



ओशवाल
समाचार

OSHWAL news

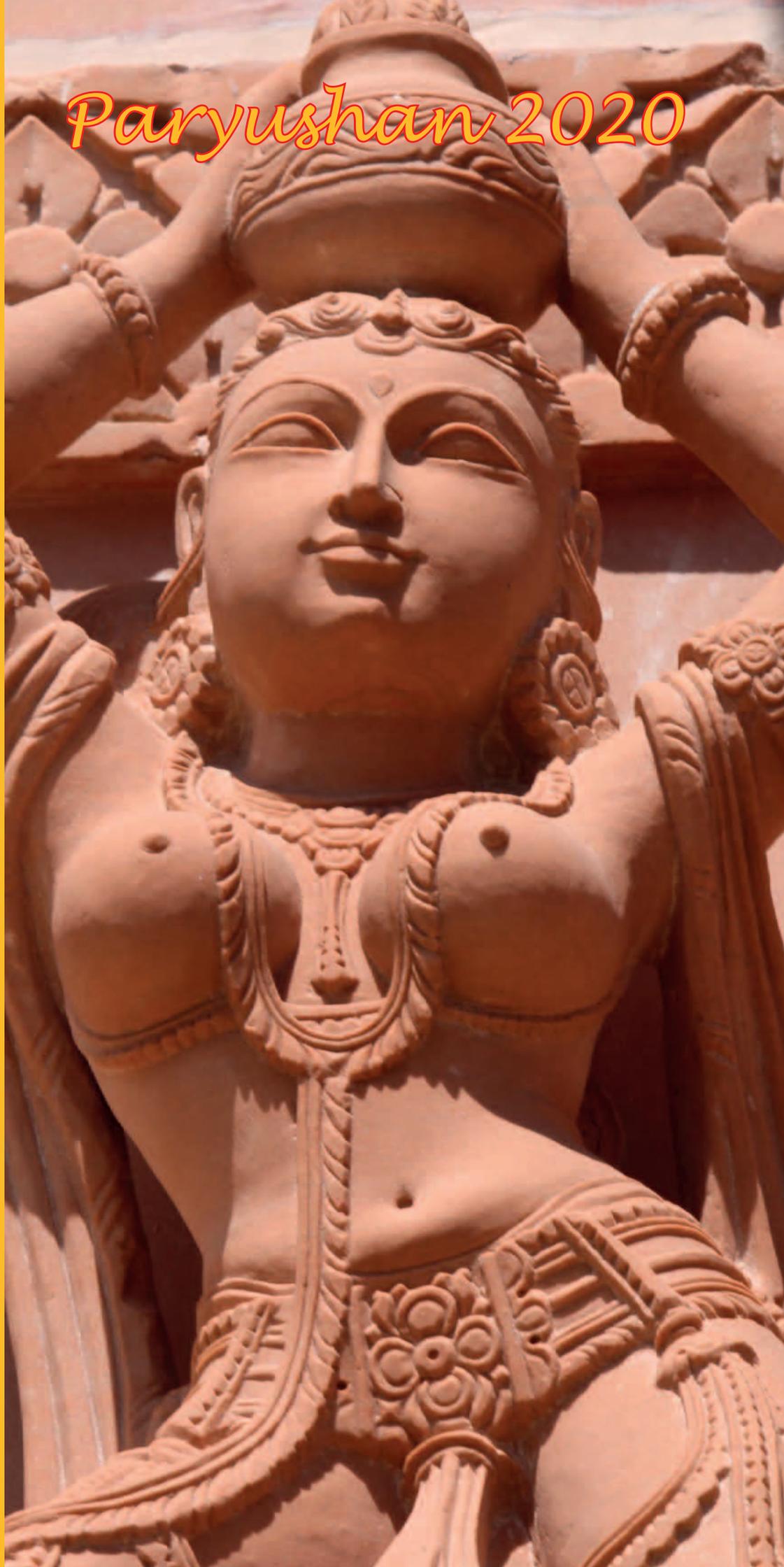
August 2020 Edition

 www.oshwal.co.uk

 www.facebook.com/oshwaluk

 www.twitter.com/oshwal_uk

Paryushan 2020



Niharti®

award winning superfood



natural protection



Nature,
Nurture,
Niharti...

food supplement



queen of oils



a source of vitamin E



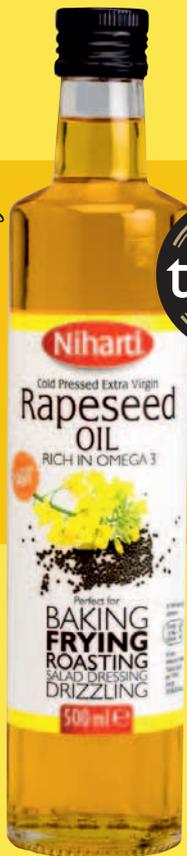
small in size ... big in goodness



essential oils



versatile cooking



great
taste
2019



blessed seed oil

*a super ...
superfood
oil*



great
taste
2019

rich in flavour and aroma



find us in
your
local store



Editors message 2020

Jai Jinendra & Pranam

I hope everyone has been safe and well.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought about a total change in the way we live our lives, our safety is paramount and so hope all members are following the Guidelines issued these rules are put in place for their safety and others around you and this we must continue

During the past 4 months we have all suffered in many ways, the suffering has been even greater in the poorer countries that we have seen on TV, our prayers to Lord Mahavir is to help us get through this very difficult patch

At OAUK apart from Luton area we could not hold any of the AGM's but our Committee members, Trustees, office staff plus and all the loyal Volunteers and many of the members have been involved in doing the great Sewa work, our website and the E Newsletters shows you what has been going on in all our nine areas, you can read the reports in this Paryushan issue - well done to everyone involved

For the first time ever we are arranging the Paryushan online full details inside , please take part

Happy Paryushan & my Best Wishes to everyone

Micchami Dukkham

Sudhir Meghji Shah

Trustee and Editor of Oshwal News

sudhir.m.shah@oshwal.org

07785 710914



Please forward your adverts to:
OshwalNews@Oshwal.org

All other articles and reports to:
Sudhir.M.Shah@Oshwal.org

Pictures must be very high quality in Jpeg files
Articles from members should be max one page

Printer's Note: Paper used is from well-managed/sustainably managed forests.

The Editor nor Oshwal Association of the U.K. is not in anyway responsible for the goods and services rendered by its Advertisers. The Oshwal Association of the U.K. accepts all advertisements in good faith and it is entirely up to readers to verify Advertisers products and services should they feel the need to do so. If you have any complaints about the products or services offered by our advertisers please send me a note.

OSHWAL NEWS is the magazine of the OSHWAL ASSOCIATION OF THE U.K.
All articles, text and pictures © Oshwal Association of the U.K.

Reg. Office: Coopers Lane Road, Northaw, Herts. EN6 4DG
Registered in accordance with the Charities Act 1960
Charity Reg. No. 267037

Editor's Message & Content	1
President's Message	2
Area News & Reports	
West Area	38
Northampton Area	46
South Area	52
North East Area	64
North West Area	74
North Area	90
Luton Area	98
Leicester Area	102
East Area	112
Articles Index	
Anand Yatra	6
Dhaja Din	7
Sammvet Shikhar Yatra	8
New Honourary Secretary of OAUK	16
Events in your area	18
Inspiring Talks	21
Special Message	22
Weddings and Engagements	29
Articles	32
Advertising Rates	127
General Information	128





President's Message

Jai Jinendra and Pranam

I hope you are all well and keeping safe. Those of you are not well we pray to god for a speedy recovery.

Coronavirus pandemic has brought about an unprecedented global health crisis and has changed our lives dramatically in the way we think, way we do things, way we work. It has also brought us much closer and being able to spend that quality life with our families and loved ones.

Derasar Opening

As a result of the lockdown restrictions we had to close all our centres. With the lifting of certain restriction by the government we have now opened our Derasars at all our centres and we would like you all to come and visit our Derasars to do the Darshans and receiving the blessing of our Tirthankar. Details of timing to visit are on our website.

Paryushan

Due to lockdown of mass gatherings, it is for the first time in almost 45 years we will not be able to celebrate Paryushan in a traditional manner especially as it takes a considerable amount of advance preparation and planning, which may not be possible to execute at a short notice. The Religious Committee of the EC has now planned with the Area Committees and Jayeshbhai to prepare plans for a "Virtual Paryushan" by conducting the various activities, including Pratikaman, by using the online facilities that have now become commonplace everywhere. We will do everything we can to ensure that in whatever manner we celebrate Paryushan it will be a memorable and pleasant experience. Please see the details of our Paryushan activities published in our magazine.



Award

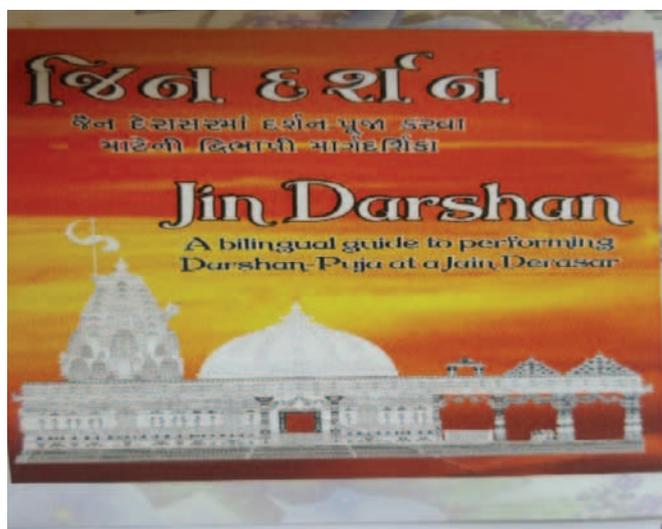
I am pleased to inform our Members that OAUk has been presented with the OneJAIN Excellence in Community service award for outstanding public service during the Coronavirus Pandemic (Covid-19). Myself and Tusharbhai attended virtual online conference on 27th June 2020, where the award was announced. We should all be proud for a work we had undertaken during this crisis. I thank the entire team of our volunteers and back up team for the work which had been undertaken to supply meals to NHS frontline workers, and meals to Elderly and Vulnerable people.



In addition, as an appreciation, our South Area Oshwals were presented with certificates by Croydon Mayor for community service during the Covid Period.

On 19.07.20 we have launched this book to be used by all our devotees. We would like to thank Bharatbhai, Manishbhai and Kamalbhai of Sigma Pharmaceuticals PLC and their family members for sponsoring the publication of book. We would also like to thank the compilers and editors of this books who have given their valuable time. So, Hugh thank you to Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai J Shah, Dr Indravadanbhai L Kothari, Shobhnaben Harish Shah and Harishbhai Meghji Shah. In addition, I would like to thank the photographer- Mr Shitalbhai Gohil.

You were all sent a voucher to collect this book from any of our centres. Please do so when you are next visiting any of our centres or when you are coming for Dharshan at Potters Bar.



Online Events

During Lockdown all the activities had been shut down. However with the modern technology we were able to bring in so many online events which had kept us all engaged and entertained with events such as first ever online Oshwal talents show., Yoga classes, Lecturers, keep fit classes, cookery demonstration ,live musical show and religious lecturers by Jayeshbhai. I would like to thank entire online team including participants, lecturers and artists who made this possible.

Finally, on behalf of my fellow Trustees, committee members and Board of advisors I seek your forgiveness for any misdeeds or actions on our part which may have hurt your feelings in any way.
Michammi Dukkadam

Jai Mahavir, Jai Oshwal

Nilesh Bhagwanji Shah
Hon. President

Oshwal Association of the UK
Email: President@oshsval.org



Paryushan Festival 2020
Collective worship of Paryushan with members of the nine OAUK areas
for the first time
Saturday, 15.08.2020 - Saturday, 22.08.2020



Pranam

We hope you are all well. Under the circumstances, due to Covid 19, the Executive Committee of OAUK has decided to organise the worship for Paryushana this year by virtual webcast for all members of the nine areas. All are warmly invited to participate in the collective worship of the programmes everyday as indicated below:

Day / Date	Time	Programme
Saturday 15.08.2020 1st Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.
	09:45 -11.00 am	A special grand programme of all U.K. Jain organisations
	11.00 am - 1.00 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the 'Duties of a Shravak' in simple language.
	6.45 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted
	8.00 pm	Prabhu Bhakti and Bhaavna followed by Aarti-Mangal Divo. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for taking the opportunity to perform Aarti -Mangal Divo. The family who takes the opportunity will be able perform Aarti-Mangal Divo at home and which all members of the Sangh will be able to view via live webcast.
Sunday 16.08.2020 2nd Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the 'Duties of a Shravak' in simple language.
	6.45 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted
Monday 17.08.2020 3rd Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the 'Duties of a Shravak' in simple language.
	6.45 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted

3rd Day	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the 'Duties of a Shravak' in simple language.					
	6.45 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted					
	8.00 pm	Prabhu Bhakti and Bhaavna followed by Aarti-Mangal Divo. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for taking the opportunity to perform Aarti -Mangal Divo. The family who takes the opportunity will be able perform Aarti-Mangal Divo at home and which all members of the Sangh will be able to view via live webcast.					
Tuesday 18.08.2020 4th Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.					
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music and Kalpa Sutra Gyan Puja will be performed.					
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the 'Duties of a Shravak' in simple language.					
	5.30 pm	Virtual Pakhi Pratrikram will be conducted.					
	8.00 pm	Prabhu Bhakti and Bhaavna followed by Aarti-Mangal Divo. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for taking the opportunity to perform Aarti -Mangal Divo. The family who takes the opportunity will be able perform Aarti-Mangal Divo at home and which all members of the Sangh will be able to view via live webcast.					
Wednesday 19.08.2020 5th Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.					
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music					
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give discourses on the greatness of the 'Kalpa Sutra' in simple language					
	5.30 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted					
	7.30 pm	Mahavir Janma celebration - Darshan of 14 Dreams, Paarnu and Aarti-Mangal Divo accompanied with Bhakti via live webcast.					
		Please take the opportunity of the 14 dreams of Trishla Mata. Arrangements will be made in advance for the Swapna and Parnu to be given to the families who have bidden for them and who will be able to perform virtual darshan before Prabhuji at home with their family on the night of the birth celebration, which all will be able to view.					
Wednesday 19.08.2020 5th Day	7.30 pm	The 14 dreams of Trishla Mata					
			Swapna	Nakro		Swapna	Nakro
		1	Elephant	£ 201-00	8	Large Flag	£ 201-00

		2 Bull	£ 201-00	9 Silver Urn	£ 201-00
		3 Lion	£ 201-00	10 Lotus-Lake	£ 201-00
		4 Goddess Laxmi	£ 501-00	11 Milky-White Sea	£ 201-00
		5 Flower Garland	£ 201-00	12 Celestial aeroplane	£ 201-00
		6 Full Moon	£ 201-00	13 Heap of Gems	£ 501-00
		7 Sun	£ 201-00	14 Smokeless fire	£ 201-00
		Parnu of Mahavir Bhagwan and opportunity to perform Aarti-Mangal Divo			£1008-00
		Aarti and Mangal Divo will be performed accompanied with Bhaavna and Bhakti.			
Thursday 20.08.2020 6th Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.			
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music			
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give discourses on the greatness of the 'Kalpa Sutra' in simple language			
	6.45 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted			
	8.00 pm	Prabhu Bhakti and Bhaavna followed by Aarti-Mangal Divo. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for taking the opportunity to perform Aarti -Mangal Divo. The family who takes the opportunity will be able perform Aarti-Mangal-Divo at home and which all members of the Sangh will be able to view via live webcast.			
Friday 21.08.2020 7th Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.			
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music			
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give discourses on the greatness of the 'Kalpa Sutra' in simple language			
	5.30 pm	Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted			
Friday 21.08.2020 7th Day	7.30 pm	Prabhu Bhakti and Bhaavna followed by Aarti-Mangal Divo. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for taking the opportunity to perform Aarti -Mangal Divo. The family who takes the opportunity will be able perform Aarti-Mangal-Divo at home and which all members of the Sangh will be able to view via live webcast.			

Saturday 22.08.2020 8th Day	8.00 am	Darshan, Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo will be performed in the Derasar which you will be able to view in your own home. A Nakro of £101.00 has been kept for the first Puja and £101.00 for Aarti Mangal Divo.
	10.30 -11.00 am	Devotional Bhakti accompanied with music
	11.00 am - 12.30 pm	Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai will give a discourse on the greatness of the 'Baarsa Sutra' accompanied with Puja of Barsa Sutra and Picture Darshan.
	4.30 pm	Shri Samvatsari Virtual Pratikraman will be conducted
	7.30 pm	Bhaavna and Bhakti followed by Aarti - Mangal Divo which will be performed collectively with music. Please all take this opportunity of performing Aarti-Mangal Divo in your home with your family and for which a nakro of £10.00 has been kept.
There will be classes for children on Jainism everyday in the afternoon and Pratrikraman in English in the evening by live webcast during Paryushan. Please see the information leaflet for further details.		
During Paryushan, various singers and muscians from India, Kenya as well as London will be performing for Bhavna and Bhakti everday.		
Note: Please contact your area Religious Chairperson or Varshaben Dilipbhai Shah for registering your names to take the opportunity of performing the first Puja, Aarti-Mangal Divo, Swapna and Paarnu etc. during Paryushan. Varshaben Shah Tel: 0208 449 5708 - 07710230377		
You will be able to view all the Paryushan sessions on the Oshwal You Tube channel at https://www.youtube.com/c/oshwaluk		



પર્યુષણ મહાપર્વ ૨૦૨૦



પ્રથમ વખત નવ એરિયાના સભ્યો સાથે સામૂહિક પર્યુષણ પર્વની આરાધના
શનિવાર, ૧૫.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ - શનિવાર, ૨૨.૦૮.૨૦૨૦



પ્રણામ

આપ દરેક કુશળ અને શાતામાં હશો. આ સાલ કોવિડ-૧૯ના કારણે, સંજોગો અનુસાર, OAUKની મધ્ય સમિતિએ નવ એરિયાના સભ્યો સાથે લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટથી આરાધના કરવા માટે નક્કી કરેલ છે. નીચે જણાવ્યા મુજબ પર્યુષણ પર્વના દરેક કાર્યક્રમની સામૂહિક આરાધનાનો આપ સૌ લાભ સર્વેને લાભ લેવા વિનંતિ છે.

દિવસ/તારીખ	સમય	કાર્યક્રમ
શનિવાર, ૧૫.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ પ્રથમ દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
	સવારે ૧૦.૦૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	યુ.કે.ની સર્વે જૈન સંસ્થાઓનો ભવ્ય કાર્યક્રમ
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦ થી ૧.૦૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રાવક કર્તવ્ય' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.
	સાંજે ૬.૪૫ વાગ્યે	વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે
	રાત્રે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.
રવિવાર, ૧૬.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ બીજો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦ થી ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રાવક કર્તવ્ય' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.
	સાંજે ૬.૪૫ વાગ્યે	વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે
	રાત્રે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.
સોમવાર, ૧૭.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ ત્રીજો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.

સોમવાર, ૧૭.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ ત્રીજો દિવસ	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦ થી ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રાવક કર્તવ્ય' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.
	સાંજે ૬.૪૫ વાગ્યે	વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે
	રાત્રે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.
મંગળવાર, ૧૮.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ ચોથો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ થી ૮.૩૦	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ તેમજ કલ્પ સૂત્રની જ્ઞાન પૂજા થશે.
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦- ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રી કલ્પ સૂત્રના મહિમા' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.
	સાંજે ૫.૩૦ વાગ્યે	ચૌદસ પક્ષી વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે
	રાત્રે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.
બુધવાર, ૧૯.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ પાંચમો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો ₹૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦- ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રી કલ્પ સૂત્રના મહિમા' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.
	સાંજે ૫.૩૦ વાગ્યે	લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે
	સાંજે ૭.૩૦ વાગ્યે	મહાવીર જન્મ ઉત્સવ થશે જેમાં લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા ૧૪ સ્વપન દર્શન, હાલરડું (પારણું) અને ભક્તિની રમઝટ સાથે આરતી-મંગળ દીવો.
		આપ ત્રિશલા માતાના ચૌદ સ્વપનાંનો જરૂર લાભ લેશો. સ્વપનાં અને ભગવાનના પારણાનો જેમણે લાભ લીધો હશે તેમના ઘરે અગાઉથી સ્વપ્ન કે પારણું પહોંચાડવામાં આવશે અને જન્મ ઉત્સવમાં રાત્રે તેમના પરિવાર સાથે વર્યુઅલ દર્શન કરી શકશે, જે સૌ નિહાળી શકશે.

બુધવાર, ૧૯.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ પાંચમો દિવસ	ત્રિશલા માતાનાં ચૌદ સ્વપનાંનો લાભ					
		સ્વપન	નકરો		સ્વપન	નકરો
	૧	હાથી	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૮	મોટો ધ્વજ	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	૨	વૃષભ	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૯	પૂર્ણ કળશ	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	૩	સિંહ	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૧૦	પદ્મ સરોવર	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	૪	શ્રી લક્ષ્મી દેવી	£ ૫૦૧.૦૦	૧૧	ક્ષીર સમુદ્ર	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	૫	પુષ્પ માળા	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૧૨	દેવ વિમાન	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	૬	પૂર્ણ ચંદ્ર	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૧૩	રત્નનો ઢગલો	£ ૫૦૧.૦૦
	૭	સૂર્ય	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦	૧૪	અગ્નિશિખા	£ ૨૦૧.૦૦
	ભગવાનું પારણું - ભગવાનના પારણા સાથે આરતી અને મંગળ દીવાના લાભનો આદેશ					£ ૧,૦૦૮.૦૦
	ભાવના અને ભક્તિ સાથે આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે.					
ગુરુવાર, ૨૦.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ છઠ્ઠો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.				
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.				
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦- ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રી કલ્પ સૂત્રના મહિમા' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.				
	સાંજે ૬.૪૫ વાગ્યે	વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે				
	રાત્રે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.				
શુક્રવાર, ૨૧.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ સાતમો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ થી ૮.૩૦	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.				
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.				
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦- ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ સરળ શૈલીમાં 'શ્રી કલ્પ સૂત્રના મહિમા' ઉપર પ્રવચન આપશે.				
	સાંજે ૫.૩૦ વાગ્યે	વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ કરાવવામાં આવશે				

શુક્રવાર, ૨૧.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ સાતમો દિવસ	રાત્રે ૭.૩૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે એક દિવસનો નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે. લાભાર્થી પરિવાર તેમના ઘરમાં આરતી મંગળ-દીવો ઉતારશે અને સકળ સંઘ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળીને લાભ લઈ શકશે.
શનિવાર, ૨૨.૦૮.૨૦૨૦ આઠમો દિવસ	સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે	દેરાસરમાં દર્શન, પૂજા તેમ જ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે જે આપ લાઇવ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો અને લાભ લઈ શકશો. દેરાસરની પહેલી પૂજાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ અને આરતી-મંગળ દીવાનો લાભ લેવા માટે નકરો £૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
	સવારે ૧૦.૩૦ થી ૧૧.૦૦	સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સાથે ભાવવાહી ભક્તિ થશે.
	સવારે ૧૧.૦૦- ૧૨.૩૦	પૂજ્ય શ્રી જયેશભાઈ બારસા સૂત્રની જ્ઞાન પૂજા અને ચિત્ર દર્શન સાથે તેનો મહિમા સમજાવશે.
	સાંજે ૪.૩૦ વાગ્યે	શ્રી સંવત્સરી વર્યુઅલ પ્રતિક્રમણ - ક્ષમાપના
	રાત્રે ૭.૩૦ વાગ્યે	ભાવના સાથે પ્રભુ ભક્તિ. ત્યાર બાદ સંગીતની રમઝટ સાથે સમૂહમાં આરતી-મંગળ દીવો થશે આપ દરેક આપના પરિવાર સાથે આપના ઘરમાં ભગવાનની સન્મઉખ આરતી-મંગળ દીવો ઉતારવાનો લાભ લેશો, જેના માટે નકરો £૧૦.૦૦ રાખેલ છે.
દરરોજ બપોરે બાળકો માટે વર્ગો રાખવામાં આવેલ છે અને સાંજે અંગ્રેજીમાં પ્રતિક્રમણ થશે. વધુ માહિતી સાથેના માહિતીપત્રકમાં આપેલ છે.		
પર્યુષણ દરમ્યાન, ભારત, કેનિયા તેમજ લંડનના વિવધ સંગીતકારો અને ગાયકો દરરોજ ભાવના અને ભક્તિ કરાવશે.		
નોંધ: પહેલી પૂજા, આરતી-મંગળ દીવો, સ્વપ્નાં, પારણું વગેરેનો લાભ લેવા માટે આપ આપની એરિયાના ધાર્મિક સમિતિના ચેરપરસનનો અથવા વર્ષાબેન દિલીપભાઈ શાહનો સંપર્ક કરશો. Varshaben Shah - Tel: 0208 449 5708 - 07710230377		
આપ પર્યુષણના દરેક કાર્યક્રમ ઓશવાલ યુ ટ્યુબ ચેનલ દ્વારા નિહાળી શકશો: https://www.youtube.com/c/oshwaluk		



Pranam

The Shaasan of Prabhu Mahavir can enable us to free ourselves from wrongful karmas, attain good karmas and enhance in the path of religion. We pay a tribute to all who have lost their lives due to the Corona Virus Pandemic. We pray for the wellbeing and speedy recovery of all who are unwell.

