

# **The Gandhi Foundation**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2022**

**Registered Office:**

Kingsley Hall, Powis Road, London E3 3HJ

E-mail: [contact@gandhifoundation.org](mailto:contact@gandhifoundation.org)

Website: [www.gandhifoundation.org](http://www.gandhifoundation.org)

Registered Charity No. 292629

## About The Gandhi Foundation

The purpose of the Foundation is to promote knowledge about the life and teaching of Gandhi and to relate it to some of the major challenges and conflicts of our time such as social injustice, poverty, discrimination, destruction of the environment, the arms race and war. Gandhi's advocating of non-violent approaches to conflict are valued and promoted. On 15 June 2007, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish Gandhi's date of birth, 2 October, as the International Day of Non-Violence.

The Gandhi Foundation was set up at a meeting in October 1983, following Richard Attenborough's film "Gandhi" and the renewed interest that it aroused. The Foundation has no full-time staff, but is administered by the Executive Committee whose members take forward the purpose of the Foundation through its ongoing projects. All Gandhi Foundation Friends are encouraged to become involved in areas that are of particular interest to them.

**President:** Lord Bhikhu Parekh

**Patrons:** Navnit Dholakia, Denis Halliday, Martin Polden,  
Diana Schumacher, Mark Tully, Baroness Sandip Verma

**Executive Committee:** ('T' signifies a trustee of the Foundation)

Mark Hoda T, GF Chair since 2010  
Graham Davey T, Treasurer  
Omar Hayat T, Gandhi Peace Award, Annual Lecture  
Trevor Lewis Summer Gathering Co-ordinator  
George Paxton T, Editor of 'The Gandhi Way' and GF Membership Secretary  
Shaheen Choudhury-Westcombe Kingsley Hall Link  
William Rhind  
Jane Sill

## **GF Trustee Report and Events and Activities**

### **- Remembering John Rowley, Eirwen Harbottle, Godric Bader and Bruce Kent**

The Executive is very grateful to Omar Hayat for producing a beautiful memorial booklet to celebrate the life of our long serving Trustee, John Rowley, who very sadly died of Covid in 2021. John's friends and family and GF colleagues also had the opportunity to come together at a memorial service for him on Gandhi's birthday, 2 October last year.

We were also very saddened by the passing of our esteemed Patrons, Godric Bader and Eirwen Harbottle, and also CND and peace campaigner, Bruce Kent, recently.

### **- Multi Faith Celebration**

In January, the Gandhi Foundation held its Multi Faith Celebration – our first in person event since the Covid pandemic struck. The theme of 'Remembering those we have lost' provided a further opportunity to reflect on John's Rowley's passing with his family and friends. We are particularly grateful to Jane Sill for taking the lead in organising the event, and to Multi Faith Celebration partner, Saara Majid, for organising many of the performances through her extensive network.

The event was also live streamed and you can watch a recording of it on via our new website ([gandhifoundation.org](http://gandhifoundation.org)), which incorporates a you tube channel, where we are able to upload recordings of a range of previous events.

### **- New website**

We are very grateful to the Communications Agency, Comma ([wearecomma.com](http://wearecomma.com)) for doing such a wonderful job on the design and build of our new site, which is now live, and we are very proud of. It showcases our work and resources so well.

### **- Sierra Leone Dental Project**

Earlier this year, Omar Hayat visited Sierra Leone to support his wife's work to bring essential dental services to rural areas of the country. The Gandhi Foundation was very pleased to sponsor the project, and we look forward to supporting it to develop further in future. A write up of Omar's visit and photos of the trip can be found on our website.

- **Ahimsa documentary**

We are very grateful to the makers of the fantastic Ahimsa documentary film - about Gandhi and how he inspired subsequent political leaders and movements fighting injustice non violently - for providing GF Friends with free tickets to a screening at the Royal Overseas League.

The GF also participated in panel discussion on Gandhi, after a screening of Ahimsa at the Newham South Asian Film Festival. The film focuses on Gandhi's Salt Satyagraha and how it inspired Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, Solidarity in Poland, and the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia. The film's trailer can be viewed at <https://ahimsa-movie.com/>

- **AGM on 17 September**

We will hold our Annual General Meeting on Saturday 17 September at 15.00, online. To join us please go to:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82833499872?pwd=UTA4V3RGY0JMcmNvMStOMFZVeIFCZz09>

Meeting ID: 828 3349 9872  
Passcode: 014468

The Executive have also drafted a new constitution for the Foundation, which we will seek approval for at our online AGM on 17 September. We are very grateful to Graham Davey for taking a lead on this work.

At our AGM, we also hope that Khadi London will present on their Chelsea School of Fashion design competition, and Natural Fibre Festival, which showcased the winning designs which were produced by tribal artisans in India, who are partners of Action Village India. The Gandhi Foundation sponsored the Festival last year, and hopes to host it at Kingsley Hall later this year, or next year.

