

# Shree Jalaram Mandir - Greenford

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Mail us at : info@jalarammandir.co.uk Live Broadcasting at : www.jalaram.tv

Website : www.jalarammandir.co.uk / www.jalaram.org.uk / www.jalarammandir.info

Diwali Samvat 2067

26th October 2011

Issue No. 05



*You are cordially invited to attend the following forthcoming events  
with family and friends*

## Diwali Programme

Chopada Poojan : Wednesday 26th October 2011 - 8 to 10 pm

Nutan Varsh Annakut Darshan : Thursday 27th October 2011 - 8 to 11 am and 12 noon to 9 pm

Aarti : every hour from 2.30 to 6.30 pm

## Jalaram Jayanti 5 Days Celebration Programme

Day 1 : Jalaram Jayanti - Wednesday 2nd Nov 2011 :

- Paduka Poojan / Aarti / Bhajan / Dhoon : 9 to 12 noon;
- Raj Bhog Annakut Darshan : 12 noon to 10 pm;
- Jalaram Aakhyaan (Narration of Jalaram Bapa's Life History in Hindi & Gujarati) : 2.30 to 5 pm
- Thaal and Aarti : 5 to 6 pm; ● Cake cutting / Bhajan / Dhoon : 6.30 to 10 pm;
- Prasad : 12 noon to 8 pm.

Day 2 : Jalaram Jayanti - Thursday 3rd November 2011 :

- Jalaram Aakhyaan : 2.30 - 5.30 pm; ● Thaal and Aarti : 5.30 - 6 pm;
- Maha Aarti : 7.30 pm; ● Prasad : 6.30 - 9 pm;
- Bhajan by Valjibhai Davda & Parivar : 8 - 10 pm.

Day 3 : Jalaram Jayanti : Friday 4th November 2011

- Jalaram Aakhyaan : 2.30 - 5.30 pm;
- Thaal and Aarti : 5.30 - 6 pm;
- Maha Aarti / Bhajan / Prasad : 6.30 - 8.30 pm.

Day 4 : Jalaram Jayanti - Saturday 5th November 2011 :

- Bhajan & Dhoon from 2.30 pm - 5.15 pm
- 5 One Act Plays on Jalaram Bapa's Life History : 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm  
at Coston Primary School, Oldfield Lane South, Greenford;
- Prasad at Jalaram Mandir : 7.30 pm - 9 pm.

Day 5 : Jalaram Jayanti - Sunday 6th November 2011 :

- Tulsi Vivah Celebration with Lagna Geet by Aditiben & Party : 2.30 - 5.30 pm.
- Aarti / Thaal / Bhajan / Prasad : 5.30 to 8 pm.

Some of the events will be Broadcast Live on [www.jalaram.tv](http://www.jalaram.tv)



**Season's Greetings  
to all our Readers from  
the Editorial Board**

Cllr. Dhiraj Kataria,  
Cllr. Rajni C. Khiroya  
Prakash Gandecha  
Amritbhai Rajani  
Dr. Jayu Morjaria



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## President's Message

**Jai Shree Krishna & Jai Jalaram,**

The Board of RAMA has pleasure in sending you this Diwali edition of the Newsletter which we hope you will find of interest. The Board has committed to launch these regular newsletters which have been extremely popular with the devotees.

Our objective is to keep you connected and informed about our Mandir and bearing that in mind a new website and Jalaram TV have been launched in order that our devotees are able to keep in contact with the Mandir and can participate in regular activities. The website enables all the devotees to watch live Aarti on Thursdays, Saturdays and on special event days which can be viewed in any part of the world.

The Board's objective when it was elected in October 2008 was to make the Greenford Mandir, "Virpur of Europe", It could only do this by attracting more devotees on a daily basis and especially on Thursday evenings and also on Saturday mornings when 21 Hanuman Chalisa are recited. In order to achieve this, immediate refurbishment of the Mandir was taken up and areas which required updating were completed, bearing in mind that the health and safety of the devotees was the prime concern.

