



Australian Sahaja Newsletter

19th June '99

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"The main point is that you leave everything to Paramchaitanya in your wisdom. If you cannot, then you have not felt the real knowledge within you".

H.H. Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi
Navaratri Puja, 1998.

STOP PRESS!

Change to Weekly Programs at Burwood

Weekly collective Sahaj programs at Burwood will change to Friday evenings at 7:30pm, commencing Friday 25th June.

We hope that this move will:

- ◆ increase support for weekend Sahaj activities
- ◆ allow preschool parents to enjoy their children's company at weekends.

Friday being the day of the Goddess Jagadamba, we pray that our collective gathering on this day will open all our hearts so that we all can enjoy Sahaja Yoga in its essence.

Regards,
Peter & Chris

GANESHA PUJA

Cabella

Last Year:

Those who came with us to Ganesha Puja will remember it as a unique experience at a world level. This was the manifestation of Shri Mataji's vision of people from different backgrounds, speaking different languages, working and worshipping at the feet of the Divine Mother in a spirit of complete accord and harmony. It was magical... ask anyone who was there, Therese in the kitchen, with the Russians, Lawrence dealing with impossible electrical situations, Peter at the registration desk and John Adams from WA and Colin Berry from Victoria doing the unglamorous work of setting up the kitchen and the dishwashing and the toilets. We watched the Russians build a footbridge over a creek with steel tubing snaffled from the scaffolding tower in the hangar (they were masters at improvising)... only to have the Italians tell them that this scaffolding had to be in the hangar. With no sign of dismay they undid it and built an even more elegant wooden bridge in its place. It was inspirational stuff.

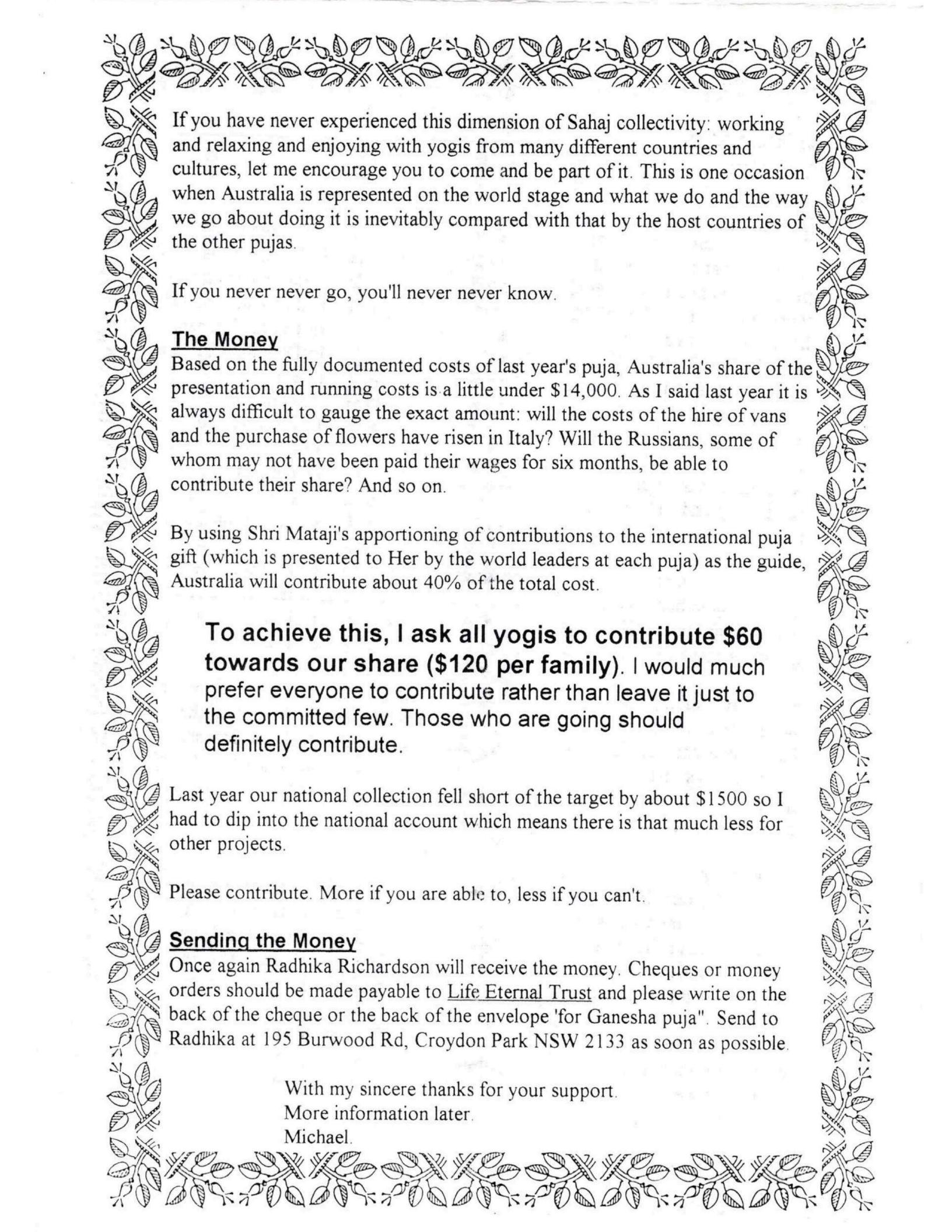
There was a word that came out of last year's event ... I believe it was used by Shri Mataji in her puja talk, stated as Ekakarita ... meaning where our different identities are merged into a oneness of purpose. As Shri Mataji can so adroitly do, it encapsulated the dimension within which we were working.

