



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

THE SIX GOSWAMIS



by Damodara Pandit dasa

This month the Conch features The Six Goswamis of Vrindavana as the disappearance days of Sri Rupa, Santana and Gopal Bhatta Goswami are all observed this month. The Six Goswamis founded the holy city of Vrindavana and firmly established the teachings of Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Through their various writings they explain the doctrine and philosophy of Sri Chaitanya for the benefit of the whole world. The two brothers Rupa and Sanatana Goswamis were ordered by Lord Chaitanya in the year 1516

to go and live in Vrindavana and search out all the lost holy places connected with Lord Sri Krishna's transcendental pastimes.

Lord Chaitanya also ordered them to compile books on the great science of bhakti-yoga, the process of devotional service to God. In their sacred mission, Rupa and Sanatana Goswamis were ably assisted by Raghunatha dasa, Raghunatha Bhatta, Gopala Bhatta and Jiva who altogether formed the famous transcendental group, the Six Goswamis of Vrindavana.

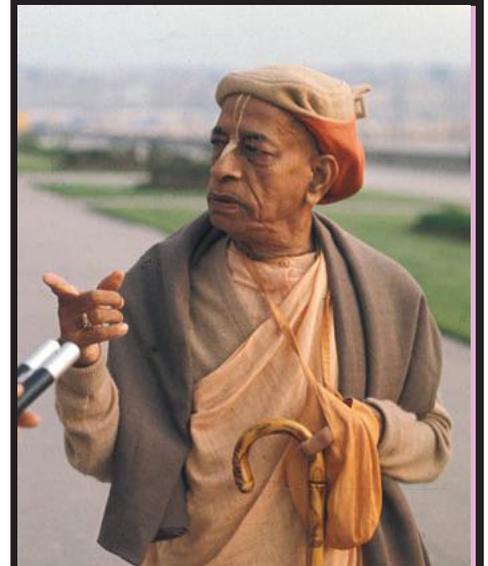
SNAPSHOTS ...



Participants in the recent Bhakti Shastri course receive their certificates at the Snana Yatra festival



Bruce the Goose takes a bath while Locana looks on bemused



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

Prabhupada uvaca ...

"In the First Wave of the book known as *Bhakti-ratnakara*, it is said that Sanatana Goswami understood *Srimad-Bhagavatam* by thorough study and explained it in his commentary known as *Vaisnava-tosani*. All the knowledge that Sri Sanatana Goswami and Rupa Goswami directly acquired from Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu was broadcast all over the world by their expert service. Sanatana Goswami gave his *Vaisnava-tosani* commentary to Srila Jiva Goswami for editing, and Srila Jiva Goswami edited this under the name of *Laghu-tosani*. Whatever he immediately put down in writing was finished in the year 1476 Saka (A.D. 1555). Srila Jiva Goswami completed *Laghu-tosani* in the year Sakabda 1504 (A.D. 1583)."

Caitanya-caritamrta, Madyama lila 1:35

INSIDE THE ARTIST'S STUDIO

Damodara Pandit dasa recently caught up with Dhanesvara Prabhu and posed these questions about his artistic processes

Inspiration or Dedication?

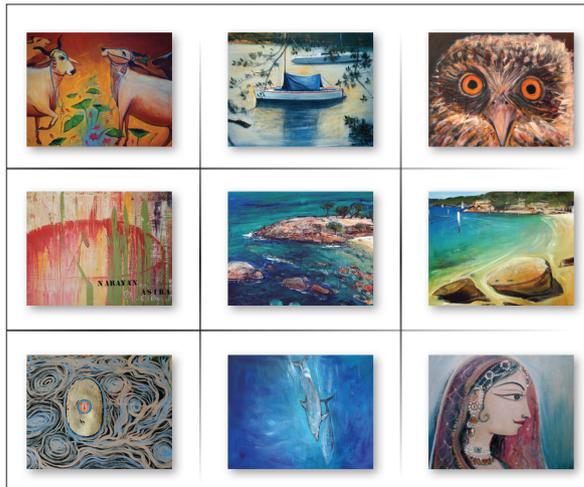
Definitely inspiration; you have to be inspired to create. Even Lord Brahma needed inspiration before he began the creation of the universe.

Exploration or Innovation?

Dual approach. Krishna has made everything complete. Krishna is infinite, we are infinitesimal. What can we create? We bring out the qualities within our heart, and manifest it through art, music, poetry, etc.

Devotion or Emotion?

