



March 2016



THE CONCH

www.conch.org.au

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

NEWSLETTER

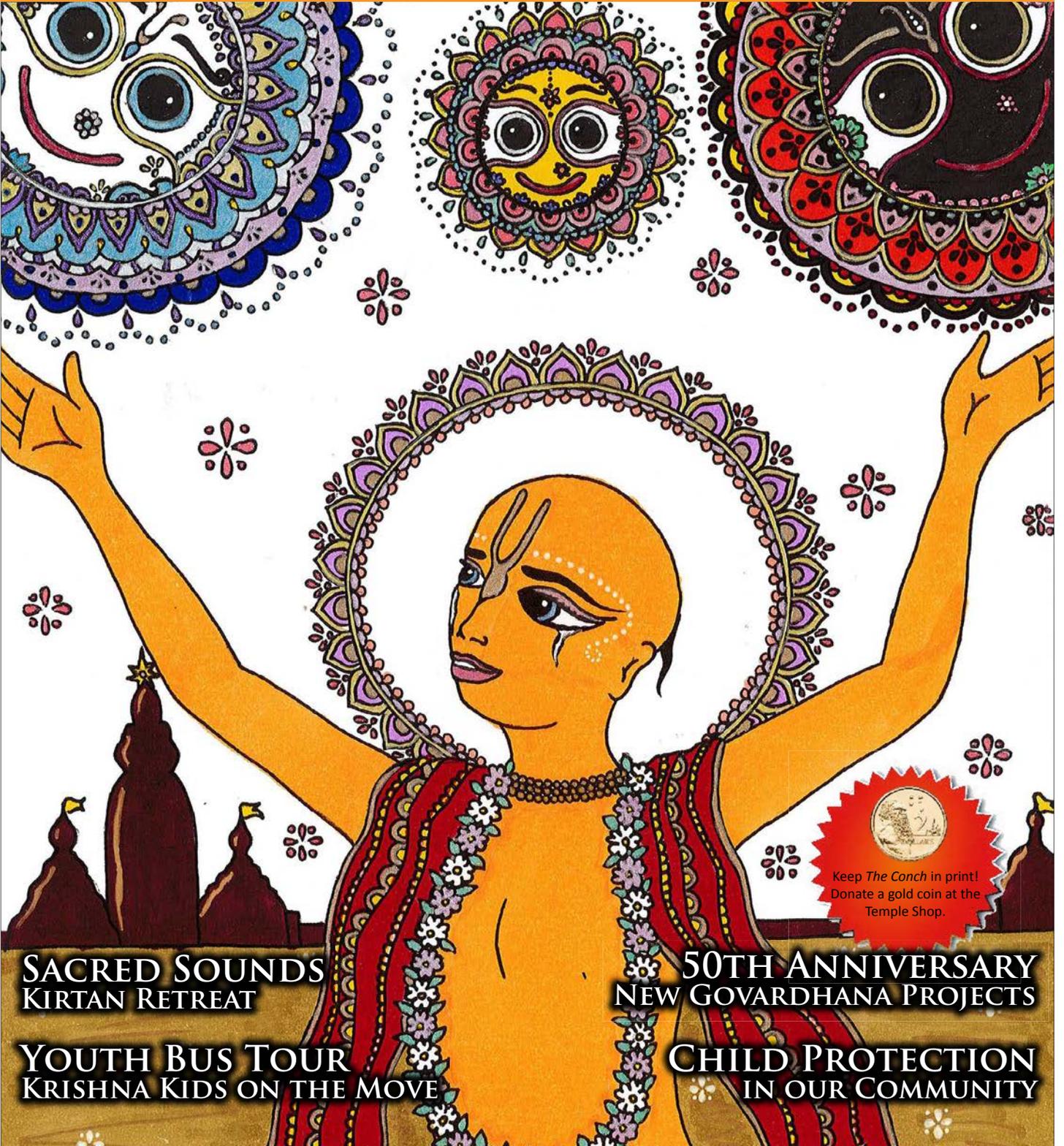
New Govardhana Community



krishnafarm.com

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

SPECIAL EDITION – CHILDREN IN ISKCON



Cover artwork by Shyamashakhi devi dasi



**SACRED SOUNDS
KIRTAN RETREAT**

**50TH ANNIVERSARY
NEW GOVARDHANA PROJECTS**

**YOUTH BUS TOUR
KRISHNA KIDS ON THE MOVE**

**CHILD PROTECTION
IN OUR COMMUNITY**

SRILA PRABHUPADA UVACA + HOLY NAME RETREAT INSERT + GOSHALLA GOSS

CHILDREN IN KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

By *Ambika devi dasi*

Bhaktivedanta Gurukula has welcomed students at the beginning of the new school year. Gurukulas are very important in our society because while the students are being trained in academic knowledge, they are also being guided to remember the cause of all causes, Lord Krishna. This early guidance will remain with them throughout their lives and will assist them to see the Lord's presence in everything.

