

June 2007



CARE FOR COWS

IN VRINDAVAN



Care for Cows
Registered in USA
Clinic Makeover

Go-Smaranam
HS Outbreak in Vraja
Save Shambu



Above are the Directors of Care for Cows in Vrindaban, Inc. registered in Florida USA.
Left to right: Mahavira dasa, Ambarisa dasa, Jamuna (the cow), Kirtiraja dasa and Haripuja dasi.

Care for Cows Registered in USA



Vrindavan residents
cheer upon hearing that
CFC is registered in USA!

**During their visit to
Vrindavan during Kartika
2005, Kirtiraja dasa and
his wife Haripuja dasi
were inspired by the
selfless service at Care
for Cows.**

After finding an abandoned bull calf in a Vrindavan alleyway and getting the owner's permission to take him, Kirtiraja dasa delivered him to the Care for Cows facility near the village of Sundrakh.

This act was the beginning of what would become Care for Cows in Vrindaban, Inc., an American non-profit organization registered in the state of Florida.

Upon returning to Florida, Kirtiraja, Haripuja and two of their best friends, Ambarisa dasa and Mahavira dasa got together and made a plan to work for the abandoned and injured cows, bulls and calves of Vrindavan and the Vraja area. Thus, Care for Cows in Vrindaban, Inc. was born and work is going on to help raise the much needed funds to continue and expand this service in Vrindavan.

If you live in the United States and would like more



Above is the bull calf rescued by Kirtiraja who was given the same name.

information on how you can assist in this service that will bring pleasure to the Lord and pleasure to your heart, please contact: Care for Cows in Vrindaban, Inc., P.O. Box 1445 Alachua, Florida 32616, email: kirtiraja1952@yahoo.com



Mahavira dasa during his visit to CFC India during Feb. 2007.



CFC new Lab and medicine supplies room

CFC Clinic makeover



Wound care and skin treatment cupboard



Dr Lavania prepares medicinal ointments in the Lab



New medicine cupboard

CFC Clinic has undergone a makeover the last few months, constructing a permanent Cow Recovery Ward, Sick Bay, and Laboratory, all providing an excellent improvement for caring for the sick and injured abandoned cows in Vrindavan.

A store room in the centre of the building was revamped into the new laboratory and medical supplies room. The old door opening was bricked in and the window extended to become the new entrance from the Cow Recovery Ward. Separate metal cupboards for medicines, wound care, surgical instruments and laboratory equipment were custom made while the room was fitted with electricals and plumbing, plastered, tiled and painted. A new mini fridge was also donated for keeping medicines through the summer. As the lab is used for pathology and screening the room was designed to be as dustproof as possible.

Adjoining the Lab is the new-look Cow Recovery Ward, consisting of four spacious bamboo pens to house sick, injured and recuperating patients. The base of each pen is filled with one foot of glorious Yamuna sand, which benefits the cows by providing soft bedding to avoid pressure sores and allows them to rest comfortably, provides good footing for unsteady patients, excellent drainage so recumbent cows do not lie in a wet patch from urinating or wound bathing, and allows patients to be hosed down in the summer without moving them from their pen. Adequate ceiling fans, lighting and two new windows are further additions to the ward.

