

Sahaja Yoga

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Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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"It is time now to realise the nature of the universe to which you belong, and of that controlling power whose offspring you are; and to understand that your time has a limit set to it.

Use it, then, to advance your enlightenment; or it will be gone."

Marcus Aurelius



STATE NEWS

News from NSW

Diwali Puja Celebrations this Saturday Night at Balmoral

The great celebration of Diwali is the festival of lights and is universally celebrated with fervour and gaiety. The festival is celebrated by all Sahaja Yogis alike throughout the world to ward off the darkness, ignorance, and to welcome the lights into our lives. Diwali is the festival of Lakshmi, and celebrates Shri Mataji in Her aspect of the Goddess of prosperity and wealth, whereby She brings peace and prosperity to all Sahaja Yogis.

When Lord Ram killed Ravan and was returning to Ayodhya along with Laxman, Sita and Hanuman, at that time Diwali was celebrated in Ayodhya for the first time. The people of Ayodhya lit up their homes with oil lamps and turned the night into a light festival. From that time onwards Diwali has been celebrated to mark the Victory of Lord Ram over the evil Ravan.

Diwali is also considered to be the festival of the Goddess wealth and prosperity, Shri Lakshmi, who visits all homes to bless the people. So to welcome the goddess homes are cleaned & decorated.

Traditionally people light up their homes with clay oil lamps and colourful lights and Rangolis. This new moon night or *Amavasya* as it is called is thus turned into a bright and colourful night. The celebration of Diwali is viewed in all its splendour at night when the homes are lit up. Diwali would be incomplete without its light.

For Sahaja Yogis Diwali is a time for festivity and family. It is also a time for Puja and spiritual liberation where we worship Shri Mataji and thank Her for leading us into truth and light. As our Divine Mother and protector She has taught us to vanquish that ignorance that subdues our self-realisation, and to drive away the darkness that engulfs the light of Sahaja knowledge.

Diwali will be held at the Balmoral Country Property this Saturday 2nd November. The celebrations will commence at 4:30pm, by popular demand, with another viewing of the landmark Puja discourse seen during last weekend's Navaratri Puja during which Shri Mataji declares:

"I am God, I am the power of God, what is God on this earth but his power".

Following the viewing of this discourse the Puja will commence around 6pm. Yogis are encouraged to come in the afternoon and spend some time in clearing and introspection with regard to our spiritual ascent, to stay overnight and enjoy time with the collective.

Please bring along a cushion, small rug or mat as needed to assist in sitting upon the wooden floor of the Puja Hall. As Shri Mataji's temple it is somehow less appropriate to lay old and stained carpets before Her altar. At some fu-

ture time when finances permit, Indian rugs will be purchased to lay upon the floor. But until that time can we take up the responsibility to ensure that we bring something to sit upon.

Setup and Dismantle

Inner West

Cooking

Upper North Shore

Washing Up

Western Suburbs

First Anniversary Celebrations for *Mother's Love Childcare Centre*

On behalf of *Mother's Love Childcare Centre* we extend a cordial invitation to all Yogis to the official commemorations of the first Anniversary of the opening of our Childcare Centre to be held on Saturday 9th November.

This will be a day of enjoyment dedicated to this great event. We wish to invite and encourage everyone to enjoy a great day and to take part in the festivities and celebrations.

Activities arranged: ++ sausage sizzle ++

++ children's hobby farm ++ helium balloons ++

++ magician ++ popcom machine ++ face painting ++

To promote this event we have around 10,000 handbills to distribute in the Burwood area this Saturday morning commencing at 8:00am.

This is an urgent call for volunteers to meet at Burwood ashram and spend a few hours handbilling to promote the opening and help ensure the ongoing success of the pre-school.

To coordinate the handbilling activity can all volunteers please contact me as soon as possible on 9371 3696

Spontaneous Caterers

Please note that the next *Spontaneous Caterers* event will be held on the weekend of 16th and 17th November. The venue will be the *Aroma Therapy Conference* where Sahaja Yoga will have a stand and will present a session to give self-realisation to the audience.

There will be about 250 attendees on each day. We will need a good crew of volunteers to ensure that *Spontaneous Caterers* continues to thrive and survive and deliver the sort of service which has proved to be successful in the past.

Can all volunteers contact Robert Hutcheon to let them know which of the two days they can attend.

Sincerely, *Chris Kyriacou*