

# News & Notes

24th December 2016.....A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville.....Number 679



# HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

One point is very remarkable – I don't remember whether Sri Aurobindo speaks about it in what follows – but among the four activities or realisations he mentions – religion, occultism, spiritual philosophy and spiritual experience – which are necessary for the development and transformation of man, all are not equally accessible to humanity.

The one which can be practised and, one might say, "understood" – although it is certainly not an "understanding" – by the greatest number of human beings – those who live almost exclusively in the physical consciousness – is the religious method, precisely because it is based on fixed creeds and practices. Simply by an act of faith or a collective suggestion – above all a collective suggestion – many human beings who have not yet reached any considerable inner development can take up the path of religion.

For occultism we must already have come to a second stage of development and be more conscious in the vital world to be able to come into contact with the play of forces, which is indispensable in order to manipulate them.

As for spiritual philosophy, only the few who have a fairly complete mental development and are fully conscious on the intellectual plane, can usefully adopt this method; otherwise it is a dead letter for all those who don't have an ability for mental gymnastics and so cannot follow all the acrobatics of the mind. And finally, Sri Aurobindo has told us somewhere in *The Life Divine* that to follow the path of spiritual experience, one must have within oneself a "spiritual being", one must be "twice born" as it is said, for if one doesn't have a spiritual being within, which is at least on the point of becoming self-aware, one may try to imitate these experiences but it will only be crude imitation or hypocrisy, it won't be a reality.

Therefore, in order to follow these four paths simultaneously and to practise them with an integral benefit for the being, one must already be a complete individual, capable of having a conscious life in the four principal elements of human and spiritual nature.

Of course, this inner development is not always apparent and we may meet someone who has within him a conscious spiritual entity, ready for the most beautiful experiences, though externally he seems quite crude and incomplete. Nor is it necessary to follow this development in the order in which it has been mentioned, but if we want our realisation to be integral and to arrive at a total transformation of our being, we must be able to use the essence of what each of these methods can bring.

The psychic or spiritual consciousness gives you the deep inner realisation, contact with the Divine, liberation from external fetters; but for this liberation to be effective, for it to have an action on the rest of the being, the mind must be open enough to be able to hold the spiritual light of Knowledge, the vital must be powerful enough to handle the forces behind appearances and dominate them, and the physical should be disciplined, organised enough to be able to express the deep experience, in the movements of each day and each moment, and live it integrally. If one of these things is lacking, the result is not complete. One can make light of this thing or that under the pretext that it is not the most important, the central Thing – and to neglect outer things certainly cannot prevent you from entering into spiritual communion with the Supreme, but that is good only for a flight from life. If we are to be total, complete beings, to have an integral realisation, we should be able to express our spiritual experience mentally, vitally and physically. And the more our expression is perfect, executed by a complete and perfect being, the more integral and perfect will our realisation be. For someone who wants to follow the integral yoga nothing is useless and nothing must be neglected.... The main thing is to know how to put each thing in its place and to hand over the government to what truly has the right to govern.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, 18 June 1958

THE MOTHER

The  
Ponder  
Corner

*Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, If he's not born in thee thy soul is still forlorn. If in your heart you make a manger for his birth then God will once again become a child on earth.*

-Angelus Silesius, German mystic

Submitted by Martin S.

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Cover painting by *Patrick Tugirimana* -A Zebra in the International Zone: The [African Pavilion](#) is taking shape!

## WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

### From iTDC

Dear Residents, we are ready to initiate the realization of the Waste Water Treatment Plant of the residential Zone 1 & 2. This is composed of two elements:

1. Creation of a treatment unit "DEWAT" by CSR with a capacity of 300 PE (person equivalent)
2. And the collection sewer

The first item is being prefabricated in CSR and will be installed mid of January beginning of Feb. The second item's work will start next week with the control survey of the route of the pipes. The communities connected will be:

1. Maitreyee 1
2. Maitreyee 2
3. Serenity
4. Prayatna
5. Sanjana
6. Swayam
7. Kalpana
8. Human scape (under consideration)

This work will consist of burying the pipes at an average of 2 m depth. The trenching will generate inconvenience in some places and this will be taken care of by the project team.

- The project has been entrusted to Road Service
- The project engineer is Jan
- The survey coordinator is Giulio
- The plumbing and pipe installation will be done by AWS
- The iTDC representative for the project will be Tom

You may contact the later at: [tom@auroville.org.in](mailto:tom@auroville.org.in) / Tel: 7598132290

Kindly be patient and communicate your concern preferably in a civil manner. If you cannot, please let us know in advance so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Working with you at Her service  
Tom (iTDC)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A call to join the Study Group on Organisation

Dear all,

The study group has been working for the past 3 years in the formulation, approval and implementation of the Participatory Working Group (PWG) (see Auronet "[Selection Process for Working Groups March 2016](#)" - revised in August 2016)

Part of this work is to prepare the 3-Day Selection Process for our major working groups AVCouncil, Working Committee, FAMC and now in the pipeline the TDC.

The upcoming selection for the new members of the TDC (Town Development Council) will start soon and our Study Group team needs to be enlarged and strengthened.

If you are keen and interested in participatory processes in the context of Auroville organisation please join. This team work is a great learning and eye opening opportunity.

We meet every Monday at 4 pm at Unity Pavilion.

Please contact us through email to [studygroup@auroville.org.in](mailto:studygroup@auroville.org.in)  
*The Study Group on Organisation (Isha, Jaya and the team)*

### **From the Entry Service - N&N No - 679 dated 24.12.2016**

The people announced as Newcomers got their letter of recommendation under the old policy and have just come back to Auroville. The people confirmed as Newcomers were announced previously for community feedback before the Entry process was put on hold.

#### NEWCOMERS ANNOUNCED:

Audrey SERRE (French), staying at Felicity, working at Light Fish and Health Service

#### NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:

Aleksandr SINEEV (Russian)

Anand RAJAN (Indian)

Arul KUMAR (Indian)

Fabiola IGLESIAS LOPEZ (Spanish)

Hubert TASSIN (French)

Lison MOEGLE (French)

Marie-Pierre LACOMBE (Canadian)

Poungodai THIAGARAJAN aka Geetha (Indian)

Rajalakshmi GOTHANDABANY (Indian)

Senthamarai RAMESH (Indian)

Vasanth RAMACHANDRAN (Indian)

Vijayakumar JAYARAM (Indian)

Vijayan DHANDAPANI (Indian)

The Entry Service is open to the public Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:30 to 12:30.

B-Forms and Recommendation letters: on appointment only.

At your service, *The Entry Service team*

### Patrols in Auroville

Dear community,

We would like to inform you that in collaboration with the Auroville Safety and Security Team, the Auroville Police Station will be patrolling certain sensitive areas of Auroville on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons with immediate effect.

*Working Committee and AVSST*

### Safety on New Year's Eve

Dear Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers, guests, friends and visitors,

As the end of the year approaches, we encourage you to usher in the New Year with fraternal and convivial gatherings.

We discourage organisation of loud parties on 31 December which will attract unwanted people and create a disturbance in the atmosphere.

AVSST members will be patrolling but your collaboration is indispensable to maintain peace and harmony in the Auroville area.

Sincerely,

*Auroville Safety & Security Team*

### L'avenir d'Auroville / TDC - Site and Building Applications feedback - 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2016

The following Site and Building Applications (SA and BA) are announced for feedback from the community for a period of two weeks from the date of publication.

The announcement is made for feedback only and does not mean that the project has final approval. The final approval is given when L'avenir d'Auroville / TDC issues a NOC (No Objection Certificate). This happens once the feedback period is over, the feedback has been evaluated, a final decision by TDC has been reached and the necessary financial formalities have been completed. It is only after issuing a final building permission that fencing, building or any other activity on the site can start.

It has to be noted that site permission is given to reserve the site for a maximum period of two years in order to prepare a project proposal. It does not give any right to fence and clear the site unless, for practical reasons, there is a special permission of the TDC.

#### INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

##### • *Site Applications*

1. Boobalan and Family, House in Djaima on plot no. BO 197/2 for an area of 80 sq.m.

- **Building Applications:** No New BA

#### **COLLECTIVE PROJECTS**

- **Site applications:** No New SA

- **Building Application**

1. Aikiyam School Support Group, Clay Class room in New Creation on plot no. BO 140/2 for total built up area 54 sq.m.

For additional information, please write to [avenir@auroville.org.in](mailto:avenir@auroville.org.in), call 2622-170 or come directly to L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC office in the Town Hall.

For more information on the location of the plots mentioned above, you can find this same announcement with map(s) on the [Auronet page of L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC](#).

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### For Auroville Guests- Registration & Payment Information

The Indian government requires that *all guests register their stay in Auroville, within 24 hours of arrival*. Foreign guests need to provide their passports/visas, and Indian nationals need proof of identity (e.g. driver's license, voter card, PAN card, Adhaar card). Only registered guests of Auroville are able to obtain an AuroCard. Also please note that when you extend your stay or move to another guest facility in Auroville, you will need to go through the registration procedure again!

If your guesthouse does not do the registration, you can go to the Guest Registration Service in Town Hall or in Visitors' Centre, mornings 9.30 - 12.30 and afternoons 2.00 - 5.00. The desk in the Visitors' Centre is open every day; the desk in Town Hall is closed on Sundays.

**For Home Stay Guests:** Your Aurovilian host will provide you with a Registration Request. Please bring this, along with payment in full, to Financial Services at Town Hall (in case of a long term stay of several months, an arrangement with the Home Stay manager and the FS can be made if needed). Once you complete the registration and show your proof of payment to the Guest Registration Service, you will be able to obtain an AuroCard from the Financial Service.

*Lieve for GFCG*

### Outcome of Auroville Education Survey 1968 - 2013

Over the last few years a questionnaire designed by Deepti to gain insight into the subjective experiences and impressions of youth raised and educated in Auroville since its founding was circulated by a number of young Aurovilian adults to their peers. The outcome is a synthesis of forty years of educational experience for at least a third of Auroville youth who would have been over 18 in 2010, shedding extensive meaning on Auroville as a society.

The analysis and review of the survey is available online on [Auronet](#) and on Auroville's research website: [research.auroville.org](http://research.auroville.org), and in hardcopy at SAIER.

We would like to thank all those who participated.

Suryamayi on behalf of the Auroville Youth survey team (*Anandamayi, Ashwin E., Aurévan, Deepti, Éric A., Kripa, Manjula A., Shrishti, Smiti, Sourya S, Suryamayi*)

### Dance Festival

Dear all,

We are organizing a dance festival (Dance Sangamam). This is the first time we take up the new challenge. This would be for all the age groups that can participate to get a great joyful experience. Even group dances or single participants are all so much welcome, but one group can present two dances only. The dance festival aims to revive and promote folk art forms, which are considered as valuable heritage and cultural assets and to bring performing arts and artists with a common platform thereby allowing cross cultural dialogue through art and culture. The dance performers will be beyond a specific culture so we are looking for all the cultural dances including the whole contemporary cosmos of dances.

If we get more requests for participation we will do the program for three days.

We are planning to begin the dance festival (dance sangamam) in the beginning of March 2017. Please contact Usha (9443003708) or Grace ([grace@auroville.org.in](mailto:grace@auroville.org.in)).

We will be grateful to get your suggestions, your help or support for this festival, please contact us by email or phone.

Regarding the dance festival we organize a meeting on December 23rd, 4.30 pm at the Mitra youth hostel. We are going to plan the dance sangamam including some other activities too. So, don't miss it - please come to the meeting to discuss and share with us. We will send more information regarding this festival after our meeting in the coming weeks.

*Usha & Grace for Mira cultural Group.*

### Cross-Cultural Restorative Dialogue: Report

Dear Friends,

We'd like to share with you some extracts from our recent Report for the Cross-Cultural Restorative Dialogue (where 55 Aurovilians attended a 3-day Dialogue in September).

The complete report includes a fuller summary and understanding of our journey so far, our budget, the statistics from our feedback forms, and our next steps. For the complete report, see attachments on AuroNet post: <https://www.auroville.org.in/article/60486>, or check out Facebook: [Restorative Auroville](#).

With care,

*L'aura, Janet, Shanti, Helene and Kati*

#### Extracts:

We wanted to host a larger community dialogue, one that might be potentially risky but that would hopefully bring us closer to living our Auroville ideal of "human unity." We chose to focus on our cross-cultural relations, especially between Aurovilians originating from the locality and other Aurovilians originating from further away, as in our experience and understanding, this is where one of the largest cultural gaps exists, and therefore easily leads to misunderstanding and loss of trust in one another.

For the most part, the general community feedback and response was positive. Many people said they were so happy that this was happening and that it was long overdue. Others expressed how courageous they thought we were, walking into something quite unknown and certainly delicate. And interestingly, we also got feedback from some that there was no gap, and that we were looking to create trouble where none existed!

