

Adyar Renovation Project

FUND RAISING



The Adyar estate with its historical grounds is truly a blessed place for many reasons and for Theosophists belonging to the various traditions the world over, but its overall condition, sadly, leaves a lot to be desired.

On the estate there are more than 116 buildings; most of them in a poor state.

Important buildings such as Headquarters Building, the Blavatsky Bungalow and Leadbeater Chambers are no exception and urgently need to undergo an extensive reconstruction.

The International President, Mr. Tim Boyd, has indicated that this process of decay must come to a halt changing it into a process of revitalisation, innovation and above all renovation. For that reason a 20-year plan has been created.

Because of the expected costs and limited budget Adyar will start on the first five-year plan with only four of the six AA priorities: the **Blavatsky Bungalow**, **Headquarters Building**, **Leadbeater Chambers** and **Raja House**. That means that the Besant Bungalow and Sevashrama, both residential buildings, for the time being stay in the bad condition they are in now.

HPB Lodge Challenge

The Lodge Committee would like to lend our fullest support to this wonderful initiative. Of course, each of the four initial key projects are very worthy in their own right, however the Committee has decided to focus its support on one of these projects; being the restoration of Leadbeater Chambers. Many of our members have stayed there and know its beauty and sadly, its poor state of health. We would like to encourage as many members as possible to visit this most serene and inspiring spiritual estate. Having accommodation that enhances this overall experience is a positive step towards this aspiration.

We have set ourselves a challenge to raise US\$5,000 (**NZ\$7,250**) to provide for the renovation of a room at Leadbeater Chambers.

We will endeavour to raise these funds in three ways:

1. We will kick off the fund pool with a NZ \$2,500 donation from our Lodge funds
2. We hope to raise another NZ \$4,000 through donations by our members, and
3. The final NZ \$750 to be raised by other activities such as a Theosophical fair one Saturday morning where we will sell books, home baked food, a fantastic raffle and other items.

Our challenge - is to raise this money within 12 months, i.e. by 1 June 2018. With your help we know we can do this and play our small part in renovating the spiritual home of our beloved Society.

About Leadbeater Chambers

Through a gift from an English member Leadbeater Chambers was erected in the beginning of the 20th century to accommodate students who came to Adyar. It was the first reinforced concrete building constructed in India. For this reason it is considered a monumental heritage. The original contractor used sea sand which contained salt instead of pure sand to mix with cement, since which time Leadbeater Chambers has required constant repairs. Originally the building consisted of 30 flats; each one included a sitting room, bedroom and bathroom. This site needs urgent repair.



Shower in Leadbeater Chambers room. Condition is in poor state



Outside state. Some concrete support beams have large cracks through them and in a state of disrepair

Leadbeater Chambers is a reinforced concrete building that urgently needs renovation and modernisation

Leadbeater Chambers, 3 stories high, will be altered into a modern hostel consisting of 56 rooms and 2 suites, all equipped with a modern toilet, bath and shower. Due to the roof-design and the position of the sun, rooms on the top floor will be supplied with air-conditioning, while the quarters on the other 2 floors will be especially designed to stimulate natural ventilation. Photovoltaic cells are going to be installed on the roof to make self-supportive, clean and renewable energy production possible.

The estimated renovation costs are US\$ 300,000. To realise this, Adyar members, Lodges, private persons or friends of Adyar, who are able and willing to donate US\$ 5,000 per room or US\$ 10,000 per suite will be approached. In return remembrance plaques above the room entrances are to be installed stating: "In gratitude: the renovation of this room was kindly sponsored by ... "

How can I Help?

We would ask that you send your donations by either cheque or electronic bank transfer to ASB Bank -

Pay to: H P B Lodge of the NZ Theosophical Society (Inc)

Account Number: 12 3011 0757379 00

Narration: Adyar Renovation Fund

More Information

For more information about this worthwhile project, please visit the website <http://adyar-renovation.org/>

Pictures of other estate buildings:



Famous roof of
Headquarters Building
looking very dilapidated



Blavatsky Bungalow, in very
poor condition



One of the 116 estate
buildings, in disrepair