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Message from the SKA President



On behalf of the entire SKA committee, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

It has been a very active year, full of vibrant events and a strong sense of community engagement. We brought back the trip to the seaside, as well as organising a few Bhajan Sandhyas during the religious months.

The first Friday socials are still going strong, where our evergreen members continue their unconditional support in attendance and catering of the menu. The feedback we've had regarding the Mahotsav was absolutely spectacular, we followed this up with a retro Navratri, along with a children's Navratri, an entertaining Diwali party and a fabulous Children's Christmas party.

Unfortunately, we've had a few committee members leave us due to health reasons and other commitments. On behalf of the committee we wish them all the best, and thank you for your input throughout the last year - Trushna Khatri, Tina Khatri, and Jitendra Khatri. You will be missed and hope you continue to support our future events.

As there are only 9 members on the committee at present we would very much like members of the community to come forward and join our team.

The call for new members to join the committee is a great opportunity to ensure the continuity and growth of SKA for its future. The commitment to serving the community is commendable. We have a welcoming attitude towards former members and encouragement towards the younger generation to participate in events. This is even more important, as some of us will be stepping down from our roles at the end of December 2024, and we would really like new blood to continue running the mandal.

If you have any suggestions, please do feel free to contact us.

Last year we mentioned our goal was to sort out any billing issues etc with the help of our dedicated team, therefore, we are happy to say we are almost there. Furthermore, with the passing of the new resolution things will be a lot more simpler going forward. If you are no longer a member for any reason, you may rejoin, without having to worry about paying any arrears from previous years.

We would like to welcome new and past members back to our community and would like parents to encourage their children to attend functions and support the community, especially as the committee works so hard to organise these events.

The committee members and I look forward to the upcoming SKA events in 2024 with the continued support of all the members.

Once again we wish you a Happy & Healthy 2024.

With best wishes
Chetna Khatri
President

**Wishing all SKA Members
a Happy New Year 2024**

Annual General Meeting 2023

The AGM was held on the Sunday, 29th October 2023 at SKA Hall. We just about managed to have a quorum to have the AGM. We had 36 members attending AGM this year, which is very disappointing to say the least.

As published in the previous newsletter, regular AGM agenda items were discussed, debated and approved. Committee put forward two resolutions of which one was approved, and second one, members felt is not needed and hence was not approved.



AGM approved the following special This year **resolution:** Paragraph 11(3) of the company's articles will be removed and replaced with the following paragraph in its place "Membership is terminated if ... (3) any sum due from the member to the Company is not paid in full within three months of it falling due."

AGM did not approve the following special resolution: "9.7 Notwithstanding anything else contained in these articles, any member who has not paid in full any annual subscription within 3 months of it falling due shall be refused entry to any events held or organised by the Company until such payment is made in full."



Membership Notice

During the month of March you will receive your Annual Membership invoice. We encourage the use of online bank transfer to make the payment as this greatly helps with our bookkeeping. Should you prefer to make payment via cheque please contact **treasurer@skauk.org** and we will arrange for this to be done.

SKA UK Barclays bank account details:
Account number **23536327**
Sort Code **20-95-61**

It is **IMPORTANT** that you **quote your SKA account number** in the online payment reference field. We will not be able to identify payment otherwise.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your prerogative to inform the SKA committee of any changes required to the invoice. The changes may include the inclusion/exclusion of a member within the household and therefore an amendment to the total invoice payment.

The easiest way to do this would be providing us with a legible scan or photo of the amended invoice. Should this not be feasible please don't hesitate to reach out to **Dhilan Khatri - SKA Treasurer**
Email: **treasurer@skauk.org**

Committee Update

Jitendra Pravinchandra Khatri has resigned from the committee in October 2023 due to health reasons.

Trushna Khatri-Dixon also has resigned from the committee in November 2023 due to her work commitments.

SKA would like to thank both Jitendra and Trushna for their valuable contributions and we wish them well.

We are sure they will return to be part of SKA once their personal circumstances allow them to.

Batera Party

On 4th November 2023, SKA had organised a batera party, an event marked to honour 2023 Mahotsav's Pramukh Dampati, Bharat Vakharia and Bhavna Vakharia, and to thank everyone who helps us throughout the year.

That ranges from the people who help in the Monthly Social, the helpers at the Mahotsav, those who sold raffles, donated raffle gifts without hesitation, all those that sang and helped out at Navratri, and our annual Christmas Santa - and everyone else too.