**Annual Lecture and Peace Award, 27 October in Parliament**

Looking further ahead, we will hold our Annual Lecture and present this year's Peace Award in Committee Room 2A of the House of Lords Parliament on Thursday 27 October, from 5-7pm. Our lecturer this year is Dr Alexandre Christoyannopoulos, whose lecture title is "*Peacefully preventing and stopping war: Some challenges to conventional wisdom*".

We will also present this year's Peace Award to Action Village India on 27 October, in recognition of their emergency relief work, during the Covid pandemic in rural India, and also their livelihood projects with Khadi London, and their tireless Gandhi inspired campaigning to improve the rights of tribal and lower caste rural communities in India.

We are very grateful to our Patron, Lord Navnit Dholakia, for hosting us in Parliament on 27 October.

You can register here for the Annual Lecture: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gandhi-foundation-annual-lecture-2022-tickets-398784062867>

As always, detailed write ups of all the previous events and activities mentioned here are available in the Gandhi Way, and next editions will feature write ups of our AGM presentation by Khadi London, and our Annual Lecture and Peace Award.

### **Membership and the Gandhi Way**

We are pleased to report that the membership numbers were static overall this year which is an improvement on recent years. Now we would like to start increasing our numbers. Paid up membership is around 160. Existing members could help by distributing leaflets if they know of suitable outlets – please request some from George Paxton (contact details on back page of The Gandhi Way). We sadly lost two very long standing Patrons – Eirwen Harbottle and Godric Bader whose obituaries appeared in The Gandhi Way.

The Gandhi Way continued in its familiar format with the majority of members still opting for paper copies (150 printed) and about 50 being sent by email attachment.

**The Gandhi Foundation**

**Statement of Accounts for the Year 2021**

INCOME	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	EXPENDITURE	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Subs & donations					
Current account	1815.00	1842.00	Gandhi Way, print and post x4	624.78	684.11
Paypal	312.09	313.86	G Paxton expenses	-	89.19
2 Life members	400.00		Kingsley Hall office rent	1560.00	1560.00
Grant – Scott Bader C’wealth	250.00	250.00			
Donation I.Evans	100.00				
Bequests	-	30088.54	Multi-Faith Celebration	100.00	289.88
			(J Katarina in 2021)		
			Annual Lecture (Webinar cost)	-	38.40
Bank interest	13.50	42.59	Peace Award (engraving for 2019)	-	117.60
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Total income	2890.59	32536.99	Website –‘We are Comma’	2150.00	-
Deficit for year	<u>4966.07</u>		Website domain	-	10.36
	7856.66		Multi-fibre Festival sponsorship	2900.00	-
BALANCES			Examination of accounts for 2020	480.00	
	<u>1-1-2021</u>	<u>31-12-2021</u>			
	500.00	2045.56	753.90	Donation – Oasis for Peace	-

Savings account	44076.02	40089.52		
Paypal	313.86	625.95	Phone Co-op	1.88
				0.59
Total cash assets	46435.44	41469.37	Network for Peace sub.	40.00
Add deficit for year		<u>4966.07</u>		-----
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		46435.44	Total expenditure	7856.66
				3330.13

### **Treasurer's Notes on 2021 Accounts**

In addition to our cash assets we have the Cecil Evans bequest of 2000 shares in the BMO Responsible Global Equity Fund (inc.) which in January 2021 was worth £14,977 and is now valued at £16,920, an increase of £1943 in the year. This makes our total assets £58,389.

We shall not have to have these accounts examined for the Charity Commission so I have decided to give priority to intelligibility over accountancy rules. Income was a bit higher than usual thanks to two people becoming life members and Isabel Evans's donation of £100. Against this, the Executive Committee authorised exceptional expenditure on re-building the website and sponsoring the Multi-Fibre Festival. To this total of £5050 had to be added the unavoidable cost of examining the 2020 accounts. Hence we had a deficit for the year of £4966.07.

In the bottom left-hand corner of page 1 is a statement of how much was held in each of our three accounts at the beginning and end of 2021. The totals show a difference of £4966.07 which is the deficit on financing our activities.

### **Income and Expenditure Transactions through our Current Account Jan to August 2022**

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Subs and donations	758.00	Multi Faith Celebration	
		Golders Green Unitarians	210.47
		Programmes + postage	10.00
Bank interest	6.64	Comma for website	570.00

Total income so far	----- 764.64	Gandhi Way x 3	505.30
		Gandhi Way expenses	67.03
		Leaflets printed	46.55
		J Rowley Memorial book	545.00
		Network for Peace sub	40.00
		Total expenditure so far	----- 1994.45

Again, because of exceptional items of expenditure this year we are operating at a deficit of £1229.71 so far. There will be additional expenditure for the annual payment to Kingsley Hall for our office and for expenses in connection with the Annual Lecture and the presentation of the Peace Award. Fortunately we still have substantial reserves and it is right to spend them as the Executive Committee sees fit in order to fulfil the aims of the Foundation.

Graham Davey, Treasurer, August 2022