

monthly newsletter from



WELCOME

**From the desk of the
General Secretary...**

It has been three months since our last newsletter went out, during which time we have seen in the new Nanakshahi year 555, Vaisakhi, and a plethora of events at Singh Sabha Southall. Our work at the Sabha is mostly...

Read on at page 3



Japji Sahib course in English - Basics of Sikhi

The popular Japji Sahib course from Basics of Sikhi continues every Sunday from 7-8pm upstairs in the second hall at the Park Avenue site. Sign up to attend at: sgsss.org/japjisahibcourse

Increasing car parking spaces at Park Avenue

Sevadars have been busy clearing some of the derelict space at our Park Avenue site to add to the available car parking for members of the Sangat. We are conscious that it can often be difficult to find car parking at the Gurdwara and are stepping up plans to increase car parking efficiency as well as stamp out non-Gurdwara Sangat parking cars on site to go elsewhere... Watch this space!



Little Cubs playgroup

Join the Little Cubs playgroup meeting in the Singh Sabha library at the Guru Nanak Road site every Monday from 10am-12pm during term time. Let the little ones explore, meet other parents, and connect with your Gurdwara! Open to little ones aged four or under. Contact 07701388934 for more information.



CELEBRATING VAISAKHI IN SOUTHALL

Vaisakhi is intended to mark the occasion of the creation of the Khalsa

but is also for Sikhs to gather and take stock of our lot so as to determine how to act in coming times. It is an opportunity for the Khalsa and the wider collective of Sikhs to reflect upon the choices that have been made which have brought about our present reality, and to then consider the future in that light.

Thanks to the grace of Guru Sahib and the support of the Sangat, Singh Sabha Southall celebrated Vaisakhi with a Nagar Kirtan, enjoyed by tens of thousands on Sunday 2 April.

Vaisakhi-related events at Singh Sabha Southall

The Nagar Kirtan was just one of the events through which we celebrated Vaisakhi in 2023 at Singh Sabha Southall, keeping in mind the reflective and thought-provoking nature of the occasion as depicted above.

Accordingly, there were many happenings

throughout early April beginning with an Amrit Sanchar ceremony on Saturday 1 April when Sikhs from across the UK reached here to take Khandeh di Pahul.

Local sisterhood group, Kaur's Connect held their monthly event on Friday 7 April, hosting a talk about Vaisakhi by Harpreet Kaur of Your Lavaan, followed by an art workshop with Gagandeep Kaur.

A Smagam and Raag Kirtan Divaan was held on Sunday 9 April featuring Bhai Manbir Singh of Australia and katha by Bhai Sukhdeep Singh of Basics of Sikhi, organised by the latter.

And finally, on Vaisakhi day itself, Friday 14 April, we hosted a children's activities day complete with arts, crafts, and sing-a-long, organised by the Sikh Education Council.

Educational org TrueTube released their 'Holy Cribs' tour of a Gurdwara, centred around Singh Sabha Southall! Watch back at: youtu.be/y9f3g3XUVNc



FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dear Sangat, welcome to our delayed newsletter,

It has been three months since our last newsletter went out, during which time we have seen in the new Nanakshahi year 555, Vaisakhi, and a plethora of events at Singh Sabha Southall. Our work at the Sabha is mostly undertaken by volunteers who give up valuable personal time to perform seva in everything from preparing Langar to marshalling the Nagar Kirtan, compiling administrative documents to weeding flower beds, running the live projector screens to managing our social media output, and so much more.

Clearly, we can't operate without the Sangat's input, but likewise, the Gurdwara provides the Sangat with a space in which to serve their peers and the Guru. We invite you to take up such a role and serve the community at Singh Sabha Southall, whether it is through a specific task at one of our sites, or broader seva like contributing to this newsletter. Get in touch with us through reception at either of our Gurdwara sites, or via the email addresses on our website.

I hope that many of you were able to collect a Singh Sabha Southall calendar at our smagams celebrating the arrival of the month of Chet back in March. It is a great guide to the significant dates from our rich history including Gurburabs, events and barsis - make this a year where you visit the Gurdwara regularly to connect with that legacy. *May the rider of the blue horse protect us.*

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2 Celebrating Vaisakhi in Southall

There were many opportunities for the sangat at Singh Sabha Southall to celebrate Vaisakhi this year including the Nagar Kirtan, a Raag Kirtan Divaan and children's activities! Read more overleaf.

5 Partner projects - a selection

As well as our own projects, events and initiatives, the Sabha partners with outside organisations to offer services for the benefit of the Sangat. Learn more about a few of these and what they offer.

Current vacancies at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall

Find them all on page 8

4 Punjabi and Gurmat Sangeet Academy

Our professionally-staffed Punjabi and Gurmat Sangeet Academy at the Park Avenue site continues to grow from strength to strength offering some of the best tutoring in music anywhere in the Sikh world. Learn more about those and the popular Punjabi classes overleaf.

The General Body meeting was held on 26 February

Read about it on page 7

6 Sports and Initiatives - a selection

Read about a selection of sports and fitness initiatives that take place at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall.



