

Bangiya Sanskritik Parishad (BSP), Glasgow Scottish Charity Register No. SCO47561 Estd. 1971 www.bspglasgow.com

# <u>Bangiya Sanskritik Parishad (BSP) Glasgow</u> <u>Trustees' Annual Report (1.4.2023 to 31.3.2024)</u>

Charity contact information

Bangiya Sanskritik Parishad

Scottish Charity Number: SC047561

Address 2 Westray Place Bishopbriggs Glasgow Postcode G64 1UQ

Telephone number 0141 563 6382 (Dr Haradhan Datta, Ex-trustee)

Email: bspglasgow@gmail.com

Website Home | BSP Glasgow

https://www.facebook.com/bsp

<u>glasgow</u>

**Charity Trustees** 

Dr Rajdeep Routh (President)

Ph no. 07913386749

Dr Sandip Dhar (General secretary)

07886612746

Mr Sudipta Ghosh (Joint secretary)

Mrs Saroni Sil (Treasurer)

Mrs Sneha Sanyal (Social Secretary)

Mr Arunabha Banerjee (Puja Convenor)

Mr Gautam Patra (Puja committee Chairperson)

Mr Amit Deb (Puja committee Secretary)

Mr Arnab Purakayastha (Puja committee Joint Secretary)

Mr Souvik Sanyal (Puja Committee Treasurer)

#### Trustee recruitment and appointment

The change in trustee number and structure was agreed in September 2023 EGM. All the elected members of Executive Committee and Puja Committee who are in overall control and management of BSP and its events will be deemed as Trustees.

#### Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

A charity's governing document is the written statement that sets out its purpose, structure and describes how it will operate.

BSP has a written constitution and the charity complies with its governing document. The document is freely available to the public and uploaded on the BSP website, as in the link <u>About | BSP Glasgow</u>

BSP finances and trustee reports are freely available to the public on the website, as in the link <u>Finances and Reports | BSP Glasgow</u>



### **Objectives and activities**

The aims and objectives of the organisation

- To bring together Bengali speaking residents in and around Glasgow in the organisation and also those residents who wish to participate in all forms of Bengali cultural activities to maintain their heritage.
- To promote social and cultural interests through social gatherings and to create an active interest in all humane problems affecting the members of the organisation.
- To develop a friendly relationship with the host community and promote racial harmony and integration.
- To promote social cohesion and a supportive environment for the ageing population.
- To encourage the advancement of education for both our senior and junior members
- To promote the advancement of health to the community

These objectives will be achieved by:

• The advancement of education,

- The advancement of health,
- The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science,
- The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended,
- The promotion of religious or racial harmony,
- The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantages

### **Beneficiaries:**

Children / young and older people, people with disabilities or health problems, of a particular ethnic or racial origin, the benefit of the community, other charities / voluntary bodies

#### Achievements-

BSP website – We have continued to maintain the website successfully with the added functionalities of collecting membership payments, sending alerts for payments, and ticketing events, linking with card and Pay pal payments. The maintenance is carried out by our members which has resulted in significantly low maintenance cost.

### BSP Bengali School (Language School) -

We inaugurated the Bangla School on 28/02/2023, on the auspicious occasion of

"Saraswati Puja"- which is worshipping goddess of learning. The classes started from the February term time. This runs weekly on Saturdays, during the term time. We bought books funded by BSP and distributed them to the students in the beginning.

We have about 6 students who regularly attend the class, which can be either as Face to Face or Online.

We have three dedicated teachers who have created a curriculum for the class. The children have learnt the Bengali alphabets and are making words and simple sentences.

There is a fee charged per class. This is to cover teacher's salary and venue hire. Two out of three teachers are paid above the rates for teaching assistants. Our third teacher does the lessons completely voluntarily. The cost of venue hire is difficult to cover. So all the face to face lessons are hosted in students' or teacher's homes.

The children who started with us had no recognition of the alphabets of the language. Over the last one and half year, we have tried to introduce the alphabets( vowels and consonants) and then slowly forming words. We have also introduced the names of colours, seasons, fruits, flowers, vegetables.

The children have been introduced to different festivals during the year through learning poems about the festival (Durga Puja) or making cards and marking special days of the year (e.g mother's day, Christmas).

