

Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, Guru Nanak Marg, Gravesend —

Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, located just east of Gravesend train station, stands as a remarkable place of worship for Sikhs and a community hub since its inauguration in May 2011. This awe-inspiring Gurdwara, primarily funded by the local community, extends a warm welcome to people of all faiths and backgrounds, emphasizing unity and inclusiveness.

Visitors are encouraged to explore its magnificent architecture while maintaining a peaceful atmosphere, fostering reflection and inner peace.

The Langar, or Community Kitchen, embodies the principles of equality, selfless service and sharing, providing free meals to all, regardless of their background. The work involved in preparing the food and cleaning up afterwards is regarded as Sewa (voluntary, selfless service), acting as a reminder that everyone is equal.

In this place of prayer and reflection, visitors are requested to follow a few rules as a sign of respect: removing shoes upon entry, washing hands, and covering their heads. These customs symbolize leaving material concerns behind and preparing to engage in a spiritual experience. Questions and engagement are encouraged as part of the learning experience within the Sangat (Congregation).

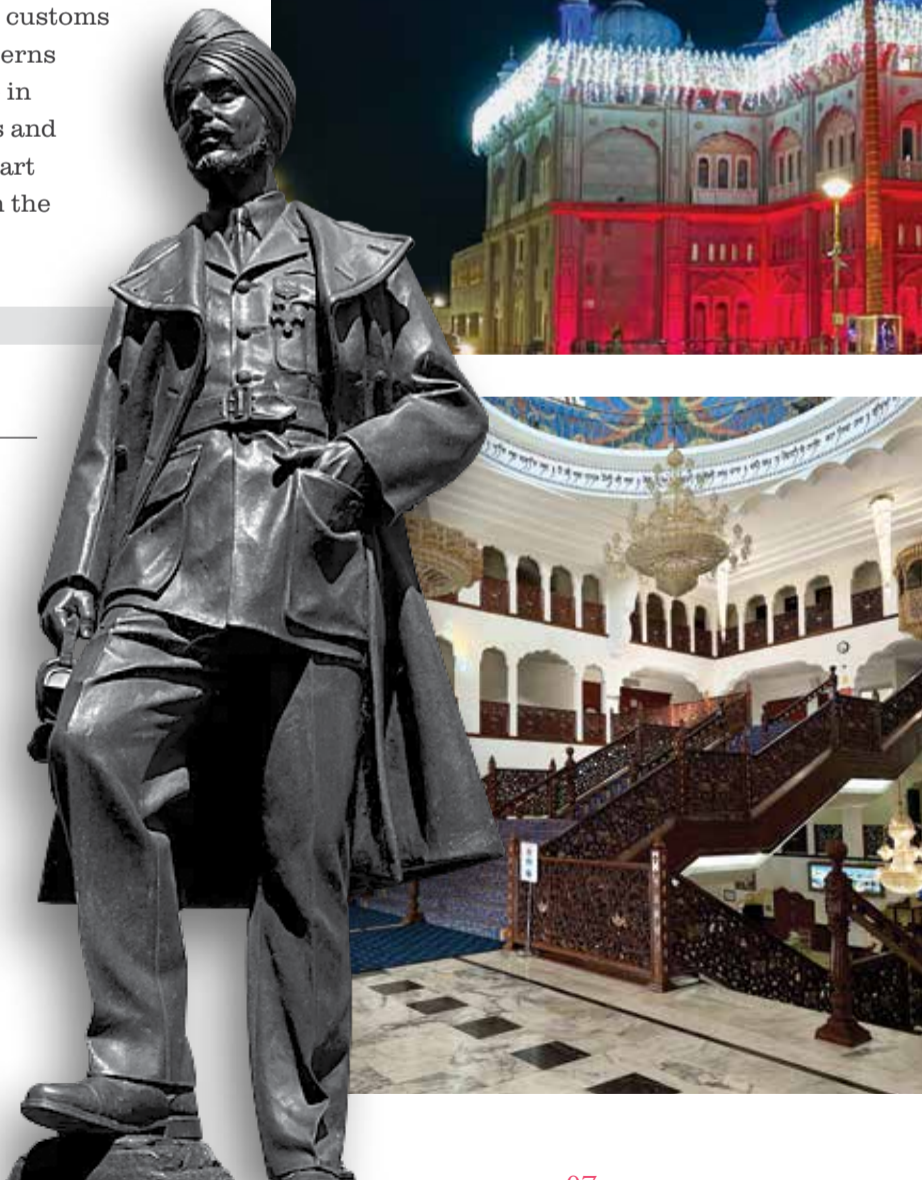
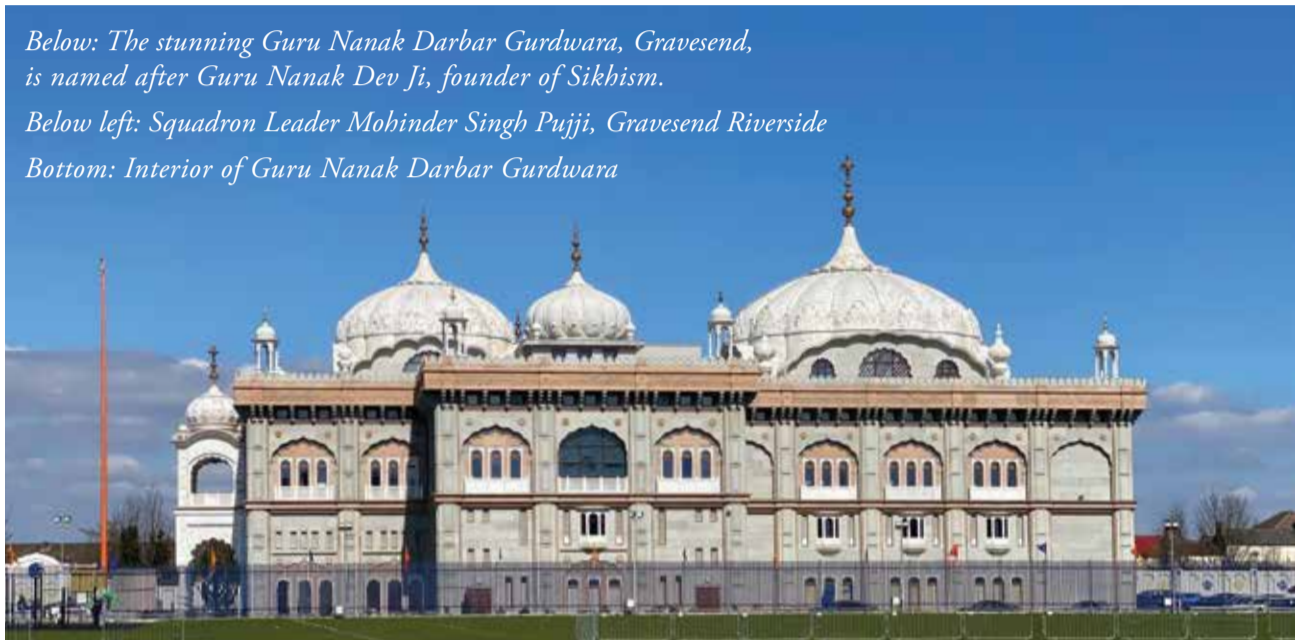
BACKGROUND

Gravesend has a significant Sikh community, initially attracted to the area in the 1950s by local industries, including the paper mills near the Thames. Now, approximately 16,000 Sikhs reside in North Kent, with around 10 percent of Gravesend's population being Sikhs. Prior to the current Gurdwara, Sikhs gathered for religious services in various locations, including a house in Edwin Street up to 1968, and a converted church in Clarence Place from 1968 to 2010.

Below: The stunning Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, Gravesend, is named after Guru Nanak Dev Ji, founder of Sikhism.

Below left: Squadron Leader Mohinder Singh Puji, Gravesend Riverside

Bottom: Interior of Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara



THE NEW GURDWARA —

A Building for the 21st Century.

The community moved to the current Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara on Guru Nanak Dev Ji's 531st birthday in November 2010. It is an impressive 8.5-acre site, designed to reflect the confidence and aspirations of the local Sikh community. The new modern and iconic building is a testament to their dedication and faith, and the complex also includes a day centre for the elderly, a Punjabi school for children to learn the language at weekends, a Sports Centre and outdoor sports facilities including two football pitches.

COME AND VISIT

www.gurunanakdarbar.org