

BHARTIYA SAMAJ

CHARITABLE TRUST

NEWSLETTER



EDITION: APRIL – JUNE 2026

BSCT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES – 2026

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🌾 Celebrating Vaisakhi, Culture & Community Spirit in Mount Roskill 🌾

In April 2026, BSCT Mount Roskill brought the community together at the Mount Roskill War Memorial Hall to celebrate the joyous festival of Vaisakhi. The celebration was filled with friendship, laughter, and cultural connection as seniors showcased their hidden talents through singing, storytelling, mimicry, and lively dance performances. Vicky Chan from Unichem Pakuranga Pharmacy and her team supported the event by providing free flu vaccinations for senior members, promoting health and wellbeing within the community. The celebration was a memorable occasion that strengthened cultural pride, community bonds, and togetherness among members.



🌸 Women's Growth & Connection 🌸

In April 2026, BSCT Papakura brought women together for a meaningful programme that promoted confidence, creativity, and skill development. Participants enjoyed a prayer, birthday celebrations, mehndi (henna) art, and a knitting session, providing opportunities to learn new skills, build self-confidence, and connect in a supportive and welcoming environment. The programme strengthened community connections and empowered women through shared learning, participation, and friendship.



🙏 Celebrating Culture, Wellbeing & Togetherness in Papakura 🙏

In April 2026, BSCT Papakura brought the community together for a vibrant celebration of Easter and Baisakhi, promoting cultural pride, wellbeing, and meaningful social connections. Participants enjoyed yoga, interactive games, riddles, musical performances, and a thoughtful discussion on protecting Mother Nature. A heartfelt farewell to Vasudev Bhai Ji and Jaswinder Ji added a special touch to the day, while the energetic Baisakhi bhangra created a joyful atmosphere, strengthening friendship, unity, and community spirit.



🌟 Celebrating Contributions and Promoting Healthy Ageing 🌟

In April 2026, BSCT Mt Roskill brought seniors together for a meaningful gathering that combined remembrance, wellbeing, and community connection. The programme included prayers, birthday celebrations, a welcome for new members, and a special ANZAC Day tribute honouring those who served. An Honour Award was presented to Godrej Engineer Ji in recognition of his valuable contribution to the community. Participants also benefited from a Falls Prevention Awareness Workshop, gaining practical knowledge to support safe and independent living. The gathering concluded with learning, friendship, and a renewed sense of community spirit.



🎉 New Chapter Established in Taranaki 🎉

Today marks a proud milestone for Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust with the establishment of a new chapter in Taranaki. This achievement reflects the dedication, teamwork, and commitment of everyone involved. A heartfelt congratulations is extended to the Taranaki team for their efforts in making this milestone possible. We look forward to new beginnings, continued growth, and many more successes ahead.



🌸 Mother's Day Celebration in Flat Bush 🌸

In May 2026, BSCT Flatbush brought seniors together for a heartfelt Mother's Day celebration, honouring the love, care, and strength of mothers and those who hold a motherly role in our lives. The gathering included prayers, birthday celebrations, light exercise, and meaningful sharing through poetry, songs, and personal stories dedicated to mothers. The Happy Minds Workshop, facilitated by the Roopa Aur Aap Charitable Trust team, encouraged participation and positivity through an engaging Word Making Challenge. The celebration created a warm and joyful atmosphere, strengthening compassion, connection, and community bonds among seniors.



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BSCT Mother's Day Celebrations

In May 2026, BSCT celebrated Mother's Day across Bal Vikas, Mt Roskill, and Papakura, honouring mothers and motherly figures with love, gratitude, and appreciation. The Bal Vikas celebration featured dance, Bollywood sessions, ramp walks, and fun activities, creating an energetic atmosphere for children. Mt Roskill seniors enjoyed prayer, yoga, birthday celebrations, and heartfelt sharing through songs and poetry dedicated to mothers. Papakura seniors celebrated with cultural performances, poetry on "Maa Ka Pyar," songs, Bhangra, and emotional memories shared by participants. Together, all centres celebrated the love of mothers while strengthening cultural connections and community spirit.



Building Connections in Mt Roskill

In May 2026, BSCT Mt Roskill brought seniors together at the Mount Roskill War Memorial Hall for a joyful gathering focused on wellbeing, participation, and social connection. The programme included prayer, birthday celebrations, a light exercise session, and participation in the Auckland Council Quality of Life Survey for older adults. Seniors enjoyed the engaging "Race Through Cups" team activity and entertained everyone with their musical talents, creating a warm atmosphere filled with laughter, friendship, and community spirit. The gathering supported active ageing and strengthened meaningful connections among seniors.



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👴 Generations in Play 👵

In June 2026, BSCT, with the support of Welcoming Communities and the Puketāpapa Local Board, hosted Generations in Play at the Fickling Convention Centre, bringing grandparents, parents, and grandchildren together for a day of connection, culture, and celebration. The programme featured storytelling, cultural performances, stitching and embroidery, mehndi art, traditional games such as Kho-Kho, Kanche, and Stapoo, along with intergenerational dance performances. The event created opportunities for generations to share skills, traditions, and memories, strengthening family bonds and cultural heritage while promoting learning, play, and community participation.



💖 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2026 🛡️

On 13 June 2026, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust brought together seniors from its Mount Roskill, Flatbush, and Papakura branches at the Mount Roskill War Memorial Hall to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The event promoted the importance of protecting the rights, dignity, and wellbeing of older people while reinforcing that elder abuse in any form is unacceptable.

The programme included prayer, birthday celebrations, an exercise session, interactive games, and cultural performances by children and community groups. BSCT was honoured by the presence of local dignitaries, community leaders, and partner organisations, whose support highlighted the importance of standing together against elder abuse. A senior-led Elder Abuse Awareness Rally and a powerful skit delivered a strong message of respect, protection, and inclusion for older people.

The event was a meaningful success, bringing the community together to celebrate, educate, and advocate for the safety and wellbeing of seniors.



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🧘 International Day of Yoga 2026 🧘

On 21 June 2026, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust proudly participated in the International Day of Yoga celebrations at the Mahatma Gandhi Centre, Auckland, organised by the Consulate General of India in Auckland in collaboration with community partners.

The event brought together people from diverse backgrounds to celebrate the benefits of yoga for physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. It was an inspiring occasion that promoted health, mindfulness, and unity while highlighting the importance of yoga in building healthier and more connected communities.



🌟 Matariki Celebration 2026 🌟

On 27 June 2026, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust celebrated Matariki at the Mount Roskill War Memorial Hall, bringing the community together to reflect, connect, and celebrate new beginnings.

The programme included prayer, birthday celebrations, light exercises, and a special Matariki message. BSCT Bal Vikas students presented the national anthems of Aotearoa and India, poetry, and a cultural performance inspired by the Matariki stars. An interactive Poi-making and "Your Star, Your Story" workshop encouraged seniors to share memories and learn about the significance of Matariki. The event also marked the launch of BSCT's new karaoke programme, with seniors enjoying music and singing together.

The celebration was honoured by the presence of community leaders and guests, making it a memorable occasion that strengthened cultural understanding, community connections, and the spirit of Matariki.



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