

Sahaja Yoga

22nd November, 2002



Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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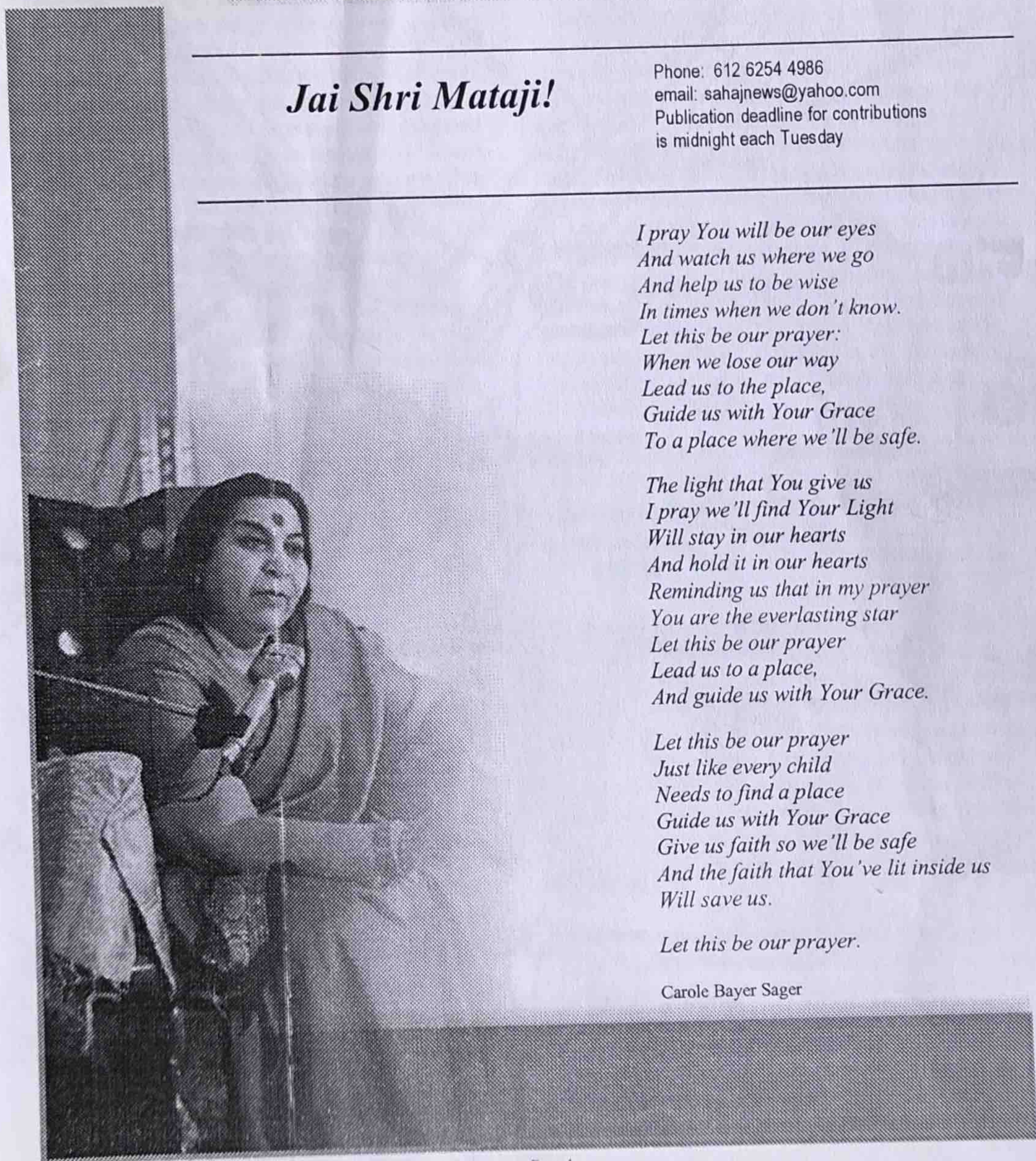
*I pray You will be our eyes
And watch us where we go
And help us to be wise
In times when we don't know.
Let this be our prayer:
When we lose our way
Lead us to the place,
Guide us with Your Grace
To a place where we'll be safe.*