The children from Bengali school performed 'Reader's Theatre' (Sruti natok) at our annual cultural program on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023.

We hope to take this forward over the next few years by broadening our scope of teaching to different aspects of Bengali language and culture.

But to take to this stage, we will need some funding, which we'll have to explore.



### Activities and performances

A summary of the main achievements of the BSP during 2022-23 is given below with the flyers of the events. Available at <u>Events | BSP Glasgow</u>

### Poila Boishakh (Bengali New Year) celebration named Nabokiran

### Date 23 April, 2023

This is the celebration of Bengali New Year. This is also the fund raising event in our calendar. Which comprised of cultural bonanza with shows from about thirty adults and twenty-five children participating at the cultural side. This was alongside a food festivity, which was home cooked, by our ladies as well as men. There was also a live cooking of street food which attracted lot of our members.

# BSP Glasgow presents

# নবকিরণ Nabokiran

23 April, 2023 | 12 noon onwards Pollokshaws Burgh Hall, Glasgow G43 INE

# Program details:

Cultural performances Bengali Street Food Adda

Tambola with prizes

Please register at: https://www.bspglasgow.com/event-details/bsp-nabokiran

> Pre-order your main course at: https://www.bspglasgow.com/category/main-course

## Bengalí Street Food:

<u>Starter</u>: Kolkata Kathi rolls, Fish fry, Fish chop, Ghugni with lamb keema, Dahi vada

<u>Main Course:</u> Kosha mangsho & pulao Paneer & Pulao Chicken biryani

<u>Dessert</u>: Sandesh, Chomchom **Register at:** 





Pre-order food:

Members: Free Other guests: £5/adult, £0/child ticket Please note:

Items from Bengali Street Food needs purchased separately. Pre-order would be taken for mean course. Starters & desserts to be ordered at the venue

### BSP's Outdoor picnic

Date 3 June, 2023

We had our outdoor picnic at Mugdock Country Park. We had barbecue at the park beside the pond.

We had subsidised rate for the members and also invited non-members at nonsubsidised rate. We had around 60 guests including seniors and children.

> Bangiya Sanskritik Parishad, Glasgow invites you to

### Get your tickets at https://www.bspglasgow.com/event-details/bsp-annual-picnic-bbq

Ticket covers admission cost, yummy food and Ranger led activities for children

| **∖ | | (** 

**3rd June | 12:00pm - 4:30 pm** Finlaystone Country Park, Langbank, Port Glasgow PA14/6TJ

(Easy access from Glasgow Central Station)



### Annual General Meeting (AGM) 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at Williamwood school

The AGM was held with about 50 members attending. Tenure of the new committee will be from 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Various matters including updates to the constitution were discussed. New committee was elected. Financial reports were approved. Changes to constitution was deemed necessary- EGM was required.

### Extended general meeting (EGM) – 3rdSeptember 2023.

Updates to constitution approved – new version uploaded to website (V3)

#### **BSP drama**

We revived our drama event after a brief gap of several years.

There was a drama performed by 12 children. In the adult drama there were about 25 participants. This was a ticked event partially funded by BSP.



NATYA SANDHYA AN EVENING AT THE THEATRE!



**BSP Glasgow** presents



### **Obak Jolpaan**

**Direction:** Arnab S **Cast (A-Z):** Aaditya B, Aarin D, Ankush C, Anulekha M, Aratrika G, Nilesh B, Risha C, Ritanya K, Sajed C, Sashreek D, Shreyansh D, Zubin D

Crew (A-Z): Sandip D, Subrato C





**Direction:** Sheela M **Cast (A-Z):** Amborish B, Amit S, Anindita B, Anupam S, Arnab P, Arnab S, Debashish GR,

Gautam P, Gobinda C, Kamalika G, Riddhiman K, Sanjoy D, Saptarshi C, Smita T, Sudipta R Crew (A-Z): Aditi PC, Anurima C, Debjani P, Manjuli M, Rajdeep R, Subhajit R, Sunetra D

### 1st Oct, 2023 (Sun) | 6 PM onwards Eastwood Park Theatre, G46 6UG

Light refreshments will be served in between the two plays Packed dinner will be served at the end of the programme



### Cultural evening with artist from India (Krosswindz band from Kolkata India)

This event was partially funded by the grant from the national lottery. This is a famous band from West Bengal, India. They performed at the Clarkston Hall. It was a huge success.



