

August 2007



CARE FOR COWS

I N V R I N D A V A N



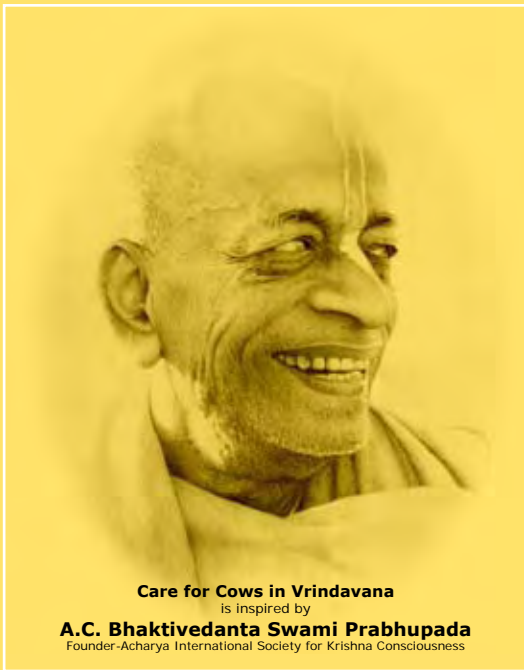
Baba is Missing!

Bull Sanctuary

**Black Day
for Sacred Life**

**Final Days
for Radha
Kund Cow**

**Dog Attack
Survivors**



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CARE FOR COWS
IN VRINDAVAN

Jaya Sri Guru!
Jaya Sri Gopala!
Jaya Sri Go Mata!

Dear Friends,

The hardest part of go seva is parting with those one has become attached to serving. This month was difficult as Time separated us from three.

In order for Kali Yuga to progress, all things auspicious must diminish. As the scriptures declare the cow to be all-auspicious, it is not surprising that today's modern society manifests more and more hostility towards them. Natural predators, careless drivers, atheistic and cruel governments and increasing inhumanity are only a few of the formidable enemies plaguing cows around the world today. And at the root of all these lurks Greed, who we know is not a cowardly foe.

Sometimes we hear that our pages are too graphic and disturbing, but actually they reflect only a minor portion the harsh reality that permeates today's world. We proceed with the faith that problems are solved by squarely facing them, not by wishing them away or ignoring them. We are confident that together we can make a difference.

We hope this finds you experiencing the happiness and inner satisfaction that accompanies Go Seva.

We remain, your servants in caring for Sri Gopal's abandoned Cows in Vrindavan,

The CFC Staff

careforcows.org

Care for Cows in Vrindavan is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, Holland and Switzerland.



With deep regret we announce that Prema Sagar left us unexpectedly this month

Calves Saved from



A pack of dogs devour a dead cow thrown by the Yamuna

Vicious Dog Attack

A vicious dog attack claimed the lives of at least six calves at a Gaudiya Math Goshala in Radha Kund this month. All calves were tied down with short 2ft ropes in an unfenced area and didn't stand a chance. The night watchman was oblivious to the attack.

Dogs run wild in packs throughout Vrindavan and are often seen fighting over scraps of food to survive. Some goshalas give their dead cows a Yamuna Burial, which means

their bodies are transported to the Yamuna River and dumped on the bank. Dogs fight for ownership over the carcass and within hours a stripped skeleton is all that remains of the cow on the Yamuna shoreline. Dogs having a taste for flesh then prey on weak, sick or injured cows and unprotected calves. Govardhan and Radha Kund particularly are notorious for vicious pack killings.

A few nights after the fatal attack at the Gaudiya Math,

another attack was made by a pack of dogs at Surabhi Goshala in Radha Kund. Two calves were savaged by time the cowherd men could chase the dogs away but fortunately the calves survived the shock of the attack. Their injuries were extensive and the local doctor was called to treat them in Sudevi's absence. Two weeks later they were transferred to CFC for ongoing treatment and remain under our care today. Their names are Rukmini and Sati and they are



A sorry load is delivered to CFC



Dog attack survivors Rukmini and Sati recuperating together

ideal patients. Rukmini arrived with a chunk of flesh torn out of her left elbow, a deep puncture wound on the inside of her right back leg, and superficial teeth and nail marks on her legs. After two weeks of care her smaller injuries had all healed and the elbow wound was making sensational progress.

The wound is cleaned thoroughly on a daily basis with cotton swabs of diluted iodine, sprayed with a debriding solution, and packed with sugar which promotes rapid new cell growth. A wound pad covers the wound and a cloth is tied over her shoulder to keep everything in place for the next 24 hours. An insect repeller is coated on the cloth at the site to keep flies and ants away.

By month end Rukmini's wound has completely filled out and is in the final stage of healing.



