

SIRI GURU NANAK DARBAR GURDWARA

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NEWS RELEASE

VAISAKHI CELEBRATIONS IN GRAVESEND ON 12 April 2008

The Sikh festival of Vaisakhi is to be celebrated in Gravesend this weekend by the communities of Kent and South East London with the Nagar Kirtan (procession) on Saturday 12th April, and the Gurburb (celebratory service) on Sunday 13th April at the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara.

The procession is expected to be attended by about 5,000 people, setting off from Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, stopping at the spectacular new Gurdwara being built in Khalsa Avenue, and proceeding through the Town Centre and past the Guru Ravidas Gurdwara in Brandon Street before returning to Guru Nanak Darbar.

Prayers will be said from a stage built outside the new Gurdwara, followed by Kirtan and speeches by invited dignitaries. The Nagar Kirtan will include the following (route plan and detailed list of content attached):

1. Panj Pyare and flag bearers
2. Guru Granth Sahib within a model of the Golden Temple
3. Sangat (congregation) walking, on lorries and in minibuses from the Guru Nanak and Milan Day Centres for the elderly, reciting Kirtan. This will include children from the Guru Nanak Punjabi School, and the Komal Sangeet Academy.

Gatka (Sikh martial art) demonstrations will be given by the Baba Fateh Singh Gatka Akhara. The religious part of the procession will be followed by cultural and social groups, including Lethal Soundz, Jugnu Bhangra Group, Asian Welfare Society, Four by Four Bhangra Group, children from Wrotham Road and Rosherville Primary schools, the Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance services.

The route map is shown on the next page. The procession will leave the Gurdwara in Clarence Place at 11.30, and be at the new Gurdwara from 12.00 noon to 12.30pm, then carrying on through the Town Centre, Darnley Road, Arthur Street (stopping at Brandon Street Gurdwara for prayers) before returning to Clarence Place by 2.45pm.

Jaspal Singh Dhesi

President, Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara

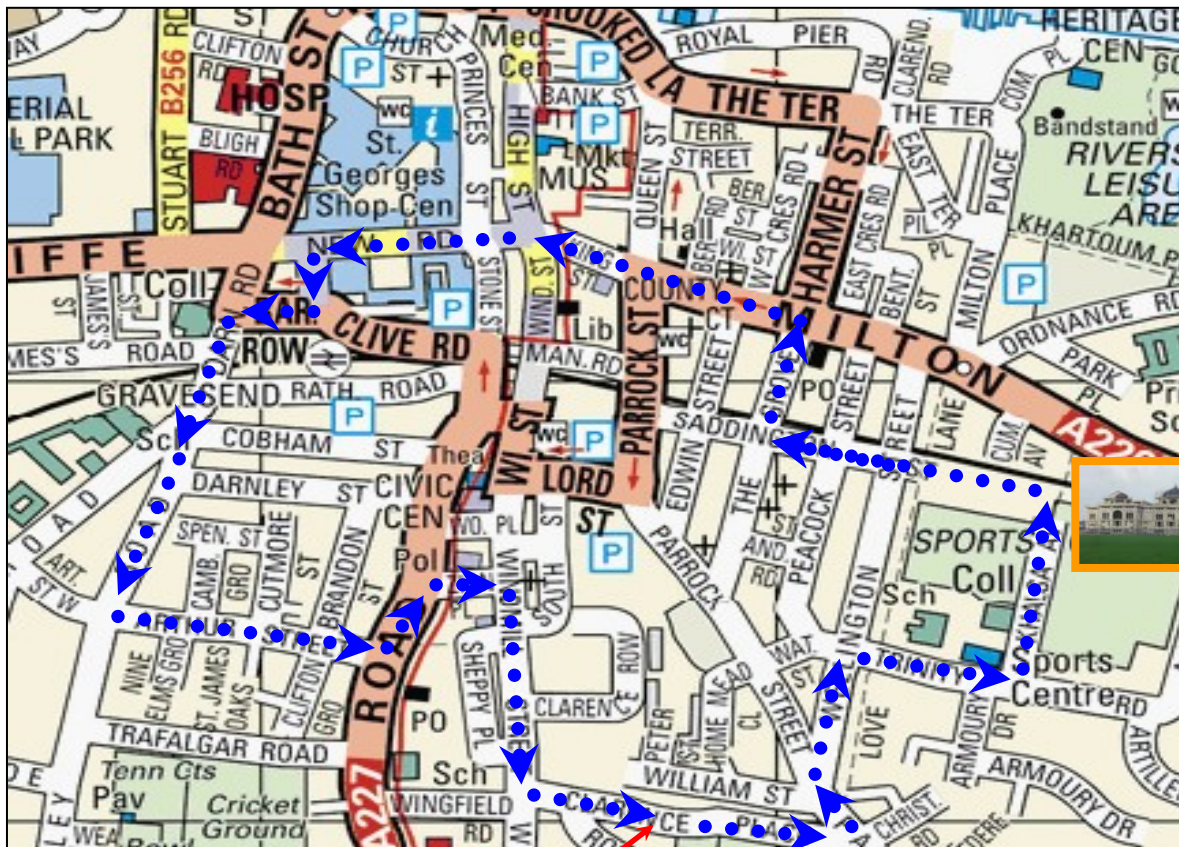
On behalf of the Gurdwara Management Committee

For further information, contact:

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ROUTE PLAN

Vaisakhi procession 12 April 2008: Route Map



**Start and Finish: Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara,
Clarence Place, Gravesend**

Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, Gravesend

Nagar Kirtan, Saturday 12 April 2008

Draft Order of Procession (possibly subject to minor changes)

1. **Nagara (large drum on lorry)**
2. *Five Nishan Sahibs and Panj Pyare walking (Five flag bearers and five Sikhs with swords)*
3. **Guru Granth Sahib in Golden Temple model**
4. *Punjabi School children walking*
5. **Ladies Kirtan lorry**
6. *Ladies walking Kirtan*
7. *Gatka Jatha walking*
8. *Men walking Kirtan*
9. **Day Centre Van 1**
10. **Day Centre Van 2**
11. **Day Centre Van 3**
12. **Sukh Sagar car**
13. **Four by Four lorry, drummers walking**
14. **Lethal Soundz lorry**
15. **Police Car 1**
16. **Police Car 2**
17. *Jugnu drummers and dancers walking*
18. **Jugnu lorry, with Rosherville & Wrotham Road school children**
(Joining at Holy Trinity School)
19. **Asian Welfare Society lorry, with Wrotham Road & Rosherville school children**
(Joining at Holy Trinity School)
20. **Youth Services van**
21. **Maan Coach**
22. **Fire Service vehicle 1**
23. **Fire Service vehicle 2**
24. **Red Cross Ambulance Service**

Key:

Bold – vehicles

Italics – on foot