Sri Guru Singh Sabha PUNJABI AND GURMAT SANGEET ACADEMY

Classes have been running at the outbuilding on Park Avenue for some time and are now amongst the most popular anywhere...

children in our regular classes. Tabla and Tanti Saaj workshops led by

Gurdain Rayatt and Ustaaad Surjeet Singh provided a comprehensive adjunct to the weekly classes which they teach here at the academy and we are very lucky to have them as our tutors.

We hope to continue to offer such opportunities to not only our coming generations of Sikhs, but adults too - whether they are veterans of Gurmat Sangeet or new to learning the art.

Punjabi

Punjabi classes have been taking place regularly for children at our academy on the Park Avenue site and have been so successful that we are oversubscribed. As a result, additional classes are being established on different weekdays to complement the learning that has been taking place. In addition we are now able to offer adult classes once more - further information about the various classes and course timetables can be found at our website.

sgss.org/childrens-punjabi-classes

sgss.org/adults-punjabi-classes

Gurmat Sangeet

Over the past three months, our academy has played host to workshops by some of our World-leading tutors as well as the visiting Bhai Satninder Singh Bodal (see picture above). Bhai ji's workshops in singing vocals and vija-based Gurmat Sangeet was especially appreciated by those who partook in the week-long sessions, as did the



GURMAT SANGEET ACADEMY

sign up to learn tanti saaj, tabla, vaja and singing

Saturday - tanti saaj

Saturday - Kirtan; vaja and singing

Saturday - tabla

Monday - vaja and vocals; tanti saaz



Partner Projects A SELECTION

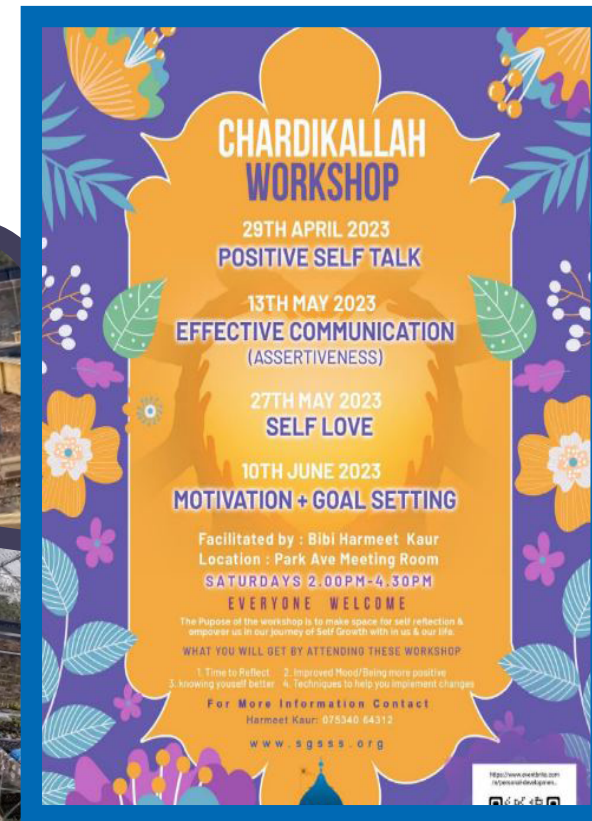


Aasra Trust

With the support of Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall, Aasra

This is a selection of projects taking place across the Sabha for which we partner with local and community organisations. All of these projects are for the benefit of the Sangat and to inspire a Gursikh lifestyle.

Trust has hosted a 'Help Seminar' for international students in the UK and engaged with members of the sangat over numerous weekends this spring. The services are available to anyone regardless of their ethnicity, sexuality, immigration status, physical and mental health; If you are experiencing domestic violence and abuse,



the sevadars from the trust are here to support you, no matter what course you want to take. Listening, helping you understand your options, explaining your legal rights, talking to the police for you, helping you get to safer housing, or even attending court with you. Get in touch: aasratrust@outlook.com

Community garden at Norwood Hall

A new community green space has been created at Singh Sabha Southall's Norwood Hall in collaboration with urban farming project, 'own grown'. Volunteers have

worked tirelessly all spring to develop the space where now a beautiful greenhouse and vegetable boxes are bringing life to food for our community. Get involved today: gardening@maelgael.org

Chardikallah Workshops

Harmeet Kaur facilitates workshops on the art of living a successful and meaningful life from the inside out, tapping into our inner resources to give us clarity, boost our confidence, and build on our strengths as gursikhs. Learn more and attend: mrsingh11@hotmail.com

Events and Initiatives

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Singh Sabha Southall collaborates with and provides a regular platform to a number of Sikh sports and fitness initiatives that provide value to the Sangat locally and nationally.

Do you want to learn how to ride a bike?

Let's Go Southall Cycling Club: free training, group rides and an excellent atmosphere!

If you live in Southall, training is available for all abilities and bikes can be provided for use at all sessions - lots of fun!

