



S S S A

SIKH SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

<http://www.sikhssa.org.au/>



**UPCOMING PROGRAMMES & SIGNIFICANT DATES:**

**Kirtan Darbar**  
Live Audio Streaming daily

**Wednesday**  
6.00pm-7.30pm

**Sunday**  
9.00am – 10.30am

**Sangrand**  
16 August 2020

**1<sup>st</sup> Parkash Guru Granth Sahib Ji**  
19 August 2020

**Gurgaddi Guru Arjan Dev Ji**  
20 August 2020

**Joti-Jot Guru Ramdas Ji**  
21 August 2020

**Gurgaddi Guru Ramdas Ji**  
31 August 2020

**Joti-Jot Guru Amardas Ji**  
2 Sept 2020

**Sikh Society Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/GurdwaraSahibGlenOsmond>

**PUNJABI SCHOOL**

Classes have resumed in Gurdwara

email:  
[psadelaide@gmail.com](mailto:psadelaide@gmail.com)  
for information.

August 2020

## President's Message

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa  
Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh

The AGM draws closer to be held on Saturday 29 August 2020 in the Eliza Hall and is a reminder to the MC of the efforts we have put in for the past 2 years.

We have been able to add and improve a few facilities in our gurdwara in this management committee's tenure. Most significant change which stands out is the pergola addition to the entrance to the gurdwara.

The pergola not only adds to the convenience of the sangat to approach the entrance safely but has added to the aesthetics of the gurdwara and fits in well with the building. We also installed a 15 kw solar system to the existing 5.5 kw system and hope this will reduce our electricity bill significantly.

This also extends our commitment to be a global citizen and our little contribution to reduce the carbon footprint. Another significant addition has been the installation of 16 HD security cameras around the premises. This has been long time overdue and everyone would agree is a prime

requirement for a prominent building like ours. These have been installed at strategic points. Some other assets acquired include, a dishwasher, TV in Foyer, New speakers in the Darbar Sahib, Live Streaming equipment and floodlights.

Amongst the many other ongoing operational and facility management we settled 2 legal battles which costed the Society \$35,000.

We also undertook a challenge to bring new Jatha's to the Sangat and which I believe we have successfully achieved.

With the rest of the world we also had COVID-19 restrictions and the uncertainty of management with the volume of information which at times led to many robust debates at our meetings to ensure the Society was compliant.

Communications to the Sangat was one of our goals and I hope this was achieved through the newsletter and from the Secretary.

I am privileged to have led this MC. Gary Padde, Kiran Singh, Gurdave Bal, Balbir Kaur, Manjeet Singh Tuteja, Amardeep Singh, Nehal Singh, Bharatinder Singh, Harbans

Singh Sandhu and Ravinder Singh have actively contributed to our Society and acknowledge their sacrifices and contributions.

I would also like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank the contributions of Kuldeep Singh Heer, Pritniwaz Singh Dhillon, Ramesh Dhillon and Savant Singh.

Whilst we have endeavored to make decisions for the benefit of the Society, I humbly apologise for any errors and flaws in our activities over the last 2 years.

I can only hope the positives outweigh the negatives in our services over the last 2 years.

With this as our final newsletter, on behalf of the MC I wish the incoming MC all the best and our ongoing support if required.

I would also like to thank the Sangat for their patience and support.

S. Balwant Singh

## Punjabi School

The Punjabi School had been running classes and homework remotely since mid-March 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions and safety requirements. This remote work has been very well supported by parents and students. A big thank you to the teaching staff who undertook this work and for the MC support.

Currently the School has resumed face to face classes from Sunday 27 July 2020. The School is monitoring the situation on a continuous basis and aligning up to COVID 19 requirements from specific Gurudwara Sahib, Education Department, Health Department and Ethnic Schools guidelines.

The School is **still taking new enrolments** and parents can contact Amardeep Singh (m: 0405-760-168 or email [psadelaide@gmail.com](mailto:psadelaide@gmail.com)) for further details.

