

# Working towards a

# closer community



### Contact Us

### For General Enquiries:

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Secretary, <u>secretary@bsnl.org.uk</u>

### For BSNL Hall Hire:

Text on 07483 904 979 or e-mail at hall@bsnl.org.uk

### For Membership Enquiries:

Chandrashekhar Thaker, 07483 952 957,

membership@bsnl.org.uk

### For BSNL Elders Group:

Hitesh Purohit, 07882 571 234, eldersclub@bsnl.org.uk

### For BSNL Ladies Club:

Vandana Joshi, 07944 913 208, ladiesclub@bsnl.org.uk

### For BSNL Gents' Club:

Gunvant Dave, 07877 565 747 gentsclub@bsnl.org.uk

### **BSNL Young Brahmins:**

Ameet Sharma, 07903 674 820, Ameet.sharma@bsnl.org.uk

### For BSNL OM Group:

Chandrashekhar Thaker, 07483 952957.

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### For our Website, visit:

https://bsnl.org.uk/

For our Facebook pages, login to Facebook and search for

**Brahmin Society North London** 







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contact Harsha Trivedi.

# The Chair of Trustee's Message

Dear All,

Jai Shri Krishna!! A warm welcome to BSNL members in the first newsletter of 2021!

The new year brings hope and dreams. After the challenges that we all faced in 2020, let us all join together and pray that the world heals and our loved ones remain safe and well.

2020 was a year of sadness, pain and gloom. I would like to pray for all the families who lost their loved ones. I am truly grateful to BSNL Trustees, Sub-committee Chairs and volunteers for working hard during these difficult times to organise BSNL activities and programmes which were a huge success. Credit also to all our BSNL members, who adapted so well and joined in at out virtual events with enthusiasm.

I would like to specifically mention Anjana Thaker and Nilima Raval. Having supported BSNL and worked relentlessly for so long, they have stepped down as BSNL Trustees this year, and will be focussing on developing the activities of our sub groups – ladies - thank you to you both and we look forward to your continued input and support!

A special thanks also to Bhavesh Yagnik, who stepped down as BSNL Trustee at our AGM this January. Bhavesh has worked exceeding hard in the background in various roles – Bhavesh – we are grateful to you and wish you much success as you build your career and focus on your family.

New year, new beginnings and new roles for the BOT! See below for a summary of who will be doing what:

- Chair of Trustee Board: Harsha Trivedi
- Secretary: Ameet Sharma
- Treasurer: Ramnik Joshi
- Trustee responsible for our Building: Ashwin Thaker
- > Trustee responsible for our Membership: Chandrashekhar Thaker
- Trustee responsible for our eGroup: Hitesh Purohit
- Trustee responsible for the Ladies Group: Vandana Joshi
- Trustee responsible for the Gents' Club: Gunvant Dave
- Trustee responsible for the YB's: Ameet Sharma
- > Trustee responsible for the OM Group: Chandrashekhar Thaker
- > Trustee responsible for BSNL Events: Parul Jani
- Trustee responsible for our Media Platforms: Ashwin Thaker
- > Trustee responsible for our ARTS Classes: Vandana Joshi
- > Trustee responsible for our HEALTH Classes: Vandana Joshi
- > Trustee responsible for BSNL Governance: TBC

I know they have new ideas and are extremely keen to work with dedication.

The Chairperson for each subgroup, and the subgroup committees will be decided after elections (by subgroup members within each subgroup). Once these have taken place, it will go to BOT for approval.

I do hope that you will all join in and support BSNL as you always have. Please let us have new ideas or suggestions and we will endeavour to fulfil them.

There is light at the end of the tunnel, the vaccination programme had been rolled out by the government. I would urge you all to support that, please take the vaccine which is our only hope to get some normality in our lives and defeat this virus. In the mean-time please keep safe and well.

All the very best, Harsha Trivedi, Chair of Trustees. BSNL.

