

Shree Jalaram Mandir – Greenford

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15th March 2012

Issue No. 06



Report of The Board of Trustees – Shree Jalaram Mandir – Greenford.

The Board of Trustees of RAMA are proud to present the spring issue of Mandir's regular newsletter in time for our forthcoming AGM on the 22 April 2012. The object of the issue of this newsletter is to keep you informed and to also present our year end accounts up to 31 December 2011. We will maintain our policy of transparency and accountability at all times.

The Board has taken strides to maintain its open door policy by welcoming all members of the community with the view that the Mandir should not just be perceived as a place of worship but more as a community centre. We have been kindly invited by the Greenford British Legion to participate once again in the Remembrance Day parade and for the first time we have been asked to place a wreath for our fallen soldiers, which is an honour. The Mandir is always proud to offer drinks and snacks for those participating in the marching parade. We have also been collecting and sending donations to the Legion on a regular basis.

The vision of engaging with the Greenford Residents Association has also taken place and our invitation for regular lunch has been gratefully accepted. The plan to start a regular coffee mornings for the members of the residents association has been discussed and agreed in principle.

The programme to maintain and upgrade the Mandir facilities continues to progress well with the completion of upgrading the Kitchen and the dining facility. At the same time some trustees together with a group of volunteers have undertaken various courses like Food & Hygiene, First Aid, and Fire Safety etc. For the last two years the Mandir has rented Coston Primary car parking facilities every Thursday and on special event days and provided a shuttle service to the mandir. This has greatly reduced the number of cars being parked in the neighbourhood. The deployment of the Gurkha security continues now on daily basis for the protection of the Mandir and the devotees.

We thank you for your continued support and please do keep on visiting the Mandir. Jai Jalaram.

Editorial Board: Cllr.Dhiraj Kataria, Cllr.Rajni Khiroya,Prakash Gandechea, Amritbhai Rajani, Dr.Jayu Morjaria.



Samuha Chopada Poojan on 26th Oct. - Diwali Day



Nutan Varsha Annakuta Raj Bhog - 27th Oct. New Year

A Diary of Events Celebrated at Shree Jalaram Mandir - Greenford

26th Oct. Diwali - Samuha Chopada Poojan was done by 39 pairs of Yajmans with the Trustees of the Mandir performing the Pooja with traditional floor sitting near the Ganesh Sthapan. Shastriji Shree Palkeshbhai enlightened the participants with 'Why' of many rituals. The Poojan was concluded with Aarti followed by a short but touching speech by President Cllr. Shree Rajnibhai Khiroya. The arrangements were praised by one and all.

27th Oct. - Nutan Varsha Annakut Raj Bhog Darshan started from 12 noon. Offerings brought in by a continuous flow of devotees throughout the day was efficiently collected and prepared for the Annakut display, and then promptly distributed as Prasad. Nearly 2500 devotees availed the opportunity of the Darshan with around 2000 taking Bhojan Prasad.

2nd – 6th Nov. – Jalaram Jayanti Celebrations: Day one started with about 60 devotees performing Samuha Paduka Poojan. New dhaja was unfurled after its ritualistic Pooja. An awe inspiring Rajbhog Annakut Darshan opened at noon with huge number of dishes – both sweet and savoury, arranged in an aesthetically pleasing manner. The fruits were painstakingly cut to create artistic designs and shapes. Colour changing candles added to the vow factor. There was a rousing welcome to the Pothi following a short but frolicking Pothi Yatra. The workers and the volunteers, as always rose to the occasion to cater to over 2100 Hari Bhaktos. Mandir had agreed to have a stall giving information on and promoting Organ Donation; there was an unexpected encouraging response. Jalaram Aakhyan was delivered over the three days by Shastriji Shree Piyushbhai in very lucid manner. On the penultimate day, a whopping number of 400 people attended a very captivating Bhajan programme by Nitu Shah. She livened the otherwise dull afternoon but the grand finale came with six one act plays performed by our priests and devotees. These were based on Bapa's life events and Parchaas. The events were so well enacted and the narration so crisp, that the audience was held spellbound. The packed house gave a well deserved standing ovation to this group of amateur artists and their director Amritbhai Rajani. Tulsi Vivah Celebration was carried out at the Mandir with all fun and fare and enthusiastically participated. Aditiben's Bhajan group sang Lagna Geeto and livened up the occasion.