## Update your Details

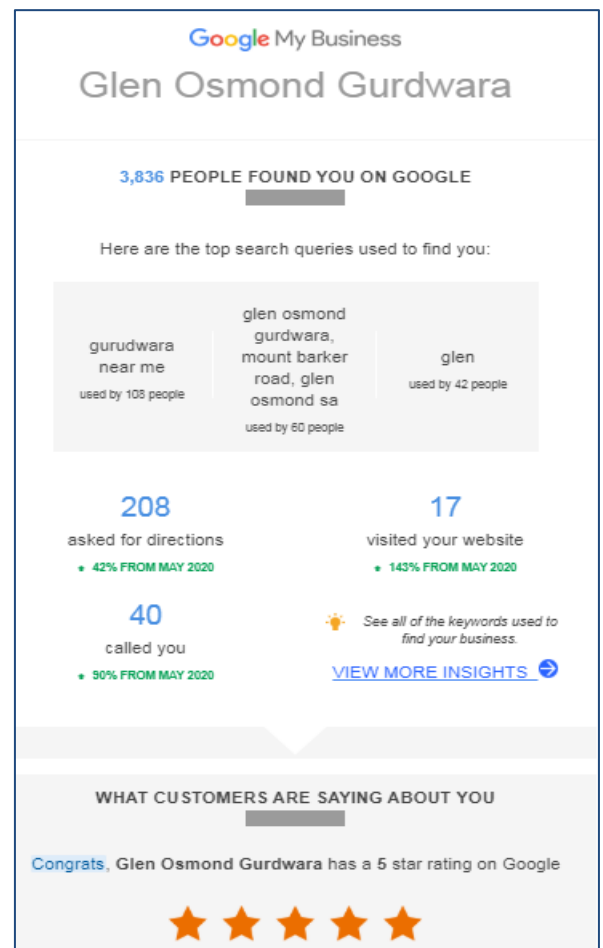
A request is put out to all members to update your contact details if they have changed. We have several emails that advise unknown address and are bouncing back. This is a challenge for us as we cannot identify the members and have no way of contacting them either. Can you please in your conversations at the Gurudwara assist and spread the word. Contact details can be updated with the treasurer or by emailing the secretary.

## Subscriptions

All Subscriptions for FY 2020/21 are due and members are encouraged to pay early as possible by paying to the Treasurer, mail a cheque or direct transfer into SSSA account as follows

Our banking details are:  
**Sikh Society of SA,**  
**National Australia Bank**  
**BSB No. 085 070**  
**Account No. 50512 2767**

## Google My Business



## Announcements

### Gurdwara Services

The MC is doing its best to adhere to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. With information and instructions to constant change we appreciate there can be some confusion on in how we operate. The MC is wishing to take small steps to return to normal as far as possible. The MC wishes to avoid complacency and observe the social distancing, cleanliness, hygiene and sanitising protocols.

Members are reminded of the following:

- Sunday services are from 9 – 10:30 am. This allows 1 hour of Kirtan from 9-10, followed Ardas and Hukamnama.
- Wednesday services are from 6pm – 7:30 pm with Rehraas commencing at 6, followed by Kirtan, Ardas and Hukamnama.
- At all other times, Gurdwara continues to remain open between 9am – 5 pm, for **Metha Tek only**.
- MC members will continue to monitor number of people entering the Gurdwara in accordance with restrictions lifted or reintroduce
- Visitors must ensure they complete their details on the Contact Tracing information sheet when visiting the Gurdwara at any time, and comply with sanitising and social distancing principles.
- The Kitchen, dining room and upstairs / downstairs toilets (with the exception of the downstairs disability toilet) will continue to be out-of-bounds to visitors, to minimise contact and ease of cleanliness. So please do not enter these areas.
- Please do not become complacent with social distancing. Maintain social distancing principles at all times and do not gather especially in the small foyer area downstairs, or at the top and bottom of the staircase.

### Langgar

From Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the MC will start serving langgar in the form of take away packs. Langgar will only be served on Sundays at this stage. The MC has nominated only 2 people to be in the kitchen to cook – no Sewadars are required at this stage. Only Dhall and rice will be served in the containers. Tea or snacks are still not being made available at this time.

