



DMMUK
DARJI MITRA MANDAL OF THE UK

June 2023

www.darjimandal.org.uk

Darji Voice

Presidents Message

Dear Community Members,

It has been a while since our last publication of Darji Voice. Lots of things has happened since. We resumed our full hall hiring and have been busy with our events, starting with Hanuman Chalisa. Whilst we are happy that our regular crowd have been waiting for our events, it would be equally good to see new faces at the event.

AGM

Our AGM was held in September 2022. Once again, unfortunately due to the poor attendance, community members missed the opportunity to see what the Mandal has been doing. It is always a pleasure to showcase our Mandal's achievements and it was a missed opportunity for the members to express their views and help to set the way forward for DMMUK. The strength of any organisation depends on the members participation and support. Therefore, we urge every community member to get involved in Mandal activities, bring new ideas and to promote the Mandal.

We welcomed back Prakash Darji and Sanjay Tailor into the Management Committee and were also pleased to welcome Narendra Bhagalia and Urvashi Kapadia who joined the committee.

However, we were sad to lose Bharti Bhikha, Vinod Tailor and Balwant Sisodria from the Management Committee.

We like to thank them for their immense contribution to the Mandal. We are particularly sad to lose our long-standing committee member Mr Jayantilal M Degamia who had served the Mandal for over 50 years. DMMUK will like to thank him sincerely for all his hard work and contribution over the years.

Good News:

It is my pleasure to be able to inform the community that DMMUK is now free from debt. It has been a hard work but finally we have paid our mortgage. This is a proud moment for DMMUK and has only been possible with hard work by all the committee members, past and present, as well as your fantastic support over the years. It has been the greatest achievement so far and we look forward to plan exciting things for our community.

We would be happy to hear from you and take on board your thoughts and ideas to better our service to the community. This is an ideal opportunity for you to join or bring new ideas to the committee and make a difference.

Our website project has taken longer than we expected. We are nearly ready to launch phase one. Following the launch, we will be bringing in exciting user and website functionalities in phases. We know there are many of you out there in the community who are experts in this field. We are keen to welcome your expertise and help. If you wish to be a part of the exciting digital future, please contact us.

Pravin Morar Jivan
President DMMUK

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 twice a year and is distributed to the community throughout UK.

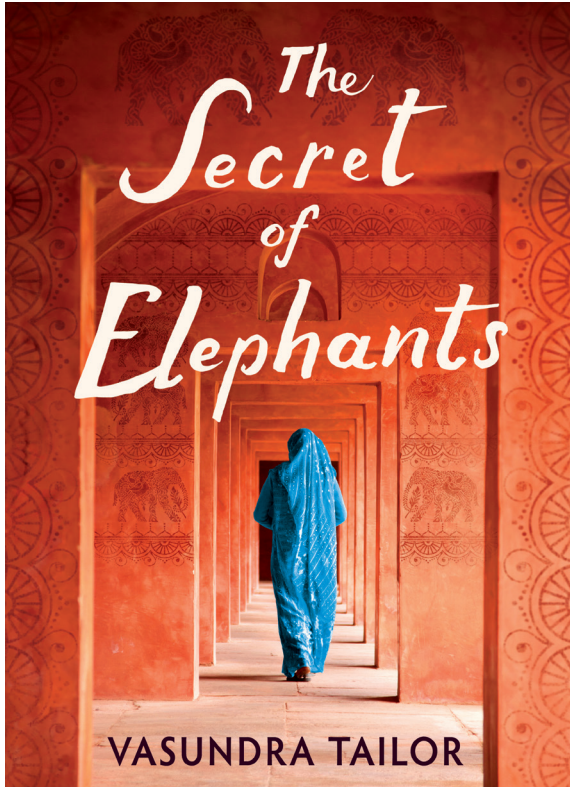
Accounts:

Income & Expenses	31/03/2019	31/03/2020	31/03/2021	31/03/2022
Rent Received	£74,465	£69,388	£150	£36,185
Bank Loan Interest	£838	£748	£448	£370
Business Rates	£2,912	£3,037	£0	£666
Water Rates	£0	£1,598	-£37	£2,512
Insurance	£1,521	£1,695	£1,849	£1,947
Lighting & Heating (new boiler)	£5,851	£4,791	-£777	£1,487
Refuse Collection	£2,052	£2,553	£0	£2,528
Telephone & Internet	£917	£1,398	£1,932	£952
Repairs & Maintenance (roof, cupboards cookers, fridges)	£14,831	£8,253	£4,417	£2,817
Marketing	£105	£0	£0	£0
IT Admin & Supplies	£0	£42	£132	£349
Hall Manager, Caretakers and Cleaners	£21,856	£19,484	£4,916	£14,174
Premises Licence	£191	£1,008	£180	£180
TOTAL Expenses	£50,624	£44,607	£13,210	£26,495
Profit/Loss	£23,841	£24,781	-£13,060	£9,689