Devotion. Without devotion there cannot be real emotion



Artwork by Dhanesvara dasa (David Benson)

MADHUMATI'S RICE PADDY

by Mandakini devi dasi

As a child growing up in The Phillipines, Madhumati always spent the school holidays with *Lolo* (Tagalog for grandfather), who was an uplands rice farmer. It was from him that she learned the art of rice cultivation.

Considering our local climate ideal, Madhumati set about planting Indian rice seeds in a couple of trays. She chose a damp, swampy field behind the guest accommodation opposite the White House. After five weeks of warm weather and rapid growth, she replanted the seedlings in a larger field.

Says Madhumati, "The plants generally take 4 months to come to maturity and although the cold weather has slowed down the



Urvashi devi dasi

Madhumati is propagating rice for Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari

process to some degree, the rice is almost ready for harvesting. We are expecting a yield of approximately 5 kilograms."

Being very pleased with the result Ranadir Prabhu, her husband, is endeavouring to expand the growing area. The couple are now looking forward to offering the first harvest of home grown rice to offering to Their Lordships.



Commotion or Meditation?

Meditation. There must be input before output, just like a computer.

Solution or Dissolution ?

Dissolution. Refining the material energy and only leaving the spiritual elements. Hare Krishna.

Dhanesvara dasa (David Benson) has been a full-time artist for the past 30 years. He has sold artworks to both local and international clients, including world-renowned golfer Greg Norman. Currently he is working on a contemporary devotional series, which will be exhibited at the Convention Centre in Brisbane on 14 and 15 July. For details call Dhanesvara on 0402 763 291

KAUSALYA WINS AT SHOW



Gita Govinda devi dasi

Kausalya and Samadhi won a number of 1st Prizes at a recent draught animal show near Toowoomba.

Q. How old are you?

A. 12 years old.

Q. Tell us about the competitions you recently entered.

A. The competition is about heavy horses competing in different things like riding, cart work and slide work.

Q. How much time do you spend training?

A. I train every couple of weeks.

Q. Do you own your own horse?

A. Yes, his name is Samadhi, he loves food and he is very funny.

Q. Who is your favourite horse on the farm and why?

A. Nitai Gaura because he is nice, and we connect, and because he is a big beautiful baby.

KAVI TAKES THE CAKE

by *Mandakini devi dasi*

Kavipriya Gopi devi dasi is fast becoming known as an accomplished cook at the New Govardhana Temple. Singapore-born, she learned the culinary craft from her mother (a renowned feast cook) who joined ISKCON in 1991 when Kavi was eight years old.

As a young girl, inspired by her parents' devotion, Kavi always attended school wearing *tilaka* and neck beads.

Upon completion of her studies, she was employed as an events organiser for a wealth consultant. Her job entailed much travelling, and it was on a visit to New Zealand in 2008 that she met Rakshana dasa at New Varshan temple. They were married at New Govardhana in 2011.

Rakshana Prabhu is the first to attest to his wife's expertise in the kitchen, and he feels obliged to go jogging each day in order to maintain a healthy weight. "She effortlessly creates so many delectable dishes and they are very hard to resist" he quips.

Kavi remarks, "I enjoy cooking for Their Lordships and in turn satisfying the *Vaisnavas* with tasty prasadam."

Apart from her passion for cooking, Kavi is also adept in drawing, painting and classical Indian dance.



Urvasi devi dasi

Kavipriya Gopi devi dasi cooks breakfast on Tuesdays and lunch on Wednesdays

Kavi's Lumberjack Cake

(Adapted from www.bestrecipe.com.au)

Ingredients:

2 large apples, peeled cored and finely chopped

1 cup dates (if dates are not available, raisins are a good substitute)

1 teaspoon bicarb of soda

3/4 cup boiling water

125g butter, softened

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup milk

1 1/2 cups plain flour

Topping:

60g butter

1/2 cup brown sugar

2/3 cup shredded coconut

Method:

1. Preheat oven at 180 degrees.

Butter and line a deep 23cm square cake pan.

2. Combine chopped apples, dates and bicarbonate of soda in a bowl.

3. Add the water and leave to soak for 10 minutes.

4. Cream the butter, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy.

5. Add the apple mixture and milk to the butter and fold in the flour.

6. Pour into the prepared pan and bake for 45 minutes.

7. Topping: Combine ingredients in a saucepan and stir until butter melts and sugar dissolves.

8. Remove cake from oven and carefully spoon topping mixture over cake. Return to oven and bake for another 20 minutes.

9. Let the cake set for 5 minutes before turning onto a wire rack.

10. Offer to Krishna and Enjoy!

PRAYERS ANSWERED ... 3 YEARS LATER

by *Damodara Pandit dasa*

As I was cleaning drawers and files in the shop I came across a letter requesting some books. The letter had no date on it but did have a phone number.