#### Are you pleased that this "Restorative Dialogue across cultures" took place?

Answers in Percentages:

Yes: 91.5%

No: 0%

I don't know: 0%

Didn't specify: 8.5%

Now, at the end of our 3-day Dialogue (and a few additional follow-up days), it is quite clear to us that we do indeed have a cultural gap, and that it shows up in many aspects of Auroville life. It is not a comfortable exploration, neither as a personal inquiry nor as a group process, yet it has been (and continues to be) meaningful and introspective for many of us. We each experience this gap slightly differently, as it has several layers of subtle nuances. As a group, our focus was more on the dialogue and hearing each other than on coming up with a unanimous definition or explanation for why and how this gap

came to be. And it is touching to see how the group is inspired to engage with it further, to explore the topic in more depth and to see if we might find ways of bridging this gap in Auroville, and to understand how much of it is work to be done on a personal level and how much requires a more systemic shift (in which case, we would need to define what that shift is).

We saw that much of the gap comes from misunderstanding "the other culture," and making assumptions about why they do things the way they do, and generalizing their behaviour - thus creating unfavourable labels to describe or refer to "the other group," and reinforcing a sense of "us versus them." And yet, we saw that if we connect on an individual level, we are able to have understanding and care for each other's perspectives and choices.

The following are some of the ways in which the gap showed up. These statements are clearly generalizations, assumptions, and even plain judgements, and yet the sentiment is a part of our community reality, and we imagine even perceived as true to some in the larger collective.

#### Some examples:

- **Westerners...**
  - Are arrogant and patronizing, and treat Tamils (from the locality) as less worthy (and then are even unconscious about it!)
  - Talk about "human unity," yet subtly (and not so subtly!) imply that the Tamils need to adapt to the Western way of doing things.
- **Tamils (from the locality)...**
  - Do not (care to) attend meetings and/or take part in Auroville's development
  - Do not really understand what Auroville is about

It was interesting also to see that ultimately our differences (and behind that, our shared humanity) are not cultural - that is, that we have differences and challenges with human beings as individuals, independent of whether we have the same culture or not. So although superficially we may have cultural differences and therefore challenges, in reality, this is not the core of our problem, but only an excuse to not engage with a more open heart and open mind.

It is quite clear that there is much work to be done to grow in our personal and collective awareness, and to drop our prejudices, heal our rifts, and see one another as human beings. And it was inspiring - as our Dialogue progressed, more and more of our participants committed to stop labelling others by their group identity, and instead to start engaging individual-to-individual, where a more genuine human connection can be felt more tangibly.

## **Probiotics House Tips Serial #1 - Laundry - (Part 2)**

Now here are my tips - promised from last week- on how to use MGEcoduties laundry products in your washing machine or plastic bucket:

1. Put the Probiotics Ceramic Rings in a net bag inside of the washing machine drum. This help to soft the water.
2. Foam is often associated with the effectiveness of cleaner. This is a perpetual consumer misconception. There is absolutely no link between the amount of foam a product generates and how well it cleans. It is a known fact that the higher a product foams, the more water is needed to remove all soap residues. Large volumes of water can be wasted rinsing the foam off the clothes. Every year millions of litres of "clean" water is used to rinse off extra chemical foaming detergents to be then "dumped" down the drain. Less foaming products lower rinse time and water usage significantly saving water and heat loss. Why waste water rinsing off a lot of useless foam? Conserving water is key to the environment and our low foaming natural soaps help you do that.
3. Cotton White clothes for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

For cleaning, normal cycle, use 1-2 laundry caps of our **MGEcoduties Washing Powder**. If you're washing clothes with a lot of stains, 2-3 laundry caps. Any temperature you choose. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls. Nice odour and soft.

4. Cotton and Denim Coloured clothes for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

For cleaning, normal cycle, use 3 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet C**. Temperature you choose but better at 30 degree Celsius. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls.

5. Wool for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

For cleaning, wool cycle, use 2 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet**. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 2 bottle capfuls. Low temperature.

6. Silk for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

For cleaning, delicate cycle, use 2 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet**. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 2 bottle capfuls. Low temperature.

7. Delicate clothes for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

For cleaning, delicate cycle, use 2 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet**. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 2 bottle capfuls. Low temperature.

8. Oily white clothes for laundry in buckets or both regular and high-efficiency machines.

Before cleaning cycle, soak for several minutes with our product **Proklean GreaseBuster**. Then the cleaning normal cycle, use 2 laundry cap of our **MGEcoduties Washing Powder**. Use temperature of 40 degree Celsius or above. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls. Nice odour and soft.

9. For Acetate, Acrylic, Blends, Corduroy, Hemp, Jute, Linen, Polyester, Rayon, and Velvet: For cleaning, delicate cycle, use 3 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet**. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls. Low temperature.

10. Cotton White Sport ClothesP: For cleaning, normal cycle, use 2-3 laundry caps of our **MGEcoduties Washing Powder**. Any temperature you choose. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls. Nice odour and soft.

11. Baby Clothes: For cleaning, baby cycle, use 2 laundry caps of our **MGEcoduties Washing Powder** plus 2 bottle capfuls of our **Proklean ProDet C**. Temperature above 40 degree Celsius. For the rinse cycle use **Proklean Fabric**, 3 bottle capfuls. Nice odour and soft.

12. If you are concerned about the colourfastness of your clothing, wash them first with ½ - 1 cup of white vinegar. This helps to set the colour and prevent clothes from fading.

Oops, this does not look like "Tips", but probably more like "Chapter". I do promise that next Tips will be shorter.

PLEASE NOTE: MGEcoduties Washing Powder for Laundry has not any single chemical, therefore perform naturally in the washing machine. It means, if you put the washing powder in the detergent drawer, it will remain even after the water is added to it. What I suggest is:

1. For top loading washing machine just apply it on top of your clothes.
2. For front loading washing machine, just put the desired amount inside of a small cloth that goes inside the drum for washing.

If you put detergent in the drum, make sure you don't overload the washing machine because the detergent may get trapped inside the laundry and be unable to disburse properly.



*Margarita*  
For MGEcoduties - Probiotics House  
Reve - Auroville.  
Phone: 0413 - 2623774.

## Year-end news from SacredGroves

Dear community,

We are happy to let you know that the work on the three prototype houses at SacredGroves continue in spite of all odds. We have finished the construction of the building structure and roofs. Currently the houses are being plastered outside with a natural lime plaster, prepared in our own traditional "lime chakki". Natural earthen plasters are being used to cover all the inside walls and finish the floors with earth, lime and stone slabs.



In the last months we have been working also with some of you who are interested in building and living at SacredGroves. We enjoyed developing revised drawings for the next set of houses of the project's phase-1. We have sent these updated drawings to iTDC for their information and suggestions.

With the help of several well-known institutions and research centres we are preparing technical and user documentation, which can be used as a standard for future projects using the same design principles as SacredGroves. EPMCR (an Engineering company incubated in Indian Institute of Technology- Chennai for structural calculations and testing), National University of Singapore (for ecological life-cycle analysis), Vellore Institute of Technology (for research on lime), JNCASR-Bangalore (for research on sustainable power systems) and Centre for Building Biology (for improving the quality of the indoor climate) are some of our associates.

However, all these activities are being realized with severe challenges. After FAMC withdrew public funds to the project we have experienced little cash-flow to make material purchases in bulk. Although we managed to continue the work that doesn't require substantial funds, we could not make material purchases in a timely manner. This situation has provoked more delays in the construction and some disruptions in the sequence of the planned works. The good news is that in spite of this limitation, we have not stopped building. We are also engaged with some Aurovilians that have shown interest in the transfer of these houses for themselves. We hope that this will be resolved soon in the transfer of their own funds to finalize all the pending works. We would then eventually be able to return the public funds advanced at the beginning.

We are deeply grateful to the big number of Aurovilians who have supported us through these difficult times in so many ways. Especially to our friends in AVI-USA and to the iTDC for their unwavering support, without them we would have been unable to reach this point.

SacredGroves started with a view to make affordable and ecological housing, but in due course it has developed into a community-oriented sustainable living experiment. Many volunteers have dedicated their energy in realizing SacredGroves, not for financial reasons, but for personal growth and a wish for a better world. This spirit is felt by many who have visited SacredGroves. Many old Aurovilians who spend some time here have often expressed that a bit of the early pioneering days of Auroville is slowly reviving.

With the realization of the first prototype houses, we are ready to go further and start building the next set of houses with the true aspiration to co-create a sustainable self-supporting community. We would also like to warmly welcome Newcomers and Aurovilians who share this vision, to come forth and build beautiful homes. Thank you very much for your support and help!

SacredGroves team <Rene, Manu, Joseba & B {for AVI-USA}>

## 'Birdman' in Auroville

Hi AVbirds lovers,

In a few days, Bernard Fort will come to Auroville for 10 days, I met him a few years ago while he was giving a "field sound recording" workshop in the south of France. He navigates between ornithology and music composition. He is a passionate of birdsongs and became one of the best experts of birdsong in France. He's using his recordings of nature and birds for composing electroacoustic music.

He is going to give us a listening session at Cinema Paradiso on Thursday 29th December at 5 pm, in French as it is organized by the French Pavilion. But those who do not speak French you can still come and enjoy his beautiful natural soundscapes.

Also we will spend many of his early mornings recording Auroville's birdsongs, so don't be afraid if you see us with a big parabolic mic, we are no secret agents, only birdsong lovers... Professionals in sound, video, ornithology or wildlife, if you wish to join us some mornings for recording sessions you're most welcome, but you need to bring a good microphone. Please contact me if you want to join us: [chloe@auroville.org.in](mailto:chloe@auroville.org.in) or 9600880109.

With love,

Chloé

To know more about Birdman, see his [website](#) or [Wikipedia](#).

### HOW YOU CAN HELP SPARE ANIMAL SUFFERING... IT'S EASY!

**Sterilization of dogs and cats is a tried and true way of controlling over-population of animals, and reducing the spread of rabies remains a major public health concern in India.**

Apart from reducing numbers of the stray animal population, wide scale sterilization and vaccination programs are a way to stabilize a healthier, familiar stray animal population in a locality; and it significantly limits the danger from rabies as a human health hazard. In the future, Integrated Animal Care Centre (IACC) wants to focus a large part of its energy and resources to implement more animal birth control and vaccination programs aiming towards a healthier, reduced stray dog population in and around AV.

However, it starts at home.... If every person in AV would be responsible for their own animal (and/or one other stray animal) and got them vaccinated and sterilized, regardless of whether they were a male or female (every animal matters), that would be a HUGE step in a positive direction.

The most important thing to know about spaying (sterilization for female animal) and neutering (sterilization for male animal) is that it saves lives. In every place in India, there are millions of animals suffering on roads, scrounging for scraps to eat and not getting the love or care they deserve. Sweet, loving animals live horrible, short lives as unwanted, abandoned puppies and kittens, and animals are reduced to such degrees of starvation that there are instances when hungry packs of dogs attack defenseless young children for food. It is a horror, yes. But we can change it. It is possible if we work together!

Making the decision to sterilize your own pet, community animals or a stray dog you may know means fewer unwanted young. And in case you need more information before making this important choice, here is the truth behind some commonly spread myths about spaying and neutering.



## Some Myths and Facts About Spaying and Neutering Your Animal



**MYTH:** It's better to have one litter before spaying a female pet.

**FACT:** Every litter counts. Medical evidence indicates just the opposite. In fact, the evidence shows that **females spayed before their first heat are typically healthier**. Vets now recommend to sterilize dogs and cats as young as 4-6 months of age. Check with your veterinarian about the appropriate time for these procedures.

**MYTH:** I want my children to experience the miracle of birth.

**FACT:** The miracle of birth is quickly overshadowed by the thousands of animals suffering as unwanted animals in over-crowded animal shelters and dying on the roadside. **Teach your children that all life is precious** by spaying and neutering your animals. And if you're looking for a new pet, **come to the AV animal shelter and adopt a pup** from us....you would be giving the miracle of life to one of them.

**MYTH:** But my pet is a purebred.

**FACT:** So what? Purebred dogs are often dumped when pet owners do not want to afford the care that pedigree dogs need. **There are just too many dogs and cats—local breed and pure breed!**

**MYTH:** I want my dog to be protective.

**FACT:** It is a **dog's natural instinct to protect home and family**. A dog's personality is formed more by genetics and environment than by sex hormones.

**MYTH:** I don't want my male dog or cat to feel or act like less of a male.

**FACT:** Pets don't have any concept of sexual identity or ego. **Neutering will not change a pet's basic personality**. He doesn't suffer any kind of emotional reaction or identity crisis when neutered. And he does not bark differently or become less of a male, he just won't get into so many fights and go wandering off whenever there is a female in season.

**MYTH:** My pet will get fat and lazy.

**FACT:** The truth is that most pets get fat and lazy because their owners feed them too much and don't give them enough exercise. **That is your "job"** - your dog will happily come for a walk with you anytime you want her to.

