinator Parivash F Kiani and her team attracted over 155 persons, vast majority of the participants were Iranians. Catering was by Persian Palace and music by DJ Bhafi was enjoyed by all.

ZTFE Table Tennis Tournament on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 was organised by Hon Secretary Rohinton F. Munshi together with past Administrative Secretary Mrs. Kerman F Munshi, Z-Club co-ordinator Ms. Mahtab F Munshi and her husband Dr. Subodh Kant, Facilities Co-ordinator Ratan D Buhariwala and Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha,. The tournament was a success with 17 participants in total (5 juniors and 12 adults). The winner of the juniors' tournament was once again Kiyonush K Irani with Vishtasp P. Jila runner-up and of the adults' tournament Ruzbeh Bacha with last year's champion Hoshang Daroga the runner-up.

### **Children's Education Fun Club**

During the year, Shazneen Y Munshi, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Ervad Jimmy K Madon, Ervad Karl Desai, Ruby B Sethna, Shaizeen D Persha, Amy Irani, Meher Printer, Kerman Y Jasavala, and Cyrus M Kapadia together with other young volunteers continued to organise the ZTFE Children's Education Fun Club during every third Sunday of the month. **A NoRuz party, sponsored by Simin & Shahrokh Shahrokh Children's Fund, was organised on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in March to celebrate Jamsheedi NoRuz, when every child was given a NoRuz present by Amu NoRuz.** This year, the Fun Club collaborated with the Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Care in the Zoroastrian Community (ZSCH-CZC)

team to bring together the younger and older members of our community. The purpose of this special Together Old and Young Zoroastrians (TOYZ) event was to create the opportunity for our children and elderly to interact, learn from each other, enjoy each other's company and build strong bonds. It was a great success with over 140 children, senior citizens and parents enjoying a fun filled day of activities.

To commemorate the centenary of the WWI, the Fun Club on Remembrance Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 put together a **special class on the Zoroastrian Contribution to WWI and the Importance of Service in Zoroastrianism**. Children and parents began by participating in the two minute 11am silence and then watched the first few minutes of the National Service of Remembrance. The children learnt about the Zoroastrians who contributed to the war effort and how we can all to help others.

**The XYZ Children's Education Fun Club Report for 2018 – 2019 compiled by the XYZ Children's Education Fun Club Coordinator is attached after the YZ Report for 2018 – 2019, pages 78 - 82.** ZTFE believes that religious education is essential for the righteous upbringing of all children in any society. Thus all parents are urged to take advantage and bring their young ones to attend these classes. The classes help children gain knowledge, understanding and conviction of our ancient Zoroastrian Culture, Heritage and Religion.

### **Young Zoroastrians**

During the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, the Young Zoroastrians (YZ) committee continued to be proactive working to unite the youth and make the community more inclusive. There has been a rise in both the number of people attending, and the events being offered to the youth community. It is the aim of the YZ Committee that the coming year will see continued growth amongst the youth. The YZ Committee organised many activities and trips specifically for the YZs as well as the wider community including the annual Asha Centre Weekend Trip in the heart of the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, from Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Other activities have included Halloween night, bowling night, gymkhana evenings, fun runs, week-end trips away and interfaith activities.

From 1<sup>st</sup> till 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019, around twenty five YZs went to LA to attend the Seventh World Zoroastrian Youth Congress. The 7WZYC was made up of various panels that discussed a variety of current issues that the Zoroastrian Youth face today. The talks were extremely insightful and educational. In addition to the panels, there were many social events, including a Cruise on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July which allowed the Youth from around the world to come together and make lifelong friendships. The YZ committee succeeded in securing the bid for the ZTFE to host the Eight World Zoroastrian World Youth Congress in 2023 in London. Preparations for the 8WZYC have already begun within the YZ community and will progress over the coming four years.

The biennial Bekhradnia Outdoor Sports & Fun Day was organised on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Roxbourne Park. This year's event was extra special, as it coincided with our 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gymkhana and was jointly organized by the YZ Committee together with the Children's Fun Club and the Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Care in the Zoroastrian Community (ZSCH-CZC) team so as to bring together all age groups including XYZs, YZs and Adult Zoroastrians. The attendance was great on the day and everybody

participated in the games and activities. Relay races, lemon and spoon race, three-legged race and tug of war were just a few of the many events that were conducted on the day. After the outdoor part of the day, we all headed back to the Zoroastrian Centre, where the prize ceremony took place for all the winners and runners up and celebrate the 6th Gymkhana Anniversary. The gymkhana part of the day with a general knowledge quiz and in true gymkhana tradition, we had many games including table tennis and carom and finished by singing Karaoke into the late evening.

**The YZ Report for 2018 – 2019 compiled by the YZs is attached after the ZTFE 2018 AGM Minutes, pages 72 - 77.**

### **Gymkhana**

**The Gymkhana celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gymkhana on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018** attended by over 50 persons. (For further information see The YZ Report for 2019– 2019, attached after the ZTFE 2018 AGM Minutes.) After year end, Gymkhana celebrated its 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 attended by over 150 persons.

### **The “Z” Club**

The “Z” Club continues to engage and involve retired people in the Zoroastrian community and also engages and mobilises 50+ age group friends to facilitate the club. The Z Club starts at 11am with tea, biscuits and fruits followed by light exercises and a couple of games of bingo before lunch. A hot traditional Parsi lunch is served at around 1pm and then members settle down to either an interesting talk by a volunteer or a popular movie. Z Club attendees who have a birthday in that particular month are celebrated with a birthday cake at tea time-around 3.30pm after which everyone makes their way home.

During the year, the Z Club organised a successful coach trip and a picnic lunch to the Thames Barrier, Woolwich, on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018, followed by a coach trip to the opening of the Gandhi Peace Centre at the Balaji Temple, West Midlands on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018. On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018, well known Zoroastrian Chef Cyrus Todiwala OBE of Cafe Spice Nameste specially cooked for the Z Club a Christmas Turkey Lunch. An Iranian Ceremonial NoRuz table with “Haft Seen” was prepared for the Z Club on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 for their Jamsheedi NoRuz celebrations, which they celebrated with a specially prepared Iranian meal.

After year end the Z Club on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019, celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of one of oldest attendees, Mrs Soonu Talati who turned 100 on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019. On 17th July 2019, saw the Z Club venturing into the beautiful Beale Wildlife Park & Gardens. Everyone enjoyed the spectacular gardens, sculptures, lakes, wildlife, deer park and flower gardens. Amongst other items, a parsi pora pav (omelette sandwich) was our lunch finished off at the end of our day with a scrummy English cream tea at the café in the park.

**The Z Club Report for 2018 – 2019 compiled by the Z Club is attached after the XYZ Children’s Fun Club Report on pages 83 - 86.**

### **The Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home project**

Founding ZSCH Chairs Counsel Emeritus Noshir J Avari and Trustee Firoze R Munshi stepped down in July 2018. They were thanked for their great service for setting up the ZSCH project. ZSCH Secretary Perses C Sethna volunteered to Chair the project in March 2019. Following consultation with the ZTFE Managing Committee and ZSCH Steering Committee, short, medium and long term goals are being formulated. In the short term, the ZSCH goal is to maintain and increase the sociable connections for senior citizens between each other and with the overall community. To facilitate this goal, the ZSCH Care in the Zoroastrian Community sub-group (ZSCH-CZC) have devised plans to bring senior citizens to the Zoroastrian Centre by liaising with the House Committee, Fun Club, YZs and Z Club. **The ZSCH Report is attached after the Z Club Report on pages 87 - 88.**

### **Visits to Zoroastrian Centre by schools, colleges and universities**

ZTFE Trustee Mr Rusi K Dalal, accompanied by Resident Mobed Yazad T Bhadha, continue to facilitate educational visits to the Zoroastrian Centre from schools mainly located in Harrow. The main purpose of these school visits is for the pupils to gain Zoroastrian religious knowledge and learn about our community as part of the RE curriculum. At times up to 90 school children visit the Zoroastrian Centre at a time. The lessons usually last for 45 minutes and then the pupils are taken to the Setayasht Gah for further practical demonstration. The talks (lessons) are quite demanding which he has been doing for several years with great success, as is evident from the letter of thanks ZTFE gets from these schools. The schools also keep on returning year after year, thus clearly indicating the success and value of these visits to the ZTFE as well as the schools. Zoroastrian Centre is periodically visited by college and university students of religion, including from SOAS studying Zoroastrianism, to witness Zoroastrian worship by practitioners of the Zoroastrian faith.

### **External Representation**

As in previous years, the ZTFE continued to make external representations on behalf of the Zoroastrian faith community at the national and local level, including the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Inter Faith Network for the UK, Faiths Forum for London, Harrow Inter Faith Council, Religious Education Council for England and Wales, National Council for Faiths and Beliefs in Further Education, Harrow SACRE and the School of Oriental and African Studies, SOAS.

### **The Faridoon & Mehraban Zartoshty Fund for Zoroastrian Studies**

Thanks to the endowment established by its patrons and benefactors the Late Zartoshty Brothers, has enabled the ZTFE to support students studying Zoroastrian and Iranian Studies at SOAS since the beginning of the millennium. **The Faridoon & Mehraban Zartoshty Fund for Zoroastrian Studies** has supported Ms Mandana K Moavenat from Iran awarded MA; Mark Gifford of Asha Centre UK awarded MA; Vada Dasturji Dr Jamasp K Dastoor JamaspAsa High Priest of Anjumanna Atash Behram, India awarded MA; Nazeen R Engineer from India awarded MA, PhD 2017 and employed Post Doctorial Researcher 2019; Mehrbod Khanizadeh from Iran awarded MA, PhD 2018 and Post Doctorial Researcher 2018; ZTFE Resident Priest Ervad Yazad T Bhadha awarded MA 2018; Kerman D Daruwalla from India awarded MA, commenced PhD 2016; Ruzbeh V Hodivala from

India awarded MA 2018, commenced PhD 2019; Arish Dastur from India commenced MA in 2019.

The Fund has supported Mr Kiyān Foroutan from Iran who commenced his PhD in 2015 at the University of Leiden and Dr Ruth Young from UK at the University of Leicester for exploration of Zoroastrian village in Yazd in 2015.

ZTFE also supported Ms Farah Ghadiali from India in 2015, was awarded Masters in Music from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music, and an Advanced Post Graduate Programme in Music at Trinity Laban Conservatoire in 2016.

ZTFE supported the publication of ‘Gift to A Magus: Indo – Iranian Studies Honouring Firoze Kotwal’ edited by Jamsheed K Choksy & Jennifer Dubeansky 2012; ‘Change and Continuity in the Zoroastrian Tradition in the Zoroastrian Tradition’ by Almut Hintze 2013; ‘Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination’ edited by Sarah Stewart 2013; Festschrift for John Hinnells edited by Almut Hintze and Alan Williams 2016.

### **Poor Peoples Project Fund supporting the needy in India**

ZTFE established the Poor People Project Fund in 1987, following an appeal from the then YZs after their pilgrimage trip to India with Khojeste P Mistree of Zoroastrian Studies (ZS). The Poor Peoples Project (PPP) was established by ZS in 1979. Currently the PPP supports 163 Zoroastrians in Mumbai, Udvada and Navsari. The ZTFE supported by the Zoroastrian community in the UK, continues to support the needy in India via ZS, its partner agency based in Mumbai, by transferring funds for ZS to distribute the funds on a monthly basis. Periodically, the ZTFE also puts out emergency medical appeals to assist Zoroastrians, including for Ervad Sohrab Bharucha, Aspi Sepoy, late Ervad Malcolm D Hosdar and the Kerala Flood Appeal.

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Achievements and performance**

The Association is grateful to its in-house investment sub-committee which handles the management of the investments. The sub-committee reports to the Finance committee and periodically also reports to the Trustees and the Management Committee.

## **Financial review**

The Income of the Charity including gains on investments for the year ended 31st March 2019 was £379,567 (2018: £398,656), whereas the costs of Charitable Activities were £290,121 (2018: £247,816) and Governance Costs were £76,764 (2018: £69,015).

The realised gain on investments was £20,300 (2018: £32,973) whereas the unrealised gain amounted to £103,187 (2018: loss £107,425).

The net movement in funds for the year was a surplus of £136,169 (2018: £7,373).

The Charity benefited from its prudent investment policy. The portfolio is constantly reviewed by the investment sub-committee and also by the Trustees and the full managing committee. The policy of investing in blue chip dividend paying companies as well as reputable dividend paying investment trusts and funds helped in providing a steady income stream for the charity.

During the year the overall net assets of the charity increased from £6,662,190 to £6,798,359.

The income of the charity is primarily derived from voluntary donations made by members of the community, subscriptions, major donations from munificent patrons and other benefactors, bequests as well as investment income and gains. The substantial reserves prudently held by the charity have stood it in good stead during these uncertain economic times.

The results of the year are set out in detail on pages 43 – 66.

## **Investment Powers and Policy**

All investments held by the Charity have been acquired in accordance with the powers invested in the Trustees and Management Committee by the Articles of Association

The investment policy of the Charity aims at balancing the need for growth and income while preserving capital. The Trustees and Management Committee remain responsible for determining the investment policy and its implementation, but the task of maintaining the portfolio has been delegated to a sub-committee and independent brokers Charles Stanley, acting in consultation with the Trustees.

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# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Financial review (*continued*)**

The investment policy is based on the following criteria:

A reasonable spread of investments across mainly UK market sectors including a significant proportion in higher income yielding stocks, UK government securities and treasury deposits;

Exercising prudence in balancing security of capital with the need to generate income; complying with charity legislation and the Charity's constitution.

## **Reserves Policy**

Upon the sale of the freehold property at 88 Compayne Gardens in 2005, sixty-five (65) percent of the surplus was transferred to the Unrestricted Designated Funds in order to ensure that income and gains from these investments will balance or exceed the running and maintenance expenditure of the association. This would ensure that the charity would have sufficient income to maintain its current level of activities for the foreseeable future. For the purpose of the running costs and maintenance of the Zoroastrian Centre, a reserve is funded by the investment portfolio.

## **Trustees' responsibilities statement**

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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## **Financial review (*continued*)**

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Auditor**

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

**Mr M M Deboo**  
**President**

**Mr J S Canteenwala**  
**Treasurer**

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

## **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
  - the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.
-

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

## **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
  - the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;  
or
  - certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
  - we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
-

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

## **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Auditor's Report to the  
Members of The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

## **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Paul Phillips FCA  
Senior Statutory Auditor**

**For and on behalf of  
Brian Paul Limited  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditor  
Chase Green House  
42 Chase Side  
Enfield  
Middlesex  
EN2 6NF**

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
(including income and expenditure account)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

		<b>2019</b>		2018	
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	<b>Total funds £</b>	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	<b>5</b>	145,472	107,968	253,440	269,770
Investment income	<b>6</b>	74,659	51,468	126,127	128,886
Net gains / (loss) on investments	<b>9</b>	72,858	50,629	123,487	(74,452)
<b>Total income</b>		<u>292,989</u>	<u>210,065</u>	<u>503,054</u>	<u>324,204</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>7,8</b>	236,661	130,224	366,885	316,831
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>236,661</u>	<u>130,224</u>	<u>366,885</u>	<u>316,831</u>
Transfers	<b>18</b>	(402,286)	402,286	-	-
<b>Net income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(345,958)</u>	<u>482,127</u>	<u>136,169</u>	<u>7,373</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		2,665,913	3,996,277	6,662,190	6,654,817
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>2,319,955</u>	<u>4,478,404</u>	<u>6,798,359</u>	<u>6,662,190</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these financial statements.