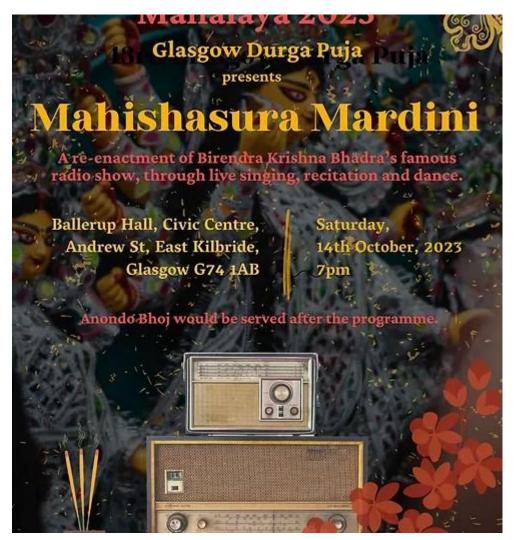
### **Religious festivals-**

Lisitng all our religious festivals, images of which both as videos and stills photos are captured in the facebook link. <u>Glasgow Durga Puja | Paisley |</u> <u>Facebook</u>

### Starts with Mahalaya

Durga puja is one of the biggest religious festival of Bengal. It starts with a cultural event which consists of recitation, song and dances along with live music. This is performed by adults including senior members and children from the community. Food is cooked at the venue by volunteers from the community which is served as dinner at the end of the program.

### Mahalaya 2023







### **Puja Schedule**

#### Mahalaya - 14th October, 2023

Ballerup Hall, Civic Centre, Andrew St, East Kilbride, Glasgow G74 1AB Shri Chandi Paath and Ananda Bhoj: 6.30pm – 10pm

### **Durgotsav - 20th-24th October, 2023** Coats Paisley, High St, Paisley, Glasgow PA1 2BA

Maha Shashti – Friday, 20th October 2023 Kalparambha, Bodhan, Amontran, Adhibas, Arati: 6pm – 8pm Bhog Bitoron: 7:30pm – 9pm

> Maha Saptami – Saturday, 21st October 2023 Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 4pm – 7pm Bhog Bitoron: 7pm – 9pm

Maha Ashtami – Sunday, 22nd October 2023 Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 4pm – 7pm, Sandhi Puja: 7pm Bhog Bitoron: 7pm – 9pm

> Maha Navami – Monday, 23rd October 2023 Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 6pm – 8pm Bhog Bitoron: 7:30pm – 9pm

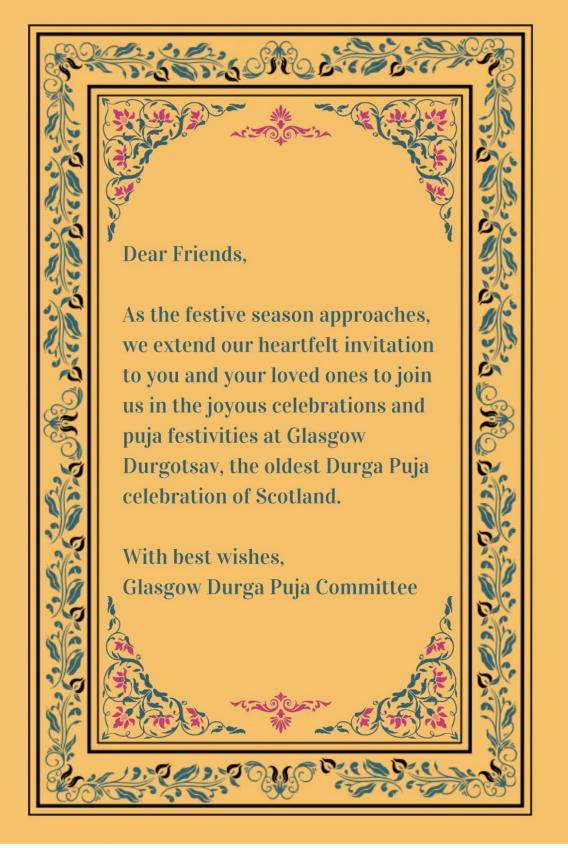
Dashami – Tuesday, 24th October 2023 Puja, Bisorjan, Santijal, & Prasad: 6pm – 8pm, Sindoor Khela: 8pm-9pm Bhog Bitoron: 8:30pm – 10pm