Under the guidance of Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai, our Sangh had organised various worshipful activities for our members to engage and participate at home during the lockdown period. This included discourses on Shri Navpad Aymbil Oli, Celebration of the Birth of Shri Mahavir Prabhu, Satsang - Pravachan every Wednesday and Sunday by live webcast, 27 days of Shri Navkar Mantra Jaap, two month Saakdi Aymbil Tap, one month and continuing Shri Simandhar Swami Saakdi Ekasana worship and 100,000 (one lakh) Shri Navkar Mantra Jaap. Hundreds of devotees have participated in the various religious activities during this period.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it was not possible to celebrate Shri Navpad Aymbil Oli for the month of Chaitra this year, which had been sponsored by the Edgware Satsang Mandal. By inspiring everyone, over 75 devotees from all areas had performed Shri Navpad Aymbil Oli and Vardhmaan Tap at home. We will try to organise various religious activities and Satsangs in this way. Khub Anumodna to all for participating and performing various types of worship and we hope you will continue to do so in the future.

Great souls say that engrossing our minds in the worship of religion prevents the influx of wrongful thoughts and karmas. It is religion that gives us strength and courage.

For the last three months of the lockdown period, messages are communicated daily on various religious aspects, swadhyaay and discourses. Many devotees are taking the opportunity to gain knowledge. Please do continue to take this opportunity and inspire your family members and friends to join too. To join, please contact Shobhaben Harish Shah - Tel: 07958 447298.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for giving their time and assisting with their mind, body and soul during this difficult time. On behalf of the entire Sangh, we pray to Prabhu Mahavir for the Covid 19 Epidemic to end.

Jai Jinendra

Varsha Dilipbhai Shah
OAUK Religious Chairperson





ॐ ધજા મહોત્સવ પ્રસંગ – રવિવાર, 6th September 2020

આપણા દેરાસરના પંદર (૧૫)વર્ષ પૂર્ણ થશે. 6th September દેરાસરના શીખર ઉપર સોળ (૧૬)મી ધજા આરોહણ કરવામાં (ચઢાવવામાં) આવશે. આ શુભ દિવસે સવારે ૮.૦૦ વાગ્યે સ્નાત્ર પૂજા અને ત્યાર બાદ સવારે ૯.૦૦ વાગ્યે શ્રી સત્તરભેદી પૂજા ભણાવવામાં આવશે. બપોરે ૧૨.૩૯ મિનિટે ધજા ચઢાવવામાં આવશે.

આ લાભ માટે નકરો લેનાર જે પરિવારનો ટોકનના ડ્રોમાંથી નંબર આવશે તે પરિવારના સાત (૭) સભ્યોને ધજા તેમજ, પૂજા, આરતી, મંગળ દીવો અને શાંતિકળશ દેરાસરમાં લાભ મળશે. સકળ સંઘના સભ્યો **OAUK**ના વર્ચુઅલ વેબકાસ્ટ દ્વારા આ મહાન પ્રસંગ નિહાળી શકશે.

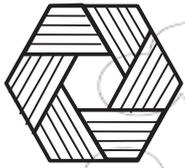
લાભ માટેનો નકરો ૧૦૧.૦૦ રાખવામાં આવેલ છે. ધજા પ્રસંગનો મહાન લાભ લેવા માટે **OAUK**ની ઓશવાલ સેન્ટર ઓફિસનો **Tel: 01707 643838** અથવા વર્ષાબહેન દિલીપભાઈ શાહનો **Tel: 07710230377** પર સંપર્ક કરશો.

Dhaja Celebration Event - Sunday, 6th September 2020

It will be the fifteenth (15th) anniversary of our Jain Derasar. The sixteenth (16th) Flag raising ceremony will take place on Sunday, 6th September 2020. On this auspicious day, Snatra Puja will be performed at 8.00am followed by Sattar Bhedi Puja at 9.00am. The flag will be raised at 12.39pm.

Seven (7) members of the family whose number is picked up from a token draw will have the opportunity to perform Pooja, Aarti, Mangal Divo and Shantikalash at the Derasar in addition to participating in the Flag ceremony. Members of the whole Sangh will be able to view this great event via OAUK virtual webcast.

A Nakro of **£101.00** has been kept. To take this great opportunity please contact the Oshwal Centre office on **01707 643838** or Varshaben Dilipbhai Shah **Tel: 07710230377**



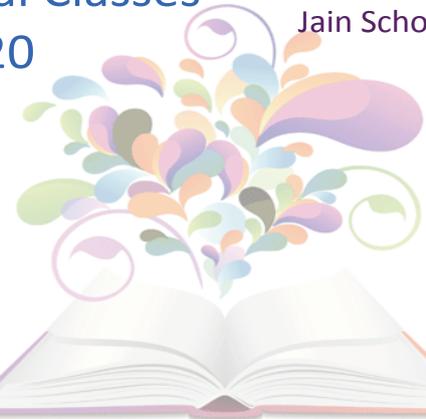
OAUK

SCVP Jain School presents 'The Art of Being Thankful'

7 days of Children's Virtual Classes for Paryushan 2020



A non-sectarian
Jain School



An opportunity for 5-7 and 8-10 year olds to learn about:

- Why we should forgive
- Values which will make us happy
- Thanking our environment and nature

Using fun and interactive teaching in English, and will include arts, meditation, storytelling, songs and much more

Dates: 15 August to 21 August 2020

Time: 3pm – 4pm daily

REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oaukscvp-the-art-of-being-thankful-7-days-of-childrens-virtual-classes-tickets-112993614944>

Further information:

Bakul Shah – 07917708370

Veerayatan UK Charity no. 1052906



SCVP VIRTUAL PRATIKRAMAN IN ENGLISH 2020

Pratikraman is the most important and profound of Jain rituals where the concept of Ahimsa Parmodharma is not only explained in finite detail but also taken to its logical conclusion.

This year SCVP will conduct its **ENGLISH PRATIKRAMAN** via **Zoom** so that you can participate in this process from the safety of your home with the whole family. It will take you on a journey of discovery of the self and also make you understand why Jainism is so relevant in today's changed world. There is a lesson to be learnt from the Covid pandemic – and Jainism has this answer.

Timings: 15, 16, 17, 19, 20 & 21 August – 7.00pm to 8.30pm.
18 August and 22 August - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Please register via link to get joining details:

<https://bit.ly/SCVPEnglishPratikraman>

For more information: Email: hello@scvp.info

Tel: 07710 230377 (Varshaben – OAUK)

07780 690432 (Shandip - SCVP)



Everyone is encouraged to attend especially the youth and parents with children so that the whole family can perform this powerful ritual with a deeper understanding, to introspect on their own spiritual journey. (Note only one person in the family needs to register)



SCVP will also be running classes for children from 3 – 3:45pm daily for 7 days. Further details TBC.





**Rekha Shah,
Education EC Trustee**

Gujarati Schools of OAUK

Dear Members, Parents, Grandparents and Adorable Children,

We have had the most challenging four months of our lifetime, caught up in the coronavirus epidemic, self-isolation, with or without jobs, economically unstable, education drawn down to a standstill with the closure of schools in March.

O.A.U.K. has uplifted everyone's spirits by the wide and varied range of online events. Education, plays a vital part in everyone's lives and to keep our Gujarati schools going, we had to consider a new mode of teaching.

We have actually, created history for OAUK by revolutionising the mode of teaching Gujarati, starting virtual Gujarati teaching lessons for the students, who normally attend our Gujarati schools on Friday evening or Saturday mornings. We are deeply thankful to our teachers for taking up this challenge, having spent endless hours, preparing the lessons using different resources and presenting them to the children in a fun based, effective learning of the language using Zoom.

The dedication of the Education team, with the help of Ashishbhai Patani, IT portfolio holder for OAUK, Malaben, Personal development EC Trustee, myself, Rekha, the Area Chairs, Pareshbhai (South), Shailanbhai (North), Shejalben (West) and Nileshbhai. D. (North West), as well as the Education Portfolio Holders, Nipunbhai (South), Kunteshbhai (North), Maheshbhai (West) and Navinbhai Kamani (North West}, has brought this mammoth task, to fruition. 23 classes were being run term time, an additional 3 classes were created for adults. The South area will also be running taster sessions for prospective children.

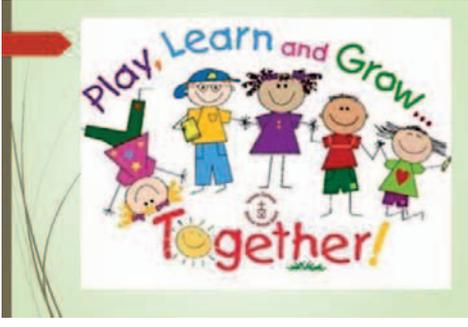
We hope to carry on with the virtual classes until such a time as the government uplifts all restrictions and the schools will let us hire their premises for the morning sessions. This could be till December or may carry on till next summer.

In the month of July, our planned, O.A.U.K. Schools Virtual Open Morning webcast, was an outright success. The webcast showcased, how essential it is to learn our mother tongue, The videos of our four schools, showed what has been accomplished by our schools in the past year, before and after the lockdown.

I request all parents, if they have not watched the webinar, please take time to view the school videos, uploaded onto our website. I hope this will encourage you to send your children to our schools for the new school year, starting from September. Application forms are also on our website. A special request if you could enrol as soon as possible, so that all schools are ready to welcome the new students in September. Academically, our schools achieve excellent GCSE results, but the videos will show you that we incorporate a lot more activities within our sessions, cultural, academic or even global issues, like the environment. Information of the schools is on our OAUK website for all the four schools.

Do not forget to read our adjoining page on Virtual Open Morning.

Anyone interested in Adult classes or any queries about the schools, we will be happy to address them. Any of the Education chairs or myself can be contacted, details on the website.



વહાલા વાલીઓ, આદર્શિય વડીલો, પ્યારા બાળકો, સર્વે સભ્યોને મારા સાદર પ્રણામ,

અત્યારે, કોરોનાવાયરસના ઉપદ્રવના કારણે ઉપસ્થિત વાતાવરણમાં, ઘરોઘર આનંદના બદલે ગંભીરતા છવાય ગઈ છે. વડીલો, તેમના કુટુંબજનોને મળી શક્યા નથી, ઘણા લોકોના કામ ચૂકી જવાના કારણે બેરોજગાર બની ગયા છે, તો ઘણાની શારીરિક શક્તિ નબળી પડવાથી બિમારી ભોગવી રહ્યા છે. આવી પરિસ્થિતિ ઉત્પન્ન થશે એવો કોઈને ખ્યાલ પણ ન હતો. તેમજ બાળકોની શાળાઓ સરકારે બંધ કરાવી જે દરેક બાળકના અભ્યાસમાં મોટી ખોટ ઊભી કરી છે. બાળકોના અભ્યાસ દ્વારા તેમનું આખું જીવન ઘડાય છે, તો જી.સી.એ.સી, એ લેવલ, યુનિવર્સિટીના બાળકોનું આગળ જવાનો માર્ગ અટકી પડ્યો છે. હું અંતરથી ઇચ્છું છે કે તેઓ અભ્યાસક્રમ સારી કક્ષામાં પરીપૂર્ણ કરે.

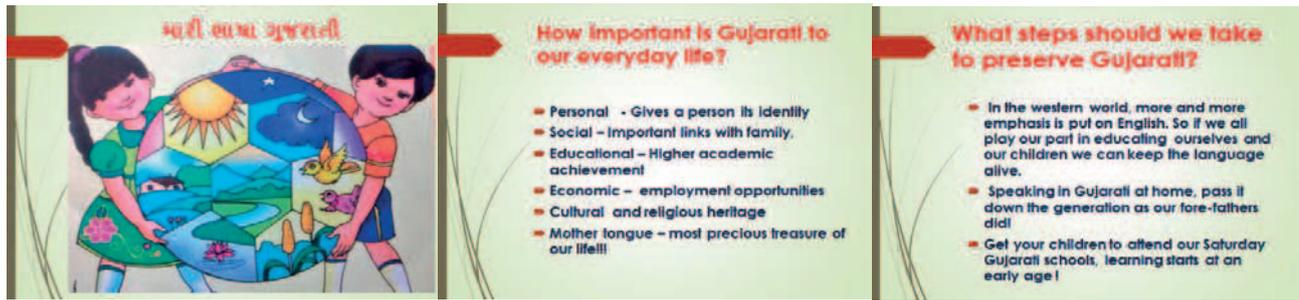
ઓ.એ.યુ.કે ની ચાર ગુજરાતી શાળાઓએ એકે ગર્વ લેવા જેવું કાર્ય અમલમાં મૂક્યું છે. શાળાઓએ ઝૂમ દ્વારા ૨૩ એવા વર્ગો રજૂ કર્યા છે જ્યાં દર શનિવારે બાળકોને ઘરે બેઠા ગુજરાતી શીખવાડવામાં આવે છે. આ પ્રગતિ શરૂ કરાવવા માટે અમે આશીષભાઈ પટાની, માલાબેન શાહ, આપણા ઇસીના ટ્રસ્ટી, ચારે પરાના ચેરમેન, પરાના નિમેલા અભ્યાસક્રમ ચેર, મુખ્ય શિક્ષકો, સર્વે શિક્ષકોએ તનતોડ મહેનત કરી છે અને બાળકોનું ગુજરાતી ધોરણ જળવાય રહે તે માટે મને પૂરેપૂરો સાથ આપ્યો છે. હું સૌની રૂણી છું.

આ મારો લેખ વાંચશો, ત્યાર પહેલા આપણો શાળાદિન, કદાચ પૂરો થઈ ગયો હશે પણ આશા છે કે તમે આપણી વેબસાઇટ પર શાળાની માહિતી મૂકાશે તેની ખાસ નોંધ લહેશો અને સપ્ટેમ્બરમાં, આપણી શાળાનું નવું વર્ષ શરૂ થાય તેના માટે, તમારા બાળકોને રજીસ્ટર કરવાનું ભૂલશો નહીં.

ગુજરાતી શીખવાની આ મોંઘેરી તક ગુમાવશો નહીં. ઊપરાંત, વડીલોને ગુજરાતી શીખવા માટે વર્ગ તૈયાર થશે તો તમને જે શાળા યોગ્ય જણાય તેમાં નામ નોંધાવશો. અત્યારે, શાળાઓ તો ઓનલાઇન ચલાવવામાં આવશે. સરકારના માર્ગદર્શન પ્રમાણે શાળાઓમાં વ્યક્તિગત શીખવવું ટાળવાનું રહેશે. આપ સૌ સાતામાં રહેશો, સુરક્ષિત રહેશો. લિ: રેખા મહેશ શાહ.

My ultimate message to all.

This webcast was to bring about the awareness of our Gujarati schools. For those, who unfortunately, missed our webcast, let me highlight you why it is important to learn Gujarati, especially at an early age.



Learning Gujarati brings many rewards. It may take a few years to realise how one morning session every week can form the foundation of a child's education.

- Gives them an identity, helps them tap onto our morals
- Helps them develop their thoughts, express opinions, structure their everyday life
- Gives them the diligence to pursue their career
- Learns to adapt to the social, family needs and get involved in community work
- Helps to retain communication links with great grandparents, preserve our heritage
- Academically, a child who learns their mother tongue always flourishes as he learns to build up on these, acquired basic skills
- Forms a template for all subjects in school, application to other subjects
- Learns to differentiate between cultures, express opinions, develop their thoughts, boosting their confidence
- An asset for those venturing into new pastures, with up and coming India,
- The way we speak, dress, eat, poetry, literature, religious scriptures, music, dance all are linked to our mother tongue, Gujarati.

PLEASE ENROL your children for the FORTHCOMING SCHOOL YEAR, 2020-2021

Application forms on website, please apply by 25th July 2020

A way forward to retain our legacy, and keep Gujarati alive.

Getting children engaged :

- needs **commitment** from parents to bring them to attend our schools on Saturday
- needs **determination** from the children to want to learn where we came from
- **dedication** from teachers to teach Gujarati in a fun way

This unique partnership will not only help form the foundation for all learning, but will enable them to make new friends.

Our team at OAUk would recommend all Parents to register your interest in joining our virtual Gujarati Classroom for adults. An opportunity not to be missed, for those who wish to learn Gujarati, or wish to improve their speaking, reading, writing skills. This would be on a fee paying basis. If you are interested to join, please send me a quick e mail.

A special thankyou to all, for supporting and joining our first Education Webcast, thank you to Anish Anil Shah and Puja Dilan Shah and to all those, who helped behind the scenes. **Any further queries of the webcast /schools, please get in touch with any of us.**

Rekha Shah Education EC

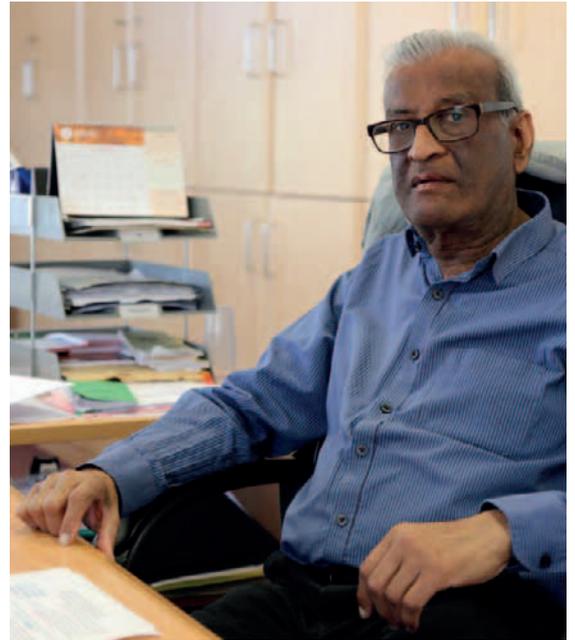
rekha.m.shah@oshwal.org

Contact No : ++44(0)7530673846

Ramniklal Dharamshi Shah is a member of our Admin team at Oshwal Centre

OAUK welcomes Ramnikbhai, he works at OC three days a week. Please find here few details about him to give you a brief introduction, previously he has served as a Treasurer in the North area for several years

Ramnikbhai came to UK in 1967, he did his A levels at Barnet College, then went to City University where he did BSc Aeronautical Engineering, afterwards he did Chartered Accountancy and qualified in 1975 as a CA with Price Waterhouse Later, in life he went to Zambia for 2 years in 1978 returning in 1980, working for a small firm specializing in LPO's. He joined BT in 1984 to work on their privatization, then joined their mainstream accounting department where he developed his computer skills, he was responsible for producing the BT quarterly and Annual accounts that got published. He retired from BT in 2019



His wife Nilam passed in 2015, daughter of Jivraj Rajpar of Novelty Emporium/Bezaz





Professional service at an affordable cost

C S LAW

Solicitors & Commissioners for Oaths



- Conveyancing (Residential and Commercial)
- Landlord and Tenant Matters
- Family and Matrimonial Disputes
- Wills, Probate and Estate Planning & Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Civil Litigation

Chetan M.L. Shah LLB (Hons.)

2nd Floor, Amba House, 15 College Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1BA
Tel: 020 3910 9000 | Fax: 020 8711 3410 | e-mail: cshah@cslawuk.com
www.cslawuk.com



DROP ME LTD
On time, Every time

Drop Me Ltd provides a safe and reliable minicab service, including the young and elderly.



Khilan Shah
T 020 8243 8574
M 07733 252 391
E khilanshah@dropmeltld.co.uk
W dropmeltld.co.uk



AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Personal and Business, Heathrow, Luton, Gatwick, Stansted, City Airport, Southend



HOSPITALS

Appointments, Treatments for Critical Illness patients, Care Homes, Residential Homes, GP Surgery



EVENTS

Weddings, Parties, Engagements, Corporate, Exhibitions



HOTELS

Private and Corporate Travel



COURIER SERVICE

Delivery of important Business or Personal Documents, Parcels, Gifts



RESTAURANTS

Caterers and Cake Specialists

Your income... protect it for when the tough times hit!

And for many of you, times have never been tougher with the impact of Covid-19 on your health, businesses and livelihoods.

But it doesn't have to be this way...

Protecting your income to make sure you have enough to tide you over until you are well. This can help reduce uncertainty and stress. An income protection insurance policy will pay out a part of your salary, typically 50%-70% until you get things back on track.

Yes, there is government and statutory assistance you can get... but is it really enough?

- With 2 years continuous employment, redundancy pay is limited to 1 week for each year you've worked
- Statutory sick pay is only £94.25 per week for 28 weeks
- Employment and Allowance support is only £73.10 per week

And... just to put things in perspective, **the average household spend is £572.60 per week.**

Get in touch and let us help you find an income protection policy that's right for you and your family.

Duke Godley Financial Planning Ltd

Congress House, 14 Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 2EN

Tel: 020 8515 1200 Email: info@dukegodley.co.uk

www.dukegodley.co.uk





Currently we all have been going through a tough time due to COVID-19. It has been very difficult to stay calm and positive in these circumstances. In such times, things like meditation, yoga, music have really helped lots of people.

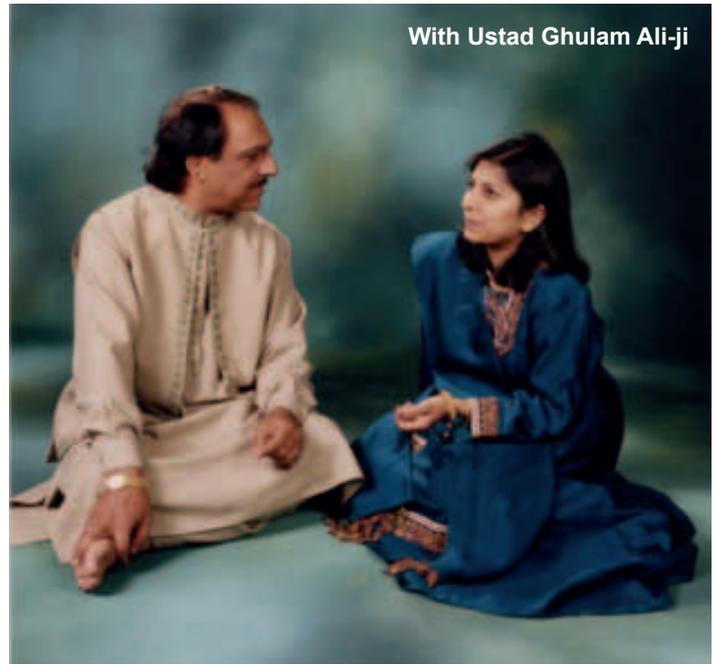
As I was born and brought up in a musical family in Jabalpur, India, I have seen the positive impact of music on life since young age. My mother and Guru late Dr. Sushila Pohankar, who had a PhD in music, was a well known scholar and Musicologist. She also trained many students who later became very famous in the music industry. Much before me, she trained my elder brother Pt. Ajay Pohankar, who is a very senior Classical singer. We grew up in a musical atmosphere. We had music and only music in the house.