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	14	2,568,695	2,640,857
Investments	15	3,751,059	3,167,606
		<u>6,319,754</u>	<u>5,808,463</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	16	32,075	7,918
Cash at bank and in hand		465,290	856,875
		<u>497,365</u>	<u>864,793</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>18,760</u>	<u>11,066</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		478,605	853,727
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		6,798,359	6,662,190
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>6,798,359</u>	<u>6,662,190</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds	18	4,478,404	3,996,277
Unrestricted funds	18	2,319,955	2,665,913
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>6,798,359</u>	<u>6,662,190</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

**Mr M M Deboo**  
President

**Mr J S Canteenwala**  
Treasurer

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these financial statements.

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

	<b>2019</b>	2018
	<b>£</b>	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	136,169	7,373
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	72,162	72,572
Net (gains) / losses on investments	(123,487)	74,452
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(125,502)	(128,641)
Other interest receivable and similar income	(625)	(245)
Interest payable and similar charges	372	702
Accrued (income)/expenses	(1,760)	917
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(24,157)	1,345
Trade and other creditors	9,454	(497)
Cash generated from operations	<u>(57,374)</u>	<u>27,978</u>
Interest paid	(372)	(702)
Interest received	625	245
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(57,121)</u>	<u>27,521</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	125,502	128,641
Purchases of other investments	(632,209)	(710,639)
Proceeds from sale of other investments	172,243	439,428
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(334,464)</u>	<u>(142,570)</u>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(391,585)</b>	<b>(115,049)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<b>856,875</b>	<b>971,924</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<b><u>465,290</u></b>	<b><u>856,875</u></b>

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these financial statements.

# **The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

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### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Zoroastrian Centre, 440 Alexandra Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 9TL, United Kingdom.

### **2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

### **3. Accounting policies**

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### **Going concern**

The charity considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The most significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity is the performance of investment markets (see the investment policy performance and risk management sections of the trustees annual report for more information).

#### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In producing these accounts the trustees have considered accounting policies and relevant estimates. In the trustees' opinion and to the best of their knowledge significant accounting entries are based upon facts. However, these accounts do include estimates in relation to useful life of assets and immaterial accruals.

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment as set out in the notes to the accounts

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

The charity has no set policy on transfer between funds, with individual transfers arising as a consequence of specific funding requirements.

# The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

#### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses or at a re-valued amount.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	-	2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings		15% reducing balance

# The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals during the year. The charity generally does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. Investments are made in equities, funds and money market deposits.

The main forms of financial risks faced by the charity are that of a lack of support from the community, volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or subsectors.

#### **Investment income and bank interest**

Investment income and bank interest are apportioned to the credit of the unutilised restricted funds, general and designated unrestricted funds based on the value of the relevant funds at the beginning of the year. Investment income and bank interest have not been allocated to those funds which were set aside for the acquisition and refurbishment of properties.

#### **Realised gains or losses on sale of investments**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. The gains or losses on the sale of the investments are apportioned to the credit or debit of the unutilised restricted funds and the general and designated unrestricted funds based on the value of the relevant funds at the beginning of the year. The gains and losses on the sale of investments have not been allocated to those funds which have been utilised for acquisition and refurbishment of properties.

#### **Unrealised gains or losses on investments**

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Unrealised gains or losses arising on the valuation of investments are apportioned to the credit or debit of the unutilised restricted funds and the general and designated unrestricted funds based on the value of the relevant funds at the beginning of the year. Unrealised gains or losses arising on the valuation of investments have not been allocated to those funds which have been utilised for acquisition and refurbishment of properties. Unrealised gains arising on the revaluation of the freehold property acquired from restricted funds are apportioned to the credit of the restricted fund.

#### **Life subscriptions**

Life subscriptions received during the year are taken into the income and expenditure account.

# The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

#### Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable vat is charged against the expenditure heading for which it is incurred.

#### Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 12. The costs of defined contribution scheme are included within support and governance costs and charged to the unrestricted funds of the charity. The money purchase plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan. The pension fund is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement age which is defined as when they are eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employees contributions.

### 4. Limited by guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee and was incorporated in 1978 in England and Wales.

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**5. Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations: (other)	69,611	–	69,611
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	62,556	–	62,556
Grave Plot Reservation	9,075	–	9,075
WZCC	1,080	–	1,080
Place of worship	–	8,985	8,985
Medical relief fund	–	2,080	2,080
Poor Peoples Project	–	2,131	2,131
Religious funds	–	12,231	12,231
Mobed fund	–	15,695	15,695
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	–	14,136	14,136
Ruby & Russy Piroshaw Bilimoria Fund	–	–	–
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	–	2,106	2,106
Phiroze, Roshan and Homi D Munshi Jashan Fund	–	604	604
Income tax recoverable	–	–	–
Banoo Patell Bequest for Mobed Support	–	–	–
Dr. Meher & Dr. Derek Wells Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	–	50,000	50,000
<b>Subscriptions</b>			
Ordinary membership subscriptions	1,350	–	1,350
Life membership subscriptions	1,800	–	1,800
	<u>145,472</u>	<u>107,968</u>	<u>253,440</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2018 £</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations: (other)	79,947	–	79,947
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	66,575	–	66,575
Grave Plot Reservation	1,800	–	1,800
WZCC	555	–	555
Place of worship	–	9,437	9,437
Medical relief fund	–	9,616	9,616
Poor Peoples Project	–	4,250	4,250
Religious funds	–	5,077	5,077
Mobed fund	–	11,924	11,924
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	–	–	–
Ruby & Russy Piroshaw Bilimoria Fund	14,000	–	14,000
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	40,484	–	40,484
Phiroze, Roshan and Homi D Munshi Jashan Fund	–	4,000	4,000
Income tax recoverable	5,825	–	5,825
Banoo Patell Bequest for Mobed Support	12,000	–	12,000
Dr. Meher & Dr. Derek Wells Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	–	–	–
<b>Subscriptions</b>			
Ordinary membership subscriptions	1,680	–	1,680
Life membership subscriptions	2,600	–	2,600
	<u>225,466</u>	<u>44,304</u>	<u>269,770</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**6. Investment income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
Dividend Income	74,046	51,456	125,502
Bank Interest received	613	12	625
	-	-	-
	<u>74,659</u>	<u>51,468</u>	<u>126,127</u>
	<u><u>74,659</u></u>	<u><u>51,468</u></u>	<u><u>126,127</u></u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2018 £</b>
Dividend Income	78,471	50,170	128,641
Bank Interest received	240	5	245
	-	-	-
	<u>78,711</u>	<u>50,175</u>	<u>128,886</u>
	<u><u>78,711</u></u>	<u><u>50,175</u></u>	<u><u>128,886</u></u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
Other Charitable expenses	3,081	–	3,081
Welfare funds	28,219	–	28,219
Place of worship expenses	43,428	–	43,428
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	27,181	–	27,181
Repairs and maintenance – net of insurance claim	53,974	–	53,974
Depreciation	2,740	69,422	72,162
WZCC	1,274	–	1,274
Educational funds	–	5,000	5,000
Religious funds	–	41,052	41,052
Poor Peoples Project	–	2,100	2,100
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	–	2,287	2,287
Library funds	–	240	240
Medical relief fund	–	–	–
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	–	10,123	10,123
Support costs	76,764	–	76,764
	<u>236,661</u>	<u>130,224</u>	<u>366,885</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2018 £</b>
Other Charitable expenses	3,902	–	3,902
Welfare funds	32,919	1,757	34,676
Place of worship expenses	30,729	–	30,729
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	16,915	–	16,915
Repairs and maintenance – net of insurance claim	1,692	–	1,692
Depreciation	3,150	69,421	72,571
WZCC	439	–	439
Educational funds	–	5,912	5,912
Religious funds	–	41,351	41,351
Poor Peoples Project	–	23,700	23,700
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	4,437	–	4,437
Library funds	–	125	125
Medical relief fund	–	5,920	5,920
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	5,447	–	5,447
Support costs	69,015	–	69,015
	<u>168,645</u>	<u>148,186</u>	<u>316,831</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe(Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total fund 2018 £</b>
Other Charitable expenses	3,081	–	3,081	3,902
Welfare funds	28,219	–	28,219	34,676
Place of worship expenses	43,428	–	43,428	30,729
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	27,181	–	27,181	16,915
Repairs and maintenance – net of insurance claim	53,974	–	53,974	1,692
Depreciation	72,162	–	72,162	72,571
WZCC	1,275	–	1,275	439
Educational funds	5,000	–	5,000	5,912
Religious funds	41,052	–	41,052	41,351
Poor Peoples Project	2,100	–	2,100	23,700
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	2,287	–	2,287	4,437
Library funds	240	–	240	125
Medical relief fund	–	–	–	5,920
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	10,122	–	10,122	5,447
Governance costs	–	76,764	76,764	69,015
	<u>290,121</u>	<u>76,764</u>	<u>366,885</u>	<u>316,831</u>

**9. Net gains/(losses) on investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
Realised gain/(loss) on sale of investments	11,977	8,323	20,300
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investment	60,881	42,306	103,187
	<u>72,858</u>	<u>50,629</u>	<u>123,487</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2018 £</b>
Realised gain/(loss) on sale of investments	20,114	12,859	32,973
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investment	(65,529)	(41,896)	(107,425)
	<u>(45,415)</u>	<u>(29,037)</u>	<u>(74,452)</u>

**10. Net income**

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>72,162</u>	<u>72,572</u>

# The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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### 11. Auditors remuneration

	<b>2019</b>	2018
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	5,460	6,300

### 12. Staff costs

	<b>2019</b>	2018
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	88,661	83,654
Social security costs	6,916	4,270
Employer pension contribution	1,898	1,534
	<u>97,475</u>	<u>89,458</u>

The average weekly number of employees excluding directors was 4 (2018: 4).

In addition to salaried employees and contribution of time by the Trustees and the Management Committee / Directors without remuneration, other volunteers contributed a significant amount of time to the charity by providing professional and other services during the year. Due to the difficulty in determining their value, contributed services are not recorded in the financial statements. There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

### 13. Trustee remuneration and expenses (related parties)

None of the Trustees or Management Committee Members received any remuneration nor reclaimed any personal expenses during the year.

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**14. Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
<b>At 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019</b>	<u>3,492,131</u>	<u>175,822</u>	<u>3,667,953</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1st April 2018	866,735	160,361	1,027,096
Charge for the year	69,843	2,319	72,162
<b>At 31st March 2019</b>	<u>936,578</u>	<u>162,680</u>	<u>1,099,258</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
<b>At 31st March 2019</b>	<u>2,555,553</u>	<u>13,142</u>	<u>2,568,695</u>
At 31st March 2018	<u>2,625,396</u>	<u>15,461</u>	<u>2,640,857</u>

**Freehold Properties Breakdown**

	<b>Freehold Properties £</b>	<b>Brookwood £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Cost at 1st April 2018	<u>3,471,080</u>	<u>21,051</u>	<u>3,492,131</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2018	860,010	6,725	866,735
Charge for the year	69,422	421	69,843
At 31st March 2019	<u>929,432</u>	<u>7,146</u>	<u>936,578</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31st March 2019	<u>2,541,648</u>	<u>13,905</u>	<u>2,555,553</u>
At 31st March 2018	<u>2,611,070</u>	<u>14,326</u>	<u>2,625,396</u>

Brookwood is a freehold property.

Depreciation has been provided on freehold properties at 2% per annum on straight line basis. In the opinion of the Trustees and Management Committee/Directors, the market value as at 31st March 2019 exceeds the book value shown above.

All tangible fixed assets are held for conducting the charity's activities. These include heritage assets which would have been donated at various times and for which no values can be attributed within the financial statements.

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**15. Investments**

	<b>Listed investments £</b>
At 1st April 2018	3,167,606
Additions	632,209
Disposals	(172,243)
Fair value movements	123,487
<b>At 31st March 2019</b>	<b><u>3,751,059</u></b>
<b>Impairment</b>	
<b>At 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019</b>	
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
<b>At 31st March 2019</b>	<b><u>3,751,059</u></b>
At 31st March 2018	<u>3,167,606</u>

All investments shown above are held at valuation.

**Financial assets held at fair value**

	Listed Investments £	Premium Bonds £	<b>Total £</b>
Cost at 1st April 2018	3,166,671	935	3,167,606
Additions	632,209		632,209
Disposals	(172,243)		(172,243)
Fair value movements	123,487		123,487
At 31st March 2019	<u>3,750,124</u>	<u>935</u>	<u>3,751,059</u>
Historical cost at 31st March 2019	<u><b>3,131,752</b></u>	<u><b>935</b></u>	<u><b>3,132,687</b></u>
Historical cost at 31st March 2018	<u>2,974,243</u>	<u>935</u>	<u>2,975,178</u>

The net unrealised gain at 31st March 2019 amounted to £103,187 (2018: unrealised loss £107,425) and net realised gain at 31st March 2019 amounted to £20,300 (2018: £32,973).

