



Darji Voice

16th Edition

March 2013

Message from President

Jai Shri Krishna

A **New Year** is a beginning of new thoughts, actions, strength and ideas. May the year **2013** bring sunshine, hope, prosperity and happiness.

With this in mind your committee and volunteers have organised an exciting and interesting variety of forthcoming events for the whole family. All our future events are promoted on our **website**, **facebook** and via **e-mail**, please register your e-mails now on our website. Don't miss out on any of these wonderful events.

Thanks to the hard work of the committee members and volunteers, past and present, our **financial status** is now on **fairly stable and on solid foundation**. Our resolution for the year 2013 is to help others. As a charity, one of the mission statements in our **Constitution** is to help relief of poverty.

We are proud to announce that the committee members and volunteers have joined forces this year to launch our new campaign to raise funds for relief of poverty. Our first fundraising event is a **Sky Dive** (Page 2), which will be held in **July 2013**. We are looking for adventurous volunteers, of all ages, to join our **Sky Dive Team**. The target is to raise a minimum of **£500.00**, to cover the cost of the jump, the balance to be donated to other charities or projects, chosen by the participants, for relief of poverty. These can include projects such as support for **education of children** in India, assistance towards "**samuh lagna**", help for **elderly people**, and other similar projects.

I wish to thank all our committee members and volunteers for their team work and our achievement for the past year. Join us at all our exciting forthcoming events and make 2013 a mind-blowing, memorable year.

Shila Tailor

President

Calendar of Events for 2013

Meat Party	Easter Sunday	31st Mar 2013
Matrimonial Single's Event	Saturday	20th Apr 2013
Europe Cruise		9th-18th May 2013
AGM	Sunday	30th Jun 2013
Sky Dive	Saturday	6th Jul 2013
Over 60's lunch	Sunday	14th Jul 2013
Boat Party	Saturday	27th Jul 2013
Leeds Castle Picnic	Tuesday	13th Aug 2013
Trip		
BBQ	Sunday	8th Sep 2013
Havan & Bhajan	Sunday	22nd Sep 2013
Navratri	5th-14th & 18th & 19th	October 2013
Diwali Party	Saturday	9th Nov 2013
Xmas Party	Saturday	14th Dec 2013
NYE Party	Tuesday	31st Dec 2013

Please check our website, www.darjimandal.org.uk, for **Friday Clubs** that are held on the **last Friday of most months**. Remember to book by the **Wednesday before the Friday Club**



Our President checking the new Ganesh Mural in the hall Lobby

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 three times a year and is distributed to the community throughout UK.

Sky Dive

Mission: Relief of Poverty

As a charity, one of the mission statements in our **Constitution** is to help relief of poverty. This year we are launching our new campaign to help make a difference to the thousands of people living in poverty. Our first fundraising event is a **Sky Dive** to be held in **July 2013**, at the **North London Skydiving Centre**. We need your help for a very worthy cause, to make a difference to the lives of thousands of poor and needy people who need our help. So please join us.

Each participant will have to raise a minimum of **£500.00**, to cover the cost (about £175.00) of the sky dive, A **100%** of the balance raised will be donated by Darji Mitra Mandal of the UK, to a charity or projects in **UK, India, Africa** or anywhere in the world, chosen by the participants. We are looking for courageous volunteers and generous donors, to make this a success.



Tandem Skydive

North London Skydiving Centre Ltd
Chatteris Airfield, Block Fen Drove, Wimblington, MARCH,
Cambridgeshire, PE15 0FB
<http://www.ukskydiving.com>

You will exit the aircraft securely strapped to the front of your Instructor who will control the free fall element of your skydive, open the parachute for you at around 5000 feet, and then steer your parachute safely back to the landing area for a controlled landing.

Deadline for registration and payment of **£50 booking fee: 30th April 2013**
To register, simply contact **Shila Tailor (President)** on **020 8518 5988**.

Letters to dV

Dear Darji Voice,
My name is **Manisha Sisodaria**. During **Navratri**, I raised some donation from the Darji Community and I have attached a thank you letter to this email for being ever so kind in letting me raise money for the **Operation Christmas Child Charity**, that I was carrying out during the month with the **University of Hertfordshire**. If you could pass this message on to Shila aunty as well that would be great as she gave me permission to do everything, as I do not have her contact details.
Once again,
Thank You, I really appreciate your kindness towards supporting me.
Manisha Sisodaria (Vasantbhai's daughter)



Thank you to the **Darji Mitra Mandal Community** who helped raise an amazing **£131.45** for **Operation Christmas Child** with the **University of Hertfordshire Student's Union Volunteer Centre and University Students**.
Manisha Sisodaria



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



This page is sponsored by Mrs Manjula Chikhliya & family in loving memory of Late Mr. Dinesh T. Chikhliya



Achievements

Our team of committee members and volunteers have worked extremely hard and accomplished great progress over the past year.

Darji Community Hall - New Windows

In **September 2012**, our team undertook a massive mission of replacing the old, damaged and broken windows. This massive task took four weeks to complete, but the end result is marvellous. The new, smaller, triple glazed windows provides an improved security, and a reduction in noise pollution to our neighbourhood.

