

Oshwal WARAZ



4th Edition

Nov, 2016

The beautiful Rangoli at the Oshwal Centre



Meera Hariya, Janvi Hariya, Rachna Gudka, Rajvi Sachin placing diamond mirrors



Ayush Shah lighting the candles

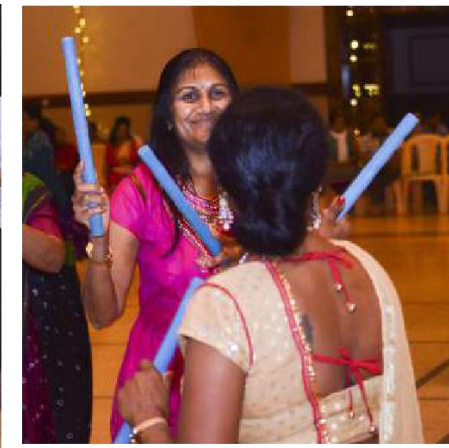


Avani Nailish and Krunali Kalpesh in deep concentration



Bhavya Bhavna 2016

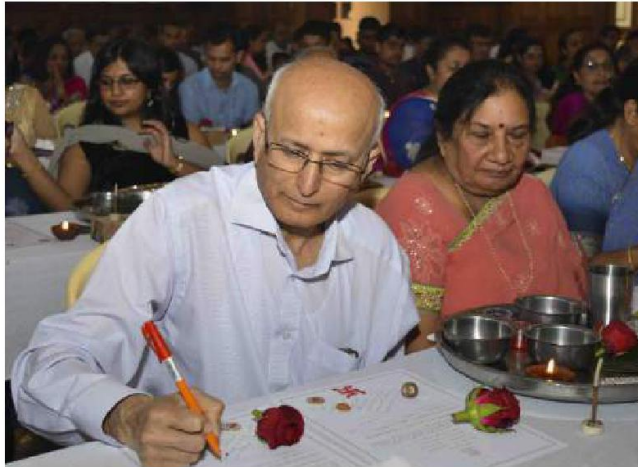
This year the management committee decided to bring in a little Diwali vibrancy into Oshwal Centre and to celebrate Diwali as its meant to be – a festival of lights and colour. The spirit of Diwali was flagged off in true Jain style with a Bhavya Bhavna on Friday 28th October 2016. The event which we hope will become an annual event began with an Arti followed by devotional Jain Stavans sung by Nitin Varsani, Jyoti Dhanani, Rekha Shah, Jayshree Gudka and Akhil on the drums. The melodious music and Stavans were enjoyed by over 800 people who attended putting their best foot forward for playing Garba followed by Dandia Raas. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all and many requests for regular events like these have been received by the office.



Chopda Poojan and Meet & Greet Diwali 2016

On the morning of 30th October 2016, the community hosted a Chopda Poojan which was attended by a record of over 900 People. The Poojan was conducted by Hitesh Doshi. Oshwals are known as a business community and Chopda Poojan forms a very intrinsic part of our Diwali celebrations. The Poojan is done on new ledgers or books of accounts seeking blessings of Goddess Lakshmi and Saraswati and signifying the beginning of a new financial year as per the Hindu calendar.

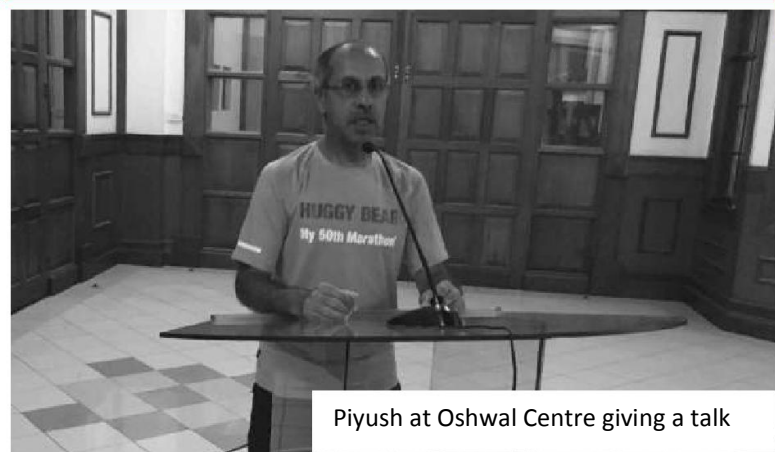
After the Poojan ended all present were invited to a Diwali Meet & Greet and Lunch. Traditionally Diwali and the New Years day which follows Diwali are seen as a time when families and friends meet up, renew bonds and celebrate the end of a year and the beginning of the new year. Over 3700 people attended the Lunch and took advantage to wish their friends, acquaintances and family members a Happy Diwali and Nutan Varash Na Abhinandan (Happy New Year). The lunch was a scrumptious affair and the Rangolis in the foyer brought a unique happy Diwali flavour to the day.