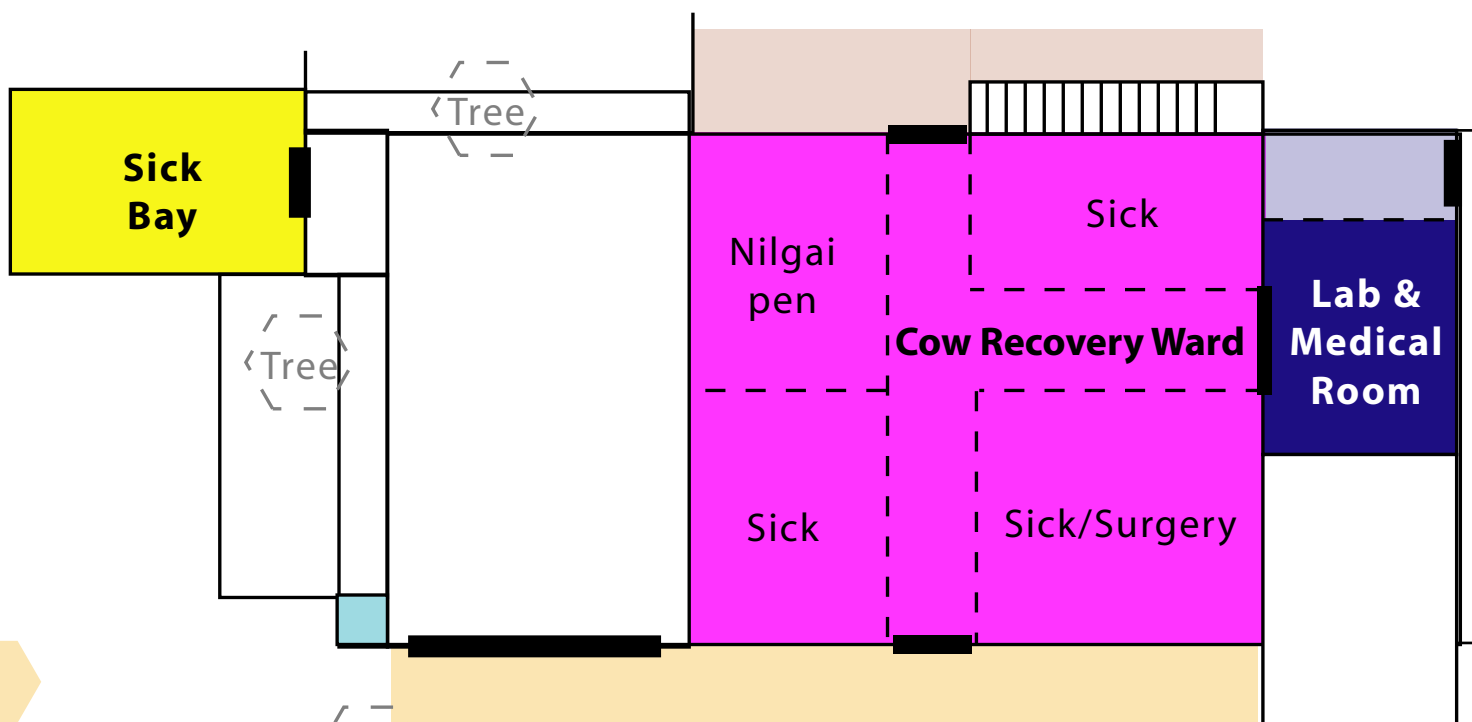
The Sick Bay had an overdue makeover too and is complete with Yamuna sand, wall fan and lighting, dog proof fencing, and an elevated tarp roof with a strong central beam for lifting large down cows in the cow sling. All the pens are in use.



This store room was revamped into the CFC Laboratory



Access provided from the Cow Recovery Ward





Before: the nilgais quickly outgrew their pen



Before: the only pen, running down the left side of the shed housed various patients and the nilgais

Cow Recovery



New Cow Recovery Ward boasts more than twice the space



y Ward

The nilgais and companion patients enjoy their new areas



Laxmi enjoys a cool midsummer shower, puddles easily drained through the Yamuna sand

Sick Bay makeover



The Sick Bay is fitted with an elevated overhead beam high enough to sling a large patient like Raju

Unfair

Thursdays at Govardhan marks the Pashu Mela, or Animal Fair, where villagers bring cows, bulls, buffaloes, camels, goats and other domestic animals for selling.

Last Thursday when the fair closed in the evening a healthy cow and her calf were left sitting in the empty fairground. It was soon discovered why, the cow had a broken back leg, possibly from being carelessly offloaded from a truck, and as she was now 'worthless' she was deserted by her owner. At risk of attack by dogs the cow and her six week old calf were taken in at Surabhi Goshala for a few days then transferred to CFC.

Dr Lavania examined her leg and said the femur is fractured close to the femoral head and unfortunately is untreatable. For now she is resting, on shots to reduce swelling and pain, and the aim is in time to help her walk on three legs. Wish her luck!



Mother and calf are transported from Surabhi Goshala at Radha Kund to CFC in Vrindavan



CFC Carers offload the new patient carefully down a ramp of bus cushions into the Sick Bay



Resting her fractured right back leg



Female calf



Vishvanath

New Admissions

Besides the cow with the broken femur and her calf, this month we took in two abandoned calves.

The six-month-old bull calf was dumped in the area around the *go sadan* one afternoon. We did not notice him but after we locked up for the night, he wandered outside the CFC facility calling out for his mother all night. In the morning we let him in and he went from cow to cow searching for his mother

to no avail. Discouraged and disoriented he soon understood he was in a friendly environment and began to eat heartedly. He is friendly, healthy and getting settled quickly. His name is Vishvanath.

The ten-month-old female calf has apparently been on the street for some months as she was covered with ticks, emaciated and her rear-end and back legs covered with dried diarrhea. She is fearful of humans which is not

uncommon as abandoned calves are regularly beaten by vegetable and fruit merchants in the streets.

She wandered by our front gate during feeding time and begged to enter.

She has been with us for a week and is slowly gaining confidence. It shouldn't be long before she gains weight and begins to manifest her natural affectionate and gentle nature.