Building Donation Plaques

In **February 2013**, the initial batch of plaques to acknowledge donations of **£501.00 & over** towards the construction of our **Darji Community Hall**, were placed on a board in our building. On behalf of our committee, I would like to thank everyone who has made a donation as our community hall exists today only because of your hard work, generosity and support. Currently we have **only 81** names on display, as we are still waiting for a reply to our letters. We urge those of you who have not yet completed and returned their forms to do so without any further delay.



Young Star

Three year old **Arian** has been in **Eastenders** playing the part of **Kamil Masood**, the youngest child of the **Masood** family since **November 2009**. **Arian** started on the show with his twin sister, **Siana** since they were two weeks old. In the early days both **Arian** and **Siana** shared the role of **Kamil**, however, as **Arian** grew up, he continued to play the part of **Kamil**.

Arian loves going to film the show as it is like a second home and family for him. His part in **Eastenders** came to an end early this year when his on-screen mother left the show. **Arian** has a talent for acting and being in front of the camera.



Darji Talent

Asian Voice and **Gujarat Samachar** organized a talent hunt in association with **City Hindus Network**, in search for young people to be given the opportunity to showcase their talents at the **Asian Achievers Awards**, which was held at Grovesnor House, Park Lane in Central London. This was a first for **Asian Business Publications Ltd (ABPL)** and there were many participants.

The **Asian Achievers Awards** recognises the spectacular work from individuals from across all professions within the community. They award and acknowledge the accomplishments of the best in the Asian community. Hosted by ABPL publishers of **Asian Voice and Gujarat Samachar**, the event is now into its 12th year and is consistently popular with the Asian community as the most prestigious and highly respected awards on the calendar.

Meera Dilip Tailor entered this competition in summer along with her dancing partner **Alisha Pati Alam**, they performed a **Classical Kathak** piece and were chosen as finalists.

The judges were **Sangeeta Bahadur**, Minister (Culture), Indian High Commission and Director of the **Nehru Centre**, **Jay Kumar**, **Hiten Khetia**, CEO and President of **CineArte International**, **Aekta Mahajan**, Senior Manager at the Cabinet Office and Vice Chair of the **City Hindus Network**, **C. B. Patel**, Publisher Editor, **Asian Voice and Gujarat Samachar**.

Meera won the talent hunt along with another contender (Nisha Halai, singer). After this **Meera** was invited to the **Asian Achievers Awards** which was held at The Grovesnor Hotel in Central London. This event was attended by Bollywood actress **Hema Malini**, **British MPs and Lords**, **Deana Uppal (Miss India, UK)**, **Rishi Rich**, **Navin Kundra**, successful entrepreneurs and the crème de la crème of the **British Asian community**. **Meera** says, she really enjoyed the event and had the most fantastic time and definitely enjoyed it to the fullest. **Meera** was grateful to be there as this was broadcast on **Sony TV**.





Our Committee with Chief Guests on Atham



Youngsters enjoying at Navratri 2012



New Year's Eve

Past Events

Havan & Bhajan

At this popular event, the attendance at the annual **Havan & Bhajan** exceeded all expectations. We wish thank you for attending and participating in the **Havan, Bhajans**, in the afternoon and for your generosity with donations.

Navratri

After the disappointing music last year, we had arranged the best musicians in town. This year's much appreciated music was provided by our new music group, **Chayya Parag**, who provided thrilling music over the ten days of **Navratri**. **The Major of Enfield, Ms Kate Anolue, MP from Enfield, David Burrows and Councillor Henry Lemprecht** joined us for **Garba on Aatham**. The success of this festival was due to those who attended the celebrations, many were from other **local Hindu communities**.

Diwali Get-together

Despite the poor turnout due to **people thoughtlessly making reservations** and failing to turn up on the day, those who attended enjoyed the brilliant fireworks, mouth-watering food, and a chance to get together with family and friends.

Children's Christmas Party

This was a day of non-stop activities for our youngsters, with the favourite being the magician and his rabbit. Children, and their parents, had lots of fun, and loved the gifts from **Santa Claus**. Thank you to all volunteers and for the donation of raffle prizes, which made this day a success.

New Years' Party

Illuminated by colourful lights, the **Darji Community Hall** was transformed into a spectacular and magical venue. It was vibrating with lively music, as people enjoyed a sumptuous three course meal and danced the night away to welcome the **New Year**.

Friday Clubs

This year's first **Friday Club** was held on **22nd February**, this turned out to be great evening with melodious live music and a mouth-watering meat dish (**papdi chops**), a bargain for just £5.00. Do not forget to **pre-book for future Friday Clubs by Wednesday before the event**.



Santa!



Garba in Full Swing
Diwali Get Together

Aarti at Navratri

Havan & Bhajan

Children's Xmas Party 2012



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Disaster during World War 2

During the **World War 2**, a passenger ship, called **S S Tilawa**, travelling from **Mumbai to Mombassa and South Africa** carrying around 900 passengers which included many **Darji Community members**. On the night of **23rd November 1942**, a **Japanese submarine torpedoed** the passenger liner, wrecking it into **two halves**. There was chaos and panic on the ship, passengers and crew members were terrified and clueless as to what was happening.

