

# BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #22, 1 OCTOBER 2008

Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.  
A.C.N. 005 701 806 A.B.N. 42 611 496 488  
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## ABBOT'S REPORT

Dear Friends in the Dhamma,

“When your Temple is as important as your life, you've got it!” John D. Hughes 2003.

You must wake up to the ultimate truth before you die. I mean really see it – when one has seen Nibbana for oneself, then one can really know what is Buddha Dhamma. Only then can you have some peace of mind when you die.

If you wish to do this, then become an avid student of Buddha Dhamma. Come to our classes at least for two years with a plan to learn how to meditate to get to insight wisdom and plan for a three-month retreat in one to five years time.

Plan the two years well in advance – organise your family, work, health and finances. During the two years, plan to come to every class and attend every major event. Inform your family of your intentions so there are no surprises for them – make sure they understand. They are an important part of your life.

Learn the theory of Buddha Dhamma at classes and how to apply it to your everyday life. Practice – put what you learn into action immediately. Make merit at the Centre on a weekly basis to fuel your learning and insight development. I guarantee that by following this methodology you will be successful.

In this way, your Temple (Centre) becomes as important as your life.

I love you all, Anita M. Carter

## LIVE BETTER WITH METTA! OUR 2008 SLOGAN DEVELOPING OUR METTA PRACTICE.

This involves chanting the metta sutta in Pali and English everyday, daily metta meditation using Venerable Mahinda's instructions on CD and sending metta to each person you meet. “It is through Love alone that hate is concurred”

- The Buddha, Dhammapada

## IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAY WEEKLY	MEMBERS' DAY 11.00AM BUDDHISM CLASS FOR BEGINNERS & CONTINUERS
SATURDAY EVENINGS	8.00PM BUDDHA DHAMMA MEDITATION TEACHING BY VENERABLE SANGHA OR GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER
5 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SUNDAY	CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL
11 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SATURDAY	2.00- 4.00PM SUMI-E CLASS (SECOND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH)
18 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SATURDAY	GURU PUJA
19 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SUNDAY	9.00AM KATHINA CEREMONY SAKYAMUNI SAMBUDDHA VIHARA - BERWICK
25 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SATURDAY	10.00AM CHAN CLASS TAUGHT BY MELBA NIELSEN 2:00PM GENERAL MEETING
2 <sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER SUNDAY	CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL
8 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER SATURDAY	9.00AM KATHINA CEREMONY MELBOURNE THAI BUDDHIST CENTRE - COLLINGWOOD TOWN HALL 2.00PM SUMI-E CLASS WITH JAN BENNETT
9 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER SUNDAY	10.00- 4.00PM WFB DELEGATION PREPARATION MEETING AND BDC(U) LTD CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 10-2PM
10 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER MONDAY	10.00-4.00PM WFB DELEGATION PREPARATIONS
11 <sup>TH</sup> November Tuesday	10.00-4.00PM WFB PREPARATIONS
12 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER WEDNESDAY	4:45AM WFB DELEGATION LEAVE CENTRE TO ARRIVE AT MELBOURNE AIRPORT 6.00AM

## CHAN PAINTING EXHIBITION

The Chan Academy held it's first annual painting exhibition titled “The Four Seasons, The Four Friends” at Burrinja Gallery in Upwey from the 9th-24th August 2008.

It was a great success. Congratulations to Melba and Helen for a great event. Thank you to all artists and helpers for their contributions. We are already planning for next year's exhibition, possibly being

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held in June 2009. So, get painting!!!!

Total sales : \$2850 inc GST.

Gallery fee 35% of sales plus \$240 Gallery charge.

Profit from the event for the Chan Academy was \$300

The balance was paid to Melba Nielsen and Jan Bennett for painting sales.

## WORLD FELLOWSHIP OF BUDDHISTS (WFB) CONFERENCE 14<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008, JAPAN.

Anita Carter, Frank Carter, Tanya Poynton, Helen Costas and Adam Richards are our members who will be going to the conference. They will depart on the November the 12<sup>th</sup> and return on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November.

### Why are we a WFB Regional Centre?

We decided to join the WFB in 1990 because it provided the following opportunities for our Members:

- To help build networks for the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd and its Members and other organisation and individuals within the Buddhist world.
- To help sustain the Sasana through action.
- To make big MERITS.
- To develop the five styles of: Friendliness, Professionalism, Practicality, Cultural adaptability and scholarship.

**The origin:** The World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB) was founded on May 25 B.E.2493 (1950) in Colombo, Sri Lanka, where representatives from 27 countries in Asia, Europe and North America (including Hawaii) met for this purpose. Nearly every school of Buddhism in the Mahayana, Theravada, and Vajrayana traditions was represented by members of the Sangha as well as laity. This was probably the first time in the history of Buddhism that such a gathering was held. Thus founded, the

WFB represents the common interests of Buddhists throughout the world numbering hundreds of millions.

### Aims and Objectives:

The Aims and Objectives of the World Fellowship of Buddhists are

1. To promote among the members strict observance and practice of the teachings of the Buddha;
2. To secure unity, solidarity, and brotherhood amongst Buddhists;
3. To propagate the sublime doctrine of the Buddha;
4. To organise and carry on activities in the field of social, educational, cultural and other humanitarian services.

### GURU PUJA PART OF OUR MONTHLY PROGRAM

The Guru Puja is designed to develop deep gratitude to our Teacher and Teachers, all the way back to the Buddha of this age. It is to help us stay connected with our Teacher, John D. Hughes and makes the causes for us to meet again.

The Guru Puja is designed to request help and guidance to ensure that the Centre is operating according to the rules laid down by the Founder to ensure our Centre last for at least 500 years. It is designed to develop confidence in our ability to run this Centre within the Triple Gem.

