



Darji Voice

14th Edition

March 2012

Dear Members

Welcome to our first edition of **DV** for **2012!** Despite a challenging year with the tough economic climate, **2011** has passed with some excellent successes for the **Darji Mitra Mandal (DMM):**

One big success has been our **Meat Parties**. 2011, meeting up with friends and family and devouring scrumptious home cooked food is what these meat parties are all about! They have attracted a vast number of members and the reaction has been immensely positive. In 2012 we look forward to holding these parties every quarter. Feel free to contribute ideas for making our parties even more enjoyable at info@darjimandal.org.uk.

We now have a number of committee and community members who are **first aid trained**. We were able to offer further two **first aid courses** to our community at discounted rates. These were positively received and we would look to continue such courses as and when we get the opportunity.

After reluctantly having to cancel the **Children's Christmas Party 2010** due to heavy snow, we kicked off the fun again in **Easter!** **The Children's Easter Party** was a highly popular event and all the kids enjoyed the large range of entertaining activities. The **2011 Christmas Party** was another merry event. There was a lot of hullabaloo when Santa arrived with a sack full of presents. The **DMM** annually hosts an **Over 60's Lunch** for senior community members and **Havan & Bhajans** which were well received by the community. We would like to say a big thank you to the entire team of volunteers who helped with the catering. These events will continue in 2012.

Due to popular demand and following feedback at the **AGM**, our **Friday Clubs** have made a comeback. These have been held on the last Friday of each month, due to advance hall booking in 2011. Please refer to our calendar of events to ensure you do not miss them. We will continue to theme the clubs and once again if you have any ideas please let us know at info@darjimandal.org.uk

Our **Diwali** events have always been successful. We decided to move away from the "**bring a dish**" concept to where the **Mandal** provided a full meal for a modest £3.00, to where last **Diwali** we tried something different by not charging at all.

The response was overwhelming to such an extent that the event became oversubscribed. We would like to thank all the volunteers who spent most of **Saturday evening and late into the night cooking**, without their support we could not have made the event the success it was. We have listened to your feedback and will look to act upon on this year.

Navratri 2011, we responded to your feedback from previous years, and decided to change the music providers. We understand from the community that this did not meet the standards we would like to provide. so we will look to work on this and ensure that **Navratri in 2012 will be lively**.



To help raise awareness of the Mandal we want to hear your news - **Matrimonial, Births, Achievements**.
To give us your feedback and receive new issues regularly, please send your details by email to
darjivoice@darjimandal.org.uk

The Darji Voice is published about four times a year and is distributed to the community throughout UK.

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hemantailor@virginmedia.com

London Marathon 2012

My name is **Ranjna Munsadia** and I have decided to take the challenge of running the **London Marathon**. I do hope I will be doing more running than crawling. April 22nd is getting closer and the nerves are starting to kick in.

This year I am supporting the **Private Equity foundation (PEF)**. The **PEF** brings together the private equity communities in order to help disadvantaged children and young people to reach their full potential. They have sourced 18 of the most effective charities which focus on helping nearly one million 16-24 year olds who are currently categorised as **NEET (not in education, employment or training)** as well as those who are at risk of becoming **NEET** and, by using the industry's money and pro bono business skills, are backing these organisations to become bigger and better.

Each year, they need our support in order to reach thousands of young people who require help finding their way, whether through education, training or employment. Every contribution, large or small, helps to make a real difference to young people's lives as it enables **PEF** to continue to provide the funding and expertise to the charities with the most impact, across a wide spectrum of ages. We've already reached **41,000 children** and young people. Your support means we can reach even more.

Any donations little or small will help provide support to these youngsters. Please make all donations at
<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=Ranjna-Munsadia>

facebook

DMMUK is now on the social network media! Join our **FB** page on <http://www.facebook.com/darjimandaluk> to raise your opinions, stay in touch with the community and know who is attending the events! Or tweet us at **DMMUK**





Building Project

Due to the economic climate, this project has slowed down and we concentrated on the priority items within the Pavilion. Key items installed were:

- CCTV
- Alarm
- New secure front door
- Securing brick work to the back alley

This year we hope to make enhancements within the Pavilion, mainly the toilets, corridor area and kitchen.

Annual General Meeting

This Year's **Annual General Meeting** of the **Mandal** will be held on **20th May 2012 at 3.00pm**. We request all Community members to attend and have a say in matters of the **Mandal**. The present committee has put in a lot of hard work and put the **Mandal** on the right path. We now seek more members and volunteers to join the team and fuel the progress with their talent and skills. If you think you have the necessary inclination and enthusiasm to **join the DMM committee** then we request you to complete the enclosed form and send it to us.

