

## Croydons Annual Ratha Yatra celebration takes off in 2018



Hindu dancers take to the air during Ratha Yatra celebrations

Photo Les Kemp

Back in Parkhill Park a week after FTiC's picnic another feast took place as part of the Ratha Yatra celebrations in Croydon, organised by ISKCON South London.

It started at 12.30pm with in Croydon North End with a chariot parade started by Deputy Mayor Councillor Humayun Kabir where the major Temple Deities are brought out to meet the people. Music and dance accompanied the parade which made it's way through the shopping pedestrian area . Speeches by local dignitaries and the familiar chanting of Hari Krishna were also featured until the parade finally made it's way past the Town Hall and up to Parkhill Park.

The Parade and members of the general public encouraged to join the celebrations were welcomed into the park and treated to free food and refreshments.

After an opportunity to collect the food and rest a little, the assembled crowd of around two hundred were treated to an afternoon of music , dance and a half hour drama from devotees of the ISKCON Bhaktivedanta Manor, Watford, who have performed worldwide to promote understanding of Hindu principles. The celebrations finally concluded with thanks to all at 5pm.

Les Kemp

Vice chair FTiC