



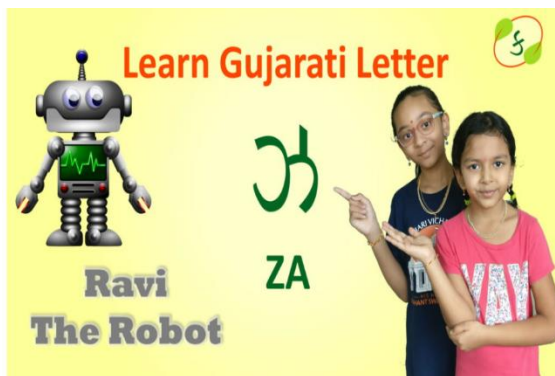
Newsletter (April 2022)

New Upcoming activities

We have a number of new activities we would like to start at the center if we have enough interest, please contact us (email: info@gujaratiassociation.org.uk) if you are interested in any of the following:

1. Classes

- a. Gujarati classes – We are looking to start Gujarati classes on for all ages on Zoom times and start date to be advised.
- b. Tabla classes – we are looking to starting Tabla classes on a trial basis pending committee and teacher approval.



2. Walking and Children's Cricket – Sponsored by the Staffordshire cricket club we will be looking to start walking cricket for the elderly and classes for 5 – 12 year old. The aim is to have fun and keep active



Aim: Restart the Youth Club

If anyone is interested and can help or support any activity do not hesitate to contact
info@gujaratiassociation.org.uk



Gujarati Association Tiffin Service

The GA began a tiffin service at the beginning of August for the community, this was mainly aimed at the elderly members of our community and was initially free and is open to everyone. We would like to help and support members of our community with providing meals, so we only charge a small price as its subsidised by the GA of £6 per tiffin per delivery or £5 for collection.

We cook two days a week, Tuesday and Thursday and you receive two days' worth of food. The food is pure vegetarian Gujarati cuisine, the poster below has a quick outline of what is included. Once a month we will also provide you with a sweet dish at no extra charge.

We collect cash on a monthly basis and provide you with a receipt on the last day of the month.

We are currently recruiting for tiffin drivers therefore if you are interested please contact info@gujaratiassociation.org.uk

GUJARATI ASSOCIATION
TIFFIN SERVICE

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

2 SHAKS, RICE, DAHL/KADHI, 6 ROTLIS

£6 PER DELIVERY
£5 COLLECTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
NARESH: 07748 758169
KAMLABEN: 07957 375561



GA Fitness timetable

Chitraben Patel (Monday yoga teacher)

The Gujarati association, sadly has to announce that we will be saying goodbye to our Monday yoga teacher, Chitraben Patel. We are very grateful to have had such an amazing, skilled teacher for over 10 years, there was always a full hall every Monday. All members of the community thoroughly enjoyed attending her classes and we all hold Chitraben to our highest regards as a person who we could approach and as a teacher. All members of the community and GA committee members give her our thanks and will miss her classes very much, we wish her all the best for the future.

Current classes update

We have been supporting the community with free online classes and have now returned to a physical format at the GA. Please look at the table below effective from 1st May as we are moving to a combination of physical & online classes to see what classes we currently host and we hope to see some more familiar faces.

Monday Physical	Yoga class Kajal	6.30pm- 8.00pm	Kajal focuses on maintaining health & wellbeing through a slow focus set of stretches and poses to increase flow and breathing capacity
Saturday Zoom Details: email info@gujaratiassociation.org.uk	Yoga class	10.00a m11.30 am	Saturday is run by Marie and focuses on vinyasa flow with mindfulness and meditation.