Here I am talking only of the organizational stuff. The reward, if reward were needed, was to be present at the concerts; to hear the angelic singing of the Romanians and the Russians, the beautiful presentation of the Shri Ganesha Aarti amongst many other delights; to be present at the puja, to see Shri Mataji looking so well, to imbibe the wisdom of Her Puja talk and to witness the dignity, significance and joy of the weddings - another puja.

This Year

Regrettably our Eastern European Sahaj colleagues will not be with us this year, but the Russians will, as will India, and that is something to really look forward to. Our Asian neighbours: Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia, as well as near neighbour New Zealand are once again co-hosts as they have been from the beginning.

I am getting messages to suggest we will have quite a formidable contingent from Australia this year. We have applicants to be married, we will be presenting a play and we always rely on the Australians to ensure that the work gets done.



If you have never experienced this dimension of Sahaj collectivity: working and relaxing and enjoying with yogis from many different countries and cultures, let me encourage you to come and be part of it. This is one occasion when Australia is represented on the world stage and what we do and the way we go about doing it is inevitably compared with that by the host countries of the other pujas.

If you never never go, you'll never never know.

The Money

Based on the fully documented costs of last year's puja, Australia's share of the presentation and running costs is a little under \$14,000. As I said last year it is always difficult to gauge the exact amount: will the costs of the hire of vans and the purchase of flowers have risen in Italy? Will the Russians, some of whom may not have been paid their wages for six months, be able to contribute their share? And so on.

By using Shri Mataji's apportioning of contributions to the international puja gift (which is presented to Her by the world leaders at each puja) as the guide, Australia will contribute about 40% of the total cost.

To achieve this, I ask all yogis to contribute \$60 towards our share (\$120 per family). I would much prefer everyone to contribute rather than leave it just to the committed few. Those who are going should definitely contribute.

Last year our national collection fell short of the target by about \$1500 so I had to dip into the national account which means there is that much less for other projects.

Please contribute. More if you are able to, less if you can't.

Sending the Money

Once again Radhika Richardson will receive the money. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to Life Eternal Trust and please write on the back of the cheque or the back of the envelope 'for Ganesha puja'. Send to Radhika at 195 Burwood Rd, Croydon Park NSW 2133 as soon as possible.

