

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #19 APRIL 2008

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

Dear friends in the Dhamma,

To wake up we need to collect merit & wisdom. Versak is an especially auspicious time to do so. There is a great opportunity for us to do this this Versak..

This Versak will be celebrated on Tuesday 20th May 2008. We will hold Versak meditation at our Centre at 13:47 (1:47pm) as this is the full moon time according to Victoria Museum Planetarium. We will commence with chanting and then sit in meditation from 1:30pm to 2pm.

In the evening we will attend the UN Versak Day Celebrations from 6pm to 9:30pm. We have offered to help with this event – please come and help. I suggest you request the day off work for spiritual practice . I highly recommend this as it can generate many many powerful blessings for you and for all beings.

On Saturday 24th May at 1pm we will have a ceremony to install our Buddha images in the meditation hall. I wish to see you all there.

..... ~Anita Carter

ONE THOUSAND BUDDHAS OFFERING

Good news. The images have arrived. We will be collecting them this week. An Installation Ceremony will be held on the 24th of May, as part of our Versak celebrations. We will be inviting guests from the four Vietnamese Buddhist Temples who generously sponsored many of these images.

We request Members who have offered to sponsor part of the additional \$2 per image to please provide this money to the centre ASAP so we can have all the funds needed for the payment of the images.

IMPORTANT DATES

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| SATURDAY WEEKLY | MEMBERS' DAY 11.00AM BUDDHISM CLASS FOR BEGINNERS & CONTINUERS |
| SATURDAY EVENINGS | 8.00PM BUDDHA DHAMMA TEACHINGS BY THE VENERABLE SANGHA AND/OR MEDITATION GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER |
| SUNDAY WEEKLY | BUDDHIST HOUR RADIO PROGRAM 4.00PM – 5.00PM LIVE ON 3MDR 97.1FM |
| 19 TH APRIL | 2:30PM – GLEN PARK DHAMMA TALK 7PM GURU PUJA |
| 16 TH & 23 RD APRIL | 7.30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT DHAMMA TEACHING (LAST TWO) AT BURRENJA, UPWEY |
| 26 TH APRIL | 2.00PM CHAN PAINTING CLASS TAUGHT BY MELBA NIELSON. 5:30PM GENERAL MEETING 6PM DINNER PARTY |
| 3 RD MAY | 7.00PM ANITA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY |
| 4 TH MAY | 6AM / 9AM CAMBERWELL MARKET |
| 11 TH MAY | MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER STALL |
| 17 TH MAY | 7 PM GURU PUJA |
| TUESDAY 20 TH MAY | 1.30PM VERSAK MEDITATION AT CENTRE 6 – 9.30PM, VERSAK UN CELEBRATION SPRINGVALE TOWN HALL |
| SATURDAY 24 TH MAY | 1PM INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE FIRST FOUR HUNDRED 1000 BUDDHA IMAGES 5.30PM GENEAL MEETING |

GURU PUJA NOW PART OF MONTHLY PROGRAM

A Guru Puja will be held at the centre on the third Saturday of each month at 7pm to make many causes for the long life of our Temple and causes and blessings for the students to learn the Dhamma.

The next of these Pujas will be held on the 19th of April 2008.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday the 26th April at 5.30pm. All Members

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are encouraged to attend to support our Centre. We require a quorum of 7 members to conduct our General Meetings.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEACHINGS THANK YOU DINNER PARTY

A 'Thank You' dinner party will be held on Saturday 26th April at 6pm in celebration of the Wednesday night teaching course.

We thank Venerable Liv Peo, Abbot of Wat Dhammaram, Springvale and Venerable Wimalananda, Abbot, Shakyamuni Sambuddha Vihara in Berwick for blessing the teaching with their presence.

We invite all Members and persons who attended the Wednesday evening classes at Burrinja to join us for this dinner. It will be a great way for us to meet and get to know each other, as well as all being able to participate in the meditation class that evening. We are making inquiries to see if the Burmese Monk Venerable U Pandita will attend to give a Dhamma talk at 8.00pm.