A huge Thank You to Anish Tailor for a donation of £501 in memory of Alpa Tailor. Big thanks to Naresh Kapadia for capturing the photos of the event.



Navratri 2023 Review

This year we had 3 different Navratri celebrations. On 21st October we had Navratri celebrations at the usual Lycee International De Londres, where community members danced to the rhythm of garba and dandia raas.

After a break of 6 years our community's band was back in action led by Bharat Jagjivan Vakharia. He was supported by Pramod Khatri, Raj Khatri, Devam Thakorlal and team. SKA would like to thank Rashmi Khatri, Chandrika Khatri, Bhanu Tailor, Mahesh Parmar, Bharat Rupawala, Chandrakant Adenwala, Harivadan Kabawala, Kiran Kapadia and Mahesh Khatri for their support in singing and/or playing musical instruments plus Anil Kevat for providing a van to transport mandir and other items from the SKA hall.

Everyone who was present thoroughly had a great time. There was provision for snacks as well. The Aarti thali competition as usual proved challenging as we had some beautifully decorated thalis. We had three secret judges, who were not part of the committee roaming around who marked the thalis on creativity, and presentation. We had a tie between, Ariya/Seema Raj Khatri and Rakhee Praneal Thakorlal. So, both were given a gift voucher for their beautiful thalis.



Children's Navratri 2023 Review

This year as suggested at the last AGM we also had a children's Navratri held at SKA hall on 15th October 2023. This event was very well attended whereby parents brought their young kids and they all took part in doing garbas, dandia raas and thali decorations. This event was tried for the first time and was hugely successful and we're sure this will soon become a regular event in the SKA calendar during Navratri.

On 19th October some of the community members got together at SKA hall and did garba. This was not something the committee had organised but some members felt having an extra day in the afternoon would help those who can attend it. Again, this event had a good turnout and as a committee we will consider holding additional days at SKA hall in the future.

A huge thank you to all those who came to the Navratri celebrations and made these events a success.



Children's Christmas Party



The Children's Christmas party was held at SKA Hall on 16th December 2023. It was attended by around 25 young children, and they were highly amused by our entertainer Tony. There were games and dancing, followed by pizzas and snacks.

Thank you to every parent that made a note in their diary and brought their child/children to this event. Really makes it worth our while.

who are currently in hospital at this time of the year. It was well received and appreciated by the children's ward at Barnet General Hospital.

SKA would like to thank every child that donated a NEW toy for children



નવરાત્રી

સંસ્થા દ્વારા ૨૧મી ઓક્ટોબરના રોજે રાસ ગરબાનું આયોજન લાયસી ઈન્ટરનેશનલમાં કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું આ અવસરે લગભગ ૩૫૦ જ્ઞાતિજનોએ હાજરી આપી હતી. લોકોને ગરબાના તાલે ઝૂમતા કરવા માટે આ વખતે આપણી જ્ઞાતિના ભરતભાઈ વખારીઆ, તથા રાજ, પ્રમોદ અને દેવના બેઠની પણ વ્યવસ્થા કરવામાં આવી હતી. તેઓને જેમણે ગાવામાં અને વાજીત્રો વગાડવામાં મદદ કરી તેમનો તથા અનિલ કેવટ કે જેમણે તેમની વેનમાં સામાન લઈ જવામાં સહાયતા કરી હતી તેમનો પણ આભાર માનવામાં આવે છે. ૬ વર્ષ બાદ આ બધા ફરી વાર સ્ટેજ પર આવ્યા હતા. લોકોને ગરબા અને રાસ રમવામાં તેમના સંગીતે તલલીન કરી દીધા હતા. સાથે લોકો માટે નાસ્તાનો પણ પ્રબંધ કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો. આ વર્ષે આરતીની થાળીની સ્પર્ધા પણ હતી જેમાંકોને ઈનામ આપવું એ મુશ્કેલ સાબિત થયું હતું. અરીયા, સીમા રાજખત્રી અને રાખી પ્રણીલ ઠાકોરલાલ ને થાળી ને સુંદર શણગારવા માટે વિજેતા ઘોષિત કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા. ગત વાર્ષિક સામાન્ય સભામાંનાના બાળકો માટે નવરાત્રીનું આયોજન કરવાનો પ્રસ્તાવ મુકવામાં આવ્યો હતો. અમોએ તેને અમલમાં મુક્યો હતો અને ૧૫મી ઓક્ટોબરના રોજે મંડળનાલેલમાં નાના બાળકો માટે નવરાત્રીનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેમાં નાના મોટા બાળકો, તેમના વાલીઓ એ મળીને આ પર્વને ઉલ્લાસથી ઉજવ્યો હતો. તે સિવાય ૨૧મી ઓક્ટોબરના રોજે મંડળનાલેલમાં અમુક જ્ઞાતિજનોએ ભેગા થઈને બપોરના ગરબા ગાયા હતા.