**16. Debtors**

	<b>2019 £</b>	2018 £
Other debtors	<u>32,075</u>	<u>7,918</u>

The debtors above include the following amounts falling due after more than one year:

	<b>2019 £</b>	2018 £
Other debtors	<u>13,500</u>	<u>–</u>

**17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2019 £</b>	2018 £
Accruals and deferred income	13,865	10,166
Other creditors	4,895	900
	<u>18,760</u>	<u>11,066</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

18. Analysis of charitable funds Unrestricted funds	At 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2018 £	Transfers £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Income £	Gains and (losses) £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 £
<b>General Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u>424,431</u>	-	<u>72,761</u>	<u>(208,206)</u>	<u>74,659</u>	<u>72,858</u>	<u>436,503</u>
<b>Designated Unrestricted Funds</b>							
Religious Funds – Appurtenances maintenance	4,459	-	-	-	-	-	4,459
Burial Ground Fund – Upkeep and funerals	203,983	-	62,557	(27,181)	-	-	239,359
Grave Plot Reservation	36,345	-	9,075	-	-	-	45,420
Zartoshty Bros Designated Fund	114,778	-	-	-	-	-	114,778
Maintenance Fund	873,422	-	-	-	-	-	873,422
ZTFE Development Fund	294,757	-	-	-	-	-	294,757
Relief Appeals	8,819	-	-	-	-	-	8,819
WZCC	5,130	-	1,079	(1,274)	-	-	4,935
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	143,448	(143,448)	-	-	-	-	-
Sheroo Rustomji Bequest	19,925	-	-	-	-	-	19,925
Banoo Patell Bequest for Mobed Support	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	12,000
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism Inter-Faith and Goodwill	208,838	(208,838)	-	-	-	-	-
Sesquicentennial Mobed Fund	50,000	(50,000)	-	-	-	-	-
Ruby & Russy Piroshaw Bilimoria Fund	265,578	-	-	-	-	-	265,578
<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>	<u>2,241,482</u>	<u>(402,286)</u>	<u>72,711</u>	<u>(28,455)</u>	-	-	<u>1,883,452</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)	At 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2018	Transfers	Income	Expenditure	Investment Income	Gains and (losses)	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019
Restricted funds	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>House Purchase Fund</b>							
Faridoon and Mehraban Zartoshty Fund	63,775	-	-	-	-	-	63,775
Arbab Rustam Guiv and Madam Guiv Fund	61,614	-	-	-	-	-	61,614
House Purchase Fund (88, Compayne Gardens)	30,574	-	-	-	-	-	30,574
Sir Dhunjibhoy and Lady Bomanji Fund	7,000	-	-	-	-	-	7,000
Sir Cowasji Jehangir New Premises Fund	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
House Extension Fund	80,831	-	-	-	-	-	80,831
J D Moos Memorial Fund	3,538	-	-	-	-	-	3,538
Lady Freny Dhunjibhoy Bequest	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Dasturji Sohrabji Hormashji Kutar Fund Hall Donation	16,809	-	-	-	-	-	16,809
	274,141	-	-	-	-	-	274,141
<b>New Premises Fund</b>							
440 Alexandra Avenue- Property fund	770,406	-	-	(69,422)	-	-	700,984
Refurbishment fund	1,470,078	-	-	-	-	-	1,470,078
Atash Dadgah fund	24,931	-	-	-	-	-	24,931
Brookwood extension appeal	20,089	-	-	-	-	-	20,089
	2,559,645	-	-	(69,422)	-	-	2,490,223

## The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated) Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued) Restricted funds (continued)	At 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2018 £	Transfers £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Income £	Gains and (losses) £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 £
<b>Educational and Charity Funds</b>							
Broacha Trust	38,042	-	-	-	1,211	1,191	40,444
Mancheshaw S Vajifdar Bequest	47,298	-	-	-	1,505	1,481	50,284
Faridoon and Mehraban Zartoshty	46,785	-	-	-	1,489	1,465	49,739
Dinshaw N E Dinshaw	14,870	-	-	-	473	465	15,808
Athravan Educational Fund	5,205	-	-	-	166	163	5534
Dr S H Kutar Fund for Medical Students	44,327	-	-	-	1,411	1,387	47,125
Navroze Modi Memorial Fund	6,325	-	-	-	201	198	6,724
Zoroastrian Education Fund	6,090	-	-	-	194	190	6,474
The Faridoon & Mehraban Zartoshty Fund - Zoroastrian Studies	582,707	-	-	(5,000)	18,543	18,241	614,491
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	-	143,448	2,106	(2,289)	-	-	143,265
Dr Meher & Dr Derek Wells Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	-	208,838	14,136	(10,122)	6,646	6,537	226,035
	<b>791,649</b>	<b>352,286</b>	<b>66,242</b>	<b>(17,411)</b>	<b>31,839</b>	<b>31,318</b>	<b>1,255,923</b>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)**  
**Restricted funds (continued)**

	At 1st April 2018 £	Transfers £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Income £	Gains and (losses) March 2019 £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 £
<b>Religious Funds</b>							
Mobed Fund	257,053	-	15,695	(31,770)	8,180	8,047	257,205
Sesquicentennial Mobed Fund	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
Zartoshty Bros Ghambar Jashn-e-Tirigan	27,719	-	325	(1,089)	882	867	28,704
Mobed Faridoon Zartoshty Mem Fund	26,980	-	220	(600)	859	845	28,304
Bahman & Nahid Mobed Fund for Faslī	14,136	-	381	(449)	450	443	14,961
Khordad Sal and Zarthost-no-Diso							
Dasturji and Mrs S Kutar fund for Athornan Children	61,815	-	55	-	1,967	1,935	65,772
Mehraban & Goli Farhangi Fund for Jashn-e Mehrigan & Jashn-e-Sadeh	5,889	-	125	(482)	187	184	5,903
Dr H Pithwala Khordad Sal Gham Fund	12,598	-	542	(580)	401	394	13,355
Mr and Mrs Guiv Fund	7,429	-	-	-	236	233	7,898
Shirmand K Bekhradina Fund	5,943	-	-	-	189	186	6,318
Y Z Religious Activities fund	35,147	-	7,499	(5,636)	1,118	1,100	39,228
Simin and Shahrokh Shahrokh Noruz Children's Fund	7,691	-	760	(137)	245	241	8,800
Sandalwood, Kathi, Setayash Gah Fund	23,671	-	11,309	(308)	753	741	36,166
H Gagrat Prayer Fund	4,544	-	-	-	145	142	4,831
Poor Peoples Project	7,187	-	2,131	(2,100)	229	225	7,672
Phiroze, Roshan & Homi D Munshi Fund							
Adibehest, Ava, Zarthost-no Diso Jashan	22,877	-	604	-	728	716	24,925
	<b>520,679</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>39,646</b>	<b>(43,151)</b>	<b>16,569</b>	<b>16,299</b>	<b>600,042</b>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)**  
**Restricted funds (continued)**

	At 1st April 2018 £	Transfers £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Income £	Gains and (losses) March 2019 £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 £
<b>Library Funds</b>							
Prof. Shapur Hormusji Modi & Mrs Shirin	5,174	-	-	-	-	-	5,174
S Modi Library Foundation	3,817	-	-	-	121	119	4,057
Zartoshty Brothers Library	48,139	-	-	(240)	1,532	1,507	50,938
Library funds-other Fund							
	<b>57,130</b>	-	-	<b>(240)</b>	<b>1,653</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>60,169</b>
<b>Entrepreneur Funds</b>							
Entrepreneur funds	9,584	-	-	-	305	300	10,189
	<b>9,584</b>	-	-	-	<b>305</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>10,189</b>
<b>Grave Maintenance</b>							
Individual funds	22,921	-	-	-	-	-	22,921
Jerbai Wadia Settlement	4,727	-	-	-	150	148	5,025
General Fund	17,688	-	-	-	563	554	18,805
	<b>45,336</b>	-	-	-	<b>713</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>46,751</b>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

19. Analysis of charitable funds (continued) Restricted funds (continued)	At 1st April 2018 £	Transfers £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Income £	Gains and (losses) March 2019 £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 £
<b>Restricted funds(continued)</b>							
<b>Medical relief fund</b>	12,254	-	2,080	-	389	384	15,107
Medical relief fund	<b>12,254</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,080</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>15,107</b>
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	<b>3,996,277</b>	<b>402,286</b>	<b>107,968</b>	<b>(130,224)</b>	<b>51,468</b>	<b>50,629</b>	<b>4,478,404</b>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**20. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	–	2,568,695	2,568,695
Investments	2,213,125	1,537,934	3,751,059
Current assets	106,830	371,775	478,605
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>2,319,955</u>	<u>4,478,404</u>	<u>6,798,359</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2018 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	2,640,857	2,640,857
Investments	1,900,564	1,267,042	3,167,606
Current assets	765,349	88,378	853,727
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>2,665,913</u>	<u>3,996,277</u>	<u>6,662,190</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations: (other)	69,611	79,947
Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals	62,556	66,575
Grave Plot Reservation	9,075	1,800
WZCC	1,080	555
Place of worship	8,985	9,437
Medical relief fund	2,080	9,616
Poor Peoples Project	2,131	4,250
Religious funds	12,231	5,077
Mobed fund	15,695	11,924
Sequicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill	14,136	–
Ruby & Russy Piroshaw Bilimoria Fund	–	14,000
Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	2,106	40,484
Phiroze, Roshan and Homi D Munshi Jashan Fund	604	4,000
Income tax recoverable	–	5,825
Banoo Patell Bequest for Mobed Support	–	12,000
Dr. Meher & Dr. Derek Wells Senior Citizens Home Appeal Fund	50,000	–
Ordinary membership subscriptions	1,350	1,680
Life membership subscriptions	1,800	2,600
	<u>253,440</u>	<u>269,770</u>
<b>Investment income</b>		
Dividend Income	125,502	128,641
Bank Interest received	625	245
	<u>126,127</u>	<u>128,886</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>379,567</u>	<u>398,656</u>
<b>Governance costs and expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Expenditure on charitable activities	290,121	247,816
Wages and salaries	61,170	54,357
Legal and professional fees	6,777	7,390
Other office costs	8,445	6,566
Other interest payable and similar charges	372	702
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>366,885</u>	<u>316,831</u>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		
Realised gain/(loss) on sale of investments	20,300	32,973
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investment	103,187	(107,425)
	<u>123,487</u>	<u>(74,452)</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u>136,169</u>	<u>7,373</u>

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)  
Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Other Charitable expenses</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Other charitable expenses	3,081	3,902
<b>Welfare funds</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Welfare Funds	28,219	34,676
<b>Place of worship expenses</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Place of worship expenses	43,428	30,729
<b>Burial Ground Fund - Upkeep and funerals</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Burial Ground Fund- Upkeep and funerals	27,181	16,915
<b>Repairs and maintenance</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Repairs and maintenance	53,974	1,692
<b>Depreciation</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Depreciation	72,162	72,571
<b>WZCC</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
WZCC	1,275	439
<b>Educational funds</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Educational funds	5,000	5,912
<b>Religious funds</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Religious funds	41,052	41,351
<b>Poor Peoples Project</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Poor Peoples Project	2,100	23,700
<b>Senior Citizens Home Appeal</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Senior Citizens Home Appeal	2,287	4,437
<b>Library funds</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Library funds	240	125
<b>Medical relief fund</b>		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Medical relief fund	–	5,920
<b>Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism, Inter-faith and Goodwill Activities undertaken directly</b>		
Sesquicentennial Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism	10,122	5,447

# The Zoroastrian Trust Funds Of Europe (Incorporated)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31st March 2019

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	<b>2019</b>	2018
	£	£
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Office salaries	61,170	54,357
Auditors remuneration	5,461	6,300
Legal and other professional fees	1,234	1,043
Telephone, printing, postage and stationery	8,445	6,566
Worldpay charges	372	702
Miscellaneous expense	82	47
	<u>76,764</u>	<u>69,015</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>366,885</u>	<u>316,831</u>



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Of the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (Incorporated)  
Held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 5.30 pm in the Zartoshty Brothers Hall  
Zoroastrian Centre, 440 Alexandra Avenue, Harrow HA2 9TL**

**Members Present (on stage)**

Mr. Malcolm M. Deboo	President
Mr. Behram R. Kapadia	Vice President & Social Secretary
Mrs. Shenaz B. Sadri JP	Vice President External
Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala	Honorary Treasurer
Mr. Kobad S. Avari	Joint Honorary Treasurer
Mr. Rohinton F. Munshi	Honorary Secretary, YZ & Travel Co-ordinator

**Members Present**

Mr. Gav D. Buhariwala	Joint Social Secretary
Mr. Darius J. Karkaria	Communications Officer
Ms. Jesmin Sorab	Special Projects Officer
Mrs. Parivash F. Kiani	Iranian Communities Engagement Officer
Miss. Shazneen Y. Munshi	XYZ Co-ordinator and Joint YZ Co-ordinator

**Trustees**

Mr. Ardeshir M. Bilimoria
Mr. Rusi K. Dalal

**Apologies**

Mr. Dorab E. Mistry OBE	Global Working Group Officer
Ervad Rustom K. Bhedwar	Trustee

**Members attending**

The total number of members attending the AGM was 94. The breakdown is as follows:  
Life, 83, Ordinary, 9 and OAP, 2.

- The meeting commenced at 5:30 pm with a short Humbandagi led by resident Mobed, Ervad Yazad T. Bhadha.
- The Honorary Secretary, Mr. Rohinton F. Munshi read out the notice of the meeting.
- President Malcolm M. Deboo welcomed all Members to the AGM. Shortly before the AGM commenced, the ZTFE had held the annual Varsi prayers in remembrance of the late Mobed Faridoon Bahman Zartoshty. He and his brother the late Mobed Mehraban Jamshid Zartoshty,

patrons and benefactors of the ZTFE are remembered on the anniversary of their passing according to the Iranian Zoroastrian calendar. This year marked 18 years since Mobed Faridoon passed away. President Malcolm M. Deboo paid tribute to the Zartoshty brothers re-emphasising that without their large donations the acquisition and refurbishment of the Zoroastrian Centre would not have been possible and for the establishing the Zartoshty Brothers Chair in Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS, for which the ZTFE remained eternally grateful. He then proceeded to highlight the notable events, activities and achievements of the ZTFE from those outlined in the Report of the Management Committee for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

President Malcolm M. Deboo said that the ZTFE had been invited to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of the launch of the Wadia built frigate HMS Trincomalee. The event was held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 on the Thames of on an Indian Naval vessel, INS Tarkash. Vada Dasturji Khurshed K. Dastoor of Udwada, attended the event. Dasturji recited a short prayer in which he remembered the Wadia shipbuilders and also blessed all who sail on the INS Tarkash and members of the armed forces who serve in defending our country. Patron Lord Karan F. Bilimoria CBE DL along with members of the UK Government, Indian High Commission and Armed Services were also in attendance.

On 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017, following the Dae Mah Hormuzd Roj Jashan at the Zoroastrian Centre, many volunteers were recognised for their services to the ZTFE. Vada Dasturji Khurshed K. Dastoor presented the ZTFE Sesquicentennial Gold Medallions to each member being felicitated.

On 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the ZTFE marked the death centenary of one of its founding Trustees and Presidents, Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji. The day began by unveiling his portrait at the National Liberal Club, Whitehall followed by a centennial varsi prayers and a seminar where a number of speakers paid tribute to him at an event held at the Zoroastrian Centre. Two centennial events on Dadabhai Naoroji were held in Parliament organised by the Zoroastrian APPG; on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in partnership with History of Parliament and another on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.

On 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at the ZTFE's Shahenshai Navroze celebration a short Natak was performed by members of the "Parsi Revival Theatre Group." This was repeated on Khordad Sal, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017.

President Malcolm M. Deboo said that the ZTFE had also been represented at the Iranshah Udvarda 2<sup>nd</sup> Utsav on 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 25<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

There was an open forum discussion at the Zoroastrian Centre about the Zoroastrian Senior Citizens' Home Project (ZSCHP) on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Members expressed an interest in forming a team of volunteers to: be in regular contact with those wishing to be on a "contact list," and also arrange transport to the Zoroastrian Centre on key occasions, for those in need of assistance with transportation. It was reported that there were a number of elderly members of the ZTFE who had registered for either or both of these services.

Fund-raising for the ZSCHP continued and on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017 a gala event took place at the Zoroastrian Centre. Another fund-raiser was held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018. 'Hartley Voices,' led by Sara Hartley Llewellyn provided an evening of music where the profits were divided between the ZSCHP and a charity for sarcoma awareness - Sarcoma UK.

President Malcolm M. Deboo mentioned that the Chair, Counsel Emeritus Mr. Noshir J. Avari and Co-Chair Dr. Firoze R. Munshi of the ZSCH steering committee had stepped down. He thanked

them both, for their services to the ZSCHP and for bringing the project to the position it had reached so far, with funds raised at just over £143,000. President Malcolm M. Deboo stated that the ZTFE believed that a ZSCH would be in the interests of the community, therefore the Managing Committee will continue with the project, but recognised that many Members did not share that view. He said that the Managing Committee would inform Members once the new Chair and Co-chair are appointed.