Since my young age, I knew I wanted to be a singer. At the age of 15, I had already started giving stage performances. In fact the very first time I sang on the stage was when I was only 10 years old. I was really lucky to have my mother as a Guru who was not only an ocean of knowledge, but taught me various forms of Indian vocals such as Classical, Thumri and Bhajans. After auditioning, I became regular radio performer at the age of 16. Just around then, Sangeet Martand Pt. Jasraj ji heard me singing and he liked it so much that he told me I should be in Mumbai, doing my musical career. So after doing my degree, I shifted to Mumbai. After couple of years, as my career was about to take off, just when I had started performing on Mumbai Doordarshan (TV) and also Radio, I got married. Being in a joint family and raising our daughter, my priorities suddenly changed. My musical career was not a priority for me anymore.

In 1990, my husband got posted to London. This was my first foreign journey. I had no clue what to expect. I was constantly worried that I'll have to forget about my career as to who will listen to or understand my music in a foreign land! We came here in the cold month of November. After the continuous sunshine of Mumbai, initially it was quite depressing. As the Spring approached, our newly acquainted friends started taking us out to various musical concerts. When I saw that musical atmosphere and kind of response people were giving to the artist, I became really happy and hopeful about my music. I started performing. From one concert I got the next one and my musical journey finally took up. People loved my work and my work brought me more work. Meanwhile our son was born. It wasn't easy to manage on home as well as career front because unlike India, we don't have any help available here in this country. I had also started teaching music from home.

Now slowly I started getting recording opportunities, too. Thanks to my family for their immense support, not only I could go and prove myself in the recording sessions, but by God's grace I had some very precious moments in this journey. Like, I got to record my first Classical track with Ustad Zakir Hussain, the legendary Tabla player. My voice has appeared on more than 40 albums so far. When I decided to make my first Ghazal album of my own compositions, I had my introduction recorded by none other than Ustad Ghulam Ali. My dance track "Jakatta - American Dream" was in UK main charts on #3. It was constantly being played on TV, Radio stations. My track "Nadia" which I had recorded with Nitin Sawhney was part of the Mercury Awards nominated album. We promoted the album touring worldwide, performing in front of even 70,000 audience. I've also performed at prestigious venues like Glastonbury, Womad and Montreux Jazz festivals. While recording with big names like Sonu Nigam, Muzaffer Ali (Director of movie "Umrao Jaan"), Talvin Singh, I made some more albums of mine which were released under my own record label. My voice has appeared on Warner Brothers movie "The In-laws" starring Michael Douglas. Apart from recording the theme song for Commonwealth Games, Delhi for BBC, recently I composed and recorded a track for Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace. Two years ago, I represented UK and recorded "Vaishnav Jan" for Bapu@150 celebration, for which I received letter of appreciation from late Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, the then External Affairs minister. Also, for the last few years it has been a privilege for me to be associated with an amazing organization like Oshwal Association U.K through various performances like at "Diwali on Square" and "Meera Bhajans" at Oshwal, Potters Bar for Diwali celebrations.

Looking back, I feel happy that while taking care of my family, I did my best to achieve whatever I could in my field through the constant process of Karma. I'm glad that I never lost hope. My role model has been my mother who, while raising us 3 siblings and doing a full time job as a Professor of Music, did her education including PhD, organised concerts on a big scale and later retired as a Principal of a college with 5 faculties. When I see many talented women not pursuing their dreams or keeping their own priorities right at the bottom of the list, it hurts. If we ourselves don't give priority to our dreams, then how can we expect any support from anyone? And it's never too late to pursue your dreams. Music for me is not just my lifeline, but my whole world revolves around it. And time and again, I've seen the therapeutic effect of music on people I know. So I would request, if you love music or anything other art form, if you had a passion to learn it but couldn't, please fulfil your dreams. It's never too late!



With Ustad Ghulam Ali-ji



Pt. Jasraj, Pankaj Udhas-ji and my brother Pt Ajay Pohankar at the launch of my first album "Dhanak - The Rainbow"



My Mother and Guru Dr. Sushila Pohankar

Diwali Celebrations

Who knows how we will be celebrating this year's Diwali in November, let us pray that the Covid-19 virus has gone away by the time Diwali comes and we are safe to be able to move freely, If you recall in the previous years we have all enjoyed our Diwali Events, members and friends have given us good support. Sorry in advance just in case we cannot arrange any events during the 2020 Diwali

Last Diwali on the 3rd November as part of the celebrations at Oshwal Centre we were very privileged to have Swati Natekar who came to Oshwal Centre and performed a beautiful concert for music lovers, she also arranged a Indian Vocal Music workshop previous to the Concert. OAUK would like to thank Swati for a special evening



photos shown above are from the concert







Om Funeral Care Ltd

445 Kenton Road, Kenton, Harrow HA3 0XY Tel: 020 892 23344

OUR SERVICES

- Independent Funeral Directors
- 24 Hours Service
- Home Visits
- Private Viewing in our Chapel of Rest
- Wash & Dress
- Horse & Carriages
- Weekend Funerals
- Flower Arrangements
- Worldwide Repatriation
- Final Dispersal of Ashes in UK
- Priest Arrangement
- Embalming & Hygiene Treatment
- All Religion Respected



For more information Contact Kalpesh Patel (07400604460)

ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADING SAFE DEPOSIT CENTRES

www.neelkanthsafedeposit.com



NOW OPEN ON BRIGHTON ROAD, SOUTH CROYDON

Be Safe Stay At Home

Business Opening Hours From 1st July 2020 Mon to Sat - 10am to 4pm. Sundays - Closed.

Please note these times are subject to change.

SOUTHALL-Tel: 020 8843 9920 | CROYDON-Tel: 020 8702 8888



• FCA Regulated • SDA Member



SECURING YOUR VALUABLES AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY

CHOOSING A MORTGAGE?

Is it the right option for you?

The mortgage market is complex. So how can you make sure you pick the right option for you?

Let us help you.

There are thousands of products to choose from and following changes to the way lenders assess loan applications the process can be time consuming and confusing.

So how can you make sure you pick the right option for you?
It's a daunting process if you're doing it alone.

So let us help you.

We're professionals. We have the tools, market knowledge and, through the buying power of Quilter Financial, access to exclusive mortgage products.



YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.

To learn more about how we can help contact:

T: 07961487286

E: nishshah@thinkpositive.co.uk

Nish Shah - Insight Financial, Suite 325, Building 3, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London, N11 1NP



Sadadi's at Oshwal Centre

When a Pandemic was announced in Mid-March by the UK Government, we shut our Centers down and all activities including Sadadi's, Chaas Pivanuu etc. all came to a halt.

Over the last 4 months, sadly we have lost many Oshwals through various health or age reasons and also including Covid 19m, which has affected all our lives. Unfortunately during the Pandemic, families have not been able to hold Sadadi's and the extended families and friends, have been unable to offer their condolences, even by visiting the homes of the family.

With a relaxation of Government rules, we are now able to open up our Centers and at this moment in time, we can allow up to 30 persons per hall and with strict social distancing measures in place.

As an initial aspect Oshwal Centre is now available for holding Sadadi's. As only 30 persons are allowed in the hall, no sitting arrangements will be allowed, except for the bereaved family. Each one of us who wish to attend to offer condolences can do so, ensuring to keep social distances rules in mind and leave straight after to allow others to attend and ensure Govt. guidelines are being observed.

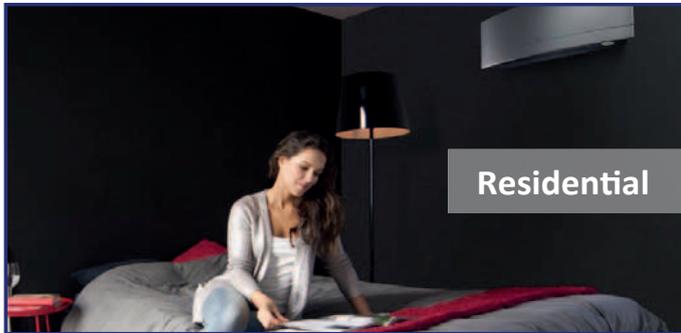
There is NO charge for organizing the Sadadi during this pandemic, however donations are welcome. Please contact Admin. Staff on 01707 643838 as our office is now open 7 days a week 9am to 5pm

The same facility will be available at Oshwal Ekta Centre and Oshwal Shanti Centre after a few weeks. Likewise our Centers are open if you wish to hold a small function. Again please contact our Admin staff and volunteers running our Centers who will be able to provide further information.

Tushar Jayantilal Shah, Trustee, OAUK



AIR CONDITIONING AND VENTILATION SYSTEMS



Residential



Commercial

DESIGN • INSTALL • SERVICE • MAINTENANCE

7 YEAR
WARRANTY

George's Industrial Services Ltd
Unit 26, The IO Centre,
Hearle Way, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 9EW

Tel: 020 8207 2455
Email: sales@airconditioningdirect.com
Web: www.airconditioningdirect.com

**INDIAN
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS**

Losing a loved one is a traumatic time

We operate from our modern and fully equipped premises
on Mollison Way in Edgware

Our comprehensive service includes:-

- ❖ Large prayer room (Mandir) for performing the Funeral Rites or for paying the last respects
- ❖ All religious rites and wishes respected and administered
- ❖ Modern, fully equipped washing & dressing facilities
- ❖ Priest for final rites arranged
- ❖ Funeral ceremony items provided
- ❖ Repatriation arranged at short notice
- ❖ Horse drawn carriages arranged

Sanjay Shah and Bharat Shah
are the first & foremost
Indian Funeral Directors
in England serving
the Asian community since 1984.

For an efficient & professional
service, contact either
Bharat Shah, Sanjay Shah,
Trupti Shukla, Ashvin Patel
& Nitesh Pindoria

020 8952 5252

ॐ **INDIAN FUNERAL DIRECTORS** ॐ

44 SOUTH PARADE, MOLLISON WAY, EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX HA8 5QL
www.indianfuneraldirectors.co.uk
email : info@indianfuneraldirectors.co.uk

24 HOURS MOBILE: 0777 030 66 44

Call us at anytime for a complete package price

UK's leading funeral directors at your service...

CORRUNDUM

CONTRACTORS LIMITED

Domestic & Commercial Contractors
New Builds • Extensions • Refurbishments



BALANCE

consultancy

WILL DRAFTING AND LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Leave a legacy behind, not a mess.

Services provided by Balance Consultancy

- ✓ Estate Planning
- ✓ Will Drafting
- ✓ Lasting Powers of Attorney
- ✓ Trusts – by approved partners
- ✓ Probate – by approved partners
- ✓ Document / Will Storage
- ✓ Talks to community groups

Evening & Weekend
appointments
available

▪
Gujarati spoken
fluently

▪
Home visits available
at a time to suit client

While we have good health we rarely think about what would happen if we lost our mental capacity or indeed became very ill. This is becoming more and more common as our lives become complex and longer. Would it not be great if at the time of your greatest need, you have loved and trusted ones taking decisions on your behalf safely and legally? You can do just that by taking out Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) to cover Health and/or Finance. They are both different LPAs but equally important. A vital document for the times we now live in. LPAs can only be set up while you have adequate mental capacity. LPAs are not just for the elderly but everyone over the age of 18. No one know when an illness can strike. Invest in your peace of mind now.

Contact Balance Consultancy for further details.



Shandip Nathalal Shah ASWW, ACIB, MBA

Tel: **020 3837 0099** or Mob: **07780 690432**

Email: **shandip@balanceconsultancy.co.uk**

Web: **www.balanceconsultancy.co.uk**



'It's a Dead Cert, so plan for it'

Devonshire House, 582 Honeypot Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 1JS

T 020 3837 0099 • 07780 690432 E info@balanceconsultancy.co.uk W www.balanceconsultancy.co.uk

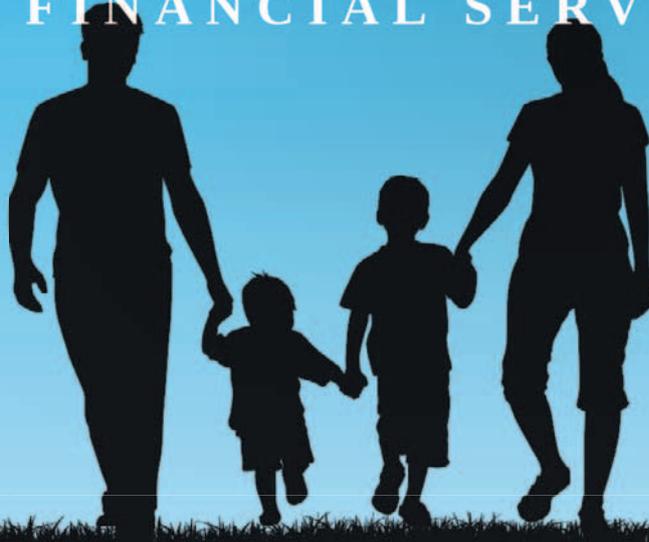
balanceconsultancy balance consultancy





KeyLife

FINANCIAL SERVICES



Protection

- Whole of Life
- Income Protection
- Critical Illness Cover
- Private Medical Insurance
- Relevant Life Cover
- Business Protection



Mortgages & Lending

- First Time Buyer
- Homemover
- Remortgage*
- Buy to Let*
- Ltd Company Buy to Let*
- HMO Mortgages*

Our
services
include...



Commercial Finance

- Bridging Loans*
- Development Finance*
- Commercial Mortgages*
- Asset Finance*
- Cashflow Finance*



General Insurance

- Home Insurance
- Landlords Insurance*
- Contents
- Unoccupied Property
- Commercial Buildings*

*Not all of these products are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Key Life Financial Services

Devonshire House
582 Honeypot Lane
Stanmore
HA7 1JS

T: 0207 100 1765
M: 07827 447 272
E: enquiries@keylifefs.com
W: www.keylifefs.com

West Area



Paryushan Parva will be upon us soon, which will be celebrated from 15th to 22nd August 2020.

Corona Virus has played havoc with our lives and our plans. It has applied brakes to our daily routines and stopped us meeting our relatives and friends. Looking on the bright side, we have been able to spend quality time with our loved ones and managed to keep in touch with friends and families with the use of technology and finding time to do other activities which we may have never dreamt of.

As we approach to celebrate the most auspicious religious function in our calendar, with the participation of the whole of the community in our area, we will not be able to celebrate Paryushan as we have done in previous years, however we will be celebrating with the whole community from all 9 areas in the UK, this will be an amazing one to remember and, I for one, am looking forward to this new way of celebrating. We will be able to celebrate at home from the guidance of Jayeshbhai through the live streaming technologies.

Anyone wishing to donate for good wishes during the holy days of Paryushan Parva, are requested to contact either our Treasurer, Hiteshreeben (07853263482), Keshubhai (Colombo) (07735382657) between 3.00 pm and 7.00pm or Chunibhai (07904878657) for more information.

As the world is changing and we are now with a bit of luck slowly moving out of lockdown we have a few announcements for you!

Firstly, to our dearly loved and departed souls may their souls rest in peace, you will be missed and remembered by many, OM Shanti.

News from the West Area, the last event at the centre was the Remembrance Day which was attended by many members from all over, a huge thank-you to the team for their organisation of this huge event. The full report is available with pictures on the website. (www.oshwal.org.uk).

Once lockdown was announced several messages were sent via our West Whatsapp group, and Keshubhai (Colombo) our health and welfare portfolio holder who has a vast knowledge of members in the area was brilliant in contacting members via telephone to ask if they needed any help and he has also been in constant contact with the vulnerable people. The committee did have a few requests at the beginning for food and other supplies, with the help of our area committee members and volunteers we were able to help several individuals and families, this was much appreciated and we were happy to help. This is what a community is all about! Later the OAUK at Central took this task over with the help of Volunteers. Any volunteer that registered a huge THANK-YOU goes out to you.

Luckily for us a great team have organised events online for various interests, Jayeshbhai and the religious team are regularly on during the week, as well as keep fit and chair yoga. There have been talks and advice by professionals with Q and A.

The brilliant Oshwal talent shows and many more has entertained us all from our homes. The OAUK with the help of Dips has also been delivering food to hospitals in all areas. The president's speech on Sunday explained about AGM's in all areas being postponed and the main AGM at central. A letter will be coming to all households to explain to our members about this.

West area AGM has been postponed until next year, once a date is set, we will let our members know. This will mean the "new elected committee" will be doing two terms from 2021/2023. If any member is interested in getting involved from now and were already thinking of being in the new elected committee this year, please do not hesitate to contact one of the current members.

Education - the West area Gujarati school closed its doors because of lockdown, but the education has not stopped at all. Firstly, through social media and email the teachers were able to continue the childrens education and we were the first area to start online classes with our students. Thank-you to Maheshbhai our portfolio holder who has been in constant contact with parents and teachers throughout. Huge thank-you to Ushaben and Alishaben who have continued teaching and Urvashiben for facilitating the online classes. A lot of teamwork has gone into this but mostly we would like to thank the children and their families for their support throughout this Pandemic.

The area committee members have been great in keeping in touch with members and Arvindbhai our PMC portfolio holder has been diligent with help of other PMC members in checking on the centre. For latest updates please be sure to join our what's app group (<https://chat.whatsapp.com/2tDhWq7BAnr4dHVFkEP0rL>).

Whilst writing, the government has just announced the opening of community centres in the next phase of easing the lockdown from 4th July 2020 subject to the appropriate guidelines being followed and covid-19 secure procedures are in place. To this end we are in the process of planning on how his can be achieved in a safe and secure manner. You will no doubt have received/will receive further announcements in this respect. With this, let me wish you all a safe and peaceful Paryushan. Everyone who plans to fast during these auspicious days, we pray for saata.

During the year, if I or the committee members have knowingly or unknowingly wronged you, please accept our sincere and heartfelt Micchami Dukhdam.

Chunilal P Shah
Vice chairperson - West Area

GUJARATI SCHOOL REMAINS OPEN FOR LESSONS

As with all other education providers, West area Gujarati school at Shakti Centre closed its doors because of lockdown, but the education has not stopped at all. Firstly, through social media and email facilities, the teachers were able to continue the childrens education. We were the first area to start online classes with our students. Thank-you to Maheshbhai, our Education portfolio holder, who has been in constant contact with parents and teachers throughout. Huge thank-you to Ushaben and Alishaben who have continued teaching and Urvashiben for facilitating the online classes. A lot of teamwork has gone into this but mostly we would like to thank the children and their families for their support throughout this pandemic.

Just before the lockdown

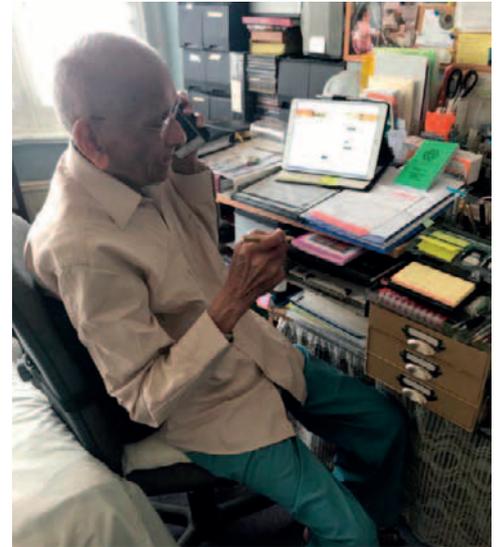
West area Gujarati school decided to invest in a uniform and school bags for the children. However, we were amazed that through sponsorship donations from all parents there was no cost to OAUk. Thank-you to the children and their parents/carers and their amazing support throughout. The children were proud and happy to wear the polo shirts – check out the photo with the NEW SMART LOOK OF THE GUJARATI SCHOOL. We are hoping that the schools in other areas will follow our example.



WEST AREA NEWS

Corona virus and the lockdown has affected all our lives. Despite these challenging and difficult times many members of our community have still managed to go over and above their 'normal' daily activities by volunteering with helping in the community, be it caring for the elderly/vulnerable, providing and distributing food parcels or raising funds so that these vital services can continue to be provided to those in need.

Keshubhai (Colombo), our health and welfare portfolio holder, who has a vast knowledge of members in the area was brilliant in contacting members via telephone to ask if they needed any help and he has also been in constant contact with the vulnerable people. Some images of Keshubhai in his home office contacting people.



CELEBRATING NATIONAL PICNIC WEEK 2020

I think we can all agree that the government guidelines to start easing Social Distancing are a welcome change especially considering we've been doing it for over 3 months now! But we know exactly how important it is and have been adapting the way we run events and keep in touch with our members, whether that be through Zoom, E-shots or our popular Whatsapp Group. That's why we took advantage of the wide spacious grounds at Lampton Park to allow a few of the younger Gujarati School Children to have a fun and more importantly, SAFE morning outside to celebrate NATIONAL PICNIC WEEK! It was so well organised by Shejalben and our Gujarati school teacher, Alishaben who ensured that the kids stayed far apart at all times, while still having a great run around and picking up some new Gujarati words which were all related to Nature and the Outdoors. The parents were grateful that the kids could go outside and were even happier that they went home with a bit more vocabulary and a little less energy!

A colorful advertisement for the West Area Oshwal Gujarati & Cultural School. The background is dark blue with abstract shapes in light blue, pink, and orange. On the left, there are two cartoon children, a girl and a boy, in traditional Gujarati attire. The text is arranged in columns and sections. The main title 'WEST AREA OSHWAL GUJARATI & CULTURAL SCHOOL' is in large, bold, light blue letters on the right. Other sections include 'ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020 OPEN', 'ADDRESS', 'CONTACT US', and a list of bullet points. The Oshwal Association of the U.K. logo is in the bottom right corner.

ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020 OPEN

- Emphasis on speaking, listening, cultural and personal development.
- Shortened lesson times.
- Unique, fun, and engaging lessons.

Learning our mother tongue provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our children. It will help them develop their communication skills, Gujarati speaking and writing skills and a better understanding of their own culture.

ADDRESS

Shakti Centre,
Inwood Road,
Hounslow, TW3
1UX
Friday evenings
between 18.00
- 20.00.

CONTACT US

For enrolment or enquiries please contact
Maresh.v.shah@oshwal.org or
usha.shah@oshwal.org
For terms and conditions, please visit the
OAUk website. <https://www.oshwal.org.uk/>

© OSHWAL ASSOCIATION OF THE UK is a registered Charity in accordance with the Charities Act, 1960. Charity No. 267037

WEST AREA OSHWAL GUJARATI & CULTURAL SCHOOL

OSHWAL
Association of the U.K.

WHAT HAVE WEST AREA MEMBERS BEEN UP TO?

