

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #12 8 MARCH 2007



Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
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ABBOT'S REPORT

My heartfelt thanks to all who have helped (even just a little) with our new hall construction – including past and future beings. We will complete a fundamental stage at our centre when the hall is complete - making way for us to continue our activities.

Waking up is what our hall is for – generating merit for anyone who helps with building it, and creating an appropriate space for beings to be able to sit in meditation to see for themselves. We must not forget to do this- do not get stuck on only making merit – we also must practice.

With this in mind, I request members to make every effort to attend our Saturday night teachings and bring flowers to place on our altars.

I love you and look forward to seeing you all.

~Anita Carter

MEMBERS BUILD OUR NEW MEDITATION HALL AND LIBRARY

Completing the construction of our new hall is our number one priority. In our last Bulletin we set a target - to have the building painted inside and at lock up, with the floor underneath the Padmasambhava image completed for the Vietnamese Temple Members Chinese New Year Pilgrimage.

Well done to us all for completing the work in time either by labour, or donation of such things as the doors and architraves. Thank you to George for your continued support and advice.

Now we have set a target for a major stage of the construction by planning the date for the Buddhist Discussion Centre to commence moving in to the building. We are on target with the electrician having installed the lighting and power.

On Wednesday 14 March Frank delivered the new carpet which has been in storage. It will be rolled out for one week so that the bumps and curves can flatten out before it is laid. The carpet which was donated to us by the company David Ley works for is new. It was pulled up from a new office block when the first tenant choose another colour carpet for the offices.

A professional carpet layer will do the work at a cost of between \$400 and \$500. He has the difficulty of cutting and joining many pieces of carpet which have underlay glued to them into one uniform whole for the area. Donations towards this cost would be appreciated.

Thank you to past Member June Young for helping us rebuild and restore the Padmasambhava image. Thank you to Melba (\$1000) and Frank (\$500) for each offering dana towards the electricity and carpets for the new hall.

Once we have moved in more funds are still needed to install a Rinnai gas heater before the Winter

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAYS	MEMBERS' DAY - BUILDING OF THE NEW MEDITATION HALL
SATURDAY EVENINGS	BUDDHA DHAMMA TEACHINGS BY THE VENERABLE SANGHA AND/OR MEDITATION GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER
SATURDAYS	INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM CLASSES 11.00AM
17 MARCH -	SUMI-E CLASS
24 - 25 MARCH	COMMENCE MOVING INTO THE NEW HALL
31 MARCH -	CHAN CLASS AT THE CENTRE STARTING 11.00AM
31 MARCH -	GENERAL MEETING 5.30 PM
6 - 10 APRIL	EASTER BHAVANA COURSE

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months, to install flywire screens and to purchase wood for the front and rear stairs and decks.

All are invited to take part in this rare building project. Please set aside time on the weekend of 24 – 25 March to help us move the library into its new home. We build every Saturday and some mid week days so please come along. Lunch & refreshments are provided.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS- LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30PM

Our next General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday the 31 March 2007 all Members are encouraged to attend. We require a quorum of 7 members to conduct a general meeting.

FUEL REDUCTION

As the fire season approaches, a fire fuel reduction program will be undertaken at our Centre particularly on Saturdays over the next few months.

Please assist as this is a most important precaution we need to attend to throughout the fire risk season.

DINNER AND GROCERY SHOPPING ROSTERS

Thank you for the great response to our request for Members to help Anita by cooking one meal a week at the Centre as an offering.

As a result all the evening meals accept on Saturday evening are now being prepared and offered by Members or Amber who does Monday evenings. This is a huge help to support our Teacher Anita.

If anyone wishes to offer the Saturday evening meal please see Frank or Anita.

Any Member who can help out by offering money towards the weekly shopping please see Frank.

VIETNAMESE BUDDHIST VISIT

The visit to our Centre this year by Hoa Nghiem Temple from Springvale to celebrate Chinese New Year was a great success. Our Heavenly Dhamma Garden from the Sariputta Room to the entrance of the new hall was standing room only for quite a while.

Venerable Tam expressed his gratitude to John Hughes and Julie O'Donnell for their help some years ago when Hoa Nghiem Temple was trying to obtain a Planning Permit to build their new Temple on Springvale Road. After John's visit Venerable recalled that some issues they had been having with neighbours were resolved and their permit application was successful.

For next years visit it will be easier for traffic flow if we move the Padmasambhava image right to the back of the hall so many more visitors can enter together.

\$2,800 approximately was donated by our guests on the day with a further \$1,850 being received in the subsequent weeks for the 1000 Buddhas Project.

Angus McGuckian who is a Planning Manager at the Shire of Yarra Ranges has offered to review the conditions on our planning permit for the hall to make it easier for us to arrange and conduct the Vietnamese visits next year.

FUNDS RAISED FOR THE DHAMMARAJIKA ORPHANAGE

Mrs Leah Annetta who is a regular contributor to our Bangladesh stand at the Camberwell Market each week contacted us some weeks ago to find out more about the history and services provided by the Dhammarajika orphanage.

Leah was planning a birthday party for her daughter Amber and they had decided they would rather invite Ambers birthday party guests to make a donation to the orphanage instead of buying birthday

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presents.

The result of their kindness was that they raised \$710 from the party! We thank Leah and Amber and your generous guests for providing a wonderful gift for many other children from your special day.

These funds together with the amount we have in our account will be transferred to Bangladesh in the next few weeks.

THE SCHOOL OF SEMARA TANTRA

H.R.H Princess Marianne Maitrie Pandji Sakti and The School of Semara Tantra are conducting intensive courses in the art of transformation, refinement and inner confidence. Princess Marianne is wife of the late H.E. Prince Ratu Pandji Pandita, Lineage Holdor of the Indonesian Vajrayana Buddhist Tradition.

Princess Maitrie has offered to run a course over two consecutive Saturdays at the Centre for our Members on 19th and 26th of May at the reduced cost of \$50.00 per person. Members who are interested please see Anita Carter.

ANITA'S SCHEDULED WEEKDAY AT THE CENTRE

Anita has recently changed her weekly day off work from Mondays to Fridays. This will give her a day's rest prior to the weekend events and Teachings.

Members are invited to come to the Centre during the week to use our excellent library resources, or meditate in the hall, or help out with administration, digitising, printing, gardening, or the many other things needed to run the centre. Most days Frank is available to help you get started.

EASTER SUNDAY FUNDRAISING FLOWER STALL

We will not be running an Easter Flower Stall this year as we would prefer to focus our effort and attention on the final stages of moving into the new

hall and library. In recent years the Easter Stall has generated approximately \$250 profit.

SATURDAY MORNING INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM CLASSES

Anita is giving a class every Saturday morning from 11.00am which is an introduction to Buddhism. If you know anyone who would be interested in learning about Buddhism please invite them to come along to the class.