With my sincere thanks for your support.
More information later.
Michael.



Old World Charmer

Opportunity knocks . There are a number of family sized rooms available at the Strathfield, Nicholson Street Ashram.

The house has served as a Sahaja Yoga Ashram since 1986 - almost 14 years of continuing service. After this period of use the house is a little frayed around the edges and needs a little TLC (tender-loving-care).

If the rooms are not filled then the ongoing future of the house maybe in question.

Its close proximity to Burwood may suit those who wish to locate close to the pre-school, or to the many other Yogis who live in the area.

Anyone who is interested may contact Margaret MacDonald on 9747 2820.



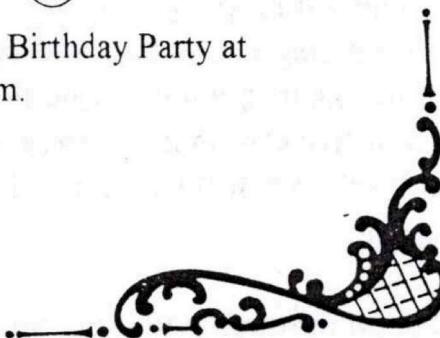
PARTY TIME

You are invited

Everyone is invited to a Collective Birthday Party at Strathfield (Torrington Rd) Ashram.

Date: Sunday 27th June
Time: 1pm.

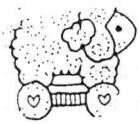
Please RSVP if you can come.



WASHING MACHINE

A large Simpson washing machine is available to swap for a smaller one (either permanently or temporarily).

Please contact Lyndon De Valle on 9326 3853.

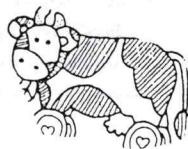


Preschool News

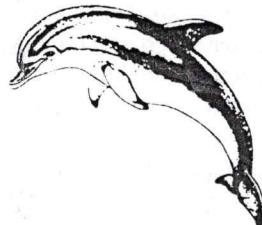
A big "thank-you" to all the hard-working and generous uncles, aunts, mums and dads who have contributed their time, skills, donations, and resources to the establishment of the preschool – and to those whose work here is continuing. Many, many thanks. In July the number of children will more than triple! – the school will then need extra help. If you can offer your time and energy on a regular and reliable basis please contact Avinash SOON.

The areas that require assistance are :-

- meal preparation and kitchen help
- cleaning
- laundry
- market shopping



A few hours every week will be an enormous help. Uncles and aunts who have talents or interests they wish to share with the children are encouraged to do so. The loving smiles and enthusiasm of the children will be very satisfying to those who participate.



PUJA AT COFFS HARBOUR

Dear Yogis,

All are invited to a Puja at Helena and Graeme's place in Valla (near Coffs Harbour) on Saturday 26th June in the evening. This is part of the Country Tour. There is a program at Macksville at 3:00pm on 26th June. The next programme is at Coffs Harbour at 10:30am on Sunday 27th June. (See full itinerary this newsletter).

Everyone Welcome!

Graeme and Helena. Ph: 02 6569 5153



NEWS FROM WA...

Dear Uncle Michael,

Jai Shri Mataji!

How are you? Thanks for the phone conversation earlier tonight, especially re: Yuva Shakti. We have written a note for you about Yuva Shakti activities so far in W.A. and have also included a very brief camp report from a junior Yuva Shakti. Perhaps this report will be suitable for the newsletter? [see newsletter June 12th] I will also contact Liallyn Fitzpatrick very soon with all the updated WA information.