Jai Shree Krishna

We wish all our community and members the very best for this coming year and may you all be blessed with prosperity and good health. We always look for more volunteers and more support at the GA and we hope to see more faces over the coming year. As a registered charity, our motto is "connecting our community" and to this day we wish to stick to this, to create a cohesive environment for all our members. As we open up more and more for events and classes, we cannot wait to see you see all! Jai Shree Krishna and Jai Ambe Maa

"you are what you believe in, you become what you believe you can become"

- Shrimad Bhagavad Geeta

"through selfless service you will always be fruitful and find the fulfilment of your desires"

- Shrimad Bhagavad Geeta

"seva is the worship you offer to god in the heart of everyone"

- Shree Sai Baba

Jai Shree Krishna and Jai Ambe everyone, we hope that everyone has had a relaxing new year break and are looking forward to the events and opportunities the Gujarati Association has to offer in the coming year. Through all the lockdowns and restrictions that we have had in 2021, we are happy to have continued our festivals and

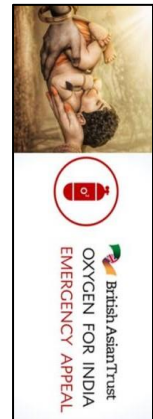
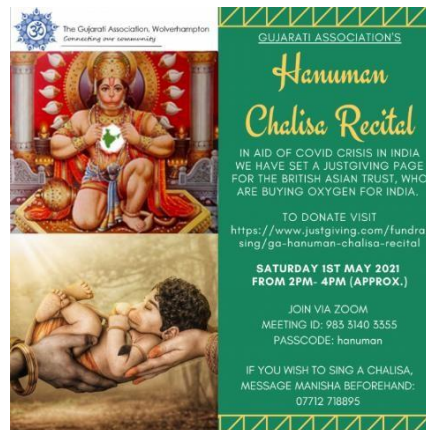
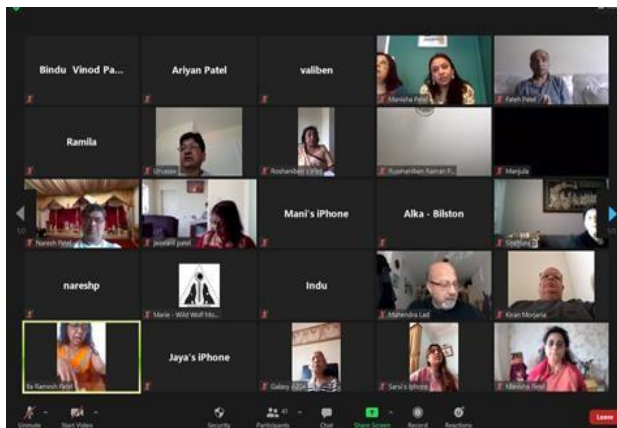


events, whether it was online or in person. We hope that this newsletter provides you with information and memories from the past year.

Religious Festivals and Events 2021

Hanuman Jayanti

We hosted Hanuman Jayanti online last year due to lockdown restrictions, it was a great time for all generations to use technology as an advantage to celebrate this holy event. We also used this opportunity to open a fundraiser to support the India covid crisis, we are proud to say that we raised £5,812.00 to support India, a lot of this money went to buying oxygen tanks, helping patients and buying hospital beds. Thank you to everyone that donated, attended and supported the event. A special thanks to Manisha and Ariyan, for organising and hosting the event.



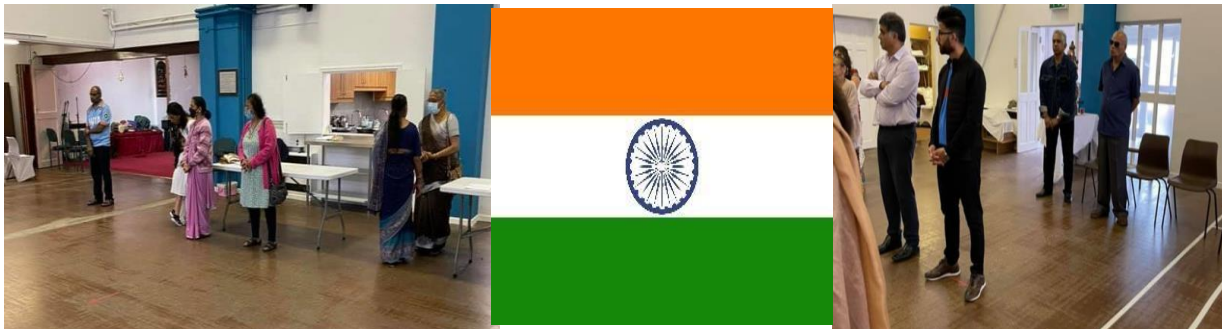
India independence day

Thank you to everyone that attended our India Independence Day celebration,

It was great to see so many members of our community for the first time after covid restrictions.