### ONE THOUSAND BUDDHAS OFFERING

To celebrate the 30 years since the Founding of the Buddhist Discussion Centre in 1978, we held an installation of Buddha images ceremony in the new hall on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Members and friends offered Dana to Venerable Monks which was followed by blessing of the Buddha images, and then installing the images around the inside of the hall. Thank you to all for their effort and time.

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Photo: Venerable Sangha with Members and Friends on Founders Day 9 September 2008. Above the main altar are some of the Buddha Images which were installed in the John D Hughes Dhamma Cetiya on 6 September 2008. See photos of the installation on [www.buddhaview.org.au](http://www.buddhaview.org.au)

## BHAVANA COURSE

Our fourth Bhavana Course for this year will be held from 26th December to 31st December 2008.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to our newest Members, Sue Goodes and Peter Marshall. It is great to have you with us.

Peter attended the Centre many years ago in our Foundation years and has already commenced helping with the Library and on the Digitisation

Project.

Sue teamed up with Daniel White and Julian Bamford on Sunday 28th September to attend the Cambodian Pchum Ben (Festival of All Souls) Ceremony at Wat Buddharingi, 129 Clarke Road in Springvale.

## 'LOOSE CHANGE' MERIT-DANA JARS FUNDRAISER

We are starting our new Dana Jars Fundraiser this month. Offer your loose change into a Dana Jar and help with fundraising for our many projects and the ongoing maintenance of our Temple.

Please see Adam, who is looking after the Dana Jar Fundraising Project and he will provide you with a jar.

Each three months we will give you a call and ask you to bring in all the loose change you have collected. Thank you.

## FLOWER STALL FUNDRAISERS

Our next flower stall fundraiser is on Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December 2008. We need as many Members as possible to help as this is one of our biggest fundraisers for the year. Please see Frank.

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

Any person who is volunteering at an organisation and may find themselves in contact with children, must be registered under the Working with Children Act 2005.

As we do have children attend our Centre, to avoid any possibility of non-compliance, we are requesting all our members to complete an application form at your earliest convenience.

Forms are available at the Centre or at your nearest Post Office.

Once completed you need to take the form to the post office and provide identification for a 100 point check - eg. passport, licence and Medicare

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card.

The penalties for both the individual and the organisation for failing to comply with the act are severe.

## BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.

As part of our Buildings Maintenance Program for the next few months we be focussing on the following five projects:

1. Northern Gate Bell Tower Reconstruction.
2. Second coat of paint on the Meditation Hall.
3. Replacing rotten planks on the Sariputta Room external walls and repainting.
4. Completing the insulation of Suite 4.
5. Re-configuration of the car parking area.

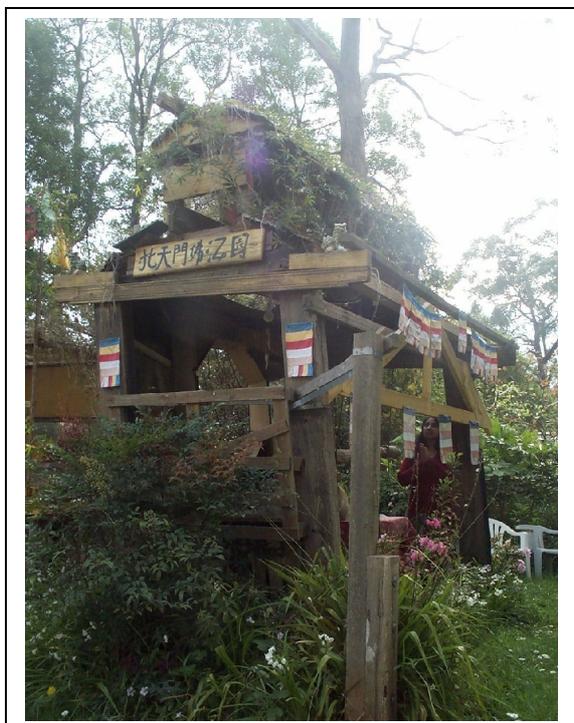


Photo: Our Abbot Anita Carter explained the planned Reconstruction of the Northern Gate Bell Tower to the Heavenly protectors on Saturday 27 September 2008, prior the commencement of the work.

## KATHINA CEREMONY

There are two Kathina ceremonies coming up in October that Members may like to attend.

These are two opportunities to generate vast causes to meet the Buddha Dhamma again and make big MERITS.

The Kathina ceremony is where the lay people offer new robes to the Sangha. It marks the end of the rains retreat.

The Rains retreat (Vassa) is a period of three months of the year decided by the Buddha - during the rainy season in India. During this period Monks must stay in one place and not travel out of their area. The Buddha arranged the rains retreat in response to the problem experienced by the paddy field farmers during the rainy season and the Monk's having their robes becoming wet and muddied. The paddy fields become very soft and full of water and this is the time the farmers plant their rice fields.

Whilst the Monks were walking through the fields, many crops were being destroyed and the Monk's robes become muddy and torn. So to help protect the rice fields from Monks trampling on them and reduce the weather effect on the Monk's robes while they were on their alms rounds the rains retreat was designed. To mark the end of the rains' retreat, the lay people offer a set of new robes to the Sangha.

The offering of robes to the Sangha generates the following blessings: strong body, good health, protection, long life, easy along the Buddha Dhamma path, the cause to a member of the Sangha in the future.

**So if you wish to offer a robes please see Anita or Adam.**

**One robe will cost \$50. Or you may donate a lesser amount to be part of a joint offering. This money will need to be collected two weeks prior to the Kathina.**