	31/03/2019	31/03/2020	31/03/2021	31/03/2022
Mortgage Balance	£36,345	£30,881	£25,092	£19,224
Bank Loan Interest	£838	£748	£448	£370
	£6,155	£6,212	£6,238	£6,238
Capital Repaid To Date original loan in 2005 was £253,000	£216,655	£222,119	£227,908	£233,776

Community News:

Congratulations to Mrs Vasundra Tailor on her first publication; *The Secret of Elephants*.



Released by Lake Union Publishers in September 2022.



Author: Vasundra Tailor

When asked what inspired her to write this novel, here is what Vasundra said:

My novel is a fictional story about a family torn apart by a secret event that occurred in 1950s India, and the uncovering of that secret in modern day Zimbabwe. A young mother travels from Navsari to Harare to meet the family she never knew she had. With their help, she makes a shocking discovery that caused untold misery down the generations. It leaves her reeling and wondering if the damage can ever be repaired.

The inspiration for my novel came from a visit I made in 2016 to Navsari. I went to see the mansion that used to belong to my father. He had built it in 1954. It is still there, but in a very dilapidated state. Seeing the place brought back wonderful childhood memories of many good times spent there with my parents and siblings. I began to wonder about the lives of the families currently living in the building, and the germ of an idea began to form in my mind.

Like many authors, I have always enjoyed reading and dreamed about being a Novelist. But I never thought it would ever happen. It was when I won an award at a writing competition in 2019 that I began to believe I could do it. And when Lake Union Publishers offered me a two-book deal in 2021, I was over the moon.

The Secret of Elephants is my first book and the second will be published in 2024.

My debut novel is set in two locations: India, where I was born and Zimbabwe, where I grew up. The UK has been my home for many years now and I have happily assimilated the culture of this country. But my perspectives in life are shaped by my solid Indian upbringing.

The Secret of Elephants covers universal themes of family relationships, drama, love, loss, betrayal, and hope. It's an intriguing tale about a believable character who overcomes extreme hardship and injustice in Navsari, a city that many in our Darji community will know well. My novel also provides a unique perspective on the lives of a small Indian community that experienced racism under an apartheid system in Southern Africa.

The Secret of Elephants is available in print, audio, and Kindle from [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk).

Story of Nilkanth Anant Kalan:

Nilkanth Anant Kalan of Luton speaks polish and he used this to his advantage in joining the polish group in helping Ukraine refugees in supplying food, clothes, and medicine.



Nilkanth in Red Shirt

Anand Sunil Tailor:

Anand Tailor was heavily involved in helping with paying respects as Queen's Elizabeth II lied in state before her funeral.

In his own words Anand says, "When I joined The Scouts, I made a promise, to do my duty to God and the Queen".

Over the week before the funeral of the Queen, I completed my final duty to HM The Queen.

It was an honour and privilege to be selected as one of 120 scouts, increasing to 165 as the week progressed, to represent The Scouts in Operation Feather - supporting everyone paying their respects to HM The Queen during her Lying In the State in London.



What a week it had been.

As part of the late shift, I was on duty from 15:00 to 23:30, alongside amazing Scouts from across the UK and NI. We were involved with managing the last stretch of the queue in Victoria Tower Gardens, being the friendly face and supporting the public in this sombre time.

We were instrumental in saving 4 tonnes of food from going to waste, creating an area for food donation to a food bank, The Felix Project. During the cold nights we handed out blankets to keep people warm, carried out first aid and worked alongside St John's Ambulance, Greater Manchester Police, Digital Culture Media Sport Select Committee and the Armed Forces.

I even met a few familiar faces along the way - Reeta Chakrabarti, Huw Edwards, Dame Kelly Holmes and James Blunt!

Not to mention my thanks to all the people supporting us all from behind the scenes, the fantastic Core Team. Thank you to everyone at Gilwell, Scout HQ who made this operation as successful as it was, working around the clock - catering, valet, logistics, welfare team!

I'm proud and feel extremely grateful to have represented Greater London Middlesex West and UK scouts, and to share this historic occasion amongst wonderful people.