Gandhi Bapu once

Said, "be the change, you want to see in the world", this quote is a great motto that we like to use at the GA as we look to make improvements for our community.





GA Summer Garba night

This was our first summer Garba night here at the GA and we had the most amazing time. An amazing attendance, great food and the best music. We had attendance from all generations, and we loved to see everyone embracing our Gujarati culture. We are very happy to have organised this and we aim to make this an annual event, with this year being bigger and better. Thank you to everyone that attended and to Ariyan, Manisha, Anil and Kamlaben for organising and supporting the event from start to end.



Janmashtami

Shree Krishna Kanhaiya Lal Ki Jay. We had our first religious event in our ga mandir since 2020. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces. Thank you to the organisers and volunteers for preparing for Krishna Bhawan's birthday, we also thank the amazing singers that took part, we had a very spiritual and auspicious evening.



Ganpati chauth

Ganpati Gajan and Maharaj Ki Jay. We were very happy to celebrate Ganpati Chauth, with a spiritual evening of





bhajans, mantras, prasad and aarti. Thank you to everyone that came and took part in the celebrations, and a big thanks to our volunteers for preparing our Mahaprasad and making sure the mandir was spotless.

Navratri and Sharad Poonam Garba

Wow, this was one of our greatest Navratri's yet, we had the most amazing celebration. We had so many people in attendance to welcome Ambe maa and celebrated for 10 days before we wished goodbye. The garba music sung by Vaishali Patel and Bollywood echoes, was very ambient and the atmosphere was exceptional. Thank you to our organisers and volunteers, Ariyan, Manisha, Champaben, Kantibhai, Maniben, Induben and the team. Maa Ambe will always protect those that come with true heart and true intentions. Jai Ambe maa!



GA Diwali show and fireworks

Amazing dances, amazing speeches, perfect acts! We had the most perfect Diwali show this year, with a huge range of acts and performances. We had over 300 people attend and we all thoroughly enjoyed the food at the end of the evening. Thank you to the organisers and volunteers, Snelly, Manisha, Anil, Ariyan, cooking ladies and raffle ticket sellers! An extra special thanks to Champa Patel, who took out so much time to do rangoli at our entrance, it was absolutely beautiful!





Jalaram Jayanti

2021 Jalaram Jayanti had the highest ever turnout with over 200 people in attendance. Thank you to everyone that came and took part in the celebrations, we had a wonderful evening full of spirituality, thank you to our singers and team that led the evening away. We ended the evening with khichdi and kadhi and bhaji nu shaak.



Jay Jalaram Bapa.

Volunteering and supporting the Gujarati Association

Since the establishment of the GA, in the 1980's we have been very grateful to have so many members in our community that constantly help and support us, whether it is through physical help or donations. As we move into this year, we are looking to do more at the GA more events, more upkeep, more ideas! And for that, we want to include more of our community, we want to ask for more continuous support from our members. It is our intention to form 3 sub-committees here at the GA.

- Hall maintenance and upkeep team
- Events and festivals team
- Hall extension and building team

If you feel like you would work well in any of these sub-committees, please let us know, we value your opinion and time and would be very grateful to have you as part of our team; these sub-committees will consist of

committee members and GA members. Please contact info@gujaratiassociation.com



GA Charity support in 2021

Asian Mandhata Samaj UK India covid support

The GA donated £500.00 to AMSUK in their appeal to support Navsari during the covid crisis in India. The money went to purchasing oxygen tanks, hospital beds and supporting patients. The Gujarati Association Wolverhampton, has a large population of Patels so it was a pleasure to be able to support a charity that was supporting people in our samaj in India.

