

Sincere gratitude is expressed to a remarkable team of people who have recently resigned after working tirelessly over many years to share the teachings of Yoga with thousands across Australia.

We wish all the best for the future endeavours of each and every one who is leaving and know that each of you will be sorely missed. We consider every contribution noteworthy but would like to particularly thank Bhakti, Mukti, Lisa, Yogasiddhi, Adidas, Mokshanand, Sevapuri, Sevadevi, Chandra, Pavitra, Taradevi, Sita, Prabhupuri, Suryaprakash, Chandradevi , Anandpuri, Purnanand and Dharpuri.

Many of these resignations will come into effect after a special general meeting to be held in June.

Please note that all office bearers except secretary are unchanged.

### **Bhakti**

Bhakti was a founding member of the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1991. During this time she held several positions including senior teacher, centre manager, teacher trainer facilitator, and much respected national co-ordinator. Bhakti was instrumental in establishing 6 XXXXX centres across Australia, writing the first curriculum of yoga teacher training and establishing a formal teacher training program for the association. Bhakti worked to achieved ECOSOC status with the UN and accreditation with the DPI of the UN. She represented the association at the Johannesburg Earth Summit and at the UN in New York on a number of occasions. She also held the role of General Secretary for the World Peace Council. Over the years Bhakti contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to support the Associations many and varied activities.

### **Mukti**

Mukti joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1992. In the early years of formation she held the position of co-treasurer and secretary for the association. Mukti was one of the most popular yoga teachers in Sydney's Eastern suburbs and many missed her when she left to establish a XXXXX centre in Perth in 2002. Mukti's expertise as a yoga teacher soon become known and she has successfully run the centre in Perth until closing it in May 2011. Over the years Mukti contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to support the Associations many and varied activities.

### **Lisa**

Lisa joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1993. Lisa joined the Board in an official capacity in September 2008 and serves as Public Officer. Lisa has resigned from managing the Association's bookkeeping which she has dilently done for many years. She brought with her highly developed skills in bookkeeping and managed the Association's entire Australia-wide operations with incredible capacity, thus ensuring the Association met all its financial obligations.

### **Yogasiddhi**

Yogasiddhi joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1994. During this time she held several positions including that of Centre Manager and Director of Education and Training. Being one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors, Michelle developed curriculum for the Association's Yoga Teacher Training program which was delivered in XXXXX centres throughout Australia and internationally too. Over the years Michelle contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to support the Association's many and varied activities.

### **Adidas**

Adidas joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1994. He is known for his dedication to the yoga practices and as a result became one of the most experienced yoga teachers in the Association, drawing many students to his classes. Together with Mukti, Adidas worked selflessly to establish a XXXXX centre in Perth and his classes in more than 8 locations across the city are renowned for offering the authentic yoga practices. Over the years Adidas contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to support the Association's many and varied activities.

### **Mokshanand - Mark Welsh**

Mokshanand joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1996, and taught for the Association for over thirteen years from 1998 – 2011, he was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors. During that time, Mokshanand was one of the main Trainers in the Association's Yoga Teacher Training Program in Brisbane. Over the years he contributed substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities.

### **Sevapuri**

Sevapuri joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1998. During this time he held the position of Centre Manager in Sydney and was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors. As Coordinator of the Association's Yoga Teacher Training Program in Sydney, Sevapuri facilitated train-the-trainer courses for several years. Sevapuri also serves on the Board of the Association in the position of President and over the years has contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities.

### **Sevadevi**

Sevadevi joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1998. During this time Sevadevi selflessly contributed in many ways as a senior instructor of Yoga, as an Ayurveda massage therapist, co-ordinator of Sydney's Spiritual Pathways Program and master cook at weekend Yoga Retreats. Sevadevi contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities since the beginning of her involvement with the organisation.

### **Chandra**

Chandra joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1998. During this time she held the position of Centre Manager in Sydney and Graphic Designer, and was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors. It must be acknowledged that Chandra also contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities years throughout that period. In her role as Graphic Designer, Chandra's creative capacity ensured that the Association's centres Australia-wide could promote yoga classes and activities to the public in a most appealing way.

### **Pavitra**

Pavitra joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1998. Pavitra joined the Board in March 2006 and serves as Vice-President and Treasurer. Pavitra brought with her many highly developed skills in governance and accounting and her due diligence ensured the Association's professional function in all operations. It is to be acknowledged that over the years Pavitra contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities which included teaching yoga and taking responsibility to manage the Dee Why Yoga Centre, which welcomed many students of yoga each week. Pavitra performed her work responsibly and professionally, maintaining confidentiality in all aspects of work with the highest integrity. She will be sorely missed in Dee Why.

### **Taradevi**

Taradevi joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1998. During this time she held the position of Centre Manager and was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors. Anybody who meets Taradevi would agree that no task is too small for her. She possesses a genuine enthusiasm and ability to see a job finished and done well.

### **Sita – Elizabeth Fletcher**

Sita joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 1999. During this time she held several positions, including Manager of Gynea School of XXXXX from 2000-2005, and Centre Manager of XXXXX Brisbane from 2005-2011. She also fulfilled positions of Event & Marketing Coordinator. Sita was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors and as Coordinator of the Association's Yoga Teacher Training Program in Brisbane, Sita facilitated train-the-trainer courses. Sita also contributed substantial volunteer hours to the Association's activities since the beginning of her involvement with the organisation.

### **Prabhupuri – Craig Smith**

Prabhupuri joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 2001. During this time he held the position of Centre Manager and was one of the Association's most experienced Yoga Instructors. As Coordinator of the Association's Yoga Teacher Training Program in Brisbane, Prabhupuri facilitated train-the-trainer courses. Over the years Prabhupuri contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities. Prabhupuri's dedication and willingness to continually learn and gain experience, inspires colleagues and friends who associate with him

### **SuryaPrakash – Eddie Pose**

Eddie started with XXXXX Brisbane in 2003 as a student. He completed the Associations' teacher training in 2008 and has taught classes on a weekly basis from 2008-2011. He also contributed many volunteer hours to the Association as a yoga teacher and assisting in IT support for the website and network

### **Chandradevi - Amanda McQuire**

Amanda started classes at Australian Association of XXXXX in Brisbane in 2001, and after completing the Associations teacher training, taught classes from 2007-2011 as a volunteer contribution.

### **Anandpuri – Donald Pincott**

Donald started classes at Australian Association of XXXXX in Brisbane in 2005, and was teaching classes from 2007-2011 as a volunteer contribution. His students will miss his energy and classes.

### **Purnanand**

Purnanand joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 2006. Over a two year period (2009-2011) Purnanand filled the role of Project Manager of the Association's 640 acre retreat property at Main Creek, Dungog N.S.W. Australia. Purnanand's responsibilities included construction, land management, property maintenance and overseeing the work of contractors such as the installation of a four kilometre access road. It is to be acknowledged that Purnanand has contributed a substantial number of volunteer hours to the Association's activities at the Dungog retreat property.

### **Dharmpuri**

Dharmpuri joined the Australian Association of XXXXX in 2000. During this time he held the position of Centre Manager, IT Manager, Video Production coordinator, Webmaster, Vice-President and President. As the author of this article I am not able say if my contribution is substantial or not but suffice to say I had the honour and privilege to work with the exceptional people listed in this article as well as many more. An atmosphere of respect and love pervaded my time at XXXXX and I largely attribute this to the high calibre and integral people I worked with. I give my deep admiration to all.