*The light that You give us
I pray we'll find Your Light
Will stay in our hearts
And hold it in our hearts
Reminding us that in my prayer
You are the everlasting star
Let this be our prayer
Lead us to a place,
And guide us with Your Grace.*

*Let this be our prayer
Just like every child
Needs to find a place
Guide us with Your Grace
Give us faith so we'll be safe
And the faith that You've lit inside us
Will save us.*

Let this be our prayer.

Carole Bayer Sager



NATIONAL NEWS

Message to yogis attending the annual Sahaj Seminar at Ganapatipule

Anyone wishing to apply for marriage needs to complete a marriage form available from your state representative and ensure that it is sent with a Yogi travelling to Singapore. All forms need to be given to Avinash at the earliest opportunity. (There is also the confidential form to be completed in consultation with your state leader. This should be sent along with the application form.)

Can State representatives get back to me with the list of Yogis who are planning to attend the Ganapatipule Seminar this year.

The list of all Australians attending needs to be sent to England by the end of November.

Those wishing to travel to India to attend the Ganapatipule seminar need to pay their ground fare before departure.

This can be done by transferring the Australian dollar equivalent of 600 UK Pounds—which at today's rate is \$1720—on 9th December to the following account:

Bank:	ANZ
Branch:	212 Burwood Road Burwood
Account Name:	Life Eternal Trust NSW
BSB:	012-245
Account:	221 767 344.

Once the transfer is complete please fax a copy of the deposit slip to (02) 9745 4927 as confirmation of the successful transfer, and either phone to let us know the fax has been sent or send an email to candskyriacou@hotmail.com

A few days later the money collected will be sent to England together with a list of Yogis having paid their ground fare.

Regards

Chris Kyriacou
Sydney

Newsletter moves to Canberra

Dear readers

This is the last edition of the Newsletter to be produced in Sydney for a while.

For a number of years Asha and I have had a desire to return to Canberra to live. By the grace of Shri Mataji our desire has borne fruit in the form of a very convenient work transfer for me. From this Friday we will be living in the Canberra ashram, where this newsletter will now be produced. Perhaps there is a subtle reason why the National Newsletter has moved to the National Capital...

For both readers and contributors it's business as usual. The newsletter email address remains the same. Please feel free to send your contributions, or any suggestions to improve the newsletter, to sahajnews@yahoo.com, or phone me at 02 6254 4986.

Thank you all for the great support over the years. This publication wouldn't be possible if weren't for the steady stream of beautiful contributions from yogis everywhere.

Kindest regards,

Peter Brownscombe (Editor)
Canberra

STATE NEWS

from NSW

Lakshmi Puja at Albert Rd Ashram 6pm Saturday 7th December

156 Albert Rd Strathfield
(previously Lidcombe ashram)

We would like to warmly invite all our brothers and sisters to share in celebrating a Lakshmi Puja. Please give us the joy of welcoming you in our new home! The puja will start around 6 o'clock, followed by dinner and maybe some bhajans.