Samuha Paduka Poojan on Jalaram Jayanti

One Act Play based on Puja Bapa's Life History





4th Dec – 10th Children’s Programme



26 Jan - Republic Day of India celebrated at the Mandir

4th Dec - 10th Children’s Programme unveiled the talents of forty young devotees. The variety show was a welcome change from the routine Bhajan programme – thanks to Arvindbhai. It was also broadcast live on our web site. Children had a chance to display their talent in dancing, singing, playing a musical instrument or storytelling. Their parents also deserve all the praise. A beautifully prepared Programme Souvenir was also released on the day.

1st January 2012 – The New Year was ushered in with continuous chanting of **Hanuman Chalisa 108 times**. It was performed in line with the philosophy of Hinduism represented by the powerful Vedic Prayer: *Om Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah; Sarve Santu Niraamayaah; Sarve Bhadraani Pashyantu; Maa Kashchida-Dukha-Bhaag-Bhaveta; Om Shantih Shantih Shantih*. Meaning May everybody be Happy. May everybody be free from disease. May none fall on evil days. Om Peace, Peace and Peace be everywhere.

26th Jan. – 63rd Republic Day of India was celebrated in the Mandir compound by hoisting the Indian flag, singing of the National Anthem and patriotic songs and a thought provoking speech on ‘Indians in London’. Bapa’s Murti was nicely decorated in the tri colour garments with the Tri-ranga in the background to reflect the mood of the day.

17th Feb. – Bapa’s Punya Tithi - Pujya Bapa left for his heavenly abode on Maha Vad Dasam of Samvat 1937; this was his 131st Punya Tithi. Befitting the occasion, chanting of Shree Jalaram Bavni for 108 times was organised. Hundreds of devotees took part in the event and paid their respects and homage.

20th February 2012 – Maha Shivratri – Every Vad Teras is a Shivratri. Maha Shivratri denotes the most important of all, coming in the month of Maha. It was celebrated in an awe inspiring manner. Hundreds of devotees performed Abhishek. Poojas were conducted at 45 minutes interval throughout the day with Maha Pooja concluding at midnight with Maha Aarti amidst a fully packed mandir hall.

Charity Fund Raising: Our veteran volunteer Shri Shantilal Popat & Santoshi Maa Foundation supported by the Mandir raised an impressive total of £ 8250/- at Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah and handed over the cheques to St.Luke’s Hospice, Diabetes UK, Children of Uganda fund and the British Heart Foundation.

Maha Pooja on Maha Shivrati Day

Handing over of the cheques of £8250 to local charities





A. Meeting with Greenford Residents' Association



B. Barclays Bank Community Project

A. The Board of Trustees has initiated dialogue with the Officers of the Greenford Residents' Association. The first meeting was held on Wed. 8th Feb. Such meetings will be held regularly to discuss relevant issues and chalk out a programme on how the Mandir can also serve the neighbouring community. Shree Jalarambapa extended his humanity to all without distinction & our Sadavrat have always been available to all who drop in. We hope to have more of our neighbours coming for lunch.

B. Barclays Bank donated goods worth over £400 to the Mandir. Five of its young bankers gave a fresh coat of paint to the Mandir's Dining Hall and assembled some furniture as a part of their community project.

Shree Jalaram Mandir Greenford - Dated 29 February 2012

Unaudited Management Summary	
12 Months ended 31 December 2011	
Income	£
Donations & Collections	487,528.00
Tax Refunds	48,390.00
Rent Received	10,100.00
Bank Interest Received	3,850.00
Total Income	549,868.00
Less Expenses	
Wages	166,027.00
Catering & Related Costs	64,543.00
Repairs, Maintenance, Cleaning	74,559.00
Running Cost	55,269.00
Depreciation	21,552.00
Total Expenses	381,950.00
Net Surplus for the Period	167,918.00

Unaudited Draft Balance Sheet	
at 31 December 2011	
	£
Building & Fixed Assets	967,328.00
Stock	2,453.00
Debtors	30,388.00
Cash at Bank and In Hand	244,234.00
	1,244,403.00
Accruals and Creditors	- 8,998.00
Total Assets Less Liabilities	1,235,405.00
Represented by:	
Reserves B/F	1,067,487.00
Surplus for the Year	167,918.00
Total	1,235,405.00



Board of Trustees RAMA

Standing L to R: Dr. Jayu Morjaria, Amrit Rajani, Asmita Masrani and Prakash Gandecha.

Sitting L to R: Rajnikant Davda (Asst. Treasurer), Sharad Bhimjiyani (Treasurer), Cllr. Rajni Khiroya (President), Rashmi Chatwani (Vice President), Manish Popat (Secretary), and Mansukh Morjaria (Asst. Secretary)

Photo inset: Cllr. Dhiraj Kataria.