

શ્રી બ્રહ્મક્ષત્રીય મંડળ યુ.કે.

E-mail: committee@bmuk.org

Website: www.bmuk.org

February 2022

Shree Brahamakshatriya Mandal UK

Dear BMUK Community.



Welcome to 2022. We hope you and your family and friends have a positive and healthy year ahead. The last two years have been so full of ups and downs, let's hope there are calmer, safer, and securer waters ahead.

We ask everyone to remember that we are part of a Community and that we are here for each other. BMUK has always had a strong foundation and we are proud and grateful for our incredible heritage and history. There may have been times, however, when we have perhaps not looked or felt like a strong Community. The Committee hope that 2022 brings us together again, perhaps face to face which sparks in everyone the belief and knowledge that they belong: that we are where we are today partly because our 'elders', when they came to this country supported and helped each other and maintained wonderful relations. Please support us in honouring and continuing the hard work and wonderful friendships built over many years and the traditions that we value...

The Committee have been meeting regularly to look at opportunities for events, and like many other such communities and groups we resorted to hosting events on line. We hosted a Mehfil evening and an online garba evening to add a bit of colour and virtual fun! The Committee wishes to thank all the members that took part despite the challenges. The response and interaction was really good with many members "chatting" online – it was good to see so many people after so long, even if it was on a screen.

The Committee and Trustees also met to discuss how we can improve (as a Committee and as a Community!) and to develop some key projects which will benefit our Community. One such project is the New 2022 Directory and another is an online system for paying Subscriptions (more overleaf!!)

Our next Event is our well-loved Bhajan Evening, please see more overleaf.

—Rajesh, Secretary

BMUK DIRECTORY

Thank you to the Community in helping put together our Directory. It is now completed! Normally we would print a few hundred and offer them for sale. This time, we decided to print only a limited number of copies for Community Members who wish to purchase one – this saves on costs and reduces waste/ the impact on the environment.

The cost of the new Directory shall be a mere £5. We ask Members who wish to purchase one to email committee@bmuk.org or Yashvant.Machchhar@bmuk.org or Bharati.Soneji@bmuk.org or Rajesh.Ashra@bmuk.org by 31 March 2022.

Payments and Subscriptions

We have had a ‘holiday’ on subscriptions for 2020 and 2021, however, we do now need to begin collecting subscriptions again.

We have been looking at ways to develop and modernise our subscription collection system and have now set up an easy to use, safe and secure online payment system. This system can be used to pay for Subscriptions and will also be available to pay for donations, tickets for events and the Directory (if you are ordering one).

The procedure is straight forward: Go to the BMUK Website (www.bmuk.org) and click on tab that says “Subscriptions”.

You can pay for up to 6 Members at a time and their full names must be given. Subscriptions are £15 per Member (aged 18+). Once payment is made, a Receipt will be emailed to you on the given e-mail address provided by you.

As with all good online payment systems, your personal bank or credit card details will not be retained once the transaction is processed as the system is hosted by an accredited professional service provider.

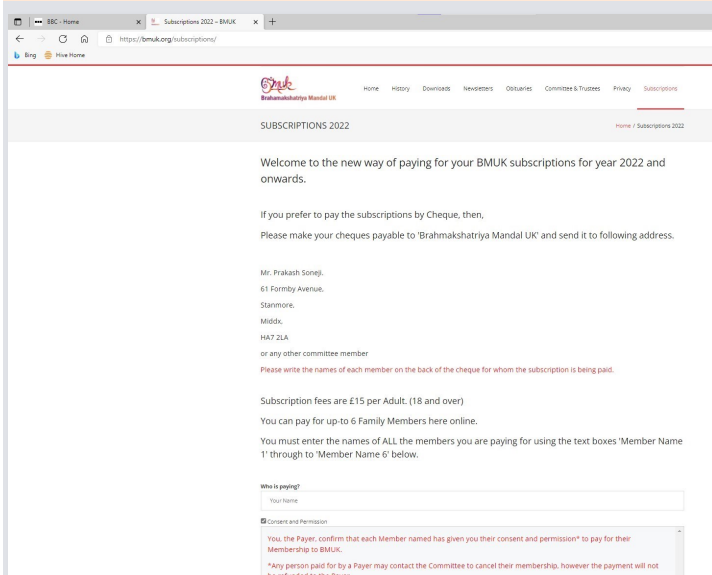
We respectfully ask that all Members pay their Subscriptions for 2022 by 15th March 2022 so that we can consolidate and update our records at the same time.

Payments and Subscriptions – Continued

If you are paying for Members of your family, please do ensure that you have their permission for them to be a Member as refunds will not be given.

