



Killara Ashram
is looking for a couple
or a single person to
share their Ashram.
Contact: 9499 3178

Big news from Woollahra.....
Congratulations to Charlotte and Guy
Winston who had triplets on Sunday
22nd November. Two girls and a
boy - Grace Isabella, India Rose and
William Jack, 4lbs each. Everyone is
doing well!

PROGRAM NEWS
GLEBE PROGRAM
Please note the Glebe program (Glebe Neighbourhood Centre) is
having a short break. The last program for 1998 will be on Thursday
December 10th. Programs will re-commence every Thursday 7:30
pm on Thursday January 21st 1999.
KURRAJONG HEIGHTS - NEW PROGRAM
Lot 23, Tomah St, Kurrajong Heights
ph: 02 4567 8030
Pam and Andrew Jones will be holding programs in their house at
Kurrajong Heights on Wednesdays at 7:30pm. The programs will be
advertised in the local papers, but if anybody would like to attend
please ring first for directions!

We are happy to announce that a traditional Christmas lunch will be served at Burwood Ashram on Friday 25th December 1998.

So come along and make it a memorable occasion! RSVP as soon as possible as we need to order turkeys etc. Phone Meredith: 9976 0990.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

Appetisers and Drinks

Traditional Roast Turkey with Lemon Thyme Stuffing, cranberry sauce & Roast Vegetables etc.

Steamed Christmas Pudding with Vanilla Anglaise and Icecream.

Coffee and Tea

Christy chocolates and sweets.

Cost \$22 per head. Concessions for pensioners and students.

Invitation

*Intellect takes us
along in the battle of life
to a certain limit,
but at the crucial moment
it fails us.
Faith transcends reason.
It is when the horizon
is the darkest
and human reason
is beaten down
to the ground
that faith shines brightest
and comes to our rescue.*

Gandhi 1929



Australian 5th Dec. '98 Sahaja Newsletter

Contributions: Lidcombe Ashram ph. 9649 6879
02 97474335 or Burwood Fax 9745 4927



CHRISTMAS PUJA

Christmas Puja will be held at:

BURWOOD ASHRAM
10 Clarence St
Thursday 24th December, 7:30 pm.

Set up: Inner West (Glebe, Newtown, Lewisham etc)

Cooking: Eastern Suburbs and Northern Beaches
(Woollahra, Bondi, Manly etc)

Washing up: Southern Region (Wollongong, Robertson, Kangaroo
Valley,
Balmoral, Bowral etc)

Dismantle: Lindfield (Bent St, Balfour St, Pleasant Ave)



WEDDING INVITATION

Sharon Trompf and James Connor would like to invite all the Sahaja Yogis to their Wedding.

The ceremony will be held at Burwood Ashram on the 19th December, 3.00 pm till 3.30 pm.

Followed by a reception and a party to celebrate the birth of Carmen Verity Robyn (16.9.98) at Dr Robin and Prof Gary Trompf's home.

58 Boundary Road, Wahroonga.

Please RSVP: 02 4385 3971, 02 9489 6285.



Q: Is there a particular advice to keep the Sahasrara open and clear?

Shri Mataji: It's very simple, as I have told you, that the deity of the Sahasrara is sitting before you, that the deity of Sahasrara is the Mahamaya, that try not to understand Her through your reasoning and imagination; but by surrendering 'absolutely' to it, you keep your Sahasrara open. In case you find it still closed, you have to ask forgiveness from the deity that "if we have by mistake made any mistakes, forgive me" - that's all.



AUDIO TAPE LIBRARY NEWS

Just a reminder that we have a list of all audio cassettes available. These will be available next to the Newsletter at Burwood, so that you can check which cassettes you may not have.

UNIVERSAL SILENCE - VISHWA SHANTI

- CD from Nagpur Academy

This interactive /music CD from the students of the Nagpur Academy is still available.

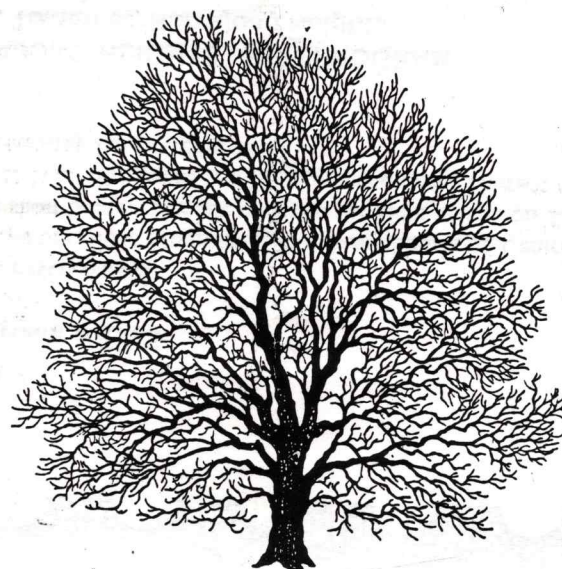
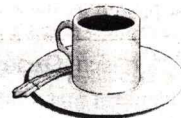
The cost of the CD is \$20.00.