**MYTH:** It's expensive to have my pet spayed or neutered.

**FACT:** **Many low-cost options exist for spay/neuter services**. Many veterinary clinics and shelters provide discounts through subsidized government programs and low-cost sterilization and vaccination is more widely available all the time. **BarkIndia, an NGO in Morratandi** offers free sterilization to stray animals. They collect the dog, do the operation and return it to the place from where it was taken some days after the surgery. Please call them if there is a stray dog, male or female, you may know. (**Phone: 9487007552 / [barkindia@gmail.com](mailto:barkindia@gmail.com)**) You will be doing it a service, and helping us tackle the problem of animal overpopulation.

At **IACC**, we also do sterilizations of any animal who can be handled. If you have a dog or cat who hangs around your community but belongs to no one in particular, and if she/he is friendly enough to approach, contact IACC to do a sterilization and vaccination. We will perform the surgery and return the dog to its locality after a short recovery period. As we survive on a nominal budget at this time, we must ask for a minimum contribution for sterilization of owned or community animals.

## ADOPT LOCAL! YOU SAVE A LIFE AND MAKE A BEST FRIEND...

Local, Indian dogs are strong and better suited for our tropical climate than expensive foreign pedigree dogs, who may be more prone to breed-related illnesses and poor breeding lines, and usually cost more to maintain.

IACC has become the home to more than 70 resident animals from puppy "dumpings" that we have taken in or rescued from parts of AV. Most of these young adults would thrive in a quiet, green space with freedom and access to a dry space at night, regular meals and lots of love.

Adopting a puppy from us at IACC or providing a home for a young animal in need will promise you a loyal, unconditionally loving companion for many, many years to come. There are many beautiful, healthy puppies at IACC, waiting to go home with a new family.

But some people are not always able to foster a new puppy. Young animals need extra attention, care and very importantly, basic training to show them their boundaries. As a senior individual, adopting a new puppy may not be the safest as they are small, wriggly and can get underfoot....so if you are looking for unconditional love, come get yourself a friendly, low-maintenance companion who already knows not to chew the furniture or trip you up. Young adult local dogs have the "survival smarts" you need for a good companion and watchdog, and they are easier to adjust into a new home that may not have the time for a new puppy. We have many such dogs available at the shelter who would be so grateful for the luxury of a family, and the security and love that animals need. Could you be one of their "rehomers"?

If you need a super-cost-effective someone to watch your home at night, our local dogs are a solution to your search. They can be your watchdog outside your home; they can keep your community watchman company on his rounds or at his post each night, and dogs sleep with one ear open, always listening for strangers. Thieves are generally afraid of dogs.....they give the alarm signal, when we are sleepily unaware.

And to answer any concerns that folks may have that an adult dog will not be loyal like a puppy raised in a home. That is unlikely to happen; it may take a short period of adjustment for the animal to realize that it has been brought to a comfortable, safe and loving space, where healthy dog food and exercise are provided regularly and kindness is abundant. With these conditions, it is unlikely your dog will become anything less than a lifelong friend. We do our best at IACC, but the dogs are stressed together in such a large group, so offering them a safe, quiet home would be a blessing for them, and it frees up resources for other animals in need.

For questions on sterilizations or adoptions or further information, please contact us

on: [integratedanimalcare@auroville.org.in](mailto:integratedanimalcare@auroville.org.in)

or call landline: 0413-2622234 or mobile: 9489342257

Or visit us on our Facebook page: [Integrated Animal Care Centre - IACC](#)

to see photos of the Shelter dogs and other updates



# Don't like waste being wasted? We neither!

*Make a move to help the Kuilai Clean Service*



**About the Kuilai Clean Service:** It is run by a team of volunteers from Auroville and Kuilapalayam wishing to improve practices of waste processing in Kuilapalayam. It started in March 2016 to clean all the stretches from NESS school to Marc's Coffee thanks to monthly contributions of shops and business units. It has been so far a simple cleaning service with a team of five red ladies cleaning the main road six days per week.

**The next step:** We seek to start segregating and recycling. Kuilapalayam village faces an important waste flow due to the many activities happening there. But many of these waste could be easily recycled if proper disposal were in place.

**How to move on?** In one hand, the Kuilai Clean Service setup more segregation areas all along the main road. The segregation area is waiting to be inaugurated in the park near State Bank of India. In the other, carrying waste along that stretch required a small vehicle.

*Target for an E-rickshaw: 2 lakhs  
Current fundraiser state: 40%  
FS Account number: 251836*

**Reduce the waste going to be landfilled  
By donating for the purchase of an E-rickshaw**

- For more information, send an email to [KuilaiCleanService@gmail.com](mailto:KuilaiCleanService@gmail.com)
- A project supported by Auroville Town Development Council (iTDC) -

## POSTINGS

### FARMERS MARKET at YC: \*\*NO market on 24/12\*\*

We'll be back on Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> December to bid a good farewell to 2016 and celebrate 2017 together!! See you there, 10am to 2pm!

### Baby born

Dear friends, we are very happy to inform the community that we got a baby boy J.Sanjit on 15.12.2016, Thursday at 2:52 am in Rajiv Gandhi Govt. Hospital. Thank you all for your support. Love, Jayaraman & Ramana (Arka/Realization Community)

### New book by Emanuele

If you are interested, the new book "Matrimandir, the treasure of the flame-island" (A6 format) by Emanuele, is available at the visitor's centre bookshops :-).



*Synopsis: This story is a silent invitation into the magic of Matrimandir and its gardens, for kids and adults alike. It is depicting three children, Papui, Sa and Elei in a journey of colours, forms and surprises... It gives an unusual perspective of*

*the Island of Peace as experienced by the Golden Child, Papui and his ever companion, his little sun friend 'Something Else'.*

Very appreciated by children of all ages :-)!

Submitted by Yvelise

### Auroville Library - E-books

The Auroville Library has developed an e-books section which is available through a dedicated computer located close to the front desk. This computer is available to the public which means that everyone can come and download on one's memory stick or external HD whatever one likes. This computer can be used to browse the database. We have already many thousands of books in French and English, hundreds of comics in French and more. The books are organized alphabetically by author's name since we cannot categorize them by subjects as it is done for the books on the shelves. We are open to receive more material from anyone, on any topic and in any language.

We have also developed a section on The Mother, Sri Aurobindo, Satprem, Kireet Joshi and Auroville. We have gathered all the material available: soft copy books, audio, interviews, letters, videos and photos.

If you are interested in these resources ask the front desk for help.

The Auroville Library

### Hair cutting

Dear Aurovilians, Newcomers & guests of Auroville, I'm doing hair cutting in Arka Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons for anyone who is looking to get a shape up cut, want a whole new change or even just a little trim to keep your hair nice and healthy. You can contact me at 9489694626 to make an appointment. Best to call in the evenings or by SMS. Looking forward to hearing from you, Merry Christmas everyone. Mimi

### Outreachmedia information

The high season has started bringing numerous visitors. Among them are also journalists who are not identifying themselves as journalists. Please note that press people who have introduced themselves in AV are carrying the Outreachmedia card for the journalists/photographers and the authorization of filming in Auroville delivered by the Auroville Foundation for the videos. If you are approached by travelers engaging in "genuine" discussion, do not hesitate to question them in return to make sure that you are not being interviewed by a journalist without your consent.

Outreachmedia team.

### New Localicious e-newsletter

Localicious is a people's movement for local food. It is a way for us to reconnect with where our food comes from, using practical and creative ways that generate collective wellbeing. An e-newsletter has been initiated to serve as a platform for this movement. Write to us at: [localiciousav@gmail.com](mailto:localiciousav@gmail.com) to join! Krishna

### Change of address in the US

Since the passing of Eric Hughes in March, Julian and Wendy Lines have been working with the Board of Trustees on renovating and moving into Matagiri. Their personal mailing address as well as that of the Auroville Information Office should be updated (from 1185) to 1218 Wittenberg Road, Mt Tremper, NY 12457, USA. We will close the Woodstock PO Box next year, so please switch all mail to 1218 Wittenberg.

Julian Lines

### Nandini tailoring - orders

Dear friends, \*Nandini tailoring\* announcement for orders: \*no new order taken from Tuesday 27 to Saturday 31 of December 2016\* we start again on \*Tuesday 3 of January 2017. Happy New Year to all of you - Please, don't forget your cloth bag when you give your order. Ira & Anne

### Guidebook "Energy Conservation & Efficiency"

Auroville Consulting has designed a guidebook called "Energy Conservation & Efficiency for responsible energy management". This is a free publication devised to help residents understand various technologies available in the market and make premeditated choices in choosing the most energy efficient appliances. Results show that there is substantial energy saving and CO2 emission reduction by energy conservation and energy efficiency initiatives. The guidebook provides tips in achieving energy savings for common electrical appliances used in households and also lists benefits of switching to energy efficient fixtures in an environmental perspective. Email [info@aurovilleconsulting.com](mailto:info@aurovilleconsulting.com) to receive a copy. Iram (Auroville Consulting)

### English Practice (Creativity) in recess

English Practice sessions at Creativity library are now in recess, stopping for a while with enthusiasm for the next beginning. Enjoy the season! Patricia

## AVAILABLE

### New in Discipline Farm - Leak pesto and Nartanga SYRUP

New Organic products direct at the farm available: Leak Pesto (tastes like bar launch-pesto) with sunflower seeds, flex, lemon, pepper, Himalayan salt, oil Rs. 100. / Nartanga syrup Rs. 250. Please come on Mon, Wed & Thu at 9-12 am and 2-4 pm. Thank you, Velmurugan & Frank

### Three lovely kittens

Playful, social, cuddly, just adorable! Three months old, ready for a new home. Please contact helenahutte@hotmail.com, 9786952918 or 2622603 - Helena

### Gardening work

A good gardener is available full or half day. Please contact mobile: 9585846925 - Submitted by Susmita

### Help for wounded birds

I am willing to take care of wounded birds and nurture them back to the wild... If you find one that may need my help, please call me at: 7598467796 (NO pets... only birds from the wild) - Thank you, *Zohar*

### Pure organic coconut oil

From Av Gokulam Farm -excellent for cooking, hair and skin care, massage etc...Contact *Anand*: 986 562 3504

### Soprano Ukulele

I have a basically brand new soprano Ukulele "Wiki" brand with Akila strings which I would like to pass on for what I got it for. It's in perfect condition and barely used. If you are interested please call 7094956887 or write to [kevinhauser@hotmail.com](mailto:kevinhauser@hotmail.com). Thanks, *Kevin*

### Bicycle

Old Indian Bicycle available, not a modern cycle. Please call *Ally* 7639318959

### Planting Time

The following vegetable seedlings are ready for planting:



Lettuce, basil, capsicum, eggplant  
Please come in the mornings to select your plants! *Auroville Botanical Gardens*

### Laundry service

Laundry service available at AuroAnnam, Contact us at: 8523915031

## LOOKING FOR ...

### Nintendo NDS

I'm looking for a used Nintendo NDS. Please contact: [igor@auroville.org.in](mailto:igor@auroville.org.in) - *Dmitri S.*

### Walking the tiger

Dear ones, does anyone have the book from Peter Levine "Walking the tiger", and lend it to me, please. Contact *Schima-Dorit*: 0413-2623 038

## LOST & FOUND

**Chappals - Flip Flops (Missing):** Hello I am missing 2 pairs of chappals. 1. Black Miami soft, size 8 gone during/after Restorative dialogue, on 3. December from Unity Pavilion. Different kind, little bigger of almost black were left behind. / 2. Light Gray Miami soft, size 8 gone today, Monday 19th after morning yoga class from Pitanga. Yours same model, size 6 with dog bites all around are at Pitanga. I would love to have them back. Thx for contacting me: 9786658967, *Dariya*

**2 Caps (Lost):** A knitted woollen cap (in various greys) / A baseball cap (khaki), brand Chechua - grateful for any hint :) please contact: [peter@auroville.org.in](mailto:peter@auroville.org.in) or phone: 9488 483348 - *Peter A.*

**Jacket (Lost):** A brown rain- jacket. If you find pl. return to *Frederick, Citadyn*. Thanks

## THANK YOU

### To YEP

Our deep and heartfelt thank you to Mirabelle and Florent for their love and kind leadership on the YEP week. Our daughter could not have had a more interesting and engaging foray to

### Big Black Cat- are you missing yours?

Dear Community, since a few weeks a beautiful, healthy, female black cat with green eyes has chosen our house to be her new home. She is tame and cuddly. Sadly she has been chasing my three other cats away and I would like them to return home. The black cat is unusually big and most probably imported. If you are missing yours, please come and pick her up! *Samata's Guest House, Transformation*. Thank you, *Aurore*: [aurore.mabilat@gmail.com](mailto:aurore.mabilat@gmail.com)

### Cacao and coffee in bulk

Dear coffee and cacao lovers,  
This coming year 2017, we would like to offer our organic products in bulk, to reduce packaging and plastic. We will grant 25% discount if you come to our shop, *Marc's Cafe Roast & Taste* (Kuilapalayam) with your own container. If you have a guest house, cafe or office, we will gladly deliver to you. Wishing you a Happy New year 2017.  
*Coffee Ideas Team* [[www.marcscoffees.com](http://www.marcscoffees.com)]

### Dining table

More than 6 feet long and 3 feet wide. The frame is made of teak wood and the top is plywood. For price and more details please contact: +91 9940684504." Thanks! *Guillaume*

### A cat



A multicolored cat is looking for a new home. She is 1 year old, sterilised. We cannot keep her because of Asthma. If you are interested please call *Kay*: 9843368410.