As to other events, President Malcolm M. Deboo stated that he had the honour and privilege of representing the ZTFE at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at Buckingham Palace on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018. He also mentioned that in a significant development, the UK Government had agreed that from this year onwards, Zoroastrians would be represented at the annual National Service of Remembrance held at the Cenotaph Whitehall. The ZTFE had been lobbying the UK Government for over 20 years for this milestone to be reached. President Malcolm M. Deboo represented Zoroastrians and the ZTFE at the Service on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018. This was a timely decision by the UK Government as this year marked 100 years since the Armistice. He thanked Patron Lord Karan F. Bilimoria CBE DL for his pivotal role in securing this achievement and Lord Nick Bourne, Minister of Religion at Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

President Malcolm M. Deboo stated that the legacy of the Everlasting Flame Exhibition continues with the establishment of the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS) Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies, following a £5 million donation by the Shapoor Pallonji Group in 2017. SOAS had invited all ZTFE donors listed in the catalogue accompanying the Everlasting Flame Exhibition as well as ZTFE Trustees and the Managing Committee to the launch of the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies (SSPIZS) on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and also to the 'Living Zoroastrianism,' virtual reality experience on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

President Malcolm M. Deboo mentioned some of the members of the ZTFE who had passed away. He particularly remembered Past Social Secretary Mr. Godrej K. Bhungara and Dr. Jamshed P. Randeria for their voluntary service to the Association and Zoroastrian community, Miss. Banoo K Patell and Past Trustee Ervad Bahman Mobed for their donations to the ZTFE and 'Honoured Friend of the ZTFE' and Scholar of Zoroastrianism Professor John R Hinnells.

President Malcolm M. Deboo thanked the Trustees, Managing Committee, the Staff Team, all of the volunteer organisers of the various activity groups, committees and subcommittees, who gave so much of their time and energy in organising the activities and events that took place at the Zoroastrian Centre and occasionally outside it. He said that volunteers continued to play a vital role in bringing the Zoroastrian Community together and meant that the ZTFE went from strength to strength.

He also thanked ZTFE Patron, Lord Karan F. Bilimoria CBE DL, for all his efforts in ensuring that the achievements and endeavours of the ZTFE and Zoroastrian Community were brought to the attention of the House of Lords, the UK Government and prominent organisations in the UK.

## **1. To receive the Committee's Report and Audited Accounts as laid, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

In his role as Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala highlighted the salient features of the ZTFE Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, by presenting PowerPoint slides. This was very well received by the Members present.

He answered questions put from the floor concerning the accounts and financial matters.

Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala thanked his colleagues on the Finance Subcommittee, namely Trustee Mr. Ardeshir M. Bilimoria, Vice-President Mr. Behram R. Kapadia, Joint Treasurer Mr. Kobad S. Avari, Mr. Dorab E. Mistry OBE and President Malcolm M Deboo for their collective efforts. He also thanked the Investment Subcommittee namely Trustee Mr. Ardeshir M. Bilimoria, Vice-President Mr. Behram R. Kapadia and Mr. Dorab E. Mistry OBE for all of their hard work, diligence and prudence over the year.

The resolution to receive and adopt the Committee's Report and Audited Accounts as laid, for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 was placed before Members by the (Hon) Treasurer. The resolution to adopt the Committee's Report and Audited Accounts was proposed by Mr. Paurushasp B. Jila and seconded by Ervad. Zal N. Sethna and unanimously approved by the Members.

**2. To elect Members of the Management Committee in place of the ones who retire and are eligible for re-election under Article 16(b):**

Mr. Gav D. Buhariwala	Article 16(b)
Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala	Article 16(b)
Mrs. Behram R. Kapadia	Article 16(b)
Mr. Dorab E. Mistry OBE	Article 16(b)

Nominations received for the four positions on the Managing Committee were as follows:

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Secunder</b>
Mr. Gav D. Buhariwala	Mr. Addie Batliwalla	Mr. Hoshang Writer
Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala	Mr. Peeran M. Dhatigara	Dr. Noshir R. Driver
Mr. Behram R. Kapadia	Dr. Firoze R. Munshi	Mr. Jimmy D. Contractor
Mr. Dorab E. Mistry	Mr. Paurushasp B. Jila	Mrs. Marzbeen B. Jila

As there were four candidates for the four positions, the four candidates standing for re-election were unanimously re-elected to the new Managing Committee by the Members. President Malcolm M. Deboo read out the names of the twelve members of the new Managing Committee as:

Mr. Kobad S. Avari	Mr. Gav D. Buhariwala	Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala
Mr. Malcolm M. Deboo	Mr. Behram R. Kapadia	Mr Darius J. Karkaria
Mrs. Parivash F. Kiani	Mr. Dorab E. Mistry OBE	Mr. Rohinton F. Munshi
Miss. Shazneen Y. Munshi	Mrs Shenaz B. Sadri JP	Ms. Jesmin Sorab

**3. To elect the President of the Association from amongst the Members of the Managing Committee for the year 2018/2019**

Mr. Malcolm M. Deboo “vacated,” the Chair during the procedure for the election of the President. Vice-President Mr. Behram R. Kapadia addressed the Members as to the election of the President of the Association for the forthcoming year. Mrs. Gulshan R. Bilimoria proposed Mr. Malcolm M. Deboo to serve as President and this was seconded by Trustee Ardeshir M. Bilimoria. The Members unanimously elected Mr. Malcolm M. Deboo as the President for the year 2018/2019.

President Malcolm M. Deboo thanked the Membership for their continued confidence in his Presidency stating that he remained committed to serving the Community.

#### **4. To elect the House Committee under Rule 10 of the Zoroastrian House Rules**

President Malcolm M. Deboo announced that YZ Chair Jessica P. Todiwala had stepped down as Chair after leading the YZ Committee over the past year. She had also left the YZ Committee although had said she would volunteer at events whenever possible, like she had done in the past. This meant that Miss. Jessica P. Todiwala could no longer continue as the YZ representative on the House Committee although Miss. Sheherazad F. Kapadia could as she was still on the YZ Committee. This meant that there was space for another YZ Committee Member to represent the YZ's on the House Committee.

(Hon) Secretary Rohinton F. Munshi stated that Administrative Secretary Mrs. Roshan E. Avari (Staff Team) had also decided to withdraw from the House Committee.

From the ten electable positions on the House Committee, the ten members of the House Committee standing for re-election, were unanimously re-elected. President Malcolm M. Deboo then read out the names of the members of the New House Committee as:

Mr. Behram R. Kapadia (Manging Committee)	Mr. Gav D. Buhariwala (Managing Committee)	Mr. Ratan D. Buhariwala (staff)
Ervad Yazad T. Bhadha (staff)	Mrs. Kumi N. Avari	Mrs. Nergish K. Avari
Mr. Addie M. Batliwalla	Mr. Freddy M. Deboo	Mr. Hoshang R. Khambatta
Mrs. Benaifer N. Menon	Mr. Phiroze H. Munshi	Mrs. Mahnaz Ostad
Mrs. Hufri C. Palkhiwalla	Mrs. Freny H. Writer	Miss. Sheherazad F. Kapadia (YZ)

#### **5. To reappointment Brian Paul Limited, Chartered Accountants, as Auditors for the year 2018/2019**

(Hon) Treasurer Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala thanked the Auditors for their help and assistance. The resolution to re-appoint Brian Paul Limited, Chartered Accountants, as auditors for the year 2018/2019, was proposed by (Hon) Treasurer Mr. Javid S. Canteenwala, and seconded by Dr. Zubin Sethna. The resolution was unanimously passed by the Members.

#### **6. To transact the other usual business of an Annual General Meeting**

Members raised questions which were discussed and were responded to by the President and the Office Bearers from the stage.

President Malcolm M. Deboo acknowledged and thanked: his colleagues on the Managing Committee, the Trustees, Counsel Emeritus Mr. Noshir J Avari, the Staff Team (Mrs. Roshan E. Avari, Mr. Ratan D. Buhariwala and Ervad. Yazad T. Bhadha), House and YZ Committees, Children's Educational Fun Club, Friday Gymkhana Club, Wednesday Z Club, ZSCHP steering committee, Natak Revival Group, all the Mobeds and all volunteers for their support and assistance over the past year. Members who had given the ZTFE continued support over many years included Mrs. Bapsy K. Buhariwala and her family, Mr. Hoshang R. Khambatta, Mrs. Gulshan R. Bilimoria, Mrs. Freny H. Writer and Mrs. Freny and Mr. Yazdi J Jasavala.

President Malcolm M. Deboo thanked the Zartoshty family for their continued support of the ZTFE as well as Patron Lord Karan F. Bilimoria CBE DL for all his endeavours. He thanked the Donors, past and present, and their families including of the late Mrs. Khorshed M. Sodhi, Ervad Jalbhai K. Karkaria and Mrs. Silloo K. Jasavala for all their contributions to the ZTFE.

**The meeting ended at 7:25 pm.**



## Young Zoroastrians Annual Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to present

### Overview

Over the past year the Young Zoroastrian (YZ) Committee has worked to unite the youth and make the community more inclusive. There has been a rise in both the number of people attending, and the events being offered to the youth community. It is our aim that the coming year will see continued growth amongst the youth.

It is important to recognise the current committee's success in securing the bid for the ZTFE to host the Eight World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (8WZYC) in 2023 in London. Preparations for the 8WZYC have already begun within the YZ community and will progress over the coming four years.



Outlined below is a list of events which the YZ Committee organised and executed over the year and an updated list of the YZ committee members:

### Zoroastrian Lectures – July 2018

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018, Jashn-e Tirgan, we had very informative lectures/ talks about the Introduction to Zoroastrian Religion, History, Heritage and Culture with Dr Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies at the University of Oxford. Before Lunch

we had a question and answer session where we could ask Dr Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina. After Lunch Dr Vevaina conducted an introductory seminar for beginners on the Zoroastrian Religion, History, Heritage and Culture.

### **YZ Gymkhana 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gymkhana was held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018. It was a very lovely evening. Being the World Cup Season, we brought the two together and held a World Cup Anniversary Celebration. We had a number of games with balloons, balls and food from various parts of the world including Mexican, American and of course Indian, Parsi and Iranian food. For Deserts we had 2 lovely Cakes baked by one of our Committee Members.



### **ASHA Centre trip – August 2018**

In August 2018 the Young Zoroastrians went again to our beloved Asha Centre. We enjoyed a Weekend away in the heart of the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire from Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August. We had a lovely long weekend with an amazing bunch of Young Zoroastrians. Played a number of games followed toasted marshmallows and smores at the bonfire nights with lots and lots of singing. We had our traditional Volley ball game, walks through amazing gardens at the Asha Centre and our forest walk.



## **YZ Gymkhana Night – September 2018**

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 we had lovely Pizza Party and Quiz Gymkhana Night.

## **Young Zoroastrians Halloween Night 2018**

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the Zoroastrian Centre had a different feel to it. The centre was not decorated with garlands and flowers but skulls and bats! This was the preparation for the YZ Halloween party 2018. The party saw a turnout of twenty five young Zoroastrians all dressed in their Halloween best.

From Catwoman to Superman, the Devil dressed in red to Dracula with blood all around his mouth, a scary clown to sweet Red Riding Hood, the party was bustling with energy.



Halloween is not complete without some fun and games, and in keeping the spirit alive, we started off with dressing a mummy! Everyone was put into pairs, and one of the partners had to drape the other with tissue paper to see who dressed the mummy the quickest! Oh, what a fun game it was! Then came time to play the game of hide and seek, however this one was with a twist; all the lights were off! One person had to find all the others hiding around Zoroastrian house, whilst it was in complete darkness! It really did bring out the Halloween spirit.

Our trick o' treating was done differently this year. We did not go knocking on doors to ask for goodies, but brought in the goodies! Everyone participated by bringing something to eat and we had a pot-luck dinner. Our Halloween party outdid others, everyone enjoying themselves to the fullest.

## **After Year end**

On 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 the YZ's made their way to a nightclub in Shoreditch called Trapeze. The YZ Committee arranged a discounted entry and a free cocktail for any YZ's attending the event. The night was filled with singing, dancing and socialising, with many new-comers attending the evening. Overall, approximately thirty YZ's attended the night out and everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly.



## 7<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress

From 1<sup>st</sup> till 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019, around 25 Young Zoroastrians went to LA to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (7WZYC). The registration cost for each YZ was subsidised by the ZTFE. The 7WZYC was made up of various panels that discussed a variety of current issues that the Zoroastrian Youth face today. The talks were extremely insightful and educational.

In addition to the panels, there were many social events, including a Cruise on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July which allowed the Youth from around the world to come together and make lifelong friendships.



## Bekhradnia Outdoor Sports & Fun Day for all Ages & 6<sup>th</sup> Gymkhana Anniversary

This summer saw our biennial Bekhradnia Outdoor Sports & Fun Day occur on the Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July at Roxbourne Park, Rayners Lane. This year's event was extra special, as it coincided with our 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gymkhana and was jointly organized by the YZ Committee, ZSCH-CZC Team and the Children's Fun Club Team, bringing together all age groups including XYZs, YZs and Adult Zoroastrians. We had great attendance on the day and everybody participated in the games and activities. Relay races, lemon and spoon race, three-legged race and tug of war were just a few of the many events that were conducted on the day. After the outdoor part of the day, we all headed back to the Zoroastrian Centre, where the prize ceremony took place for all the winners and runners up.

We started the gymkhana part of the day with a general knowledge quiz and in true gymkhana tradition, we had many games including table tennis and carrom. Finally, we finished a successful day by singing Karaoke into the late evening. As it was the 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gymkhana, it was extra special for the YZ committee to see so many of the committee make the effort to turn up and help in making the event the huge success it was.

## **Asha Centre**

The popular Young Zoroastrians trip to the Asha Centre from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> till Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019 was a great success, attended by twenty four participants, ten of whom came for the first time. The annual escape to the beautiful rose gardens, the chance to pick freshly hanging fruit, walking through the mini Hobbiton amidst the sounds of tiny streams, forest walks, campfire sing-alongs while stargazing in the late evenings all ensured that the youth of our community got a break from their hectic urban lifestyles.



Mark Gifford along with the whole team of volunteers at the Asha Centre had organised a wide range of intellectual icebreakers and activities on personal and community development. This helped the participants grow as individuals as well as bond together as young Zoroastrians. The delicious, organic, healthy meals were an absolute treat, as always.

The YZ Committee would like to thank Zerbanoo Gifford, the founder of the Asha Centre for subsidizing the trip year after year. The ZTFE further subsidised the cost for YZs in full-time education. The trip remains to be an unmissable event on the Young Zoroastrians calendar creating life-long friendships for old and new youngsters within our community!

## **Bowling & Dinner**

On the Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019, the YZ Committee held a bowling and dinner night. The event was designed to give YZs a time to socialise before some individuals head off to University. The evening consisted of bowling at Queensway Bowling Alley followed by dinner at Nandos. The event itself brought a record breaking forty young Zoroastrians, and many of them new faces! The numbers reflected the hard work of the committee to both include new people in our events and to continue to entice YZs who have attended previous events.



## **YZ Mixed Volleyball Team**

The first mixed YZ volleyball team has been formed. The team will be competing in a Recreational league every Monday in Clapham.

## **YZ Committee**

Seven existing members have continued to serve on the committee for this 15 month period, with the addition of Sohrab Noshirwani in July 2019.