In the sixth chapter of Bhagavad-gita, Krishna explains how a spiritual seeker who does not attain perfection returns to this world, taking birth in a pious, prosperous or transcendentalist family. That soul then revives the divine consciousness of his previous life and makes further progress in order to achieve complete success.



Students are trained in the Vedic arts such as dancing, drama and music.

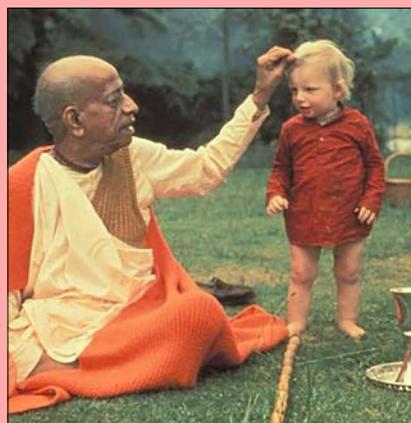
There are many references given by the Founder Acarya of ISKCON, Srila Prabhupada, regarding the special nature of children born into a Krishna Conscious family:

"These children are given to us by Krishna, they are Vaisnavas and we must be very careful to protect them. These are not ordinary children, they are Vaikuntha children, and we are very fortunate we can give them chance to advance further in Krishna Consciousness. That is a very great responsibility, do not neglect it or be confused." Letter to Arundhati, 30/7/72

A letter from 2/11/69: "It is very good news that Vishnu-arati is advancing nicely in Krishna Consciousness and I know that you and your husband will always do your best to bring her up on the right path of Krishna

Images: www.facebook.com

Srila Prabhupada Uvaca



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

"The civilised form of human life is meant for man's reviving the lost consciousness of his eternal relation with the Supreme Truth, the Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna, who is all powerful. Whoever loses this chance is classified as a *naradhama*.

We get information from revealed scriptures that when the baby is in the mothers' womb (an extremely uncomfortable situation) he prays to God for deliverance and promises to worship Him alone as soon as he gets out. To pray to God when he is in difficulty is a natural instinct in every living being because he is eternally related with God. But after his deliverance, the child forgets the difficulties of birth and forgets his deliverer also, being

influenced by maya, the illusory energy.

It is the duty of the guardians of children to revive the divine consciousness dormant within them. The ten processes of reformatory ceremonies, as enjoined in the Manu smriti, which is the guide to religious principles, are meant for reviving God consciousness in the system of Varnasrama. However no process is strictly followed now in any part of the world, and therefore 99.9% of the population are *naradhama* . . .

Sri Nityananda Prabhu, who is the incarnation of Godhead as Divine Master, delivered the typical *naradhama*s, the brothers Jagai and Madhai, and showed how the mercy of a real devotee is bestowed upon the lowest of mankind. So the *naradhama* who is condemned by the Personality of Godhead can again revive his spiritual consciousness only by the mercy of a devotee.

Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, in propagating the Bhagavata- *dharma*, or activities of the devotees, has recommended that people submissively hear the message of the Personality of Godhead. The essence of this message is Bhagavad-gita.

Bhagavad-gita 7.15 Purport

Consciousness. To raise one soul to Krishna Consciousness is counted by Krishna as a very great service, so you do this duty very carefully and Krishna will certainly bestow His blessings upon you."

Just as Lord Chaitanya astonished Mother Saci by preaching to her after she had chastised Him for sitting on rejected pots, so also these children have experienced spiritual life in previous births and can astonish us at times with their realisations. By nurturing their bhakti creepers, we will do them the best possible service. To achieve this, we need the vision that all living entities are souls and are part and parcel of Krishna.



Teachers and students joyfully dancing at the Bhaktivedanta Gurukula.

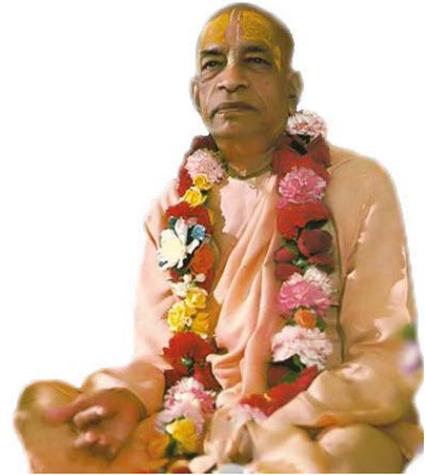
Despite being situated in small bodies at present, these children are elevated souls whom the Lord has placed amongst us in order that we may assist them in rekindling their love for Him. 

Photos: Trevor Gore

NEW GOVARDHANA SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECTS

Many New Govardhana devotees have begun planning special 50th projects. Please support these proposed projects and also create your own special 50th Anniversary event.

