

# Sahaja Yoga

12<sup>th</sup> March, 2004



## Australian Newsletter

***Jai Shri Mataji!***

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*Thou hast made me known to friends whom I knew not.  
Thou hast given me seats in homes not my own.  
Thou hast brought the distant near  
and made a brother of the stranger.*

*I am uneasy at heart  
when I have to leave my accustomed shelter;  
I forget that there abides the old in the new,  
and that there also thou abidest.*

*Through birth and death, in this world or in others,  
wherever thou leadest me it is thou, the same,  
the one companion of my endless life  
who ever linkest my heart  
with bonds of joy to the unfamiliar.*

*When one knows thee, then alien there is none,  
then no door is shut.*

*Oh, grant me my prayer that I may never lose  
the bliss of the touch of the one  
in the play of many.*

Rabindranath Tagore



# STATE NEWS

*from New South Wales...*

**Plans are under way  
for the Easter Puja Seminar:  
your assistance is requested**

Easter Puja is only four weeks away and now is about the time we need to seriously engage with preparation work.

Between now and Easter Avinash, Raymond and myself will be attending Birthday Puja so we are looking to the collective to really step up to the mark both in relation to taking on responsibility for doing much of what is required to organise and put the event together.

One aim is to complete the work to Shri Mataji's cottage, and re-assemble Her furniture which was distributed around the collective, and decorate Her rooms appropriately.

With this newsletter is a spreadsheet where I have attempted to identify specific tasks that need to be assigned and completed to help host the National Easter weekend seminar.

If I have left things off please let me know so they can be accounted for.

Last week during the announcements we asked for volunteers to come forward and I would like to thank those Yogis who have already stepped forward to volunteer their assistance.

As you can gather from the attached Task List there is much to be done, so we will need many people to step forward to ensure a successful outcome.

A meeting is being called following this week's Program to begin discussing the work and assigning tasks.

*Chris Kyriacou*

**Bondi Beach self realisation program  
postponed to this Sunday 14th March  
from 8am till noon**

As it was too wet and windy to run a realisation program last weekend we will be running the Bondi self realisation program this Sunday instead.

Waverley Council is giving us a trial day on the promenade in front of the beach (we will either be in front of the pavilion or further down the promenade near the skating ramp at South Bondi).

The program will be run like the Manly Corso program, with passers by being invited to try Sahaja Yoga Meditation and experience self realisation. We also hope to encourage seekers to the Eastern Suburbs programs.

As this is a one-off at the moment it would be great to have as many yogis present as possible to make the day a success. The event will start early (8am) and finish at midday. Please come early for a seaside meditation before giving others realisation.

*Please contact Keiran McPhail at Burwood on 9747 4835 or 0416 217 445 for more information.*

**Invitation to a barbecue  
and an evening of memories  
at Balmoral next Saturday 20th March  
prior to Birthday Puja  
on Sunday 21st March**

We would like to invite all the yogis to Balmoral on Saturday 20th March for a barbecue and night of Memories with Shri Mataji.

Helen Splarn has put together a CD of photos from India tours and times spent with Shri Mataji here in Australia and overseas.

Come and share with us the special moments and fond memories of the time spent with our Mother and each other.

Love,

*Deb Keetley and Kim Pearce*

## Manly Corso Realisation on Saturday 27th March: the last one for the season

This is the last chance for the season for all of us to come to Manly Corso and help give people their realisation. This is purely a seasonal event; co-inciding with the sun and beach season of summer. Many people come to Manly Beach to soak up the relaxing atmosphere of the beach. This will be the last time for the year that we will be having a stall at Manly Corso to take Sahaja Yoga into the general public at this location.

So please come one, come all and join us. If you have thought about it before, this is the last chance for the year. Even if you haven't thought about it come and help out.

The last time we had a stall at the corso was just after the riots in Redfern. It just so happened that a couple of young aboriginal boys were at the corso on weekend relief from gaol, and these boys got their realisation. There is always much going on below the surface that we have no idea about. All we can do is be there to do our bit.

We will be at the corso on Saturday, 27th March from 10am to 4pm under the Big Fig tree in the middle of the Manly Corso. It will be great if we can make one last effort at this location for the year.

*Any questions about directions or general enquiries can be directed to Sean Daly 0410 445 226*



*This is a recent photo from NASA of a nebula in the far reaches of the universe. Could this be the Eye of God?*

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### *from Italy...*

### Glowing report from the recent Italian National Seminar 20 to 22 February 2004

Upon returning to Italy, my husband and I were fortunate to attend the National Sahaja Yoga Seminar in Montecatini. I had never been to such a large scale Sahaja Yoga seminar before, and was amazed to find a most professional orchestration of logistics, entertainment, and information, not to mention tremendous vibrations!!!