I phoned the number and an elderly lady answered, and I asked if that was Sally (the name on the letter).

She confirmed it was her and said

that she still wanted the books.

We agreed on a price and payment method and chatted for a while, as one does.

Turns out she has never been to a temple but considers herself a devotee of Krishna. Thus she always tries to supply family members with *Bhagavad-gitas*.

I asked, "When did you write the letter?" She replied, "three years ago, but just today it came into my thoughts, and I prayed to Krishna 'when would they answer my letter'".

Sally now has her books, and is friends with Bhaktine Antonette from Ocean Shores.

Sally attended a Nama Hatta Program Friday 29 June at Ocean Shores.

ADOPT-A-COW

New Govardhana's Adopt-a-Cow Program has set up a regular feeding time for guests and visitors to have some hands-on encounters with Krishna's cows, such as feeding and brushing. From 3.00 pm Sunday's. Look out for the sign !

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 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

Urvasi devi dasi

EDITORIAL BOARD:

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

For enquiries, comments or suggestions please contact www.theconchnewsletter.org

RECENT VAISNAVI RETREAT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS



Urvashi devi dasi

Matajis came from as far away as Perth to attend the recent Vaisnavi Retreat

by Karunika devi dasi

The Vaisnavi Retreat held at New Govardhana in June attracted women from Perth, Brisbane and Sydney. The weekend though rainy and cold was a huge success, and many new friendships were made.



2nd Generation Vaisnavis lead the Sunday Feast program

L to R. Hari Bhakti Dey, Srimati devi dasi, Radha Sakhi devi dasi and Mallika Des Fours

The opening night featured our Vaisnavi Odissi dance troupe, who performed to a heart-felt invocation sung by Mohini Murti Devi Dasi.

The workshops and seminars were diverse in many ways. Anuradha devi dasi illuminated the steps from *Sraddha* to *Prema*. Her daughter Nadia, a naturopath, spoke on women's health issues. Vilasi Manjari devi dasi gave us an insight into maintaining health through living an Ayurvedic lifestyle. Mohini Murti devi dasi's astrological expertise gave us all a quick overview into reading the stars, while Srimati devi dasi and Yasoda devi dasi taught us about the dynamics and nature of community.

Our own, "Granny Rapper", Mandakini devi dasi taught us all how to express ourselves through

HARINAMA SANKIRTANA KI JAYA



Sri Prabhupada attending Ratha Yatra in San Francisco

a wonderfully funny theatre workshop.

On the last day Padma devi dasi's seminar highlighted the many fine qualities possessed by women who are devotees. This was followed by Asema Sadhini devi dasi's "Heart to Heart Transformational Workshop" which celebrated Vaisnavi *sanga* and encouraged participants to share realisations built on trust and love.

A wonderful and delicious ending included Cup Cake Decorating with Dhriti Gopi devi dasi.

We are already making plans for the next New Govardhana Vaisnavi Retreat and hope that many more women will become involved, and join us to celebrate what it means to be a devotee woman.



Urvashi devi dasi

Mandakini devi dasi's Theatre Workshop. The question was posed, "When is a chair not a chair?" To which Karunika demonstrated, "when it is an accordion".

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

KRISHNA WANTS YOU !



www.iskcondesiretree.net

Service opportunities - no experience required

- General maintenance/
building garden beds
Garland maker for Saturdays

Please contact Dhanesvara dasa or Karunika devi dasi 0402 763 291

Current Vacancy ..

Wanted: Saturday noon arati

Qualification: Brahman Initiation

Hours: Minimum 2 hours weekly

Please contact Damodara Pandit dasa 0415 190 313




 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.

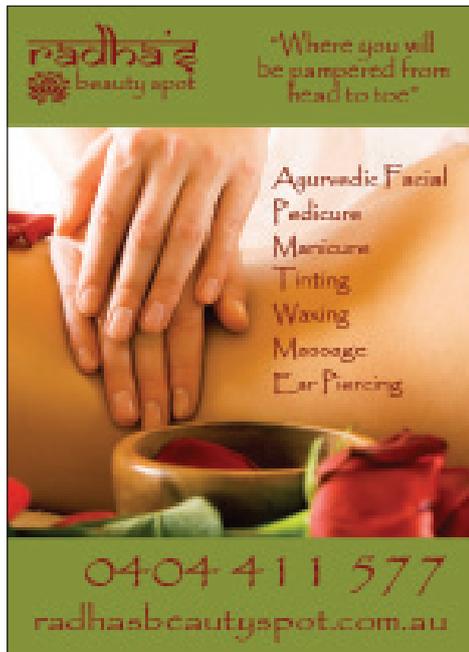
Use this opportunity to honour passing relatives, celebrate children's milestones and educational pursuits, blessings for weddings, engagements and anniversaries, offer new jobs or businesses and to give thanks.

