



DIWALI

AWARDS CEREMONY 2025



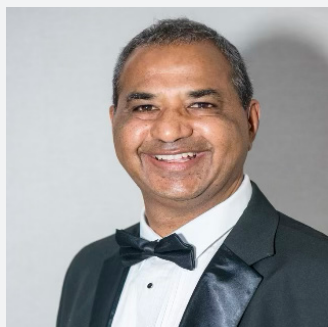


Special Recognition Champion's Award Winner

Rajeev Dewedi

Rajeev Ji has been working in the background for the Hindu Community for many years. He has supported the Hindu community over many years, he was involved in getting the Indian community involved in the design of the new crematoriums being built in Bradford. He has helped over the years to build many bridges with many local and national organisations including the Indian high commission and local politicians.

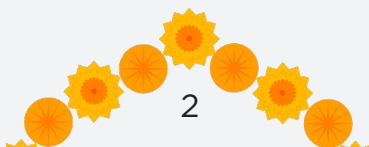




Community Empowerment through Quiet and Humble Leadership Award

Harkishan Mistry

Harkishan Mistry has been actively involved in numerous Hindu organisations and community programmes over the years. He established and manages a family charity that supports many organisations through donations. Over time, he has also initiated community sewa days, bringing significant benefits to various community groups. Additionally, he has transformed the local elderly group, Anand Milan Elderly Centre, into a vibrant and thriving hub for the elderly Hindu community. Harkishan Ji has been associated with the BHC since its inception, serving as an office bearer and actively participating in all its programmes and events.

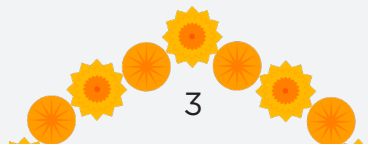




Empowering Children through Sports Award

KumaraVel Kurusamy

Kumar works tirelessly for all communities from Bradford and surrounding areas. His role encourages his community to be actively involved with the mandir and other social acting especially cricket. He helps with the cricket sessions every year for children between the ages of 6 and 13. With ECB Dynamos etc. He's also got volunteers involved to become coaches especially ladies who attend the sessions with their kids.

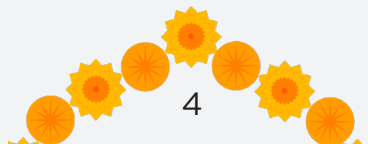


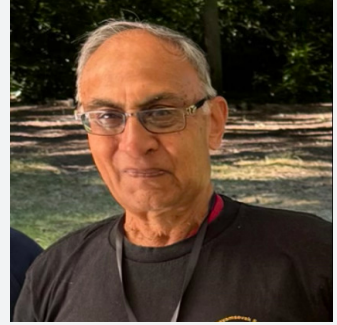


Cultural Preservation and Religious Understanding Award

Baldev Bhardwaj

Mr. Baldev Bhardwaj has been at the Hindu Cultural Society Bradford (HCS) since the 70s and has always conducted many religious events at the HCS and in India. He doesn't really do all the great religious work for any reward, cash incentive, self-promoting. He does the religious events purely with a clean heart and spiritual emotions.

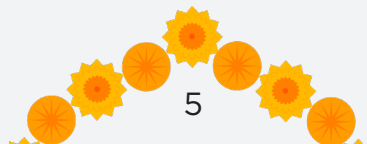




Special Recognition Champion's Award

Rajni Parmar

Rajni ji Parmar has demonstrated unwavering dedication to the Hindu community. A true father figure to many, he has been a constant source of guidance, support, and inspiration. Through his selfless service, profound wisdom, and exemplary leadership, he has left a lasting impact on countless lives. Rajni ji stands as a pillar of strength, compassion, and unity — a leader who leads by example and uplifts everyone around him





Inspiring Youth Leader & Outstanding Community Organiser Champion Award

Kajal Patel

Kajal Patel is currently the General Secretary of the Bradford Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh. She has been involved with the Sangh since childhood and is always among the first to volunteer, readily helping with any requests made of her. From the age of 16, Kajal ji has been leading from the front, guiding Hindu girls and women in a variety of cultural activities — from Indian games and singing to camps and discussions on Hinduism. Her dedication, leadership, and commitment make her a true role model for the youth of Bradford. Recently, Kajal completed the Yorkshire 3 Peaks, the Great North Run, and a 10k run to raise funds for good causes. She was also an inspirational MC at our Diwali Awards ceremony last year.



Special Recognition Champion's Award

Kamlesh Patel

Kamlesh Patel has demonstrated exceptional dedication and resilience making a lasting impact on the community. Through his commitment he has inspired others by creating opportunities, fostering positive change and championing the needs of those around him. Over the years, he has turned his personal passion into action raising awareness and vital funds for causes including the BRI Children's Unit, Marie Curie, SEWA International, Cancer Research UK and local charities. His determination has inspired countless people to participate, contribute and believe in the power of community. His extraordinary accomplishments reflect his perseverance and determination: he has completed 10 Great North Runs, 30 Yorkshire Three Peaks challenges, 224 Park runs, 3 international marathons, and 9 London full marathons. Beyond running, he has also undertaken two 100-mile cycling rides, each demanding immense physical and mental strength. Kamlesh Ji's remarkable efforts inspire others to push their limits while making a lasting difference in the community. Kamlesh's efforts have had a tangible impact supporting children, families, patient and vulnerable groups and his example leaves a lasting legacy of hope, compassion and resilience.





Community Empowerment through Quiet and Humble Leadership Award

Ishwar Bhai

Ishwarbhai Chouhan, has been a steadfast pillar of the Bradford community for decades. From his early work at the Bradford Sai Centre to leading roles in Friends Who Care Trust and Bradford Yoga Group, he has quietly and selflessly contributed to countless initiatives. Known for his friendly nature, unwavering dedication, and willingness to help behind the scenes, Ishwarbhai embodies the spirit of service. His selfless commitment to multiple community organisations makes him a true silent champion, deserving of recognition and gratitude.



