



# Monthly Newsletter

November 2024



## SAL MUBARAK!

Nutan Varshna Abhinandan to everyone 🙏

✨ Happy New Year to one and all. ✨

What a fabulous time of the year! We moved from Navratri festivities to celebrate the 5 auspicious days of Diwali. At GAAL, we held Dhanteras Pooja on Tuesday 29th Oct, with over 100 people taking part in the ceremony. Diwali shortly followed and was celebrated with family and friends, on 31st Oct.

It was then so wonderful to see so many of you at the Bestu Varash celebration, on Saturday 2nd Nov at Kenton Hall. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and joy as community members, young and old, came together to enjoy each other's company.

The bar was buzzing, and we were treated to delicious Indian nasto, generously donated by Kishor & Panna Amliwalla. The evening finished with a beautiful display of fireworks, which was the perfect ending to a wonderful Bestu Varash gathering.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and made it such a memorable evening!

As we enter into year 2081, the GAAL Executive wish all our community members a healthy and prosperous New Year!



## Diwali Basket Brigade - 26 Oct

GAAL was incredibly proud to support Diwali Basket Brigade (DBB) during the festive period. Over 150 volunteers helped prepare 1,500 food hampers for families in need.

DBB has been running this charitable initiative for 7 years and this year used Kenton Hall as its base and work closely with GAAL to run its London food drop.

DBB's dedicated team together with an army of volunteers, including our very own GAAL members helped with the initiative over Friday 25th Oct. and Saturday 26th Oct.

It was lovely to see young and old working together to give up their time to do seva to benefit others. This is the true spirit of Diwali.

Thank you to those that supported the DBB initiative and generously gave to this worthy cause. DBB together with donations from GAAL members have raised in excess of £54,000, which was used to buy food and essential items for the food hampers.

A big shout out to our amazing GAAL volunteers who gave up their time on both Friday & Saturday in order for the event to be successful. A massive thank you to **Dee Vara**, who has spent many months fronting this initiative



# OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



## GAA Golf Society

The final event of the 2024 season was held at Wycombe Heights Golf Centre and we were in luck with the sunshine and no rain!! The day was generously sponsored by **Raj Mehmi**, in memory of his mum- Thank you so much. The day was enjoyed by all with a great range of abilities and ages on a hilly course, which we had to tackle without buggies!!!

Congratulations to the winners on the day: **Minesh Naran, Cyrus Bajaj** and **Ramesh Parmar**. As this was the last event of the GAA calendar the overall leaderboards for all 7 events will be worked out and the cups and the wooden spoons will be presented at the Golf AGM later this year. Please keep an eye open for the date, as it would be great to see all attend. We thank all our members for their continued support, as it is you who ensure the society keeps going. If you would like to join for the 2025 season please email us at: [gaagolf2009@gmail.com](mailto:gaagolf2009@gmail.com)

## Dhanteras Pooja - Tuesday 29th Oct.



This auspicious day is where prayers are offered to the Goddess Laxhmi.

A community pooja was performed by 106 of our members. A further 100 plus members watched the pooja, and together we invited Goddess Laxhmi to provide us all with prosperity, knowledge and rid us of negativity.

The Pooja was kindly sponsored by **Neal & Khushaly Chauhan**.

Many thanks to **Vasanti Parmar**, who organised the pooja and her team of volunteers, who assisted in making the pooja a huge success.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



We are proud to share the news of our community member, **Hasu Champaneri**, who has received the Royal Coronation Medal in recognition of service to HRH King Charles' Coronation. Hasu served as an MSC Metropolitan Police Officer for Public Order & Protection at the event. She was part of the Brent&Harrow North West Borough Command, aligned to the Borough's Proactive Team working to combat weapon and drug crime. Her previous noteworthy contributions include serving at the late HM Queen Elizabeth's funeral and being part of the protection team for PM Boris Johnson.

Additionally, Hasu was awarded The Chief Officer's Medal for outstanding commitment to service for public protection during the COVID lockdown period.

Some of you may also know Hasu from GAAL's weekly yoga classes, where she is the Instructor.

Many congratulations to Hasu for being a leading example of the diverse skills and achievements of women in the Ethnic Asian Community.

## GAA Men's Social Club



On the evening of 26th Oct. the Men's social club met for the second time for a 'Koroga Evening'

Over 40 gents joined the evening for wonderful and tasty home cooked food, thanks to **Rashik Vara** and **Balwant Chauhan**. There was much merriment over drinks, carrom, cards and table tennis. The evening ended with a sing-a-long led by Kiran Parmar, who got everyone singing and partying.

Well done to **Uttam Parmar** for organising the event.

## Upcoming Events

- 19th November (Tuesday)**      **Senior Citizen Club Luncheon, Kenton Hall**  
Sponsored by Harish, Bhanumati Parmar & Family  
Contact- **Somchand Parmar on 07753 759747**
- 23rd November (Saturday)**      **Singles Event, Kenton Hall**  
For those looking for love or just wanting to expand their social circle  
Contact- **Narendra Morar on 07803 288157 or Panna Amliwalla on 07958 237302**
- 8th December (Sunday)**      **Pool Competition, Watford Shots**  
Contact- **Aman Chauhan on 07973 411260**
- 14th December (Saturday)**      **Neighbours Party, Kenton Hall**  
Fun party with the neighbours of Kenton Hall  
Contact- **Narendra Morar on 07803 288157**
- 15th December (Sunday)**      **Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime, Kenton Hall**  
Contact- **Kamlesh Vara on 07796940057**

**Singles Networking Event**  
*Meet, Greet & Connect*

**SAT 23 NOVEMBER**  
14:00 - 19:00  
Kenton Hall, Woodcock Hill  
London HA3 0PQ  
Dress Code: Smart

**Hosted by Amit Sodha**

More Information:  
Narendra - 07803 288157  
Panna - 07958 237302

Register Here:  
<https://forms.gle/M3Vp1z1qMw8RjY1D9>

For inquiries email: [singles@gaalondon.org.uk](mailto:singles@gaalondon.org.uk)

**AGES 21+**

## Stay in touch with GAAL

**We are missing you!** so many of you are saying that you want to know what is going on at GAAL. There are many ways of staying in touch.

- **Email Subscription**

If you are not receiving emails please (i) check your spam folder or (ii) Subscribe or resubscribe for emails by using the link on [gaalondon.org.uk](https://gaalondon.org.uk) website. <https://gaalondon.org.uk/email-subscription/>

- **Facebook@gaalondon**
- **Instagram@gaalondon**
- **WhatsApp** - we have 2 groups you can join

(i) GAA London News & Events contact **Uttam Parmar on 07951 561996**

(ii) GAA Ladies Social Club contact **Kala Parmar on 07956 122109**

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS

**@gaalondon**



Instagram



Facebook



## Kids Corner!

**Chaplins Pantomos Presents**

**Jack and the Beanstalk**

**Sunday 15th December 2-4pm (incl interval)**  
**@Kenton Hall**  
Doors open at 1:30pm  
Ages 3-12

Tickets: From £7.50pp - £15pp  
Kids under 2 FREE \*sitting on parents lap\*  
Tickets available from Saturday 16th November 9am (first come first served) at <https://GAALPANTOMIME.eventbrite.co.uk> or scan