Wednesday Night Dhamma Teaching Class on the 12th of March with Venerable Liv Peo and Venerable Wimalananda.

COMMUNITY INTEREST IN BUDDHISM

On Saturday 19th of April at 2.30pm Frank and Anita will be giving a talk on Buddhism at the Glen Park Community House in Bayswater.

If there is sufficient interest at this talk our centre will conduct a 10 week course at the Community House (similar to our current course at Burrinja) starting on Thursday the 1st May at 7.30pm.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER STALL

This year we are planning to conduct two flower stalls for fundraising on Mother's Day Sunday the 11th of May. One of these will be at the site we have been using in Wantirna and the second one is a new site in Narre Warren.

We need as many helpers as we can get to ensure we have enough support for the two stalls. This event is most important for our centre to replace some of the income reduction we will experience as a result of reducing our Camberwell Market Stall to once per month. Also it is a wonderful merit maker for all who participate.

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF VERSAK CELEBRATION MEETING.

The United Nations International Day of Versak will be held at the Springvale City Hall in Springvale on the Full Moon Day of Tuesday 20 May 2008.

The Interim Organising Committee, Chaired by Ven Thich Phuoc Tan met at Hoa Nghiem Temple in Springvale on 18 February 2008. The meeting was attended by Members of the Sangha, their attendants and our representatives Anita and Frank Carter.

The inaugural International Day of Versak celebration will commence at 6pm with a Youth Seminar, followed with the main ceremony at



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7.00pm till 8.30pm. The ceremony will be opened with an address by the United Nations Representative and messages from Federal, State and Local Government.

A Dhamma talk will be given by a senior Member of the Sangha.

The ceremony program shall include chanting from the Theravada, Mahayana and Vajrayana traditions. The evening shall conclude with a cultural program from 8.30pm to 9.30pm.

On the full moon day in May each year following a resolution of the 54th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1999, the United Nations has marked the birth, enlightenment and passing away of Siddhartha Gautama Buddha some 2500 years ago, and pays tribute to the contributions that Buddhism has made to the world's search for peace.

VENERABLE ASHIN U PANDITA VISIT

Venerable U Pandita, Abbot of the Dhamma Sukha Burmese Temple located in Springvale, has kindly accepted our invitation to visit our Centre on some Saturday evenings to give Dhamma teachings and instruction.

Venerable is an excellent Dhamma teacher and is invited by the Buddhist Society of Victoria to give weekly teachings at their centre in Malvern as well as giving talks at the Buddhist Summer School and other venues in Australia and overseas.

He is currently in Indonesia conducting a retreat program in the Mahasi Sayadaw tradition and will be returning to Australia in about three weeks. Venerable's English is very clear and it will be a great blessing for us to host his visits.

We enthusiastically recommend all Members to make it a priority to attend these teachings.

OPENING CEREMONY OF SHAKYAMUNI SAMBUDDHA VIHARA

The Opening Ceremony of the Shakyamuni Sambuddha Vihara's new Library and Hall was held on Saturday 29 March 2008.

Anita, Frank, Leonie and Adam attended as representatives of our centre. There were about 30 monks present and approximately 500 laypersons.

The new library and hall is a beautiful facility which can seat several hundred persons comfortably.

DHAMMARAJIKA ORPHANAGE IN BANGLADESH

We recently received an email from Venerable Suddhananda asking that we convey his deep gratitude to our Members who have contributed to the support of the children of the Dhammarajika Orphanage. He hoped we would continue to think of their welfare. He said the children need our love and kindness at this difficult time.

Bangladesh is currently experiencing rapid price increases for basic foods such as rice and this is impacting severely on the orphanage.

Any Member who wishes to contribute money to the orphanage please place it in an envelope in the Dana box with Bangladesh Orphanage written on the envelope.

WWW.BUDDHAVIEW.ORG. PHOTOS UPLOADED

Members are encouraged to visit our Buddha View website as Julian has been regularly uploading many photos from both recent and past events. Some photos uploaded recently have included the 2008 Vietnamese Visits, the New Hall construction, Andre Sollier Teachings at Upwey and photos of Anita and Friends at the Centre in 2005.