Manhar Taylor

Manhar Taylor from Ashton was invited to the Diwali Party at 10 Downing Street, meeting Prime Minister Mr Rishi Sunak. In another event, he was with King Charles. Very proud moment for Mr Manhar Taylor.

Manharbhai was employed by NHS for over 46 years and contributed on many Policies and Procedures, contributed to a publication to a book on Endoscopy, produced a booklet on Bronchoscopy procedure, a booklet for children coming to hospital to alleviate anxiety while they are in patient, contributed to monthly Staff Matter magazine for over 30 years.

He was a founder member elected by staff on council of member for Foundation Trust. On committee for introduction of computers through out hospital. For this he was invited to attend Garden party at Buckingham Palace and help to set up hospital in Indore India in 2013.

He has raised monies for various charities since early 70's by running Marathon, trekking Mount Atlas, running 10k for last 15 years, organised dinner dance and sponsored walks every year for various charities etc. and children's Christmas party for last 15 years.

He is the only Darji and a person from Northwest to climb Mount Kilimanjaro at the age of 66 years to our knowledge.

He is also Mosaic Champion for Peak District National Park and a spoke person for the UK National Parks, for this he was invited to speak to Prince Charles at Haddon Hall. He is also a Volunteer Ranger Peak District National Park.

He has been a Magistrate (JP) for last 16 years as a volunteer service to local Justices. As an appreciation of some of the above activities he was invited and attended the Garden Party



at Buckingham Palace, awarded Man of The Year 2013, asked to meet and speak to Prince Charles, speak at House of Commons re environments.

He also cycled the salt ride in India to raise funds for Go Dharmic – a global movement for compassion inspiring acts of kindness.

He did this at the age of 69 and again at 71 years of age followed the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi who led a successful non-violent campaign for Indian independence, and he took this route to cycle to raise money – pedalling the 440km from Ahmedabad to Dandi.



Local Labour MP Angela Rayner presenting award.



Bowel Cancer

Bowel cancer is a broad term for cancer that begins in the large bowel, which is made up of the colon and rectum. Bowel cancer is more common in people over the age of 50, but it can affect anyone of any age.

Symptoms of bowel cancer can include:

- Bleeding from your bottom and/or blood in your poo
- A persistent and unexplained change in bowel habit
- Unexplained weight loss
- Extreme tiredness for no obvious reason
- A pain or lump in your tummy

It's important to know that most people with these symptoms don't have bowel cancer. Other health problems can cause similar symptoms. But if you have any of these, or if things just don't feel right, go to see your GP.

You may need to visit your doctor more than once if your symptoms don't get better. Knowing the symptoms and acting on them as quickly as possible could mean that if you do have bowel cancer, it may be diagnosed earlier when it's much easier to treat. People whose cancer is diagnosed at an early stage have a much higher chance of successful treatment than those whose cancer has become more widespread.

Don't be embarrassed and don't ignore any symptoms. Doctors are used to seeing lots of people with bowel problems.

Bowel Cancer Screening

NHS bowel cancer screening checks if you could have bowel cancer. It's available to everyone aged 60 to 74 years.

The programme is expanding to make it available to everyone aged 50 to 59 years. This is happening gradually over 4 years and started in April 2021.

You use a home test kit, called a faecal immunochemical test (FIT), to collect a small sample of poo and send it to a lab. This is checked for tiny amounts of blood.

Blood can be a sign of polyps or bowel cancer. Polyps are growths in the bowel. They are not cancer, but may turn into cancer over time. If the test finds anything unusual, you might be asked to go to hospital to have further tests to confirm or rule out cancer.

Always see a GP if you have symptoms of bowel cancer at any age, even if you have recently completed a NHS bowel cancer screening test kit – do not wait to have a screening test.

Why screening is offered

Regular NHS bowel cancer screening reduces the risk of dying from bowel cancer.

Bowel cancer is the 4th most common type of cancer. Screening can help prevent bowel cancer or find it at an early stage when it's easier to treat.

Forthcoming Events

1. **Sunday 11th June 2023 after 12.30pm 60+ Luncheon** for our elderly members. **THIS IS A COMPLIMENTARY EVENT FOR OUR ELDERLY FROM DMMUK (FREE)**
2. **Friday Club with Jay Kumar Friday 30th June 2023 7.00pm** Due to immense popularity with Bollywood choreographer Jay Kumar, we are bringing him back to FC. Not to be missed.
3. **Annual General Meeting Sunday 2nd July 2023 3.00pm** We are looking for new members, volunteers who can add value to the Mandal going forward. There are loads of professional and well-educated people in the Darji community. They only need to spare a few hours a month for meetings and actioning things. Please contact the Secretary, Mr Mahendrabhai Kapadia (mahendra.kapadia@darjimandal.org.uk)
4. **Friday Club 28th July**

Membership

We are reminding you that your Annual Membership with DMMUK ended on 31st March 2023 and hope you have taken full advantage of your membership benefit to date. Please ensure that your membership is renewed.