### Small Wheat-grass juicer

A juicer (Best from England) to complete my long healing process. Love and gratitude, *Schima-dorit*: 0413-2623 038

### Bicycle

I am looking for a bicycle with gears in good condition. Looking forward to receiving your offers! *Julia*: 8489759720, thanks.

### Gardener needed

once/week full day or twice/week half day in Auromodel  
*Monica* 2623332, 9443085323

**A shawl (Lost):** a blue Miniature Shawl (cotton), lost between PTDC to Solar Kitchen...If you've found it and you wish to give it back, call me 9443617308 - *Sara*

**I-Phone 5S (Lost):** Lost near Solar Kitchen or Sadhana Forest on Friday 17/12 - Space grey, Batman cover. Contact *Arnav Malhotra* at: 9660311113 or [arnav99malhotra@gmail.com](mailto:arnav99malhotra@gmail.com), thanks!

**Green TVS (Missing):** Last seen parked at Coffee Talk in Edayanchavadi (Tag AF9266). There is a black lock on the right handle. If found please contact *Iris*: 9585732607.

**TVS Moped Key (Found):** with a yellow plastic tag attached, on the road between Solar Kitchen and Certitude, on 21/12. (Pass by the News&Notes office to pick it up)

the abundant discoveries that Auroville offers guest children. We wish the [Youth Entertainment Program](#) much success. Sincerely, *Dante and Laura (and Lili, 8) - Vancouver BC*

## From Auroville Consulting

Auroville Consulting hosted a group of 16 students from Carleton College USA for 10 days at Auroville. The program was centered around energy conservation, energy efficiency, solar energy and other sustainability related topics. Students implemented energy efficiency measures at the Tibetan Pavilion and also installed a 1.2 kW grid-interactive Solar PV system on the rooftop of the Tibetan Pavilion. The efficient appliances and the solar system were sponsored by the

program. Students also contributed to the Auroville Forest Group in order to plant 58 trees to offset their air travel related carbon emissions.

We would like to express our gratitude to the team of the Tibetan Pavilion for hosting the group, to Sunlit Future for guiding the students in installing the solar system and to all the numerous Auroville resource persons that made this program a success.

## ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED

### House-sitting available

I am looking for someone to look after my house in Quiet and pets from 6th - 15th Jan. My house is best for a single person who likes animals and wants a Quiet time. Please email shahnandi@gmail.com or SMS 9488483286 - *Nandita Shah*

### House-sitting needed

Hello, I am *Jasmine (Newcomer)* from Quiet - a clean and organised little mouse with lots of love to give to pets and plants if necessary. Looking for a house-sitting or a room to live in from end of December. Please contact me: Ph. or Whatsapp: 919047009659 or [jasmoon777@gmail.com](mailto:jasmoon777@gmail.com), thanks.

## TAXI SHARING

December 25th: A cab will leave AV at 6 am (earlier possible) in the morning to reach Chennai airport latest by 9 am and pick up 1 person who will come to Auroville. For sharing the taxi (both ways) please call *Stefan* 9442041433 or email [stefangebert@gmail.com](mailto:stefangebert@gmail.com)

December 28th: Taxi to share on 28th of December, from Chennai airport (Arriving at 6.50 am) to Auroville." *Christine*: [otrachristine@yahoo.fr](mailto:otrachristine@yahoo.fr)

January 2nd / 3rd: Monday evening 18:00 I will go to Chennai airport. My flight is at 23.30. Anyone wanting to share going is most welcome / January 3rd early morning taxi goes back to Auroville. *Gundi*: [gundischulz@heilen-in-berlin.de](mailto:gundischulz@heilen-in-berlin.de) / 82 70403738 or leave a message at Samasti guesthouse for me.

January 4<sup>th</sup>: Going to Chennai Airport to pick up my daughter. Her plane lands at 7:15 am. I intend to leave Auroville around 4:30 am. *Antoine*: 8940740523 - [antoine@auroville.org.in](mailto:antoine@auroville.org.in)

January 4th: A taxi will go from AV to reach Chennai airport latest by 8 am. (flight at 11am). Contact *Poumi* at 8489752172 and [poumi.l@poumi.com](mailto:poumi.l@poumi.com)

January 5th: A cab will come from AV to reach Chennai airport latest by 5 pm and pick up 2 persons who will come to Auroville. For sharing the taxi (seats free only for Auroville to Chennai airport) please call *Stefan* 9442041433 or email [stefangebert@gmail.com](mailto:stefangebert@gmail.com)

## WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Office assistant: SHARAN, in Aurelec is looking for an office assistant to do data entry. A good knowledge of English and basic computer skills is a must. Additional IT skills / graphic skills will be a bonus. Please send an email to: [info@sharan-india.org](mailto:info@sharan-india.org) with complete CV.

## HEALTH

### Tibetan Doctor

This is to inform you that the Tibetan Doctor and the team visit Auroville on Friday the 23rd December and Saturday the 24th of December 2016. For your appointment you are requested to call 0413 2622401 or 8489067332 or send an e mail to [bodkhang97@gmail.com](mailto:bodkhang97@gmail.com) or [kalsang@auroville.org.in](mailto:kalsang@auroville.org.in)

The consultation is happening at Pavilion of Tibetan Culture in the International Zone.

This is a gentle reminder that the road between Bharat Nivas and Pavilion of Tibetan Culture is closed for cars and two-wheelers. You are requested to take the road through the

visitor center and take the first right to enter Pavilion of Tibetan Culture - Thank you for your understanding.  
*Pavilion of Tibetan Culture.*

### Emergencies in Auroville Dental Centre (Protection)

The Auroville Dental Centre (Protection) will attend the emergencies with Dr.Jacques V, Dr.Jacques R (Jacques 2), Dr.Paul B (Paulo) and Dr.Suseendar from 26th to 29th December as the in-house dentists will be out of station these days.

## EATING OUT

### News from Naturellement & Garden Café

Now you can get our range of products at our new outlet next to the cafe, as well as an assortment of restaurant specialities such as: grissini, quinoa, ravioli, olive and olive oil... you no longer need to bother our girls in the reception. New on our menu for the season: our Italian bean soup, and for desert try out the Creamy peanut butter ice-cream.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

*The Naturellement and Garden Café team*

[P.S: remember that the café is open every day of the week and that Aurovillians get a 25% discount at the cafe and on all our products as well.]

### Le Zéphyr Closed 25/12 and 1/1

Dear burger fans out there!

Le Zéphyr (Visitor Center restaurant upstairs), will be closed on the 25th December & the 1st of January.

We wish you a very merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Much love,

*The Zephyr Team*

### AuroAnnam - Christmas and New Year dinner

We are organizing a friendly Christmas dinner with a Bonfire on the 24th and 25th from 7 pm.

And on 29th, 31st December with a Bonfire (New Year's Eve) Only advance booking - call us at: 8523915031

## Christmas dinner at Cafeteria Visitors Centre

Come and enjoy a special Christmas dinner at Cafeteria on Saturday the 24th and Sunday the 25th from 7 pm to 9 pm!

As always, a choice of traditional, sea food, vegetarian and vegan options will be available.

Bookings welcome by email to [cafeteriavc@auroville.org.in](mailto:cafeteriavc@auroville.org.in)

A peaceful Christmas to all,  
The Cafeteria team

## Well Café is hosting again for our traditional Christmas dinner

On Saturday the 24/12/16 - 7pm onwards

Please join us for our vegetarian and vegan world food buffet.

This year we are hosting Ronni, a chef guest from Israel.

We will have a rich variety of colorful fresh and healthy food and desserts.

Contribution for guest 650 / for A.V & N.C 500

Please reserve your place at 0413-2622219 or [wellcafe@auroville.org.in](mailto:wellcafe@auroville.org.in). Well Café - Sve Dame (Near C.S.R.)



## GREEN MATTERS

### Pitchandikulam Forest: Nature Walks Date Changes



PITCHANDIKULAM FOREST

Fridays at 4 pm

NEW Dates:

Dec 23rd, 30th and Jan 20th, 27th

We're pleased to announce our regular nature walk at Pitchandikulam Forest, led by our resident wildlife expert, Dr. Bubesh Guptha. We walk through [Pitchandikulam Forest](#) to identify birds, insects and other wildlife, and to talk about birdsong, habits and their environment. We invite you to come and enjoy this unique forest sanctuary!

Meeting place: At the bike parking place inside Pitchandikulam Forest. Please do not bring larger vehicles inside the forest gate.

The walk will start promptly at 4 pm.

If you have binoculars, please bring them, but this is not essential.

The walk will last for about an hour.

Free for all; registration is required as numbers are limited.

To register, please email:

[pitchandikulam.outreach@auroville.org.in](mailto:pitchandikulam.outreach@auroville.org.in) or call 8489818523

Donations to help us continue our work are warmly welcomed.

# Notes

## Why Galaxy in the Milky Way.

An active, living Galaxy  
Will attract you,  
Stir you up,  
Churn you thoroughly,  
Spin you around,  
Draw you to itself,  
Strip you from all past,  
And leave you naked.

*Celestine (Auroville, 18/12/2016)*

## StephenRaj - Changing gears, shifting tracts

The phenomenon of death is akin to changing gears, shifting the tracts. Earlier, your "gears" of life were primarily bound to the body. Now the bodily support is no more. The journey of life, which is basically a journey of the psychic being to the divine perfection on earth, continues after death but the gears change and with that, you shift the tracts. There is of course a transition zone in-between the physical tracts and the supra-physical. It normally lasts for a few days during which we who are still in the physical tracts can help the departed soul by concentrating on kind thoughts, good sentiments, beautiful images and sincere prayers.

In 1978, while visiting Auroville with a group of visitors from Puducherry, I first came to know Bryan - an American Aurovilian - who was running a handicraft workshop at Fraternity. He showed us around, answered questions. Fast forward 2004 or 2005. 27 years had passed since those days. One morning, I see a middle-aged Western man talking kindly with StephenRaj in the land office at Town Hall. On the same or next day, I overheard StephenRaj or someone else calling the same person by the name "Bryan" at the land office. Immediately it occurred to me "Could this be the man I met at Fraternity in 1978?". I went up to him and inquired, "Were you living in Fraternity in 1978?". Imagine my happy surprise when he replied affirmatively. I invited him to a cabin in the land office, told him about my early acquaintances in 1978.

Another decade passed. StephenRaj told me one morning that when he had his bypass surgery, he got a call from Bryan, (who was then a president of Auroville International, USA) from USA asking if he needed financial or any other assistance. "Bryan is a god (for me)" StephenRaj added. On my further inquiry he told me that he was working at Bryan's handicraft workshop in 1978. This means that StephenRaj had been in Auroville since his early youth. Mahalingam told me even more interesting historical details.

In 1973, he and Stephen were neighbours at Fraternity. At that time, there was no water in Kulapalayam. People used to go to Perimudalyarchavadi for collecting water for domestic use. He (Mahaligam) was the postmaster at Kulapalayam. Then, Chamanlal Gupta of Sri Aurobindo Ashram put up solar-powered water pump and StephenRaj helped set up pipelines that carried water to the people of Kulapalayam. This makes StephenRaj one of the early Aurovillians who spent more than 45 years in Auroville.

From another perspective, StephenRaj's is also one among numerous stories of beneficial impact of Auroville on the native people. People came from around the world to this barren place and, in the process of developing the place into an extraordinary place, brought joy of work, creativity, happiness, life-support, hope and vision of the future, even a new life to a large number of native residents.

In the land office, StephenRaj was always a soft mild presence. Occasionally, I would request him to buy me a book from the Visitors' Center or to guide a visiting donor to me from the parking lot or such similar small favours and he would readily comply. When he was hospitalized last week, assistants in the land sections went to see him. He was happy to meet them and when they were taking leave, with tearful eyes he folded hands by way of saying them goodbye. He was never seen folding hands in this way and it is proof that his inner being has decided to leave and hence he acted that way.

I am reminded of what the Mother's assistant M.P. Pandit said in one of his lectures: "Mother once observed that simply by being in the Ashram atmosphere, people develop in one life what would take 7 lives elsewhere." And since the Ashram is the forerunner and pioneer of Auroville, we can say that by spending his life in Auroville, StephenRaj could not but have covered the progress of several lives in a single life!