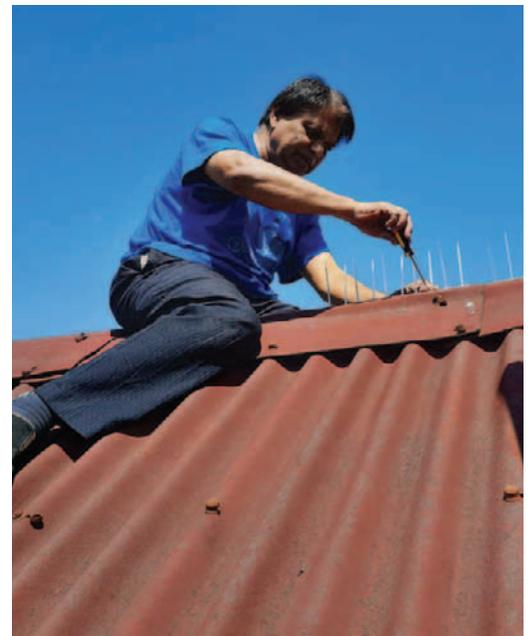
Since the lockdown has been in place, almost all our activities have been curtailed and there is no longer a buzz at the Shakti Centre.

So, the question everyone has been asking is “What has everyone been up to during all this time? Well, many of our members have been keeping busy with the extra time on hand and see below collage of the photos sent in by members showing the great things they have been involved in.

This is just a snapshot of some of the activities and we plan to showcase these and more once Shakti Centre is able to re-open, which at the time of writing, is imminent. We are sure that you all are eager to start visiting the centre again and look forward to welcoming you all back!







It's what's inside that matters...

Beautiful products from the worlds leading brands are only the starting point for creating a perfect home.

Kings have 25 years experience in renovating homes all across the UK

From Kitchens in open plan living to Bespoke Fitted wardrobes in the Loft we cover it all.

Our Design Studio, Manufacturing & Distribution hub is located in Park Royal North west London.



HEAD OFFICE
DISTRIBUTION CENTRE
WAREHOUSE

192 ACTON LANE
PARK ROYAL
NW10 7NH
t : 020 8961 8084

KINGS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Est. 1994

interior furnishings for 25 years

WWW.KINGSKITCHENS.CO.UK



KITCHENS . BEDROOMS . APPLIANCES
LIVING FURNITURE . TV UNITS . SPLASHBACKS
**OFFICE . WALK IN WARDROBE . BESPOKE
MADE TO MEASURE . CONTRACT KITCHENS**



Build a lasting legacy for generations to come

Although planning your legacy may not be at the top of your agenda, getting things in order can make a world of difference to your loved ones.

Advanced estate planning is an essential and sound approach to maximise your tax efficiency. This is relevant during the course of your life and when the unthinkable happens.

Price Mann Probate Services guide you through the entire estate planning and probate processes. We help you to secure the future and provide peace of mind.

Our streamlined and stress-free process includes:

- Succession planning and minimising inheritance tax
- Advice surrounding will making and secure document storage
- Deeds of variation and restructuring existing wills and trusts
- Obtaining grants of probate, ensuring assets are distributed accordingly

As your trusted firm of chartered accountants and as our valued client, we remain dedicated to protecting your financial health. **Contact us today to arrange your initial consultation.**

 447 Kenton Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 0XY



Our Partners



Shaileen Shah. CTA, ACCA
shaileen@pricemann.co.uk



Bharat Hindocha. FCA, FCCA
bharat@pricemann.co.uk

 0208 204 2228

www.pricemann.co.uk



PRICE MANN

Probate Services

August 2020 Edition

Northampton Area



Namesta

I would like to share my experiences how me and my family have adapted ourselves with these unprecedented challenging times with COVID 19.

The girls have now been home for 3 months and in that time they have adapted amazingly. Every day we home-school but apart from that they have learnt a lot of life skills such as making lunches, cooking and baking (I bake a lot of plant based refined sugar free treats which they have learnt), cross stitch, knitting, online art classes and daily mindfulness and meditation.

We also practice gratitude daily so we can appreciate the things we have done or have each day and do this as a family over mealtimes. During our precious moments out we have woken up early and taken a breakfast and watched the sunrise at 4.45am, we've gone to see the sunset, we've had a midnight feast and watch the stars and even saw shooting stars.

We have ensured that our time at home has been fun, exciting, full of learning and adventures and a time to appreciate family even more.

In the earlier stages we were writing letters to grandparents, sending our baked treats via post and even had a zoom birthday party. They have been connecting to their school and friends via zoom and learning has been interesting.

Below is an interview I did with my daughter's earlier on in lockdown
<https://youtu.be/DJS09aQKr5Y>

This is the mindful video by Isla which she actually won a competition for in a Northampton magazine

<https://www.northantslife.co.uk/seven-year-old-tells-us-what-it-means-to-be-mindful/>

I have been creating many complimentary mindfulness and wellbeing videos which also feature my own children at times, so that families everywhere can stay positive and emotionally well during this time. Schools have also specifically taken these videos and added it to their websites for children and parents to access. My daughter's 6 and 8 years of age have even created their own wellbeing tips so other kids of similar ages can resonate and benefit. I would love to be able to share these to as many people as possible.

Also, I have created a private Facebook group called Perfectly Imperfect You where I'm supporting over 100 people daily with tips, motivation, free therapy and complimentary gifts including my famous plant based peanut butter cake. Everyone is welcome to join and I would love to continue supporting as many people as possible

I have also and still been offering complimentary 20-minute coaching sessions to anyone who needs extra support.

As a family we practice wellbeing and gratitude every single day, we are also mindful of how much suffering and hard work is going on around us. We value and are so grateful for our family right now and wanted to do something that we would remember but also as a tribute to everyone impacted by Covid 19 including NHS, volunteers, workers and lost souls. We created this dance video yesterday (My husband and I have never danced before). We hope it puts a little smile on people's faces.

This is the family dance video we did <https://youtu.be/UDDuZ9TgdY0>

We also have been donating £1 individually every single day for the whole of April. As you know I have done some complimentary coaching for the Hope Centre, and donated food items previously so wanted to continue to support them. At the end of April with our daily collections we as a family will be donating £120.00.

My husband has also been doing a daily dad diary on Facebook called dad of 2 girls.

All the photos on this link

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/197GumapKrTfZ50LrFSNFL2hNqb1xWGmA?usp=sharing>

By Sheena Tanna-Shah

Achievement by Virendra Punja Bharmal Sumaria

Virendra came into UK in 1971 from Eldoret, Kenya He is one of many siblings. He studied for a few years. Then decided to run a business. He ran a small corner shop for 8 years. As he gained experience, he ventured out to buy a bigger shop which was run as "Londis" in Hardingstone, a village of Northamptonshire. This was also run as husband and wife team. They worked extremely hard to survive this thriving business. This year 1st June it has been 35 years since they took over this business.

In this Pandemic period which has been unprecented Virendra opened the shop for short hours. He started doing community service by delivering, with the help of, the village volunteers, to older generation. This meant that, after shutting, he was still busy with the help of his employee- his nephew, Rohit Motichand Sumaria. – getting orders ready for deliveries. This was very unexpected, but the business thrived even more in these circumstances.

On 1st June he got a surprise. Hardingstone Village Community lined streets to applaud Virendra and say thank you for 35 years of kind service and support to all the villagers via running this convenience stores. He did not want to celebrate 35th anniversary of opening the business, but he got a surprise when his son, Pritesh requested him to lock the store and come outside. The villagers had other plans to help him celebrate. He walked out of the shop to find hundreds of people from his community who started applauding him and Rohit (villagers call him Roy) and thanked them for all the decades of serving the community by running this convenience store. The event was made possible by posting flyers to every household in the village.

The comments by the members of the community:

"Viren and Roy are absolutely lovely. He always has time to have a little chat and ask how you and the family are. It was nice to see all the neighbours coming out of their houses to say thank you and let him know their appreciation, like it was done for the NHS Staff."

Viren's comments:

"It took me completely by surprise. It was very emotional. I was taken back at seeing so many people. I have never seen anything like this in my whole life. We are very lucky to have the village. In all these years without their support we would not be here"

By Gita Shah
Media Rep





South Area



Pranam,

We hope you and your family are all well and safe during these uniquely challenging times. We've never witnessed anything like it and as we start to try and resume our lives, things will have changed forever. It's been an incredibly testing time for many of us as we have lost treasured friends and family along the way. If there are any silver linings then it's the precious time we've been given to spend with our families, which may not have been possible in "normal" situations, and this could be one of the only things we can look back on with fondness.

As a community, we have been supporting and donating both financially and with our time where we can, working alongside Seva, and other communities (details below).

With the huge shortages in PPE that have been well documented during the pandemic, the community have had some wonderful volunteers making masks and gowns (details below)

Please keep yourselves and your family safe by abiding by the Governmental advice, knowing that we will all soon be closer once more.



Ritesh

Media & Comms Rep

Derarsar Opening:

We are looking to re-open the Derasar for prayers soon, but will be following Government advice to ensure we stay safe for all our members. Information will be provided as soon as possible.

Property Update:

Due to the Covid-19 situation, progress on our centre has been delayed by a few months, however we have now received the tenders from the contractors and a detailed analysis, due diligence and negotiations are being carried out by our Architects to enable us to determine which contractor should be chosen for the refurbishment project. We will continue to keep you updated via e-shots on further developments.



Charity:

During the pandemic, many people have been adversely affected, and as a community, we've been trying to assist where we can:

- 10,000+ meals delivered to hospitals across all Oshwal Areas, including 350 meals and Fruit to Croydon University Hospital in partnerships with Dips Catering, Croydon Fruiterers and DNS accountants.
- £251 donated to Croydon Nightwatch, a charity helping the homeless in Croydon.
- £500 towards food donation to Foodbanks, Humdard Centre in Thornton Heath, and Croydon foodbank in Pitlake Lane(Croydon), in partnership with SEWA
- £500 donation to Age UK, Brigstock Road,(Thornton Heath)
- Working with SEWA, Croydon Hindu Forum, Lohana Community Croydon, and Subrang Arts a delivery of 200 boxes 1 tonne of Dates to the Croydon Voluntary Action, they will distribute to various food banks in Croydon.
- Oshwal ladies have clubbed together with other communities and made face masks and scrubs.
- Oshwal SEWA helpline, taking calls from our members who need help with shopping, prescription pick up, food or just someone to talk to.
- Through this helpline around 90 meals are being delivered to those in need at this difficult time including some in South.

All of this has been possible through the generosity of our members donating money. If you wish to donate, please see the link below:

<https://www.oshwal.org.uk/donation/>

I am proud to say South Area has been one of the most active areas working across all communities. There have been several volunteers giving their time coordinating and helping in the tasks as you will see from the pictures.

Oshwal Well being Sewing Club has been super active during the lockdown period! Our committee member, Maiuri was struck by the lack of PPE being discussed in the News media and, after being prompted by a facebook post, she organised a group of volunteers, Jyotben, Vanitaben and Binna, to start producing scrubs.

In total this Facebook group made over 500 sets of scrubs which went to one of the 52 HP hubs and some care home. When this came to an end, Maiuri signed up our group to making face coverings (non-medical grade cloth face masks) under the SEWA DAY charity. Luckily the sewing club volunteers were in support of this new challenge. We also managed to get two new recruits to the sewing club.

The regular stitchers for these are Jyotben , Mala, Reshma, Daksha, Jasi, Dipika and Maiuri. We also had help from Jayshree, Binna and Vanitaben and Dhanvantiben and Pravinaben assisted in some cutting. We are also very lucky to have a fantastic Nigerian lady, Bolanle who cuts the masks for us on a weekly basis.

After several hours, endless bobbins, cutting up T Shirts to make ties and fabric fluff everywhere we are pleased to say that to date we have donated over 500 masks to the homeless, women's refuge centres, hospital trusts and care home with new requests coming in every day.

Sewing these wonderful items have brought the communities together and our passion for wellbeing sewing as it does calm and soothe the mind to do something so precious for others who are in greater need.

We will continue to make these face coverings for as long as we can, and no doubt we'll will soon find another project for us as we started at the end of last year to make heart shaped cushions for breast cancer surgery patients.

A huge "thank you" to all those who have helped with this project and as a team we are amazing. We know you have been doing this in addition to continuing to work, look after your children and families.

We thank you all for your generous donations of time and finances, which are increasingly needed with the plight some are suffering during this most dangerous of times. <https://www.oshwal.org.uk/donation/>

Please contact Maiuri on 07738385175 if you would like to get involved in any way at all.



Sandip Premchand Shah:

We have lost members of our community during these tough times. One such active member was Sandip Premchand Shah who passed away in April.

Sandip was a wonderful human being, always laughing, joking, and helping. Ever since he was a young adult, Sandip has been an active Oshwal. He started Oshwal's first Youth Club in Hounslow. When he moved to the South, he then started our area's club at Heath Clark School on Saturdays. He helped to organise many outings, activities and initiatives and was an enthusiastic participant in all types of sports.

He was loved by all – young and old. He served on the Oshwal committee for many years and, most recently, as a treasurer.

He was a good friend and confidant, an honest colleague, and a person you can rely on without fail.

If Sandip said he would do something or will be there to help, you did not have to double check, it was a done deal.

We have lost a great soul. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Our annual general meeting was also postponed due to Covid-19 and will now be held next year and you will all receive notices in the post in due time.

I would like to thank my committee for their hard work and commitment to our community and the support of our members and I hope this continues for a long time.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to any of us, please do get in touch.

If you feel you have a little spare time to help support your area, please do approach any of our committee members. We're always open to any assistance, especially whilst we also juggle the much awaited new Hall!

Paresh Shah
Paresh.shah@oshwal.org
07958 213 075



Paryushan:

As mentioned earlier, the safety and well-being of our members is of utmost importance and we are taking this into account when planning future events in the current climate. After the success of Aymbeli online, and many other recent events that have also been run virtually, and have managed to get such incredible global engagement, we will be celebrating Paryushan online with Jayeshbhai and other learned scholars.

Other Events:

The Community and the EC in particular, have been incredible with the speed and volume of online events, to ensure we are all still engaged and in touch with the community. Please do ensure you find our facebook page, Instagram and Youtube channels to receive more content online.

<https://www.oshwal.org.uk/online/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oauk123/>
https://www.instagram.com/oshwal_uk
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGbMPriV6rRTZkVhAme8gng>

Gujarati School:

South Area Oshwal Gujarati School has transformed itself over the last two years. The school has modernised and strives hard to engage the children with language and culture. Lessons are shorter, more focused and with considerable emphasis on speaking and listening.

Children's mother tongue is now not Gujarati but English, and the children coming to our school are enjoying the rich experience it is offering them and learning a new language at the same time. The last 12 months have been a great success with three huge programmes: Summer Fair, Diwali Pooja & Party, Prefect's Show. At the heart of these events have been our children. They are a real credit not only to our school but to their parents too.

The challenge of Covid 19 has been very defining and Once lockdown was in place, we realised that in this special situation, children should not be forgotten and need to be kept engaged. Though it took time, we launched Virtual classes and they have been a great success too. Our teachers re-trained; parents supported us and children joined us with near 100% attendance and smiling faces. The teachers are delivering lessons which are focused and engaging using this novel technology.

This school is a special institution and we treat each other with kindness and respect, thereby developing a small community and we reach out to parents who are sceptical of what purpose this school serves in the development of our children. Come and try it and give your children a chance to experience a different environment. Try the taster sessions and enrol your children for the new term in September. We will be running Virtual Classes for the 1st Term till December 2020.

Contact us by email : ogssouth@oshwal.org for more information

ગુજરાતી શાળા
SOUTH AREA OSHWAL GUJARATI & CULTURAL SCHOOL

The learning of our mother tongue provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our children.

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2020
2 taster virtual sessions for Under 7's on
Saturday 19th & 25th July 2020 - 9.30 - 10.15am

running innovative virtual classes till Jan 2021

Garba, cooking, sewa, diwali pooja, plays and skits, yoga, rangoli, card making etc are just some activities done in last 12 months

ENROLL NOW!

- Fun and Interactive Lessons
- Emphasis on Gujarati Speaking, Listening, Cultural & Personal Development
- Developing Confidence

For more information, please email : ogssouth@oshwal.org or telephone Nipun 07976 912753

Normal school runs at Harris Academy Kendra Hall Road, Surrey. CR2 6DT

North East Area



Pranam, Jai Jinendra, Hello, and Hi..!

It seems like a lifetime ago I wrote to you. The North East area committee and I hope you are all keeping safe and well during these exceptional times that has affected us all. The past few months have shaken us not only locally, but globally.

We have all been impacted by Covid-19 and the life we have had to live the past few months has been hard for many, if not all. We have had to make great changes in our lives to help fight this pandemic and save lives. It has been extremely positive to know and see that so many humans across the globe, across the UK and across our very own OAUk have taken it upon themselves to help others. Those that can, we have seen join in helping the elderly, the vulnerable and those who need help and support.

Within our own area we have had volunteers who have given their time to speak to others on the phone and be a friendly and caring voice and others who have delivered food to the elderly and vulnerable. To those volunteers who have supported in helping our North East area members I wholeheartedly Thank You.

Since Covid-19 and the Lockdown began, we have lost loved ones due to Covid-19 or other health conditions and we have not been able to console our loved ones due to the restrictions. The committee and I would like to pay our respects and pass on our condolences to all families and friends who have suffered a loss during this time.

Paryushun will take place online this year. The North East area have 2 Swapna's – Number 6 The Moon and Number 14 The Smokeless Fire. The Nakro for the Swapna's are £201 each and will be given on a first come first serve basis. Please get in touch with Pushpaben if you are interested.

As you know our Area AGM has been cancelled and will be called when we are able to however, in the meantime, I urge all members to have discussions and be ready to form a committee.

Finally, I would like to Thank You all for your continued support to the society, to each other and to our community. We are here to serve you and the community as best as we can.

I wish you all the best during this time, stay safe, stay healthy and I hope we can all meet again when it is safe to do so however, for now, let us work together on fighting against Covid-19 and do our best to stay positive and keep on moving forward.

Nish

EC Trustee and North East Area Chair



Something Positive

Lockdown, quarantine and isolation. I'm sure everyone has heard these words more than they ever thought they would in the past few months. Whilst the situation isn't one anyone predicted or asked for, we wanted to share with you some of the exciting things the committee and NE members have been doing over the last 3 months.

Since lockdown was introduced back in March, several of us have been trying new things. Whether it's bringing out our creative side, volunteering for the NHS or picking up new hobbies. The Oshwal website is also filled with numerous online events, catering for everyone. It's safe to say, lockdown hasn't been all that bad for some of us!

Recently, the NE committee had its first virtual meeting over Zoom. I was pleasantly surprised at how well the committee were able to adapt, which was definitely a learning experience during these crazy times! It was great to catch up during our 'Chai and Chill' session and find out what everyone had been up to.

Hansaben and Madhuben have been busy making bags, quilts, masks, caps and ear savers. Some of which were contributed to the NHS.



Figure 1 Madhuben's gorgeous quilt and face masks



Figure 2 Part of Hansaben's creative work

Our very own chairperson, Nishma, has been volunteering her weekends to food drives and donating food to vulnerable people. She has been part of a wider team, who have worked hard in helping the community.

Dhinal has also been part of a group which donated over 600 cases of juice and snacks to city hospitals and food banks.

The utmost dedication put in by each individual is invaluable and we cannot thank them enough!



Figure 3 Nishma's food drive

Pushpaben has been making use of her green fingers and looking after her beautiful garden. She has also been teaching Rangoli online and following virtual religion classes in Nairobi. And she still finds time to keep up her fitness with Zumba, Keep Fit and Chair Yoga!



Figure 4 Pushpaben's garden and Rangoli patterns from the online classes

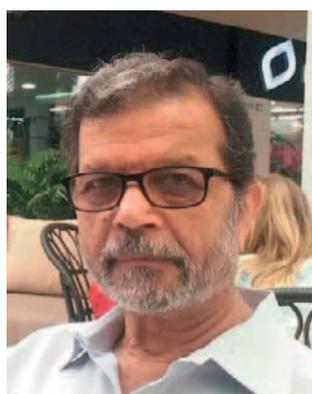


Figure 5 A happily retired Rohitbhai

Having worked in the UK for nearly 50 years, Rohitbhai decided to happily retire and has been enjoying spending quality time with his friends and family.

Binduben, Hansaben and Rohitbhai have all been disciplined with their fitness, whether it's through online classes or socially distanced outdoor sessions.

Binduben has been walking up and down her living room a staggering 50 times per day!

And me? Lockdown wasn't going to stop me from trying new things or getting back into old hobbies. Hobbies such as dancing, playing the piano and focusing more on skincare were just a few things I was able to get back into. I've also been cooking new dishes, whilst spending quality time with my family with nature walks and board game nights.



Figure 6 My collection of plants, grown from bulbs/seeds I've bought

On the learning side, I've dipped my fingers into looking after the garden and planting flowers and herbs, as well as learning how to thread eyebrows.

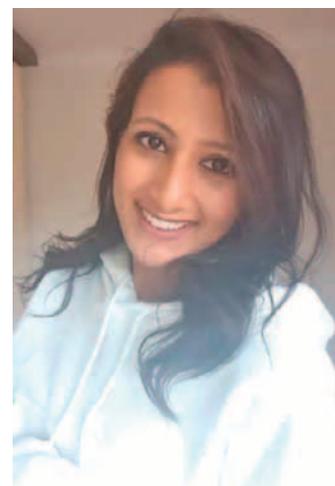


Figure 7 Skincare and haircare videos on my social media

Some of our members have also been making use of their time and ensuring the work they would do daily can be taken online.

Reteshbhai and Sripaben have transferred their yoga classes online, including HIIT on weekdays from 7am and a full yoga session on Sundays from 9am. The husband and wife duo are teaching yoga/HIIT to over 50 people a day and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive! For more information on these classes, please contact Reteshbhai on 07790 492 169.

Mayuriben has also moved her yoga online on Mondays and hosts the chair yoga on Wednesdays, while Dilip bhai is holding yoga every morning, Monday – Saturday and also on Tuesday evening. All our yoga teachers have been doing this on a voluntary basis to ensure we keep fit and active.

Jayeshbhai has also conducted religious sessions online since the beginning of lockdown on Wednesday and Sunday, keeping everyone, especially the elders, busy listening to him. Other members have also been keeping up their fitness, baking, cooking, making and distributing 100s of laddoos to all vulnerable people in the NE area, and home-schooling. To all parents out there who are home-schooling their children, I'm sure it can't be easy juggling responsibilities, so congratulations from the NE committee!

The Jain family are enjoying family time with an hour of Carrom every night. Akshata, the older of the two, is writing poems, whilst Aayush is learning more about drawing. The pair also love their baking! Namita herself is holding online art classes using her skills to help kids with creativity.



Figure 8 Aayush and Akshata baking



Figure 9 Some quality family time with the Jain family

Leena has been doing some amazing work with her kids to ensure that lockdown is no less interesting than usual, maybe even more! She has been working hard to make every day different and exciting, as well as ensuring home schooling is something they look forward to, with hands-on education. Aman and Ishani have both been working on their creativity, with Aman baking and making rotli and Ishani painting.



Figure 10 Aman's round rotli and lemon drizzle cake



Figure 11 Ishani getting creative with some watercolours

One consistent message from every member to us, is this:

Although times can be tough, it also allows us to realise and value what is important in life. Family time has been important for many of us and has given us a greater appreciation for what we have in our lives.

So, our message to you is this. Yes, these times are scary and unprecedented but don't let that get in the way of what you love doing. Learn to adapt your life so you're safe but enjoying yourself. As you've seen, there are so many things to do indoors. Let us spin that negative into positive and make the most of every day.

We, as a committee, as an area and as a community will get through this together.

Stay positive and stay safe

Your NE Committee

Conquering Your Dark Side Combined

Jai Jinedra

As we all have made mistakes in the past either by having things done to us, done things that we are not proud of or even said things in the heat of the moment which in hindsight, we did not mean to say. To resolve this, we would need to forgive each other, forget about what was said, move forward and start afresh.