50 th Project	Date	Contact
National Youth Bus Tour Australia 2016	Jan 10	Nitai Chandra dasa
50th branding for Harinamas, Rathayatras, Festivals & Govindas	All year	Everyone
<i>The Hare Krishna's</i> , 50 th Magazine. Purchase and distribute.	March – Dec	Krishna Kirtana dasa
Special Invite Tweed VIP Dinner at Murwillumbah Town Hall	Early June	Ajita dasa, Mukunda Goswami
50/50 Cow Seva Program. Sponsorship of 50 cows by end of 2016	All year	Urvasi devi dasi
Open Day at New Govardhana farm	Mid June	Ajita dasa, Venugopal dasa
Local Hare Krishna Food for Life program	Mid year	Ajita dasa
10 Rathayatras in 2016, Nth NSW & Qld	All year	Jamal Arjuna dasa, Ajita dasa, Damodara Pandita dasa, Krishna Gana dasa
Cinema Event, <i>Acarya</i> and <i>Joy of Devotion</i> .	July – Oct	Damodara Pandita dasa
Ground breaking, cornerstone or tree planting ceremony with HH Mukunda Goswami	July	Krishna Kirtana dasa
Attend <i>Transcendental Journey</i> at Sydney Opera House.	Aug 20	Damodara Pandita dasa, Hare Krishna School
Padayatra – Byron Bay, Mullumbimby and Coolangatta	October 1 – 3	Ambika dasi, Venugopal dasa and Damodar Pandita dasa
Retirement Home Visits	All year	Mandakini dasi, Hare Krishna School



SUNDAY FEAST KIRTANS - UP LATE!

By Mandakini devi dasi

New Govardhana Temple authorities have extended the opening of the altar curtains for a further two hours on Sunday evenings.

Their Lordships are now visible for unrestricted darshan from 4.30 am until 9pm. Night pujari Bhakta Gana has happily taken up the service of putting the Deities to rest.

This change has been effected due to popular attendance by a core group of *gurukula* alumni at the Sunday feast program, and the subsequent melodious *kirtanas* in the temple room after the feast has been honoured. Their musical outpourings

attract up to 50 devotees and guests. On hearing the news, devotees commented...

Ambika devi dasi: "Hallelujah! Oh that's wonderful".

Regular kirtana leader Advaita Myler: "Awesome! Being able to see the Deities when we are singing adds so much more to the sweetness of the *kirtana*".

Sridhama Navadvipa dasa (Sridi) expressed his belief that because the group has shown so much consistency and enthusiasm in this endeavour, no doubt Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari have reciprocated by consenting to be present for the worship.

Radha Ickrath: "Krishna's going to love it. He will get to party till 9 pm. We love to sing for Krishna and He loves to see us". 🙏



KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Dear Devotees,

At New Govardhana we aim to provide a safe environment for all children.

The ISKCON Child Protection Office provides recommended policies, guidelines and resources to help communities become safer. This month the New Govardhana, Child Protection Team will host *Awareness* talks for the community. Permanent residents and devotees with children are requested to attend.

For more information contact Dhanistha dasi 0434 449 079, Karunika dasi or Damodara Pandit dasa.

Policies that encourage Child Protection

- Children should always be supervised whilst on the Temple premises.
- All persons that are in contact with children need to go through the Temple's screening process.
- Those that associate with children need to have undergone Child Protection training and are aware of ISKCON policies.
- Regular awareness campaigns to educate children and adults on prevention of child abuse.

Increase Child Protection in Your Community

- Ensure that there are proper child safety policies
- Have comprehensive screening processes in place for anyone who is working with children
- Point victims to the proper help, have a data-base of professionals at hand
- Educational and awareness campaigns are essential
- Never underestimate the role of the local Child Protection Team
- Never leave a child without a responsible adult supervision.

www.childprotectionoffice.org

NARAYANI DEVI DASI

By *Kisori devi dasi*

Narayani devi dasi received *diksa* from Srila Prabhupada in 1971.

She had been serving at the Boston temple and just the fact that Prabhupada had said he was coming was enough to keep her from



Photos Supplied by Kisori devi dasi

Her Grace Narayani Mataji visited the New Govardhana community recently.

returning home one weekend. She found everything attractive - the paintings, books, *prasadam*, and most especially the Hare Krsna mantra, which she recognised as the perfect sound, being trained to hear as a musician.

Narayani remembers being 10 and beginning to seek the higher truth and having arguments with her father about the soul at the time of death. She would take home a big pile of books from the library weekly with the aim of reading the entire library, until she read Srila Prabhupada's *Bhagavad-gita* which satisfied her completely. Her favorite book is the *Srimad Bhagavatam* which she has read at least 10 times.

When she took *diksa*, Prabhupada told her to engage in devotional service 24 hours a day and to perform *sankirtana*, read and study his books and do Deity worship. Later, spontaneously, Prabhupada also told her to always remain enthusiastic, sincere and co-operative.

In 1994, Narayani found herself in Vrindavana, seeking inspiration from the Holy Name to engage in some service. She felt that Srila Prabhupada's desire was for her to share what she had learnt from so much scriptural study, so she started teaching some students on the roof of the Krsna-Balarama guesthouse.

Later, in 1997, she started teaching at VIHE and now also travels internationally to share Krsna Consciousness.

