



# THE CONCH

www.theconchnewsletter.org

“Lord Sri Krishna and Arjuna blew their celestial conches to rally and enthuse the devotees.”

## NEWSLETTER

of New Govardhana Community



Dedicated to His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Founder-acarya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness



## NRISHIMA chaturdasi Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May

3.00 pm Bhajans

4.00 pm Class by  
HH Devamrta Swami

5.15 pm Childrens Drama

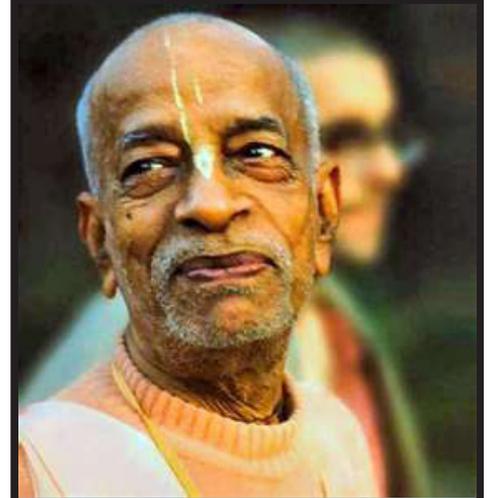
5.30pm Feast

For more information contact Karunika devi dasi  
**0401 225 621**



Hiranyakaśipu studied the form of the Lord, trying to decide who the form of Nṛsimhadeva standing before him was. The Lord’s form was extremely fearsome because of His angry eyes, which resembled molten gold; His shining mane, which expanded the dimensions of His fearful face; His deadly teeth; and His razor-sharp tongue, which moved about like a dueling sword. His ears were erect and motionless, and His nostrils and gaping mouth appeared

like caves of a mountain. His jaws parted fearfully, and His entire body touched the sky. His neck was very short and thick, His chest broad, His waist thin, and the hairs on His body as white as the rays of the moon. His arms, which resembled flanks of soldiers, spread in all directions as He killed the demons, rogues and atheists with His conchshell, disc, club, lotus and other natural weapons. (SB 7.8.19-22)



ISKCON Founder-Acarya His Divine Grace  
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

*Prabhupada uvaca ...*

“Godhead is light. Nescience is darkness. Where there is Godhead there is no nescience.” This material world is full of darkness and ignorance of spiritual life, but by bhakti-yoga this ignorance is dissipated. The Lord appeared because of the bhakti-yoga exhibited by Prahlaḍa Mahārāja, and as soon as the Lord appeared, the influence of Hiranyakaśipu’s passion and ignorance was vanquished as the Lord’s quality of pure goodness, or the Brahman effulgence, became prominent. In that prominent effulgence, Hiranyakaśipu became invisible, or his influence became insignificant. An example illustrating how the darkness of the material world is vanquished is given in the śāstra.” (SB 7.8.25 Purport)

**INSIDE .....**

**Vaisnava Calender & up-coming events, Hari Nama schedules, Snapshots ...**

# CHAMPION HORSES SERVE AT NEW GOVARDHANA

by *Mandakini devi dasi*

New Govardhana resident Gita Govinda dasi aka GG is happiest when engaged in her service of cow protection. Describing herself as a cowherd and farmhand, her main duties include rotating the animals to different paddocks, thereby ensuring sufficient feed, tending to their general well-being as well as checking and repairing fences. Her favourite workmate, who she affectionately calls, "My Big Fella," is her 800 kg French Warhorse. Acquiring him 4 years ago when he was 2 years old, our experienced horsewoman named him Bala and set about the arduous task of training him in all aspects of farm work.



Urvasi devi dasi

**Gita Govinda devi dasi with Bala on her homemade sled used for hauling and transport**

Says GG, "He is spirited and strong and being a draught horse can be used for the invaluable service of hauling and ploughing. I can ride him to check on the cows and also attach a cart if required."

Besides Bala, GG lovingly cares for 2 other horses. Nitai Gaura is an active 8 year old Standardbred ex-pacer and winner of an impressive 25 races who often transports his carer around the farm. Mohini is a 28-year-old Apaloosa Hack who in her "heyday" has experienced the privilege of pulling The Deities in procession. Now in old age she often delights the children with special rides. Both Bala and Mohini have won ribbons as Supreme Champions. GG's strong desire is to demonstrate a self-sufficient lifestyle by her own personal example.