After cleansing the wound with diluted iodine a debriding agent is sprayed on the wound



Sugar, which helps in debriding and healing, is packed over the wound



A clean cloth is tied in place over a wound pad, which keeps the wound safely covered



13 July 2007 - Rukmini's wound at first cleaning on arrival at CFC



28 July 2007 - Rukmini's wound shows excellent healing after 15 days of care



Rukmini's only duty is to eat well and gets lots of rest - Doctors Orders!



Sati is carefully lifted down from the truck and slowly walked to the Cow Recovery Ward



Dr Lavania cleans Sati's wound moments after her arrival at CFC

Sati, the older calf in the dog attack sustained the worst injuries with a large chunk of flesh stripped from the bone at her shoulder. A deep seated pocket of infection in her right underarm has cleared and the wound is reducing in size as it heals. Her whole body is scarred with teeth and scratch marks sustained in the attack. As she heals she needs nutritious food, rest, and lots of love and encouragement.



Upon arrival - an exposed chipped and cracked bone is surrounded by a contaminated wound



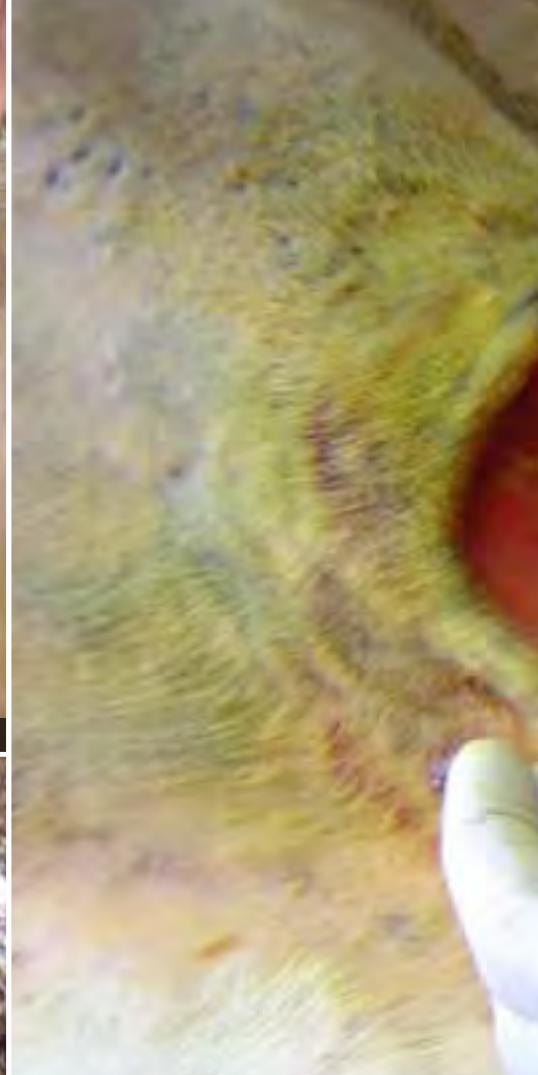
Dr Lavania packs a deep narrow wound under the arm



Syringes of diluted iodine are flushed under the wound edges, into underlying pockets



Using sterile forceps cotton swabs clean every nook and corner



At Care for Cows we believe that cleanliness is the key to successful wound management. If an uncomplicated wound is kept clean and free of debris, infection and flies, we've seen that nature takes it's course and rebuilds and remolds layer upon layer in inconceivable ways. If complications do arise in the course of wound treatment, the setbacks must be dealt with immediately and closely monitored.



Unpasteurized honey is squeezed through a long sterile nozzle into hard to reach places



Cane sugar is packed over the surface of the wound



A large wound pad is extended over the spine and under a cloth belt tied on the right



A clean cloth is draped over the shoulder and fixes the pad in place



13 July 2007 - Sati's demeanor is testimony of her dejection and suffering. Her wound is infected and squirming with maggots.



28 July 2007 - Sati looks as bright and effulgent as her wound, which is flourishing with healthy new tissue that is gradually covering the exposed bones

Life on the Streets

A close-up photograph of a grey cow with a white patch on its face, nibbling on a large, textured burlap bag filled with hay. The bag is mounted on a wooden cart. In the background, a red wall with a window and a blue-painted phone number 'PH: 2444036' is visible. The scene is set outdoors, likely on a street in a rural or semi-rural area.

An abandoned cow nibbles from a bag of hay loaded on a cart. As Vraja's pasturing grounds disappear Vrindavan's cows are feeling the pinch. Help secure land for abandoned cows by donating to the Care for Cows in Vrindavan Land Fund.



