

Events included in Lord Mayor's year 08/09

- First Asian Female Lord Mayor in the United Kingdom. Created lots of press and media interest at Mayormaking last year. The Lord Mayor was officially congratulated in the House of Commons and was also invited to Downing Street and was received by Prime Minister's wife Sarah Brown.

- 9th/12th Royal Lancers Freedom Parade took place in March 2009. 165 soldiers formed up outside the Town Hall, with band. Crowds of public gathered in Town Hall Square and lined the route as soldiers marched through the streets. Reception followed in City Rooms. Made front page of Telegraph with photograph of Lord Mayor, plus stories and pictures in The Sun, The Independent, The Times, The Metro and Leicester Mercury – reported that 20,000 visitors were in attendance.

- Queens visit to Curve in December 08. Lord Mayor also met Princess Anne and Duke of Kent during the year. Lord Mayor attended the Royal Garden Party in July 08.

- Lord Mayor has received visitors from China, Strasbourg, Krefeld, Spain, Minsk, Russia, South Carolina. LM met with delegation from South Gujarat, a delegation from Daman, President of Uganda, High Commissioner of India. Lord Mayor also attended receptions to meet International Students from De Montfort University and Leicester University.

- Visitors from Delhi public school, Bollywood actor Benkim Pathak, Guinness Book of records Guru Guru Vasant Devji.

- Granting Honorary Freedom to Engelbert Humperdinck, Sue Townsend and Alan Birchenall at De Montfort Hall ceremony in April - making it a joint celebration of the 800th year of the mayoralty.

- Lord Mayor attended the opening of Highcross Shopping Centre.

- Visit to Chongqing in China - the first Lord Mayor to visit since 1993. Lord Mayor also met the Mayor of Chongqing in London.

- Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in Ludhiana, India.

- Special Olympics Appeal - total as at 5th May is £57,000 - Teresa Dalby (Appeal Office) can give up to date figure. Launch of Special Olympics Countdown in July 08 - event in Town Hall Square, Lawrie McMenemy and Engelbert in attendance. Lord Mayor attended the 30th Anniversary of the Special Olympics at Westminster's Banqueting Hall.

- Lord Mayor hosted the BAME (Black Asian Minority Ethnic) womens conference at the Town Hall. She also launched the National Widows Association at De Montfort Hall.

- Lord Mayor attended the 300th Anniversary of Holy Scriptures of Sikh religion. Switched on the Diwali Lights.

- Lord Mayor's Honoured Citizen of the Year award was given to a consultant Liver surgeon who had pioneered the Acculis System, to successfully treat patients with liver tumours which cannot be removed by conventional surgery. Treatment with this microwave generator system has prolonged the lives of some liver cancer patients and in some cases completely cured them. There were 24 Honoured Citizens nominated during the year.

- Awards given to Lord Mayor include; Receiving Honorary Degree at Leicester University, Receiving Caledonian Friendship Cup, Sanatan Gaurav Award given by Hindu Forum, St Philips Centre made the Lord Mayor a lifelong member, CLASP made her the first Patron, Fibromyalgia Charity called Flares made the Lord Mayor an Honorary Member. The Lord Mayor also collected the NRI Excellence Award in London.

Total number of engagements approx 900 – awaiting final confirmation.