We also say that everyone deserves a right to have a good education, whether they are slow in learning or very quick in picking up information. We also say that with good education and qualifications you will get a good job.

But for me it was totally a different case, as I was involved in a car accident many years ago. As well as the accident I had other major health issues which meant that I was in and out of school which resulted in me sacrificing getting any qualifications. Eventually I started doing short courses which I thought would help me gain some employment but that was not meant to be the case either. In 2005, I started doing compassionate-seva work at a local school which would help me build some experience and skills including teamwork which would eventually help towards gaining employment. It did not lead me to get a job, however it helped me be a team player and build confidence and resilience to not give up. As my confidence grew I carried out further compassionate – seva work at various different places.

Eventually in 2010 my patience for gaining employment paid off as I started my first part time job. With an understanding boss, I was encouraged to continue with my compassionate – seva work at the local school as I had been there for a long time. Ever since I started doing my compassionate – seva work at the local school, I have had various different roles in various organisations, which lead me to gain a job.

As well as doing the compassionate – seva work, a family friend encouraged me to join 3 different charities - Young Jains, SCVP (Shri Chandana Vidyapeeth) and Sansaar. In Young Jains I have been learning how to communicate better by participating in the Enriching Conversations discussions and making new friends. In SCVP (Shri Chandana Vidyapeeth) as well as learning about Jainism, I have also learnt about Ahimsa (Non – Violence), Aparigraha (Non- Attachment), Anekantvaad (Truth) and Seva (Compassion) and I have also made friends with different groups of people. In Sansaar I have been encouraging young children to participate in the cultural activities and making new friends. As well as this, another family friend had encouraged me to join Enabling Network, where I could participate in the sports and social activities that were run by the organisers of the club and also to meet other people who were in a similar situation. As well as taking part in the various activities, I won some competitions organised by the club for which I received some medals. Winning a medal taught me that all the participants are winners, not just those who received medals, as each of us were facing a different type of disability. As well as taking part in all of these activities I have met a lot of people who I am proud of calling them my friends.

Despite having so many disabilities due to my accident, this has not stopped me from having a normal life. Instead it has shown me that I am a dedicated, determined, confident, will-powered and an independent person looking forward and learning new things, being part of a team, gaining new skills and making new friends.

So my message to you is DO NOT GIVE UP EASILY IN WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO, NO MATTER WHAT LIFE THROWS AT YOU GRAB IT WITH TWO HANDS. GIVE YOURSELF AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN NEW THINGS, FACE NEW CHALLENGES AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS.

CONSIDER WHAT OTHER PEOPLE HAVE GONE THROUGH, WHAT POSITIVE THINGS THAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED IN THEIR LIFE BEFORE SAYING NO TO THEM AND GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO BUILD THEMSELVES UP.

IF ONE CANNOT HELP EVERYONE BUT EVERYONE CAN HELP SOMEBODY.

Parul Shah

From dubious to Jamai

By ALaw, Heena Shah, Manu Shah and Kanak Shah

Meeting the parents was necessary but our relationship wouldn't be predicated upon it.

Meeting the parents is a big deal in any culture. For South Asians, it's essentially a prelude to getting engaged. You're telling your parents that this is the person you can expect me to marry and it's typically met with anticipation that a big fat Indian wedding is forthcoming for the family.

Yet when you introduce your Black partner to your Indian parents, that can throw up a plethora of very different emotions.

Meeting the parents wasn't as significant for us as it might be imagined. The respective resentment and guilt we experienced had subsided by that point as our relationship was far from its infancy. Meeting the parents was necessary but our relationship wouldn't be predicated upon it. However, a frosty meeting would have likely reignited the aforementioned feelings.

There weren't any nerves or anxieties on our part. In contrast, meeting their daughter's Black boyfriend, and the acceptance of her partner from my now in-laws, was huge. For them, the journey had just begun. And it presented a range of emotions and cultural unfamiliarity that they would now experience.

They shared their experience of meeting their daughter's Black partner and how, in retrospect, they look back on that initial meeting and the lead up to it.

Meeting our daughter's Black boyfriend by Manu and Kanak Shah

We were curious, anxious and worried. Although much of how we saw the situation was just fear of the unknown.

We always saw our children getting married and marrying someone from a family like ours. They'd probably be Gujarati, but definitely Indian. That was especially important for our daughter because in our culture, she would effectively be leaving the family and joining the family of her husband.

When our daughter told us she was seeing a Black man, that image we had held for so long was shattered.

We acknowledged that our daughter seeing a Black man was a reality but we remained in denial. Because of that, we didn't want to initiate meeting you. That would just make it real. Out of the two of us, Dad especially resisted it. Nevertheless, both Faybas (paternal aunts), especially Savita Fayba as the family matriarch, and PL Papa and Champak Kaka (my father-in-law's best friends) were key people who encouraged it.

They told us to trust our daughter's judgement as a sensible and intelligent person and Ben (older sister) told us we had to accept the path that she had taken as it had already been written. Whatever our views, we couldn't change that. Today, we're very thankful that they pushed us to let go of our stubbornness and narrowmindedness.

If we're honest, we were both worried about what people would say when they found out. With Dad working in the community, that added another layer of anxiety for both of us but we eventually asked Heena to meet you.

How we imagined you couldn't have been further from the truth. We thought you'd be loud, obnoxious and basically as the media stereotypically portray Black people. The kind of image you see on MTV rap videos. We were also worried that you'd have a carefree, shortsighted attitude to life that wouldn't make for a reliable or committed partner. The kind of person who lives for today and doesn't worry about tomorrow. Was this relationship even going to last?

We had many questions. Were you educated? Were you articulate? On that one, it's actually funny we even questioned it with the high English you use! We also wondered if you were family orientated as that's very important to us as a family. These are questions we might have had if you were Gujarati, or at least Indian. But we would have probably assumed the answer to be yes in our pro-Gujarati bias.

We were curious, anxious and worried. Although much of how we saw the situation was just fear of the unknown.

Had you been Gujarati, we would have had less qualms about asking deeper questions. We'd have spoken to you in Gujarati and had questions about your parents and your original surname. As a non-Gujarati, that wasn't applicable to you. When we think about it, in some ways, you not being Gujarati actually made for less formalities and allowed us to break the ice quicker.

You left a very positive first impression on us. Even baking an eggless cake for Mum as a practising Jain! We never discussed that first meeting after you left. I (Heena's Dad) was still annoyed on some level. I had to concede I was wrong about you but I also still had to take my time in coming to terms with the situation.

How we both felt did improve but we still had reservations and lingering doubts. That probably lasted until at least a few months after you got married. But we now accept we were wrong in how we judged you beforehand. So much of our thinking has now changed and we're thrilled that you've become our Jamai (son-in-law).

Vishaal Malde - A Tribute

“Get out of the way!” Those of us who have attended North East’s youth club since the days of Bowes Road, Broomfield and then Alexandra Park School will remember that warning. It meant that Vish was about to shoot. When he took a shot, the football got punished. Who remembers those powerful toe punts?

Vishaal had been a regular at youth club from a young age. For a big guy he had good feet and he was always one of the first names on the team sheet. He would strut about the pitch in his hip hop tops thinking he was Gazza (but in reality he was more like Nick Barmby). Not only was he a football fanatic, he also loved badminton, table tennis and basketball.

Around the time he went to Bolton university to study Business, his ankles started giving way so he had to stop playing football. Noticeably, the cost of replacement footballs at youth club dramatically reduced. Vishaal could never give up sports, and he found a new passion for volleyball and darts. At the sports day tournaments, Vishaal led NE to victory in those sports, picking up many trophies over the years.



He was known for his great first touch in volleyball as well as his ability to dig and set. In all the sports he played he was a real team player. Through youth club he made a lot of friends and attended many events and trips that they organised. In 1990, he (aged 10) and his brother Harshal (aged 8) went on one of their first youth club trips to the Isle of Wight. This was one of his fondest memories.

As he moved on to the next stages of his life, it meant the members at youth club would see him less often. However, when they did see Vishaal, they were always greeted by that big smile and firm handshake.

He also attended the NE Gujarati School for many years where he once took part in an Oshwal Talent show. There was a period when the song Ice Ice Baby was hugely popular and much to everyone's dismay, he thought he was part of the “V.I.P.” (Vanilla Ice Posse). As he walked past his friends he would put his hand in front of their face and say, “alright stop, collaborate and listen.” It was funny at the time.

Vishaal could also be seen at other Oshwal events. He would attend the biannual Remembrance Day events and made a point of attending during Paryushan. In the last few years he would be seen with his son Sukhi, always talking to you with one eye on the “little man”.

Vishaal recently said that getting married to Anupa, adopting their son Sukhi and finally finishing renovations to achieve their dream house, surpassed his expectations and made him feel his family was complete.

Vishaal will always be remembered as a very polite, humble and caring lad. On behalf of everyone at NE, we will miss you Fubu.

Vishaal Malde, one of our own.

North West Area



Jai Jinendra & Pranam,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well in these difficult times which has affected us all due to Covid 19. The community have lost loved ones due to the virus. We have not been able to pay our respects personally. Our prayers for departed souls to achieve moksha. Condolences to family members. Those who are unwell we wish you a speedy recovery.

It has been hard times for all of us for over the past 3 months under lockdown. We have not been able to see friends and families and any families have faced difficulties and hard ships. We have all been impacted in one way or another. Government is gradually opening up various sectors of the businesses slowly. Please keep your distances whether you are meeting up with friends or out shopping.

Paryushan Parva is with us from **15 August 2020 to 22 August 2020**. This year, due to government restrictions, we will not be celebrating Paryushan as we have done over the years at Harrow Leisure Centre. We have always looked forward as committee members and volunteers to decorating the hall, welcoming and meeting members during the 8 days of celebrations, listening to pravachan's by various invited scholars and at the end sadly saying goodbye until we meet again.

This year's celebration will be online and more details are on EC Religious page.

North West Area activities are all on hold as per government guidelines except for our Gujarati School which we have started by virtual zoom classes in line with other 3 areas. For our teachers this method of online teaching is completely new. They had to adopt to this way of teaching within a few weeks. We have received positive feedback from both parents and students.

Area AGM and election of a new Committee due to take place on 19 April 2020 was cancelled and will take place as soon as it becomes practical.

On behalf of committee members and sub-committee we ask for your forgiveness:

**May this Paryushan Parva brings you happiness and prosperity.
May we all get self-purification and uplift so that we can adhere to
the ten universal virtues in our practical life successfully.
Have a blessed Paryushan Parva.
On the auspicious occasion of The Kshamavana divas,
I seek Kshama yachna from all of you for hurting the feelings of any one
knowingly or unknowingly in any form; in thought, words or deed,
directly or indirectly during last year.**

Michammi Dukkadam

Jai Jinendra,

Nilesh Dhanraj Shah
North West Area Chairman
OAUK Trustee



A heartfelt gift to Covid - 19 patients and their families

Following retirement I really wanted to give back to the community, therefore when presented with the opportunity to join a charity knitting group I jumped at the chance immediately, as this combined my favourite hobby of knitting and something I am passionate about. I joined the charity knitting group called "Harrow Purls Knitters and supporters", about 7 years ago.

In these very challenging times when Covid - 19 is affecting so many people, I really wanted to do something to help and I was on the lookout for a volunteering opportunity whilst at home.

Coincidentally, I received a plea for help from the charity knitting group to knit matching red hearts for Covid - 19 patients and their families at Great Western Hospital intensive care unit in Swindon. Nurse Laura Kirby - Deacon who was leading this initiative at the hospital reached out to the knitting charity group as she saw first-hand how not being able to be with loved ones at the hospital really affected both the patient and their family.

From the pair of hearts, one is given to the patient in the hospital and the other to their loved ones. To protect both the patient and their families, we were advised to use clean yarn and the finished hearts were to be sealed in a zip lock bag. The bags were also to be dated to allow 72 hours to elapse before they were considered safe to be distributed.

The thought behind the handmade matching hearts was to give families who are unable to visit their loved ones in hospital due to the coronavirus pandemic is to help them and their loved ones in hospital to feel connected, while having to stay apart.

This particular project really touched my heart as it must be so difficult for families not being able to visit their loved ones in hospital especially whilst they are in the intensive care unit.

I have some comfort in the knowledge that I was helping families affected by Covid-19 in a small way. Having something to touch and hold knowing that their loved ones had the exact matching heart with them would be very special and I hope it helps people get through these very difficult times.



I am grateful and thankful to the many heroes working in our community be it the NHS or other key workers. We as a community have come together and helped in many different ways and it's good to see how this pandemic has brought everyone closer together.

"Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle. Happiness never decreases by being shared." - Gautama Buddha

By Nimu Rajni Dodhia.
North Harrow, Middlesex

Sewing Gowns NHS Doctors and Nurses Knitting Twiddle Muffs and Fidget Mats

Besides painting and drawing, the ladies from Ekta Arts and Craft Club have been busy knitting and sewing many different things. They have knitted “twiddle muffs” and “fidget mats” for dementia patients at the Orthopedic hospital in Stanmore. The twiddle muffs and fidget mats allow the patients to stay occupied, calms them and stimulates brain function.

Rakshaben has also stitched medical gowns for NHS doctors and nurses to wear when treating COVID-19 patients. Precut material with required zips and elastic were delivered by a voluntary group called NHS PPE Campaign by Loft 25. The gowns were collected and sent to wherever they were needed. The gowns took about two weeks to complete and were quite tricky to stitch.

Bhanuben and Rakshaben also do knitting for charities with a group called “Harrow Purls Knitters and supporters. Bhanuben knitted matching pairs of hearts for patients who had contracted COVID-19. One heart was kept with the patient who had sadly passed away and second matching one was sent to the families who were not able to see a loved one before they die.

Rakshben



Oshwal Stars Article

The lockdown period was scary at first but I really enjoyed it.

I had an opportunity to spend more time with my family and try different things like baking, puzzles and new board games.

I am now back at school and I have enjoyed seeing my friends again, but school is different due to the new restrictions in place.

Oshwal stars was a very good experience. I wanted to learn new tunes on the piano and violin that were familiar to the judges and audience so they would enjoy them more. This, however, meant that I had to learn these pieces in a matter of 3-5 days! I gained confidence in live performing and it has taught me that if you put your mind to do something, it can be achieved. I would like to thank the organisers and all those that voted for me. I would encourage everyone to take part as it was a great experience and a lot of fun.

Ayushi Hinesh Shah





Adult Participant

Britain has been in lockdown since March 23 when Prime Minister, told the country: “you must stay at home.” And you are only allowed to leave your homes for: Buying essentials - One form of exercise - Medical reasons (e.g. picking up prescriptions) - Travelling to and from work – if you can’t work from home.

Staying home become the new reality and my social life was reduced to spending more time at home, with my family and loved ones. So I kept busy by reading a book, watching films or tv series, doing some exercise, going for walk, spending more time on listening my favourite Music, a bit of gardening, cooking, Sit and relax – rest the mind and body. Etc...

Fortunately for us Oshwal Association of UK organised number of on line social media channels from which we could stay in touch and connected with news and information about what’s happening in Oshwal. Via Website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, You Tube and ZOOM.

OAUk, has been presenting lots social and religious programs activities and events on line with modern technology. Such as Bollywood Music by Paras Malde, Nimesh Sanghoi, Yoga & Seniors fitness work out sessions by Arti Gudka, Kalina Shah, Kalpanben Doshi and Lavinaben Mehta. Sunday Satsang hosted by Pujya Shri Jayeshbhai, Cooking demonstrations, several different Oshwal Webinar, Oshwal Stars, Oshwal Sewa and finally Directory Demo etc.... and many more....

OAUk organized the first ever on line talent show in Oshwal History - **OSHWAL STARS** - Yes Dancing, Singing, Playing Musical Instrument, Perform magic tricks, Stan-up comedy, Recite poetry, Juggling, Public speaking..... whatever is your talent?

I certainly felt so proud and privileged to be part of this unique event with different age group categories, Under 12, 13 to 17 yrs. and Adult over18. **OSHWAL STARS!!!**

I participated in Adult category and as I love singing, I participated as Singer. After having 14 entries on 1st round I was successfully selected for 2nd and then for final round when I was announced 1st Runner up. Ohh Its was one of the happiest moments of my life.

The 2 weeks went so fast and I felt as if I am back in school practising and studying for my final exams. I thoroughly enjoyed and was looking forward to present my performances. Through the whole journey of Oshwal Stars I was so amazed by the Judges who were not only excellent, but very professionals and talented by themselves and passed us wonderful and encouraging comments.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone and a huge thank you to Oshwal Association of UK for organising the whole event and investing so much of their time and efforts to make sure this goes well and successful. Also take this opportunity to thank all the Judges KAUSIKBHAI, NIMESHBHAI, LAVINABEN AND DAKSHABEN for their time and amazing dedication. And the 2 co-host Ashish Bhai and Bhavniben. **WONDERFUL WORK AND DEDICATION!!!**

Jai Mahavir ! Jai Oshwal !

Pradeep Lalji Shah



Manjulaben Shantilal Shah

I am very thankful to the OAUK for giving me an opportunity to present in the Oshwal Stars program. I took part with a little encouragement from my daughter Harsha as my family knows how much I love singing!

I have a passion for singing from my younger days and even at this age; I still love to sing whenever I get the chance to do so. I got this passion for singing from my dear mother. In the earlier times, as you are aware, all our mothers used to grind grains using the 'ghunti' daily. Whilst grinding, I used to hear the sweet singing of my mother, singing beautiful bhajans and lovely melodies. Whilst listening, I used to sing alongside her and that's how I learnt to sing from an early age. After that, music classes were held at our Derasar in Mombasa where many of the ladies in our community attended these classes. I learnt a lot from there too and I therefore continued my hobby of singing. If there was a singing competition anywhere, I would also take part in it; sometimes in a group with my dear brother, Late Suryakant or with friends and sometimes solo.



I was born in 1940 in Thika, Kenya, married in 1960 to Shantilal Kanji Haria and settled in Mombasa. We have three daughters. All are married and settled in London. We have six grandchildren. We moved from Mombasa to London in 2008 and have settled down well.

We have been spending time at home for the last 3 months since the corona virus lockdown here. Our daughters and sons-in-law as well as our neighbours help with the shopping. We speak to our daughters' families daily and also hold a Zoom video conference once a week. Our family have helped to download applications on our iPad and therefore enabling us to watch the religious lectures, music, yoga, fitness sessions held by the OAUK and Navnath Vadil Mandal virtually which we thoroughly enjoy.

Finally, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to sing in the Oshwal Stars program. I hope you will continue to organise such programs in the future.

Manjulaben Shantilal Shah



હું આ તકે આપનો ખુબજ આભાર માનું છું કે આપે આલો સુંદર પ્રોગ્રામ પ્રદર્શિત કર્યો અને મેં પણ મારી પુત્રી હર્ષાની પ્રેરણાથી એમાં ભાગ લીધો. મને નાનપણથી જ ગાવાનો, સંગીતનો શોક હતો અને હજી પણ આ ઉંમરે ક્યાંય પણ ગાવાનો ચાન્સ મળે તો હું બહુજ ખુશ થઈને ગાવ છું. આ સંસ્કાર (પ્રેરણા) મને મારા પૂ.માતુશ્રી પાસે થી મળ્યા છે. આપ બધા જાણો છો ? પહેલાના જમાનામાં આપડા બધાના

બા ઘંટીમાં દળવાનું કામ ધરેજ કરતા અને દળતાં, દળતાં પણ કેટલા સુંદર સૂરો માં પ્રભુના ભજનો, પ્રભાતિયાં ગાતા એ હું સાંભળતી અને હું પણ તેમની સાથે ગાતી. એ રીતે નાનપણથી હું ગાતા શીખી. ત્યાર પછી મોંબાસાના આપણા ટેરાસરમાં સંગીત ના વર્ગો ચાલતા. એમાં પણ આપણી જ્ઞાતિ ની ઘણી બહેનો શીખવા જતા, તો એ રીતે ત્યાંથી પણ ઘણું શીખવા મળ્યું અને મેં મારો ગાવાનો શોખ જાળવી રાખ્યો. ક્યાંય પણ ગાવાની સ્પર્ધા હોય તો તેમાં પણ ભાગ લેતી.

મારો જન્મ 1940 માં શિકા, કેન્યામાં થયો હતો. અને મારા લગ્ન 1960 માં મોંબાસા નિવાસી શાંતિલાલ કાનજી હરિયા સાથે થયા. અમોને ત્રણ પુત્રીઓ છે. બધાના લગ્ન થઇ ગયા છે અને લન્ડનમાં જ સેટલ થયા છે. તેમજ 6 દોહિત્રાં તથા દોહિત્રી છે. અમો બન્ને મોંબાસાથી લન્ડન 2008 માં સેટલ થવા આવ્યા.

છેલ્લા 3 માસથી અહીં કોરોના વાયરસની શરૂઆત થઇ ત્યારથી અમે ઘરમાંજ સમય પસાર કરીએ છીએ. શોપિંગ કરવામાં દીકરીઓ તથા જમાઈઓ મદદ કરે છે. ક્યારેક પાડોશી પણ મદદરૂપ થાય છે. દરરોજ દીકરી અને જમાઈના ફોન આવે છે. ઉપરાંત અઠવાડિયામાં એક વકત બધા Zoom માં મળીએ છીએ. એટલે જરૂરિયાત સમાચાર મળ્યાં કરે છે. બાકી દીકરી અને જમાઈ મળીને ipad માં આવતા પ્રોગ્રામ ગોઠવી દીધા છે એટલે તેમાં આવતા ઓશવાળ સેન્ટર તથા નવનાત વડીલ મંડલના ધાર્મિક પ્રવચનો અને ફિલ્મી સંગીત વગેરે પ્રોગ્રામ જોતા સમય પસાર કરીએ છીએ.

અંતમાં તમોએ ઓશવાળ સ્ટાર્સ પ્રોગ્રામ ગોઠવી એમાં મને ગાવાનો મોકો આપિયો બદલ આપ સર્વે કાર્યકર્તાનો ઘણો આભાર. ફરી પણ સમય મળતાં તમો આવા પ્રોગ્રામ ગોઠવતા રહેશો એવી આશા.

મંજુલાબેન શાંતિલાલ શાહ

Ekta Arts & Craft Club Activity during Lockdown

It has been almost three months since the Government announced lockdown and we hope that all of you have been well and safe. Sadly due to the Government Guidelines all the events at Ekta centre had to be cancelled.



Knitting



Painting

However **Ekta arts and Craft** club participants have been keeping active in this difficult situation. Club participants have been very busy at home and also making fidget cushions and mits for dementia patients in nursing homes.

All done from their homes, keeping in touch remotely and gathering fresh ideas and inspiration from the internet

It's incredible to see these hidden talents shine through and a Hugh round of applause to all these ladies.

Thank you for sharing your work.

If anyone would like to join the Ekta Arts & Crafts Club please contact us on:

Bijalben – 07887 390772

Minaben – 07904 738870

લોકડાઉન દરમિયાન એકતા આર્ટ્સ અને ક્રાફ્ટ ક્લબ પ્રવૃત્તિ

સરકારે લોકડાઉન જાહેર કર્યાને લગભગ ત્રણ મહિના થયા છે અને અમને આશા છે કે તમે બધા કુશળ અને સલામત હશો. દુર્ભાગ્યે સરકારના માર્ગદર્શિકાઓને કારણે એકતા સેન્ટરની તમામ પ્રવૃત્તિઓ બંધ કરવી પડી હતી. જો કે આપણા એકતા આર્ટ્સ અને ક્રાફ્ટ ક્લબના સહભાગીઓ આ મુશ્કેલ પરિસ્થિતિમાં સક્રિય રહ્યા છે. ક્લબના સહભાગીઓ ઘરે ખૂબ વ્યસ્ત રહ્યા છે

અને નર્સિંગ હોમ્સમાં ડિમેન્શિયાના દર્દીઓ માટે ફિજેટ, કુશન અને મિટ્સ પણ બનાવે છે. બધા તેમના ઘરેથી કરે છે, દૂરથી સંપર્કમાં રહે છે અને ઇન્ટરનેટથી તાજા વિચારો અને પ્રેરણા એકત્રિત કરે છે.