The existing 7 members are Miss Sheherazad F Kapadia, Miss Sanaya V Khambatta Miss Azmin M Mistry, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, and Ervad Jimmy K Madon, Miss Shaizeen D Persha, and Miss Meher Patel.

Miss Jessica Todiwalla decided to step down at the AGM in November 2018. Dilshad Demehry in August 2019 and Homa Bastani in January 2019.

## **Current YZ Committee**

President	Sheherazad F Kapadia
Vice President	Sanaya V Khambatta
Treasurer	Azmin M Mistry
Secretary	Ervad Jimmy K Madon
Social Secretary & Inter Faith	Ervad Yazad T Bhadha
Social Secretary	Shaizeen D Persha
Communications Officer	Meher Patel
Committee Member	Sohrab Noshirwani



## **Children's Educational Fun Club Annual Report 2018 – 2019**

The Zoroastrian Children's Education Fun Club classes (The Fun Club) take place on the second Sunday of each month from 11am to 1pm at our Zoroastrian Centre in Rayners Lane, Harrow.

Led by a team of dedicated teachers and volunteers, the key objectives of the classes are to help children learn about the fundamental teachings of Zoroastrianism, how to apply these in their everyday lives and the meaning and significance of our customs/traditions.

The Fun Club team have worked hard to put together a comprehensive syllabus including topics relating to our religion, history, customs and culture, stories from the Shahnamah plus activities and games to ensure classes are fun and interactive.

- Fun Club organiser – Miss Shazneen Munshi

### **Age groups/classes/teachers:**

- 4-6yrs: Miss Shazneen Munshi/ Miss Ruby Sethna/Miss Shaizeen Persha  
Miss Amy Irani/Mrs Meher Printer/Ervad Karl Desai
- 7-9yrs: Miss Shazneen Munshi/ Miss Ruby Sethna/Miss Shaizeen Persha  
Miss Amy Irani/Mrs Meher Printer/Ervad Karl Desai
- 10-12yrs: Miss Shazneen Munshi/ Miss Ruby Sethna/Miss Shaizeen Persha  
Miss Amy Irani/Mrs Meher Printer/Ervad Karl Desai
- 13yrs+ teenagers discussion group: Mr Kerman Jasavala/ Mr Cyrus Kapadia  
Ervad Yazad Bhadha
- Parents class: Ervad Jimmy Madon

The Fun Club has gone from strength to strength with more and more children participating. It's really important for our youth to feel a sense of pride about being a Zoroastrian, make friends within the community and carry forward the Zoroastrian flame for future generations. We also have a separate Teenagers Discussion Group and a separate Parents Class running simultaneously.



### **Special highlights!**

From new games and activities to energise and engage the children to role plays, skits, poems and raps, we have found innovative, fun and creative ways to teach the children about our treasured Zoroastrian faith. This has resulted in fruitful discussions and learning through engaging the head, the heart and the hands!

We also welcomed three new Fun Club volunteers – Amy Irani, Meher Printer and Ervad Karl Desai.

Here are few of our favourite classes and events during the year.

### **Fun Club Class Special WW1 Centenary Class – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

To commemorate the centenary of the First World War (WW1), we put together a special class on the Zoroastrian Contribution to WW1 and the Importance of Service in Zoroastrianism. Children and parents began by participating in the two minute 11am silence and then watched the first few minutes of the National Service of Remembrance. The children learnt about all the great Zoroastrians who contributed to the war effort and what we can all do to help others. Plus the children attended a Boi ceremony performed by Resident Priest at the Zoroastrian Centre, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, the younger children made their own poppies and the older children used their skills to crack a puzzle!



### **Fun Club Class and Mini-Christmas party – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019, we saw nearly 70 parents, children and teenagers come together for our festive Fun Club class and party. From learning about the Three Wise Men and their Zoroastrian roots to party games and gifts from our very own Zoro Santa, a lovely time was had by all!

It was intriguing for the children to learn that the Three Wise Men were thought to be Zoroastrian, and they had some very good thoughts and questions!

### **Fun Club Valentine's class – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

For our February class, the children and teen YZs really embraced the Valentine's theme through interesting discussions about our great Persian Kings and Queens, Love in Zoroastrianism and the Zoroastrian wedding ceremony. Plus we had a number of new energisers and games from the Curtain game (similar to the rice throwing tradition in the Parsi wedding ceremony!) to Speed Friend Z (not speed dating!) and making their own Valentine's cards for family and friends with some Persian poetry!



### **Fun Club Class and NoRuz party – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

For our annual NoRuz Children's party this year, the Fun Club collaborated with the Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Care in the Zoroastrian Community (ZSCH-CZC) team to bring together the younger and older members of our community. The purpose of this special Together Old and Young Zoroastrians (TOYZ) event was to create the opportunity for our children and elderly to interact, learn from each other, enjoy each other's company and build strong bonds. Our first TOYZ event was a great success with over 140 children, senior citizens and parents enjoying a fun filled day of activities.

The day started with pairing up the children with senior citizens who would be their buddy throughout the event. From learning about the significance of NoRuz and the Hafsheen table to sharing pictures and memories from when they were younger to a lemon and spoon relay race, musical statues and a quiz, it was so beautiful and touching to see the younger and older pairs guide each other through the various activities, enjoy each other's company and build special bonds!

We also had a very special visit from Amu NoRuz who got on the dance floor with the children and gave out Norouz presents to all! We also put together little parcels of fruit, nuts and chocolate for the children to give to their senior buddy!

Our Zoroastrian Centre was filled with a truly vibrant atmosphere of fun, love, laughter and a strong sense of community spirit! A big thank you to Simin and Shahrokh Shahrokh NoRuz Children's Party Fund and all volunteers who helped to make it such a successful event.



**Please come along – children are the future of our Zoroastrian community!**

For further information about our classes which take place on the second Sunday on each month, please contact Fun Club organiser, Shazneen Munshi at [shazneen.munshi7@gmail.com](mailto:shazneen.munshi7@gmail.com) or on 07981286752.

## Fun Club Syllabus

NARRATION/STORY	THEOLOGY	PRACTICAL	MONTH
<b>Zarathushtra 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Zarathushtra's teachings</li> <li>❖ Freewill</li> <li>❖ Miracles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ How to explain Zoroastrianism to others</li> <li>❖ Drama activity!</li> </ul>	<b>September</b>
<b>Zarathushtra 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Introduction to the Gathas</li> <li>❖ Basic meanings/essence of our prayers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Meditation</li> </ul>	<b>October</b>
<b>Shahnameh - 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Importance of rituals</li> <li>❖ Ceremonies e.g. Jashan                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Symbols</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ Places of worship</li> <li>❖ Priests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Meaning of ceremonies</li> <li>❖ Jashan and Sagan ceremony role play</li> </ul>	<b>November</b>
<b>Christmas Party</b>		<b>December</b>	
<b>Persian Kings - 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Zoroastrianism in the context of other religions</li> <li>❖ History and maps, coins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Map drawing</li> <li>❖ Persian Coin making</li> </ul>	<b>January</b>
<b>Persian Kings - 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Valentine's theme</li> <li>❖ Persian Kings and Queens</li> <li>❖ Love in Zoroastrianism</li> <li>❖ Zoroastrian wedding ceremony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Wedding ceremony role play</li> </ul>	<b>February</b>
<b>NoRuz Party</b>		<b>March</b>	
<b>Bundahishn - 1 (Zoroastrian Creation Story)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Purpose of life</li> <li>❖ Freewill</li> <li>❖ Duality</li> <li>❖ Good Mind/Thought</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Performing arts activity</li> </ul>	<b>April</b>
<b>Bundahishn - 2 (Zoroastrian Creation Story)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Amesha Spentas</li> <li>❖ Ecology</li> <li>❖ Original eco-religion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ How to apply to in everyday life</li> <li>❖ Outdoor games</li> <li>❖ Planting trees</li> </ul>	<b>May</b>
<b>Shahnameh- 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Importance of rituals</li> <li>❖ Navjote</li> <li>❖ Meanings</li> <li>❖ Muktdad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sudreh/Kusti</li> <li>❖ Navjote role play</li> </ul>	<b>June</b>
<b>Migration story from Iran to India</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Cultural vs. Religion</li> <li>❖ Iranian Culture</li> <li>❖ Parsi Culture</li> <li>❖ Zoroastrian calendars - basic introduction to Zoroastrian calendars, Roj and Mah</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Famous modern Zoroastrians</li> <li>❖ Cultural activities</li> <li>❖ Make our own calendar</li> <li>❖ Language - learning basic Gujarati and Persian words</li> </ul>	<b>July</b>
<b>Fun Club Summer Camp!</b>		<b>August</b>	



## Z – Club Annual Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to present

It is that time where we once again take you through another year of the key exciting events held by Z Club. As you may know, our day starts at 11am with tea, biscuits and fruits followed by light exercises and a couple of games of bingo before lunch.

A hot traditional Parsi lunch is served at around 1pm and then members settle down to either an interesting talk by a volunteer or a popular movie. Z Club attendees who have a birthday in that particular month are celebrated with a birthday cake at tea time-around 3.30pm after which everyone makes their way home.



We wish to thank all the volunteers who contribute their time and energy to make Z Club a fun filled day and also a big thank you to all the Z Club attendees for your continuous support, gift contributions to raffle and monetary donations without which Z Club would not be the success that it is. Here are the events of Z Club...

April 2018 – Z Club organised Tajinder Nijjar, Chief Executive of the Citizens Advice Centre to attend. She informed us of the invaluable services **the Citizens Advice Bureau** provides. The CAB deal with a variety of every day issues and their website is a useful source of information accessible to everyone via a computer.

In May 2018 Mrs Behroze Bana, Bana Vaid & Associates Solicitors, was invited to discuss legal matters such as **wills and probate**. This always proves to be a useful topic for our members as it is so relevant to one and all.

The afternoon in June 2018 was spent watching an entertaining movie, **The Viceroy's House**, the story of Lord Mountbatten's challenges during India's transition to independence. All talks and films are followed by a treat of cakes, biscuits, tea and coffee which makes for a most satisfactory end to our day.

As in the past, our summer 2018 July outing had a coach full of members attend the Annual Picnic at the **Thames Barrier**. This was an educational trip for many. For instance, did you know the gaps between the 10 steel gates of the Barrier are as wide as Tower Bridge to allow boats to pass through?

September 2018 was the 4<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Z Club and Dr Subodh Kant (GP) was invited to take an “ask-the-doctor” assembly which proved popular with our audience. Many queued afterwards to ask questions in person after the session ended.

October 2018 saw another interesting film called **War Horse** which is a novel by English author Michael Morpurgo. The story recounts the experiences of Joey, a horse purchased by the Army for service in World War I France and the attempts of young Albert, his previous owner, to bring him safely home. There was not a dry eye when the lights were switched on!

In November 2018 Z Club held a **general knowledge quiz** which was organised by Navaz Sethna. Everyone took part in groups and the winning table received a token box of chocolates which were shared amongst the winners.

December 2018 was our annual **Christmas celebration** which was celebrated in true English style with a **turkey dinner** prepared and sponsored by Cafe Spice Nameste, followed by Music by Benny Black.

2019 January and February are usually quieter months owing to most of our members being away on holiday, nevertheless, Eruch Billimoria gave us an interesting talk on his earlier years’ experiences in the Navy.

March 2019 saw our **Jamsheedi Noruz** celebration in traditional Iranian Style with a sumptuous **Iranian lunch**, catered by a Persian restaurant after which there was musical entertainment.



This was aptly followed in April by a milestone **100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration** of one of our eldest Z Club attendee-Mrs Soonu Talati who turned 100 on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019. If that was not enough, we were doubly blessed by **another big birthday** celebration of Mrs Dhun Bativala who turned 84!



Our May 2019 Z Club proved to be an informative talk by PC John Duggan & his colleague of the Metropolitan Police, North Harrow, on **Crime Prevention & Safety**-we all were interested in finding out what the criminals get up to and how we could make changes for safety around our homes quite easily and economically.

After listening to all the talks in the first half of 2019, it was time to lighten the mood with a film in June - and what better film to present than our very own “apro Freddie” in **Bohemian Rhapsody!** A biographical musical film about Freddie Mercury, the lead singer of the British Rock band Queen.

July is always our month for an outing, and 2019 saw us venturing into the beautiful **Beale Wildlife Park & Gardens**. This 350 acre land belonged to a Gilbert Beale who, when he died, gifted his land to “the people”, converting it from private farmland into a non-profit making charitable trust. We all enjoyed the spectacular gardens, sculptures, lakes, wildlife, deer park and flower gardens. Amongst other items, a parsi pora pav (omelette sandwich) was our lunch, finished off at the end of our day with a scrummy English **Cream Tea** at the café in the park.



September 2019 saw **two further milestone birthdays**. Our **Perin Ellick** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and **Mr Jehangir Bativala** celebrated his 94<sup>th</sup>. Thereafter we heard an informative talk by Seamus Doherty, of Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator with Harrow Council, on **Scams & Fraud** that target older and vulnerable people. Many questions were asked and all found it to be informative and interesting.

So this concludes our report for this year. We look forward to another year of togetherness, happiness, and good health for all Z Club members and interesting, relevant talks for our community’s wellbeing and welfare.



## **The Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Project**

This year the ZSCH project has focused on enabling access to a vibrant, sociable community lifestyle for all our Senior Citizens whatever their circumstances.

This has built on the excellent work of founding ZSCH Chairs Counsel Emeritus Noshir J Avari and Trustee Firoze R Munshi, who built a great team to research the project, organise enjoyable fund-raising events and engage our community. Noshir and Firoze decided to step down in July 2018, and we thank them hugely for the great service they have given in setting up this project.

I know that all of us in our wonderful community feel great respect and admiration for our senior citizens, who made so many sacrifices and took such risks to give us all a better life. Naturally we all now want them to enjoy a 'golden age' of social companionship, warmth and community spirit.

Each individual is different and with different needs, so we are taking a step by step approach in this phase of the project.

- In the short term, the ZCSH goal is to maintain and increase the sociable connections for senior citizens between each other and with the overall community. To facilitate this goal, within the ZSCH team Rozy K Contractor has set up the CZC sub-group (Care in the Zoroastrian Community) with Shiraz B Sethna (Anklesaria), Zubin B Sethna, Mahtab F Munshi and Javid S Canteenwala.

- In the medium term, we are offering to facilitate senior citizens to co-locate with each other as neighbours in existing Assisted Independent Living residential facilities provided by commercial organisations. Such co-location facilities could be at different locations around the greater London area.

- In the longer term, we are seeking to establish a Senior Citizens Home as an infrastructure project, providing an Assisted Independent Living residential facility of our own.

This year the CZC and an excellent group of 17 volunteers have initiated a telephone calling initiative for our Senior Citizens to ensure they feel engaged with our wider community. The initiative is growing and currently covers approximately 20 Seniors, whom the volunteers typically call once a week, or more as needed, as well as keeping everyone in touch via a WhatsApp group.