On Tuesday morning, I went to Farewell Center where StephenRaj's remains were kept. As soon as I saw him in his casket, a peace came over me. I stood there for a few minutes concentrating on a beautiful image: a lush green meadow, sunlight stealing through the leaves, a happy breeze and StephenRaj youthful as he was at the Bryan's workshop in 1978 moving forward on that celestial walkway. In the evening, at the burial ground, there was another happy surprise. His body was getting buried next to the body of an outstanding Aurovilian - George Van Vrekhem. It is nothing less than a great honour to be put to rest next to a remarkable, painstaking writer, researcher and seeker in the Aurobindonian lore. Both George Van Vrekhem and StephenRaj were old-timers and it is in fitness of things that their bodies are close to each other. I picked up a handful of flowers from a bag kept there and threw them on StephenRaj's coffin concentrating again on the same image at the Farewell Center.

*"What is this talk of slayer and of slain?  
Swords are not sharp to slay nor floods assuage This flaming soul.  
Mortality and pain Are mere conventions of a mightier stage."  
(Sri Aurobindo)*

Submitted by Aryadeep - [Note: Abridged, full version is on Auronet, or write to the author: [aryadeep@auroville.org.in](mailto:aryadeep@auroville.org.in)]

For your calendar 



## Projection of three films on Auroville's land on December 29th!

Join us for a screening of three "Made-in-Auroville" films showcasing Auroville's land and the urgency to consolidate its physical base.

Come Thursday, December 29th 3 - 4.30 pm at Unity Pavilion

These inspiring short videos trace how a once-eroded plateau was transformed into a sustainable green ecozone, and highlight the land needs and stakes for the future.

Aurovillians involved in these films and in the "Acres for Auroville" and "GreenAcres" land campaigns will be present.

Don't miss this opportunity to see, and re-see, these motivating films!

Learn what united action can achieve, and bring your own ideas for land fundraising!  
We invite you to join hands with us to safeguard and secure Auroville's still-missing land!  
All interested are welcome!

Browse on our dedicated land website for detailed info and donations: [www.colaap.org](http://www.colaap.org)

How to make a land donation? - it's simple via a transfer from your Financial service account or Aurocard to **FS Account N° 0100**

We thank you in advance for your support and solidarity!

Your LFAU Team Aryadeep, Mandakini, Sigrid, Jothi

(at LFAU Townhall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, [lfau@auroville.org.in](mailto:lfau@auroville.org.in) 0413-2622657)

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## *New Year at the Matrimandir*

### On 31.12.2016

- 4.30 to 9 pm: the Inner Chamber will remain open for Aurovilians and New Comers only for concentration before the New Year.
- 5 - 6 pm: the Banyan Tree will be lit with candles for silence and meditation.
- 5.15: A musical offering by the Russian singing bells to bid farewell to the ending year and welcome the New Year. All are to maintain complete silence under the Banyan Tree and in the Garden of Unity. Guests are requested to carry their Aurocards.
- 11 pm to 12.15 am: Matrimandir will remain open for midnight meditation for Aurovilians only. All are requested to be seated in the Inner Chamber by 11.45 pm.

Visitors' hour for concentration in the Matrimandir as usual in the morning between 9 and 11.30 am as per their respective bookings.

### On 1.1.2017:

- At 6 am: Aurovilians and Newcomers are invited to gather silently under the Banyan Tree to welcome the New Year with a concentration for our collective aspiration for the manifestation of the true Auroville. Entrance by the Office Gate.

Visitors' hour for concentration in the Matrimandir as usual in the morning between 9 and 11.30 am as per their respective bookings.

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## *Bonne Année and Happy New Year to All!*

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### AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music  
Every THURSDAY at sunset

We follow the sun and the timing changes with the season...

5.30 to 6.00 pm

Enjoy the beautiful open space, an immense sunset, heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

Reminder to all:

The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such.

We request everyone: please **do not** use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc. No Photos.

Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you

**Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.15 pm.**

**Please be seated by 5.25 pm.**

Thank you.

*Amphitheatre Team*

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## INVITATIONS

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### **Kindergarten Open House**

The teachers of the Kindergarten at Center Field are happy to invite you to visit the School and see an exhibition of the children's work

On Friday the 23rd of December from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm  
and Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> of December from 9 am to 12 noon.

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### **Reminder: X-Mas Event on the 24th Sat at certitude from 7 am to 7 pm**

Free food snacks and refreshment. Add your contribution in cakes, fruits etc.

*Kids Cafe & AVSRC*

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### **Farm Festival: SAVE THE DATES: Jan 20-22**

This year, the Farm Group will celebrate the Farm Festival after Pongal on Jan 20, 21, and 22 (Fri to Sun).

Apart from the usual festivities of site visits to farms on tractors, organic lunch, cultural programs etc. this year, we will be hosting presentations and participatory discussions with the community about challenges and opportunities in providing healthy, organic food f

We gratefully acknowledge a grant from PCG for hosting this.

*Vivek, Sumathi & Bindu (for the Farm Group)*

[www.facebook.com/foodlink.auroville/](http://www.facebook.com/foodlink.auroville/)

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## Christmas Celebration at Unity Pavilion

 **Sunday 25 December 2016** 

Between 2:30 and 4:30 pm we cut Christmas stars to decorate the hall and you can make a star to take home too. We have shiny colored paper for all, but bring a scissor if you can.

Between 4:30 and 5 pm children sing Christmas songs, and we dance around the tree.

At 5 pm Christmas music and songs offered by people from various countries to be followed by dancing to music.

We also enjoy some special Christmas delicacies like cookies and Christmas punch together

Please join us with joy, bring your songs (live or recorded) and, if you can, bring some cookies and sweets to share.

 **All Are Invited**  **Merry Christmas** 

 **We Need Volunteers** 

We are looking for volunteers for the preparation and during the event: food preparation, decoration, cutting stars with children, help with errands and presence during the event at the refreshment tables

 **Help with Music** 

We are looking for a person to prepare some nice dance music for all ages and be the DJ for the event.

 **Support in Cash and Kind** 

Unity Pavilion is grateful for donations and contributions for the event, in the form of money as much as in kind (biscuits, fruits and groceries to prepare the delicious Christmas Sweet rice, sandwiches and juices). The Christmas event has been much appreciated by Aurovilians and guests in previous years and we had approximately 250 children and adults attending last year.

Please contribute via FS account #251739, or contact us: 2623576, [unitypavilion@auroville.org.in](mailto:unitypavilion@auroville.org.in)

## EXHIBITIONS



### UKIYO-E

EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL  
JAPANESE WOODBLOCK PRINTS  
Aurelec Cafeteria & Art gallery  
Open From 8 am TO 5 pm

The **ukiyo-e** genre of art flourished in Japan from the 17th through 19th centuries. Its artists produced **woodblock prints** and **paintings** of such subjects as female beauties; **kabuki** actors and **sumo** wrestlers; scenes from history and folk tales; travel scenes and landscapes; flora and fauna; and erotica. The term ukiyo-e translates as "pictures of the floating world".

Ukiyo-e was central to forming the West's perception of **Japanese art** in the late 19th century-especially the landscapes of Hokusai and Hiroshige. From the 1870s **Japonism** became a prominent trend and had a strong influence on the early **Impressionists** such as **Degas**, **Manet**, and **Monet**, as well as **Post-Impressionists** such as **van Gogh** and **Art Nouveau** artists such as **Toulouse-Lautrec**.

## TALKS, SEMINARS

### Bhavishyate

Sri Aurobindo Centre of Studies...India and the World  
Bharat Nivas

Perspectives of Integral Psychology  
and  
our Auroville Experience

Works of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother unfold perspectives of understanding ... in our individual growth and collective inter-action.

We will meet on Friday December 23, 4 pm at Bhavishyate,  
To continue our sharing on "Psychic discernment"  
[integralpsychology.auroville@gmail.com](mailto:integralpsychology.auroville@gmail.com)



### CAT - Create Auroville Together - is going on!

Let us meet where we are in touch with our inspiration and feel the resonance, the heartbeat of Unity in Diversity in action!

CAT 05 - The Auroville Charter 2 - "A taste of infinite"  
Monday 26th December 2016 between 4:00 - 6:30 pm at the Unity Pavilion  
Designed and facilitated by *Rakhal and the Aspiration team*

To be convinced of the essential unity of mankind and to have the will to collaborate for the material realisation of that unity. Is it possible to make a shift together? Is it possible to move from a position where we let our individual limited perceptions contradict one another... to a place where we literally taste the infinite? Is it possible to freeze the movement of separation for a while? And suspended, harness our individual fire to be born to the will to collaborate for the material realization of that Unity?

It will take the form of a workshop where The Mother will give us some questions to focus on. Could we come out of this CAT session with a new power to work toward bringing together all our differences, even our most extremes incompatibilities? These attempts are our homework.

CAT is a springboard from a relative stagnate system to a culture that unleashes our creative energies. CAT is a collaborative space and the CATs team is not influencing the content.

Love

*Inge, Mita, Sandhya and volunteers from the CATs team*  
For more info please write a mail to us: [cats@auroville.org.in](mailto:cats@auroville.org.in)

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## Reboot Your Digital Skills

Wednesday, December 28th, 2.30 - 5.30 pm  
SAIIR Conference Hall  
Presented by ACI

Do you have difficulties catching up with today's electronic modes of communication or feel an awkward feeling creeping up on you when people are explaining with great mastery how they use emails, software, apps or Google Drive, Docs and Sheets to share information? Or do you simply want to use your computer more efficiently for communication and teamwork and equip yourself and your team with new tools that are inspiring and collaborative?

**This is your chance!** Turn your digital dilemma into your strength and into a gateway to new possibilities and new modes of communication and collaboration.

The Auroville Campus Initiative (ACI) is happy to invite you to a series of interactive and hands-on sessions to provide guidance and assistance on and around the topic of 'digital literacy'.

**The session will be held on Wednesday, December 28th, from 2.30 to 5.30 pm in the SAIIR Conference Hall.**

In this session we will jointly delve into the mysterious world of the Google drive. We will explore how to create and share documents, spreadsheets and presentations and how to edit them in real time with as many collaborators as you wish and from anywhere in the world. We will learn how to share files, folders and even calendars with team members and others and how to manage them together and keep track of who does what....and yes, this will be an interactive workshop in which we will try out everything we cover!

Please note, that due to multiple requests, this is the second time we are offering a session on this particular topic. Other topics will be covered, soon.

We can only accommodate 10 participants at a time since we will all be connected through the same internet access point. Therefore, we kindly ask you to register with us by simply dropping us a line at [aci@auroville.org.in](mailto:aci@auroville.org.in) letting us know that you would like to join.

Please note that you will need to bring a laptop or tablet and of course about 3 hours of your time.

We are looking forward to hearing from you  
*Your ACI Team (Lalit, Manoj, Michael, Mila, Min & Sophie)*

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## Insight Seminars present a one-day Seminar on 'SHAKTI'

### Creative Power, Consciousness Force and Divine Mother.

SHAKTI is the female creative energy recognised in some Hindu traditions as the transformative energy leading to the highest realisation. In Integral Yoga she is an evolutionary force that accompanies the growth of the new consciousness. In the Seminar we explore the Shakti in her traditional aspects and her central role in the Integral Yoga.

**On 29th December 2016, Thursday**

**Time: 08:45 to 12:00 hrs. - Lunch break - 14:00 to 17:00 hrs.**

**Presented by: Ela Thole**

**Venue: Insight Seminar room, Ground Floor, in the Inside India building - Auroshilpam (behind Auromode).**

Register in advance with Elizabeth at 2622047 between 09:30 & 12:30 hrs. or 14:00 & 17:00 hrs.

Or mail [insight@auroville.org.in](mailto:insight@auroville.org.in)

Contribution required for guests. Aurovilleans and Newcomers are welcome, no contribution required, but please book in advance

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## Insight Seminars invites you all for a presentation on

### 'Highlights of Tamil Nadu'

An introduction to the cultural and spiritual aspects of:

Chidambaram

Thanjavur

Thiruvannamalai

Mahabalipuram

**On 30th December 2016, Friday at 3 pm**

**Presented by: Ela Thole**

**Venue: Insight Seminar room, ground floor, Inside India building, Auroshilpam (behind Auromode)**

No registration required, free of charge, please walk in.

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**Bhavishyate**  
**Sri Aurobindo Centre of Studies... India and the World**  
**Bharat Nivas (Auroville) and California Institute of Integral Studies (San Francisco)**

We are hosting a group of 15 students and faculty members from California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, for a collaborative Study Course of two weeks.

The Institute was founded in 1968 by Dr. Haridas Choudhuri ... but this work began much earlier, with the Blessings of Sri Aurobindo. The inter-change between Auroville and CIIS, through visits and seminars, has been of long standing. However, this is the first time that CIIS is bringing a group to make an experience of Auroville as part of the courses that the Institute offers. This course is proposed as...  
'Integral Living... the Auroville Experience.'

The group will be here from December 27, 2016 - January 12, 2017, staying in the guest accommodation of Bharat Nivas. It will be led by Dr. Debashish Banerji and Dr. Bahman Shirazi.