1 pack per person will be provided to each person, as they leave the building.  
The MC will review this after trialling it for a few weeks.

## 39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 29 AUGUST 2020 Eliza Hall 1.00pm

Completed Nomination forms **must** be placed in the ballot box at the Gurdwara and/or sent to the Returning Officer Jessie Chabra (email: [shirokhaira@gmail.com](mailto:shirokhaira@gmail.com)) no later than **10:00 am on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

Any Motions to be included on the Agenda must reach the Secretary no later than **5.00PM on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020**.

## COVID-19 Community Update from the Department of Home Affairs

The SSSA Management Committee has been sending out updates on a regular basis regarding COVID-19. The Department appreciates the ongoing efforts of community leaders to share feedback and distribute official information to their communities.

The spike in Victoria shows just how easy it is for outbreaks to occur if we don't continue to practise physical distancing and good hygiene, and stay at home when sick. It's also a reminder of the importance of downloading the COVIDSafe app so health authorities can quickly find close contacts of people confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. It is also a reminder to SSSA community members and the Sangat to ensure you enter your details in the Contact Tracing information sheet when you enter the Gurdwara.

The Australian Government has also passed on some information to be shared with community members that there is currently an information campaign to support and inform multicultural communities in response to an increase in reports of racist behaviour targeting people of Asian appearance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. All Australians have a role to play in responding to racism, by calling it out when they see it, standing in solidarity with affected people and communities, and celebrating our rich multicultural diversity. Information and support is available at [Help Stop Racism](#). Racism, in any form, is not acceptable in Australia. All of us have a role to play in helping to stop racism. If you see or experience racism, speak up. Visit [www.australia.gov.au/helpstopracism](http://www.australia.gov.au/helpstopracism)

## Essay-We're all in the same Boat: Stories of Adaptation and Resilience from Australia's Religious Communities in the Time of Covid -19

In April 2020 Trish Prentice, a Research Assistant from the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute contacted the Society seeking contribution towards her research on how religious institutions in Australia were responding to the ban on public gatherings and social distancing measures from the COVID-19 Pandemic. The MC (in particular Amardeep Singh) worked with Trish to contribute to her research.

Trish has written up the contributions from the different faiths, as case studies, to give some insight into how different religious communities are coping with the COVID-19 restrictions, renegotiating their religious requirements, on the one hand, and their community's expectations, on the other, while still providing support and assistance to those in need.

Trish is very thankful to the Society for our contribution. For those interested, she has kindly shared the link to the published essay *We're all in the Same Boat: Stories of Adaption and Resilience from Australia's Religious Communities in the Time of COVID-19*: <https://scanloninstitute.org.au/publication/were-all-same-boat-stories-adaption-and-resilience-australias-religious-communities> (The SSSA case study can be found on page 7).

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## Information Received

The MC receives regular communication from various government agencies. With the COVID-19 restrictions, we felt the below was pertinent to be shared from the relevant services to provide support to families and the larger community. The MC is only sharing this information and encourage anyone requiring these services to contact these government services directly

## Family Court Support– Women’s Information Service

In March 2005 the South Australian Government launched The Women’s Safety Strategy which aims at building a safer community for women. Consistent with this, the Family Court Support program was established by the Women’s Information Service in 2006 to make women’s experiences in the Family court system safer and more tolerable.

This program was created because of the need expressed to support women who are fearful to go to the Family Court after an abusive relationship.

The Family Court of Australia is located in the Roma Mitchell Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 3 Angas St, Adelaide. ( see image on right for appearance of building)



The Family Court Support Volunteers will assist in orientating you to the layout of the court, i.e toilets, basic legal process, how to enter the court as well as provide tools for emotional support.

Contact 1800 188 158, (08) 8303 0590 or 0401 989 860 for any questions.

They can also be contacted by email on [wis@sa.gov.au](mailto:wis@sa.gov.au).

Visit [www.wis.sa.gov.au](http://www.wis.sa.gov.au) for more information.



## Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service

The Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service (WDVCAS) is a specialist legal service within the LSC providing support to women affected by domestic and family violence.

The WDVCAS provides a range of services primarily relating to helping women apply for or change intervention orders and ending tenancy agreements.

For further information contact WDVCAS on 1800 246 .642 or visit <https://www.dss.gov.au/women/help-is-here-campaign>

Call through Translating and Interpreting Services on 131 450 for an interpreter.

Audio recordings are available in Hindi amongst other languages for FAQ's

## Family Advocacy and Support Services

The Family Advocacy and Support Services (FASS) is an integrated service supported by duty lawyers and social workers. The Social Workers aim to connect you with relevant services such as accommodation, financial counselling and other social support.

They are located at the Family Court Registry and visit the Women's Safety Services in Mile End. They can be contacted on (08) 8111 5300.

## The Legal Services Commission

The Legal Services Commission is a starting point for legal help. The services provided are free except for the cost of the call and are available Monday through to Friday between 9.00am and 4.30pm. They provide legal advice on most legal problems.

Due to Covid-19, their offices are currently closed to the public but are available online and their telephone legal services continue. They can be contacted on 1300 366 424. An interpreter service through Translating and Interpreting Services is available by calling through to 131 450.

Their services are free and available to all and appointments for services need to be made by the contacting the number above. Their legal advisers can help you work out what to do next or which services to contact to assist. They also will call you back with an interpreter and absorb the cost of the interpreting services. None of their services are means or assets tested.

Please visit <https://lsc.sa.gov.au/> for more information

Audio recordings are available in Hindi amongst other languages for FAQ's

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**Sikh Anzacs, Gallipoli Campaign.**

**Speech by The Hon Russell Wortley MLC to the State  
Parliament.**



### SIKHS IN GALLIPOLI

**The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (15:33):** This year, 25 April marked the 105th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign. Every year on this day we commemorate our ANZACs and the bravery and sacrifice of our service men and women in military missions across the world. We remember those who gave their lives in defending the values that Australia stands for. In paying respects to our war heroes, I would also like to knowledge the role of the Sikhs as valuable allies in the two world wars and as members of the ANZAC forces. While Sikhs made up less than 2 per cent of the Indian population, they comprised over 20 per cent of the British Indian Army that fought alongside Australian soldiers in Gallipoli. The role of the fierce but righteous Sikhs in Gallipoli is documented through numerous affectionate mentions and photographs that were sent home to Australia by our soldiers. The Sikhs would share their meals of dahl and roti bread with Australian soldiers who were keen for a change from the ANZAC rations. The Sikhs arrived at Gallipoli as part of the Forge G of the British Indian Army as the 14th Ferozpur Sikh Battalion and were later joined by the 1st Rajindra Patiala Sikh Infantry. The Mountain Artillery Brigade, comprising Sikhs and Punjabis, also served alongside Australians for the entire eight months of the campaign. Their contribution was not limited to the battlefield alone. The Sikhs were an integral part of the medical unit, and supply and transport unit that cared for our allied forces. The 14th Ferozpur Regiment were highly trained and seasoned in military operations, having previously participated in multiple operations in India. To honour their past service, Sikh soldiers were distinguished with the right to wear turbans, which were identified in many notes sent home by ANZAC and British soldiers during the war. At midday on 4 June 1915, the 14th Ferozpur Sikhs, comprising 13 Indian officers and 450 sepoy, attacked the Turkish forces as a part of the Third Battle of Krithia during the Gallipoli campaign. The aim of the battle was to capture trenches and further the allied hold line. They bravely marched forward from gully ravines despite the possibility of hidden machine-gun fire from the Turkish forces.