Elise Savannah charity walk support

Elise Savannah, a member of our youth in Wolverhampton, organised a charity fundraiser to support brain tumor research. We are very happy to have donated £200.00 to this wonderful cause. She has done an amazing job and we are proud to have members of our youth completing such charitable work.

Phoenix Park Diwali Mela

Every year the Wolverhampton city council organises a Diwali Mela for the community, with support from local charities, organisations and businesses, the GA continues to support this event every year by donating money. This year we donated £500.00 to support this event. It was an amazing evening with lots of people and festivities.

ISKCON festival of inspiration (Diwali event)

The GA supported the international society for Krishna consciousness, in their Diwali event that was hosted in the sitara hall, it was an amazing day with the most phenomenal actors performing the Ramayana. We had many guests from across the UK and it was lovely to see familiar faces supporting this event. The GA provided ISKCON with the Mahaprasad. Thanks to all that supported and volunteered to help on the day, it was a great event.

GA supports local charity party in memory Dinesh (din) Patel

Birmingham handsworth lion's club and Shree Manadhata samaj Wolverhampton, organised a charity party for the British Heart Foundation and healing little hearts in memory of Dinesh Patel, it was truly an honor to support this. We are very happy to have donated £200.00 to this very good cause and we always open our arms to support small local organisations in Wolverhampton to help them prosper in their endeavors.

Wolverhampton Wells food bank

The GA supported a local charity in Wolverhampton by donating £200.00 worth of food to a food bank charity that supports the less fortunate. We bought various staple foods and snacks, as well as, toiletries and baby products, we recently donated to the food bank so it was extra special to be able to help people in need during the holidays.



GA hall updates and plans

GA hall improvements in the past year

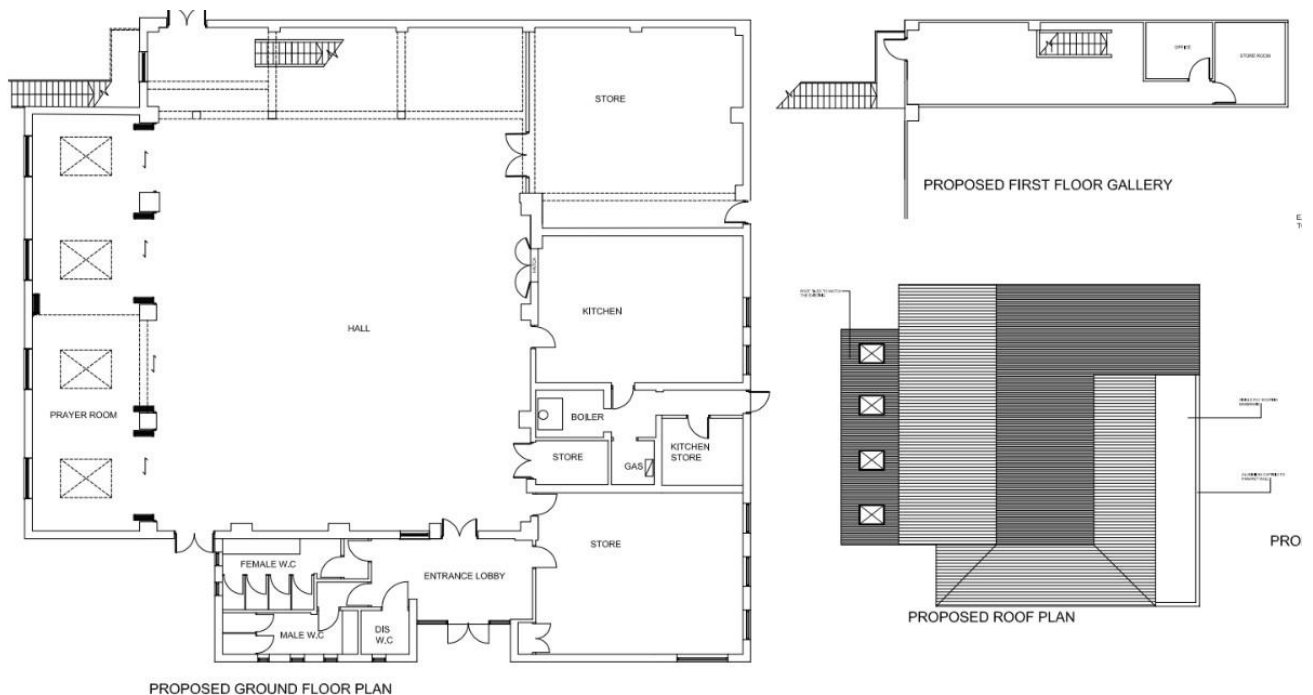
Over the past year, we have taken full advantage of the lockdowns by making improvements in our GA hall. We Have completed the following tasks to improve the hall.