Recently, she has found herself at the centre of the female *diksa* guru issue. She states that it was Srila Prabhupada's desire that both his 'sons and daughters' become *diksa* gurus, provided they were qualified and therefore this will come to pass.

She feels there is a necessity to have more initiating gurus, therefore females need to join the ranks and that it was Srila Prabhupada's desire which needs to be fulfilled.

There is no objection to her qualifications but only to her gender!

While there is a lot of support for Narayani, she would like the blessings and approval of the GBC before she starts giving *diksa*. 🙏



Narayani Mataji enjoying lunch with old friends at the home of Doctor Kisori.

TEENS INSPIRED – AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BUS TOUR

By Madhava Smullen for ISKCON News

Fifteen teenaged youth, aged 13 to 18 and hailing from Australia, New Zealand and Bali, were inspired in Krishna consciousness as they traveled across Australia during their summer holidays this January.

Photos courtesy of ISKCON News



The 'retro-fabulous' bus

The tour, which ran from January 9th to 27th – summer in Australia – was chaperoned by second generation devotees Braja Vallabhi, 21; Rukmini Priya Poddar, 23; Markendeya Rishi, 24; and Nitai Candra, 28.

The trip began in Brisbane, as tour leaders and participants got to know each other with a day of icebreakers and orientation on the Brisbane River at South Bank, a popular tourist destination.

Next, it was on to the 850-acre New Govardhana farm in the picturesque Tweed Valley of New South Wales. Spending nights at the farm, the group ventured out to various places of interest along the Gold Coast during the day.

They visited the Bhakti Center, a preaching center in Surfer's Paradise. They chanted and danced on the streets with Harinama Ruci, a group of travelling brahmachari preachers. They got an adrenaline rush and defied the laws of gravity at Bounce, a massive indoor trampoline park. They visited beaches and had bonfire kirtans. They saw a natural rock bridge and swam in a waterfall at Springbrook National Park. And they jumped off cliffs at the Yamba rock pools.

Driving on to Sydney, they went sightseeing, did kirtan in front of the famous Opera House and Harbour



"Finally, the tour returned to Sydney, where they performed a giant Harinama for Australia Day under perfect blue skies."

Bridge, and had fun playing laser tag. At Sydney's Radha Gopinath temple, they performed their play about the soul's journey back to Krishna, "Under the Influence," and sang a song they had written about ISKCON's 50th Anniversary.

ISKCON's 50th anniversary was a key theme of the tour, with youth telling everyone they met about Srila Prabhupada and the history and activities of ISKCON.



Cleaning the Lord's paraphernalia at Sydney temple

After Sydney, the youth visited the ISKCON yoga center Govinda Valley in Oxford, New South Wales, then made their way to Canberra, Australia's capital city.

"There we did Harinama, and checked out the national monuments like Parliament House, the National Museum, and the Australian War Memorial," says Braja Vallabhi. "Then we went to Melbourne, where we performed our play at the temple there. We also saw the Penguin Parade on Philip Island, where the penguins return home at sunset to one of the largest penguin colonies in Australia."

Throughout the bus tour, the youth were fed delicious prasadam at Australia's famous devotee-run restaurants, and stayed at ISKCON temples and centers along the way. At each temple, they attended Deity Greeting and Guru Puja at 7:00am, despite the challenges of usually only having one bathroom for dozens.

With the success of this January's tour putting the program in huge demand with parents, the Australian Youth Bus Tour is now set to become an annual fixture. But Braja Vallabhi's not satisfied with that alone.

"With this tour now done, mother Jayasri, Pratapana Prabhu, Nitai Candra and myself are going to sit down and have a chat about our general vision for the ISKCON youth in Australia," she says. "The younger kids have Sunday School, and a lot of the older youth have engagement. But there's often not much to do for this age group of 13 to 18. So as well as the annual bus tour, we'd like to have separate boys' and girls' trips like they have in the U.S., weekend programs, kirtan festivals, and much, much more!" 🙏



Getting ready to go high-roping

PLANS FOR A NEW GOSHALLA

By Venugopal dasa

On the Temple notice board are drafted plans for a new *goshalla* to be built this year and many of you have asked for a more detailed description of the facility. So in response I will try to give an overview of the building in a bit more detail.

The first priority is to create a very functional safe building for looking after the needs and welfare of Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari's cows. The second priority is to present this *goshalla* in a very attractive way for public and devotee viewing as it will be the first thing one sees upon entering the property at the new entrance gates.

So the building itself will be approximately half the size again of the present building. It will incorporate five individual cow stalls,

four individual calf stalls, all with state of the art feeding, watering, dividing and cleaning systems. There will also be a dedicated sick bay.

The *goshalla* will have three hand milking bays with a large holding pen just before where the cows wait before entering the milking bays. This area will also double as a training yard. There will also be a walk-through, drive-through, service road through the centre of the whole structure.

On the western side will be a large covered set of holding yards, with a race and cattle crush and enough room for training bullocks and storing draught implements and carts. There is a tool shed / workshop, two vermin-proof feed storage rooms and a proposed gobar gas system.