## News and Notices

A Message regarding Membership	
Dear Members,	
Jai Mahadev.	
<u>Progressive collection of database of members started with the formation of The Brahmin Society North London on 22 February 1974.</u> <u>From database on paper to computer and now working on towards a dedicated software.</u>	
We are updating our membership database. Having an up to date database will enable us to work efficiently for better communication with you, our BSNL members. We need your help and cooperation to complete this task.	
<ol> <li>Membership Number</li> <li>Full Name</li> <li>Date of Birth</li> <li>Post Code</li> <li>Email address</li> <li>Landline Number</li> <li>Mobile Number.</li> <li>Groups you are taking para. Elders Clubb. Ladies Clubc. Yoga Clubd. OM Groupe. Men's Club.</li> </ol>	ion by email to <a href="mailto:memberhip@bsnl.org.uk">memberhip@bsnl.org.uk</a> or SMS to mobile number 07483 952 957:  It in (say Y or N):
else.	ive alleady provided us with the required information and look forward to hearing from everyone

### News about the Census 2021

Dear Members,

Kind regards,

Chandrashekhar Thaker, Membership Trustee.

The 'Census 2021' is going to be launched on 21st March 2021. It is a unique survey that happens every 10 years and gives a snapshot of all the people in England and Wales. It shows what our needs are – helping inform decisions about services, like healthcare. Nearer the time, you will receive a letter with an access code to take part online. There's plenty of help available for those who need it.

As members of the British Indian community, it is important that we complete the form, and complete it correctly.

વસ્તી ગણત્રી રવિવાર 21 માર્ચના રોજ થઈ રહી છે. વસ્તી ગણત્રી દરેક વ્યક્તિ માટે છે.

તે દર 10 વર્ષે કરવામાાં આવતી એક મોજણી છે અને તેનાથી ઇંગ્લેન્ડ અને વેલ્સમાં રહેતાાં તમામ લોકો અને કુટુંબો વિશેનું ચિત્ર મળે છે. તમારી

વસ્તી ગણત્રી ફોર્મ ભરીને, તમે આગામી 10 વર્ષ માટે તમારા સમાજને આકાર આપવામાં મદદ કરશો.

Please get in touch with a member of the BOT if you need further help with completing the census.

# Our Subgroups

# BSNL Men's Wednesday Club

The club has encouraged BSNL Members to join us via 'Zoom' every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12 noon to 1pm. This is your 'Time Out' from daily activity and a chance to relax together, share jokes, news, health issues, and voice any concerns. It offers a chance to engage in a social activity that is so important for mental wellbeing, particularly important during this time of lockdown and isolation.

We often discuss issues that many times need external support and BSNL does try to help.

This format has been operational for almost a year and the regulars who attend have become an extended family.

Do join us and spread the word! For more information, please contact Gunvant Dave, Tel: 07877 565747.

WHEN? Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from12 noon to 1pm.

WHERE? ZOOM PLATFORM.

CONTACT? Gunvant Dave, 07877 565747.

### BSNL Ladies Club

Ladies Club reopened this year on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. The ladies continue to enjoy the variety of programmes we have hosted so far. If you have not joined, please do so as you are really missing out. There will be an election for a subcommittee to be formed next week on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. If you think you have some talent which will be of benefit to our ladies please come forward and contact myself, Vandana Yogen Joshi, Trustee responsible for the BSNL Ladies Club. I look forward to hearing from you.

WHEN? Friday's, from 11am to 2:30pm (starting again in February 2019).

WHERE? ZOOM PLATFORM

CONTACT? Vandana Joshi, 07944 913 208.

(Priority will be given to ladies up to age 65 and BSNL full members.)

### BSNL eGroup...for our elders over 65!

Dear Members,

I am grateful to my predecessors who have nurtured the eGroup from its humble start in the portacabin to what it currently is. I certainly have big boots to fill and will certainly be looking to them for advice and guidance.

As you all know, the weekly meetings are currently working very well with the current committee and the current format.

We plan to continue the eGroup as it is until restrictions are eased and we are allowed back to the hall.

The elections for the committee running the eGroup will be held in the next few weeks.

If you would like to join this committee, please put your name forward.

At this moment in time, this is all I have to say, but will end with a prayer.

May you all remain safe and healthy and one day, we will meet back at the hall.

Jai Shree Krishna

Hitesh Purohit, 07882 571 234,

Trustee responsible for the BSNL eGroup.