આ બધી મહિલાઓમાં છુપાયેલ પ્રતિભાઓને ચમકતા જોવાની અતુલ્યતા છે. અને બધી મહિલાઓને તાળી થી બિરદાવીએ છે.

તમારું કામ શેર કરવા બદલ ખૂબ આભાર.

જો કોઈ એકતા આર્ટ્સ એન્ડ ક્રાફ્ટ ક્લબમાં જોડાવા માંગતા હો તો કૃપા કરીને સંપર્ક કરો: –

બીજલબેન – 07887 390772 અથવા મીનાબેન – 07904 738870

OSHWAL SEWA – VOLUNTEERS MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE

Sewa During Tough Times

I had registered as a volunteer to support the community during the Covid lockdown alongside many others from the community as part of the Oshwal Sewa team.

It was clear to me that volunteering during this time is not going to be straightforward, as there were several guidelines laid down by the government and organisers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone. Volunteering and being able to find the right balance between work and home life during this time was going to be interesting. The time I could offer was limited initially, but as my circumstances changed, I was able to support the community more.

I was to support in 2 areas, lunch time meal deliveries and support local families / elders leaving on their own who needed support with their regular shopping.

Meal deliveries:

Initially, allocated to me by the planning team, I was delivering to 7 or 8 households which included a mixture of flats, houses and nursing homes. On the first day, armed with bags of excitement, my face mask and list of deliveries I made my way to Dips



Foods, who were very organised and prepared. Picked up my allocation of meal bags and made my way to the first address and the next until the last one. Came home with a very satisfying from that hour that I have spent supporting the community.

As the ice broke, days progressed and I got onto first name terms with some of the elders and households, these are folks who had now not left their house for weeks, started to enquire about help with getting items they are used to e.g. Tea Bags in a 'red box' but trying to understand which brand, where they used to get from was an interesting challenge. Or some needed some additional savouries like nasto, Homemade biscuits, chevdo or thepla. Had to remind myself every time to check on their dietary and more importantly taste (spicy / mild) requirements! Yes, this added to the challenge, but the feeling I got when I saw their faces light up when I turned up at the doorstep with their requested items was priceless!

Shopping Support:

Having built a schedule with the household, on my first trip to the supermarket, I picked up as much as available and onto doing the drop-off. There was an initial slight disappointment that not everything on the list was in the bags, I explained that some items were not readily available due to the situation and that I would keep these on the shopping list for the following week. We quickly learned to manage each other's expectations.

By the 3rd shop I had a routine and so did the household where I was turning up with some loose change, and they would be ready with spare shopping bags and as close to the right money as possible. Had to quickly develop myself on picking up 'shaak bhaji' which was great quality! In our household, this is normally done by my wife and yes, whilst I got laughed at, I also got the support to be able to support the household.

I truly am thankful that I was able to dedicate some of my time towards this huge effort undertaken by the community for the community. My experience gave me a huge sense of accomplishment and fulfilment.

Bhavin Shashikant Haria

Sewa involves performing an act of kindness, selflessly and without the expectation of reward. I would like to consider myself as a good global citizen and therefore if you are can, why would you not help others that are less able to help themselves?



When Covid-19 first traversed from being 'something' in China to the shock of hundreds of deaths a day in the UK and a lock down; the many acts of human kindness shown by all communities across all religions and race, provided comfort against the gloom of wall to wall media coverage on the pandemic. This then moved to what could I do?

I am a trustee of a Charity called 'Transforming Lives Foundation' that works with the poorest of the poor (earning less than \$1 a day) across developing economies on overcoming poverty traps and creating sustainable livelihoods.

So here, we ramped up our efforts providing short term relief and we worked with a social enterprise to raise over \$1m to build much needed ventilators for Kenya.

At the same time our own community asked for volunteers and being fortunate enough to have the flexibility to help, I did. Truthfully I played a very small role to help others. All I did was pick up food each day and within less than an hour deliver the food parcels to eleven people around Stanmore and Edgware. The appreciation by the recipients was worth it alone; however taking my son, Sachin, with me during his half-term holiday helped him better understand how our small efforts of kindness can have a positive impact on others was a priceless learning opportunity for him.

Rupen Shah

It was Monday 27th April, the mood and atmosphere everywhere was subdued and very quiet, there was no one on the streets.

Just after 11am I ventured out to collect meals for delivery from Dips caterers. Not knowing what to expect when delivering I was naturally apprehensive. However, when I got to Dips there was an air of camaraderie, everyone determined to try and make the lives of less fortunate people a little more comfortable.

Over the next 6 weeks, I got to know some of the recipients, they always had a smile, a thank you and were ever so grateful for this small

gesture. It made me feel very humble and also very grateful not only for having the ability to undertake these deliveries, but also thankful that OAUK had organised it in a way that did not inconvenience the volunteers.

I looked forward to the daily deliveries, meeting and chatting to the volunteers, and also having a quick chat with some of the recipients who were ever so kind in spite of the difficulties they were experiencing.

And how can I not mention the occasional treats we were given by Dips which were always delicious:)

It was indeed a very special experience.

Neena Ashwin Shah





It has been a great pleasure to serve the community during the current crisis. I felt like I was part of something. I didn't realise how much it

meant to the people I was delivering food to. Until they realised it was all coming to an end. I would eagerly wait in the morning for my alarm to go to remind me that I need to get ready and leave. I feel that for my dad and I it was a daily outing but doing it for a good purpose. I am so glad to be in a place where I had the capacity to help. I hope I will be able to do more in the future. I'm going to miss my daily chats to Rupal and the team at the shutters of DIPs.. stay safe and well

Monica Shah

COMMUNITY SUPORT SERVICE

Connecting Hearts

On 23 March 2020, Boris Johnson announced that the UK was entering lockdown as COVID 19 began to spread across our country. Schools closed, and people were asked to stay at home and leave only for essential shopping, to get medical supplies or to travel to work if they couldn't work from home. This meant we were also unable to see our family and friends.

When this was announced, I wondered how I would pass my time at home. Usually, I go to my keep-fit classes, meet my friends and help look after my grandchildren. I began to focus my time reading religious books, meditating in the mornings and listening to live Swadhays (lectures), from my Guru.



On 4 April, I came across an article on BBC News where Laura Kirby-Deacon, a nurse from the Great Western Hospital in Swindon, was requesting small handcrafted knitted hearts. The hearts would be used as a token of comfort to families of patients who had not been able to see their loved ones who had sadly died from COVID 19. One crochet heart would be placed in the coffin of

the patient, and one crochet heart would be sent to the patients next of kin.

I was touched by Laura's request and wanted to help in any way I could during these difficult times. I have knitted more than 400 hearts in various different colours.

I feel blessed to have had the chance to help those who have been affected.

May Almighty bless the soul of those who have sadly passed away. Our prayers are with the families of loved ones who have been lost.



I have also crocheted extensions masks band which are made to help protect the ears from chafing when wearing a mask. This band has buttons on the side to hold ear hoops so they don't tug on ears.

This was my other project to make mask helpers for personal use. I have made a bunch of these bands for key workers & nurses at Northwick Park Hospital.

Musician

It's been a dynamic change of lifestyle, the last few months being restricted and



limited to treat my patients dental needs over the phone during the Covid phase. As sad and heart breaking this period has been for many, for others including myself, it's been a great time for self-reflection, building on strengths and improving on weaknesses. I turned to my music to help keep my family, friends and community mentally strong, singing Bhajans, Bollywood and Garba weekly on my Facebook and YouTube Live sessions. I was also humbled to work with Oshwal to sing Bhakti at the Satsang Zoom sessions with Jayeshbhai on Sundays. I've truly valued my music more than ever knowing the power it has to positively touch and influence so many people's hearts, especially during a difficult time in life for all. With a new perspective of life

in mind, I am even more determined to look after my patients' health needs and also progress further with my evolving musical journey.

You can follow me on YouTube for more entertainment [youtube.com/c/parasmalde](https://www.youtube.com/c/parasmalde).

Paras Malde



A E G I S L I F E

F I N A N C I A L S E R V I C E S L T D

Providing advice on the most suitable insurance to protect you,
your family, your business and your valued possessions

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Life Insurance | Critical Illness | Income Protection
Private Medical Insurance | Over 50s Life Cover
Whole of Life Cover* | Gift Inter Vivos*

*The above 2 products can be used for **Inheritance Tax (IHT)** planning purposes;
however, please note that we do not provide advice on IHT planning.

BUSINESS PROTECTION

Relevant Life Insurance | Key Person Cover
Business Loan Protection | Group Medical Insurance
Shareholder/Partnership Protection | Executive Income Protection

GENERAL & COMMERCIAL INSURANCE

Home Insurance | Property (Landlords, Residential & Commercial)
Fleet Insurance | Shop/Office/Business Insurance
Public/Employer's Liability | Professional Indemnity

Fluent in Gujarati, Hindi and English



☎ +44 (0) 20 3848 7484
☎ +44 (0) 7824 617 751
✉ yogesh@aegislife.co.uk
🌐 www.aegislife.co.uk

📍 Stanmore Business & Innovation Centre
Howard Road, Stanmore HA7 1GB

Registered in England & Wales. Company Number: 11259488 | Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

SEVA - OUTREACH TO OSHWAL MEMBERS DURING LOCKDOWN

Past North Area Chairman Laxmichandbhai and past committee member Mukeshbhai share about their journey, concerns and outreach activities during the lockdown.

Our Concern

A week into the lockdown, during our daily telephone conversations, we felt the need to reach out to our members to see how each household was coping with the current pandemic of COVID 19 and to see if there is anything we can do to help anyone in any kind of distress.

While scientists and researchers scramble to better understand the ways in which the coronavirus affects the body, there is a clear understanding of the ways in which social isolation and loneliness affects our health.

Those who do not feel sufficiently connected to others and are deprived of social contact are more likely to:

- 1/ have a weaker immune system and often catch colds
- 2/ develop dementia,
- 3/ develop cardiovascular disease and will probably live a shorter life

In fact, it has been estimated that the long-term harm caused by social isolation and loneliness is like smoking 15 cigarettes a day, or to being obese.

Those experiencing social isolation and loneliness are at a much higher risk of developing depression and social anxiety, as many aspects of social interaction such as smiling, laughing or simply moving about release chemicals in the brain that heighten our sense of wellbeing.

We wanted to act quickly and contribute in whatever small way we could to help build connections in our Journey

Our Journey

It took us around a fortnight for us to gather all the telephone numbers for most of our households.

Each morning before we started our round of daily calls, we communicated with each other to discuss who to call from our list and this is how it all evolved. It took a few phone calls to familiarise with the way in which to approach area members, judge their reaction and develop accordingly. It was such a joy to feel the warmth of the reaction from our fellow Oshwals when we explained why we were ringing.

We also came across a few members who needed help and it gave us immense satisfaction in putting them in touch with the right people from the Oshwal SEWA team.

During the phone calls we came across several people with whom we had not communicated for many years and we got talking about the current area activities and caught up on old times. At the same time we were delighted to be acquainted with members whom we didn't know by face and we certainly look forward to meeting them once we get back to normality. The whole exercise took nearly four weeks and it gave us much contentment to have reached out to our fellow Oshwals and let them know that we are here for them to help in any capacity we can, even if it may be just lending an ear. It also brought tears in some people's eyes.

Thank you to all those who received our calls, who accepted our help and we would like to let everyone know that we are here for you – just a phone call away.

We are pleased to announce the next Whist Drive social evening is on Saturday 9th November at Woodhouse College. Please get your friends and families to sign up and get their tickets now! It's going to be a fabulous evening.



Laxmichandbhai



Mukeshbhai

The Lockdown Generation – How North Area Youth are coping

The lock down has affected young people in many ways. Not able to connect with friends, being locked out of school, the reduced amount of sports they can partake in, have all had a serious impact on young people. Many have had their education and career plans disrupted by the virus. Below we hear from six youngsters who are part of either our Youth Club or Gujarati School, or both, and how they have adapted and coped.



Jai Jinendra everyone. My name is Nihal Kuntesh Shah. Due to Coronavirus, my daily routine has changed quite a lot because going to school and playing sports have been cancelled, so we have to do all the work at home.

Myself and my friends now do school homework together via House Party. We get school homework via email. I have meetings with my teachers every Thursday and Friday via Microsoft Teams where we discuss the results of our homework and do quizzes. This helps me to improve on my mistakes.

After doing my homework I help my grandma and mum to do some housework and I am trying to learn a bit of cooking! I try to make simple foods like pasta, salads, pizzas and rice dishes, which I normally have for my lunch.

In the afternoon I play on the play station with my friends. I miss my friends very much so I keep in touch with them via call or video games. Most days we have family time where we play board games or watch movies together while eating popcorn.

To keep healthy, I play in the garden and practise my football skills especially my goalkeeping techniques.

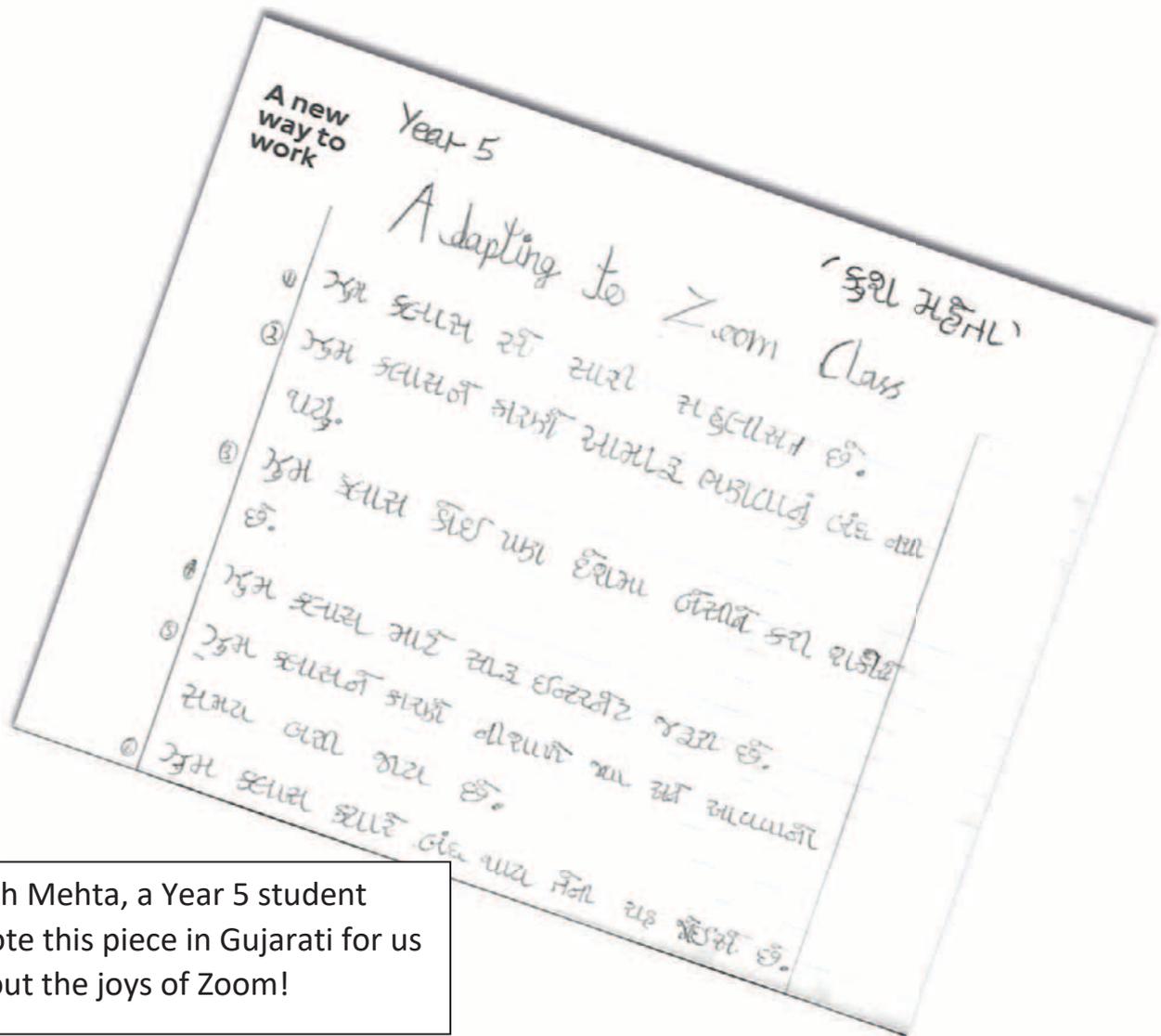
Every weekend I attend Zoom Classes for Gujarati School and Shishukunj, this has helped me to ensure I keep my skills up in learning our language and culture.

I miss not being able to go to School, Youth Club, playing sports and meeting friends. Hopefully everything will get back to normal soon. In my spare time I have set up my own YouTube channel which is quite interesting and have got some people subscribing to it. This is how my quarantine daily routine has been for the past 4 months.



Jai Jinendra everyone. My name is Kheya Patel and I am in Year 3 at Woodhouse College. My teacher is Anjuben and since 6th June we have been having our lessons on zoom where we work online and have video calls to carry out the work. I have adapted really well because I have my English School work on online. In our first lesson, we helped Anjuben even though she had some training on using zoom, by showing her how to share her screen and a few other things.

On online, we are doing the seasons but if were at school we would have been making booklets about the weather. My mum receives an email with the work and then prints it for my lessons. However, I can't wait for Gujarati school to open again because I miss my friends and teachers. Hopefully, we will be back to school in September 2020 when it is more safe for us all.



Kush Mehta, a Year 5 student wrote this piece in Gujarati for us about the joys of Zoom!

Keeyan Shah, one of our Youth Club stars wrote this piece for us:

When lockdown was first announced by the government, I was looking forward to this experience. Little did I know what it was like or how long it was going to last. For the first few days, I missed my friends from both school and youth club, but we kept in touch through our phones. I was very busy painting the fence, gardening and exploring the vast walking routes around our area. We explored many places, from Brocket Woods to Stanborough Lakes. By climbing trees, I overcame my fear of heights and have continued climbing, which I really enjoy.

However, reality soon hit me. It was to be my last year in primary school and I was uncertain whether we could go back or not. I was really excited for our school trip to PGL but sadly that was cancelled. For my brother, Rushil, it was also his last year in secondary school. We were set school work every week by my teachers as part of home learning programme. My school friends and I did frequent calls. I also looked forward to clapping hands every Thursdays, for all the key workers.

I soon got used to lockdown and my family bonded closer together; even with friends and extended family from abroad with whom I took part in several quizzes via video call. We played board games most evenings and went for regular cycle rides, runs and walks. To keep active and fit, I also did the workouts that Joe Wicks hosted on YouTube. This was on top of my daily training sessions for water polo, which were conducted over Zoom.

I made a large Knex model and completed a 1000 piece puzzle, which really racked my brain. Also, I learnt the basics of coding. But my most significant achievement was creating a stop-motion animation. I created

the plot, the characters, the settings, the scenes and even the script. The sets and characters were made out of Lego and I was really proud of it.

My brother and I played outside: rugby, football and basketball. We played regularly in our local parks and even on our walks. I also enjoyed cooking as I made spaghetti and learnt how to make sushi. I was even asked by my mum's friend to do an interview about lockdown for a TV channel!

I was over the moon when we were allowed to go back to school and I played a lot with my friends. We still had to keep social distancing though. It was really odd, the first day back, as all the tables were spaced out and we had to wash our hands all the time. I now want to make the most of my last few weeks at my primary school. It feels like normality is beginning to return.

From Aneeka Shah – Youth Club member and Gujarati School Year 6 Student!

Lockdown for me has been a challenging experience for me, as it has been for a lot of people.

I have been keeping myself busy by playing outside with my family, playing tennis and rounders in my garden. Akhil (my brother) has taught me to play basketball and I have enjoyed it very much. I have been doing activities here and there like sewing, candle making, sand art and window painting- all of which have been very fun to do. My mum and I have been doing a lot of baking and experimenting. We have made brownies, cookies, meringues, lemon drizzle cake and chocolate cake, all of which were vegan. My mum has also been teaching me to make Indian food and all sorts of cooking. Akhil and Sachin (my two annoying brothers) and I, have been watching a lot of movies together and playing monopoly which the boys always win- never me. Can't imagine how...

Along with all of my fun, I have still been managing to do my online homework with my primary school; Gujarati homework; Kumon that has been sent by post; as well as extra papers that my parents give me. I have been doing regular zoom lessons for Gujarati and catch ups with my teachers and friends.

It has been very hard not being able to see my friends and family, but we have been Face-timing and communicating through Zoom. I have had a lot of free time, but I amuse myself- if not I go and annoy my mum! We are lucky to have such beautiful weather therefore I can go for long walks with my family.

Life in lockdown has been hard but together we will all get through it.

Hello my name is Aarya Malde, a youth club member, and I am would like to tell you how my life has been during the COVID19 quarantine.

Life has generally been very boring during quarantine as there is really nothing to do. Initially it felt like bliss as you could sleep, eat, watch TV/films, do school work, interact with family and friends virtually and be on the phone all day. However very quickly you realise life can be lonely with no real social interaction with humans apart from family you are living with.

Sadly, my grandfather also recently passed away overseas which has made my family very upset. This was a big shock to our whole family and has made quarantine a lot worse. Because of coronavirus we were not able to attend the funeral in person and support each other in time of need.

I really miss going to youth club and seeing my friends every Friday. Youth club is so much fun and I have had many great memories and friends there. I have been going regularly for the past 6 years and just recently moved to the over 12's. Due to the lockdown I managed to go only two times which is really sad.

I have realised how much we take everything for granted. It is important to take care of yourself, family, friends and people in need and to also respect mother nature.

The positive which has come out from the quarantine is that how helpful and loving everyone has been toward each other and also the pollution has reduced on earth and let mother nature heal.

I am hoping life will soon return to normal where I can start going to school and youth club to meet all my friends and learn things in life.



Gujarati School team working on line!

Pictured here (L to R from top) Hiralben (Y7), Bhavanaben (Y6), Anjuben (Y3), Diptiben (Y1), Hiteshbhai (Y5), Artiben (Y2), Vandanaaben (Balmandir), Neelamben (Headteacher) and Kunteshbhai (North Area Education chairperson)

THANK YOU TO YOU ALL!



Jai Jinendra, Pranam

Hope you and your families are keeping well and safe during this Covid-19 crisis. I am delighted to have been elected as Luton Area Chairperson for 2020-2022.

I have always had a keen interest to serve and support other people. From a young age I watched my grandparents and parents volunteering and serving the Oshwal Community at large and I have endeavoured to follow in their footsteps to serve this wonderful Oshwal Community.

I have been part of the Oshwal Committee in Luton since the 1990's. I have had various portfolios including Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Education Chairperson and as a Committee member.

My vision is to engage the younger generation and encourage them to participate by holding and organising more functions of their interest.