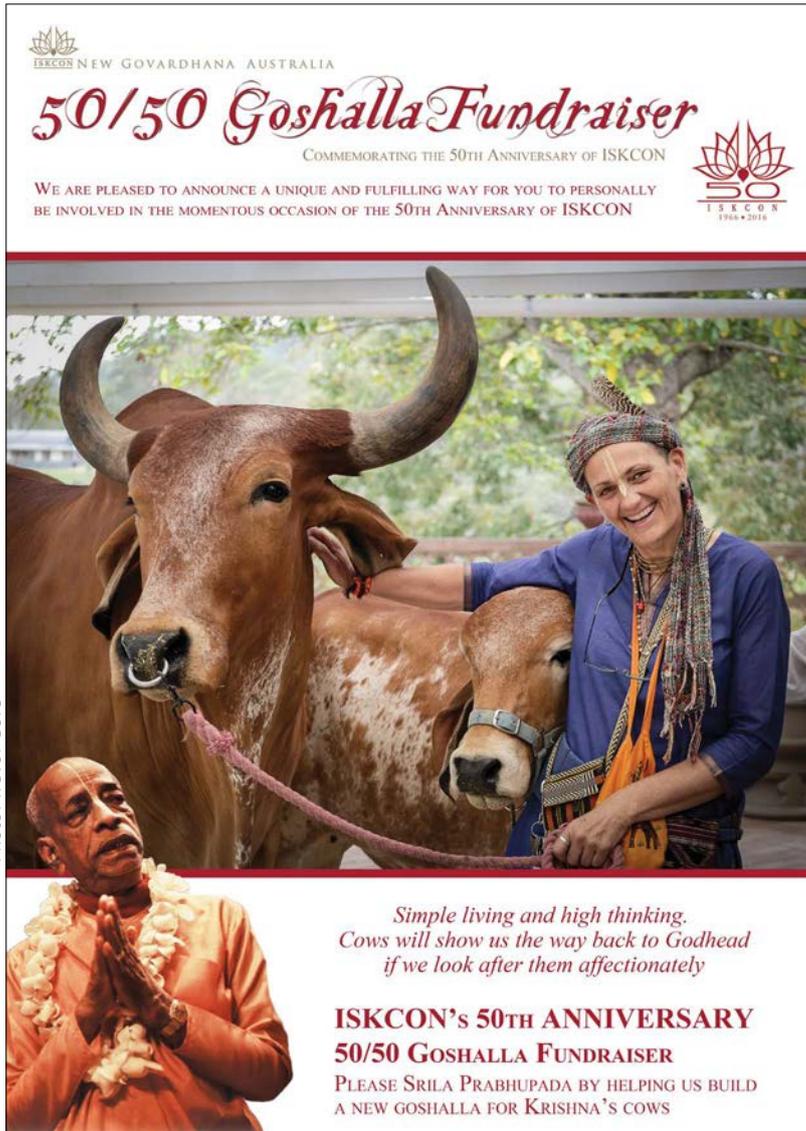
Visitors and guests will enter the *goshalla* through the foyer, which will also be a gallery displaying arts and crafts, books, DVDs and educational information on cow protection. In

the gallery there will be a display counter for sales of items and milk products. A walkway will then lead to an elevated viewing deck for watching the cows being milked and with a walkway extension to the cow and calf pens. Next door to the foyer is the administration office.

In the south-west corner there will be a milk processing kitchen, cool-room and medicine bay. There will also be a shower and toilet room on site.

Upstairs there will be a large seminar room with expansive views, which can also occasionally double as an overnight bed-sitter for devotees who may need to stay overnight in order to care for the cows if needed.

According to Shastra Caksu dasa, the *Vastu* alignment of this project is very good and so, with the blessings of the cows, the *Vaisnavas*, Srila Prabhupada and Sri Sri Radha Govardhanadhari, let's bring this project home on the 50th year of Srila Prabhupada's Appearance in the West *Ki Jaya!* 🐮



ISKCON NEW GOVARDHANA AUSTRALIA

50/50 Goshalla Fundraiser

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISKCON

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A UNIQUE AND FULFILLING WAY FOR YOU TO PERSONALLY BE INVOLVED IN THE MOMENTOUS OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISKCON

Photo: Trevor Gore

*Simple living and high thinking.
Cows will show us the way back to Godhead
if we look after them affectionately*

**ISKCON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY
50/50 GOSHALLA FUNDRAISER**

PLEASE SRILA PRABHUPADA BY HELPING US BUILD
A NEW GOSHALLA FOR KRISHNA'S COWS



Photo: Memories of Srila Prabhupada

Unlike the regular *Adopt-a-Cow* program, where funds go towards the monthly maintenance of the cow, the *50/50 Goshalla Fundraiser* program will allocate all funds towards the construction of a proposed new *goshalla* facility at New Govardhana.