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 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
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LITTLE VAISNAVA PLAYGROUP



KIRTAN - SINGALONG
 STORY TIME - ARTS & CRAFT

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Please call ...

Vrindaranya dasi

0407 154 405

or

Krishna Rupa devi dasi

0488 045 858

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Open 3pm to 8pm at the Sunday Feast

or contact Bhusaya 0403959492, Damodar Pandit 0415190313,
 Ananda-Maya on 0416219529

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.

Morning Program

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

Sunday Feast Program

Bhajans: 3.00 pm
Class: 4.00 pm
Kirtan: 4.45 pm - 5.15 pm
Feast: 5:30 pm
 Gaura Arati Kirtan is still 6.30 pm
Guests are asked to arrive by 4.00 pm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JULY ...

HH Bhakti Vidya Purna Swami

1 - 6 July 2012



SPIRITUAL LIFE

Processes, Relationships, Goals

HH Bhakti Vidya Purna Swami 1 - 6 July 2012 *Seminar Series: "Spiritual Life - Processes, Relationships and Goals"*

His Holiness Bhakti Vidya Purna Swami is based in Sri Dhama Mayapur, where he teaches Vedic philosophy and culture.

He will be visiting New Govardhana from Sunday 1 July until Friday 6 July. He will be lecturing on relationships, processes and goals within spiritual life.

Classes will be held in the temple room.

7.30 am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
5.00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Education Mela: 4 - 6 July 2012

New Govardhana is excited to host the first ever Australasian Ed. Mela. Ed. Mela is an education conference, focusing on best Krishna Conscious teaching and learning practices.

Anyone who would like to attend the Ed. Mela should contact the following devotees:

Vinod Bihari dasa at 0451 122 399

Damodara Pandit dasa at 0415 190 313



presents ...

Australasian Education Mela

4 - 6 July 2012

"Engaging Learners"
through

Prabhupada's Vision
The Curriculum
The Classroom
Relationships



For more information please contact
Prana dasa: prana@harekrishna.school.nz
Damodara Pandit dasa: yaldas@hotmail.com

ISKCON NEW GOVARDHANA, 525 TYALGIM ROAD, BINGELLA NSW, AUSTRALIA

UPCOMING EVENTS A BIT FURTHER DOWN THE TRACK...

Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari Installation Anniversary

Sunday 8 July 2012

Jhulana Yatra begins

Sunday 29 July 2012

Holy Name Retreat

Featuring HH Sacinandana Swami and HG Madhava Prabhu - REGISTER NOW!
4 - 7 October 2012

The festival committee is in the process of finalising program details and dates for the following festivals: Janmastami, Srila Prabhupada's Appearance Day, Radhastami and Balarama Jayanti. Should you wish to help with festival services, please contact Damodara Pandit dasa at 0415 190 313

JULY CALENDAR

(from the online Vaisnava calendar www.vaisnavacalender.com)

- 1 Su Dvadasi break fast 6.38 - 10.07
- 4 We Guru (Vyasa) Purnima
Srila Sanatana Gosvami -- Disappearance
- 8 Su Srila Gopala Bhatta Gosvami -- Disappearance
Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari Installation Anniversary
- 11 We Srila Lokanatha Gosvami -- Disappearance
- 12 Th The incorporation of ISKCON in New York
Community Meeting at the temple
- 14 Sa Ekadasi (not suitable for fasting)
- 15 Su Ekadasi (suitable for fasting) Fasting for Kamika Ekadasi
- 16 Mo Dvadasi Break fast 6:36 - 10:08
- 23 Mo Sri Raghunandana Thakura -- Disappearance
Sri Vamsidas Babaji -- Disappearance
- 29 Su Ekadasi (suitable for fasting) Fasting for Pavitropana Ekadasi
Radha Govinda Jhulana Yatra begins
- 30 Mo Dvadasi Break fast 6:30 - 10:06
Srila Rupa Gosvami -- Disappearance
Sri Gauridasa Pandita -- Disappearance