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# Navjivan Vadil Kendra

(Monthly Newsletter)

Registered Charity No. 1121930

**Newsletter:** Issue 7. Vol-5 (May, 2013)

Thursday Meetings at: Sattavis Patidar Centre, Forty Avenue, Wembley, MIDDX HA9 9PE

**Disclaimer:** Navjivan Vadil Kendra is not liable for any personal injury, accident or mishap/s that may occur during any of its activities/events/outing.

**Honorary Patron:**

Manick Choraria

Pranlal V Parekh

**President:**

Baburai.T.Shah

020 8440 9968

**Vice President:**

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**Joint Secretary**

Vinod Parekh

020 8537 5592

**P.R.O.**

Praful G Shah

**Treasurer:**

Punam Patwa

020 8958 2714

**Joint Treasurer:**

Himatlal Mehta

020 8427 2379

**Webmaster :**

Chiman Sheth

**Entertainment :**

Jasuben Sheth

**Committee:**

Indrakant Bakhai

Dr Vinod Kapashi

Pragna Mandalia

Hasmukh Parekh

Jaykumar Shah

Ella Shah

Lunch

Celebrating a special birthday, or wedding anniversary! Or in memory of some one dear! Then *Sponsor* a lunch for **£251.00.**

*Guest Members:*

**£5.00** is payable by guests.

## Sponsors for April

Chas : Kutchi group of ladies have sponsored chas for the month of April.

## Biscuits :

- Biscuits on 4<sup>th</sup> April sponsored by Rasilaben Prabhudas Shah.
- Biscuits on 25<sup>th</sup> April were donated by Dhanlaxmiben Mehta.

Lunch : Lunch on 4<sup>th</sup> April was sponsored by Mandalia family in memory of their brothers Vinaykant and Kirti.

## Donations :

- **£20.00** – from Pushpaben Ramesh Patel on the wedding of her daughter Sheena to Jitendra. Our congratulations.
- **£25.00** – from Mahesh Savadia on his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. We wish him happy birthday and many more to come.
- **£50.00** - from Naliniben Avalani on the quick recovery of her husband Nagindas who was taken ill recently. Our best wishes and hope he gets back to do his good work.
- **£25.00** - from our assistant treasurer Himatlal Mehta on the occasion of his wife Dhanlaxmiben's birthday on 21<sup>st</sup> March. We wish her a very happy birthday and many more to come.

## Programs during April :

- On 4<sup>th</sup> April we had a talk from Kiran Purohit on issues and factors involved in making a play.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> April, after lunch, we had music program by Dharam Varma and Indiraji.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> April we had celebration of Ram Navmi and Mahavir Jayanti and Nirmal Sagarji gave a talk pertaining to same. Nirmal Sagarji has come to London at the invitation of Mahavir Foundation and we are grateful to them to give us an opportunity to have his presence amongst us.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> April we had a talk on Prostrate and issues relating to that given by Suresh and his team from Prostrate Cancer UK.

## Forthcoming Trips :

- Picnic to Runney Meade Park on 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- Trip to Ireland is being postponed to September.
- China and Tibet from 6<sup>th</sup> June.
- Potters Resort from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July.
- Iceland Cruise from 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

## Our Beloved "Kaka"

*Pranlal Vallabhji Parekh, the founding President of Navjivan Vadil Kendra, lived his life for others – and showed us by example that keeping oneself active, and doing service to others in the community, is the best way to keep fit and live a healthy life. It was on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013 during our AGM that Kaka conveyed his desire to retire as President because of ill health – and in less than a month – on 18<sup>th</sup> April and a Thursday – he left us.*

*To describe and give details of his services to the community over a period of almost 70 years would need almost a book. At the age of 27 he became treasurer of Navnat in Mombasa and carried out that responsibility diligently for a period of 25 years. He always helped out in the kitchen and had become expert on how much rations would be required for how many people.*

*After moving to London he became active in Navnat, London. Even though he was not Jain by birth, he was present on every day of Paryushan, making posters with news and events, and helping out in other arrangements. His wonderful writing on big sheets of paper became the hall mark of Navnat in the days when computers did not exist and printing and copying was not that easy. While he did not take part in Ras Garba, he was always present at every Navratri and helped out with the arrangements.*

*In the Navnat committee he held the position of vice president. In 1984 he was instrumental in collecting £70000.00 in a short time of one month. With his sweet tongue, and art of convincing, he was able to persuade members to give more than they had planned during house to house visits done to raise funds within a short period of time. He also took the responsibility to produce the souvenir at the time of opening of Navnat Bhavan.*

*After retirement in 1985 he decided not to sit around at home and encouraged others to start some activity. He managed to get rent free hall from the council and started playing cards and getting more and more people to join in that activity. In 2003 that activity was formalised by creating Harrow Elders Group where he became the founding President and retired only in 2012. There are now almost 80 members, and they meet once a week to play bridge and bukharo.*

*While Navnat Vadil Mandal was created in 1986, attendance was negligible. Kaka joined the same and became President when he introduced playing cards there and slowly membership increased. When Navnat bought the property in Hayes he did not oppose the move. But he was approached by many members that they will never be able to travel that long distance. At the cost of being accused of betraying NVM, he decided to form a local body to take care of those who could not travel that long distance. On 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007 Navjivan Vadil Kendra was formed with 20 members. But within a few months it grew so big that we had to stop taking members and waiting list was created from May 2007. It kept growing, we moved to Sangam Hall and increased our membership to 280, and then we moved to Sattavis Patidar Centre and at present we have a membership of 393 and a waiting list of 325. Kaka's aim was to help those who could not go to Hayes – and he succeeded in his aim beyond his imagination.*

*Kaka always thought about others. He never shirked from doing extra work or from taking on extra responsibility. He died at the age of almost 93 – but left a great legacy for us all. He showed that keeping active and keeping busy is good for the body and the mind. But he also showed that we should think of others and help others as far as we can.*

*Kaka was honoured with a plaque on his retirement, and made an Honourary Patron of Navjivan Vadil Kendra.*