As our way of saying thank you, the first 50 donors will be given a complimentary two year *Adopt-a-Cow* membership, as well as have their name engraved on a commemorative plaque that will be installed in the new *goshalla*.

For more information about how you can be a part of this 50th Anniversary project please contact:

Urvashi devi dasi at 108devidasi@gmail.com

NEW PREP CLASS PROGRAM AT GURUKULA

By Vaisnavi devi dasi

The Bhaktivedanta Swami Gurukula has started a new class this year with the opening of the Prep Program. Thanks go to Mahesvari devi dasi who took up the initiative to start up the Prep class to join with the Kindergarten class.



New Prep class students began their

We currently have eight students who are attending the program, most of

whom are four years old or turning four this year. Children attend the program twice a week.

First and foremost, Srila Prabhupada's teachings will be the focus through various activities, dress up and role play. Practical learning and teaching of Montessori, whereby children develop a 'love of learning' through care and respect; and Reggio Emilia, a thematic approach based on children's interests will be incorporated in our program.

Vaisnavi devi dasi is the Prep class teacher from 9 am –1 pm and Mother Mahesvari takes them from 1.00 pm – 2.45 pm.

A new building block is underway at the gurukula for the New Prep Class Program. The Classroom block will be ready by mid Term 1, beginning of Term 2, 2016. The Library has been temporarily rearranged to accommodate the Prep program.

We are also excited to inform the community that we have started Year 10 class for the High School where students have a variety of elective programs and learning initiatives to choose from.



Renovations are almost complete on the K – 2 classroom.

The gurukula staff seeks the blessings of the *Vaisnavas* and well-wishers in fulfilling Srila Prabhupada's desire to give our children the precious gift of a Krishna Conscious education.

Vaisnavi has a degree in Early Childhood and specialised in Montessori in her final year of teacher training. She has gained experience during practicums at various centres specialising in Montessori, Steiner, Reggio Emilia, etc. Mahesvari has a teaching degree and has been working with Mother Prema for many years. She has been teaching Kindergarten since 2014.

SUNDAY KIRTANA SESSIONS AT THE BEACH

By Mandakini devi dasi

On the first Sunday of every month, 20 to 30 devotees gather at Apex Park, Byron Bay (opposite the beach) from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm to chant and spread the holy name.

This particular location attracts lots of people. Many passersby approach the *kirtana* party and sit down to join in, while others share their joy by dancing.



Photo: Trevor Gore

Any devotees wishing to participate in these gatherings are most welcome.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Conch is your community newsletter, and we invite you to submit articles for publication. Articles should be 300 words or less and supplied in MS Word via email to newgovconch@gmail.com. Photographs must be in JPG format. Please provide the name of the author and

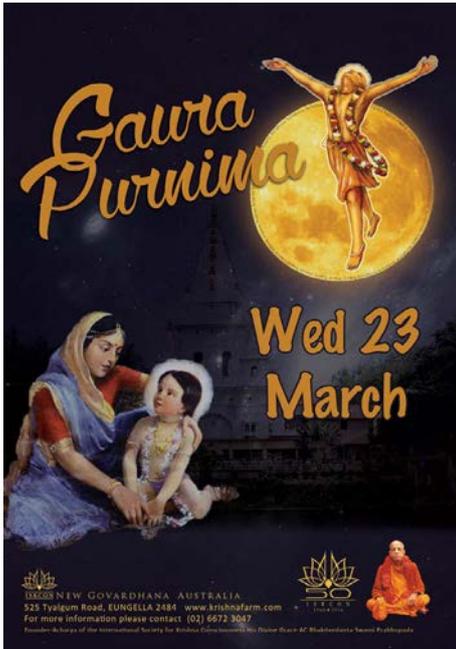
the photographer. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Deadline is the 12th of each month. Occasionally a submission could be held over to a later edition. All submissions will be edited, proofread or rejected without notice.



EDITORIAL BOARD:

Damodara Pandit dasa, Govardhana Seva dasa, Krishnarupa devi dasi (ACBSP), Mandakini devi dasi, Urvashi devi dasi (layout and graphic design).
For enquiries, comments or suggestions, contact: newgovconch@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



Gaura Purnima Festival

Tuesday, 22 March

6.30 pm Gaura Arati
7.00 pm Adivasa Ceremony

Wednesday, 23 March
(Fast till moonrise)

7.30 am Greeting the Deities
8.15 am Class by HH Mukunda Goswami
10.30 am Harinama in Byron Bay
3.30 pm Bhajans
4.00 pm Arati
4.15 pm Gurukula Presentations
4.45 pm Abhisheka
5.45 pm Class
6.30 pm Gaura Arati
7.00 pm Offering of gifts
7.15 pm Feast



Daily Schedule

4:30am-7:00am Morning program (Temple)

7:00am Deity Greeting and Guru Puja (Temple)

7:30am Seminar "Sikshastakam" (Temple)
Seminars on Sri Caitanya's "Sikshastakam" describing the eight-fold path of awakening divine love through chanting, presented by HH Indradyumna Swami.