The CZC also joined up with the XYZ Children's Educational Fun Club and YZs to organize a group of all-age interactions that introduced many older people to younger members of the Zoroastrian

community in and around London and generated very enjoyable interaction across all the age groups. The inaugural 'Together Old and Young Zoroastrians' (TOYZ) event took place integrated with the annual NoRuz party sponsored by the 'Simin and Shahrokh Shahrokh NoRuz Children's Fund' and organised by the XYZ Children's Educational Fun Club, where older members were paired with young ones in fun and interesting games such as exchanging stories, taking photoshoots with props, lemon & spoon race, and a group quiz.

To ensure that none of our Seniors are prevented from accessing such sociable events because of lack of transport, ZSCH through team CZC are also assisting those Seniors who require transport to ZTFE events - in the form of lifts in volunteers' cars or shared taxis organized at competitive rates. We have trialled the shared taxi service to the Zoroastrian Centre, financially assisted by ZTFE, for the three Muktaf days, Shahenshai Navroze and Khordad Sal in August 2019, and have established this as a practical option where there is sufficient demand.

Regarding the longer-term bricks & mortar phase, we are continuing to explore the likely needs of our Senior Citizens and the practical options required. Meantime far-sighted donors within our community are contributing their support to make this a reality.

Thank you to all in our community, the ZTFE, ZSCH teams and volunteers who are working together to ensure that social companionship, warmth and community spirit is available to all our senior citizens.

With best wishes

Perses C Sethna and the ZSCH Steering Group

Javid S Canteenwala, Rozy K Contractor, Rusi K Dalal, Malcolm M Deboo, Shernaz Engineer, Behram R Kapadia, Zenhar D Marolia, Dorab E Mistry OBE, Rohinton R Munshi, Shenaz B Sadri, Shiraz B Sethna (Anklesaria), Jesmin Sohrab, Dr Mahinder Sodhi, and Freny H Writer.

#### ZSCH- CZC Volunteers

Freny R Bajina, Katy R Bajina, Rutton Bharmal, Tinaz Z Chacha, Zarir Chacha, Behram Contractor, Dolly Contractor, Katy Cooper, Ana Z Daruwalla, Cawas M Deboo, Jasmin Dotiwala, Mehroo P Dumasia, Soonu Engineer, Daulat M Kapadia, Aban D Karkaria, Mahtab R Munshi, Meher Patel, Zubin B Sethna and Diana K Tamboly.

## **Acknowledgments**

The Managing Committee acknowledges the voluntary services provided by members who serve on several committees and work individually to help the efficient running of the Association. The Managing Committee wishes to place on record its thanks for the services rendered and for the support extended by these individuals. In particular, the Committee would like to mention the following:

### **The Trustees**

Ervad Rustom K. Bhedwar, Ardeshir M. Bilimoria and Rusi K. Dalal for carrying out the duties of Holding Trustees and for handling the financial and investment matters of the Association.

### **Finance & Investment Committee**

Members of the Finance Committee during the year under review: Javid S Canteenwala, Ardeshir M Bilimoria, Behram R Kapadia, and Dorab M Mistry OBE for managing the financial affairs of the Association, including its investment portfolio in consultation with the Trustees.

### **Counsel Emeritus**

Noshir J Avari of Avari and Avari Associates Limited for his wise counsel.

### **Secretariat**

Administrative Secretary Roshan E Avari, Facilities Coordinator Ratan D Buhariwala Resident Mobed at the Zoroastrian Centre Ervad Yazad T Bhadha; Bapsy K Buhariwalla for her honorary secretarial help; Michael Jackson at Brookwood. They all diligently worked above and beyond the call of duty. Without their dedication, so much could not have been achieved on such a small budget.

### **House Committee**

Behram R Kapadia, Gav D Buhariwala, from the Managing Committee together with Secretariat Roshan E Avari, Ratan D Buhariwala, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, and their team during all functions, serving behind the bar, managing the tickets and PA system including Kumi N Avari, Nergish K Avari, Addie M Batliwalla, Mehernosh Billimoria, Freddy M Deboo, Hoshang R Khambatta, Jessica P Todiwala, Benaifer N Menon, Phiroze M Munshi, Shazneen Y Munshi, Mahnaz Ostad, Hufri C Palikiwalla, Jessica P Todiwala and Freny H Writer. Also the volunteers who assist Mahiar Ardeshir, Gulshan R Billimoria, Benaifer G Buhariwala, Nilam R Buhariwala, Cawas M Deboo, Daulat M Kapadia and Hoshang Writer amongst many others. Our thanks also to Bar Licence Holder Ratan D Buhariwala, Gav D Buhariwala, Freny H Writer and their team, who serve us enthusiastically behind the bar. Zarvan R Buhariwala and Malcolm G Buhariwala for their help at the Zoroastrian Centre.

### **Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Steering Committee**

Chairperson Perses C Sethna (from March 2019), past Chairman Noshir J Avari (until July 2018), Co – Chairperson Dr. Firoze R Munshi (until July 2019), Javid S Canteenwala, Rozy K Contractor, Rusi K Dalal, Malcolm M Deboo, Shernaz Engineer, Behram R Kapadia, Zenhar D Marolia, Dorab E Mistry OBE, Rohinton R Munshi, Shenaz B Sadri, Shiraz B Sethna (Anklesaria), Jesmin Sohrab, Dr Mahinder Sodhi, and Freny H Writer.

### **ZSCH - CZC (Care in the Zoroastrian Community) Volunteers**

Freney R Bajina, Katy R Bajina, Rutton Bharmal, Tinaz Z Chacha, Zarir Chacha, Behram Contractor, Dolly Contractor, Katy Cooper, Ana Z Daruwalla, Cawas M Deboo, Jasmin Dotiwala, Mehroo P Dumasia, Soonu Engineer, Daulat M Kapadia, Aban D Karkaria, Mahtab R Munshi, Meher Patel, Zubin B Sethna and Diana K Tamboly.

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Gulshan R Bilimoria, Mahtab F Munshi and Ashraf F Falahati.

## **Young Zoroastrians Committee & Gymkhana Steering Committee**

President Sheherazad F Kapadia (from Nov 2018) past President Jessica P Todiwala (until Nov 2018), Vice President Sanaya V Khambatta, Treasurer Azmin M Mistry (from Aug 2019) past Dilshad Demehry (until Aug 2019) and Committee Members Homa B Bastani (until Jan 2019), Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Ervad Jimmy K Madon, Sohrab Noshirwani (from July 2019) Meher Patel and Shaizeen D Persha.

## **Children's Education Fun Club**

Organiser & Teacher Shazneen Y Munshi, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Ervad Karl Desai, Amy Irani, Kerman Y Jasavala, Cyrus M Kapadia, Ervad Jimmy K Madon, Shaizeen D Persha, Meher M Printer, and Ruby B Sethna.

## **Ervad Sahebs**

Ervad Yazad T Bhadha and all our Ervad Sahebs who give voluntary services for the performance of sacred rituals and religious services for the Zoroastrian community in the UK and mainland Europe, including Ervad Sahebs Rustom K Bhedwar, Marazban H Dastoor, Zal N Sethna, Mahiar Vajifdar, Zubin R Bhedwar, Zubin P Writer, Yazd C Unwalla.

## **Religious events organisation**

Roshan E Avari, Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Ratan D Buhariwala, Gav D Buhariwala, Bapsy K Buhariwalla, Kerman F Munshi, together with Zarvan R Buhariwala, and Malcolm G Buhariwala for ensuring the vases are laid out and ensuring that the Zartoshty Brothers Hall is kept clean and tidy during the annual Mukhtads.

## **SOAS Zartoshty Brothers Chair & SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies**

Baroness Valerie Amos, Director, SOAS Principal, her entire staff, including SSPIZS Co Chairs Professor Almut Hintze and Dr. Sarah Stewart, for their dedication and commitment for the continued success of Zoroastrian Studies, which they are associated with over several decades.

Past Presidents Dorab E Mistry and Rusi K Dalal who serve on the SOAS Advisory Board.

President Malcolm M Deboo & Bapsy Dastur who serve on SSPIZS Senior Advisory Panel.

## **British Museum & The Iran Heritage Foundation**

Dr Vesta Curtis & Dr John Curtis

## **Inter-Faith Representatives**

Jehangir Sarosh, Secretary General of European Council of Religious Leaders and President Emeritus Religions for Peace Europe, our long-serving representative for Inter-Faith activities for his devoted work in promoting Zoroastrianism.

Dorab E Mistry OBE, European Council of Religious Leaders.

Malcolm M Deboo, Co Moderator Faith Communities Forum (FCF) & Trustee at the Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom and ZTFE representative on the Faiths Forum for London (FFL).

Shenaz B Sadri JP and Shernaz Engineer, ZTFE representatives on the Women's Inter Faith Network.

Ervad Yazad T Bhadha, Rohinton F Munshi and Phiroza Gan-Kotwal, ZTFE representatives on Harrow Inter Faith Council.

Rusi K Dalal, Khushnuma R Anklesaria, Aspi B Chichger, Mini K Pochkhanawala, Jimmy K Suratia, Mehru S Fitter, Rushna P Master, Phiroze S Master and others for their assistance in promoting Zoroastrianism at Inter Faith events.

Lord Nick Bourne – Under Secretary of State, Hilary C Patel and Chris Turner at the Faith Communities Engagement Team, Cohesion and Faiths Division at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for always remembering the Zoroastrian community.

Bishop Richard Atkinson, Jatinder Singh Birdi, Dr Harriet Crabtree OBE and their team at the Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom for always remembering the Zoroastrian community.

The Revd Mark Poulson, National Inter Religious Affairs Adviser, Church of England & Secretary for Inter Religious Affairs to the Archbishop of Canterbury for always remembering the Zoroastrian community.

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Rudolf Eliott Lockhart and his team at the Religious Education Council of England and Wales.

Jon Dal Din and Sister Elizabeth O' Donohue and their team at Westminster Interfaith.

Soonu Malkani, Jack Lynes, Punitha Perinparaja, Mary Hale, Pat Stevens, and their team at Harrow Interfaith Council.

Jasvir Singh OBE, Leonie Lewis MBE, Dr Natubhai K Shah MBE, and Mustafa Field MBE at the Faiths Forum for London.

### **Other Zoroastrian Groups**

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### **Communication**

Darius J Karkaria, Shazneen Y Munshi and Malcolm M Deboo.

### **Photography**

Paurushasp B Jila, Rohinton F Munshi, Darius J Karkaria, Jimmy K Madon, Paresh Solanki, Raj Bakrania for the United Kingdom for help with taking photographs at Zoroastrian Centre.

### **Community Press**

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database and Zoroastrian Directory and for producing mailing labels. Roxbourne Printers for handling all our printing needs. Roshan E Avari, Ratan D Buhariwala, and Ervad Yazad T Bhadha for the preparation of envelopes and posting.

### **Financial Advisers**

Charles Stanley & Co Ltd for being our Brokers and for their investment advice.

### **Auditors**

Brian Paul Limited for preparing the accounts and for undertaking the annual statutory audit.

### **Catering**

Armin & Yazdi Dastoor of Armin's Catering, Farhat Khan of Zoe Foods, Cyrus & Pervin Todiwala of Cafe Spice Namaste for providing tasty food during various functions.

### **Zoroastrian All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)**

Co Chairs Gareth Thomas MP for Harrow West and Lord Karan F Bilimoria CBE DL, all the APPG Office Bearers and the APPG support team at Cobra Beer Partnership.

### **Donors**

ZTFE members and well-wishers for their donations towards the various ZTFE appeals including the ZTFE Mobed Fund, Zoroastrian Senior Citizens Home Fund and their contributions deposited into the collection box in the Setayasht Gah. All those who bring Sandalwood and Frankincense from India. All those who sponsored the religious functions such as the Parab Jashans and Gahambaras.

All those who donated to the various funds of the ZTFE and those who donated gifts in kind (including cooked preparations) for the benefit of devotees at the Association.

Lord Karan F. Bilimoria of Chelsea and everyone at Cobra Beer Partnership and Cobra Foundation

Shernaz Engineer of Verity Appointments

Late Khorshed and Mahinder Sodhi

Late Ruby and Late Rusy Piroshaw Bilimoria

Late Captain Rusi Bahadurji

Late Dr Homi R Pithawalla

Late Goli and Late Mehraban Farhangi

Nahid and Late Bahman S Mobed

Jasavalas and Mowji families

The Tata and Godrej organisations in the UK

Aaequa Foundation

Eruch and Roshan Sadri Foundation

Phiroze, Roshan and Late Homi D Munshi

Donors to the Sesquicentennial Goodwill Fund for Propagation of Zoroastrianism and Inter Faith

Donors to the Sesquicentennial Mobed Fund

Donors to the Mobed Fund

Donors to the Senior Citizens Home Project & CZC

Donors to the Poor Peoples Project

Above all, the Trustees and the Managing Committee of ZTFE must thank its munificent donors The Late Mobed Shah Faridoon and Late Mobed Mehraban Zartoshty and their families. We salute their vision, generosity and determination to ensure continued teaching and study of our great and ancient religion at the prestigious School of African and Oriental Studies, University of London. The Zartoshty Brothers Chair in Zoroastrianism is the only one of its kind in the world.

The Managing Committee, whose hard work and devotion have made the ZTFE financially strong, spiritually active and socially vibrant.

## **Tribute to Mrs Kitty Behram (Bailey) Irani RIP**

**(B. 14<sup>th</sup> November 1924 – D. 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018)**

**Jam-e Jamshed Weekly, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

The last of those who studied under the famous child psychologist, Madame Montessori, died peacefully in London on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Kitty Irani nee Mazda, was the third and youngest child of Khan Bhadur Mazda and his wife Jerbanoo of the Khordad family of Pune. Kitty was born in Calcutta on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1924, where her father was one of the wealthiest men having created a mercantile empire from his hard work and acute business sense.



He had been born in Yazd in Iran and had left and walked to India, a journey that took four years, to seek a life of religious freedom. He gave his daughter, Kitty, his strength of character and moral compass. He also imbibed in her the absolute respect for the truth and when one gave one's word one adhered to it. Kitty never broke her word once given.

From her mother, who died suddenly when Kitty was only 16, she inherited her sense of glamour and passion for a full life.

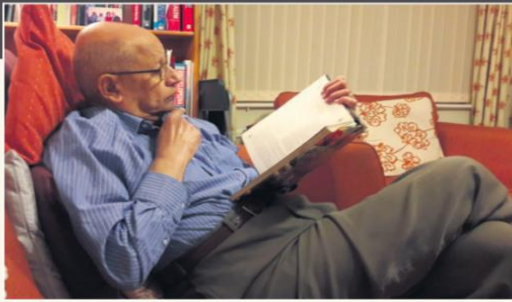
Kitty married her childhood sweetheart Behram (Bailey) and after the birth of their daughter Zerbanoo (named after Kitty's deceased mother), they left for a life in England.

Bailey, with Kitty's support, was at the heart of London's Zoroastrian community. Their Heritage Hotel in central London was visited by all Zoroastrians during their time in UK's capital. Bailey served as President and then Trustee ZTFE. He was also present at the inaugural meeting of the WZO in Teheran hosted by the late Shah of Iran and was then asked to serve as founder President of WZO. Kitty, though never seeking the limelight, was there to support and guide him.

Kitty was mother to Zerbanoo Gifford and Zerbanoo's siblings, Genie, Rustom and Naswan; grandmother to six devoted grandchildren and three times a great grandmother. She played her greatest role as matriarch of a strong and loving family. Not a day passed without her talking to each of her children to ask what their news was.