The Turks controlled the high ground and had already dug trenches, giving themselves a great strategic advantage. The challenge facing the Sikhs was further heightened as the British had limited shells and could not successfully push the Turk soldiers back according to plan. Despite all these setbacks, the Sikhs charged upward in a fight, with all odds against them. They fought machine-gun and rifle fire with bayonets and not one man turned back or surrendered in defeat that day. The fierce battle that ensued left the regiment with 11 out of 13 officers and 371 out of the 450 sepoys as casualties, a terrible loss of life in one day of fighting. However, their tales of courage and strength live on in the writings of men like Lieutenant Reginald Savory and General Sir Ian Hamilton. Savory speaks of Uday Singh, the broad-shouldered battalion wrestler who deserted the reserve trenches to rescue Savory in the midst of gunfire with no fear of death. Uday Singh carried him to safety, having flung Savory across his shoulder in a show of loyalty to his officer that the Sikhs have garnered a reputation for. Many ANZACS wrote home about the bravery of Karam Singh who continued to command his troops despite being blinded by an artillery shell. Section Commander Magger Singh leapt past a wire obstacle, leading his men across the obstacle that the Turks expected would deter the Sikhs. In a letter to the commander-in-chief in India, General Hamilton spoke of the extreme gallantry of the battalion that allowed not an inch of ground to be lost with not a sign of wavering all day. He spoke of the Turkish trenches littered with the bodies of the fearless Sikhs who had fallen face first in their charge, undeterred by the prospect of death. The Sikhs throughout the Gallipoli campaign will always be remembered for their discipline, valour, strength and faith in the face of opposition. These lion-hearted men followed the paths of their formidable warrior ancestors and entrenched the foundations of a long-lasting friendship between the Sikh community and Australia. I am privileged to have developed a good relationship with the Sikh community in South Australia over the past six years. I would like to acknowledge the presence in the gallery of Mr Balwant, President of the South Australian Sikh Society, and Dr Takhar of the Prospect temple, who encouraged me to talk about the contribution of the Sikhs in the Gallipoli campaign today. I also acknowledge Noor Garcha for her research assistance in preparing this speech.

## Acknowledgements



THE HON JING LEE MLC  
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PREMIER

### *Certificate of Appreciation*

to the

**Sikh Society of South Australia**

during



Thank you to the Sikh Society of South Australia for your commitment and dedication to supporting members of the Sikh community during the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic by distributing important COVID-19 information and providing emotional and spiritual guidance through online broadcasts and activities. I wish to thank President Balwant Singh, the Executive Committee, and all the dedicated volunteers for your tireless efforts and outstanding contributions to assisting vulnerable community members during this difficult time.

**Wishing you all a Happy and Rewarding National Volunteer Week!**

I would like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to all the wonderful volunteers for giving their time and energy to make South Australia a safer and better place.

*Thank You!*

**The Honourable Jing Lee MLC**  
Assistant Minister to the Premier  
Member of Parliament in the Legislative Council



## Acknowledgements

20 May 2020

Gary Padde  
Sikh Society of South Australia  
10 Mount Barker Road  
GLEN OSMOND SA 5064



**CFS FOUNDATION**

Supporting Volunteer Firefighters

PO Box 4197  
Norwood Sth SA 5067  
T 1300 270 278  
ABN 91 442 189 358  
[cfsfoundation.org.au](http://cfsfoundation.org.au)

Dear Gary,

On behalf of members of the Board, thank you to the Sikh Society of South Australia for their donation to the Country Fire Service Foundation in support of our CFS volunteers in their time of need.

Your donation comes at a critical time for the volunteers affected by the recent bush fires. While firefighting to protect our communities, many volunteers suffered extensive losses to their homes, property, crops, fences and livestock - some were even badly injured.

The CFS Foundation's purpose is to give immediate financial support to our CFS volunteers during tragic events such as these.

Thank you again for supporting our CFS volunteers through the CFS Foundation. Your tax-deductible receipt is below for your records.

Yours sincerely,

Gloria Berni  
Chief Executive Officer

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**TAX RECEIPT - Country Fire Service Foundation Inc.**

**ABN: 91 442 189 358**

Received from: Sikh Society of South Australia

Receipt No: 47632

Received on: Wednesday 20 May 2020

DC: 173216

Pmt method: Direct Deposit

Transaction details	Amount	GST	Tax Dedn
Donation	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$1,700.00