Above:
One of the sixty clean, peaceful and noble residents at Gopal Ghat
Left:
Haridas Shastriji Majaraja feeding his bulls *laddhus* every afternoon



Bull Sanctuary

Today it is a common and accepted practice for *goshallas* to put their bulls on the street as soon as their mothers dry up. In complete contrast to this, Haridas Shastri Maharaja has built a first-class facility in Gopal Ghat where he keeps the male offspring produced in his Kaliya Daha goshalla. Indeed it is a bull sanctuary.

A large hall hosting sixty bulls has been completed and the second one is scheduled to be finished in one month. The hall is roomy, immaculate, well lit and ventilated. The floors

are canted so that the urine is channeled out and it is easy to clean. It has a rough brick floor to prevent accidental slipping and the walls have exhaust fans in several places near the ceiling to expell the hot air.

Each bull has his own feeder and water tank and they are fed to their

full satisfaction. They are bathed regularly and have ample place for recreation and sitting. The bright faces of the bulls unmistakably testify that they are satisfied and happy. Their eyes light up when Maharaja appears every afternoon to place a laddu in each and every





G
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R
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R
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J



Did You Know?

Vrindavan cows can change colors!

Just as there is a striking difference in temperature between Vrindavan summer and winter, so too is the color variation our cows adapt during these seasons, wearing rich dark coats for winter and cool light colors in the summer

B
H
I
M
A



Bhima in winter black



Bhima, the same bull, in his summer colors



RANGINI



GOVARDHAN



VAN KRISHNA

In January VK's color was predominately brown

In March he was losing the brown coat from his neck

July - VK's face color is the same, his body is blue

August



Hamsi

Our former owner took us to the Govardhana Animal Fair and sold us to a Vrajabasi family. Our new owners transported us to Vrindavan and kept us in room in their house. While it was nice to live with a family, it was not safe for us as the floors were slick and easy to slip on. A few days after we got there, my Mom slipped and her legs split wide and she broke her pelvis. Dr. Lavania was called to examine her and said that she would not be able to ever stand again. He recommended that they bring her to Care for Cows so she could be served like the other downed cows there. They took his advice and moved us there where they treated my Mom for bed sores and the scratches she sustained while moving her. She was not comfortable and I had to nurse from her while she sat down. After two weeks she passed on and they made arrangements for me to nurse from Mangala and Sanjivani. So I am doing OK despite the unfortunate circumstances.



Karuna

They call me Karuna as I am very merciful and kind. I am getting on in years and am very peaceful and gentle. My last calf Sandhya is the joy of my life and we spend many happy hours together resting in the bowers of Belvan.



Sandhya

It is a benediction to have an elderly mother as she is very experienced in taking good care of calves. She provides me enough milk and always offers loving encouragement. She is the epitome of good and I hope to become exactly like her.



Marwari

I came from Marwar and thus they call me Marwari. I was brought to Belvan to work but I did not show much inclination for that. Who wants to work for someone who offers no respect? It was a long battle but I was determined not to give in. Finally my owner gave up on me and brought me to Care for Cows where I am living peacefully. My new caretakers respect bulls so I may change my mind. Let's see.



Phalguni

I am a bit slow and very docile so my former owner used to call me Phaddi just to poke fun at me. I grew up in Belvan and am happy to be so close to the Yamuna. You may have seen my photo among the swimming cows. Actually I am one of the best swimmers and have taught many of the calves how to swim. I hope to stay spend the rest of my days here sending blessings to whoever decides to sponsor me.

Admissions



Rani

I was saved from having to go to the slaughterhouse by Naga Baba. I was one of the first to be brought to Belvan and I have been cared for here by Giri Maharaja since that time. I am very grateful to both of them for their diligent care. I have had several calves since my arrival, the latest being Nandu who is a powerhouse of energy.



Nandu

I was born under one of the beautiful trees of Belvan and have been well taken care of since then. When my Mom goes out to graze, I stay behind here and sport with the other calves. Sometimes we chase peacocks or just hang around being peaceful. You could say I am enjoying the easy life here.



Sati

I was attacked by hungry dogs in Radha Kund and they took a substantial chunk out of my shoulder. Were it not for some kind people like yourselves, I would have certainly suffered a slow and painful death. Thanks to all of you I am now well on my way to recovery and should be able to live a normal life soon.



Rukmini

I was also attacked by dogs in Radha Kund. Except for kicking and fleeing, we cows have no way to defend ourselves. Our greatest enemies are the street dogs and of course reckless humans. The happy side of my story is that I am recovering quickly and will be back to normal within a month. Wish me luck.

**Connect
to
Vrindavan**

**by
sponsoring
one or more
of our
many
residents**



CARE FOR COWS
IN VRINDAVAN

Baba is Missing!