### Lakshmi Puja - 28th October, 2023 Clarkston Hall Clarkston Road, Clarkston , East Renfrewshire, G76 8NE Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 12pm – 2pm, Bhog Bitoron: 2pm – 4:30pm

Kali Puja - 11th November, 2023 Clarkston Hall Clarkston Road, Clarkston, East Renfrewshire, G76 8NE Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 6pm – 8.30pm, Bhog Bitoron: 8:30pm – 10pm

Saraswati Puja - 17th February, 2024 Clarkston Hall Clarkston Road, Clarkston , East Renfrewshire, G76 8NE

Puja, Pushpanjali, Arati, Prasad: 12pm – 2pm, Bhog Bitoron: 2pm – 4:30pm



### Durga Puja

Durga puja is one of the biggest festivals in Bengal. It is a huge carnival for which every Bengali waits eagerly.

Following on from the previous year, this event was held at Coats Paisley which is a former Baptist church now renovated for large events. There has been significant increase in cost of the venue. However, donations in various forms from members and non-members have helped us in making this a success.

During these 5 days, families immerse themselves in this event by way of volunteering for cooking, decorating the hall, setting up the idols, performing the rituals, participating in the music and culture, and welcoming and serving food to the guests in the evenings.

We had about five thousand guests over the five days of the event. Food was cooked at the venue by volunteers of about 15-20 people each day. Utensils for the cooking are owned by the organisation. All ingredients are bought within few days prior to the event and freshly cooked dinner was served at the dinning space on the ground floor of the venue. We budgeted carefully and managed to host the spectacular event which attracted a lot Bengali and non Bengali guests. Lot of students from Glasgow also came to this event and could enjoy the festivity. Food was served to all the guests free of charge.

Cultural programs were held in the evenings. This presented an opportunity for young and adult members of the community to present various individua and group performances. Sound systems were hired for this purpose. Members brought their own musical instruments.

This was our biggest event to rejuvinate and bring together such large and varied sections of the society, which was one of the objectives of our organisation which was undoubtedly fulfilled.

This was followed by three single day religious festivals- the flyers are attached. The links to these are availabe on <u>Glasgow Durga Puja | Paisley | Facebook</u>

Kojaguri Lakhi Puja 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Kali Puja Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023

Saraswati Puja 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024

All the above 3 events were attended by about 100 to 200 guests. Dinner was cooked and served by volunteers.







### **Puja Cultural Program**

Maha Shashti - 9pm - 10:30pm "MATRURUPEN - AN ODE TO MAA DURGA" - an evening of music

Maha Saptami - 9pm - 10:30pm "SHAKTIRUPEN - EXPRESSIONS OF STRENGTH" - an evening of dance and recitation

Maha Asthami - 9pm - 10:30pm "RUPANGDEHI - THE ELEMENTS OF UNIVERSE" - kids performance and fashion show