Anyone who previously has had their membership paid for by another Member and who does not wish to be a Member, can email (Yashvant.Machchhar@bmuk.org or Hitesh.Khatri@bmuk.org) to have their details removed from our members database.

If you have any questions regarding using the system, please do contact Yashvant.Machchhar@bmuk.org or Hitesh.Khatri@bmuk.org



Subscriptions 2022

Welcome to the new way of paying for your BMUK subscriptions for year 2022 and onwards.

If you prefer to pay the subscriptions by Cheque, then,
Please make your cheques payable to 'Brahmakshatriya Mandal UK' and send it to following address.

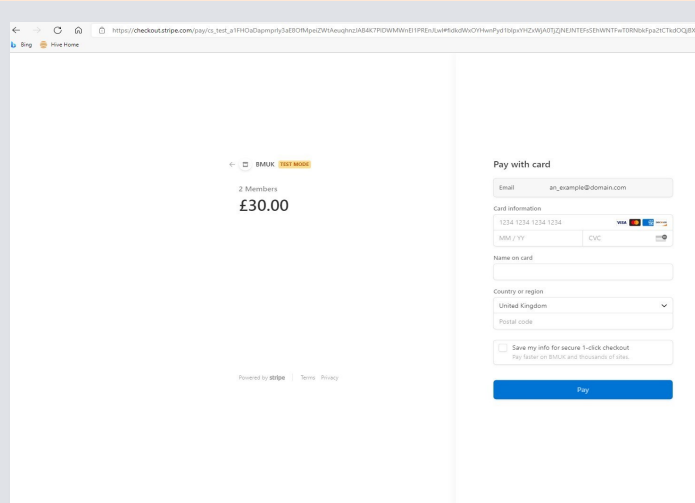
Mr. Prakash Sonel,
61 Formby Avenue,
Stanmore,
Middx,
HA7 2LA
or any other committee member

Please write the names of each member on the back of the cheque for whom the subscription is being paid.

Subscription fees are £15 per Adult. (18 and over)
You can pay for up to 6 Family Members here online.
You must enter the names of ALL the members you are paying for using the text boxes 'Member Name 1' through to 'Member Name 6' below.

Who is paying?
Your Name

☒ Consent and Permission
You, the Payer, confirm that each Member named has given you their consent and permission* to pay for their Membership to BMUK.
*Any person paid for by a Payer may contact the Committee to cancel their membership, however the payment will not be refunded to the Payer.



2 Members
£30.00

Pay with card

Email: an_example@domain.com

Card information
1234 1234 1234 1234
MM/YY CVC

Name on card

Country or region
United Kingdom

Postal code

☐ Save my info for secure 1-click checkout
See how on Stripe.com/secure-checkout

Pay

Payment Card Entry

Thank you for paying subscription online.

You will receive the receipt of the payment in the email supplied on the form.

You can also print a copy of this receipt for your records.

Thank you for your subscription payment. Here are the details of your submission:

Order ID:	Date:	Total:	Payment Method:	Payment Status:
#21	January 19, 2022	£30	Stripe	Paid

Item	Quantity	Price	Line Total
2 Members	1	£30	£30
Sub-Total			£30
Total			£30

Submission Details

Who is paying?	An Example
Terms & Condition Agreement	Agreed
Email Address: Please enter your valid email address. The receipt will be sent to your email address	an_example@domain.com
Member Name 1:	An Example
Member Name 2:	Second Example
Terms & Condition Agreement	Agreed
Billing Address	HABNB, GB
Name on Card	An Example

[Click here to go to home page.](#)

Member Detail Entry forms

Payment Receipt

Covid Charity Collection

As you will remember in 2021 we announced that we would do a Charity drive to collect funds to support institutions or families affected by Covid.

We are happy to announce that we collected £1,250. What was a little disappointing was that this amount was donated by just 12 Members, to whom we are extremely grateful. Nevertheless, it is very likely that you and our fellow members will have contributed or donated generously to other Covid charity collections elsewhere and the less fortunate will be grateful to receive any support they can during these troubling times.

As pledged, BMUK will match the amount raised, which will bring the total of the collection to £2,500. The Committee and the Trustees have agreed that this sum will be donated to several educational and medical charities supporting children and families in India on behalf of BMUK. We will announce the charities on the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituaries

We take this opportunity to remember some of the members who sadly are not with us any longer and to extend our condolences to all families and relatives again on behalf of the whole BMUK community. We remember them in our prayers and hope they are resting peacefully with the almighty.