The current cost for renewal is: Annual Membership @ £10 per year or Life Membership is a one-off cost @ £151. Prices are under review at AGM.

With your membership, you can take advantage on a range of benefits - below is a reminder:

- Reduced cost on hall hire (33% discount on rent and 40% less deposit)
- Free usage of hall for bereavement (up to 5hrs)
- Free or discounted entry to the Navratri Garbas
- Discount on ticket cost for Friday Club and other DMM Events
- Ability to be updated and receive latest news via email and receive printed copy of DMMUK Darji Voice

We are always looking at increasing these benefits, therefore keep reading our emails and publications for updates.

To renew your membership, please download the form from our website which outlines details on membership benefits, simply fill in the form and return it to us with a cheque. Alternatively, email your completed form to membership@darjimandal.org.uk and transfer payment to DMMUK.

Hall Hire:

Our Darji Hall - The Pavilion is available for hire to anyone; The Darji Pavilion is perfectly suited for small and medium scale events up to 450 people and is available for events all year round.

The hall has its own kitchen and staging area. Maximum capacity is between 300-450 depending on the layout.

- Conference Style - 450 Capacity
- Banquet Style with Stage - 350 Capacity
- Banquet Style with Stage and Dancefloor - 300 Capacity

We have a professional team who are always delighted to help you plan your special day/event. We take great pride in making sure that you, your family, and your guests have an enjoyable day.

If you are interested in hiring the hall for an event, please check out details on website or contact us on 07956 401599

Current Hall Hiring Price:

Please note that prices are under review.

STATUS	Minimum Hire	Price	Full Day
Weekends			
Members/Registered Charity	5 Hours	£100	£1000 (9.00am - 11.30pm) £1250
Non Members	5 Hours	£150	£1500 (9.00am - 11.30pm) £1750
Weekdays			
Members/Registered Charity	5 Hours	£60	Not applicable
Non Members	5 Hours	£100	Not applicable
Bereavement		Bereavement	
Members	Total of 5 hours (2+3)		
Non Members	Non Members 3 Hours	£150/ £100	



Facilities includes:

- Tables and Chairs Provided.
- On Site Staging
- Variety of Hall Layouts
- Late Bar License Until 2am on Application
- Kitchen (Heating of Food Only)
- Toilets, Male, Female and Disabled.
- Fully Air Conditioned and Heated
- Parking for 30 Cars
- Disabled Parking Space
- Disabled Access from Car Park
- Capacity (420 Sq Feet)
- Wifi
- Caretaker Onsite

The ideal venue for:

Auspicious Occasions

- Engagements
- Reception
- Weddings and Sapthas

Business Meetings

- Conferences
- Exhibitions
- Seminars

Private Parties

- Birthday, Christmas, Family Parties
- Dinner & Dance
- Social Gatherings
- Religious Ceremonies
- After Clubs

Artificial Intelligence (AI); Next Big Thing

Introduction to an AI System

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative technology that is revolutionizing various industries and shaping the way we live, work, and interact with the world around us. At its core, an AI system is an advanced software program or a network of interconnected algorithms designed to mimic human intelligence, enabling it to perform tasks that typically require human cognitive abilities, such as learning, reasoning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

The capabilities of AI systems are made possible through the collection and analysis of vast amounts of data, which are processed using complex algorithms and models. These systems can be trained to recognize patterns, extract meaningful insights, and make predictions or recommendations based on the available information. With each iteration, an AI system can refine its performance and improve its accuracy, continuously learning and adapting to new data and changing circumstances.

AI systems can be classified into various categories, including machine learning, natural language processing, computer vision, robotics, and expert systems, among others. Machine learning, a subset of AI, focuses on enabling computers to learn and make predictions or take actions without being explicitly programmed. Natural language processing allows machines to understand and interact with human language, enabling applications such as virtual assistants and language translation. Computer vision enables computers to interpret and analyse visual information, while robotics combines AI with physical systems to perform tasks in the physical world.

The applications of AI systems are widespread and diverse, spanning across industries such as healthcare, finance, transportation, manufacturing, entertainment, and many others. AI systems can assist in diagnosing diseases, optimizing financial investments, enhancing transportation systems, automating manufacturing processes, personalizing entertainment recommendations, and even enabling self-driving cars.

