BHARTIYA SAMAJ CHARITABLE TRUST

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

EDITION: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2026

BSCT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES: JULY–SEPTEMBER 2026

- Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Wellness, Awareness & Community Connection
- Papakura Seniors Meeting – Learning, Support & Community Connection
- High Commissioner Meets Queenstown Community
- BSCT Women Empowerment Group – Teej Celebration & Wellness
- Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Wellbeing, Health & Cultural Celebration
- Bal Vikas Celebrates India's 80th Independence Day
- Celebrating India's 80th Independence Day in Auckland
- Mount Roskill Seniors Meeting – Learning, Recognition & Community Connection
- Papakura Women Empowerment Group – Wellbeing, Family Values & Connection
- Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Culture, Community & Connection
- India@Auckland: Connecting Communities, Creating Opportunities
- Janmashtami Celebration at BAPS
- Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Culture, Community & Connection
- Mount Roskill Seniors Meeting – Culture, Wellbeing & Community Connection
- International Day of Older Persons 2026

Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Wellness, Awareness & Community Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Flatbush Seniors gathered in July 2026 at the Old Flatbush School Hall for a vibrant morning filled with connection, learning, and entertainment.
The gathering included a refreshing exercise session led by Mohini Gathania ji, encouraging seniors to stay active and energetic. Roshni Chadha ji, Project Manager of BSCT, also shared an important scam awareness message, with seniors actively participating and sharing their own experiences.
The group was further entertained by Amita Bhojak ji, whose melodious singing was warmly appreciated. Our talented seniors also showcased their creativity through poetry, singing, and dancing, creating a lively atmosphere filled with laughter and togetherness.
It was a wonderful gathering that celebrated wellbeing, awareness, friendship, and community spirit among our Flatbush seniors.





Papakura Seniors Meeting – Learning, Support & Community Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Papakura Seniors enjoyed an engaging gathering focused on learning, support, wellbeing, and community connection.
Key highlights included an informative presentation by JSR Homecare Services on culturally responsive homecare, multilingual caregivers, and government-funded and private homecare options available to older adults.
Deep Walia and Rashmin Singh shared valuable information about the property market and answered questions from members. Seniors also participated in a digital learning workshop led by Paul MacQuibban and Bhaj from Papakura Library & Auckland Council Services, building confidence in using technology and accessing useful online services.
The gathering also featured a lively dance performance and musical entertainment, creating a warm and positive atmosphere of friendship and togetherness.






High Commissioner Meets Queenstown Community

High Commissioner Muanpuii Saiawi met with community members in Queenstown to discuss important consular and community matters. The event was organised by Bhartiya Samaj Queenstown Charitable Trust, providing an opportunity for community members to connect, raise questions, and engage in meaningful discussion.







BSCT Women Empowerment Group – Teej Celebration & Wellness

The BSCT Women Empowerment Group came together for a vibrant session celebrating culture, wellness, and community connection.
A refreshing yoga session promoted health, mindfulness, and wellbeing, followed by the highlight of the gathering: a joyful Teej Festival celebration.
Members embraced the festive spirit through a creative play showcasing the significance of Teej and celebrating our rich cultural traditions.
The session provided a wonderful opportunity for women to connect, participate, and strengthen friendships while celebrating culture, wellbeing and togetherness.







Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Wellbeing, Health & Cultural Celebration

Bhartiya Samaj Flatbush Seniors came together for an engaging gathering focused on wellbeing, health, entertainment and community connection.
The programme included an energising exercise session led by Mohini Gathania ji, encouraging seniors to stay active and healthy. Navneet Kaur and Lhia Acuna from Auckland Pain Management Clinic shared valuable information about pain management services and available support, followed by an interactive question-and-answer session with members.
Seniors also enjoyed a lively game of Tambola, creating plenty of fun and laughter. The cultural highlight was a melodious musical performance by Kanchan Kapania ji, featuring a special tribute ahead of Indian Independence Day and bringing a strong sense of pride and patriotic spirit.
The gathering was a wonderful celebration of healthy ageing, cultural pride, friendship and togetherness.





Bal Vikas Celebrates India's 80th Independence Day

Bal Vikas celebrated India's 80th Independence Day with pride, enthusiasm and cultural spirit. Children showcased their learning about India's history by wearing traditional Indian attire and proudly singing the Indian and New Zealand National Anthems.
The celebration included patriotic songs such as Ae Watan, along with a prize-giving ceremony recognising children who participated in the Generations in Play and Matariki events.
The children also enjoyed music, dancing and fun activities, making it a memorable celebration of Indian heritage, culture and identity.
हमारी पहचान, हमारी संस्कृति, हमारा गौरव।
जय हिन्द!





Celebrating India's 80th Independence Day in Auckland

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust proudly joined the Auckland Indian community in celebrating India's 80th Independence Day with pride, unity and cultural spirit.
A special highlight was the participation of our BSCT Seniors Group, who performed a vibrant Giddha performance on stage. Their energy, confidence and enthusiasm were warmly appreciated by the audience, showcasing that age is never a barrier to participation and cultural expression.
The celebration featured a range of cultural performances, highlighting India's rich heritage and diversity and bringing the community together in a spirit of unity and togetherness.