The event was staged over three days, with the theme *Faccia a Faccia con la verità* or 'Face to Face with Truth'. The only way I can describe what I witnessed was a full-scale talk show, not unlike Ray Martin's old midday show. However, the topics all Sahaja-inspired and full of vibrations!

Upon arrival at Montecatini we were impressed to see a large billboard advertising the national seminar and incorporating a beautiful photograph of Shri Mataji. It was impossible to miss coming into the town. I felt such joy to see Sahaja Yoga so openly and professionally advertised.

We entered into the large theatre via a red carpet past some beautiful and tastefully designed posters of Shri Mataji and the differing elements. However when we entered the round main hall everyone was speechless. Around the perimeter of the arena stood a ceiling-high montage of huge pictures of Shri Mataji and some pictures of enmass realisation! These banners ran at least 50 meters in length each side of the main stage! Just to the left and right of the stage where huge pictures of Shri Mataji with Shri Hanumana and Lord Ganesha. It truly was an incredible sight. On the stage, tiered seating was arranged for maybe 25 people each side. In the centre a beautiful lounge seating 20 people was arranged in a half circle, as if awaiting a conference. Shri Mataji's altar was set on the right side of the stage, and elaborately decorated with flowers of every color. We truly were speechless.

On the first evening everybody was welcomed by the leader of Italy and briefly, without giving too much away, we were informed of the general program of events. All people who had been meditating with Sahaja Yoga for less than eight months were asked to come on stage and introduce themselves. They were then escorted to the VIP tiered seating. It soon became clear that this seminar was indeed a vibrational talk show, and the aim of the game was to convince the new people that Sahaja Yoga could not only transform ourselves, but the whole world!

The evening concluded with an incredible performance by Ustad Shahid Parvez on Sitar & Stefano Grazia on Tabla. Ustad introduced his performance by saying what everybody felt, that Shri Mataji's presence really was with us.

On the Saturday after collective meditation twenty Sahaja Yogis, who also happened to be prominent members of differing areas of the community, were summoned on stage. They represented the arts, business, advertising & television, medicine, academics, politics and education. In turn they each presented their experiences with Sahaja Yoga in their fields, and reported on difficulties and achievements they had found. Favourite presentations included:

- An impressive short documentary on Sahaja Yoga in Italian schools, with positive interviews from teachers and principals about the children's responses.
- A representative from the newly-formed association *Corporate Meditation* presented an analysis via a case study of a Sahaja program currently running inside Microsoft.
- A presentation on Dharmic politics which included a selection of Shri Mataji's speeches regarding the future of politics and statement she made during a Raja Laxshmi puja about corrupt politicians being exposed in the future. Real news footage from a trial of a large group of corrupt politicians was shown where they were exposed and sent to jail not long after Shri Mataji's speech!
- An advertising campaign was especially prepared all containing very amusing or reflective anecdotes relating to Sahaja Yoga. These were played between presentations on a large screen. Also a Sahaj Yoga band had been formed who played jingles, sound effects and musical fills when needed.

What resulted was a very professional, informative and enjoyable program. The different collectives of Italy each prepared some entertainment item which filled the rest of Saturday. A favourite of many was an item entitled *Sahaja News*. Two 'news presenters' were dressed in suits and seated on chairs. A huge screen behind them played the visual aid to accompany their commentary. They produced a life-like news presentation from around the world including interviews from yogis in different countries. Most of what they reported was fun fiction, exaggerated and showed the world as Sahaja Yogis want it to be. It included clever graphic manipulation resulting in amusing and realistic photographs of Prince Charles getting realisation and Middle East Leaders kissing and making up!

On the Sunday Puja was organised for late morning. The thousand people in attendance all arrived in their Sunday best to offer worship to the Adi Shakti. A short but beautiful Puja unfolded. The devotional singing seemed to hang in the air throughout. At the end one new lady is reported to have asked a yogini, "Oh please don't tell me its finished?"!!!! The usual joyous Italian singing and dancing followed.

In conclusion I'd just like to say that despite the jokes and the games, the seminar brought to collective attention the brilliance, professionalism, spontaneity and dynamism that exists in Sahaja Yoga. Throughout many performances tears welled and sometimes spilled down the cheeks of men and women alike. Although I didn't understand much of the Italian dialogue, what is universal is the understanding of love and vibrations. This seminar was truly bubbling over with it.

On behalf of all Sahaja Yogis I'd like to thank Shri Mataji for allowing this truly auspicious and joyous event to take place.

Jai Shri Mataji.

*Candace Angove & Andrea Romano  
Italy*