Not a day also passed without Kitty going out either to a museum or gallery as she not only loved art but was a gifted painter herself. Not a day passed without Kitty ringing friends worldwide to ensure they were well and had everything they needed to be happy.

The famous Doctor to the Queen of England, the late George Pinker, had once said that he "admired two great women, Elizabeth the Queen and Kitty Irani, both beautiful women who fulfilled their duty with great dignity. Their legacy would stand the test of time because it was based on service to be given selflessly to all."



## The passing of Burjor Jal Avari MBE - 1938-2019

Paying tribute to my elder brother Burjor at his funeral on 12 April 2019, Ms SuAndi of Black Artists Organisation in Manchester disguised Burjor as "A mountain infiltrating colonial history with the truth of multiculturalism; your weapons were honesty; your goals peace and mutual respect; when we speak of modesty we speak of you - humble and unassuming, yet pushing aside bureaucracy; when we speak of learning, it is the knowledge we gain from you; when we speak of friendship it will always be our nickname for you; we will miss you in the smallest moments - when passing a lecture theatre or looking into a classroom, or taking a coffee in Costa after Tesco shopping. Your spirit will always be with us in every way of every day; this is not goodbye, it is au revoir".

Burjor was a pioneer in fearlessly promoting multiculturalism in the UK. His true moment came in 1987 following the race riots in various towns and cities of the UK. He passionately felt that the peace and tranquillity of the UK society must somehow be continued to be preserved by drawing together lessons from history. This gave rise to his fame by becoming a champion in the promotion of multi-culturalism.

Burjor was born in 1938 in pre-independent India to Parsi Zoroastrian parents in a small, but a historic town called Navsari in Gujarat. Also born in the same street in Malesar, Navsari, many years earlier was that another iconic Parsi Zoroastrian, Dr Dadabhoy Naoroji - who came to be known as the "Grand Old Man of India". Naoroji went on to become the first Parliamentarian of Indian origin to take his seat in the British House of Commons in 1892; he was the first Indian to utter the words "My people are clamouring for swaraj" (i.e. self-rule) in Parliament.

As a young boy of three, Burjor travelled with his mum from Navsari to Mombasa in Kenya to unite with his dad. Some of his early years were also spent in Zanzibar, before the family finally settled in Mombasa in 1948. Despite the difficulties caused all over the world on account of the Second World War, Burjor's early childhood both in imperial India and colonial East Africa was fun and full of homely love. The colonial Government, despite its philosophy of promoting separate development, nonetheless valued the importance of good education for its citizens. Burjor was fortunate to be taught by highly dedicated Asian teachers of the old order. Learning tables by heart up to forty, reciting page by page words from the Oxford English

Dictionary, and cramming line by line Shakespeare's immortal plays, were part of Burjor's education and growth in the early formative years. It won him very good results in his Cambridge Overseas School Certificate examinations (equivalent of GCE "O" Levels). It qualified Burjor for a full British Government scholarship to proceed to the UK for further studies. With the assistance of the British Council in Kenya, Burjor became the first Parsi Zoroastrian from a small community settled in Mombasa to travel to the UK in 1955 on the Union Castle Line ship, Braemar Castle.

Upon arrival to the UK, he was enrolled at Portsmouth College of Technology and read five "A" levels, including classical Latin. This meant admission to Manchester University, where he read history. After graduation, the Colonial Office, being the funders of Burjor's education in the UK, insisted that he obtained a formal qualification in Education. Burjor thereupon proceeded to Oxford before returning to Kenya in 1961. In Kenya, he became one of the first Asian teachers to teach in a prestigious all black school. He was asked by the Department of Education in Kenya to take up the task of updating the secondary school history syllabus in readiness for the Kenya that was soon to become independent in 1963. One of his first recommendations was that the revised history syllabus should carry a greater emphasis on the slave trade that commenced in the Tudor period, as opposed to children having to learn by heart the names of the six wives of King Henry VIII! In Burjor's mind, it was important that the black kids should acquire a good sound knowledge of how the black people came to be associated with Europe and America.

A few years later, Burjor returned to the UK to continue his teaching career, largely in Manchester. Despite all the problems faced by the Thatcher Government in the early years of her administration with the miners, the print workers, and the dockers, nothing was more fearful than the ugly race riots that tore apart the peace and tranquillity of the UK society in 1987. The late Lady Thatcher, despite her many brush ups with different sectors in the society, recognised that the race issue had a more disturbing underlying reason, which needed to be understood and properly contained.

Taking advantage of this new climate, Burjor wrote a paper for the Department of Education recommending that the school syllabuses required to be overhauled. His paper promoted the concept of emphasis on multicultural education in every subject across the

school curriculum. So, for instance, history lessons should not be merely confined to the study of European history, and geography lessons should cover the study of the entire globe. In domestic science, the kids should learn about the different foods of the different cultures, and so on and so forth. Burjor's paper was enthusiastically received, leading to the establishment of the first and only faculty in the UK of multicultural studies at Manchester. In the same year, Burjor also gave a series of talks to the Manchester Police, so that the police may address, in a proportionate manner, the subject of crowd control made up of multicultural protesters. His reasoned and temperate language promoted in his lectures moved the Head of Manchester Police, to write to the Prime Minister in praise of Burjor's work in promoting multiculturalism in the New England that was now emerging, with the increasing arrival in large numbers of people from different ethnic communities, originating largely from the former British Colonies. This led to the late Lady Thatcher putting forward Burjor's name for inclusion in the 1988 Queen's Honours List, when Burjor was invited to the Palace to receive his MBE.

Thereafter, Burjor spent many years in promoting multiculturalism and interfaith activities, particularly in Manchester. Burjor began writing for a wider public, including producing his three outstanding books. Mr Peter K M Ma, a Senior Community Officer working for the Hong Kong Office in London, wrote in respect of Burjor's book "British Soil - Chinese Roots", being a fruit of many years of research and refined writing by Burjor Avari and the Buckleys, themselves the best example of integration of two cultures - a partnership of two worlds."

Burjor's second book printed in 2007 on "India: The Ancient Past - A history of the Indian Subcontinent from c.7000 BC to AD 1200" was described by Professor (Lord) Bhikhu Parekh of the then University of Westminster, as being "A balanced and well researched book - a most reliable guide to the period of Indian history that it covers. It displays considerable mastery of primary and secondary literature and distils it into a wonderfully lucid exposition. This book should be of interest to both lay readers and academic experts".

Then in 2013 appeared "Islamic Civilisation in South Asia" - a history of Muslim power and presence in the Indian Subcontinent. Describing the book, Professor Francis Robinson, of South Asian History at the Royal Holloway College, University of London, wrote: "The author's story is extremely well told. This will be a most accessible book ..... most pleasingly, his exposition, working over some heavily contested areas of history, is very well balanced".

Burjor cultivated strong and lasting friendships in the academia. At Manchester, he became a close friend of the late Professor John Hinnells - one of 20th century strongest exponents

in the UK of the Zoroastrian faith; as well as the late Professor Ali Mazrui, who to his great credit in the academic world generally also went on to become the first black Professor of Political Science in the entire Continent of Africa, when he took his seat at Makerere University College in Kampala, Uganda.

In regard to his own Zoroastrian Community in Manchester Burjor was the founding member of the North West Zoroastrian Community - NWZC - alongside with his wife Zarin, Mr Eruch Cavasji and Mr and Mrs Zomorodiy. The current Chairperson, Mr Derius Dastor, paying his tribute said: "Burjor was an iconic Parsi within our minute community and a true Zoroastrian in spirit and action. His selfless kindness and generosity of spirit and his intellect, left us in awe, as did his powers of oratory and his desire to help others. We had sadly lost not just a fellow Parsi and friend but an individual who made the most laudable impact through his years by our side and through his works and his interaction with his fellow man."

In his Eulogy delivered at Burjor's funeral on 12 April 2019, describing their sixty year friendship, George Gheverghese Joseph, an Economist from Manchester, said Burjor was "a restless spirit at times - he was at his best involved in thinking, writing and debating subjects, which usually had a universal theme. He was a multiculturalist at heart, passionate in his advocacy, but willing to listen to those who had different views. His intellectual incorruptibility in argument was amazing. He had an impish sense of humour, particularly effective in puncturing pomposities. He had an uncanny way of dealing with people who felt that they had been slighted, but my abiding memory of Burjor remains the last time I saw him at the door of his house, when he gave me a hug. During the sixty years of close friendship, we had dispensed with physical demonstrations of affection, including even handshakes. And that was the true measure of the man".

And then again, William Martin Whalley, a Senior Lecturer in Micro Biology at Manchester Metropolitan University, speaking at Burjor's funeral both for himself and his wife, Anna, and for Emeritus Professor Nels Hamilton Granholm of South Dakota State University, USA, said "Our combined friendship with Burjor began twenty nine years ago. A fellow graduate of Manchester University, he first entered its portals in 1957, five years before I did. He studied in the Department of History, whereas I started life in the sciences, eventually moving to lecture in microbiology at the Manchester Metropolitan University. We both relished the history of this city. Myself, very much an amateur, mainly concerned with the restoration of its historic network of canals, whilst Burjor investigated the whole range of sociological issues associated with the rise of Manchester to international fame. Together we attended one of Burjor's celebrated "Town and Gown" evening

lectures, advertised as "multicultural studies". Burjor firmly believed that inter-racial harmony, and religious tolerance, could be achieved provided people took the trouble to listen to each other's point of view. Burjor and I also maintained regular contact via telephone, email, letter and a card. We often met for coffee or lunch at our old University haunts, and more recently in a little Italian café in Didsbury. Our one-to-one seminars lasted anything up to two hours, over two different slices of cake, each halved and shared; we covered everything from politics, via religion, to Brexit (Burjor being very much a man of socialist principles, and me somewhat on the opposite side). Never a cross word was uttered and each difference usually ended with laughter. Four days before he passed away, Burjor looked at me and said one word "Brexit"! Had he changed his mind? Burjor, you were the brother I never had and we shall stay in touch with your lovely family as long as we live."

The outpouring of all the tributes and kind words reached its finale when Professor (Lord) Bhikhu Parekh suggested that a Fund should be set up in memory of Burjor to arrange an annual Memorial Lecture on the theme of multiculturalism, where eminent speakers from around the world should be invited to the Manchester Metropolitan University. This suggestion was immediately endorsed by Catherine Danks, the Senior Lecturer in the Department of History, Politics and Philosophy at the University. Burjor Avari Memorial Fund will soon be opened where everyone would be invited to contribute to this worthy cause in our troubled and strife ridden world.

Burjor endured his long battle with cancer for almost fourteen years, during which period, after various chemotherapy sessions, upon returning home he would not curl up in bed but instead sat at his computer, which culminated in the publication of his various books. He leaves behind, the loves of his life - Zarin, his wife and childhood sweetheart to whom he was married for forty-nine years, and their two lovely daughters, Rushna and Anahita. They have always been his pillars of strength. Burjor was universally loved by all his wider family and will be sincerely missed.

At his funeral, his niece from Canada wrote: "Burjor Uncle was a man of the people - he loved the colourful tapestry of people in his life; especially the residents of Coronation Street. He was a huge Corrie fan - when the story of Deirdre Rashid being jailed for fraud was aired, I remember him calling our home since he was sincerely concerned about Deirdre. A lively conversation ensued with my dad but Burjor Uncle clearly had the pulse of the nation! My Uncle was a kind man - always standing up for the underdog in society. He was a gentle man - he did not judge and he never raised his voice. We should all endeavour to be a little more like him".

**NOSHIR J AVARI**  
23 April 2019

# **Tribute to Mr. Hoshang Rustomji Khamabatta RIP**

**(B.10<sup>th</sup> April 1926 – D. 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019)**

**By Rohinton F. Munshi (Hon Sec) ZTFE**

Hoshang Rustomji Khambatta who passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019 served the Zoroastrian Community of the UK with exemplary dedication. His wife Dolly predeceased him on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013. For about five decades they supported Zoroastrian community activities across the ZTFE, WZO and the Zoroastrian organisations of South London and Harrow. Their association with the Zoroastrian community in the UK began in the 1960s.

They played an integral part in the life of the community making them a popular and much loved couple. When speaking of Hoshang or *Hosi* as he was affectionately nicknamed it was difficult not to mention Dolly and vice versa.

Hoshang left Nagpur, India for the UK in 1957 joining Borough Polytechnic in South London to study and become a Radio Technician. Dolly had arrived in the UK from Mumbai in 1961. She had established a circle of Zoroastrian friends and had met Hoshang within this group. On one particular occasion they had both been invited to lunch and their host suggested that Hoshang drive Dolly to the venue. At this time Dolly lived in Hammersmith and Hoshang in Heston. Hoshang made the telephone call and the pair travelled together to the do. Gradually their friendship blossomed into love and they married on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1965. The wedding ceremony was performed by Dr. Dasturji Sorabji Kutar and Ervad Jal Birdy at the Zoroastrian House, Kensington Olympia.

Dolly was a successful seamstress and for years took orders from Haute Couture dressmaker, Julian Rose of Bond Street. Hoshang worked for the BBC where following an eventful career as a sound engineer he retired in 1992.

They put these skills to good use for the benefit of the Zoroastrian community. At ZTFE events at the Zoroastrian Centre and the former premises the Zoroastrian House in Compayne Gardens, Hoshang always set up the microphones and monitored the sound system. He did the same at WZO events and for the South London and Harrow organisations. Accompanied with Dolly the couple were committed to volunteering. They were well known for travelling vast distances to volunteer at events and provide lifts for those without transport. When Parsee plays or *nataks* were performed, Dolly always helped with the actors' costumes and make-up. As a snooker enthusiast Hoshang also helped organise, participate in and umpire the Zoroastrian House snooker tournaments.

Hoshang and Dolly were loyal grass roots supporters of the ZTFE. They were amongst the early supporters of the *New Premises Project* and following their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary they donated their cash gifts to the cause. Their kindness and generosity also extended to the children they met showering them with sweets and chocolate.

On 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011, in recognition for his dedicated services to the ZTFE, Hoshang was felicitated at the Zoroastrian Centre at the time of Prince Philip's visit. The ZTFE requested Prince Philip to present Hoshang with a Sesquicentennial Gold Medallion. Hoshang was again felicitated by the ZTFE at the Zoroastrian Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 at his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration an occasion at which he again generously donated his cash gifts to the ZTFE.

ZTFE President Malcolm Deboo paid tribute to Hoshang and Dolly recounting aspects of their lives and their commitment to the ZTFE. Former ZTFE President Dorab Mistry said of both Hoshang and

Dolly that the *“the present Zoroastrian Centre stands as a symbol of their relentless work and their generosity.”*

Hoshang’s bonhomie was instantly recognisable coupled with his self-deprecating sense of humour. This was true whether he reminisced about his life experiences in the Indian Air Force (IAF) or cracked jokes from his hospital bed days before he passed; instructing the nurses to replace the contents of his saline drip with champagne. He enjoyed telling of the time he was asked by Dolly to deliver a number of dresses she had completed to one of Julian Rose’s fashion exhibitions. Hoshang had to take them directly to where the models were changing. Finding some in a state of undress he shielded his eyes with the clothes he had come to deliver, although *“no one else batted an eye lid.”* He mused that working for Dolly had its stresses.