દિવાળી પાર્ટી

સંસ્થા દ્વારા ૧૭મી નવેમ્બરના રોજે કડવા પાર્ટીદાર લેલમાં દિવાળી પાર્ટીનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. લગભગ ૩૭૦ જેટલા જ્ઞાતિજનો ઉપસ્થિત થયા હતા અને એક બીજાને મળીને નુતન વર્ષાભિનંદન આપ્યા હતા. મસાલા કેટરર્સના સ્વાદિષ્ટ ભોજન ને લોકોએ માણ્યો હતો અને આપણી જ્ઞાતિની તૂષણ એ ડીજેના સંગીત પર લોકોને નચાવીને આનંદ કરાવ્યો હતો. ખાવામાં ચોકલેટ નો ફુવારો ધણો વખણાયો હતો.

એજુએમ

વાર્ષિક સામાન્ય સભા ૨૯મી ઓક્ટોબરના રોજે રાખવામાં આવી હતી જેમાં આ વખતે ઘણી ઓછી સંખ્યામાં લોકોએ હાજરી આપી હતી. જ્ઞાતિજનોએ વિવિધ મુદ્દાઓ પર ચર્ચા કરી હતી. આ વર્ષની મિટિંગમાં સંવિધાનમાં બદલાવ લાવતા બે નવા ઠરાવો પર પણ ઘણી ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી. ઉપસ્થિત લોકોએ તેઓના વિચારો સભા સમક્ષ રજૂ કર્યા હતા. બે માંથી એક ઠરાવ ને મંજૂરી મળી હતી અને એક ઠરાવને નામંજૂરી મળી હતી. વધુ માહિતી માટે અંગ્રેજી વિભાગ વાંચશો.

બટેરા પાર્ટી

૪ નવેમ્બરના રોજે સંસ્થાએ મહેત્સવના પ્રમુખ દંપતિના સન્માનમાં, તથા સંસ્થાને વિવિધ કાર્યક્રમોમાં મદદરૂપ થતા સ્વંયમ સેવકો ને આભાર કહેવા માટે, બટેરા પાર્ટીનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. આ પ્રસંગે સફળ બનાવવા માટે સર્વેનો આભાર તથા અનિષ્ટ ટેલરે આ પ્રસંગે સ્વ. અલ્પા ટેલરની યાદમાં £૫૦૧ નું દાન આપ્યું હતું તો તે માટે તેમનો પણ ખુબ આભાર.

બાળકોની ક્રિસમસની પાર્ટી

બાળકોની નાતાલની પાર્ટીમાં ૨૫ બાળકો આવ્યા હતા, જે બાળકો આવ્યા હતા તેઓ એ ખુબ આનંદ અને મજા કરી હતી. તેમના મનોરંજન માટે એક કલાકાર ને બોલાવવામાં આવ્યો હતો. જેણે પપેટ શો, રમત ગમતો, જાદુના ખેલો કરી બાળકોને જલ્સા કરાવ્યા હતા. રમીને સહુએ પીઝા ખાયને પેટપુજા કરી હતી. છેવટે હસમુખા સાંટા ભાઈએ સર્વેને ભેટ આપી હસતા મોઢે ધરે મોકલ્યા હતા.

દરેક બાળકના વાલીઓ એક હોસ્પિટલના બાળકોના વોર્ડ માટે ભેટ લાવ્યા હતા તે માટે તેમનો ખુબ ખુબ આભાર. તે ભેટો બાર્નેટ જનરલ હોસ્પિટલમાં આપવામાં આવી છે.

કારોબારી કમિટી

જીતેન્દ્ર પ્રવિણચંદ્ર ખત્રીએ, તેમની તબિયત નાદુરસ્ત હોવાથી કારોબારી કમિટીમાંથી ઓક્ટોબર ૨૦૨૩માં રાજીનામું આપ્યું છે. તેમ જ તૂષણ ખત્રી ડીકસને પણ, નવી નોકરી ચાલુ કરી હોવાથી તેને મળતા સમયના અભાવના કારણે, કારોબારી કમિટીમાંથી નવેમ્બર ૨૦૨૩માં રાજીનામું આપ્યું છે. સંસ્થા તેમણે આપેલી સેવા બદલ તેમનો આભાર માને છે. આશા કરીએ તેઓના વ્યક્તિગત સંજોગો બદલાતા તેઓ ફરી સંસ્થામાં જોડાશે.