The following Luton Area Committee was elected on 8th March 2020 and the following are their portfolios: -

Office Bearers

Chairperson – Nita Pankaj Shah
Vice Chairperson – Ajita Rajesh Shah
Secretary – Irene Marjorie Shah
Treasurer – Ricky Ajnis Shah

Committee members

Neil Bharatkumar Shah – Membership and Youth
Ashok Mohanlal Shah – 120 Scheme and Membership and Health and Welfare
Avni Ashok Shah - Religious, Culture and Heritage
Jyoti Sandeep Shet – Religious
Ajita Rajesh Shah – Culture and Heritage
Rajesh Zaverchand Shah - Health and Welfare
Pankaj Zaverchand Shah – Media and communication
Keval Rajnikant Shah – EX-Officio

During the period 2020-2022 we plan to have Friday Club, Luncheon club/satsang and Dal Roti Programmes once a month.

The Luton Area Committee looks forward to your support in our events.

Nita Pankaj Shah
EC Trustee and Luton Area Chairperson



Navkar Pariwar 99,99,999 Mahamantra Jaap

Ranjanben Kantilal Sumaria took part in Navkar Mahamantra Chanting on 31st May 2020 which took place for the first time for the Global Wellness in the History of Jainism. This was organised by the Navkar Pariwar in India.

Well done to Ranjanben who recited over 100,000 Navkar Mantra Jaap in memory of all the loved ones who have passed away. Ranjanben received a certificate of participation from Navkar Pariwar.



Paryushan 2020

Our next major event shall be Paryushan and the teams have been working hard behind the scenes to prepare for this event to be hosted online. A detailed schedule of events is published in this newsletter. All areas have been allocated at least one of the 14 Swapnas and we are pleased to say we have the very first one of Elephant with a nakro of £201.

As a committee, we have decided that all area members shall have an equal opportunity to partake in this with a minimum of £10 or more. We shall then draw for a contributing individual or family who shall need to show the Swapna on Zoom on the evening of the fifth day. Please contact Lataben (07940 994 622) or Hemal (07940 960 886) who are taking names for this auspicious and wonderful once in a lifetime opportunity.

Daal Rotli ...

Something to really look forward to once lockdown restrictions have fully been lifted, the area committee have agreed to hold a get together with the ever popular Daal Rotli. Still in the planning stage, it promises to bring us together to share the personal moments of how we overcome the current period in our lives.

Pre-Paryushan Seminar and Workshop

This year we have organised the above seminar and workshop to be held on 11th August in conjunction with the Institute of Jainology.

The purpose of the event is to provide a greater understanding of the relevance of Paryushan in Jainism. An open forum interactive session, this whole day program is bound to inspire us all spiritually in readiness for the Paryushana Parva to follow!

Details can be found in the schedule below and we do hope that many of you shall be able to attend

A Moment of Celebration



Standing L-R: Chandulalbai Jivraj, Amritlalbai Virpar, Manekchandbai Mangar, Gosarbai Bhagwanji, Amratilalbai Fulchand, Ranjanben Amratilal, Kamlaben Chandrakant, Narendrabhai Mulchand, Avinashbai Premchand, Premchandilal Raihi, Ratilalbai Khetshi

Seated back row L-R: Sariaben Chandulal, Kanchanben Gulabchand, Narabdaben Manekchand, Manjuben Gosar, Sudhaben Ravinchand, Radiabhen Raichand, Savitaben Chhaganlal, Jayaben Premchand, Kanchanben Dipchand, Shantaben Ratilal

Seated front row L-R Savitaben Premchand, Vilashen Ramnik, Savitaben Premchand, Vanitaben Mohanlal, Rambhaben Govindji, Radhaben Mulchand

On the floor L-R: Motiben Mansukhlal, Shantaben Chimanlal, Chimanbai Meghji, Jayaben Kantilal, Jayaben Keshavlal

A Moment of Celebration - specially dedicated to the respected seniors of our community

It seems like a lifetime ago with the current world situation, yet it was only a few months ago that we were able to hold this wonderful event. The proposal was brought forward to the committee for a special programme exclusively for the elderly members of our community; to appreciate their dedication and sacrifices that they endured to ensure the following generations were able to grow and flourish. It was also in recognition of the hardships they selflessly went through for the betterment of the community which would have been especially difficult in a new country as probably 1st generation migrants. It was unanimously agreed upon and planning soon got under way.

Area members were notified via e-newsletters and word of mouth that a programme was being organised for those over 75. They were asked to register their names during Paryushan last year and though the exact date had not yet been set, we received nearly 50 names! Once we had this number, the committee got planning the finer details. The date was set for Sunday 9th February 2020.

Personalised invitations were sent out inviting each of them and 4 guests of their choice with a deadline to respond by. In true Oshwal spirit, a couple of them also called us offering to help out with any preparations for the event. Sadly, we also lost two of these members between Paryushan, when they registered, and the time when we sent out the invites. However, without hesitation we agreed to send out an invite to their families. By mid-January, a month to go before the event, we had a fair idea of the numbers attending and we zeroed in on the itinerary.

On the day, the weather was against us with winds causing havoc all over the country forcing a few to stay away. Some were a bit poorly and could not attend. On the other hand, there were a couple who changed their mind at the last minute and decided to join in.

The committee members, their spouses and some volunteers had all been allocated tasks before the event. Some laid out the decorations while others prepared the snacks; some also took time out and popped a few balloons in the process! Soon the hall was ready with tables covered in blue, white balloons all around, appropriate mood lighting and background music! Just before 3pm as planned, the committee members and their spouses - ladies dressed up in pink sarees and gents in blue suits - were ready to welcome the guests! On arrival, the honoured guests were personally greeted, given a named blue and white rosette and escorted to their assigned tables. It was wonderful to see the expressions of surprise as they walked in and their eagerness to chat with each other! Once most had arrived and were seated, a welcome drink of badam, pista and kesar milk was served with some nibbles kindly donated by Jayaben & Premchandbhai Shah.

Nikunj then welcomed all and asked Kamlaben C Shah to lead us in a prayer. After observing a minute's silence remembering those not amongst us, he explained the reason for holding the event and the program for the rest of the afternoon. He then called upon Madhuben M Shah who read out and explained the importance of maintaining a healthy relationship between different generations within a community.

Soon after, the 'Ramat Gamat' got off with the first game designed specially for those couples 'Over 75' who were both present. The ladies sat on one side of the hall whilst their husbands waited apprehensively on the other. When all were ready, the husbands had to walk or run back and forth to their spouse each time giving her a bangle, a necklace and a chandlo! On their final run, they gave a red rose to their wives after which they both walked back together. We had 3 rounds of the game with 11 pairs in total, one pair being grandma and grandson! All were truly flabbergasted to see the enthusiasm and the joy with which the 'Over 75s' participated; the ladies certainly got a treat from their spouses!

After the game and a very welcome rest for the participants, Dillon Shah gave a short reading about how important his nani, Kanchanben D Shah, is to him especially what she has taught him about Jainism. The next game was for those Over 75's who were single. This time they sat around in a circle to play 'Pass the parcel' picking from a lucky dip of 'tasks' when the music stopped. Some had to talk about their life in India or Kenya before moving to UK, while others had to sing a song or a stavan. While some were asked to mimic animal sounds, others had to dance to bollywood music! As spectators, it was a sheer pleasure to note the fun they were all having, letting go of any reservations that they may have had. They certainly kept some of us laughing to the point of tears!

The next recitation was from Jia Shah who spoke about her bond with her great grandmother - their family had all four generations present at the table! She appreciated the love and time that Rambhaben G Shah has given her. The time had now come for us to present the guests of honour with a token of appreciation on behalf of the community.

One by one, each of them was called out and welcomed to the centre of the hall. A committee member and their spouse then presented and draped a shawl around their shoulder as an embodiment of respect for them - Bahuman. 32 members were presented the shawls with the eldest, Radiatben Raichand Gudka – 96 years young – being presented by the area office bearers. It is fair to say that it was truly well appreciated by all the recipients but even more humbling to us who were presenting.

Next came the grand photo session to mark the occasion with all the 'Over 75s' together. Suddenly there was a hoard of 'paparazzi' gathered everywhere as family members joined in to capture the pure joy that shone through everyone's beaming smiles!

To sum up, we had a sumptuous dinner of puran rotli, khandvi, 2 shaak - ringda bateta and moong daal & spinach, matar bhat and kadhi! This was complimented with pickles, far far and chaas. The garam garam puran went down so well as people went for seconds and thirds. Vilasben R Shah sang beautifully while we had dinner.

Going round the tables, there were so many chuckles and warm complements. Not only did we enjoy the games and the presentations, but most importantly those special guests had a fabulous time – saying it was the most fun they had had in a very long time feeling really honoured. Upon reflection - especially during this period of Covid-19 lockdown – on that day we shared the sorrow, the hardship, the joy, the laughter, the friendship and the unity amongst all of us; it truly was a Moment of Celebration!











EAST AREA DAL ROTI WITH CARD GAMES

Last social evening of the present committee was on Saturday 29th March 2020 at St. Johns Church Hall, Seven Kings, Essex IG2 7BB, at 7.00 pm

When all the members were settled in the hall, the program started with Navkar Mantra chanting together three times, and then a minute silence was observed for world peace and the departed souls. Lata welcomed everyone and requested everyone to join in the AGM.

Everyone enjoyed the tasty dal prepared by Lataben and hot roti, with goor and tomatoes/onions. I think everyone had two or three servings of dal and shows how tasty food is served at East Area socials. After the meal, everyone cleaned the tables and some went into the kitchen to help wash utensils.

Now all were free so everyone made up groups to play cards. There were only one child and a baby who were present. Bhartiben asked Joyden if he wanted to play cards which he really liked the game of cards





and he said he will come again to the social evenings. I think it is the parent's duty to bring their children to such events and they learn a lot and also they will join in the future activities of the East Area and future committee's.

While playing cards first fresh fruits with ice cream was served and the later on Tea and biscuits were served. This was the last social by the current east area committee and hope everyone has enjoyed coming to the events we organised.

On behalf of our committee i.e. Kishorbhai (chairperson) Lalitaben, Ashvinbhai, Lataben, Narrotambhai, Nandlalbhai, Sunitaben, Bhartiben and Babubhai (me) we apologise to everyone if we have had at any time made any errors or disappointed anyone.

WE ASK FOR YOUR FORGIVENESS
Mitchami Dukhdam.

LOCKDOWN IN EAST AREA

East Area is a small area with members enjoying the regular events held weekly and monthly were suddenly saddened with the news of the lockdown. Yoga club run by Bhartiben had regular members taking part, Thursday Club run by Lalitaben and going strong for many years and the monthly programme was suddenly stopped for the regular members

In the lockdown, the committee monthly meetings have been held via office 365 from our homes. The religious meeting was held via Zoom and all the discussions for the virtual Paryusan were discussed. The media meeting with Ashishbhai and Sudhirbhai was also conducted. We have been so lucky in the lockdown that a lot of The Oshwal affairs has been carried out.

It was very difficult for a lot of our elders who live on their own, as a committee we asked most of the elders in the area and found that someone was helping them to get their shopping and medicines.

There was something we were accustomed to are the gatherings, sadadi, and funerals, weddings and receptions. I think people will learn something from this lockdown and think twice not to do big weddings, receptions etc.....Our first president Kishorebhai Bhimji Virani in his article in the Oshwal News, in the '70s, has already warned that be careful and have fewer people at this type of functions, and try to do the function in a simple way.

Oshwal youngsters talent show was conducted on Zoom and in the under 12's had the winner as Ishaan Raju Shah (Grandson of Ranjanben Chanubhai Hirji Shah) And the 2nd runner-up was Ayushi Hinesn Shah, (Granddaughter of Pushpaben Ramniklal Shah)

The media team had so many online programmes like Yoga, keep fit exercises, stretching, concerts, bhajans, star show, and religious lectures by Jayeshbhai. It was a great time all the members had and all because of the hard work by the media team. Our thanks goes to Ashishbhai, Kausikbhai and all the people behind the scene.

Sadly we lost three members from the East Area by natural death. Khimiben Mulchand Mepa Harania, Jethabhai Popat Gosrani and Kapoor Premchand Shah and our deepest condolences go to the family on the demise of their elders and we pray their soul rests in peace.

We had the collection for NSPCA during the last Paryushan and the amount collected was £248.50, and this has now been forwarded by cheque to NSPCA posted directly to their main office, due to the COVID. Also, the Thursday Club collects money for Jivdaya and the two years collection amounted to £ 214.16 and now donated to the blind dogs, Many thanks to all those who have donated to this good cause.

Bhartiben does yoga on Zoom under a private club, which the Tuesday yoga members benefit from.

REMEMBRANCE DAY IN EAST AREA

East area held a remembrance day on Saturday at St. Johns Church Hall on 26th January 2020 at 7.00 pm. It was a dream of our chairman Kishorbhai that we should organise a programme to remember our elders who have departed us and celebrate their life.



As the hall opened we had the members started coming to the hall and a good number turned up. They were all so happy to celebrate the lives of their dearest ones who have departed us forever. Many youngsters turned up on the day. Many brought the photographs of their dearest one.



The programme started with the prayers of Navkar Jaap and as we had the programme to start as early as possible so we asked the members to have their dinner first. It was a full dish made up of Ladoo, two curry's, puri, farsan, salad, dal-bhat and chass. The dinner was so tasty and was made by Jaywantiben and the group. Their wish was to donate the dinner in memory of their parents Devraj Dharamshi Savla and mum Vejiben.

The East area thanks Jaywantiben and Kapoorbhai and their family for donating the food and also for helping in the kitchen, serving food, chaas to the public. This way all was done so quickly and everyone had a good tasty meal. All enjoyed the meal.

Then the main program started with again chanting of Navkar Mantra and Religious Chair Bhartiben welcomed everyone and our guest Puspaben Jayantilal shah who had come from the North East Area.

She asked those who brought photographs to come forward and stand next to the photographs of their loved ones and to light the candles. Keeping in mind for fire safety. This way there is no rush and no confusion.

After a Stavan everyone was asked to light the candles and pray to their elders. Some had tears in their eyes and some were sad to lose their loved ones. Then more Stavans, poems and talks were given by members and this was very well received by the members. By this, we remembered all our elders who have given a lot to the Oshwal.

Then Puspaben Shah, our guest from North East, gave a speech and praised the East area to be the first area to organise such programmes of remembrance day, at an area level. She also mentioned to come and support the North East Area on their remembrance day which is held every year at the oshwal centre. The programme ended with a few Stavans sung with the public and the last song of Maa Baap Ne Bhulso Nahi, and the programme ended. It was a very successful

programme and every area should definitely try to organise this type of programme so that they can remember their loved ones.

Report by Babubhai Devji Shah.

ઈસ્ટ એરિયા માં રીમેમ્બરન્સ દિવસ.

શનિવાર નો ખુબ સુંદર દિવસ હતો, અને વાતાવરણ ખુબજ સુંદર હતું, તારિક ૨૬મી જાન્યુઆરી ના સાંજ ના ૭.૦૦ વાગ્યે, સેન્ટ જોન્સ ચર્ચ હોલમાં, મોટી સંખ્યા માં મેમ્બરો આવ્યા લાગ્યા. હોલમાં બધા એકઠાં થયા અને એક બીજાની સાથે વાત ચિટ કરીને સમાચાર એક બીજાને પૂછ્યા અને પછી બધાને હોલમાં સાથે ભેગા કર્યા.

ઈસ્ટ એરિયા ના અધ્યક્ષ શ્રી કિશોર ભાઈ એ સર્વેને આવકાર આપીને સૌ પ્રથમ ૧૨ નવકારનો સમૂહ માં જાપ કર્યા અને તેમનો સંદેશ આપ્યો, સાથે ૨૮મી માર્ચના AGM માં આવવા નું આમંત્રણ આપ્યું અને ચૂંટણી માં ભાગ લેવા પણ આમંત્રણ આપ્યું.

સર્વેને પહેલા જમી લેવા કહ્યું તો જલ્દી આજનો પ્રોગ્રામ શરૂ કરી સકાય. જમવામાં બે સાક, ડોસાના લાડુ, ફરસાણ, દાળ ભાત, અથાણા, પાપડ અને છાસ બનાવેલ. આ જમવાની મેમ્બરોને ખુબજ મઝા આવી સ્વાદિષ્ટ જમણ જમીને હોલ માં ટેબલ ગોઠવીયા અને તેના પર મેમ્બરો લાવેલ વાલીના ફોટા ગોઠવીયા.

અને પ્રોગ્રામ શરૂ કરવામાં આવીઓ, કિશોરભાઈએ બધાને પાછો આવકાર આપીને ત્રણ નવકાર મંત્ર બોલીયા અને ભારતીબેન ને બોલાવી ને આજનો કાર્યક્રમ શરૂ કરવા કહ્યું. ભારતીબેન આગળ આવીને બધાને આવકાર આપીઓ, અને આજના કાર્યક્રમ વિશે થોડું બોલિયા, પછી કહ્યું કે જે પણ તેમના વાલીના ફોટા લઈ આવ્યા હોઈ તેવો આગળ આવીને ફોટાની બાજુમાં ઉભા રહે અને જયારે તેમનો વારો આવે ત્યારે દીવો પ્રગટાવે. ખાસ આગ ન લાગે તેની કાળજી લેજો. પછી આવેલ મેમ્બરો જે ફોટા લાવેલ તેમને આગળ ફોટાની બાજુમાં ઉભા રાખીને, એક પછી એક જેવો ફોટા લાવેલ તેમણે દીવો પ્રગટાવીને તેમના વાલીને યાદ કર્યા અને કોઈની આંખમાં આંસુ પણ આવીયા. બધાને દીવો પ્રગટાવાનો સમય

આપવામાં આવીઓ અને સાથે બધાના ફોટા પણ લેવામાં આવીયા. આપ નીચે ફોટાની ગેલરી માં તે જોઈ સક્કસો તો તમે ટાઈમ લઈને જરૂર ફોટા જોશો.

ફોટા જોઈને બધા વડીલો યાદ આવીઆ, અને એક સમય એવો હતો જ્યારે આ વડીલો ઈસ્ટ એરિયા માં આગળ ભાગ લેતા અને એરિયા ની આન, બાન અને શાન હતા. વડીલો તેમ જે આ દુનિયા છોડીને ચાલ્યા ગયા તે બધા ખુબજ યાદ આવીઆ.

ત્યાર બાદ નોર્થ ઈસ્ટ માં થી પધારેલ ખાસ મહેમાન પુષ્પાબેન જ્યંતિલાલ શાહ નો નો આભાર માન્યો અને આ પ્રોગ્રામ ગોઠવવા માં મદદ કરી ને શાકાલ કર્યો.

પછી સ્તવન, કવિતા અને વાલીના વિષે બોલવામાં મેમ્બરો આવેલ. પુષ્પાબેને સ્તવન ગાયું અને પ્રોગ્રામ વિશે બે શબ્દ બોલીયા અને સાથે બોલિયાં કે ઈસ્ટ એરિયા પહેલો પરો છે જેણે આ પ્રોગ્રામ રાખ્યો છે અને આ પ્રોગ્રામ દરેક પરામાં કરવો જોઈએ. છેલ્લે સમૂહમાં બધાએ માં બાપ ને ભૂલશો નહિ તે ગીત ગાયીને પ્રોગ્રામ પૂરો કર્યો.

આ પ્રોગ્રામ માં મોટી સંખ્યામાં વસ્તી આવેલ અને નાની ઉંમરના યુવાનો પણ આવેલ તે જોઈને ખુબજ આનંદ થયો. આજનો પ્રોગ્રામ ખુબજ સરસ રીતના પૂર્ણ થયો અને જમવાનો ખર્ચ જયવંતીબેન કપૂરભાઈ સાવલા તરફથી તેમના વાલી દેવરાજભાઈ ધરમશી સાવલા અને વેજીબેનની યાદીમાં આપેલ. તેમનો ખુબ ખુબ આભાર અને જે કોઈએ આ દિવસે મદદ કરી હોઈ તેમનો પણ ખુબ ખુબ આભાર.

રિપોર્ટ લખનાર બાબુલાલ દેવજી શાહ.

Jainism and the West - An unexplored history?

The Western and Eastern philosophies are commonly referred as the two dominant yet distinct philosophies that have existed. Although at a glance they do seem separate and unrelated, could the two have been intertwined from the start? In the following article we will look into some of the great western thinkers and compare and contrast them with the prominent philosophies of Jainism.

Jainism, customarily considered a *nāstika* (heterodox) school of thinking, is often viewed as being an atheistic religion. More modern scholars have coined the term *transtheistic* for beliefs such as Jainism and Buddhism – suggesting that these religions are in fact beyond the traditional belief in God(s), holding a deeper understanding of the nature of our existence. Consequently, it has far-reaching roots in its philosophy and looks to a deeper, more scientific approach to tackling the great questions. *Ahiṃsā* (non-violence) being the primary pillar, Jains hold a strong viewpoint towards the non-violence and treatment of not only animals, but life in all its wondrous forms. All Jains are vegetarian and refrain from the consumption of eggs to prevent *hiṃsā* (violence) to animals. Many laypeople will also abstain from eating root vegetables again to cause less harm as these vegetables are considered to have one body yet hold infinite lives (*anantkay*). Another quintessentially Jain belief is of reincarnation of the soul (*ātman*) through the cycle of rebirth (*saṃsarā*).

Greece is often considered the birthplace of western philosophy. Socrates, the ‘Father of Western philosophy’ was preceded by Pythagoras of Samos, recognised mostly for his contribution to mathematics. The first man to call himself a philosopher (lover of knowledge), Pythagoras created a school of philosophy aptly known as Pythagoreanism. Some of the beliefs that he prescribed hold astounding similarity to that of the Jain philosophy. Pythagoras was a strict vegetarian, even going so far as to not eating beans – considering them the siblings of humans. This was such a new belief in the Western world that until the mid-19th century vegetarians were called ‘Pythagoreans’ in English. Science has shown us the power of this belief, many bad things have stemmed from the consumption of flesh – a thirst for violence, its inherent harmfulness to the body, and even the root of many diseases (Heart Disease, Cancer, and even Coronavirus; a few examples).

Even more astounding, although believing in multiple gods, was Pythagoras’ belief in metempsychosis, a term which we will commonly understand as the transmigration of souls – or reincarnation. He held the belief that souls could be born into the body of any animal and perhaps even plants. The goal of Pythagoreanism was similar to that of Jainism in that it was to break free from the cycle of rebirth and to join in the life of the gods. His followers were additionally said to practice rituals in order to purify the soul. The reason given for birth in a body was that the soul was ‘buried’ in a body in response to an ‘offence’ committed. This exact same idea is held within the Jain doctrine of karma, which states that soul is polluted with karmic particles and thus is given its material experience of the universe. The goal of a Jain is therefore to stop karmic influx and free the soul from all past karmas, astoundingly similar to that which was held by Pythagoras himself.

For us to understand how truly incredible this belief was, we must first understand the context of the time. Surely, many readers may have noted the similarity in the reincarnation of souls, however we are taking for granted even the basis of this belief - the soul. Even belief in the soul was rare across the world at this time, the intangibility of it discouraging belief. Yet, the Greeks used deductive reasoning to conclude that a soul must be a fundamental part of nature.

An additional influential teaching of Jainism is *aparigraha* (non-attachment), and once again this was shared by the followers of Pythagoras - to have no possessions, as he was of a belief that possessions cause materialistic desire that chains the soul to the cycle of rebirth; something that would feel familiar to many Jains out there.

Although Pythagoras is a prime example of Jain-like teachings in the west, many of his contemporaries, successors and predecessors shared similar beliefs. For example, the teachings of both rebirth and the nature of the soul supposedly come from one of his teachers, Pherecydes of Syros. Following the time of Pythagoras, we can see similar beliefs held by the ‘Father of western philosophy’, Socrates, who was a vegetarian. *Anekāntavāda* a paradigmatic doctrine in Jainism essentially states that the reality of the nature of existence cannot be ever described by a single statement, and that the ultimate truth is complex; much too complex for

a non-kevalajñāni to understand. Socrates is famed for stating that ‘I know that I know nothing’, very much in line with the fundamental Jain doctrine. A student of Socrates, the influential and great Plato, may not have been vegetarian himself but states in The Republic that an ideal city is a vegetarian one (“as meat is a luxury leading to decadence and war”). He also told that being vegetarian can cause peace to prosper throughout, and indirectly avoid war. We see this respect and well-treatment for the sake of animals scattered all across ancient Greece.