Born into priestly heritage in the railway town of Badnera India, Hoshang was the second of seven children. His older sister Banoo, sadly passed away at the age of 14 after a bout of typhoid, leaving his mother Khorshed Banoo and father Rustomji to bring him up along with siblings: Veera (Vilu), Mehli, Roshan, Jal and Percy. The family moved to Nagpur and settled in the railway colony, of Ajni. Here Hoshang counted ZTFE member Homi Patel amongst his childhood neighbours. Years later in the UK, the pair settled a very short distance from each other in the vicinity of Heathrow Airport. By his mid-teens Hoshang joined his cousin Erach selling and repairing them and learnt the rudiments of electronics. However Hoshang dreamt of becoming a pilot.

On a morning in 1942 aged 16, he went to sign up to the Indian Air Force, Japan having already declared war on Britain. His application was refused the first time as the age of entry was 17. Undeterred Hoshang went to a different recruiting office the same day and told them he was 17. After passing basic training, Hoshang was selected to work in radar, becoming the *“15<sup>th</sup> Indian,”* to be recruited in the whole of India. Although he did not fulfil his ambition of becoming a pilot he remained with air force until 1945.

In about 1946 he secured a job at *All India Radio* in the *‘sound section for broadcast.’* Covering key political moments brought him into contact with Pundit Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi. In 1948 he and his team accompanied the famous broadcaster, Melville de Mellow at Mahatma Gandhi’s funeral.

During the course of Hoshang’s BBC career he worked at a variety of sporting venues. At Wembley Arena he met World Snooker Champion Steve Davis, where Davis gifted him an autographed snooker cue.

For about the last three years of his life Hoshang resided at the Neem Tree Care Home in Greenford. Members of staff admired his great personality and for always being immaculately dressed, true to character - in suit and tie. On his passing friends remembered their times with Hoshang. Phiroze Master recited a poem he had written but it was his niece Dr. Rukshana Nanji, who conveyed everyone’s sentiments, describing him as a

*“sweet gentle man with a rare capacity...to spread happiness and smiles wherever he went. He never shied away from helping others. He may have advanced in age chronologically, but his spirit always remained young and vibrant.”*

# **Tribute to Osta (Mr.) Faridoon Manocher Madon MBE RIP**

**(B.20<sup>th</sup> December 1930 D.7<sup>th</sup> August 2019)**

**By Rohinton F. Munshi (Hon Sec) ZTFE**

Faridoon M. Madon MBE, once said *“I like to fight for a good cause,”* and sure enough he did, spending around 53 years of his life in the service of others. He served Her Majesty’s Government as a Civil Servant, was a powerful voice for all those seeking equality, fairness and justice and served the ZTFE and Zoroastrian Community through a variety of endeavours.

Osta Faridoon was born of priestly lineage, on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1930 in Surat India to parents Mrs. Ketayun and Mr. Manocher Madon. He passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019. His early life in India was spent in Secunderabad (later part of Hyderabad state, now part of Telangana) where he achieved a Bachelor of Commerce degree with honours and then a LLB.

Faridoon came to the UK in 1965 and lived much of his life, in North London in the London Borough of Haringey. Initially he worked for the Postal Service as an accountant and then for Charlie Chester Casino as a manager / accountant. Later having successfully passed civil service examinations he worked at an executive grade at the then Department of Health and Social Security. After a long and distinguished career in the Civil Service, he retired in December 1995.

Although Faridoon had served on many public and voluntary organisations at senior level, those concerning racial equality were the closest to his heart. He was the first Asian elected as Chair of the then Haringey Community Relations Commission (CRC), 1978. He served on the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants 1978/79 and 1981/82. Faridoon was also founder member of the Joint Council of Asian Organisations where he was instrumental in the establishment of the Asian Centre in Haringey.

As Chair of the London Association of CRCs and its Regional Police Committee, he led the deputation of CRCs to Scotland Yard in re-opening dialogue between the CRCs and the Metropolitan Police. This led to the setting up of Community and Consultative Committees. As the first Chair of the Reconstituted Haringey Racial Equality Council (HREC), he commissioned an independent Review of the HREC’s Police Liaison Committee and later published a report with a foreword by Lord Scarman. As a founder member of the HCPC Group and its past Vice Chair, Faridoon won the first race complaint adjudicated by the Press Complaints Commission on the reporting of “Operation Bumblebee,” in the Local Press. Faridoon was also the first Chair of Greater London Authority’s Race Equality (GLARE) and as such was able to sit on the newly created Equality Board of London Underground Ltd. He was also a trustee of the London Race Relations Trust.

On 30<sup>th</sup> December 1995, only 10 days after his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, the newspapers announced that he was to be awarded the honour, MBE. This was in recognition for his work as a former Chair of the GLARE and his long term campaign against racism.

Faridoon’s public spiritedness extended generously to many people from a variety of different social and ethnic backgrounds. On an entirely voluntary basis he accompanied them to various meetings, tribunals and courts, on issues ranging from social housing, health to family law.

In the 1970s Faridoon was elected to both the ZTFE’s Managing and House Committees under President Dr. (Mrs.) Shirinbanoo S. Kutar.

He played an instrumental role as a Managing Committee member in assisting to change the Constitution, by terminating Trusteeship for life and introducing elected trustees for a 7 year term.

Faridoon was the founder President of the North London Zoroastrian Association (NOLZA), formed on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1982. He remained on its managing committee for its entire active life. NOLZA helped community members to settle down as fully fledged members of their adopted country. Professor Hinnells observed that “in becoming affiliated to Haringey Community Relations Council, NOLZA identified itself with the wider Indian community more than is common among Zoroastrian diaspora groups. NOLZA does this because its founder works in community relations and sees his own community within the wider local context.”

Faridoon’s work for the Zoroastrian Community entered a new chapter in 1992, when he launched, what became a 3 year campaign to have a street in Islington renamed after Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji. Naoroji is credited with being the first Indian to be elected to the House of Commons, September 1892. About a year later, in March 1993, a plaque (with ZTFE funding) was placed outside Finsbury Town Hall in commemoration of Naoroji. Faridoon was inspired following Omar Ralph’s exhibition in September 1992, marking the Centenary of Naoroji’s election. That same month Faridoon wrote a letter to Islington Councillor Margaret Hodge and the Chief Executive of Islington Council Eric Dear, raising the question of naming a street in Naoroji’s honour. On 20<sup>th</sup> July 1995 Islington Council agreed that “Insurance St WC1 would be renamed Naoroji Street WC1.”

Eventually the inauguration of Naoroji Street took place at Finsbury Town Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1996 in the presence of: the then High Commissioner of India His Excellency Dr. L. M. Singhvi, Mr. Gopal Gandhi (grand-son of Mahatma Gandhi), Jeremy Corbyn MP (Islington North), Lord Desai, Labour Peer, Mr. Omar Ralph, amongst other dignitaries. Invited guests included ZTFE President at the time Rusi K Dalal. In his speech at the inauguration, Faridoon stated that: “...to rename a street in Islington after Dadabhai Naoroji, [is] a lasting tribute to his unique contribution to Indo-British history and...of significant relevance to present-day multi-racial Britain.”

On 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 the ZTFE felicitated Faridoon by requesting Vada Dasturji Khurshed Dastoor of Iranshah Udvada to present him with a ZTFE Sesquicentennial Gold Medallion for his services to the ZTFE and the Zoroastrian community.

Faridoon enjoyed the cinema, theatre, sport and socialising at the Zoroastrian Centre. He especially liked the Z Club, created by long term ZTFE supporters Rushna and Phiroze Master, with their good work continuing through the endeavours of Gul Billimoria, Ashraf Falahati and Mahtab Munshi and others. He enjoyed good food and relished biryani. At his funeral one of his three nieces, Rukshana Sethna (née Billimoria) spoke affectionately of the time he had gathered her and her two sisters Arnavaz and Meher to prepare biryani for the family and was meticulous in following *the* Hyderabad recipe. Rukshana also paid tribute to the strong and loving support he gave her, her sisters and mother Perviz throughout their lives but especially following the sad demise of her father Jal.

Faridoon left us with the words– “*in life be true and fear nothing. We are all humans,*” giving us an insight into the way he lived and worked throughout. May his soul rest in Garothman Behest.

# Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Minocher JamaspAsa RIP

(B. 11<sup>th</sup> March 1932 – D. 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019)

By Malcolm M Deboo, President ZTFE

ZTFE Honorary Life Member Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa, High Priest of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram Mumbai, passed away in Kent, UK, on Mah Dae Roj Khordad 1388YZ(s) – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019. He was 87 years old. He was an internationally recognized scholar of Avestan, Pahlavi and Gujarati. In his passing away, the Zoroastrian community lost a renowned Zoroastrian scholar, a religious leader and a friend.

Dasturji was born in Mumbai on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1932. He received his early priestly training at home and was instructed in the ways of the religion, by the senior Bhagaria priest, Mobed Pirojshah Gherda. He graduated from St Xavier's College, Mumbai. In 1966, he received his PhD from the University of Bombay, for his thesis on the Pazand - Pahlavi text, *Aogəmadaēca*, which was published in 1982. His thesis was prepared under the guidance of Vada Dasturji Dr. Hormazdyar Kayoji Mirza, High Priest of Iranshah Atash Behram, who remained a lifelong friend and together with Vada Dasturji Dr. Firoze M. Kotwal the three learned High Priests gave directions to the Parsee Zoroastrian community on various matters pertaining to the religion and its practices for over sixty years.

Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa, was installed as the High Priest of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1956. He continued to hold this position for over 60 years till his passing away, thus making him the longest serving High Priest of the Parsee Zoroastrians in India. Over the decades, Dasturji performed countless navjotes and weddings, including of children and grandchildren of those parents and grandparents who he had navjoted when they were children. Under his hand, hundreds of boys from priestly families had undergone their Navar and Maratab ceremonies. Under his religious authority, over 200 Nirangdins and other higher liturgical ceremonies have been performed. During the many years that he was a Vada Dasturji of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram, he steered the community onto the path of tradition and he upheld the beliefs and practices of the Zoroastrian faith. He constantly advocated the need for the community to adhere to the time tested belief and practices of our religion. Dasturji firmly believed that the only way to ensure the survival of the Zoroastrian faith in the times to come was to maintain the socio-religious laws of the community fused to the religion, in order to safeguard the religious institutions such as the Fire Temples, Dakhmas and other religious bodies. Recently, he urged the authorities in Mumbai to realign the construction of the Mumbai Metro tunnels away from the H B Wadiaji and Anjumanna Atash Behrams.

He was fluent in French and German and among his early publications was the translation with annotations of the *Vaetha Nask*. He held the position of Honorary Professor of Iranian Studies at St. Xavier's College for over 3 decades. Concurrently, he also became Principal of the Sir J. J. Zarthoshti Madressa for 10 years and served as the Senior Lecturer of the Mulla Firoz Madressa, in Mumbai. In 1964 he was invited as a Visiting Professor at the Asia Institute of Pahlavi University, Shiraz. In collaboration with Professor Mahyar Nawabi, he later published *The Pahlavi Codices and Iranian Researches* in 1976, under the patronage of her Imperial Majesty, Farah Diba the Shahbanoo of Iran. The Pahlavi Codices, a voluminous compendium, contained facsimile editions of more than fifty Zoroastrian manuscripts. Its publication made the manuscripts available for future scholars of Zoroastrianism. Dasturji was a visiting Professor of the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation at the University of Mainz, Germany. In Mainz he worked on the *Pursišnīhā*, which was published in 1971. He was the proud inheritor of a large collection of ancient Zoroastrian manuscripts from his family. He maintained with dedication these manuscripts and produced a facsimile edition of the

Yasht Codex F1 in 1991. Despite his age and failing health he was working on the Pahlavi Codex Mk with SOAS Zartoshty Professor Almut Hintze. One of his closest academic friends was the late ZTFE Honoured Friend Professor John R Hinnells, who dedicated his book *Zoroastrians in Britain*, published in 1996, jointly to Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa and to Dasturji Dr Sorabji Hormusji Kutar, High Priest of the Zoroastrians of UK and Europe.

The JamaspAsa family are members of the Bhagaria Mobed clan originating from Navsari, Gujarat. Dasturji came from a long line of illustrious scholar priests. It was Dasturji's illustrious great grandfather, Vada Dasturji Dr. Jamaspji Minocherji JamaspAsa MA, PhD, DCL, who headed the team of Yozdathregar Mobeds which consecrated the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram and laid the foundation stone on Roj Ardibehesht, Mah Ardibehesht, 1267YZ(s) – 17th October 1897. The Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram in Mumbai is the last of the 8 Atash Behrams to be consecrated in India. Vada Dasturji Dr. Jamaspji Minocherji JamaspAsa (1830 – 1898) was appointed High Priest of the Shahenshai Parsees in 1861. Vada Dasturji Dr. Jamaspji Minocherji JamaspAsa also presented the Yasna manuscript J2 (Jamaspji 2) to the Bodleian Library, Oxford. J2 is the oldest dated manuscript of the Yasna, in Avestan and Zand, written (completed) by the famous scribe Meherwan Kaikhuro in 1323.

Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa, together with Vada Dasturji Dr Firoze M Kotwal, was elected Honorary Life Member of the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe during its sesquicentennial, on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011, in recognition for his leadership, scholarship and dedication for the Zoroastrian community. He also delivered the key note address at the Second World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in London on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 1997, hosted by the ZTFE. Shortly after the opening of 'The Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination' exhibition at SOAS, Dasturji together Dasturji Kotwal and ZTFE Trustee Ervad Rustom K Bhedwar, attended and blessed the launch of the Zoroastrian All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in the Houses of Parliament on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2013. At the behest of the ZTFE, Dasturji attended the launch of the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies (SSPIZS) on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The formal function commenced by Dasturji invited to bless the occasion with a short Zoroastrian prayer. This was the last time that many of us saw Dasturji on a public occasion in the UK.

Dasturji is survived by his wife Dr Bakhtawar K JamaspAsa, son Nahib Dasturji Dr Jamasp K Dastur and daughter Dr Shirin K Dastur. Dasturji and his wife Bakhtawar had only arrived in the UK on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May, to spend the summer with their children Jamasp and Shirin as they did annually. On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May Dasturji had a fatal heart attack. He had been in poor health for several years, and in recent years he was wheelchair bound. Yet he continued to perform his religious duties as the High Priest of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram. Dasturji's body was repatriated to Mumbai and his funeral was performed at the Towers of Silence. All the after death ceremonies were performed at the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram, Mumbai. ZTFE is grateful to Nahib Dasturji Dr Jamasp K Dastur and family for allowing ZTFE to also perform the after death ceremonies in the Zartoshty Brothers Hall, Zoroastrian Centre, for our Honorary Life Member Vada Dasturji Dr. Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa.

Since inception in 1897, the JamaspAsa family have been in charge of the Anjumanna Atash Behram. Thus Dasturji's son, Nahib Dasturji Dr Jamasp K Dastur is now the current Vada Dasturji of the Zarthoshti Anjumanna Atash Behram.

May the eternal soul of Vada Dasturji Dr Kaikhusroo Dasturji Minocher JamaspAsa rest in Garothman!