Rajesh & Alice Bhasale
ph 9746 5161

from the Northern Territory

Letter from Darwin

Jai Shri Mataji. A thousand thanks to our Holy Mother and to our brothers and sisters. It's hard to know where to begin expressing my gratitude on behalf of the yogis of Darwin for the events of the past couple of weeks. Firstly 3 of us had booked to attend Navaratri Puja at Balmoral. I often lose continuity with new seekers if I go away, but this time, just as if on cue, 4 Perth yogis arrived to save the day. Hugh, Marilyn, Norm and Rosalie on a trip around the Top End, offered to stay on in Darwin to run the programs and also raised the level of vibrations around town by giving realisation and promoting our programs. Some of those are still coming along. They also were able to attend/organise the puja for the yogis still here, which I am told was full of great love, humility and the most amazing puja meal on record. (Apparently you had to be there). Meanwhile the 3 southbound yogis were being pampered and cared for in NSW. I don't know who painted the backdrop at Balmoral but those beautiful huge eyes are still reflected in my head. I felt them looking right inside me and it made me close my eyes so they could do just that. I had a similar but more real experience once on a bus at Gatwick Airport after Shri Ganesha Puja in Austria 1990. I closed my eyes (I was very tired) and I could see these two huge eyes of Shri Mataji looking straight at me. I got such a surprise that I opened again to check what it was I thought was happening but there were no eyes outside, only the legs of people standing in front of me, so I closed again and there they were, motionless, looking straight at me. After a few moments they faded away but I was left in total awe and felt that I had been thoroughly scrutinised. So the backdrop brought back that memory for me. Thank you.

It was so nice to see some of the people that I had met on that trip in 1990 were at Balmoral. Where was everyone else though? Were there more visitors than locals? We will have to put our attention on why numbers were down. Everyone knows the value and importance of attending pujas. Shri Mataji is talking so strongly of collectivity at the moment. Wouldn't it be nice for us to take time out to make contact with yogis who may be having a lack of transport, or finance etc. It has been a tough year for the whole world and some of us have definitely been affected, but not to the point where we forego attending Puja or having concern as to where our family is. That is not what Shri Mataji would want us to do. We have to help each other to rise don't we? Sahaj is not about money so we must be able to resolve this situation with our power of love in collectivity.

Thank you all once again for a most wonderful time, great food, top company and the huge recharge I get from being in the company of a large collective.

PS. for those who heard my story (at Balmoral on the morning of the Puja) about the carpet saga in Brisbane, I forgot to mention that this carpet having been under Shri Mataji's feet in Brisbane at the public program, has been used for our programs ever since and one lady recently lit up and told everyone, "this carpet's got vibrations". I was stunned, as she wasn't real big on feeling much at all up to that point. So I told them its history. I have had also had my most memorable dreams while sleeping on it, but that's another story.

Much love to all. *Linda Pauling*

and another...

I have been further blessed this year by attending Diwali Puja in Adelaide. The site was absolutely perfect. Nestled in the hills, peaceful and tranquil. The skies had other plans and soon became quite dark on Saturday and the wind blew so hard we had to have the havan inside the large dining hall. It was a very powerful havan indeed. We could all hear the words and mantras because we weren't fighting with the sound of the wind or trees rustling around us. Later on, as we were putting the final touches in place for the puja the skies got even darker and it looked as if we were going to get hit by the impending storm. Just a few moments after we were all settled into place and the doors were closed and we were in meditation, there was an almighty gust that felt like it would carry us off. The building shook, creaked, and rattled making everyone look up. Then down came the rain.

We were so totally blissfully protected in our collectivity that we all forgot about it and when it came time to leave the Temple of love to go the dining hall there was complete calm and very mild temperature outside.

The stars were now dutifully shining brightly on us for this Holy occasion of Diwali.

Next morning we were treated to some local talent, and most memorable were the children acting out to the rap song *Do the Shoe Beat*. Each time those words were sung two sweet little girls came forward beating great big cardboard boots onto the stage. They loved it as much as we all did. After that a very entertaining and unusual version of the *Ramayana* was enjoyed by all. A very multicultural version you could say, with a little ad-libbing thrown in for good measure. Well done SA, you are tops. The decoration of our temporary Temple was nothing short of stunning.