Sadly, this is where we start to see the ascetic and non-violent traditions in Greece start to fade away. The great lineage of ancient Greek thinkers next fell to the student of Aristotle, Alexander the Great, who launched campaigns invading much of the world - including India. The life of Jesus Christ, who amassed a great following, then saw to the final expulsion of the beliefs such as vegetarianism and non-materialist asceticism in the west; the belief in a creator God providing such grounds to do so. It is a fundamental belief of Jainism that we are in an infinite time cycle (kalpakāla) that fluctuates between immense happiness and immense sorrow, going up (utsarpiṇī) and down (avasarpiṇī) between them. We are supposedly currently well into the descending time cycle, currently in duṣama (sorrow) – in which it is told that violence will increase, and true religion will fall. The time of Pythagoras and these other great minds was around the time that we saw the change from the previous period of time, in which religion and thus Ahiṃsā prevailed, to the current period. Fascinatingly, this is just what we have seen and just discussed, the expulsion of these beliefs from the Western world. It leaves us only to wonder what potential this world could have had if these great teachings were followed.

“For as long as man continues to be the ruthless destroyer of lower living beings, he will never know health or peace. For as long as men massacre animals, they will kill each other. Indeed, he who sows the seeds of murder and pain cannot reap joy and love” - Pythagoras of Samos

This article is not to suggest or claim that the people mentioned were in any way followers of Jainism. The purpose it serves is to highlight the incredible similarities between the Jain way of life and that of some of the greatest western philosophers to ever live.

Dillon Shah, 17 (Leicester)

A Great Honour

It’s a rare honour for a village shopkeeper to be honoured by the village residents. This is exactly what happened to Mr Viren Punja Bharmal Shah and his nephew Roy Motichand Punja Bharmal Shah.

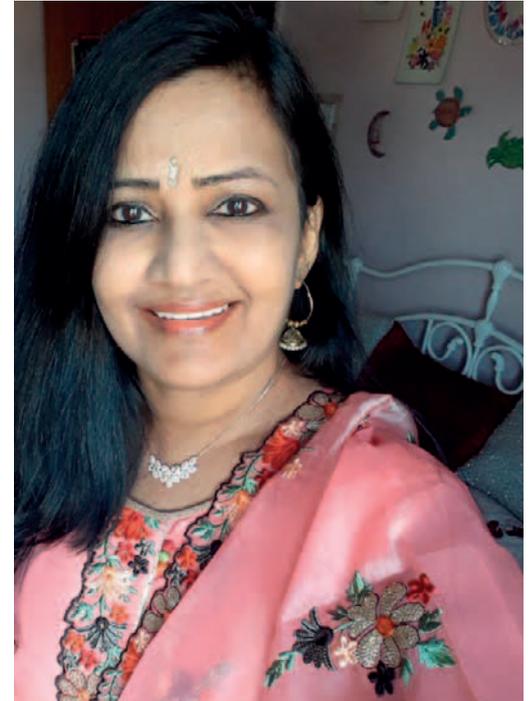
The residents of the village of Hardingstone in Northampton all came out to clap and honour them for ‘their 35 years of service’ to the villagers.



Husna Karania

Husnaben is a Senior Specialist Hospital Optometrist with a busy professional life but alongside this has many hobbies in arts and crafts. Having spent many years in post-graduate training as part of her professional career, she took up painting quite spontaneously about 2 years ago, as she wanted to cultivate her creative side away from the work environment. Husnaben mentioned her inspiration comes from her late mum (Manjulaben Sobhag Karania), who was a brilliant painter, using mainly oils on Sarees and fabric.

“I love photography and I wanted to translate the pictures I take often into something practical and meaningful that I could enjoy. I had no previous experience of art, so I joined an art class to get me started. I paint mainly in acrylic medium as I find it easy to work with. Here I am sharing two paintings I have done of Mahavir and Parshvanath Bhagwan. These are all drawn in freehand and then painted.



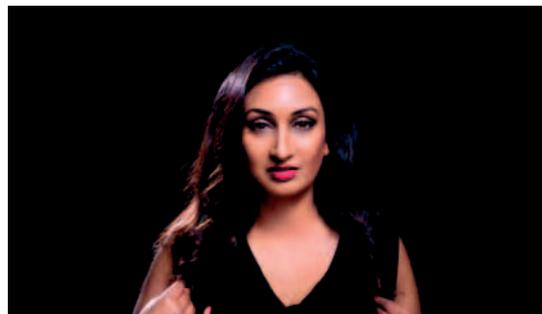
Perhaps there is an arty side to me from when I was young. Back in Nairobi I can remember taking rangoli lessons and winning second prize in a rangoli competition. About 2 years ago I was asked to give a short demonstration of floating rangoli at Ekta centre for the women’s club. I am not an expert in art but have a varied interest in many things such as floral art which I have done over the years, both fresh flowers and making artificial flowers.

Presently I belong to a local knitting group called the Harrow purls, where we meet twice a month and work on a set project that runs for 2 months, knitting various items ,all for different charities”.

I would like to wish all the readers a very Happy Paryushan and Jai jinendra– Husna (Rajula) Karania



Hemina Shah “Tours the World” with the latest release of her Bollywood Lockdown Album



Who needs fancy studios and equipment when you can create beautiful music from your own home? No words will do justice to everyone’s individual experiences over the last few months.

Musicians and artists have also been impacted harshly; having to stop performing at gigs overnight, many with no backup plans or alternative sources of income.

“We are all stuck in the same boat trying to survive the Covid-19 tsunami. However, it is not all doom and gloom. There is so much amazing talent around the world that twiddling our thumbs and wondering what to do next was not an option we wanted to consider”, says British Indian singer Hemina Shah, who currently resides in Singapore. “The lockdowns provided me with the time to reflect and connect with my passion. The extra time allowed me to try out something different. So I connected with talented musicians around the world to create some Bollywood fusion mixes after all music is truly a universal language”.

The album consists of 6 Bollywood tunes in different musical styles, including Reggae, Jazz, Classical, Irish, and Lounge. For this project, Hemina collaborated with Jaime Hinckson from Miami, Carlos Barba from El-Paso, Texas, Igor Kratovic from Los Angeles, Nilesh Thakore from London, Hesam Kalateh from Iran and Swedish Jam Factory (Thomas Bergstig and Isaac Middleton) from Los Angeles.

“I’ve always believed that music is one language, it has the power to move and unite people globally. Music has no boundaries; it transcends cultural differences, borders, and local languages. With the lockdown, I was able to ‘tour the world’ online, reach out and work with amazing musicians. We gave the classic Bollywood songs a different twist. It was an eye-opening and truly amazing experience”.

Along with the release of Hemina’s latest album, she had also performed many public and private live stream concerts to connect with her audiences around the world, including a Charity event to raise money for the Slums of Nairobi, Kenya. She also conducted many live streaming Hindu prayer ceremonies for families who had recently lost loved ones during this lockdown period.

Hemina said, “Doing this project has helped me keep sane during these difficult times. I just hope it gives you all as much joy in listening to it as much as the fun we have all had in making it”.

The new album is called “Bollywood Lockdown Mix” and will be released online. All the songs have been recorded, mixed, and mastered from our homes. This is Hemina Shah’s second album; the first one was released in 2016.

YouTube Link for Collaboration with Swedish Jam Factory:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bkugG4Sn7c>

Congratulations to Heminaben from everyone at OAUK
 We hope you will come and perform at Oshwal Centre in the very near future, good luck Best Wishes

Mradulaben first became active in the Oshwal association when she joined Sakhi Mandal in the North East area back in 1992. Then in 1994 she became part of Mahila Mandal, for which she became North East area representative in 1996. She then progressed to be chairlady of the North East committee in 1998. She was first elected to the Executive committee in 2000 and has served to the present day in portfolios including Education, Health and Welfare, Culture and Heritage and Anand Yatra. Between 2006 to 2011 she also served as a Management Committee member in DEEP (Indian 60+ Association of Enfield) under the chairmanship of Ramnikbhai. Over the many years she was instrumental in organising or overseeing many programmes and initiatives large and small. In total in her time in the EC she served under four presidents. She saw the 28 years serving the community as a duty and an honour, but was also a huge source of pleasure for her and she valued the many friendships made in that time.



Mradula Shah – Oshwal biography

1992-94	North East Area Sakhi Mandal
1994-96	Maila Mandal committee member
1996-97	Maila Mandal North East Area Rep
1998-99	Chairlady North East Area
2000-06	Elected to Executive Committee, Education portfolio
2006-10	Executive Committee, Health and Welfare portfolio
2010-12	Executive Committee, Culture and Education portfolio
2012-14	Executive Committee, Education portfolio
2014-18	Executive Committee, Culture and Heritage, Anand Yatra portfolios
2018-20	Executive Committee, Anand Yatra portfolio





Family mediation

Through my role as a Childline counsellor, I have seen how family conflict can impact children's mental wellbeing. However, it's not only children that are impacted, but it can also have an enormous effect on all family members.

Disputes within the family are more common than you think. Whether it's a breakdown of a marriage, a falling out between siblings, arguments between different generations in the family or inheritance and money disputes, we probably all know someone who has experienced one of these.

We face immense pressures from all areas in life; financial worries, health issues, or even parenting concerns. Having previously worked in a fast-paced finance consulting environment, where people were often under pressure and stressed, I know the effects this can have on relationships. The people closest to us are the ones who feel the effects of it the most.

I am a trained family mediator. Having children of my own, I am passionate about helping families to find solutions which work best for their family. Family mediation is an alternative to going to court. Resolving issues and creating agreements through mediation can have many **benefits:**

- It allows you stay in control of the decisions and outcomes.
- It is more flexible and beneficial for children and agreements made in mediation can be amended over time to meet the changing needs of the family.
- It is less costly and much quicker than going to court.
- It enables better communication and better family relationships for the future and is less stressful for everyone involved.

Going to court can be extremely stressful and there is always uncertainty about what the outcome will be in a court case, whether it's to do with children's arrangements or finances or something else.

Family mediation has its own core principles which distinguish it from other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods. It is confidential, voluntary and the mediator acts as an impartial person throughout the process. The mediator's role is to help facilitate discussions, help with developing options and most importantly, to ensure fairness and make sure all sides are heard.

More often than not, conflict arises because of misunderstandings and differing interpretations. We sometimes think that because we are right, the other side has to be wrong. However, what if we only have part of the story? When you have a disagreement with someone, how do you react? Our initial reaction is to think, "I will only be flexible and co-operate if they do" or "I will only give something if they give me something first". There is an element of pride which takes over and creates a barrier which can cause the breakdown in communication.

When it comes to family conflict, the value and benefit from co-operation and communication can be immense. It can result in better family relationships in the future and a better environment for children in the long term. Ask yourself what you want to achieve at the end of the process and then make the best decision for your family. Mediation is forward-looking and helps families to make arrangements for their future in a positive way.

Mediation may not be right for all cases, but if both sides can bring themselves to communicate and listen to each other, they are half way there.

If you are looking for a mediator, always make sure they are registered with the Family Mediation Council (FMC) and you can check this on their website www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk. If you would like to find out more or ask any questions in confidence, please look out for future workshop details.

Rishma Gudka
(Family mediator at RG Mediation)

Bhanuben Ratitlal Shah

The impact of the pandemic is well known and for Bhanuben Ratitlal Shah, like many elderly in the community it meant isolation. Her weekly routine of going to suksand and being visited by friends and family for social or religious reasons were all halted. If you know her then you will know she is never one to sit still and when a call out came to make wash bags, she immediately volunteered, knowing her skills could come into use.

The frontline healthcare workers in hospitals and care homes were putting their dirty scrubs into their normal bags and that could have led to spreading the disease as the scrubs touched other personal items in the bag. A wash bag allowed the healthcare workers to put the dirty scrubs into a wash bag and this whole bag went into the washing machine and provided a safe way to transport dirty scrubs.

When news spread within the local community that Bhanuben was doing this, many donated old material to be converted into washbags. Many others also volunteered to help and now this group has made nearly 2000 wash bags which have been delivered to hospitals and care homes across London. The group are now making facemasks for the homeless and also shopping bags to help distribute donated food items.

Bhanuben, through her volunteering, received an "Open Award" for contributing 1500 volunteering hours. She wants to dedicate this award to all those that have helped in the cause. Bhanuben has remained thankful that she was able to support the effort and appreciates not having to sit still...

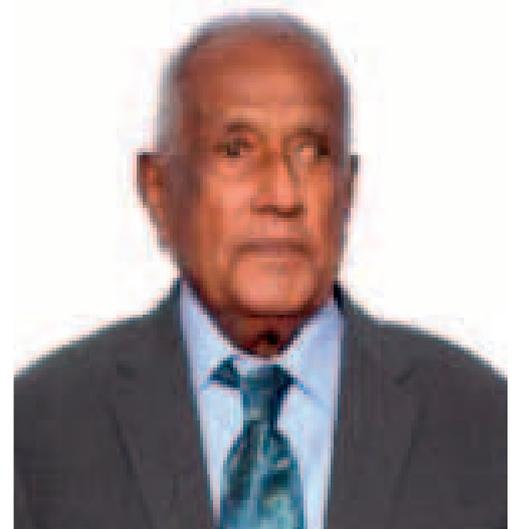




Shri Dhirajlal Devraj Karania

(30/06/1934 – 02/04/2020)

On 2nd April 2020 the Halari Visa Oshwal Community lost one of the most humble, diligent and hardworking Oshwals who had the distinction of serving the Oshwal community both in Kenya and the U.K. The Hall at Oshwal Centre in Jamnagar, the Mahajanwadi in Vapi, the Karania Hall at the Oshwal Centre in Nairobi and the Karania Hall at Ekta Centre in London are just a few testaments to the abundant generosity of Dhirubhai and the Karania family. Perhaps one of the biggest monuments that is a true representation of his lifelong devotion to the Oshwal and Jain Community is the magnificent Shikharbandhi Jain Deraser standing in the grounds of the Oshwal Centre at Potters Bar in the leafy beautiful countryside of Hertfordshire in the U.K.



Dhirubhai Karania, as he was fondly known, was born on 30 June 1934 in Nyeri, Kenya to Late Valiben Devraj and Late Devraj Virji Karania (from the village of Taraghari Devaria in Saurashtra, Gujarat, India). After schooling in Kenya Dhirubhai was sent to the U.K. for further studies, in the 1950s, where he studied in Streatham in South London.

Upon returning to Kenya he joined the family business, which progressed from being a retailer to salt packer and baking powder manufacturer. Eventually the business evolved into Kapa Oil Refineries Ltd., which, today, is a household name in East, Central, Southern and West Africa in the supply of edible oils, baking powder, laundry and toilet soaps, glycerine and detergents amongst other items. Dhirubhai assisted his two elder brothers Mohanbhai and Nemchandbhai in taking the business to new heights with his astute sense of planning as well as his keen interest in solving issues related to mechanical equipment.

Once the next generation of the Karania family was ready to take on more responsibility in the business Dhirubhai decided, with the blessings of Mohanbhai, to permanently move to the U.K. in 1991. He still maintained a close link with the family and the business in Kenya and frequently used to visit Nairobi several times a year.

In the U.K. he decided to set up home within the boundaries of the North East Area and soon became involved in serving with local North East Area Committee as well as supporting the Executive Committee of the Oshwal Association of the U.K. In 1996 the now Late Ashokbhai Mulchand Shah became the President of the Association and he appointed Dhirubhai as a core member of the Deraser Project Team to initiate the building of the Shikharbandhi Jain Deraser at Oshwal Centre. Dhirubhai played a pivotal role in getting the site ready for the Bhoomi Poojan, Khanan Vidhi (Ground Breaking Ceremony) and the symbolic Shilanyas Ceremony (laying of the traditional foundations for the Deraser), which were performed in September 1997.

After a hiatus of four years the Deraser project was restarted in 2002 when Ashwinbhai Dharamshi Shah became the President. He put Dhirubhai at the helm of the Deraser Project and building works started earnestly in 2003. Dhirubhai liaised constantly with Rajeshbhai Sompura, the Indian Architect, and he shuttled between London and Ahmedabad several times a year over the next two years, at his own personal expense, to ensure that the materials from India were prepared and delivered in time. The Deraser was completed in record time and was consecrated / inaugurated over a nine day Pratishta Mahotsav in August 2005. Dhirubhai's generosity was again in the forefront when he made the highest bid for the Pratishta (consecration) of the Image of Shree Mahavir Swami Bhagwan – the Mulnyak (main deity) of the Deraser.

Having delivered on his promise to the Association to have the Deraser finished in 2005 he then decided to spend more time with his family. After losing his dearest wife Savitaben who passed away in Nairobi after a short illness, Dhirubhai started to devote more time to the families of his three daughters. Two are in Kenya and the youngest lives in Stanmore. He sold his house in Winchmore Hill/Southgate and moved to Stanmore. Due to health issues he was eventually persuaded to move and stay with his youngest daughter.

Dhirubhai was given the Honorary Membership of the Association at its Annual General Meeting in April 2011 for his exemplary services to the Association. In August 2015, at a ceremony to mark the 10th Anniversary of the inauguration of the Deraser, Dhirubhai was honoured with a special award in recognition of his dedication, leadership and vision in completing the Deraser Project.

Never the one to seek any form of publicity, recognition or limelight, Dhirubhai remained a kind and humble human being to the very end of his days. He suffered from kidney disease in the final few years of his life and had to have regular dialysis, but still managed to travel to Kenya a few times a year to visit and spend time with his daughters and grandchildren. Whenever he was back in London he always used to try and attend the regular Anand Yatra sessions at Oshwal Centre.

After spending about two weeks, in virtual isolation, at the Royal Free Hospital, during the height of the Covid 19 pandemic, Dhirubhai Karania finally lost his battle with life when the almighty decided to move him on to his heavenly abode in the early morning of 2 April 2020.

The passing of such a wonderful soul leaves behind a kind of vacuum, which brings home a true message that “people like Dhirubhai are rare gems who are very difficult to replace”. On Saturday 11th July 2020 his eldest brother, Mohanbhai – one of the finest Oshwal leaders in Kenya who gave more than fifty years of his life to the service of the community, also departed for the heavenly abode to join Dhirubhai.

Dhirubhai and Mohanbhai both leave behind, apart from their families, a huge Oshwal Family, in Kenya, India and the U.K., which will be forever indebted to them for their devotion, dedication and selfless service.

Advertising - Oshwal News

Advertising Rates 2020

Front Cover (inside full page only) £500.00
Back Cover (outside - full page only) £550.00
Back Cover (inside – full page only) £500.00
Next to the President's message (full page) £450.00
The above slots need to be booked in advance
& they will be offered on a rotation basis

Inside Pages

Full page £400.00
Side-by-Side Adverts - 2 x full pages 20% extra to be added
Half Page £250.00
Quarter Page £200.00
Classified / Small business advert approx. 9 x 6 cm £61.00

Free announcements in Oshwal News

Weddings, Births, Anniversaries, Retirement, Special Awards etc..

Please send me a brief write up and your picture

Special Offer - Regular Advertisers get a 10%

On the above rates if you book 3 x consecutive adverts

Prices are subject to change if the printing or postage costs increase

Please send your adverts to:

poonam.c.shah@oshwal.org

For enquiries please call Poonam Shah on 07912038920

*Thank you to all of
our advertisers*



Poonam Shah
Advertising Executive

for Oshwal News

Tel: 07912038920

poonam.c.shah@oshwal.org

For Sending Articles, Pictures, Reports and Adverts in for OSHWAL NEWS Magazine – please follow these guides:

1. Please send all pictures for publication as **high quality .jpeg images** with a minimum resolution of 2180 pixels wide (height may vary depending on your picture shape).
2. Full or half-page adverts that run over the page edges should include a 3mm bleed all around, i.e. for an 210mm x 297mm A4 page the advert size should be 216mm x 303mm inc. bleed. Text should be at least 15mm within the A4 page margins.
2. Articles must be clearly written and checked for spelling and grammar.
3. All articles and material that we publish has to be approved by the Publishing Committee and the Editor.
4. All **adverts** should be sent to poonam.c.shah@oshwal.org

For any queries or questions please contact Sudhir Meghji Shah at email sudhir.m.shah@oshwal.org or telephone 07785 710914.

General Information

We would always encourage all Oshwals and Oshwal Members to always first consider hiring our venues at Oshwal Centre (Northaw), Oshwal Mahajanwadi (Croydon), Oshwal Ekta Centre (Kingsbury), Oshwal Shakti Centre (Hounslow). By hiring these Oshwal venues you will be supporting your community. All funds raised are for the benefit of the Oshwal Association of the UK

Weddings, Birthday and Anniversary Parties, Meetings, Sadadi, etc,

Please phone or email the administrators at any of the offices with regard to availability and charges.

OSHWAL CENTRE (Northaw)

Coopers Lane Road
Northaw
Hertfordshire EN6 4DG

Tel: 01707 643838
Info line 01707 661066
Email: admin@oshwal.org
Website: www.oshwal.co.uk

OSHWAL MAHAJANWADI (Croydon)

OSHWAL EKTA CENTRE (Kingsbury)

366A Stag Lane
Kingsbury
NW9 9AA

Tel: 020 8206 1141
Email: ekta@oauk-nw.org

OSHWAL SHAKTI CENTRE (Hounslow)

Inwood Road
Hounslow
Middlesex, TW3 1UX

Tel: 020 3441 1020
Email: shakticentre@oshwal.org

Marriage Registration

Oshwal Centre & Oshwal Mahajanwadi are registered buildings for the solemnisation of marriage. Registration of a marriage at both venues will be part of a religious ceremony i.e. it will take place during and within the Jain / Hindu religious marriage ceremony. Oshwal Ekta Centre is registered for civil marriages thus religious ceremony is not needed. For further information please phone the administrators.

Sadadi Messages

If you would like to find out when and where any Sadadi are being held in respect of any deceased Oshwal, please call the information line on for further details.

All sadadi messages received will be placed on the website at www.oshwal.co.uk and also on the message line up to 4 days in advance only of the sadadi date. We request that all messages are kept very short & to the point. The reason is to avoid the engaged tone on the telephone line. Our admin staff will try to accommodate as much as they can but they will have a limitation on the length of the message. We wish to respect everyone wishes at such sad times for the family and request everyone for their kind cooperation in advance.

Obituary / Shraddhanjali Messages

The rate for inserting an Obituary I Shraddhanjali message in Oshwal News is £150.00 per page per issue.

Please ensure that wherever possible a passport sized photograph (preferably in black and white) is enclosed with the message which also should be **written out very clearly and neatly**. Please enclose your cheque and SAE for the return of any photos. Please note that it will not be possible to entertain any requests for proofs of these messages prior to printing.



SUPPORTING THE OSHWAL COMMUNITY



Sigma first started as a community pharmacy in 1975, with the creation of our wholesale business in 1982. Our family-owned, family-run business, now in its second generation, is proud to be Watford's largest independent employer with over 400 members of staff. Sigma's core business remains the supply of medicines to pharmacy, doctors and hospitals. Within our group of companies, we also support the pharmaceutical supply chain through the manufacturing of medicines, and importing medicines into the UK.

Alongside our business services we are also very proud of the support we provide to the local community through our independent pharmacy stores and dental clinic.



www.sigmapl.com
info@sigmaplc.com

Head Office · HD House · Imperial Way ·
North Watford · Hertfordshire · WD24 4BB