## SNAPSHOTS ...



Nitai Chand dasa

**Govindas participation at Bluesfest 2012 was very successful. A few devotees were able talk their way back stage and present prasadam to performers such as John Butler Trio, John Fogerty, Earth, Wind and Fire, Blue King Brown.**

**Look out for the new look Govindas at the up coming festivals. Splendour in the Grass is the next big adventure, it is back in Byron Bay this year so please come.**

**For more information please contact Krsna Gana dasa 0424 188 278.**



Urvasi devi dasi

**Krishna's new Gir bull Madhu**



Urvasi devi dasi

**Two new members of Krishna's herd are Veda Priya (L) and Madhu (R). They are both Girs. Madhu already has quite an impressive stud career at only 6 years of age, and 22-year-old Veda Priya is now "retired" and his constant companion.**

**Our resident "Gir girls" can be seen following this handsome boy around, vying for his attention. Venu Gopal Prabhu has named him Madhu because of his sweet temperament and the unique smell that all Gir cows exude.**



Ananta Vrindavana dasa

**Vedic marriage ceremony of Dhruvananda dasa and Dhanesvari devi dasi. The bride looked radiant in her elaborate pink wedding ensemble, while the groom cut a dashing figure in his traditional and ornate Indian attire topped with matching turban.**



Urvasi devi dasi

**Adbhuta with one of the newest arrivals, baby Hanuman. She is a very protective mother and Hanuman was born on his namsake's Appearance Day.**

# EVERY STEP IS A DANCE ...



L to R Krishna Bhakti, Mallika, Mohini Murti and Avatari

**Cultural Editor, Damodara Pandit dasa caught up with Mohini Murti devi dasi.**

**Conch:** Please tell how your spiritual journey started

**Mohini:** I came in contact with ISKCON in 1971 in Montreal, Canada. A friend of mine had invited me to come along to visit the Temple. I had quite a traditional Catholic upbringing but I was still seeking. The scene in ISKCON Temples in Canada at that time was very artistic and cultural. Visiting the Temple changed my life.

When I was around 21 I made a commitment and joined the Vancouver Temple which had a mood of renaissance. HH Satsavarupa was an inspiration as was the young HH Bhaktimarg Swami (who was a brahmachari then).

I moved to Seattle and met Dr. Ratna Roy who is an exponent of Mahari style of Odissi dance. This dance style is taught exclusively to females. I then followed my dream to New Dehi, India where I met the world class teacher, Mayadhar Raut. I studied Odissi dance at

that time for 4 years intensively. I was privileged to study during the subcontinental renaissance of Odissi dance. I associated with Madhavi Mudgal and Sanjuta Panigathi who went on to be famous ambassadors of classical Indian dance.

**Conch:** Please tell us of your school in New Govardhana, Australia.

**Mohini:** Here at New Govardhana we have established the Natya Shakti Dance school where we offer Odissi dance classes and workshops. Students learn Odissi dance including the vocabulary of Indian dance and the philosophy of Natya Shakti. The senior girls have performed widely around our area in many venues and festivals – always with rave reviews. We even made the front page of the local newspaper.

**Conch:** So what does the future hold?

**Mohini:** I hope to introduce Master Classes with internationally recognized experts. We are also looking at getting the troupe to tour more widely. We hope to establish the troupe as a legitimate corollary of bhakti yoga. Of course our main aim is to please the Lord through our devotional endeavors.

**Conch:** Thank you so much. I am sure Lord Krishna will bless your endeavors.

## EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

Articles submitted to the Conch should contain 200 words or less and can be supplied in either MS Word format or typed directly into the body of an email. Photos must be submitted in JPG format.

All articles and photos must be sent to [newgovconch@gmail.com](mailto:newgovconch@gmail.com) by the 21st of each month. Articles and photos must include the names of the author and photographer. Your name will appear exactly as you submit it.

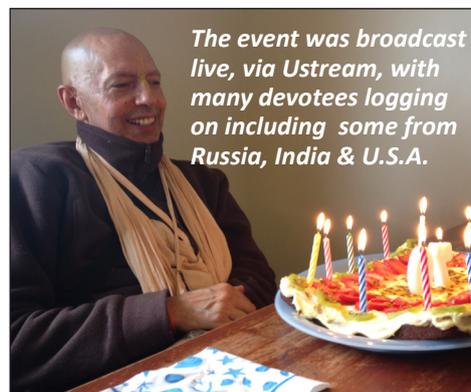
## EDITOR/DESIGN & LAYOUT

Urvashi devi dasi

For enquiries, comments or suggestions please contact [www.theconchnewsletter.org](http://www.theconchnewsletter.org)

## AUSPICIOUS 70<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

by Krsna Kirtan dasa



HH Mukunda Goswami's 70th birthday

The event was broadcast live, via Ustream, with many devotees logging on including some from Russia, India & U.S.A.