Requests were regularly made as to why the Mandir could not serve lunches seven days a week as the devotees felt that the new board were ready to take on this challenge. With the blessings of Bapa, Sadavarat (serving free meals every day) commenced on 9th January 2010. It gives me great pleasure to announce that we now have approximately 200 devotees attending the lunch daily and on Thursdays we sometimes reached 1000 devotees attending Lunch and Dinner. The Mandir also continues to have sponsored Bhajans on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

The Board's commitment is to be completely transparent in all financial aspects of the Mandir and to this end regular financial updates have been provided to the devotees through the website and newsletters. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the current surplus as at 30th September 2011 stood at £464,477 compared to a surplus of £5376 as at 31st December 2008. The Board's commitment to submitting yearly accounts to the Charity Commission on time has been achieved.

The current Board has the vision to expand the Mandir in the future in order to provide sufficient and acceptable facilities for the devotees. I am very pleased to announce that the first step was taken last year by purchasing the next door property for the sum of £340,000. The property consists of 2 separate flats, one of which is allocated to the Pujari and his family, the other has been let out at a market rental.

May I take this opportunity to thank the entire Board and the many volunteers who have helped the Mandir in achieving its goals.

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Diwali and a Prosperous New Year .

Jai Jalaram

**Clr. Rajni C. Khiroya**

President / The Board of Trustees RAMA





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## Shree Jalaram Jayanti and Tenth Anniversary Celebrations

According to Hinduism, there are four elements to our lives: Kam (pleasure), Artha (money making), Dharma (duty) and Moksha (spirituality).



Of the billions of human beings who are on this earth, and others who have gone, occasionally some unique souls are born who do not conform to this. These souls focus purely upon Dharma and Moksha. Such souls take on the world's problems, extend their humanity to the downtrodden and the oppressed of the world. They also focus upon divine element within human beings and constantly derive their inspiration from the Almighty God.

India has been lucky through all the millennia that such souls take birth on its soil from time to time. To cite only a few: Gautama Budha, Shankracharya, Vallabhacharya, Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, Narsinh Mehta, Mirabai, Tulsidas, Swami Vivekananda, Ramkrishna Paramhans, Sant Tukram. **Shree Jalaram Bapa** was in this category. Like them, he was a Divine Soul; but, unlike them, he also spent his life in the service of his fellow humans, for feeding the hungry masses was his life's mission.

Jalaram Bapa had at a young age become a Divine soul and his whole adult life of some sixty one years was spent in the service of his fellow humans. In this mammoth task, **Pujya Virbaima** was his support. Every year, we celebrate the anniversary of Bapa's birth as Jalaram Jayanti. In November 2010, we had double celebration, because it was also the Tenth Anniversary of the opening of the Mandir.

We had a five day programme which started on Wednesday 10th November 2010 and ended on Sunday 14th November 2010. Over three days, from Wednesday to Friday, our resident pujari Shree Piyushbhai Mehta recited the life history of Shree Jalaram Bapa. The Almighty gives unique gifts to some people. He has given recital skills to some eminent persons like Shree Morari Bapu. Our Piyushbhai has similar skills in reciting the religious scriptures and in presenting to the audience vivid sketches of life histories of our saints.



On the first day, we started with Pothi Puja and Yatra. It is relevant here to explain why we have 'Pothi Puja'. It is said that when Lord Krishna departed from this earth, he transferred all his divine skills and powers to Shrimad Bhagwat so that for generations to come, Hindus can derive inspiration from it. Further, Valmiki the author of the original Ramayana has stated that the Ramayana has the innate spirit of Lord Rama. So these holy books have special significance for Hindus and when any long religious function begins, we honour these holy books. After this, we had garbas followed by satsang, which included Bapa's Bavni. Shree Piyushbhai explained about the previous life of Jalaram Bapa, in which he was known as Apa Jala. It was his desire to feed the hungry and so he said he would take another birth and complete this unfulfilled desire.