If you **don't have a CD player**, but would still like to buy the CD, we can record it onto cassette for you. You will still need to buy the CD and then for the additional cost of \$4 we can supply a taped version.. (ie \$20 for the CD and \$4 for the audio cassette copy).

HEALTH NEWS

IF YOU DRINK COFFEE OR "FIZZY DRINKS"

A high level of caffeine will lead to Calcium losses. "Fizzy drinks" also lead to Calcium losses.



News from Valla

Weekly programmes at Coffs Harbour continue until the middle of December.. The monthly country tour programmes for new people are well-advertised with posters and advertisements in local papers. In October, 25 people attended, and November, 34 people. It is exciting to have such receptive groups, mostly retired people, mostly ladies. The follow-ups are less well-attended, but genuine down-to-earth people are seeking and finding in Shri Mataji's message a "breath of fresh air".

Programmes at Macksville Neighbourhood Centre have also commenced. Advertising and publicity for the programmes were done by the Neighbourhood Centre with no cost to myself in time or money. The hall is provided free of charge. The Centre staff (mostly volunteers) are very keen to include Sahaja Yoga in their regular Thursday afternoon half-hour meditation group, as well as more Sahaja Yoga workshops in 1999. The Centre's Co-ordinator, Joanne, got her realization and described the experience as "fabulous", especially the footsoak following. On a personal level, it is extremely humbling and joyous to be a vehicle for Shri Mataji's love to spread through the community.

The February maha-Country Tour 1999 will include on its itinerary the following:

Thursday	11th	Dorrigo Public Programme evening
Friday	12th	Macksville Public Programme morning
		Grafton Public Programme evening
Saturday	13th	Coffs Harbour Public Programme morning
		Valla (Home) havan and puja evening
Sunday	14th	Port Macquarie Public Programme late morning

Come one, come all, your time, effort and support is greatly appreciated. A holiday atmosphere loaded with vibrations is promised, a chance to break the routine, and a great start to 1999!!

JAI SHRI MATAJI!

with love from Graeme, Helena and family"

The Sydney Morning Herald

The Soros manifesto

I HAVE no hesitation in asserting that the global capitalist system will succumb to its defects, if not on this occasion [of the Asian economic crisis] then on the next one - unless we recognise that it is defective and act in time to correct the deficiencies." This warning comes from George Soros in his latest book, *The Crisis of Global Capitalism*, extracts from which have been published in the *Herald* yesterday and today. It is a warning worth heeding not because Mr Soros is a renowned economist or an eminent political theorist. He is neither of these. But he is a major international financier and as such much closer to the action than many intellectuals writing about the state of the international economy at the moment. Moreover, he takes his position seriously, not merely by way of thinking about it and communicating his thoughts but by acting on them as well. It may be remembered that earlier this year, Mr Soros gave a much-needed boost to the troubled South Korean economy by announcing that he was thinking about a sizable investment in the country at the same time that the financial markets were preparing to write it off as a dead loss.

So what are the deficiencies in capitalism that Mr Soros thinks are in need of correcting? Put simply, he believes there are two. First and most importantly, he sees capitalism as a victim of its own success. Social, political and legal institutions have not kept pace with the globalisation of the economy. "We live in a global economy," Mr Soros writes, "but the political organisation of our global society is woefully inadequate." What is needed, he argues, is a capacity to regulate the excesses of the financial markets, but this cannot be done at the level of the nation-state because the problem is bigger than individual states and because national politics have failed in the task up

till now. This is hardly a novel argument - the case for some kind of supranational government has been urged on various grounds throughout most of this century. And it keeps running up against the same problem: nation states are jealous of their sovereignty. Mr Soros doesn't want to abolish them; he just to subordinate some of their powers to international laws and institutions. But that is what the Geneva Conventions and the United Nations were meant to do and the results are well known.

Second, Mr Soros argues that a fundamentalist approach has come to dominate economic thinking. The approach is one in which "monetary values and transactional markets do not provide an adequate basis for social cohesion". But social breakdown is not the only problem - what Mr Soros calls "market fundamentalism" also inhibits rational economic decision-making. He says it promotes a competition for capital rather than the efficient use of resources. Global monopolies and a dangerous over-exposure of investment funds and even household wealth in the sharemarket have been the result.

It is not clear how Mr Soros would address this, but he is right to suggest that much will depend on the lessons drawn from the Asian economic crisis. If the system and the thinking it promotes survive only to re-strengthen confidence in its own indestructibility, the international economy may be heading for a harder crash down the track. Fortunately, the evidence so far points to a good deal of critical introspection - of which Mr Soros's book is clearly a part.

"I can already discern the makings of the final crisis," he writes. "It will be political in character." But precisely because any future crisis is political in character, it is also avoidable. And because it is avoidable, Mr Soros's contribution may make it less likely.