- Complete repainting of the GA hall, with new bright white as the main colour and blue paint on the pillars.
- GA hall kitchen has been fully cleaned, new large gas cookers, new refrigerators and freezers, new silver tables and surfaces.
- Large cupboards bought and placed in storage rooms to organise our kitchen and hall items.

GA hall extension proposal

Below we have the proposed plans for a hall extension for the GA hall. We would like to utilise all the space that we have and make the hall more accessible to all our community. We have a number of options ,as you can see in this plan, we have created one large kitchen space, rather than having the separate wet room that we have right now. Currently, the GA mandir is at the back of the hall on the right, and have moved it to the side of the hall, where it is proposed in the designs.

We would very much like to open these big decisions up, for discussion to our members. We plan to hold a consultation meeting for our members in the future, where we can discuss the plans and receive the opinions and support of our members, before continuing with anything, including moving the mandir or keeping it where it is.





Annual General Meeting 2021

The Gujarati Association Wolverhampton, hosted its first AGM since 2018, for members. We had the biggest turnout to date, with nearly 200 members attending from all generations. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces after such a long time. There were many points on the agenda, and we were glad to discuss these with our members.

One of the main topics of discussion was the changes to our GA constitution, as it had been a long time since it was edited, there are some sections and policies that were outdated, we provided our members with proposed changes and concluded with a vote, we are happy to say that our proposal was passed at the meeting and voting was counted and confirmed by a few of our holding trustees.

As well as this, as of 24th October 2021, a new committee was welcomed and sworn in by our president Fatehbhai B Patel. The new committee was voted in by the GA members present at the AGM and voting was counted and confirmed for fairness by the holding trustees.

GA Committee 2021/2022

Executive committee

President- Fatehbhai B Patel
Vice president- Nareshbhai P Patel
Secretary- Suneetaben N Patel
Assistant secretary- Anilbhai R Patel
Treasurer- Rajnikant C Patel
Assistant treasurer- Nileshbhai Patel

Holding trustees

Jaswantbhai Patel
Kaushikbhai Patel
Kirtiben A Patel
Mineshbhai Patel
Pratickbhai Patel

Committee members

Ariyanbhai C Patel
Balwant (bully) B Patel
Bharatbhai Mistry
Champaben C Patel
Dharmendrabhai (munna) R Patel
Hiranbhai F Patel
Induben R Patel

Jaybhai S Parekh
Jayeshbhai R Patel
Jayantibhai C Patel
Kamlaben J Patel
Kantibhai Patel
Maniben N Patel
Pankajbhai (panky) R Patel
Snehlataben (snelly) D Patel

GA Membership cards

The Gujarati Association Wolverhampton, has over 500 life members and many annual members. As we continue through this year, we would like to thank all our members for their continuous support and attendance to our events. We plan to increase opportunities and benefits for all of our members over the coming year, with discounted ticket prices to events and festivals, more chances to support and take part in our events and unique packages for hall bookings at Sitara hall/GA hall. Another one of our new ventures is membership cards, we will be providing all our members with specialised, unique membership cards, this allows us to help recognise you faster and make you feel more part of our organisation. Please keep your eyes peeled for updates.

Currently we charge £100.00 per person for a life membership and £25.00 a year for annual membership. For More details visit our website and find more information on the about us page.