## Shree Jalaram Jayanti and Tenth Anniversary Celebrations

On the second day, Piyushbhai recited the early life of Bapa. Jalaram Bapa was born in Virpur in the Lohana caste. In his early age, a Sadhu who visited home of his parents gave blessing that the child would grow to be a very special soul. The highlight of the Aakhyaan was dramatisation of Bapa's marriage with Pujya Virbaimaa with proper Mandap and Jaan. A huge Rotlo was prepared and displayed to show its significance. Piyushbhai explained about the life of Bhojalaram Bapa, who was Bapa's Guru and an eminent person in his own right. Bapa's Sadavrat flourished but at a great cost to him for to feed the thousands, money was needed, which was difficult to come by. Bapa used to work in a field and from the meager wages buy food grains to feed. The situation became so serious that Virbaima had to sell her jewellery to buy food grains. The Sadavrat which was started in 1821 withstood such trying tests, flourished and is there to this day, feeding the hungry and the impoverished.

On the third day, Piyushbhai gave examples of miraculous powers of Bapa who was able to make major impact upon the lives of some people who were in physical and other pains. These are all elaborated in the article written for our Tenth Anniversary Souvenir; the article can be downloaded from our website.

On Saturday 13th November 2010, we celebrated the Jalaram Jayanti. The day started at 8 am, with a mind blowing Annakut Darshan and continued till late. The non-stop Dhoon and Bhajans in Aditiben's melodious voice were a treat to listen to. The main hall of the Mandir was packed and the marquee outside was also full. Bapa's birthday cake cutting ceremony was an extra attraction. The day's ceremony concluded with a Maha Aarti followed by Bhajan Prasad. Prasad was served throughout the day. Over 2500 devotees took part in this memorable day's proceedings.

On Sunday 14th November 2010, we took a procession from the Mandir, through the side streets, to the Greenford Town Hall. A forty feet long articulated truck was superbly decorated by Chandubhai Ruparelia and his team working together with mandir volunteers. Murti of Shree Jalaram Bapa was placed on a colourful decorated pedestal. Shastri Shree Piyushbhai and Shree Prabhashankerbhai were on each side of Bapa's Murti accompanied by President Shree Rajnibhai. Shree Palkeshbhai sang Bapa's Bhajan. A large number of devotees sat cross-legged singing and chanting. No doubt the truck was transformed into Bapa's Mandir on Wheels. Bapa's Murti was taken to the Greenford Town Hall and installed with a lot of fanfare.





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The programme started with Baal Nrutya performed by 5 to 10 year old girls followed by 3 One Act plays on Bapa's 3 different parchas (miracles) and Bhajans by Rohiniben. The function at the Greenford town Hall was attended by more than a hundred dignitaries, which included Members of Parliament Rt.Hon.Stephen Pound MP and Lord Dolar Popat of Stanmore, Councillors, Shree CB Patel, Jashbhai Saheb, Shantoo Ruparell, Dilipbhai Lakhani and others.

A 96 page souvenir was published for which the Editorial Committee headed by Councillor Dhirajbhai Kataria was ably assisted by Rinaben Manish Popat, Rashmibhai Chatwani, Pravinbhai Morjaria, Amritbhai Rajani and many others who worked tremendously hard. The Souvenir contains an 8 page article on Bapa's life written by Dhirajbhai Kataria.

## Visit to Mandir by School Children, Boy Scouts and Residents of Care Homes :

We have had various groups visiting the mandir. They were all warmly welcomed. Children were given snacks or fruits and soft drinks and then taken to the Mandir Prayer Hall. They were given information about our mandir, Pujya Bapa and his mission, Hindu Gods and rituals and their questions answered. The Edward Betham School groups were so satisfied that they have requested to make this a regular feature in the ensuing school term. Our ladies of the Activity Group sang Bhajan for the elderly, got them to participate in Aarti and then served them Prasad. Carers and relatives of few of these elderly visitors, accompanying them spoke highly of the Mandir, its activities and the compassion showed to them. They were really touched by the Mandir's gesture.



