

Shree Jalaram Mandir – Greenford

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Message from Rashmi Chatwani the President– Shree Jalaram Mandir – Greenford.

Jai Jalaram

It's been about 6 months since I gave an update ahead of the AGM. I would like to thank my fellow trustees for re-electing me as the president for a second term. It is a great privilege to serve Pujya Jalaram Bapa and to carry out my duties with the help of a very solid team of trustees.

The Mandir has continued to play a major part in the lives of our many devotees. Our collective efforts and persistence in maintaining complete transparency has been lauded by all quarters. I am pleased to note that Shree Jalaram Mandir Greenford enjoys the finest reputation in the UK, and attracts people from all walks of life.

At last the application for a planning permission for a new building of our Mandir, which will incorporate a community centre, has now been presented to the council, and with Bapa's blessings we are all very hopeful of a successful outcome. Once again I would like to thank all those who have worked very hard on this project. We are now in the process of ensuring that by the time the planning permission comes through, the Mandir will have adequate financial arrangements in place to carry out the project. An anonymous interest-free loan of £200,000 has already been received, and with such great devotees, I am sure that we will have enough support for the project to be brought to fruition.

During the last 6 months we have all witnessed very successful celebrations of Maha Shiv Ratri, the colourful festival of Holi, Janmashtami and the 215th Jalaram Jayanti. I would like to thank all those who sponsored these events.

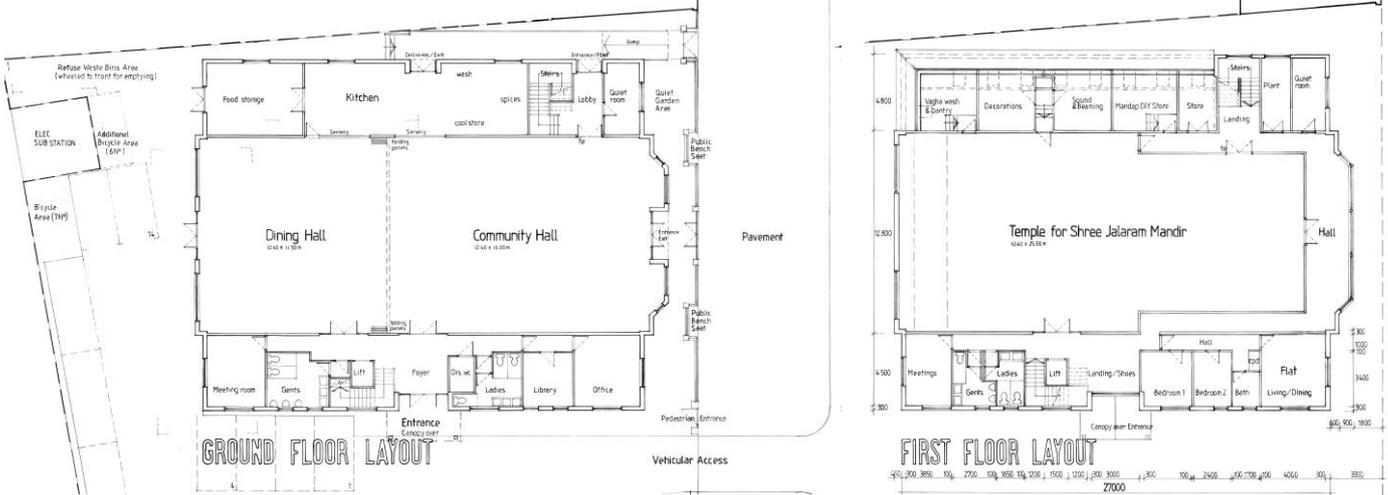
The *Sadavrat* has continued with its full potential and our contribution of food items to the food bank has been well appreciated. We now carry out the Food for Needy & Homeless project under the banner of Shree Jalaram Mandir every Tuesday, serving in excess of 200 hot meals and small gift bags of food items.