### BSNL YB's!

# WHERE R U ppppppppppppppp

Plan events YOU want to go to!

Meet people YOUR own age

Have a laugh! It might be fun!

Get in touch with Ameet Sharma (07903 674 820) to get involved with YOUR community!

### BSNL Om Group

Karaoke singing is what OM group is all about.

The aim is for members to get a chance to enhance their confidence in singing in front of an audience; help to improve their singing skills, learn from other participating members and have fun!

BSNL OM hopes to bring more entertaining events for the year, we'll share these nearer the time!

May I take this opportunity to thank the current committee members Anandbhai Pancholi, Pathikbhai Vyas & Jyotiben Joshi for their hard work and dedication to make the Open Mic events such a resounding success.

A special thank you to Anjanaben Thaker for her relentless support to the group. The committee will be stepping down after the event on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Elections for the new committee will be held after this event.

When: Last Friday of every month from 7.00pm onwards

Where: ZOOM PLATFORM.

Contact: Chandrashekhar Thaker, 07956967046, Trustee responsible for Open Mic.

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### BSNL HEALTH Classes -

### <u>Yoga</u>

Let's get healthy and fight Covid by doing Yoga. We are running Yoga Classes 5 days a week.

When? Tuesday to Saturday, 8:30am to 9:30am

Where: BSNL ZOOM Platform

Teacher: Jyoti Joshi & Patanjali Yoga Team

Contact: Vandana Yogen Joshi, BSNL Trustee responsible for Health Classes, 07944 913 208.



### BSNL ARTS Classes -

### Harmonium

We have restarted the Harmonium Classes with a new teacher, Meenaben Trivedi. Meenaben is an experienced and qualified teacher and has been teaching for the past 30 years.

If you have any interest in learning harmonium please get in touch, I look forward to hearing from you!

Vandana Yogen Joshi,

BSNL Trustee responsible for Arts Classes, 07944 913 208.



# Regular Events BSNL Saturday Morning Hanuman Chalisa

WHEN? Every Saturday Morning, 11am

WHERE? **ZOOM Platform** SINGING BY? Members

CONTACT? Shila Vyas - 0751 5819120 or Anajana Thaker - 07949 830273, if you wish to join or sing.



### BSNL Homeless Kitchen

As some of you may be aware, our hall has been put to good use during the lockdown. BSNL have teamed up with another charity, GoDharmic, to provide meals for the vulnerable and homeless throughout the pandemic.

Meals get delivered to the hall, which are then re-distributed out to the needy.

This is done 3 days a week (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday), rain or shine!

Besides this, any surplus food is taken to Wembley High Road and distributed away for free twice a week.

This is a mammoth undertaking and whilst we have a steady team of volunteers helping, we could always do with more.

Please get in touch if you can help.

Also, if you know someone who is self-isolating or cannot go out for any reason, get in touch. We will make sure they are added to our list and food will be delivered to them regularly. All meals are vegetarian, with the exception of cakes and pastries which have eggs in them. These can be taken out.

Jai Shree Krishna

Hitesh Purohit, Trustee responsible for the Homeless Kitchen.

0788 257 1234.

# <u>Upcoming Event</u>

# BSNL Mahashívratrí Celebratíon

Har Har Mahadev!

Maha Shivratri is approaching and we are preparing to offer our members the opportunity to conduct pooja via ZOOM!

Shri Anandbhai Pathak will lead the ceremony from his home and you will be able to conduct the pooja from the comfort and safety of your home.

This time more than ever, we need to seek the blessings and protection of Lord Shiva so please do join us!

WHEN? Thursday 11th March 2021, 7pm onwards.

**ZOOM Platform** WHERE? PUJA BY? Shri Anandbhai Pathak

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86982883115?pwd=TzJ0TUcwY0ION3A5cXRqOFpYYWpNZz09

Meeting ID: 869 8288 3115 Passcode: jaimahadev

https://www.facebook.com/bsnlmedia

If you wish to participate in the pooja or for further details, please contact one of the event convenors: Nilima Raval - 07719 325173 or Shila Vyas - 0751 5819120

Jai Bholenath!