Are you able to help the community?

We are always **looking for volunteers** especially the youth and if you are able to help with new ideas **events, building/refurbishing** (like Lighting, Sound, Toilets, The Bar, etc..) Please contact a committee member to express your interest. Any support would be welcome, even if it's just some **professional advice!**

Communications

We are increasingly using a variety of media tools to interact with our community. Social networking sites such as **Facebook** and **Twitter**, alongside our **email alerts** have been positive feedback. 2012 will see an increased use of these different forms of media. If you are not on our email alert database please send us an email at info@darjimandal.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

- March 30th - Friday Club
- April 27th - Friday Club
- May 20th - Annual General Meeting
- June 4th - Diamond Jubilee Celebration
- July 8th – OAP lunch
- July 27th – Friday Club

To register your interest for any of these events please write to us at events@darjimandal.org.uk

Name Plaques

As you may be aware the previous committees have pledged to **display the names** of all the community members who **donated money towards the building of our Pavilion Hall**. We have started the process of contacting members to confirm the names and amounts. Please contact us at info@darjimandal.org.uk, if you have donated towards the building fund but not received our letter. Currently we're reviewing various samples of name plaques and will decide in the next few weeks as to the look & style. We have already decided to locate the name plaques on the entrance wall in the front lobby.



Our Darji Pavilion Hall

When someone you love passes away it is always difficult to make sense of what has happened and to think ahead. We would like to help and take some of the pressure off you by offering the use of our **Darji Pavilion Hall (subject to availability) for up to 4 hours (which includes 1 hour for setting up). You may have extra time at the normal hire charge.**

The free access to the hall can be used for **either Beswanu or Shanti Prathna or Barmu Termu**. It is upto the family to decide which **one** of these functions they wish to use the hall for.

Communications

At this difficult time, **Darji Mitra Mandal** are offering the facility to post the news of bereavement and funeral arrangements on the community website and send an email to members on our database of the news and funeral arrangements. This should reduce the number of phone calls to bereaved families. **Darji Mitra Mandal** can also send out an email with this information to community members who have signed up. The above methods can also be used to inform community members of the date, time and location of **Beswanu** and/or **Shanti Prathna**.

Beswanu

We would encourage you to consider the use of the hall (**if available**) to hold one day beswanu where the community members can come to pay their respects to the whole family. Most homes may not be large enough to accommodate extended family, friends and community members.

Shanti Prathna

You can use the hall for **Shanti Prathna** and can choose from any of the following formats:

- * **Darji Mitra Mandal** can run the **Shanti Prathna** and the **Shanti Prathna** team will sing the bhajans.
- * The family can run the **Shanti Prathna** and can have a **bhajan mandali** (if they wish, but arranged by the family) with **Darji Mitra Mandal** to start and finish the **Shanti Prathna**.
- * **Darji Mitra Mandal** can provide the bhajan books and also bhajans on iPod. This can be used as background music or a lead for everyone to join in with. **Darji Mitra Mandal** will start and finish the **Shanti Prathna**.
- * At the family home with **Darji Mitra Mandal** to start and finish the **Shanti Prathna**.

Barmu Termu

The family can hold the **Barmu Termu** at the **Darji Pavilion Hall**

If you have any questions or require any assistance please contact **Mahesh Chikhliya on 07960 163 794 or Ishaver or Varsha on 07956 401 599 or info@darjimandal.org.uk**

Obituaries

Since the last publication of Darji Voice in August 2011, the DMM of UK was informed of the passing away of the following community members. The DMM of UK sends their condolences and sympathies to their families

Names	Date Passed Away
Mrs Pushpaben Naran of Tottenham, London	4th October 2011
Mrs Maniben Ranchhodbhai Tailor of Leytonstone, London	22nd November 2011
Mr Brijlal Karsandas Navsaria of Dollis Hill, London	9th December 2011
Mr Babubhai (Harishbhai) Chaganlal Bulsara of Leicester	11th December 2011
Mr Jitendra Dalsukhbhai Tailor of Leicester	14th December 2011
Mr Ratilal Kanji Tailor of New Southgate, London	24th January 2012
Mr Sanmukhlal Jinabhai Tailor of Pinner, Harrow	13th February 2012
Mr Parhubhai Hirabhai Tailor of Addlestone, Surrey	16th February 2012

If you would like the name of your beloved family member to be included in the Darji Voice, please forward all the details to **Thakorbbhai Bhagat (info@darjimandal.org.uk)**. This is open to all the members of the Darji community in the UK. If you wish to place memorials in the future issues, please contact **Thakorbbhai Bhagat** for details.