Passengers jumped on to life boats to save themselves. Unfortunately some of the life boats sank straight into the sea due to overcrowding and panic. The scene was similar to the one seen in the movie **Titanic**. About one hour after the first torpedo had hit the ship, a second one was fired and the whole ship sank leaving those in the life boats at the mercy of the mighty sea.

It was pitch dark and big waves were going over the survivors in life boats. They floated for three long days and nights. Eventually, they were rescued by **S S Birmingham**.

Among the lucky survivors were 3 Darjis

Late Shri Morar Jivan of Kabilporbazar , Moshi, London

Late Shri Haribhai Ganda of Dabhel, Nairobi, Bolton

Late Mrs Parvatiben Govindbhai Tailor of Luton

...by **Shri Pravin JIvan**

Did you know.....

Vitamin D deficiency in Asian population.

Vitamin D plays an important role in our body and helps to develop and build bones.

Adequate exposure to sunlight and the use of dairy products with vitamin D have significantly reduced the incidence of vitamin D deficiency. However, vitamin D deficiency is still a common problem in many populations, particularly the Asian population.

What is Vitamin D and why do we need it?

Vitamin D is an oil-soluble vitamin that has many important functions in our body. Most important is to help absorb calcium and phosphorus from the food that we eat. Vitamin D keeps the calcium and phosphate levels in the blood normal, thereby promoting healthy bone. Vitamin D may also have other benefits, such as improving muscle and immune function.

Natural sources of vitamin D

Vitamin D is made in the skin under the influence of sunlight and the amount of sunlight needed to make enough vitamin D varies, depending upon the person's age, skin colour, sun exposure, and underlying medical problems. We produce less Vitamin D as we get older and in addition, people who have darker skin need more sun exposure to produce adequate amounts of Vitamin D, especially during the winter months.

Vitamin D is necessary for absorption of calcium within our body. If we do not make enough Vitamin D in our body, we will end up with low levels of calcium which is necessary for strong bone growth. Our body reacts to low calcium and gets the necessary calcium from the bone reserves, making our bones weak. This results to joint pains and bone aches.

This can be avoided by taking oral Vitamin D, which can be purchased from pharmacies and health shops. A daily dose of **25 ug or 1000 i.u.** is adequate as a supplement although higher doses are used to treat deficiency. If you have any doubts about your calcium levels or are worried about your health then please see your GP.

Further information

The Department of Health's recommendations on taking vitamin D supplements are based on advice from the **Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN)**. Please seek professional advice from your doctor or pharmacist before taking supplements.

**In loving memory of
Late Shri Morar Jivan
And
Late Shrimati Shantaben M Jivan**



Notice Board

Congratulations to Shrimati Kamlaben and Shri Arvind Chotubhai Bhagalia on arrival of their granddaughter Ría On 22nd February



On-line booking for DMMUK events

As you can appreciate it is very difficult to manage the catering for large numbers without actually knowing how many guests will be attending. We introduced on-line booking system last year, and we found that at previous events where we had set up “pre-booking” we had a better **estimate of the numbers**. Now we are taking the next step with an **on-line payment option**. We appreciate not everyone is comfortable with on-line payment so we have included couple of other alternatives, see **Meat Party Event** on our website for more details.

Darji Voice

The dV is always striving to get good articles to publish in every edition. As you may have noticed, in this edition we have started to publish letters to dV written by community members, sponsoring pages in memory of loved ones and articles with useful information for the community in general. If you have anything you wish to say, send information that could be useful to the community, wish to **sponsor a page** (cost £50.00) or even advertise in the dV, then please email us at darjivoice@darjimandal.org.uk. Any such material received will have to get the committee’s approval before it is published.

Indian Visas

The High Commission of India has revised the visa fee for **Tourist Visa** and **Research Visa** for all UK nationals with effect from **17 January 2013**. All applications submitted in **person** or sent by **post** should be as per the revised fee. Mode of payment could be Online (if made an application online) Cash, Debit or Credit Card (except American Express Card), Postal Order or Bank Draft payable to “**VF Services UK Ltd**”

Tourist Visas which are valid for six months attract a for a fee **£92.20**

Liquor Permit

The liquor permit is no longer available from the High Commission of India, anyone wishing to get the permit have to obtain it on arrival at Mumbai Airport for no cost or you can also get it from the **Department of Tourism at Church-gate, Mumbai**.

Obituaries

Since the last publication of Darji Voice in September 2012, the DMM of UK was informed of the passing away of the following community members in the UK. The DMM of UK sends their condolences and sympathies to their families

Names	Date Passed Away
Mr Naranbhai Zinabhai Chikhliá of Burbage, Leicestershire	1st November 2012
Mr Dhirajlal Bhikhabhai Tailor of Bolton	3rd November 2012
Mrs Narabdaben Mganlal Khusal of Kingsbury, London	6th November 2012
Mr Sudhirlal Bhagwandas Merai of Bolton	17th December 2012
Mr Ambalal Hiralal Bhagalia of Hendon, London	7th February 2013

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.