A rich schedule of visiting Auroville, meeting Aurovilians in the major areas of work has been worked out. The programme is on AuroNet [please see [this link](#) for details].

There are several inter-active sessions in which everyone interested can participate. This will give our guests a chance to meet more people and share in our life.

For more information, please contact:

Aster - [asterpatel@auroville.org.in](mailto:asterpatel@auroville.org.in) , 9367600833

Lisa Thole - [lisathole.av@gmail.com](mailto:lisathole.av@gmail.com) , 9787825952

Reception desk at *Bhavishyate* has a hard copy of the full programme

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**Bhavishyate**  
**Sri Aurobindo Centre of Studies...India and the World**  
**Bharat Nivas**  
**Perspectives of Integral Psychology and our Auroville Experience**

Works of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother unfold perspectives of understanding... in our individual growth and collective inter-action.

We will meet on Friday December 23, 4 pm at *Bhavishyate*,

To continue our sharing on "Psychic discernment"

[integralpsychology.auroville@gmail.com](mailto:integralpsychology.auroville@gmail.com)

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## Integrity in All Spheres of Life

Revitalising the lustre of spiritual truth in all life.

A series of 10 sessions as an exploration of 10 aspects of life in the Light of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's words

Every Thursday in the Reading Room at Savitri Bhavan from 5:30 till 7 PM.

For December 29, the theme is Integral Daily Living.

We will share insights from the everyday practice of integral yoga and learn from each other.

Practice of Daily Structured Diary Writing will be shared.

No contribution required. To register, please email Divyanshi at: [Divyanshi.0222@gmail.com](mailto:Divyanshi.0222@gmail.com)

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### CULTURAL EVENTS



#### CONCERT of Western Music

*Ladislav, violin*

*Pushkar, piano*

Friday, 23rd December, 2016  
8 pm at CRIPA, Auroville.

Khachaturian Violin Concerto and other pieces.  
*All are welcome!*



The International Zone's African Pavilion presents,  
*a fundraising event and all-day festival:*

#### Food, Music, Dance and Games

In peace and harmony we celebrate our unity in diversity

Date: 23rd of December 2016 - 10am to 10pm

Venue: International Zone African Pavilion, Auroville.

(in between Visitor's centre and Bharatnivas)

[www.africahouse.in](http://www.africahouse.in)

*all are welcome!*



The Auroville Choir would like to invite you to

## REJOICE!

Monday the 26th of December at 8 pm.  
At Kalakendra (Bharat Nivas)

This is the first time the choir will be performing at Kalakendra.

During the concert, the choir will stand on the upper circular platform and the audience will be seated on chairs or cushions placed throughout the building. Since this venue is not a typical concert hall, the audience will hear the choir, but not see it.

Come and allow your senses to enjoy this musical experience. Find a place to sit inside or outside the building, or quietly walk around to catch all the acoustic variations. This particular building is a strongly reverberant environment, so please remember to remain as silent as possible to both enhance and respect everyone's auditory perception.

## Therukoothu Show at Adishakti

Before 2016 ends, a night-long Therukoothu performance on the 28th of December.  
And then many many more fun masti things coming up next year.

Performance Title: Therukoothu - Ravana Samharam

Date: 28th December, Wednesday

Time: 7 pm (night-long performance)

Place: Adishakti Theatre - [www.adishaktitheatrearts.com](http://www.adishaktitheatrearts.com)

Free Entry

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# Upcoming Events at Solitude Farm

Contact Shachi: 98200 92126

### Open Mic

Calling all closet, amateur and professional musicians, singers, writers, poets, dancers, and performers!

Our stage and hearts are open, please come together for an evening of delightful sharing

On Tuesday December 27, 7 pm onwards at Solitude Farm Cafe.

If you'd like to participate, please call Shachi: 98200 92126.

Dinner and desserts available to order.

### LIVE MUSIC: A History of Jazz Bass with Mishko M'ba (bass), Matt Littlewood (keys)

Join us at Solitude Farm Cafe on Wednesday 28 December - 7 pm onwards

as Mishko M'ba takes us on a spoken and musical journey through the history and evolution of the role of the electric bass in jazz music, since its appearance in 1952 to the present day.

Dinner and desserts available to order.

### LIVE MUSIC: Emergence

Thursday December 29, 7 pm onwards at Solitude Farm Cafe

Dinner and desserts available to order.

Krishna Mckenzie (guitar+lead vocals), Mishko M'ba (bass), Karthik Iyer (violin+vocals) and Soundar Rajan (drums/percussion) form Emergence, an acoustic indo-pop band with electric stage presence. The band's music spreads the spirit and message of Japanese Zen master and farmer Masanobu Fukuoka, natural farming, the importance of local, seasonal and fresh ingredients in reclaiming our nutritional and ecological health, and the value of celebration in community. Passionate frontman Krishna fills in the gaps between tracks with snippets that convey Fukuoka's spirituality and life at Solitude Farm, while Mishko's face-melting basslines and violin prodigy Karthik delight and uplift audiences.

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The French Pavilion presents

## To the Discovery of birdsongs from Europe

*Between Music and Ornithology*

Listening Session with Bernard Fort (Musician-composer, ornithologist, audio-naturalist)

Thursday 29 December at 5 pm

Cinéma Paradiso

*In French*



Bernard Fort navigates between ornithology and music composition. He is passionate by birdsongs and became one of the best experts of birdsongs in France. He's using his recordings of nature and birds for composing electro-acoustic music. He does not belong into any box, the musicians say that he's an ornithologist and the ornithologists say that he's a musician...

This man is so passionate that when he tells you about birdsongs and birds life, you immediately fall in love with birds (if it is not already the case).

Those who does not speak French you can still come and enjoy his beautiful nature recordings.

Also we will spend many of his early mornings recording Auroville's birdsongs.

Please contact me if you want to join us to bring a good microphone: [chloe@auroville.org.in](mailto:chloe@auroville.org.in) or 9600880109

## CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

### Inner-Work-Workshop

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

27th December (Tuesday)

Focus this week on: 'Intimacy with the Divine'

- Overview with multimedia presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Practice in Daily Life
- Complimentary Concentration Exercises
- Creative Arts, Interactive Games
- Life of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother
- Introduction to the Reference Books

These Workshops are conducted every Tuesday, each week with a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with various inner exercises.

Place: Savitri Bhavan

Time: 9 am to 12 Noon (please be present by 8.50 am for preliminary study)

Led by *Ashesh Joshi* (Contact: 9489147202, 0413 2622922)

No Registration required (except for groups)

Fees: Voluntary Contribution

All are welcome

For details on the Integral Yoga and the upcoming workshops: please visit [www.integralyoga-auroville.com](http://www.integralyoga-auroville.com)

### Upcycling Puppets Workshop

UPcycling Studio presents: "What's UP with the PUPpets?!"



A workshop to make your own and play with puppets in shadow Theatre and Paper Theatre (from 100% waste materials).

For primary and Kindergarten teachers, especially Art & Theatre teachers.



- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December from 4 pm to 5:30 pm.
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December 4 pm to 5:30 pm

You can come to one or both dates!

At Upcycling Studio (Udavi School). Contact: *Clara* or *Gabriel*, mail: [bellonig@hotmail.com](mailto:bellonig@hotmail.com) or call: 7094845425

### Permaculture Workshop

12 noon January 6 to 3 pm January 8, at Solitude Farm.

Please email: [krishnamckenzie@auroville.org.in](mailto:krishnamckenzie@auroville.org.in) or call *Shachi*: 98200 92126 for details.

### Solitude Farm activities:

- **Community garden at Town Hall** - Meet at the gardens near Cinema Paradiso on Wednesdays at 3:30pm
- **Permaculture workshop** to learn various methods of natural farming - Saturdays 9am (please book ahead, call *Shachi* 98200 92126)
- **Weekly farm tour with Krishna** - Saturdays 11:30am
- **Cooking workshop** to learn how to use local, traditional ingredients and their nutritional benefits - Saturdays 3pm
- **Volunteers welcome!** Drop by to visit or call *Shachi* 98200 92126

### AcroYoga for beginners - Change of timings

- **Partner flow:** warming up with asanas and stretching with a partner

- **Inversions:** flying and playing with partners

Every Saturday from 8:15 to 09:45 am at Arka

Damien 90 47 72 27 40

### Joy Guest House Offers Classes on Sanskrit Language

With *Sonia*

- Private Classes: by Appointment - Call 8940288090 or 9443617308

And

- An Introduction to Sanskrit Language (Alphabetization), a three months Course:

Date: Tuesday, 7th of February to 2nd of May

Time: Weekly, every Tuesday at 18:15 to 19:15 (group class/no drop in)

\* Please confirm your presence till 2nd of February

Sanskrit is the key to enter into the wide world of Indian Traditional Culture. The Sacred Scriptures as well the Secular Scriptures are found to be written in Sanskrit language, thus a fundamental knowledge for students of Yoga and Spiritual Scriptures. Sanskrit is a highly logical, flexible, and subtle language. For a student of Yoga and Spiritual aspirants, the knowledge of Sanskrit is a significant means to prepare the mind for a deeper understanding of scriptures.

The Sanskrit Alphabet will be presented in these classes with the aim to make the student comfortable with the Devanagari script, the English transliteration and pronunciation. At the end of the module I the students will be able to read and write the Sanskrit Devanagari script.

For more Information: Phone: 8940288090 or 9443617308 / Email: [joycommunity@auroville.org.in](mailto:joycommunity@auroville.org.in)

### Holistic presents Trauma - the Unseen Wound

What is trauma? How to identify trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder? How to recover a person's full potential, energy and zest for life? And even integrate the wisdom of it all?

A 2 day workshop with theory and interactive exercises - A toolbox of techniques to apply in your therapeutic work. The workshop is designed for therapists of body and mind, psychologists, and all who work with trauma.

Date: December 26, 27 from 9- 5.30 pm.

At Sharnqa Guesthouse Yogahall: [www.sharnqaquesthouse.in](http://www.sharnqaquesthouse.in)

All registration: [contact@auroville-holistic.com](mailto:contact@auroville-holistic.com) /9626006961

Website: [www.auroville-holistic.com](http://www.auroville-holistic.com) - Workshops and retreats in Auroville with international faculty.

### Welcome to a Tea Gathering

Experience and learn the East Asian way of drinking and serving tea.

The art of sharing joy and peace through a cup of tea with your friends will change your perspective towards tea,

Every Saturday 2 pm to 5 pm.

Booking is required. Approx. 1 hour for each session, please choose your time slot.

Book at: 7868825918 - 04132622192 -04132623918 / [francesco@gelatofactory.in](mailto:francesco@gelatofactory.in)

Venue: Gelato Factory main Auroville road (near Auroville Bakery and Farm Fresh), KUILAPALYAM [www.artfood.in](http://www.artfood.in)

Submitted by *Isha* (Swayam)

### Contact Improvisation Class & Jam

Wednesdays: 28th of December 2016 and 4th of January 2017 - from 5pm to 7:30-ish - at Athman Café Rooftop (an Auroville registered unit)

Based on the contact between 2 people (more or less), we will explore how to move together, sharing weight, playing with gravity, falling, lifting, flooring, spiralling... in relation with ground and space.

Athman Café is situated on the tar road 50m from Visitors Center turning left, going towards Buddha Garden - it's on your right.

Please respect the timings so we can all start together on time! For more info contact *John*: 8524963049

## Basket weaving workshop for beginners

Come with busy hands and enjoy traditional South Indian basket weaving with palm-leaves. This workshop is for 14 years old and above. No experience needed and no fee required (tea and cookies on donation).



You can come any day but it will take at least 2-3 days to finish one basket.

Let me know your attendance in advance for preparation by sending

me a text message at:

9489823112 (*Jinhee*), or email: [suh.jinhee@gmail.com](mailto:suh.jinhee@gmail.com)

**Time: Monday, Wednesday, Friday afternoon**  
**2-5 pm for two weeks (26th December - 6th January)**  
**Place: The Learning Community (TLC) Base camp (between Transition school and Dana community)**

## Connection as Life Energy

Introduction to Nonviolent Communication with *L'aura Joy*, NVC Certified Trainer



Do you long for more joy, authenticity and depth when connecting with yourself and others?

Do you wonder what gets in the way of connecting and relating the way you truly want?

**Jan 7-8 (Sat-Sun): 9.30 am-5 pm (with lunch break)**

A path of Nonviolence (based on Nonviolent Communication, NVC) offers both a deeply-rooted consciousness of oneness, as well as very practical tools to live this more and more in our daily lives. In re-evaluating some of our habitual and conditioned thinking, we see how much of it is life-alienating and based on a culture of scarcity and separation. We'll learn the skills to be able express ourselves with more clarity and to hear others' true (and harmless) message, which in turn leads to more connection between us. When we're connected as human beings, we're in our natural state of wanting to give and collaborate with others.