Monday

Group rides (beginners) 9.30am-12pm

Cycling practice 12.30pm-2pm

Wednesday

Group rides (intermediate) 12.30pm-3pm

Thursday

Group rides (beginners) 9.30am-12pm

Cycling practice 12pm-1.30pm

Friday

Group rides (intermediate) 9.30am-12pm

Saturday

Cycling practice 10am-11.30am

Sunday

Independent group rides 10am-12.30am

Meeting point: Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall (Park Avenue)

More information can be found at letsgosouthall.org.uk



Singh Sabha fight show boxing bouts at Slough Singh Sabha!

Singh Sabha Southall partnered with Ik Nishana and Singh Sabha Slough to host the largest inter-Gurdwara boxing show in the UK at the latter's sports facility in Berkshire on Saturday 6 May.

More than fifty young people from across the country competed in matches and put on a display that will help to encourage take-up of the sport amongst Sikh generations of today and those yet to come.



Beast Fight Team

Striking, BJJ & MMA classes from the Beast Fight Team are held at Singh Sabha Southall's Norwood Hall every single day of the week!

See the timetable of classes at [instagram.com/beast.fight.team](https://www.instagram.com/beast.fight.team)

PANTHIC VISION

2023: 20 YEARS OF GURU NANAK ROAD GURDWARA

NEW IDEAS - NEW PROJECTS - NEW START

Gurdwara
Sri Guru Singh Sabha
Southall

GENERAL BODY MEETING and other notices

General Body meeting

On Sunday 26 February, Singh Sabha Southall held its General Body meeting which was attended by 172 members. During the meeting, the General Secretary and Treasurer presented their report; copies are available for download from the Sabha website at: <https://sgsss.org/constitution-report/>.

The General Body passed a motion calling for the immediate unconditional release of political prisoners in India. The motion was proposed by members who expressed their concerns over the continued imprisonment of Sikhs who have already served their sentences. The members called on the Indian authorities to take action and release these prisoners.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the members who attended and participated in the meeting. Their support and involvement are greatly appreciated. The general body meeting can be watched back in entirety on our YouTube channel at: <https://youtu.be/6-OJAu6iOHU>

Sant Baba Mann Singh ji (1942-2023)

Sant Baba Mann Singh ji left this world last month. Baba ji played an integral role in the reconstruction of the Guru Nanak Road Gurdwara site (formerly known as Havelock Road) which reopened in 2023.

Sardar Balwant Singh Gill (1929-2023)

It is with a heavy heart we share the news that Sardar Balwant Singh Gill passed away back in February. Balwant Singh (pictured above) was a founding trustee of Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall and instrumental in the setting up of the Sabha.

Sevadar training

Singh Sabha Southall sevadars underwent food and hygiene training at our Park Avenue site in April. We value our staff and will continue to invest in them in future.



Stay up to date with what's happening at Singh Sabha Southall with the latest news and happenings via Whatsapp and email. Sign up at <https://sgsss.org/latest-news/>

Current vacancies at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall: sgsss.org/vacancies/

GENERAL MANAGER - Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall (Park Avenue & Guru Nanak Road Gurdwara)

We are seeking a highly motivated and organised individual to join our team as a General Manager. The role plays a crucial role in ensuring smooth and efficient operations of the Gurdwara facilities and services. This is a full-time position, with competitive compensation and benefits. If you are a dedicated and experience operations professional, who has strong leadership capabilities, we encourage you to apply for this exciting opportunity to serve the Gurdwara community.

Apply with CV and one page cover letter to: Harmeet@sgsss.org [Reference: General Manager]

LIBRARIAN - Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall (Guru Nanak Road Gurdwara)

A new librarian is required to help develop the library of Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall, which includes a vast amount of rare and out of print literature on Sikh scriptures, arts and traditions. This job will entail the librarian to create a new accessible cataloguing system using modern technology to make the library more accessible to the sangat and researchers.

Flexible Hours, can be part or full time; can be on a volunteer basis and if required, remuneration based on experience.

To apply contact: Park Avenue Gurdwara office or email Harmeet@sgsss.org

CARETAKER - all sites at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall

Work includes plumbing, electrical, painting, decorating; assembling furniture or equipment; maintaining property and exterior; building and repair works; assist with health and safety practices; gardening and landscaping installation and maintenance.

Hours are flexible, remuneration is competitive based on experience

For all applications, please contact the Park Avenue Office 0208 574 8901 / info@sgsss.org

CLEANER - Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall (Park Avenue & Guru Nanak Road Gurdwara)

Proven working experience as a cleaner is not a requirement – we are looking for a trustworthy and reliable individual with a can-do attitude who is comfortable working in a hands-on role; passionate about creating a positive, clean and safe environment; strong interpersonal and problem-solving abilities; and is highly responsible and reliable.

Flexible shifts including weekends between 9am-6pm; can be on a volunteer basis, if required remuneration based on experience

All applicants must be eligible to live and work in the UK, without restrictions.

To apply contact: Park Avenue Gurdwara office or email: Karamjit@sgsss.org



Volunteer with us

If you can help provide seva to improve communication with the Sangat, email:

info@sgsss.org

Visit our website at

<https://sgsss.org>

Follow our social media channels at

[@sgsssouthall](https://www.instagram.com/sgsssouthall)

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