

**Ahmad Lunat OBE
Member**

Ahmad Lunat is an author and founder member of Batley's Gujarati Writers' Forum. He has a lifelong commitment to strengthening community services in our locality. The group is a Batley based arts organisation with a commitment to exploring innovative ways of providing high quality experiences, using the age-old traditional techniques of storytelling, crafts and visual arts, as ways of engaging, inspiring and challenging communities.

Its key aim is to bring young people from different communities together to increase individual and community involvement through engagement and participation and to make a real and lasting difference to their lives, by inspiring them to actively achieve their best and enjoy the learning experience.

Ahmad has worked extensively with education projects across the Batley and Dewsbury areas.

Ahmad Lunat's began to write creatively at the age of 15 when he was a student in his native village of Alipore. He came to Britain in 1963 and continued his creative writing in Gujarati. To date, he has published five collections of poems which have earned him acclaim from the mainstream critics of the language.

Ahmad has also presented his poetry at Gujarati conferences in the USA, Canada and Belgium, among other places, of which he is very proud of.

In addition, Ahmad has been actively involved in community work by associating himself with Kirklees Racial Equality Council, Batley Action Limited, Indian Muslim Welfare Society, Dewsbury College, etc.

His contribution to community services was recognised by Her Majesty's government in 1999 when he was awarded an OBE.