More info & register (and for venue info):

contact *L'aura*: [joylivinglearning@gmail.com](mailto:joylivinglearning@gmail.com)

- Limited seats. Registration required.
- Full participation required (2 full days).

[Other upcoming NVC events: [joylivinglearning.org](http://joylivinglearning.org)]

## Lakshmi Retreat

"Living Gratitude, Embodying Abundance"



**5-Day Women's Retreat**

**Dec 30 - Jan 3, Auroville**

Discovering the Goddess Lakshmi in all her qualities...

See [previous News & Notes](#) for more details...

## "Let's enjoy ORIGAMI!"

Bharat Nivas in collaboration with Japanese Pavilion invites you to participate in "Let's enjoy ORIGAMI"

**On Friday 23rd December 3 pm-4 pm**

**At India Space (Bharat Nivas)**



Origami is one of the Japanese paper craft arts which have been passed on from generation to generation. Ori(Oru) means folding and Gami(Kami) means paper in Japanese.

In our workshop inauguration we will create X'mas cards with Santa Claus, X-mas tree and bow.

Bookings not needed, all are welcome!

More information / Emiko 9489188308 or Tomoko 9751059642 ([letsenjoyorigami@gmail.com](mailto:letsenjoyorigami@gmail.com))

## Mother's Agenda: Readers group in Italian

*In Italian for Italians tourists and Newcomers*

*L'Agenda di Mère in italiano per condividere il viaggio di Mère con Newcomers e turisti italiani*

*"...C'è come una favola dietro a tutto questo...Qualcosa di indicibilmente bello, una storia che Sri Aurobindo ha cercato di far scendere sulla terra: e adesso è certo che si sta realizzando!"*

**Mercoledì ore 17 alla Library in Creativity con Janaka**

**OPPURE SU APPUNTAMENTO:**

**948.762.96.48 - [janaka.om@auroville.org.in](mailto:janaka.om@auroville.org.in)**

*Le fotocopie dei passi proposti sono gratuite....perchè, come ha detto Mère:*

*"Questa Agenda è il mio regalo a quelli che mi amano".*

## STOP SMOKING. NOT WHY BUT HOW!

*Free for Aurovillians and Newcomers. By Janaka.*

*Just an homeopathic remedy made with your personal cigarettes. Make a present to yourself!*

*I'll do it: this is my karma yoga for you. Janaka*

*Book at: 948.762.9648 or: [janaka.om@auroville.org.in](mailto:janaka.om@auroville.org.in)*

## **SCHEDULES**

### VERITE

*Please contact Vérité 24 hours in advance to register for the following workshop: 0413-2622045, 7094104329 or [programming@verite.in](mailto:programming@verite.in)*

*Contributions requested from quests/volunteers (volunteer reduction by advance application only)*

- **PRANAYAMA TRAINING** (for all levels) with Ananda  
Friday & Saturday 6 & 7 January - from 9 am to 4:30 pm

Prana is the breath of universal life energy. Mostly breathing and energy flow happens unconsciously as part of survival process. By becoming conscious and attentive to prana — and enhancing and directing its flow through the pranayama practices—we can rejuvenate the body-mind- energy, enhance sensitivity and perception, expand inner awareness, and open the door to higher states of consciousness. In this Pranayama training, you will:

- Learn the science of Energy - Prana, Nadis, Chakras, Vayus
- Learn and practice basic pranayama techniques suitable for all times for everyone
- Learn and practice advanced pranayama techniques with restrictions
- Learn and practice bandhas (breath and energy locks)
- Learn and practice therapeutic pranayama practices useful for specific treatments.

*Ananda has been exploring yoga, meditation, mystics, and energy work for more than 24 years, and has studied and practiced healing modalities for over 10 years. He is professionally trained with international certifications in Watsu, Aqua wellness, Foot Reflexology, Hypnotherapy, Pranic Healing, Alchemy of Touch -Rebalancing.*

### QUIET

- Watsu 3 with Gianni De Stefani

**2 - 8 January 2017 (7 days)**

**8.45 AM - 6.30 PM (50 hours)**

**Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)**

Watsu 3 is for people who have given enough Watsu practice sessions to develop a comfortable, intuitive awareness of how to float another person and who are ready to adapt and further explore aquatic bodywork outside the fixed form of Watsu 2. Powerful stretches and advanced techniques, and rolls that require a spontaneous adaptation are learned as a gateway into Watsu's "Free Flow".

*Prerequisites: Watsu 2 Mastery.*

## AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LABORATORY



### Wonderful opportunity to learn French with Christiane.

Christiane has been a long term volunteer and she volunteered with us last year from September 2015 to May 2016 teaching French. She is back in Auroville and will be teaching French again until April-2017. A retired psychologist and educator, Christiane has experience teaching French as a second language.

Class timings are:

-**Beginner Level:** from 3 to 4 pm, every Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

-**Intermediate Level:** from 2 to 3 pm, every Tuesday and Thursday.

-**Advanced Level:** from 2 to 3pm, every Thursday and Friday.

If you want to progress quickly, come and practice with Christiane. You will speak from your very first lesson: take your chance!

### Hindi Class for Beginners.

Chandrima is going to give a group Hindi class for Beginners. She has been teaching for more than 8 years now. So far she was doing more one-on-one classes but starting from Jan 04, 2017, every Wednesday and Friday from 1.30 to 2.30 pm, she is going to teach a Group class. Interested students, please register via phone at 2623661 or send an email to [all@auroville.org.in](mailto:all@auroville.org.in).

### Spanish class for Beginners.

We are happy to welcome Susana (Aurovilian) who will start teaching Spanish from 9th of January-2017. Classes will be every Monday and Wednesday from 4.30 to 5.30pm.

Chandrima continues Sanskrit classes for all levels on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Piero is back and continues Italian beginners' classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 5 to 6. Other levels are also available.

Saravanan continues Tamil Conversation classes for Beginners on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 3. People who know basic Tamil can join this group.

All classes are still at the old Language Lab in Shakti. The mediathèque with its many resources, in multiple languages, is also available. We have been arranging Guided Study programs as well.

There is a rumour that the old Lab has closed, but this is not true. We are still open in the old premises, which also house the Tomatis Listening Centre. Tomatis programs are available for both language learning and therapeutic purposes (see our website [www.aurovillelanguage.org](http://www.aurovillelanguage.org) and click on "Tomatis Method" for more information. We also do short programs, in addition to the longer ones. The Listening Tests are still in Centre Field.

We all eagerly await our impending move to the new building in the International Zone. Work has progressed there enormously, but it did take longer than we expected. It is a very beautiful building, made with lime, with many innovative, ecological as well as healthy features. There is a lovely atmosphere inside. We are very much in the last stretch now and are missing just the last funds for upstairs corridor flooring, entrance and cafeteria. We await our permanent electrical connection, which AVES assures us should be here very soon. We have planned for solar panels in the future of course, but for now, will need TNEB. The entire Language lab team has worked very hard to make the dream a reality.

We welcome donations into our account at the Unity Fund, to help us complete this last stretch before opening. Indian donors can get tax-exemption. And of course, folks abroad can contribute through AVI-USA, AVI-UK and also directly from the [www.auroville.com/donations](http://www.auroville.com/donations) portal. We would be v. grateful if there are Aurovilians, and guests presently in Auroville, who could help.

For such people, especially those interested in ecological/sustainable building, we will have a presentation/open house/tour sometime in the last week of December. Please send an email to [all@auroville.org.in](mailto:all@auroville.org.in) if you would like to be part of it.

We know many are waiting for this new building, but, nobody is waiting more than we are!

The Language Lab is open Monday - Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm  
Location: Shakti Community, next to the Pyramids,  
near Aspiration  
Phone: 0413-2623 661, 9585207962 - Email [all@auroville.org.in](mailto:all@auroville.org.in)

## SOME ESSENTIAL SERVICES

[Kindly let us know of any changes in opening/closing hours for the service. Eds]

**Auroville Ambulance:** 9442224680 - Pims: 0413-2656271

**Auroville Library, Crown Road:** opening hours - 9:00 to 12:30 and 14:00 to 16:30 from Monday to Saturday.

**Aikido Aikido classes, at the Auroville Budokan (Dehashakti):**  
**Beginners:** Monday and Wednesday evening 6.00 to 7.00 pm and Saturday morning 6.30 to 7.30 am (mixed levels).  
**Advanced (morning classes):** Tuesday 6.30 to 7.30 am - Thursday 6.00 to 7.30 am and mixed levels on Saturday 6.30 to 7.30 am. Please be at the Dojo/Budokan at least 15 min. before the class starts. Beginners may wear long loose pants & t-shirt with sleeves for the start (no tight fitting please), then a white "keikogi" will be required. Health Fund or private insurance necessary - Reasonable contribution required for the Dojo. For Children classes and more general info, please write to [budokan@auroville.org.in](mailto:budokan@auroville.org.in) or contact Surya: 0413-2623.813 or 9655.4854.87. Our webpage: <http://budokan.auroville.org/>

**AvHC:** The Pharmacy is open 8.30 to 5 pm daily including Saturdays. The doctor's consultation is the same, except Saturday up to 1pm only.

**AV Safety & Security Team:** Call us 24/7 for emergency, assistance or escort on 9443090107. Visit our office (Certitude Service Area - Near Gas Bottle service ) from Monday to

Saturday (9AM to 1PM - 2PM to 4PM) or contact us on 0413-2623400 / [avsecurity@auroville.org.in](mailto:avsecurity@auroville.org.in)

**City Transport:** Quick "Pick up and Drop" Shuttle Service in Maruti Omni 4-seater people carrier, free of charge for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Guests for trips within the city area, destinations up to Aspiration/Auromodele and Repos/Quiet chargeable with per passenger fares, from Rs.110/- for 1 person single trip. Phone Visitors Centre main gate 0413-262-2611 or to the driver directly 94876-50951 daily 9.30 am-6.00 pm.

E-mail: [visitorscentre@auroville.org.in](mailto:visitorscentre@auroville.org.in) - Please note that it is not a taxi that can be ordered in advance for an exact time, but will normally reach you with 10/15 minutes, and will not wait for you for onward or return trips - if needed it will come back to pick you up again when called.

**Auroville Dental Centre:** Protection / Telephone: (0143) 2622265 or 2622007 / email: [aurodentalscentre@auroville.org.in](mailto:aurodentalscentre@auroville.org.in)

**EcoService, Kottakarai:** Palani 9443535172 or Kali 9443090114

**Entry Service, Multimedia Center:** 1st floor, Town hall Complex: We are open to the public every day from 9:30 to 12:30 and from 2:30 to 4:30 except on Tuesday morning (team meeting) and Sunday. B-Forms and Recommendation

letters: on appointment only. For more information on joining Auroville, please attend one of our regularly held Welcome talks. +91 (0)413 262 2707

**Farewell:** mobile number: 8903836246. This phone is reachable 24/7.

**Financial Service, Town Hall and Aspiration:** Mon to Sat, 9 to 12.30 and 3 to 4.30pm

**Free Store:** Monday to Saturday: 9 to 12:30 pm - Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 to 4:30 pm

**Free Store Tailoring Service:** Repair work will be received only from 1st to 15th of every month. Timings will be same as Free Store.

**Auroville Gas Service, Service Area:** Near Tele Service" and BSNL Telephone Exchange. Monday to Saturday: 9 to 1 and 2 to 4 pm

**Green Care:** Tree care, pruning, rigging, removal of trees, and or branches over structures. Garden maintenance grass and hedge cutting. Call: *Jonas* 9159843579 or *Anadi* 9655477329.

**Guest Service above the Solar Kitchen:** 1st floor. Opening times: from Monday to Saturday 9.30 to 12.30, and from Monday to Friday 13.00 to 16.00. [avquestservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:avquestservice@auroville.org.in); contact no. 0413 2622675

**Housing Service, Town Hall:** Public Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:30 to 12:30 Monday and Friday from 14:30 to 16:30 Wednesday: Closed to Public (Housing Board in session 9:30-12:30). Phone: (0413) 2622658. [Email:housing@auroville.org.in](mailto:housing@auroville.org.in)

**Integral Health, Prayatna:** transpersonal regression therapy, classical homeopathy, counselling, vital remedies, child & women health, hypnotherapy. [integralhealth@auroville.org.in](mailto:integralhealth@auroville.org.in)-2623669 - Mon to Sat 9 am - 5 pm, preferably on appointment.

**Santé Clinic:** Crown Rd. near. Arka: Call 2622803 for an appointment. Hours: Monday to Saturday: 8.45 am to 12.30 pm & 2 to 4.30 pm, closed on Tuesday Afternoons for Internal Admin work.