On the Monday evening we had a public program in an Adelaide suburb. I had contacted an old school friend that I hadn't seen in 15 years. She agreed to come to the program. (She and I used to try all sorts of things as child seekers so I knew she would be interested). Her husband, a retired philosophy teacher at SA university also came. Naturally they were looking with very intellectual eyes and I feared it would get in the way. Later next morning we dis-

cussed their experience. They told me that they had been to a few of these "things" over the years and that they were waiting for "it", the punch line, the "when you sign up etc" routine, but both were delighted that it didn't happen. They were very pleased to hear Shri Mataji's powerful views on fundamentalism. That was a big plus. Then they mentioned something that gave me a huge rush of vibrations. They said they could feel the genuine qualities of the yogis, that they were not like other presenters of religious viewpoints. They were waiting for the veil to slip and the real person to come out from under it, but that did not happen. Tony did the introduction and they, like me, knew it came purely from his heart and they felt quite relaxed during his talk. They never once felt threatened by any of us, only pure peaceful humans is what they saw. This is what we want to portray at a program to attract those who are genuinely searching for God, and the Adelaide collective did it straight from the heart.

They had worked so hard for months in preparation for this great week of joy. I hope more yogis can make it next year to add to and enjoy the SA collective as much as I did. See you next year SA. Love you all.

Linda Pauling, Darwin

from South Australia

National Diwali Puja a great success!

The Sahaj Yogis of South Australia recently hosted the Diwali Puja weekend. Yogis came from Victoria, NSW, ACT and NT to the charming small country town of Macclesfield, about 40 km south east of Adelaide.

Very warm and thundery weather greeted our interstate guests on the Friday evening. In the small hours of Saturday morning we were all presented with a truly spectacular display from Sri Vishnumaya, together with some much-needed rain and much cooler conditions.

By late Saturday morning, nearly everyone had arrived. There was lots of talking, laughter and enjoyment, and a tremendously strong wind blowing. So much so that the Havan had to be held inside, where there was an old-style combustion heater. The Havan was very strong—there seemed to be lots of negativity to be destroyed throughout the world! After the Havan, the wind blew more gently, yet cooler, and the vibrations were flowing strong and cool.

Later in the evening, the Diwali Puja was performed to Shri Mataji in the form of Shri MahaLaxmi. The stage was extremely beautiful, befitting such a Puja. The vibrations were tremendous from the very start of the Puja, where we played Shri Mataji's 2001 Diwali Puja talk. The *Rama*

Kavach was read and many bhajans sung in praise of Shri Mataji. The bhajan musicians from Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide were exceptional and really contributed to the joy that was felt!

At the end of the Puja, over 400 candles were lit on the stage to symbolise the victory of Light over darkness. That moment was very joyous and uplifting. Afterwards everybody danced (well, almost everybody)—the Yoginis, the children and the Yogis! It was great, simple, joyous fun... and all thanks to Shri Mataji for enabling us to experience this!

In the small hours of Sunday morning, a delicious prasad meal was served to definitely satisfy the *nahbi*! Then a few hours sleep...and a collective meditation before the "entertainment program" on the Sunday morning. The Adelaide collective performed a drama (with a little more comedy than intended) based on the *Ramayana* and Shri Ram's victory over Ravana. The young Sahaj Yoginis of Adelaide performed a rather adorable dance to the tune of the *Do the Shoebeat*.

A music program, which included classical music performed by two young Yogis from Adelaide as well as some bhajans, beautifully concluded proceedings. Then lunch, and all too quickly it was time to clean and pack up and farewell Macclesfield and some of our interstate guests.

Quite a few of the interstate Yogis stayed for the public program held on the Monday evening at a local community centre. There were more than 50 new people who attended the program, and everyone received their realization effortlessly and joyously. To see nearly all the seekers leave the program with eyes shining and faces glowing and joy and thanks in their hearts and words was an amazing experience.

To help cool the atmosphere and open the hearts of the seekers, a bhajan group performed at a public program in Adelaide for the first time.

At the follow-up meeting, about 35 new people returned to deepen their experience of self-realisation and meditation.

It is a great thing to see in Sahaj when the guests are only too willing, both in their desire and action, to help make the whole weekend a truly collective, joyous and successful event. Indeed, the distinction between guest and host becomes somewhat artificial! The help of all the interstate Yogis was appreciated and we truly thank them. And all our sincere heartfelt thanks to HH Shri Mataji, without whom none of this is possible.

Jai Shri Mataji!

Regards from the Adelaide Collective

Greg & Sangita Noone
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