Both calves require sponsors.



Life in the Streets

Vrindavan city is changing alarmingly fast. Plastic, steel and asphalt have covered the pasturing

grounds. Soon Vrindavan will be a place completely unsuitable for cows. Help us provide them a suitable

place to be peaceful. Donate to the Care for Cows Land Fund.



Astha-kaliya lila

Go Smaranam

Meditating on the eight-fold daily pastimes of cows

Swimming



After the wheat harvest all the fields around Belvan lie vacant and the cows are free to graze until the monsoon season.

Every morning at 7:30 more than 300 cows and buffaloes gather in front of our second home and three

or four cowherd men take them across the Yamuna River to eat the leftover grains in the fields. The cows happily swim accross the Yamuna and after filling up, sit and ruminate along the banks and swim across again in the afternoon.

When they get back

to Belvan they return to their respective *goshalas* to enjoy their evening meal. This is a system that has been in place for several thousands of years and proves to be very satsifying for them as they get to walk several kilometers daily.



This is the seventh in a series of eight photo essays illustrating the daily activities of cows. We hope this serves to endear them to you.









Help Save Shambo

Shambo, a six year old British Friesian bullock, has been under the Welsh Government gun for over a month, as support rallies to save the life of the Sacred Temple Bull, residing at Skanda Vale Hindu Temple, Wales.

Shambo tested positive to a routine Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) skin test. Though the testing is not conclusive, a "Notice of Intended Slaughter" from the National Assembly for Wales was issued May 3, 2007. Steps were taken to have Shambo isolated from other bovines and from contact with the public in a specially constructed shrine within the main Temple. Skanda Vale authorities received written confirmation from their vet that Shambo was in excellent health and showing no clinical signs of TB. The

Chief Veterinary Officer for the Welsh Assembly, the Head of the TB Policy Unit, and the Head of Public Health all visited the facility and reviewed Shambo's welfare, his isolation and the bio security procedures that had been implemented. They were satisfied there is no risk to animal or public health.

Andrew Dismore MP for Hendon tabled a House of Commons motion which stated, 'This house expresses concern at the decision of DEFRA inspectors, that Shambo the bull, (part of the herd kept at Skanda Vale Hindu temple and monastery), must be slaughtered; recognised this to be a matter of utmost importance to the Hindu community, with some 90,000 pilgrims visiting Skanda Vale from around the country who regard such slaughter as an act of desecration;

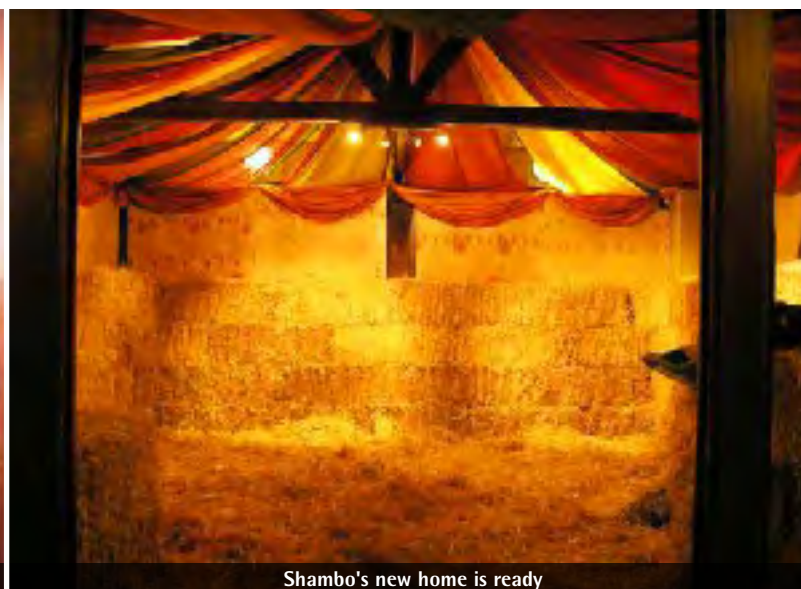
and urges the government to use its discretion under section 34 Animal Health Act 1981 to reprieve Shambo'.

It is well known that some cattle who have tested negative carry TB, and a vast number of those who test positive do not have TB, this is only discovered by a post mortem. Skanda Vale authorities are requesting to have further diagnostic tests made and if confirmed positive for TB, are requesting permission to treat Shambo of the disease.