All our activities would not have been possible without the help of our volunteers and the wonderful staff we have at the Mandir. The kitchen continues to enjoy a five-star rating for its food hygiene. The Mandir's Pujaris continue their duties with the utmost devotion and high standards.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone at the Mandir for supporting me in carrying out my second term as President. I look forward to taking on the task of building the new Mandir in the not-too-distant future.

Editorial Board: Dr. Jayu Morjaria, Dr. Mansukh Morjaria, Prakash Gandecha, Amritlal Rajani.

Proposed New Building for Shree Jalaram Mandir and Community Centre - Greenford



Report by Cllr. Rajni C. Khuroya – Immediate Past President and Head of the Planning Committee
Jay Shree Krishna and Jay Jalaram

The Board of Trustees' aspiration to create a new 'Virpur of Europe' - Jalaram Mandir Greenford took a positive turn with the planning application launched with Ealing Council. The plan is to build a New Mandir with a Community Centre on the existing site, with the same foot-print, and including the current dining area and adjoining area currently in the temporary marquee. The current site has been an established place of worship since the 1950's, originally built as a synagogue and has housed our Mandir since 5th November 2000.

The vision of the Board of Trustees is to create a Mandir that is eco-friendly, energy efficient and having state of the art equipment that will provide enhanced facilities for the devotees. The new Mandir will have a much needed Community Centre, a fully equipped kitchen, ample storage space, dining area, library, an office, ancillary rooms and cloakrooms situated on the ground level. It is anticipated that with the enriched facilities we will be able to offer a wide range of activities such as yoga classes, bhajan classes, ladies and gents' activity clubs, coffee mornings and much more. The first floor will house the Mandir which can be accessed using the stairs and a lift for our elderly and disabled devotees. There will also be residential accommodation for our priest.

It is anticipated that the building project will take approximately eighteen months to complete, during this period the intention is to temporarily move our existing setup to another site so that we can continue with Bapa's seva and continue to provide a place of worship for our devotees.

In order to achieve Bapa's vision we require your continued moral and financial support. This can be achieved through donations using the Gift Aid scheme or by assisting in providing an interest free short or long term loan with a letter of guarantee from the Board of Trustees.

Nothing is impossible as long as we work together with the same ethos and I am sure we can realise Bapa's dream of creating a new Mandir. We solicit your generous and whole hearted support to build our new Mandir and I very much look forward to working with you and the Board to achieve this dream.





Financial Report by Sharad Bhimjiyani, Treasurer and Trustee

It gives me great pleasure to once again update you all on the Mandir's Finances.

We promised to be transparent on this subject and will continue to remain so.

The annual accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2013 have recently been audited and have been filed at the Charity Commission.

The Gross Income for the year was £ 672,095 with a net surplus of £ 265,253

The net assets of the Mandir at 31 December 2013 stand at £1,778,464

The bank balance as at 09 October 2014 is £1,220,000

I would like to thank all the donors who have signed their Gift Aid declarations. For every £1 donated via *Gift Aid* the Mandir receives an extra 25%. I therefore request all Tax Payers to donate via *Gift Aid*.



Message from The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has kept its promise given after being elected in 2008, of not pressurising anyone in asking for donations. The Mandir has gone from strength to strength with tremendous faith of the devotees in Pujya Bapa and their unwavering trust in the members of the Board. Our balance sheet is currently looking healthy.

However, the building of the new Mandir and the Community Centre is going to require a substantial amount of funding, and although we are reasonably placed, significant extra funding will be required to complete the project.

The Board is in the process of compiling various proposals to raise further funds, and once this is completed, it will be presented to all. It is the Board's wish that each and every devotee and member of community should take part in helping to raise funds for this important project.

The Borough of Ealing will soon be home to a very fine Mandir and Community Centre which will greatly benefit the community at large. It is for this reason that we humbly request our devotees and everyone in the community to come together and make this dream a reality.

Following the submission of our Planning application, we had invited our neighbours on 3rd November 2014 and undertook a presentation on the development of the new temple and community centre. The feedback we received from those attending was helpful, in particular relating to parking and blocking of driveways and making noise when leaving the temple.