While AI systems offer immense opportunities and benefits, they also raise important ethical, social, and legal considerations. As AI becomes more sophisticated and autonomous, questions arise regarding transparency, accountability, bias, privacy, and the potential impact on the workforce.

As the field of AI continues to evolve, researchers and developers are striving to create AI systems that are not only highly intelligent but also ethical, fair, and responsible. Ensuring that AI systems are designed and used in a way that aligns with human values and respects ethical principles is crucial for fostering trust and maximizing the positive impact of this technology.

In this era of rapid technological advancement, understanding and harnessing the power of AI systems is becoming increasingly important. By leveraging the capabilities of AI, we have the potential to tackle complex problems, make more informed decisions, and create a better future for individuals and society as a whole.

Events In Photos

Hanuman Chalisa





November 2022 Sunday Luncheon



Amsterdam Trip

Limited by guarantee no: 2913733

Registered charity no: 1036109

Friday Clun March 2023



Friday Club April 2023



Old Darji Cricket Club Players at FC

Obituaries

Since the last publication of Darji Voice, the DMM of UK has been informed of the passing away of the following community members in the UK. The DMM of UK conveys our sincere condolences and sympathies to the families.

Date	Title	Name	Town
18/02/2022	Mr	Jay Prakash Gulabdas Bhikha	Luton, Bedfordshire
16/03/2022	Mr	Ishwarbhai Govindbhai Tailor	Luton, Bedfordshire
07/04/2022	Mrs	Kantaben Jivanlal Bhagalia	Hendon, London
13/04/2022	Mr	Madhusudan Narotam Bulsara	Finchley, London
13/05/2022	Miss	Nirmalaben Ratilal Tailor	Hendon, London
19/05/2022	Mrs	Lalitaben Jivanbhai Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
16/06/2022	Mr	Ramesh Tailor	Edmonton, London
11/07/2022	Mr	Balwantrai Maganlal Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
22/07/2022	Mr	Harishbhai Chhaganlal Tailor	Uxbridge, Middlesex
17/08/2022	Mr	Babulal Jagabhai Tailor	Finchley, London
22/08/2022	Mr	Kiran Vinodbhai Tailor	Reading, Berkshire
19/09/2022	Mr	Jayantilal Damodar Tailor	Manor Park, London
24/09/2022	Mr	Pradyuman Jagjivandas Tailor	Upton Park, London
25/09/2022	Mr	Babubhai Ramji Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
22/10/2022	Mr	Balwantrai Maganlal Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
14/11/2022	Mr	Nilesh Dinkerbhai Navsaria	Golders Green, London
17/11/2022	Mrs	Vinakumari Itcharam Tailor	Northampton
18/11/2022	Mr	Dhirajlal Narottamdas Bulsara	Tottenham, London
09/12/2022	Mr	Rajendrabhai Motiram Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
11/12/2022	Mrs	Hemlata Kantilal Jivan	Kenton, London
24/12/2022	Mr	Dilipkumar Prabhudas Tailor	Enfield, Middlesex
06/01/2023	Mr	Harilal Bhana	Brighton, Sussex
13/01/2023	Mrs	Devkorben Nanoobhai Ragha	Kenton, London
19/01/2023	Mrs	Kamlaben Naginbhai Tailor	Sudbury Town, London
16/02/2023	Mrs	Paliben Chhaganlal Tailor	Walsall, West Midlands
27/02/2023	Mrs	Lalitaben Chhaganlal Tailor	Edmonton, London
27/02/2023	Mr	Pravinbhai Jaikishan Merai	Rayners Lane, Middlesex
27/02/2023	Mrs	Lalitaben Chhaganlal Tailor	Edmonton, London
10/03/2023	Mr	Ratilalbai Dalpatbhai Tailor	Southgate, London
18/03/2023	Mrs	Hansa Rajesh Tailor	Harrow, Middlesex
27/03/2023	Mr	Narendra Babubhai Bhagalia	Redbridge, Ilford
21/04/2023	Mr	Divesh Chandrakant Lakhani	London
07/05/2023	Mrs	Kumud S Morar	Greenford, Middlesex
14/05/2023	Mr	Thakorbhai Jinabhai Tailor	Leicester, Leicestershire
22/05/2023	Mr	Jitendrakumar Amrutlal Tailor	Gidea Park, London
04/06/2023	Mrs	Harigangaben Tailor	Solihull, West Midlands
08/06/2023	Mr	Mohanbhai Gulabivala	Bounds Green, London