Mount Roskill Seniors Meeting – Learning, Recognition & Community Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Mount Roskill members came together for an engaging gathering focused on learning, wellbeing, recognition and community connection.
A key highlight was an informative session on Enduring Power of Attorney, led by Jyoti Parashar, KSM, JP, Registered Social Worker specialising in elder abuse at Age Concern Auckland, and Aatir Zaidi, Manager, Social Connections. The interactive Q&A session provided seniors with practical information and an opportunity to ask questions about matters important to seniors and their families.
BSCT also proudly recognised the seniors who performed Giddha at the 15 August Independence Day celebration, acknowledging their enthusiasm and contribution.
The gathering continued with songs and entertainment by our talented seniors, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere of friendship, learning and togetherness.







Papakura Women Empowerment Group – Wellbeing, Family Values & Connection

The Papakura Women Empowerment Group came together for a meaningful session focused on wellbeing, family values and community connection.
The session included yoga and exercises inspired by Janmashtami, promoting physical wellbeing, mindfulness and positivity. Members also participated in a fun family themed activity that encouraged communication, connection and positive relationships.
The gathering provided a warm opportunity for women to learn, connect, share laughter and strengthen friendships within the community.





Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Culture, Community & Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Flatbush Seniors came together for a vibrant gathering focused on wellbeing, community engagement, cultural celebrations and connection.
The programme included an energising exercise session led by Mohini Gathania ji, encouraging seniors to stay active and healthy. Howick Local Board Chairperson Bruce Kendall MBE, Deputy Chairperson Kai Zeng and Board Member Damian Light joined the gathering and spoke about local services and upcoming projects. An open Q&A session gave seniors an opportunity to ask questions, share their experiences and discuss matters important to their community.
The gathering also celebrated Krishna Janmashtami, Teachers' Day and Father's Day, with our seniors sharing their talents through music and songs. A fun Bollywood memory game added laughter and encouraged seniors to recall favourite films and songs.
The gathering highlighted the importance of healthy ageing, cultural connection, community participation and friendship, bringing seniors together in a warm and welcoming environment.





India@Auckland: Connecting Communities, Creating Opportunities

It was an honour to attend India@Auckland, marking two years since the establishment of the Consulate General of India in Auckland.
We extend our congratulations to Dr Madan Mohan Sethi, Consul General of India, and the Consulate team on this milestone and on their continued efforts to strengthen connections between India and New Zealand.







Janmashtami Celebration at BAPS

I was honoured to attend the wonderful Janmashtami celebration at BAPS and had a truly enjoyable time. I was especially impressed by the children and the excellent cultural and spiritual teachings and values they are receiving through BAPS Avondale.
It was also a privilege to attend alongside the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Rt Hon Christopher Luxon.
My sincere thanks to the BAPS management and volunteers for organising such a memorable celebration and for inviting me to be part of this special occasion.



Flatbush Seniors Gathering – Culture, Community & Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Flatbush Seniors came together for a vibrant gathering focused on wellbeing, community connection and cultural celebration.
The programme included an energising exercise session led by Mohini Gathania ji. Howick Local Board Chairperson Bruce Kendall MBE, Deputy Chairperson Kai Zeng and Board Member Damian Light joined the gathering and shared information about local services and upcoming projects, followed by an interactive Q&A with seniors.
The gathering also celebrated Krishna Janmashtami, Teachers' Day and Father's Day, with seniors sharing their talents through music and songs. A fun Bollywood memory game added laughter and brought back wonderful memories.
The gathering highlighted healthy ageing, cultural connection, community participation and friendship.







Mount Roskill Seniors Meeting – Culture, Wellbeing & Community Connection

Bhartiya Samaj Mount Roskill Seniors came together for a vibrant gathering celebrating culture, wellbeing and community connection.
A special highlight was the book launch by Dr Ved Vrat Alok Ji, followed by an energising yoga session. Michael Wood also joined the gathering and spent time connecting with our senior community.
Seniors showcased their talents through cultural performances celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi and Janmashtami, along with singing and entertainment. The Roopa Aur Aap Charitable Trust workshop featured engaging picture based puzzles encouraging memory, concentration and teamwork.
The gathering was a wonderful opportunity for seniors to stay active, celebrate culture and enjoy friendship and togetherness.








International Day of Older Persons 2026

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust celebrated the International Day of Older Persons with a special gathering recognising the valuable contributions, wisdom and experiences of our seniors.
The event was attended by Dr Madan Mohan Sethi, Consul General of India, Ella Kumar, Chair Puketāpapa Local Board, Brendan Larmer, Fiona Lai, Dr Carlos Cheung MP, Michael Wood, Kevin from New Zealand Police and Dinesh Khadka, President of NZ Nepal Society.
Highlights included a special Bal Vikas performance dedicated to grandparents, a lively skit by our seniors coordinated by Gurdev Kaur Ji, and a vibrant performance by Khottey Sikke.
Seniors also enjoyed a Best Dressed competition, music, dancing and entertainment.
The celebration brought together different generations and highlighted the importance of respecting, valuing and celebrating our older persons.