Varuthini Ekadasi 17 April marked the auspicious 70th birthday of HH Mukunda Goswami. A small band of local disciples, along with some of their family members, gathered at the home of Vraja Vilasa dasa and Radha Sakhi devi dasi. Maharaja spoke extensively from verses 3 and 4 of the Nectar of Instruction. The atmosphere was permeated by his loving, friendly and relaxed mood. He is a living ISKCON treasure and we are all very fortunate to have him in our community.

## EDITORIAL BOARD:

Damodara Pandit dasa, Dhanesvara dasa, Karunika devi dasi, Mandakini devi dasi, Satya devi dasi

## PRASADAM SERVERS

by Dandakaranya dasa

At a recent temple Festival Committee meeting it was discussed how the quality of the serving of prasadam to the devotees and guests at our Sunday feasts and festivals could be improved and encouraged. In liaison with two of the main Sunday feast and festival prasadam servers, Syama Prabhu and Braja Jivana Prabhu, an idea has been proposed that teams of servers are formed. The teams can be rotated each Sunday feast week and render this important service on bigger festival days.

So the servers aren't in anxiety about missing out on honouring prasadam, arrangements will be made for them to take prasadam before offering their services to the devotees and guests.

Braja Jivana Prabhu has kindly offered to organise the prasadam serving teams and is looking for devotees to volunteer to help with this valuable service opportunity. You can speak with either Syama Prabhu or Braja Jivana Prabhu at the next Sunday Feast about this or contact Braja Jivana on 0400 403 323.

*"The members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness invite the Society's members and supporters to dine with them when they hold love feasts in all their branches every Sunday. Many interested people come to honour prasada, and whenever possible they invite members of the Society to their homes and feed them sumptuously with prasada. In this way both the members of the Society and the general public are benefited."* -Srla Prabhupada

Source Unknown



### Wednesdays 10.30 am

Byron Bay Hari Nama at the park opposite the Post Office. For further

details and transport information  
**Parama Karuna dasa 0439 280 362**

### Friday Evenings 6.30 pm

Bhakti Centre Surfers Paradise  
**bhakticentregoldcoast.com.au**

### Sunday Mornings

Northern NSW & Gold Coast  
**www.folkkrishna.com/program.htm**  
Isvara dasa 0411 825 549

Urvashi devi dasi



*Pesala devi dasi*

*We would like to welcome our resident prac student Pesala devi dasi to the Bhaktivedanta Swami Gurukula. Pesala is completing her graduate diploma in secondary school teaching and will be with the school for 4 weeks in the new senior school campus. Already classes 6, 7 & 8 have been out in the school grounds with Pesala digging for artefacts, and tree-ring dating tree stumps as part of her history classes. It is hoped that her experience at the Hare Krishna school continues to be a positive one.*

www.iskcondesiretree.net

## KRISHNA WANTS YOU!



### Service opportunities - no experience required

- Cooking Wednesday breakfast - Brahmans required
- General maintenance/gardening
- Garland makers