સોશીયલ ઈવનીંગ

સંસ્થા દ્વારા ૬ ઓક્ટોબર, ૩ નવેમ્બર અને ૧ ડીસેમ્બરના રોજે ૨૦૨૩ની સોશીયલ ઈવનીંગ ઉજવી હતી, દરેકમાં જ્ઞાતિજનોએ મળીને આનંદ કર્યો હતો. નોન વેજમા અને વેજ રસોઈનો લ્હાવો બધાએ લીધો હતો. ૨૦૨૪માં આ અમો ફરી એક વાર, આ જ્ઞાતિજનોનો પ્રિય પ્રોગ્રામ સાથે આપ સમક્ષ ઉપસ્થિત થશું. આપતા વર્ષની પહેલી સોશીયલ ઈવનીંગની તારીખમાર્ચ ૨૦૨૪, જો લોકોની સંખ્યા હશે તો નહીંતો એપ્રિલ ૨૦૨૪.

સભ્ય ફી અને દાન ભેટ

દુક સમયમાં અમો તમારા પર વાર્ષિક સભ્ય ફી અને નોંધાવેલ ભેટનું લીસ્ટ મોકલીશું આશા કરીએ કે તે મળે એટલે આપ સર્વે સમયસર એ ભરીને અમોને સાથ આપશો.

Next Social Evening



SKA had social evenings on 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December over the last quarter of 2023. Lots of regular and some not so regular members attended this popular first Friday of the month evening and enjoyed a variety of veg and non-veg food, including starters and deserts.

Please note that SKA will take a break for couple of months and the next social will be in March 2024 subject to numbers, or April 2024.



OBITUARY



In loving and everlasting memory of Late
Dhansukh Dahyabhai Khatri
who passed away in London on 20th November 2023
at the age of 79 years.

Husband of Jayashri Dhansukh Khatri
Father of Nina and Yuri Gilhotra (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Urmi & Late Vinal Solanki (Daughter & Late Son-in-law)
Jilesh & Mona Khatri (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Grandfather of Sonali, Manali, Pranay, Mohini,
Mohit, Anya, Asha and Anushka.

The family would like to thank everyone for their support during this
difficult time. Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to their
family and friends. Om Shanti Shanti Shanti.

SKA would like to thank the Late Dhansukh Khatri's family
for their kind donation of **£101.00**

In loving and everlasting memory of Late
Shakuntala Thakorlal Khatri
who passed away in London on 23rd December 2023
at the age of 79 years.

Son- Ilesh Thakorlal Khatri
Daughter in law - Dimple Ilesh Khatri
Daughter - Anita Bhudia
Grandchildren - Minal & Dev

The family would like to thank everyone for their support during this
difficult time. Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to their
family and friends. Om Shanti Shanti Shanti.

SKA would like to thank the Ilesh Khatri & family
for their kind donation of **£101.00**



SKA Needs YOU

We have
vacancy for one Committee member
and a few **co-op members**,
please contact president@skauk.org
if you are interested.

Diwali/New Year Party Review



This year's Diwali party was held at the usual venue Kadwa Patidar Hall in Kenton on Friday 17th November 2023. Over 370 members, including children, attended this popular event in the SKA calendar.



On arrival members were treated to the delicious Indian sweets and chocolates donated by Jitendra, Jai and Raj on behalf of their mother Ranjan Pravin Khatri for her birthday. Soon members got busy socialising with friends and family within the community. 'Happy New Year', 'Saal Mubarak', 'Nutan Varshabhinandan' were the popular greetings one can hear from all corners of the hall.



This time committee had arranged a corner for the young kids to do rangoli paintings, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Members bought alcoholic beverages, including cocktails from the bar. Dinner of chilli paneer, pav bhaji, kheema pav, chicken, veg biryani and gulab jamun was served.



Like last year, the chocolate fondue fountain was popular with the members. Once members had their dinner, our community member Trushna had taken up the DJing, playing a variety of songs enticing people to join the dance floor and show their moves.



We finished around 11:30pm and the members returned home having had a good Diwali party. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day to make the event a huge success.