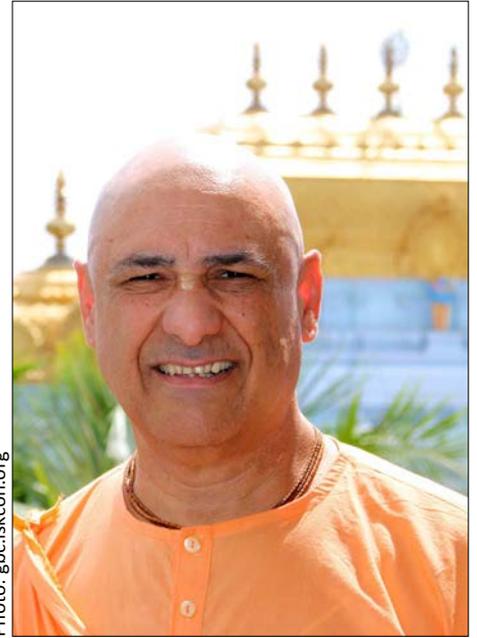
9:00am Breakfast (Temple)

10:30am-1:30pm Morning Kirtan session (Community Hall)

3:00pm Lunch (Temple)

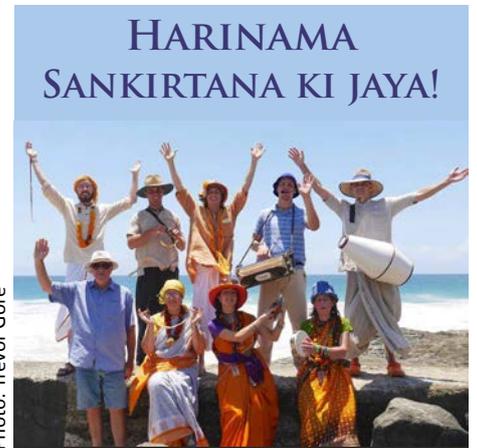
5:00pm-8:30pm Evening Kirtan session – Evening Snack (Community Hall)

Retreat concludes after lunch on Monday 28th March



His Holiness Ramai Swami Mid March

HH Ramai Swami will visit New Govardhana for a few days during mid March. For more details as they become available please visit krishnafarm.com



Wednesdays 10.30 am

Byron Bay *harinama* at the park opposite the Post Office. For further details and transport information, contact **Parama Karuna dasa 0439 280 362**

Friday Evenings 6.30 pm

Bhakti Centre Surfers Paradise bhakticentregoldcoast.com.au

Sunday Mornings

Northern NSW & Gold Coast
Visnujana dasa 0498 141 021

MARCH CALENDAR

(from Vaishnava calendar www.vaisnavacalendar.com)

- 5 Sat Fasting for Vijaya Ekadasi
- 6 Sun Dvadasi break fast 6.41 am – 10.50 am
Sri Iswara Puri – Disappearance
- 8 Tue Siva Ratri
- 10 Thu Srila Jagannatha Dasa Babaji – Disappearance
- 12 Sat Sri Purushottama Dasa Thakur – Appearance
- 19 Sat Fasting for Amalaki Vrata Ekadasi
- 20 Sun Dvadasi break fast 6.42 am – 10.52 am
Sri Madhavendra Puri – Disappearance
- 23 Wed Gaura Purnima – Appearance of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu
(Fast till moonrise)
- 24 Thu Festival of Jagannatha Misra
- 25-28 Sacred Sound Kirtan Retreat at New Govardhana

NEW GOVARDHANA PRESENTS

SACRED SOUND

Kirtan RETREAT

EASTER
LONG WEEKEND
FRI 25 – MON 28
MARCH 2016

"Everybody together now. A little louder. From Your Heart!" Hours of maha mantra meditation and unique seminar on the ancient "Siksastakam" - the power of the transcendental sound vibration

By the organisers of Sacred Sound Kirtan Retreat 2016

Everyone is welcome – from first timers to seasoned devotees, to the Sacred Sound Kirtan Retreat at our Community Hall during Easter long weekend, Friday 25th - Monday 28th March, 2016.

There will be daily morning discourses on how to enter into the sacred space of chanting, mid morning and late afternoon sessions of life transforming Kirtan, and sumptuous meals.

Some of the highly qualified guests heading this retreat include –

HH Indradyumna Swami is a world renowned travelling monk and spiritual master. A disciple of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, who spreads the message of Krishna consciousness to even the most remote, often forgotten, areas of the world, introducing people to the power of kirtan and *sanatana dharma*. Yearly, he takes groups on pilgrimage to Krishna's holy land and perhaps is most famous for his large scale 'Festival of India' and 'Woodstock' events, which takes place along the Polish Baltic coast annually. The following websites showcase his lectures, melodious kirtan along with journals and photography.

