## Vaisakhi in the park: Nottingham celebrates Sikh festival

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Organised by Nottingham City Council, the event focused on the culture angle, featuring live music, food, dancing and performances by students from the Nottingham Asian Arts Council. (Image credit: Buraera Ahsen)

The Sikh festival of Vaisakhi was celebrated at Wollaton Park, Nottingham, on May 11, 2025. The festival marked the spring harvest and the founding of the Khalsa – a special Sikh community established in 1699.

Organised by Nottingham City Council, the event focused on the culture angle, featuring live music, food, dancing and performances by students from the Nottingham Asian Arts Council.

People of all backgrounds came together to enjoy the traditional mela. Stallholders such as Ranjit Singh showcased items of religious and cultural significance, including the Kara (steel bracelet), Khanda symbol, Kirpaan (ceremonial sword or dagger symbol), Sikh history books and even Punjabi to English dictionaries.

We also met Gora Bhangra Man, Ian Cooper. Watch the video to hear more from the organisers, attendees and the British man in love with Bhangra (Punjabi dance).