Cultural and Faith Pioneers and Promotion Award

Bebi Deb

Bebi Deb is fore front of United Cultural Society and involved in planning and organising Durga Puja along with cultural programmes for the past many years. It was all started by the generation before the current team and Bebi along with her community team is taking this legacy forward. Year after year, she has taken the lead in organizing and planning *exceptional Durga Utsav celebrations bringing people together in the spirit of culture, devotion, and unity. Her attention to detail, creativity, and tireless commitment ensure that each event is not just well-executed, but truly memorable. She is a shining example of leadership, teamwork, and cultural pride. She is a true inspiration and a pillar of strength in the community.





Bradford Hindu Council: A Community Bridge within Bradford

The Bradford Hindu Council (BHC) is a registered charity that represents over twenty Hindu organisations across Bradford District. It was formed and established in 2019. BHC aims to unite the collective strengths of the Hindu community to benefit both the local Bradford community and wider society and to promote Hinduism in the region.

As a bridge between the Hindu community and the wider Bradford Area, the BHC ensures that the voice of Hindus is heard and that they are consulted on matters directly or indirectly impacting their lives. The vibrant Hindu festivals, customs, and traditions have significantly enriched Bradford's reputation as a multicultural centre.

The BHC is actively collaborating with Bradford City of Culture 2025 to showcase the rich diversity and cultural heritage of the Hindu community and contribute to Bradford's vibrant cultural landscape.

Through its various initiatives and advocacy efforts, the Bradford Hindu Council plays a vital role in fostering community cohesion, promoting cultural understanding, and celebrating the rich heritage of the Hindu community in Bradford.

The BHC acts as a central hub for the Hindu community in Bradford, promoting its unity, advocating for its interests, and facilitating communication within and beyond the community. The 2024 Bradford Diwali Awards is one off the ways the BHC is choosing to accomplish these goals.

The BHC serves as a conduit for direct communication and actions between the Hindu community organizations of Bradford. Any information, issues, or concerns can be brought to the attention of the Hindu community through info@bhccouncil.com, and a BHC member will promptly address them.



Congratulations to the Runner-Ups

Dharmesh Mistry

Reshma Patel

Indu Dharni

Savitha Suresh

Hema Shanmugam

Emily Ghassempou

Jaya Bammi

Kantilal Mistry

And a Special Thanks to:

LL Ed Anderson CBE

Sofia Buncy MBE DL

Dr Kuldeep Kaur Bharj OBE,DL

Mr Nirmal Singh Sekhon MBE

Mr Nirminder Matharu (Nam Media)

Mr Kaushal (Apna Khana)

Ms Emily Ghassempou (National Trust)

For their Contribution to the Hindu Community







**SPECIAL RECOGNITION
WINNER
SHIV KRISHAN**








 Registered Charity No. 119086

108 HANUMAN CHALISA'S

Sunday 11th May 2025

Time: 8am till 6pm

Venue: Leuva Patidar Samaj Community Centre,
 Legrams Lane, Bradford, BD7 2BA

Bhojan will be
 served between
 12pm to 2pm

Please contact
 Harkishan Mistry
 on 07873 344485
 for further details



Organised in conjunction with Leuva Patidar Samaj
 and Indian Women's Community (UK)

GiveBradford 



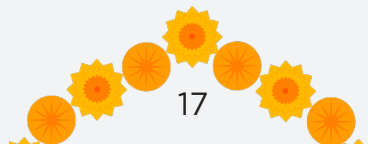


Working In Unity

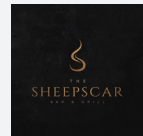
Organisation	Representative	Organisation Type
Anand Milan Elderly Centre	Harkishan Mistry	Elderly Centre
Bradford Bengali Hindu Cultural Society	Dilip Kumar Baidya	Bengali Hindu Community
Bradford Yoga Group	Mohanbhai Patel	Community Group
Brahma Kumaris UK	Manish Patel	Spiritual Movement
Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh - Bradford	Paresh Mistry	Men / Children's Cultural Activities
Indian Women's Community UK	Indu Dharni	Women's Association
Indians in Skipton	Jayaraj Nambiar	Community Group
Kshatriya Sudharak Mandal	Ishwar Chouhan	Gujarati Community Group
Leuva Patidar Samaj Yorkshire	Rameshbhai C Patel	Patel Community and Temple
Madhav Elderly Centre	Ashwin Mistry	Elderly Centre
Mandata Samaj	Jaydev Patel	Community Group
National Hindu Students Forum	Shivali Patel	Students' Organisation
Sewa Day	Anupam Sharma	Volunteering - Charity
Sewa UK	Satish Shah	Charity Organisation
Shree Prajapati Association Bradford	Narendra Mistry	Prajapati Community and Temple
Shree Venkateshwara Balaji Abishkegam Group	Kumaravel Kurusamy	South Indian Community
Sujaav Project	Rasmita Mistry	Elderly Group
Tamils of North England (TONE)	Hemaben Karthik	Community Group
United Cultural Society of Bradford	Pradip Bose	Bengali Hindu Community
Yorkshire Indian Business Network	Dr Anand Ezhil	Business Network

Organisations who fully Support BHC but cannot be a member due to the rules in their constitution.

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), INSIGHT UK, Sai Mandir and Friends Who Care Trust



Additional Event Partners





BHC Charity No 1199088

Email: Info@bhccouncil.com

Website: www.bhccouncil.com

 facebook.com/bhccouncil.com

 twitter.com/bh_council

 Instagram.com/Bradford_Hindu_Council