## Diary of some important past events at the Mandir :

- Maha Shivratri was celebrated on 02.03.2011 with Full Day Abhishek & Mid night Maha Pooja.
- Chaitri Navratri was celebrated from 4.4.2011 to 12.04.2011 with evening Garba.
- Shree Ram Navmi was celebrated on 12.04.2011 by Shree Ram Bhajans, Aarti, Utsav and Parnu
- Hanuman Jayanti on 18.04.2011. We had Hanuman Pooja & Recitation of 108 Hanuman Chalisa.
- Samyukta Randal Pooja was celebrated on 05-06-2011 with 28 Lotas, Bhajan, Dhoon & Jagran.
- Guru Purnima was celebrated on 15.07.2011 with Bapa's Paduka Poojan, Bhajan and Kirtan.
- Raksha Bandhan was celebrated on 13.08.2011 and Pratisthapan of New Murtis done.
- India Independence was celebrated on 15.08.2011 with Dhvaj Vandan.
- Janmashthami was celebrated on 22.08.2011 with Aditiben's Bhajans, Nandotsava and Aarti at midnight.
- Children's Bhajan Programme was celebrated on Sunday 24.07.2011.
- Navratri & Dashera celebrated from 28.09.11 to 6.10.11 with evening garbas,
- Durgashthami Havan was performed on 4.10.2011 and Sharad Purnima Raas on 11.10.11.





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## Shree Jalaram Aakhyaan, Shri Ram Parayan and Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah



Deliverance of religious discourses remain an important activity in a mandir's schedule. Since last Jalaram Jayanti celebration, we have had Jalaram Aakhyaan in April 2011, Ram Katha in August 2011 and Bhagwat Saptah in September 2011, over and above numerous and varied mandir's activities.

Ramayan is an in depth study of inter personal relations between various characters which Piyushbhai explains in an erudite way. Shri Ramayan and Shrimad Bhagwat are two of the four most popular religious books amongst us Hindus. The other two being Shree Bhagwat Geeta and Shree Mahabharat. For the Mandir, Jalaram Aakhyaan is also very important as it spreads the message of Bapa far and wide. We had tremendous response and the Mandir Hall was always packed for all these discourses. We have also had a number of dignitaries attending these Kathas.

Shree Piyushbhai's narrations flow naturally and he holds the audience captivated. Shree Palkeshbhai conducts all the Poojas ably, explains the rituals well and has a lovely singing voice. Our ladies of the Activity Group help in dramatisation of all prasang during the Kathas. They bring life to the Katha and get spontaneous audience participation. The list of dramatisation runs long viz Shiv Parvati Vivah, Ram Sita Vivah, Rukshmani Vivah, Krishna, Ram or Vaman Janma, Nrisinh Avtar, Rameshwar Sthapana, Ram Rajya Sthaapana, Govardhan Pooja, Shabri and Kevat Prasang, etc. Thus there was all fun and fare and the audience had the in depth message of these scriptures delivered to them in a very pleasant and palatable way. With the Live Telecast, a large number of people have enjoyed these events sitting at home here and abroad. We have had very positive and some touching feed backs about this service.





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## Summer Cultural Classes



The Summer Cultural Classes for Children and Adults conducted by Shree Piyushbhai, Shree Palkeshbhai, Shree Amritbhai Rajani and Dr. Shree Jayu Morjaria were held on five Friday mornings during the Summer vacation of 2011. Over thirty children and fifteen adults participated. They were taught common Mantras, given information about various Hindu Gods, Hindu Festivals, Hindu Calendar, etc. Some Yog Aasans and Mudras were also taught. Adult participants were filled in with greater details of the subject under discussion. Children were

also auditioned for dramatisation of Bapa's Parcha. Those selected are being prepared for final presentation, date and time of which will be announced when finalised. The whole programme was very well received and enjoyed by the participants.