**Maha Navami** - 9pm - 10:30pm "BHAKTIRUPEN - MAA ABAR ESHO" - medleys of old versus new songs

### **Puja Committee**

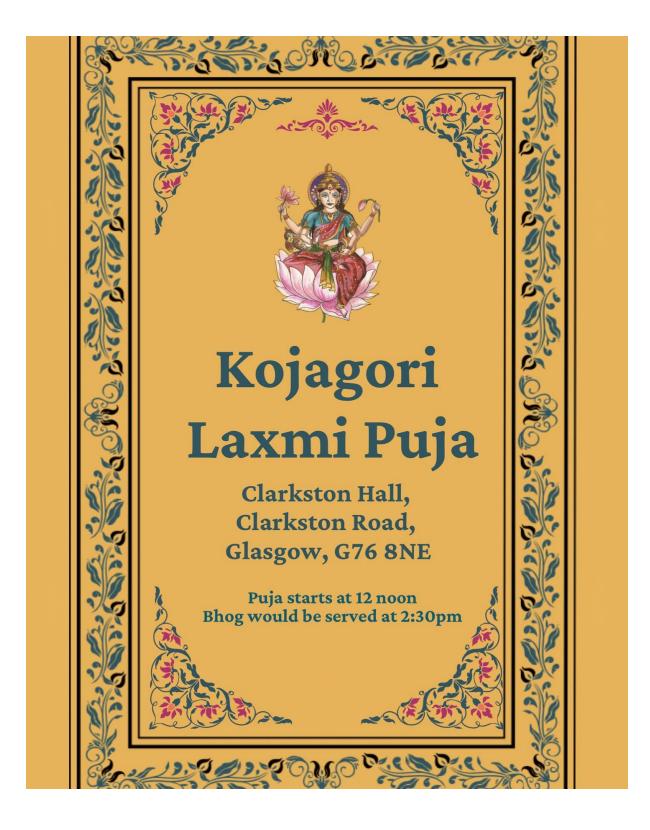
Gautam Patra- Chairman (07986069925) Amit Deb- General Secretary (07966874724) Arnab Purakayestha- Joint Secretary (07424605988) Souvik Sanyal- Treasurer (07448493172) Sarajit Sen-Puja Convenor Amborish Banerjee- Coopted member (Cultural) Subrata Chatterjee- Coopted member (Logistics)

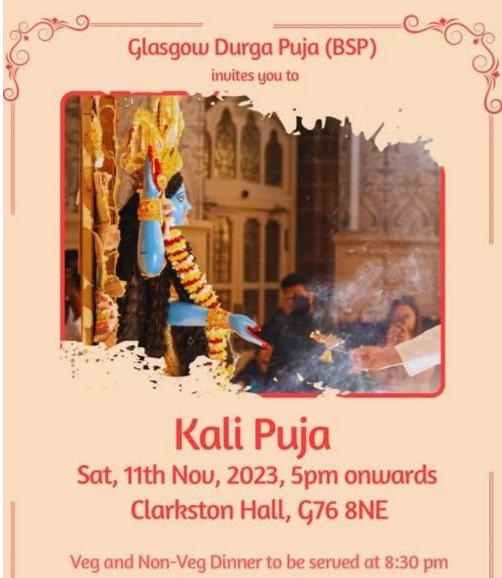


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### www.glasgowdurgapuja.org.uk

Bangiya Sanskritik Parishad (BSP), Glasgow Scottish Charity Register No. SC047561





Tandoor and Bengal delicacies would be available at food stalls

Glasgow Durga Puja is part of Bangiya Sanshritik Parishad a Scottish Charity, SCO47561 regulated by the Scattish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

### Bijoya Sammiloni 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Tweedie Hall Glasgow

This a free event where the BSP celebrates the success of the Durga puja, especially with the volunteers who have worked hard for the Durga puja. This was a fun filled event of musical quiz. United Kingdom Bengali Convention (UKBC), charity number 1185883, awards for senior members with significant contribution to the society was handed over at the event. Dinner was cooked by a group of volunteers for about 75 guests. Sound system was hired. This program is jointly funded by BSP and the Puja committee.

Bijoya Sammelani BSP invites everyone who made our flagship event Durga Puja a huge success! quiz night! Join us for an evening of melodies, trivia, non-stop entertainment, and, of course, amazing food! Pre registration is a must using the link https://www.bspglasgow.com/event-details/bijoya-sammelani Time & Location November 04, 6.00pm to 9.30pm Tweedie Hall, Bridge St, Linwood, Paisley PA3 3DB, UK

#### **Financial report**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

The total income for the last financial year was £21884.16. The most notable change on this figure from last year was the grant received from national lottery of the amount £8800. This funding helped us in having better quality events following on to 2024. The total expenditure in the financial year was £11957.26.

#### **DECLARATION:**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report, as above.

Signed by the charity trustees on 30.12.2024

Signatures:

Rijdeep Routh

Print name: Rajdeep Routh TRUSTEE

Fandip Than

Print: Dr Sandip Dhar

TRUSTEE

Print: Saroni Sil TRUSTEE