**LOE, Lab. Of Evolution, Bharat Nivas:** LOE Library Open every morning Monday to Saturday: 9 to 12 am / Afternoon Monday to Friday: 2.30 to 4.30 pm

**Matrimandir:** The Inner Chamber is open for Aurovilians daily 6am to 8.45am/11.30am to 12.30pm (2pm on Sunday)/4.30pm to 8pm. Please keep the Chamber neat and tidy. Straighten your mat and put back all extra cushions neatly by the door. Please refrain from rearranging the cushions which are laid out for you. The Petals are open for Aurovilians daily: 4.30pm to 6pm. To bring family members and personal friends please book by calling 2622579 from 9.30 to 11.30 am any day except Tuesday. Be at the office gate of Matrimandir by 8.40 am on

the day of the visit. Please remain with your guests throughout the visit. Matrimandir is closed to visitors on Tuesday. Aurovilians wanting to bring their children to the Matrimandir are recommended to do so on Tuesdays between 9 and 11 am.

**Music library, Town Hall:** Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 9 to 12.30 and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 2 to 5:30pm.

**Nandini Tailor section: (Auroshilpam):** tel: 0413-2622527 For placing orders: open to public on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday mornings 9am to 12:30. No afternoon opening in December. No new order taken last week of the month. *Don't forget to bring your bag!*

**Nandini Distribution : (PTDC area):** tel : 0413-2622033 Open to public from Tuesday to Saturday morning from 9am to 12.30pm and Tuesday, Thursday afternoon 2.30pm to 4.30pm Don't forget to bring your bag

**OutreachMedia Services:** The services provided by OutreachMedia include: dealing with all media that come to Auroville for filming, writing, photographing - reporters, journalist and writers. 2622-098 or 9443602194 or 9952463904 Multi-Media Centre. Office hours: Monday-Friday: 9.30am to 12.30pm. Afternoons and Saturdays by appointment.

**Puncture service, service area:** next to gas bottle service, opposite road service; Monday to Saturday 9am to 4 30pm; phone 2622741, cell 9442891235.

**Auroville Residents Service timings:** open from Monday to Friday morning from 9:30 am to 12.30 pm and afternoon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30

**Residents Assembly Service:** new landline number: 0413-2623701 (please note it in your agenda). The RAS office (located 1st floor at Town Hall) is open for public from 10 AM till 12 Noon from Monday till Friday. We are happy to welcome your questions, suggestions or information. We will do our best to help you in whatever way possible. Thank you for your appreciation. Your *RAS team*

**Savi:** Services for Volunteers and Hosting Units/Services of Auroville, a link between Auroville Projects and long-term Volunteers (minimum 2 months). We offer welcome information, placements opportunities, support with visa procedure and follow-up throughout the volunteers' stay. From Monday to Friday from 2 till 4 pm. at the Unity Pavilion. For more information call (0413)2622121 or go to Savi website: [www.auroville-learning.net](http://www.auroville-learning.net).

**Skyworks:** Tree pruning, removal of hazardous trees and branches over fragile structures, power line cleaning. *SatYaaji:* 853 103 35 45

**Vehicle Service, Town Hall:** Monday to Friday: 9am to 12.30pm, 2.30 to 4.30pm. Saturday: 9am to 12.30pm.

**Video library, Town Hall:** Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 10am to 1pm and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 3 to 6pm.

## FILMS



### CINEMA - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

(Films starts at 7:45 pm SHARP!)

• **Reminder: Special film show, Friday 23 December "PAWO" (MARTYR)** by Marvin Litwak, Sonam Tseten, Germany, India, 2016 -The film director and lead Actor will be present.

• **Friday 30 DECEMBER: "HUGO"**

*Directed by Martin Scorsese*

*With: Ben Kingsley, Asa Butterfield, Chloë Grace Moretz*

*Synopsis:* Based on Brian Selznick's novel, The Invention of Hugo Cabret, it is about a boy who lives alone in the Montparnasse Railway Station in Paris in the 1930s. Hugo is a young orphan who loves pottering around with the station clocks and whose most treasured possession is his late father's

automaton. His mission is to find a key that will get it working... The film is an homage to Cinema and to Georges Melies (1861-1938) who was a French illusionist and film director famous for leading many technical and narrative developments in the earliest days of cinema. The film was much awarded and appreciated.

Original English version with English subtitles - Duration 2h. - General Audience

A 34 min. film, ASMA (Me), shot in Palampur, around Himalayas, directed by Prabhjit Dhamija will be presented **before HUGO**. This film was the official selection at Short Film Corner at Cannes Film Festival and OJAI film festival, USA this year. Associate Director of the film Abhishek Garg will be attending.

*Note: The Auditorium team requests everybody not to bring and eat food inside the auditorium. Thank you!*

## AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

Monday, 26th of December 2016 at 6:30 pm

“MEDITATIONS ON SAVITRI - Book 1, Canto 5: THE YOGA OF THE KING: The Yoga of the Spirit's Freedom and Greatness”

*This knowledge first he had of time-born men. / Admitted through a curtain of bright mind / That hangs between our thoughts and absolute sight, / He found the occult cave, the mystic door / Near to the well of vision in the soul, / And entered where the Wings of Glory brood / In the silent space where all is for ever known. (Savitri, p.74)*

Film by Manohar of Huta's paintings illustrating passages from Savitri read by The Mother and accompanied on her own organ music. Duration: 23 min.

## THE ECO FILM CLUB

Sadhana Forest, December 30th Friday.



### Schedule of Events:

16:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour  
16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest  
18:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club  
18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "previews" of short Sadhana Forest films  
20:00 Dinner is served  
21:30 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen

Before the movie, at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!!

### SOUND CITY

107mins / English / 2013 / Directed by Dave Grohl  
Deep in the San Fernando Valley, amidst rows of dilapidated warehouses, was rock'n roll's best kept secret: Sound City. America's greatest unsung recording studio housed a one-of-a-kind console and as its legend grew, seminal bands and artists such as Fleetwood Mac, Neil Young, Rick Springfield, Tom Petty, Metallica and Nirvana all came out to put magic to tape. Directed by Dave Grohl (Nirvana, Foo Fighters) and featuring interviews and performances from the iconic musicians who recorded some of rock's greatest albums at the studio, Sound City doesn't just tell the story of this real-life rock'n roll shrine, it celebrates the human element of music as Grohl gathers some of rock's biggest artists to collaborate using Sound City's legendary analogue console.

(Reminder: Friday- December 23rd- Before the Flood)

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at (0413) 2677682 or 2677683 or [sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in](mailto:sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in) or visit us online: [sadhanaforest.org](http://sadhanaforest.org) / [facebook.com/sadhanaforest](https://facebook.com/sadhanaforest)

## LE PAVILLON DE FRANCE Presents

«HUMAN VOL. III»

Happiness - Education - Handicap  
Immigration - Corruption - Meaning of life

Saturday 24th December 2016 -5.00 pm  
Cinema Paradiso (Town Hall)

Director: Yann Arthus Bertrand

*French movie without English subtitles; duration: 93 min*

HUMAN is a diptych of stories and images of our world which creates an immersion into the depths of the human being. Through the testimonies of happiness filled with love but also with hatred and violence, HUMAN confronts us with the Other and brings us back to our own lives. Aerial pictures with music as an opera, show the beauty of the world and offer us moments of breathing and introspection. The film allows us to embrace the human condition, deals with sharing resources between humans in a world that operates at two speeds and offers a more philosophical reflection on the meaning of life, with sequences on topics such as corruption and discrimination.

From the most terrible conflicts that blight humanity to the most noble sentiments of which we are capable; from the great diversity of our lifestyles to the desire to come together around universal topics like family or love: These three documentaries provide an opportunity for Yann Arthus-Bertrand to explore the major themes in HUMAN.

## Thursday Weekly Indian Film:

“Waiting”

Dec. 29 - 7:45pm

Bharat Nivas

Director: Anu Menon

- Duration: 1 hr 38 mins

*Waiting* revolves around the relationship between two people from different walks of life, who befriend each other in a hospital, while nursing their respective comatose spouses.

*“Waiting manages to stand on its own emotional ground. The people, situations, relationships, feelings are layered, warm and humourous, ringing true in their complexities.”*  
-The Hindu

\*\*The News&Notes is available for all to download from the Auroville website at <http://www.auroville.org/contents/186>\*\*

### Important information about News & Notes (Absolute deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

**How to submit material:** Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to the N&N email address (below).

**Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready.**

**The Tuesday deadline (5pm) is absolute as the News is given to the printers by Wednesday 2 pm.**

Any modifications of the submitted News items have to be sent to the editors before Wednesday.

**We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Wednesdays due to work pressure.**

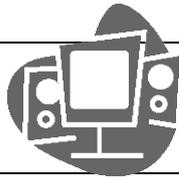
**Articles for the Notes section** should ideally be no longer than 500 words. All articles and reports need to reach us by Tuesday noon.

**Visiting hours:** Mondays, Tuesdays 9am to 11.45am and 1pm to 3pm; **No visitors on Wednesday.**

**Soft Version:** We encourage you to ask us for a soft version of News&Notes sent directly to your own inbox. Don't hesitate to mail: [newsandnotes@auroville.org.in](mailto:newsandnotes@auroville.org.in) or to phone 2622133 if you want to give it a try.

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The News & Notes serves as a channel for the publication of material coming from trusted sources within Auroville. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offence caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone: 0413-2622133, email: [newsandnotes@auroville.org.in](mailto:newsandnotes@auroville.org.in)



# Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium  
Film program 26 December 2016 to 1 January 2017

## Indian - Monday 26 December, 8:00 pm:

- **IRUVAR (The Duo)**

India, 1997, Writer-Dir. Mani Ratnam w/ Mohanlal, Prakash Raj, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, and others, Drama, 140mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated: U/A (PG-13)

In this classic, much acclaimed, award winning film, struggling actor Anandam is befriended by up and coming grassroots leader and scriptwriter Tamilchelvam. As Anandam grows in popularity, he becomes an important tool for the Tamilchelvam and his party in wooing the public. After the death of the party leader Annadurai, both protagonists find themselves in candidacy for the top spot, the schism is inevitable. This film is about the drama behind the political stage. Drawn from real life events, this film is a must see.

## Italian - Tuesday 27 December, 8:00 pm:

- **LA PAZZA GIOIA ( Like Crazy )**

Italia, 2016, Dir. Paolo Virzì, w/ Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Micaela Ramazzotti, Comedy-Drama, 118 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: G

Beatrice is a blabbermouth and a so-called billionaire countess who likes to believe she's in intimacy with world leaders. Donatella is a young quiet tattooed woman, locked in her own mystery. They are both patients of a mental institution and subject to custodial measures. This is the story of their unpredictable friendship and their escape from the treatment constraints that will become an hilarious and moving adventure of two technically insane creatures, looking for a bit of fun and love in this open-air nuthouse, the world of healthy people

## Interesting - Wednesday 28 December, 8:00 pm:

- **JÄRVEN TARINA (Tale of a Lake)**

Finland, 2016, Marko Röhr & Kim Saarniluoto w/ Samuli Edelmann, Jonathan Hutchings, Johanna Kurkela, and others, Documentary, 76mins, Rated: NR (G)

It is a film about the thousands of lakes that Finland is known for. It takes the viewers on an unprecedented adventure, ranging from crystal clear springs all the way to the basins of the big lakes. It opens a whole new world of

underwater nature for the viewers and tells many of the old tales and beliefs that abound in the land of thousands of lakes. The film is told through tales that are based on the myths, legends and old beliefs found in Finnish mythology.

## Russian - Thursday 29 December, 8:00 pm:

- **PAPA NAPROKAT (Rent-a-Dad)**

Russia, 2010, Dir. Artemiy Litvinenko, w/Sergey Garmash, Alena Babenko, Miroslav Belonogiy, and others, Comedy, 90mins, Russian w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR.

Tolya is an apparently good-for-nothing, unemployed, 54 years old citizen, with a penchant for the bottle. Destiny will unexpectedly lead him to be hired by a younger mother, as a replacement father for her 10 years old school boy.

## New Year's Eve - Saturday 31 December, 8:00 pm:

- **NO FILM SCHEDULED**

## Children's Film - Sunday 1 January, 4:30 pm:

- **NO FILM SCHEDULED**

## Ciné-Club - Sunday 1 January, 8:00 pm:

- **NO FILM SCHEDULED**

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at [mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in). We appreciate your continued support. Please make a contribution to "Cinema Paradiso" account (#105106) at the Financial Service.

Thanking You,

MMC/CP Group

- Account# 105106 - [mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in)

**MMC/CINEMA PARADISO wishes you a Very Happy, Peaceful and Fulfilling New Year!**



### Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers - Save them in your phone now!

→ Auroville Safety and Security Team: 9443090107 - 9443362691 (Email: [avsecurity@auroville.org.in](mailto:avsecurity@auroville.org.in))

→ Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680 - Pims: 0413-2656271

→ Farewell: mobile number: 8903836246. reachable 24/7.



# REJOICE!

## AUROVILLE CHOIR IN CONCERT



VENUE: MONDAY 26TH OF DECEMBER AT 8 P.M.  
IN KALAKENDRA (BHARAT NIVAS)

ALL ARE WELCOME 😊