- Ramanbhai Bhailal Kshatri 5/5/2021
- Rikeshbhai Bipin Soneji 25/8/2021
- Shantaben Mulchandbhai Jogi 12/9/2021
- Chandrakantbhai Chhotalal Soneji (Leicester) 13/9/2021
- Mansukhbhai Nanalal Kakaiya 10/10/2021
- Vasantaben Chhotalal Katbamana 10/10/2021

New Project by Jay Ashra

Dear Community,

I have been on the Committee now since 2004 - for 18 years! Yes, that long!!! (a few members and Trustees have been here longer than I). I have had various roles, including Chair, Secretary and tea-boy!! I love our community.

I can see, and I have experienced, the value and beauty BMUK has. We have so many wonderful people of so many differing walks of life, skills and experiences. And, I have had the privilege to meet many and benefit from great conversations – especially on stage when talking about horses and planting seeds!!

I have learned so much, grown and owe much to our Committee and Trustees, and to many members who have helped me in my life and career (I won't embarrass you all by naming you, but you know who you are....). Whilst I have advocated a lot about Youth and Young Professionals...now I'm at the legal age of 51, I'll let someone else try to get 'us' connected (do include me as I am perpetually 28!) ☺

My experiences have inspired me to start a new Project for 2022. I would like to do a BMUK Family Tree!!! I find fascinating how we are all connected and how our Naat has helped and supported each other. I think we, and generations to come, must not forget our roots and connections. I've come to realise and be surprised at just how many families in BMUK are related and connected in various ways.

I really would be grateful if you can look at your family and do a family tree: Mother, Father, brother, sisters, etc. Who is married to who, and children. I think, to make it manageable, perhaps we should go back one generation (grandmother and grandfather) and try to keep it UK based (unless it is necessary to include US, India, etc.). We can include those deceased or divorced too – there are no 'rules' and I am making this up as I go along! I will be mindful and sensitive, and will not include information if you tell me to. Please help me in this...

If you can please get together/ liaise with family, and send me a Tree (jaar?- or shall steer away from Gujarati?!), I would be so grateful! You can do it in any way that suits you: on a sheet of paper, back of a piece of Wall-paper Word/ Excel or PowerPoint. Whatever is easy. Please ensure I can identify names, surnames and connections to other families. Please email the document or a pic of the piece of paper: jay.ashra@bmuk.org. I'm happy to even meet for a coffee to go through it! Any questions, email me..

I am not sure how, but I will then endeavour to join the Trees to create the BMUK Family Tree! I think it will be so interesting, informative and moving to see how we are connected in many ways we know, and didn't know. For example, I just recently found out that my bhabhi's sister's husband's mama is the brother of a Committee Member. He is a kind, amazing soul, eminent in his field, and has been helping me recently...

If you would like to help me in this Project, please contact/ email me – I welcome ideas and help. Thank you. I look forward to your Trees – and starting this environmentally friendly project in mapping and preserving a beautiful and ancient forest. ☺

Jay (Son of Kanji Makanji Keshavji bhai Ashra and Narmadaben Ashra (daughter of Pranjivani Nagjibhai Bosamia)).

"The wood is in the trees and the trees are in the wood"

Jay Ashra

Future Events in 2022

We are looking to plan BMUK events for 2022. It would be great to finally meet and socialise again! We will, of course, monitor the situation and keep the health and safety of Members at the forefront of our decisions.

Please email Committee ideas for events. One idea is "Picnic in the Park" in summer. Any thoughts!

Bhajan Evening

Our next BMUK Event is our Bhajan Evening, hosted by Marina of Melody Express, which shall be held online through Zoom on:

Saturday 19th March 2022

7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Zoom Meeting ID: 819 8983 1588

Passcode: 12345

Please do attend!! It shall be open to all BMUK Members, families and friends, so please do encourage others to take part. Please see the Website for access details. (www.bmuk.org)

Bhagirathiben Chhantbar and family have generously sponsored the Bhajan Evening.

CONTACT US

BMUK Committee Members' Contact details

Bharatiben Soneji (Chair person)	bharati.h.soneji@bmuk.org
Rajeshbhai K. Ashra (Secretary)	rajesh.ashra@bmuk.org
Hiteshbhai Khatri	hitesh.khatri@bmuk.org
Jay K. Ashra	jay.ashra@bmuk.org
Dr Abhaya J. Soneji	Abhaya.soneji@bmuk.org
Harshalbhai Kshatri (Treasurer)	harshal.kshatri@bmuk.org
Hansaben Kakaiya	hansa.kakaya@bmuk.org

BMUK Trustees Contact details

Harishbhai Ghumra	harish.ghumra@bmuk.org
Yashvantbhai Machchhar	yashvant.machchhar@bmuk.org
Prakashbhai Soneji	prakash.soneji@bmuk.org
Vipinbhai Bhuchhada	vipin.bhuchhada@bmuk.org