

The Language Show

See us at the Language Show at:

Olympia, October 13 – 15, stand 81.

We will be advertising our presence and aims as well as our facilities for teaching Sanskrit in Schools. So come and visit us at Stand 81 and support the event!

A new Sanskrit textbook

has just been published:

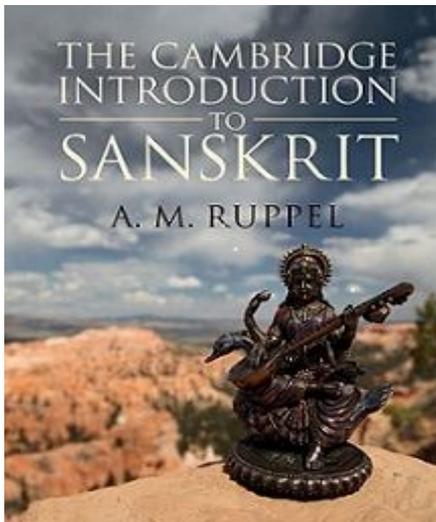
*The Cambridge Introduction
to Sanskrit*

takes complete beginners to reading fluency by gradually introducing all relevant grammar as well as a core vocabulary, and regularly reinforcing new knowledge with practice reading passages taken from original Sanskrit literature. It is accompanied by a variety of online resources, all accessible for free on:

www.cambridge-sanskrit.com.

The first print run sold out within three weeks, but a new print will be available from June.

For anyone interested in buying the book (as a paperback or a hardcover) directly from the publisher, go to their website at www.cambridge.org and use the code RUPPEL2016 at the check-out for a 20% discount.



Sanskrit fever grips Germany

14 universities teaching India's ancient language struggle to meet demand as students clamour for courses. Will Germans be the eventual custodians of Sanskrit, its rich heritage and culture? If the demand for Sanskrit courses in Germany is any indication, that's what the future looks like.

Unable to cope with the flood of applications from around the world, the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, had to start a Summer School in spoken Sanskrit in Switzerland, Italy and - believe it or not - India too.

In Germany, 14 of the top universities teach Sanskrit compared to just four in the UK. The University's Summer School spans a month in August every year and draws applications from across the globe.

So far, 254 students from 34 countries have participated in this course and every year many applications have to be rejected due to space.

Saturday is Sanskrit/Vedanta day

At present there are 20 adult students in the Saturday Class at St James School, London, all in their twenties and seventies and everything in between. Most of the students are of Hindu descent so they bring with them quite a lot of cultural background but are very receptive to new knowledge.

They are a hard-working and cheerful lot, so progress is good! Each week, on a Saturday morning, we fill three hours with a varied menu of tests, stories, paradigms, grammar and Vedantic metaphysics. And then, each week there is homework. In fact, last term, when I eased off on the paradigm learning as Christmas approached, I got lots of complaints!

We have decided to go for the IGCSE basic level (Option A) examination in early May as a staging post on the way to the higher level IGCSE.

In addition to this group, there is a smaller group which meets on Saturday evenings. These also are mainly of Hindu background, wishing to learn more of their own ancestral culture. They are mainly young professional people and we have been together long enough now to have become good friends, so our time together is a combination of study and pleasure. They too are aiming at the higher level (Option B) examination in 2018, so at some point the two groups may well merge

David Stollar.

The Training Day for Classics Teachers

Some 20 Classics teachers are expected at this year's Sanskrit Training Day, which will be held at King's College London, on June 21st, following the same successful event last year. Participants will be given a thorough introduction to the language and particularly of its potential for the education of children, not only in the facility it brings to appreciating other languages but also for its accessibility into the world's greatest literature. Following previous Training Days, some Classics teachers have started Sanskrit classes in their own schools as a lunch time or after school.



Sanskrit @ St James promotes and supports the teaching of Sanskrit globally. It is voluntarily managed by Paul Palmarozza, Helen Harper & Martin Bloomfield with essential support from current and ex-teachers from the **St James Schools** in London. This Newsletter is published from time to time to inform our marvellous friends and supporters of our current work.