## Open Forum Discussion on "What is Hinduism"

Based on well known Question Time model, Open Forum Discussion was hosted at the Mandir on four Saturday evenings in August and September 2011. Devotees took part with a panel under Chairmanship of Shree Prakashbhai Gandecha Trustee with esteem panel consisting of Shree Piyushbhai Mehta, Shree Palkeshbhai Trivedi our learned scholarly shastris of the Mandir, Shree Kishanbhai Devani, a learned scholar and teacher, Smt. Bhartiben Tailor of Hindu Forum of Britain and Europe with guest panel member our own Trustee Shree Amritbhai Rajani. Various topics were discussed "Who is a Hindu?", "What is the law of Karma?", "What is cause of some young Hindus losing faith in religion?" and "What attracts one to Hinduism?" After the four successful sessions new dates and topics will be announced so do keep a look out for dates in the future."





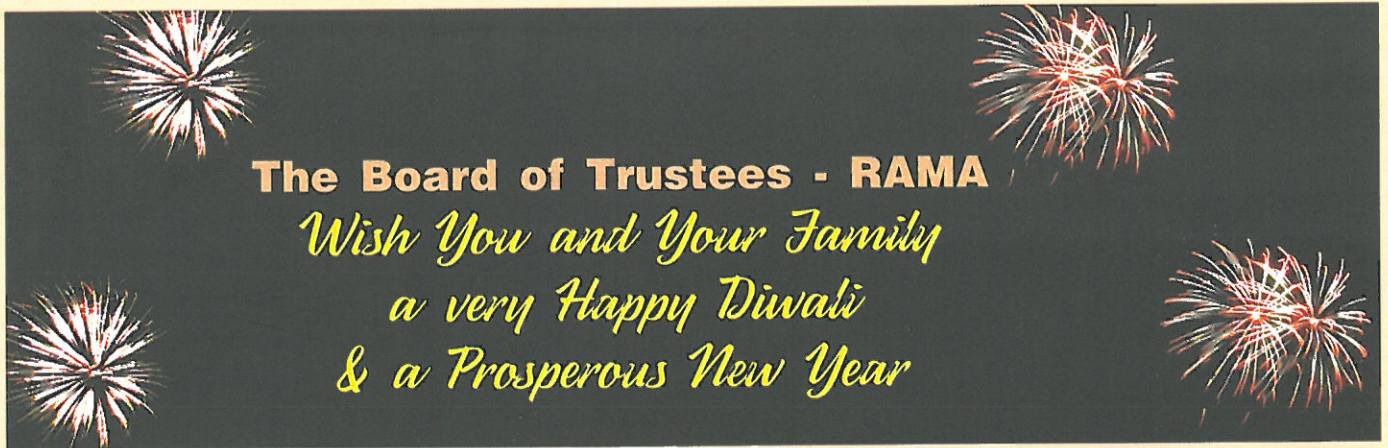
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## Shree Jalaram Mandir Greenford - Unaudited Management Summary 9 months ending 30 September 2011

Income		
	Donations & Collections	362,517
	Tax Refunds	25,273
	Rent Received	7,400
Total Income		395,190
Less Expenses		
	Wages	122,152
	Catering & Related Costs	59,738
	Running Costs	108,607
Total Expenses		290,497
Net Surplus for the Period		104,693
Dated - 08/10/2011		

## RAMA Shree Jalaram Mandir Greenford - Financial Summary

Period - Ended	Notes	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/(Shortfall)	Cumulative
31.12.08	1				£5,376
31.12.09	1	£372,815	£217,409	£155,406	£160,782
31.12.10	1	£571,359	£372,084	£199,275	£360,057
30.09.11	2	£395,190	£290,497	£104,693	£464,750
Notes	1. As per Audited Accounts 2. Unaudited Draft Management Report				



### The Board of Trustees - RAMA

Cllr. Rajni C. Khuroya  
Rashmi Chatwani  
Manish Popat  
Sharad T. Bhimjiyani  
Mansukh Morjaria  
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