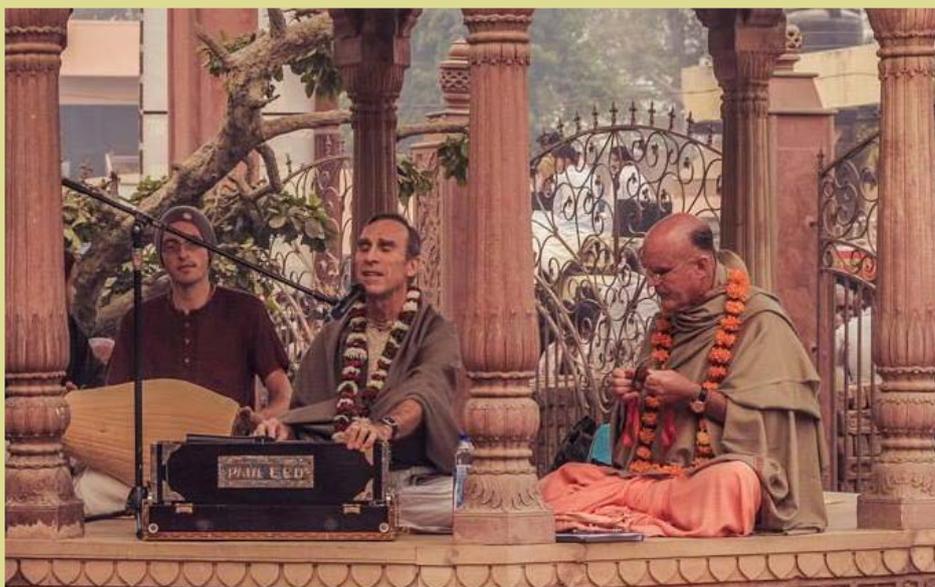
www.narottam.com and www.travelingmonk.com

HG Bada Haridasa is also a disciple of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. He is a gifted teacher and has been performing devotional music since 1975 and has various university degrees in music. He has released many albums and conducts many kirtan programs in various locations worldwide. His website contains much interesting content relevant to Kirtan.

www.badaharidas.com

HG Sri Prahlada dasa is a disciple of HH Hridayananda Maharaja. He is an accomplished kirtan artist, who lives in Sydney and is a former student of the Hare Krishna school in Eungella. He spent his youth travelling the world and serving Indradyumna Swami and ISKCON in many various ways including the Polish 'Festival of India' and 'Woodstock'.

A naturally gifted kirtan leader, he released two singles and an album, through EMI before he was a teenager. Since then, Sri Prahlada has released numerous albums, regularly hosts kirtan programs in various locations, as well as engaging his scholarly nature by attaining his PhD, lecturing at university, and lecturing on the science of Krishna Consciousness. More of his kirtan news can be found at this link: www.sriprahlada.com





SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS TO BE AWARE OF DURING SACRED SOUND KIRTAN RETREAT

VEHICLES: Traffic on the farm will be restricted from driving to the community hall and we encourage guests to park in designated areas and walk to absorb the peaceful atmosphere on the farm. Passes can be obtained prior to the retreat for residents living near the school hall and those with special needs. Contact Virabhadra on 0428 728 164 or email vb8164@gmail.com

SEVA: We are looking for people to volunteer for various services. Please contact Nikunja on 0457 174 792 or email rani_blackley@hotmail.com if you would like to assist. The retreat will be broadcast on FM 91 so if you are engaged in other *seva*, you can still participate.

CHILDCARE: Due to enquiries from parents, childcare is available during kirtan sessions. We request parents to give \$6 per session for the first child and \$5 per subsequent child. These contributions will assist senior school students go on their yearly pilgrimage to India.

There will be two sessions per day, (except Monday, when there will be one). The session times are 10.30am – 1.30pm and 5pm – 8.30pm to mirror the sessions of the Retreat.

If due to financial reasons you are unable to afford childcare or you want to assist, we can arrange that you volunteer to assist in child minding for a session and your children can attend other sessions for free. To book call Manju on 0405 663 824 or email natschipp@gmail.com

HG Madhava Naidoo was born in Mauritius, is based in Switzerland but spends his days travelling the world, performing kirtan in various locations as requested by his kirtan guru Aindra dasa. From age five Madhava was attached to the *mridanga* drum and is renowned for his soulful, melodious kirtans. Aged 18, he joined the 24hr kirtan team in Vrindavan where he served under his kirtan inspiration, revolutionary Aindra Prabhu.

Sacred Sound is bound to be an enlivening retreat. Take the association of saintly *sadhus*, engaged in soulful kirtan helping us all to achieve *nama ruci, jiva doya and vaishnava seva*. All this amidst the backdrop of our beautiful community of New Govardhana.

In order to facilitate everyone, we hope all devotees who wish to be engaged in *vaishnava seva* come forward and offer donations to cover the costs of the festival.

If you would like more information on the exact costs of particular items, or would like to sponsor *prasadam* for a particular day or meal – then please email rani_blackley@hotmail.com. Please see banking details below to make a direct deposit bank transfer:

Westpac Bank
ISKCON New Govardhana
BSB: 033 002
A/C: 618999
REF: HNR (your name)

We look forward to welcoming you all to this community event