Piyush Gudka - the Oshwal Marathon man



His prowess in marathon and the urge to uplift upcoming athletes has enabled Piyush Gudka to visit the world and run 70 marathons on all 6 continents. He started his professional career as a Chartered Accountant but marathon won his heart after he got inspired by his good friend who did two London Marathons.



Piyush at Oshwal Centre giving a talk

We were fortunate enough to have Mr. Piyush Gudka come to Kenya to run his 70th marathon. He was born in Mombasa and migrated to the U.K at a young age where he began taking interest in running marathons.

A talk was arranged by VOC on 27th October, 2016 in which Piyush talked about his experiences as a marathon runner and general fitness. The talk was attended by 90 avid runners who had many queries about how to achieve their goals in running. We managed to get Piyush Gudka to have a one on one with us to answer some questions about his achievements:

What is your biggest accomplishment in your sport? I encouraged, Inspired and Trained over 200 people to run at least one marathon in their life and raised over 500,000 GBP.

What would be your ultimate achievement? My achievements have been and are something I strive towards in life; reach out to the maximum number of people I can encourage to live a healthy and active lifestyle, and help the underprivileged members of the community by giving them confidence and assistance to succeed in life.

What is your biggest challenge, and what do you do to manage this challenge? My biggest challenge to date has been the participation and completion of the Laugavegur. Ultra Trail Marathon in Iceland. This involved running through almost every known terrain from volcanic ash to more than ankle deep snow to fast flowing knee deep ice cold rivers to climbing rocks to passing sulphur springs to passing geysirs to... You name it and I have run through it. And mentally my biggest challenge has been personal performance coaching where I have come across issues from a variety of situations in life.

What is your diet like? I am a vegetarian and generally my diet is well balanced and the one required for fitness and running. I eat very little of fried food and have plenty of green vegetables, fruits, nuts, grains, legumes, beans, etc. I love milk which, together with vitamin D has made my bones stronger. I find eating Katlu Pak (traditional Gujarati mithai eaten by women post-pregnancy) and dates during a run is great source of energy.



Members listening to Piyush

What was the best advice you were ever given? Human achievements are only limited by their thoughts, imagination and creativity.

How did you get into training? The marathon training became a religion after I set my goal of participating in the London Marathon. Being physically active it wasn't difficult at all to wake up early (5:00am) on cold English winter mornings to train 4 times a week.

Oshwal Residency Opening

The auspicious day of Dhanteras; 28th October 2016, was earmarked as the day to officially open the Oshwal Residency – a flagship rental apartment project by the Oshwal Community. A Snatra Pooja conducted by Hitesh Doshi was done at the Derasar attended by Oshwal Members, residents of Oshwal Residency and Office Bearers. A Snatra Pooja is usually done before commencing any auspicious occasion and the emphasis of the Pooja is to remember various Tirthankars and to re-enact Lord Mahavir's Birth through the 14 dreams of Mata Trishla.



Refurbished Senior's Lounge opening

Interacting with friends and being socially active as a senior is very important and the Senior Lounge at the Mahanjanwadi provides a platform for our Seniors to engage with each other. The Senior's lounge has been open for a few years and this year it was decided to give it a much required refurbishment which was successfully completed in October and the refurbished Lounge was officially opened by members of the Senior Social Committee on 28th October, 2016.

Our seniors are valued members of the community and we request that all Oshwal particularly our young Oshwals to make it a point to visit the seniors lounge and interact with our seniors. A little conversation, a small discussion or even playing a game of cards with them goes a long way to show our seniors how valued, loved and respected they are. All in the spirit of Jains and Oshwals.

