

NEWSLETTER

APRIL - JUNE 2025



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BHARTIYA SAMAJ SENIORS CELEBRATE BSAIKHI ACROSS AUCKLAND

SOUTH AUCKLAND SENIORS – A JOYFUL BSAIKHI CELEBRATION- 07 APRIL 2025



South Auckland seniors came together to celebrate Baisakhi with traditional Gidda and Bhangra performances, reflecting the vibrant spirit of Punjabi culture. Poetry and singing added a soulful touch, while the joyful atmosphere brought the community closer in warmth and unity.

MT ROSKILL – FORTNIGHTLY MEETING WITH A BSAIKHI TWIST- 12 APRIL 2025



Held at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall, the bi-weekly seniors' meeting began with prayers and an energetic exercise session led by Ella Ji. April birthdays were celebrated with joy, followed by a lively Baisakhi dance session, poetry, and singing. A delicious lunch and heartfelt thanks to volunteers and Unichem Pakuranga for on-site flu vaccinations rounded off a meaningful day.

PAPAKURA – VAISAKHI & EASTER CELEBRATIONS TOGETHER- 21 APRIL 2025



The Papakura branch came alive with joint celebrations of Vaisakhi and Easter. With birthday wishes, yoga led by Nidhi Ji, and a spiritual address by Acharya Pandit Ajay Tiwari Ji, the gathering was both uplifting and informative. Cr Daniel Newman (Auckland Councillor) praised the organisation's work and pledged his support. The event concluded with joyful music, dance, and a warm community lunch.

BAL VIKAS LANGUAGE & CULTURAL CLASSES – NURTURING ROOTS, INSPIRING JOY!

Bal Vikas Language & Cultural Classes offer a wonderful opportunity for our children to connect with and celebrate our rich cultural heritage in a fun, engaging way. Our goal is to nurture a love for learning while providing vibrant experiences in dance, arts and crafts, sports, cultural music, traditional festivities, and much more ✨



BIHAR DIWAS CELEBRATED IN AUCKLAND FOR THE FIRST TIME!



On 12 April 2025, over 400 people gathered at Beachlands Memorial Hall for Auckland's first-ever Bihar Diwas, hosted by the Bihar Jharkhand Sabha with support from the Consulate General of India.

The event featured traditional food, cultural videos, and inspiring words from High Commissioner Neeta Bhushan and Consul General Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi.



MT ROSKILL SENIORS CELEBRATE LIFE, LEARNING & REMEMBRANCE – 26 APRIL 2025



Our senior meeting at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall began with warm smiles, morning tea, and heartfelt prayers. 🎂 Birthday celebrations and a fun exercise session set a joyful tone, followed by a moving tribute to ANZAC heroes 🇺🇦 and victims of the Pahalgam attack 🕊️. The highlight was an informative Q&A on dementia led by Anjali Patiyal ji (AUT), sparking meaningful discussion. The day ended with singing, dancing, and community joy.



CELEBRATING MOTHER'S DAY ACROSS BHARTIYA SAMAJ BRANCHES

South Auckland Seniors – Heartfelt Tributes and Joyful Moments- 5 May 2025

South Auckland seniors celebrated Mother's Day with high spirits, featuring cheerful games like Passing the Ball, poetry recitations dedicated to mothers, group prayers, and birthday celebrations. An energising exercise session by Mohni Ghatania ji added vitality to the day. We were honoured by the presence of Dr. Ashraf Choudhary ji and Avinash Kaur ji, whose support made the event extra special.



Mt Roskill – A Grand Celebration of Mothers and Community- 10 May 2025

Held at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall, this special senior meeting began with prayers, birthday celebrations, and light exercise. Esteemed guests including Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi ji, Jessica Phuang ji, Mr. Bhav Dhillon ji, and MP Carlos Cheung graced the event with warm wishes. The celebration featured soulful singing by Ruxann ji, dance by seniors, musical tributes by Sudha ji and Dhansukhlal ji, and a vibrant performance by Harika ji. Seniors also shared touching personal tributes to their mothers, making it a deeply emotional and memorable gathering.