Web: www.sanskritatstjames.org.uk **email:** sanskrit@stjameschools.co.uk **Sanskrit exam support site:** www.sanskritexams.org.uk

Address: *Sanskrit @ St James* Earsby Street London W14 8SH UK **Telephone** +44 (0) 20 7348 1743 **Registered charity** No 270156

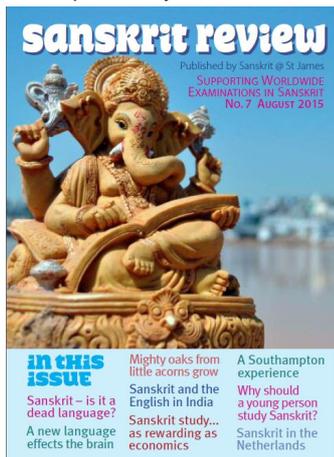
Congratulations to Sai Shyam, of Sri Vani International School, Bangalore who received an award for High Achievement after gaining the highest mark in India in Cambridge IGCSE Sanskrit 2016 examinations. Sai wrote about his Sanskrit Journey in the 2016 *Sanskrit Review*. And to **Sandra Brophy** from Sydney who won a High Achievement award from Cambridge for her Sanskrit IGCSE examination result last year. This earned her a complimentary place at an Awards Dinner in February in New Zealand with Guest speaker is Michael O'Sullivan, Cambridge CE of Cambridge International Examination board.

The Sanskrit Review

Supporting students worldwide

The 2017 edition of the Sanskrit Review will be published soon and will contain essays under the title 'Why Sanskrit'. The importance of advertising the facility of the Sanskrit language is essential to maintaining its present growth as a subject to be taught in schools.

Cover picture of 2017 Review



Published by *Sanskrit @ St James*
Copies are sent to all members of the ISER society. For further information:
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Sanskrit Worldwide Twitter!

If you are a Twitter addict you may be one of about 600 that tap onto our Twitter every month! You may also, as the feedback supplied shows, be a Bollywood or cricket enthusiast, indicating that 79% of members come from India. Predominantly a young audience, it is 87% male, so as a dating agency it would present problems, but very much worth using it, if you want to keep up with our Sanskrit news.

News from India

Malta: The place for Sanskrit Study!

Year 11 Sanskritists from St James School went for a Sanskrit study holiday in Malta in February. They stayed in a charming hotel overlooking the sea, studied in the mornings, and went on trips around Malta in the afternoons, particularly concentrating on the ancient temples of Malta, which are unique in the world.

The pupils voted as to which Sanskrit verse should be studied in depth.

Bhagavad Gita 18.54 was chosen. This verse can be translated as:

'Being Absolute, with serene Self, one does not grieve or desire.'

'Being the same in all beings, one finds supreme devotion to the Absolute.'



On each of the five mornings of the week they studied a particular part of this verse and on the last day each pupil reported back on what had been significant for them. In different ways all said they had been touched by both the deep spirituality found in Malta, and the deep spirituality found in the Bhagavad Gita verse which they had been studying.

Tarxien Temple - one of Malta's megalithic temples

The International Sanskrit Examination Resource web site

www.sanskritexams.org.uk

Since the last Newsletter ~~there has been a focussing~~ **we have focussed** on encouraging support for the IGCSE and A Level exams. There is now a new page on this on the ISER website:

<http://www.sanskritexams.org.uk/support-needed.html>

This has a link to a brochure outlining the main facts and benefits of the IGCSE examination. It is vital that schools are made aware of the new IGCSE examination being launched by Cambridge International Examinations for 2019, **replace comma with full stop.** ~~and it is essential that~~ **Unless** a fair number of candidates come forward for these examinations, ~~otherwise subjects will be~~ **are** discontinued.

A team of us have also been working on a new **Literature Study Aid** for the 2019 examinations. Much **of the** vocabulary is supplied as well as assistance with compounds, so that students should find the translation and study **as really enjoyable as possible.**

This booklet is now available, together with the **Epic Civilisation Course** on the ISER website:

<http://www.sanskritexams.org.uk/sanskrit-igcse-2019.html>

New High quality videos which cover the material required for ~~these~~ **this** new examination ~~is being made to supplement the current series, and these will be~~ **are now** available ~~very soon.~~

Helen Harper

Sanskrit @ St James depends on charitable donations.

Can you support us in this work of promoting the teaching of Sanskrit and its formal examinations worldwide?

We have a **PayPal** account on www.sanskritatstjames.org.uk, or write or email us at the address overleaf.