Support for Shambo is on the increase, he has appeared on various news programs, has his own online blog and moo tube, and his petition has now sailed past 11,000 - however the Welsh Assembly's Slaughter Notice still stands. Show your support to help save Shambo by visiting www.skandavale.org



Preparing Shambo's new home in the back of the Murugan Temple



Shambo's new home is ready



Shambo, the famous Temple Bull

Help Save Shambo by signing the petition on
www.skandavale.org

HS Outbreak

HS, Hemorrhagic Septicemia, is a severe and frequently fatal disease of two types that affects bovines either in the intestine or the lungs.

An epidemic swept across North India in May, and local Vrindavan newspapers reported heavy losses of cows and buffaloes in the Mathura Vrindavan area. CFC treated four cases from our herd, three cows with the intestine infection and a newborn calf with the lung infection. Those affected with the first type of intestine infection passed blood in their dung but were treated with a short course of antibiotics and didn't miss a meal. If untreated the disease can be fatal.

The newborn calf, Vishakha, struck down with the lung infection was lucky to survive. She developed a sudden severe fever, hot and painful swelling around the throat, inability to swallow and by the second day had pneumonia. Her illness was caught early and treated as an emergency by Dr Lavania and after five days of intensive care Vishakha was out of trouble.

The rest of the CFC herd was vaccinated for HS during the month and enjoyed a Get Well Party for Vishakha with a tractor load of long green grass and watermelons.



Vishakha being treated with antibiotics, anti-inflammatories and drips for HS and pneumonia



Up and about, Vishakha nibbles some leaves at her Get Well party



Vishakha is encouraged to recover by her mother

Abscess Ointment

Abscesses are generally hard, hot, and slightly painful swellings that develop and enlarge slowly, are common throughout the year and form for any number of reasons.

An excellent medicinal ointment was available for treatment but has vanished from the Indian market, so with Dr Lavania's help, we made our own.



Ingredients assembled



Iodine crystals added to potassium iodide powder



Crushed iodine crystals mixed with glycerine

made at CFC Clinic

Ingredients

20g Iodine crystals

40g Potassium iodide

170ml Glycerine

400g Paraffin jelly

Mix the potassium iodide powder with iodine crystals and crush in a mixer or mortar pestle. Add the glycerine and stir. Empty the paraffin jelly into a bowl and gradually pour the glycerine mixture in, stirring thoroughly, until all

the glycerine mixture has been added. Bottle in a jar and keep in a cool place.

Directions for use

When a skin abscess appears on the cow's face, neck or other part of the body rub a small amount of Abscess Ointment into that area twice a day. Abscess Ointment acts as a counter irritant for chronic inflammation and increases the blood supply to

that area, as such the abscess will either reduce in size quickly and disappear, or quickly mature. Mature abscess capsules develop an obvious softer part and should be lanced at this point, drained and flushed daily. Packing with iodine tincture on gauze may be required. Continue to apply Abscess Ointment to the external swollen area around the opening until healed.



Paraffin jelly forms the base



Mix all ingredients thoroughly together



Bottle and store in a cool place

Thank You From the Cows



The cows send their heartfelt thanks to those who assisted during May 2007

Alessandra Petrassi, Italy	Elizabeth Stewart, USA	Purnamasi Dasi, Portugal
Alla Nikolayeva, USA	Harivallabha Dasa, India	Radha Jivan Dasa, India
Amazon Travels, India	J Morokar, UK	Radha Mohan Sevak, India
Amit Duhlani, India	Kamalini Dasi, USA	Radhapati Dasa, India
Ananda Morataya, Guatemala	Katyayan Dasi, USA	Rahul Singh, India
Ananda Subramanian, USA	Kushum Seth, India	Rajeshwara Dwantham, USA
Anastasia Tsitsishvili, USA	Lila Shakti, UK	Rohini Devi Dasi, India
Anon, Singapore	Mahanidhi Swami, India	Sanjaya Aurora, India
BJ Parker, USA	Marianna Polonsky, USA	Santosh Agraval, India
Cheryl Richardson, UK	Michael Blumert, USA	Sonal Tailor, USA
Daniel Laflor, Denmark	Michael Meshuris, USA	Stella Herzig, USA
David Ehler, USA	Michael Tarlinton, Australia	Suan Ng, UK
David Kasanow, USA	Mr D J Hatchett, UK	Tusta Krsna Dasa, USA
David Thornton, USA	Nikhil Chugh, India	Vaninath Dasa, USA
Devala Dasa, Canada	Nirmal Dasa, India	Vera Elizarova, USA
Dhruva Maharaja Dasa, India	Padma Sambhava, NZ	Vicky Moreland, USA
Dina Sarana Dasa, USA	Pranil Bharath, South Africa	Vidyasagar Lokhande, USA

May cows stay in front of me; may cows stay behind me; may cows stay on both sides of me.
May I always reside in the midst of cows. — *Hari Bhakti-vilas* 16.252