### Current Vacancy ..

**Wanted:** Cooking breakfast and the 6.10 pm offering, both on Saturdays

**Qualification:** Brahman Initiation

**Hours:** Minimum 2 hours weekly

**Please contact Dhanesvara dasa or Karunika devi dasi 0402 763 291**

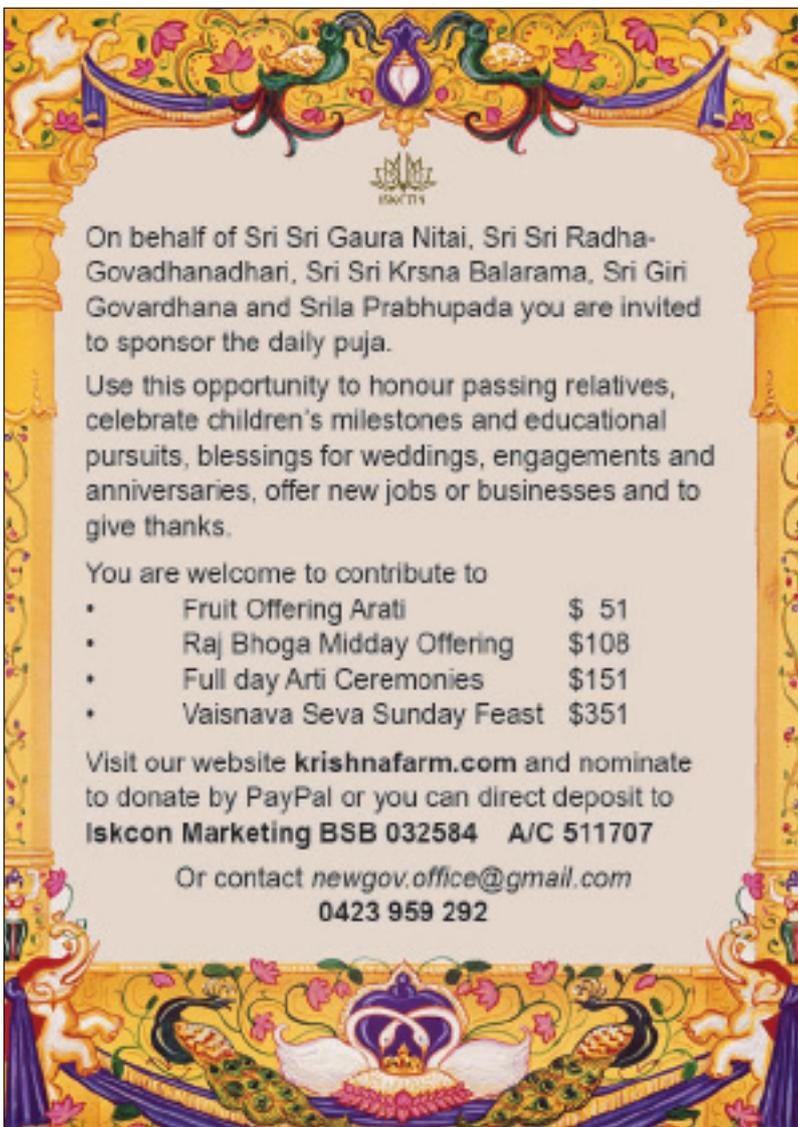
## NEW GREETING THE DEITIES & SUNDAY FEAST TIMES

### Morning Program

Darshan Arati: 7.00 am  
Guru Puja / Kirtana: 7.10 am  
Class: 7.30 am  
Breakfast: 8.30 am

### Sunday Feast Program

Bhajans: 3.00 pm  
**Arati: 4.00 pm**  
**Bhagavad Gita Class: 4.30 pm**  
**Feast: 5:30 pm**  
Gaura Arati Kirtana is still 6.30 pm  
*Guests are asked to arrive by 4.00 pm*



  
 ISKCON

On behalf of Sri Sri Gaura Nitai, Sri Sri Radha-Govadhanadhari, Sri Sri Krsna Balarama, Sri Giri Govardhana and Srila Prabhupada you are invited to sponsor the daily puja.

Use this opportunity to honour passing relatives, celebrate children's milestones and educational pursuits, blessings for weddings, engagements and anniversaries, offer new jobs or businesses and to give thanks.

You are welcome to contribute to

- Fruit Offering Arati \$ 51
- Raj Bhoga Midday Offering \$108
- Full day Arti Ceremonies \$151
- Vaisnava Seva Sunday Feast \$351

Visit our website [krishnafarm.com](http://krishnafarm.com) and nominate to donate by PayPal or you can direct deposit to **Iskcon Marketing BSB 032584 A/C 511707**

Or contact [newgov.office@gmail.com](mailto:newgov.office@gmail.com)  
**0423 959 292**

## LITTLE VAISNAVA PLAYGROUP



KIRTAN - SINGALONG  
 STORY TIME - ARTS & CRAFT

**Tuesdays 10 am - 12 pm**

2 Edward Street, Bray Park

*Please call ...*

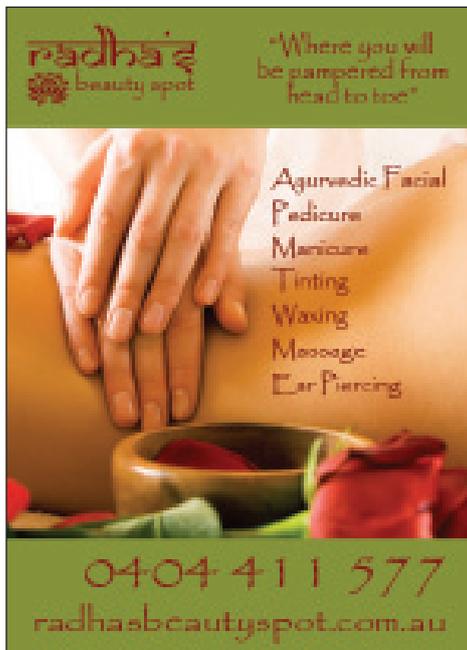
Vrindaranya dasi

0407 154 405

or

Krishna Rupa devi dasi

0488 045 858



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### "GAI TO THE SPIRIT"