Since the last four years we have arranged parking facilities at the Coston Primary School at Mandir's costs & some of our devotees also use the Greenford Broadway car park on Thursdays which is our busiest day. We also have our security wardens who guide those attending the Temple where to park. Some people still park in the streets close by legally for their own justifiable reasons. However this is the main reason for the neighbours not supporting us and this is something that has to be addressed by all of us if we wish for local support.

The Board has decided to name and shame those who do not co-operate in this matter and continue to park in the streets. We always announce to everyone to leave quietly and will continue to do this for we believe we can all work together as a community and make a better environment for everyone.

The Public Consultation period is now over and we had tremendous support from far and wide. We heartily thank all those who have sent in their support. For those who have not yet sent in their support (especially residents of Ealing) please send in your belated support by using the link: <http://www.pam.ealing.gov.uk/portal/servlets/PlanningComments?REFNO=PP/2014/4385>

If the link is taken off you, may have to go through Web site of Ealing Council > Planning > Ref. No. PP/2014/4385 > email Planning and write your message of support. This will go a long way and serve as a shot in the arm for us.



Involvement of Shree Jalaram Mandir in the Community and Social Projects.

Eye and Dental Camps

During the period of just over two years starting from mid-August 2012, with the support of our devotees, we have sponsored 125 Eye Camps in Gujarat where-in 26,000+ patients were examined of which 19,000+ were given minor treatment and eye-drops but importantly 3,759 patients were successfully operated for cataract. Similarly in past 14 months, 87 Dental Camps were sponsored wherein 500+ teeth extractions have been done by Ayurvedic 'anaesthetic-free Jalandhara Bandh' therapy and importantly 492 people given sets of dentures.

Food for the Needy and Homeless

The Mandir has started serving Food to the Needy and some Homeless in Holborn under its own banner from Tuesday 24.06.2014 after doing it jointly with The Sai Seva Sanstha for over two years. Each recipient gets a goodie bag packed with food items like crisp, biscuits, fruit, soft drink, chocolate/sweets and foil container of Hot meal consisting of Pasta or Rice & Curry and a small tub of dessert. We have also been serving Hot Tea. We have so far served 3500 hot meals since we started independently. It's heartening to hear a response of 'Jay Jalaram' from the grateful and appreciative recipients.

Social Cooking Project by British Heart Foundation



For the past two years, the Mandir has been participating in the Social Cooking Project led by the British Heart Foundation where the BHF Dietitians informed, educated and encouraged our cooks in healthier food preparation. We are happy to report that the project achieved a 50% reduction in saturated fat and up to 40% reduction in salt in the food served in our Sadavrat without any perceptible change in the taste of the meals. The BHF projects that this could result in a 2% drop in Coronary Heart Disease deaths and a 6% drop in deaths from diabetes. The photo shows a smiling Ilaben, our Head Chef on the Cover page of the 30 page BHF Report Booklet.

Food Bank Project

The Mandir has continued to contribute generously to the Government's Food Bank Projects. We have to date given over 2 tons of food to the Harrow Food Bank and recently extended this contribution to the Rickmansworth Food Bank.

Dr. Martin Wood's research project

Dr. Martin Wood, lecturer at the Bath Spa University has conducted research at our Mandir on the life of and the miraculous events (Parchaas) surrounding Saint Shree Jalaram Bapa. As a part of his ongoing research he will be travelling to Virpur and related places in Saurashtra, in April 2015 where he will be hosted by Shri Manubhai Bagdai and family, ardent devotees of Pujya Bapa. The Board wishes Dr. Wood all the success in his sustained efforts to highlight Pujya Bapa's life's work.



We were recently blessed by the divine presence of:

1. Pujya Swamiji Muniji Chidanand Saraswati and Sadhvi Bhagawatiji on 19th July, (Left)
2. Sadguru Shastri Madhavpriyadasji Swami of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul (SGVP) of Amdavad on 24th July (Below Right)
3. Pujya Guruvar Jashbhai Saheb & Pujya Ashwinbhai of Anoopam Mission along with Adhyatmanand Swamiji of Divya Jivan Sangh & Shivanand Ashram on 30th August (Below Left)