I believe that Pavan Keetley recently spoke to you about the Sahaj programmes that were happening at Murdoch University as part of a Staff Development programme. They went very well. It is particularly encouraging that several "heads of department" had a very deep and beautiful experience of self-realisation. So far none have followed up but they did express interest in doing so at some stage. Since then, the yogis who do the regular twice weekly programmes on campus have been invited to take part in a "Stamp Out Stress" (SOS) week at Murdoch from the 31st May to the 4th June. It is organised by the Student Guild and the TAFE and is therefore targeted mostly at students although everybody is welcome. We will be offering daily lunchtime 'workshops' with potential for afternoon follow-ups. Hopefully, with good advertising, we will reach a large number of students. Two young students from the campus programmes are just coming to the Collective now. They are both enthusiastic about Yuva Shakti and are willing to help out in SOS week.

There are many young seekers at Murdoch, especially in Environmental Science and Social Ecology. The on campus programmes are run by mature age students (Susanne Malone and Joanne Richards) and have been going for over three years now. It is really our fervent desire that all the young (and old!) seekers at Murdoch get self-realisation. So many of them are searching for a way to create a better world of ecological sustainability and social justice. Once they get connected to the Divine and begin to experience the Reality of the Spirit they will become such potent forces for good. A few of them are very deep and will make beautiful yogis. Unfortunately, as you mentioned in our conversation, many are susceptible to social pressures and

COASTAL COUNTRY TOUR FOR WEEKEND FROM 25TH TO 27TH JUNE 1999

25th	FRIDAY	FORSTER	8.00 PM 10.00 PM	FORSTER COMMUNITY CENTRE BREEZE PARADE	STAY OVERNIGHT AT Peter & Jo Boland 32 Water St Forster PH 02 6555-2719
26TH	SATURDAY	PORT MACQUARIE	9.30 AM 11.30 AM	CONFERENCE ROOM HASTINGS VALLEY MOTEL 64 BURRAWAN ST PORT MACQUARIE	ROOM BOOKED UNTIL 12.30 PM, COFFEE & TEA INCLUDED IN PRICE
26TH	SATURDAY	MACKSVILLE	3.00 PM 5.00 PM	NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE WALLACE ST MACKSVILLE	NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE WALLACE ST MACKSVILLE
26TH	SATURDAY EVENING	VALLA Coffs Harbour		PUJA Ph. 02 6569-5153	PUJA Lot 6, Fuerte Drive VALLA
27TH	SUNDAY	COFFS HARBOUR	10.30 AM 12.30 PM	COMMUNITY VILLAGE HIGH ST COFFS HARBOUR	BACK TO SYDNEY

CONTACT AVINASH IF YOU WISH TO JOIN THIS TOUR. OUTLINE 281567 - MOBILE

they get lost.

This year I've applied for a year's suspension from my Murdoch course to allow more energy to be dedicated towards, among other things, establishing Yuva Shakti. Because I'm still considered to be a Murdoch student, the University still supports the meditation programmes. However no matter how much attention, love and dedication I put into programmes for students, I'm still more 'motherly' than young, and they really need the example, support and the company of their peers. We are hoping very much that a strong Yuva Shakti can take the initiative and the responsibility for spreading Sahaja Yoga among the young.

Already there are some heartening signs of things working out nicely. We sometimes feel Mother's presence very strongly at programmes and some students have dreamt, much to their amazement, that Shri Mataji did come - usually in a car! One young girl, dreamt that Mother told her that she should be in the collective. She has now offered to help co-ordinate the Yuva Shakti next year, when she is established in Sahaja Yoga. Several other young women, not from Murdoch, who are just starting Sahaja Yoga, are considering sharing a house to support each other in meditation and lifestyle. The young people from different programmes take quite an interest in meeting each other and enjoy spending time together. Over the last few months it's been possible to see the collectivity of youth really beginning to happen. With Mother's blessings, we trust that the Yuva Shakti in Perth, all of Australia and the whole world will become strong and dynamic.

We will keep in touch with you, and with Liallyn and Shannon, about any Yuva Shakti events in Perth.

With love
Susanne Malone.