Baba's mother died on a cold winter day when he was four-days-old and we had to purchase milk and bottle-feed him to keep him alive. At night we kept him inside an apartment next to the *goshalla* and during the day he would bask in the winter sun. As long as he had his milk, he didn't mind being an orphan since the other cows naturally looked after him.

He grew quickly, became healthy, showed much determination and was competitive in spirit. Padmalochana became like his older brother and they would spar for many hours together strengthening their necks. Soon Padma

was trained to pull the school bus and Baba was left behind as he was considerably smaller and not a suitable partner of any of the other working bulls. But when Padma would return from his service, he and Baba would continue their friendly sparring matches in the afternoon.

Later Baba began his training and at times would pull the cart with Padma. He was strong and took it as a challenge and an opportunity to become stronger. But unfortunately, one day after the shoe-fitter had tied Baba's three legs together at the ankles so he could change his shoes, Baba

shook in disapproval and in the process dislocated his leg at the hip. Several attempts to correct the malady were unsuccessful and for almost a year he had a painful limp which left him irritable, unfriendly and unable to work.

In his frustration he would sometimes attack the cowherd men and toss them in the air. After a few such incidents we thought he might be happier in Belvan and that swimming may help the condition of his hip. We walked him there and he approved of the change.

During the summer season we pay two cowherd men to take our herd across the Yamuna to



getting bottle-fed



at three-months old



at two-years old



sparring with Padma

graze in the empty wheat and barley fields. Baba would happily go among them. One day when the herd came back to Belvan we noticed that Baba was missing. We immediately suspected that he had been stolen since he had a nose harness and could be controlled by any one who caught it. We knew that no one would steal him

for draft purposes owing to his visible limp, so we suspected he had been stolen to be sold to the butchers.

We told the cowherd men who had taken him out that if they didn't return him, we would call the police. We accused them of accepting some payment to let the butchers take him. They pleaded with us not to involve the police and promised to bring him back the next day.

The next day we sent a cowherd man from our Sundrakh facility to the villages across from Belvan to search for Baba. We

found out that one of those villages is where cows and bulls are held before they are sold to the butchers. We feared Baba may be there and sent our man along with a photo of Baba to rescue him by any means including purchasing him if necessary. Upon arriving to the first village he showed the photo to some residents there, one

of whom recognized him. He reported that he had seen a bull like him on the western outskirts of the village. Our cowherd man rushed there only to meet the cowherd from Belvan who was walking Baba back home. It turned out that Baba had followed a cow in heat into the village where they had spent a two-day honeymoon.



Thank You From the Cows



The cows send their heartfelt thanks to those who assisted during July 2007

Advaitacarya dasa, India

Alessandra Petrassi, Italy

Alla Nikolayeva, USA

Ananda dasa, Guatemala

Anastasia Tsitsishvili, USA

Anon, Singapore

Arundhati dasi, USA

Asi-kunda dasi, Australia

Carl & Stella Herzig, USA

David Kasanow, USA

David Thornton, USA

Dhruva Maharaja Dasa, India

Dina Sarana dasa, USA

Hemanth Ramanna, USA

Hendrika Hartsuyker, Belgium

Igor Drljevic, USA

Isani dasi, Holland

ISCOWP, USA

Jayaraman Gopalan, USA

Judith Tallent, USA

Kamadhenu dasi, Poland

Kamlesh Patel, USA

Kathleen Fink, USA

Laksman dasa, India

Marianna Polonsky, USA

Mariya Genina, USA

Mayapur, Chandra, Champaka, &

Padmavati, India

Michael Meshuris, USA

Nanda dasi, India

Nandarani dasi, USA

Nayan Ruparelia, UK

Padma Sambhava dasa, NZ

Param dasa, India

Pradipta Chatterjee, USA

Pranil Bharath, South Africa

Purnamasi dasi, Portugal

Radha Caran & Krsnamayi, India

Radha Jivan dasa, India

Radha Mohan Sevak, India

Radhapati dasa, India

Rafal Wilejto, USA

Spirit of the East, UK

Sravanananda dasa, USA

Steve Kreyenin, USA

Suan Ng, UK

Subra. Thambyrajah, Malaysia

Sudarshana dasa, Singapore

Suresh Vagjiani, UK

Svetlana Kravchenko, USA

Vaninath dasa, USA

Vera Elizarova, USA

Vidyasagar Lokhande, USA

Visvambhara Priya dasi, USA

May cows stay in front of me; may cows stay behind me; may cows stay on both sides of me.
May I always reside in the midst of cows. — Hari Bhakti-vilas 16.252