*New Govardhana hosts bi-weekly courses in Odissi. Join us on Monday and Wednesdays, 3-6:30pm. All welcome!*

**FMI: [mohinicox@gmail.com](mailto:mohinicox@gmail.com)  
 mobile: 040 99 44 55 1**

**Advertise in The Conch**

- 52.50 x 74.25 mm \$ 30
- 105 x 74.25 mm \$ 40
- 105 x 148.5mm \$ 50
- 210 x 148 mm \$ 70
- 210 x 297 mm \$100

**Contact Karunika devi dasi on  
 0401 225 621**

We have special 6 month rates and great prices if you want us to design your ad.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY ...



## Hari Sauri Prabhu May 3 - 5

**Seminar: "Prabhupada, the living Bhagavatam".**

Thursday 3 May at 7.30 am & 5.30 pm

Friday 4 May at 7.30 am

Friday 4 May at 5.30 pm **Film Presentation: "Bhaktivedanta Research Centre"**



## Devamrita Swami May 4 - 6

**"Pastimes of Prahlad Nrsimha: A weekend with HH Devamrita Swami"**

Saturday 5 May at 7.30 am Srimad Bhagavatam Class

4.00 pm Rupa Raganath Prabhu's Home Program

Sunday 6 May at 7.30 am Srimad Bhagavatam Class

Sunday Feast Program: Nrsimha Caturdasi Festival

Monday 7 May at 7.30 AM Srimad Bhagavatam Class



## Bhakti Sastri Course 2012 - 2013 being May 14, 2012

Classes Begin Monday 14 May and finish on Friday 25 May

Daily classes Monday - Friday 5.00 pm - 7.00 pm

- Nectar of Instruction
- Nectar of Devotion
- Sri Isopanishad
- Bhagavad Gita

The Bhakti Shastri program will be delivered in modules, and each module will be completed within 2 weeks

Mayapur Institute and  
Govardhana College *presents ...*



*Atul Krishna  
dasa*



*Padmanayana  
dasa*



*Anuradha  
devi dasi*

UPCOMING EVENTS A  
BIT FURTHER DOWN THE  
TRACK...

### Vaisnavi Retreat

Fri 8 - Mon 11 June, 2012

### Champakalata Devi Dasi

June 20 - 25 2012

**CPO & ISKCON Resolve Seminars**

### HH Bhaktividya Purna

### Swami

5 July 2012 (5 Day Intensive)

**Spiritual Life: Processes,  
Relationships, Goals**

### Education Mela

### (Conference)

Thurs and Friday (4-6 July)

### Holy Name Retreat

Featuring HH Sacinandana Swami  
and HG Madhava Prabhu

4 October 2012 through to  
Sunday 7 October 2012

## MAY CALENDAR

(from the online Vaisnava calender [www.vaisnavacalender.com](http://www.vaisnavacalender.com))

- 1 Tu Srimati Sita Devi (consort of Lord Sri Rama) -- Appearance  
Sri Madhu Pandita -- Disappearance  
Srimati Jahnava Devi -- Appearance
- 2 We Ekadasi (not suitable for fasting)
- 3 Th Dvadasi (suitable for fasting) Fasting for Mohini Ekadasi  
Rukmini Dvadasi
- 4 Fr Trayodasi Break fast 06:15 - 09:54  
Sri Jayananda Prabhu -- Disappearance
- 5 Sa Caturdasi Nrsimha Caturdasi: Appearance of Lord Nrsimhadeva  
(Fast today)
- 6 Su Krsna Phula Dola, Salila Vihara  
Sri Paramesvari Dasa Thakura -- Disappearance  
Sri Sri Radha-Ramana Devaji -- Appearance  
Sri Madhavendra Puri -- Appearance  
Sri Srinivasa Acarya -- Appearance
- 10 Th Sri Ramananda Raya -- Disappearance  
**Community Meeting 5.00 pm in Temple Room**
- 14Mo Tulasi Jala Dan ends.
- 16 We Ekadasi (suitable for fasting) Fasting for Aparā Ekadasi
- 17 Th Dvadasi Break fast 06:27 - 09:56 (LT)  
Srila Vrndavana Dasa Thakura -- Appearance
- 31 Th Sri Baladeva Vidyabhusana -- Disappearance  
Ganga Puja  
Srimati Gangamata Gosvami -- Appearance