Papakura Seniors – Honouring Mothers with Grace and Reflection- 19 May 2025

Papakura seniors marked Mother's Day with a serene morning prayer, birthday celebrations, and a symbolic lamp-lighting ceremony. Guest speaker Mrs. Sindhya Kirpalani, Mrs. NZ awardee, shared an inspiring message on motherhood. The celebration came alive with musical performances by Runa Rai ji, Gopal Bhatia ji, and Prakash Kirpalani ji, along with graceful dances by seniors. Mental health expert Sneh ji led a helpful workshop on dementia and wellness. The event concluded with lunch and warm community conversations.



🌟 Bal Vikas – A Tribute Through Talent, Stories & Togetherness- 11 May 2025

Bal Vikas children, parents, and grandparents gathered to honour mothers with heartfelt stories, prayers, and a Talent Round where mothers and children performed together. Special congratulations to Manali ji and Yuvaan for their winning performance! With loving speeches from Roopa ji and Jeet ji, the day celebrated the strength and sacrifices of mothers, leaving everyone inspired and united.



BSCT FORTNIGHTLY MEETING – A JOYFUL GATHERING!

On 24 May 2025, the Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall buzzed with energy as Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust (BSCT) hosted its vibrant fortnightly meeting. The event began with a warm welcome, prayers, birthday announcements, and new member introductions, followed by morning tea and group exercises.

The highlight was a soulful musical performance by Gopal ji, Runa ji, and their team, lifting everyone's spirits. Seniors joined in with joyful dancing, creating a heartwarming atmosphere of togetherness.

A big thank you to all our dedicated volunteers and participants for making it a truly memorable day!



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY 2025 – A MILESTONE EVENT

Despite the rain, the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2025 event at The Trusts Arena, Henderson, was a remarkable success. Initiated by Jeet Suchdev QSM JP and Sister Jessica Phuang QSM, this first-of-its-kind multicultural gathering in New Zealand united ethnic organisations, service providers, and NZ Police in a strong stand against elder abuse.

The day featured over 40 service stalls, cultural performances, food, and workshops on elder rights and safety—creating an inclusive, vibrant space for families and seniors.

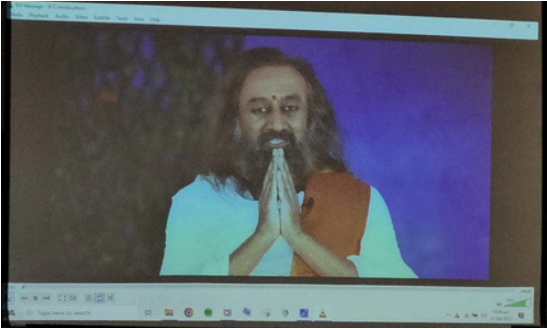
We were honoured by the presence of several dignitaries, including Ministers Casey Costello, Melissa Lee, and Dr Carlos Cheung, among others.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUCKLAND INDIAN DIASPORA TEAM!

A big thank you to everyone who made the recent gathering a memorable success:

- 🙏 Dr. Sethi, Consul General of India in NZ, for the T-shirts and ongoing support
- 🏛️ Auckland Indian Association, for the venue and refreshments
- 🧘♂️ Art of Living, for an energising yoga session
- 👏 And to all our incredible volunteers – your dedication made it all possible!



BHARTIYA SAMAJ CELEBRATES MATARIKI WITH JOY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

On 28 June 2025, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust celebrated Matariki at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall with over 200 seniors and community members. The event featured a powerful cultural performance by a local Matariki group, symbolising unity and new beginnings.

The BSCT Musical Group was officially launched, with impressive performances by young talents, mentored by Rushikesh Ahinave ji and Sudha Tata ji. Highlights also included a vibrant dance by the Khote Sikke children’s group and a soulful song by Vidya Teke ji.

The celebration was graced by several dignitaries including Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi, MP Carlos Cheung, Sister Jessica Phuang, and local board members.

A warm community lunch rounded off the day. Heartfelt thanks to all performers, guests, and volunteers for making the Matariki celebration truly special!

