

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #25, APRIL 2009

BUDDHIST DISCUSSION CENTRE (UPWEY) LTD.
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ABBOT'S REPORT

We are well on our way to UN Vesak Day commemoration. This event is a remarkable one this year as it is the first Victorian based event contributed to by 27 Buddhist temples. All students and members will be joining in.

Why are Buddhists so interested in their community when the teachings are about non-self and non-attachment? It is because in order to realise these profound wisdoms, one must begin by living their life truthfully. This means to live with purpose and awareness of what it is one is doing – not just living a life in ritual.

Really engaging with one's life to see the truth about it. It is about being mindful about one's intentions in everyday life. So we practice mindfulness, metta, kindness and morality in relation to our life, our family, our relationships, our work and our community – all things very similar to most other religions. This action accumulates many merits for the person and one can then use this merit in meditation. It is in meditation that one will start to see how one clings to things and can see the wisdom that is needed to stop the mind craving. So these events are also very important in generating good relationships between the various temples and other faiths.

Our recent 5 Day Bhavana course – Personal self habit and Phenomenal self habit with commentary by John D. Hughes has been attended by 11 students. The basic teachings being studied are about the concept of non-self – selflessness. That all things are without intrinsic nature. Then seeing how this affects our view of everyday life and our behaviour. Once this is realised by the mind, it has a powerful effect in changing one's view about the world and helps the mind to stop craving.

With metta,
Anita Carter

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAY WEEKLY	MEMBERS' DAY LEARN TO PRACTICE BUDDHISM CLASS, 11:00AM NEW!
SATURDAY EVENINGS	BUDDHA DHAMMA MEDITATION TEACHING BY VENERABLE SANGHA OR GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER, 8.00PM
SUNDAY WEEKLY	BUDDHIST HOUR RADIO, 4:00-5:00PM
10-14 APRIL	AUTUMN BHAVANA COURSE
11 APRIL SATURDAY	SUMI-E CLASS, 2:00-4:00PM (SECOND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH)
18 APRIL SATURDAY	UN VESAK FUNDRAISING DINNER, 7PM
25 APRIL SATURDAY	CHAN CLASS TAUGHT BY MELBA NIELSEN, 10.00AM
2 MAY SATURDAY	GENERAL MEETING, 2:00PM
3 MAY SUNDAY	CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL
9 MAY SATURDAY	UN VESAK DAY COMMEMORATION, MELBOURNE TOWN HALL
10 MAY SUNDAY	MOTHERS DAY FLOWER STALL
2 - 22 JUNE 2009	CHAN EXHIBITION, BURRINJA, UPWEY - THEME IS 'RENEWAL'.

UN VESAK DAY COMMEMORATION

On Saturday 9 May 2008, there will be a commemoration for Melbourne's Buddhist community of Vesak at the Melbourne Town Hall.

This has been organised by members from 27 temples in Melbourne including our temple. Anita and Frank are the Joint Event Managers of the Organising Committee. Julian Bamford and Simon Kearney are also representing us at the preparation meetings.

Many people are needed to assist with set up, running and pack-up of the event. We will be having a Team of our own Members working at the hall from 7.00am on the day of the event so

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please keep this day free on your calendar.

For guests doors will be open from 1pm for a 2:00pm start. The event concludes at 5:00pm.

Please contact either Frank or Anita at the centre for more information.

UN VERSAK VIDEO INTERVIEWS

On Saturday 11 April 2009, some of our young members were interviewed for a film to be shown on the UN Versak Day. Bodhi White, Tanya Poynton and Adam Richards were asked about their experiences with Buddhism.

The interviews were conducted by Kim Lam from the Hoa Nghiem Temple. Daniela DePablo and Aditya Kuthalam filmed the interviews. These videos will be made into a snapshot of Buddhist youth perceptions to be shown on the UN Versak Commemoration Day on 9 May 2009.

UN VESAK DINNER

A fundraising dinner will be held on Saturday 18th April at 7:00pm. Members of the temples organising the Vesak day will have the opportunity to get to know each other. The dinner will be held at Happy Receptions, 199-203 Union Rd, Ascot Vale, VIC. The cost is \$30. A vegetarian meal is provided. You will learn about the 2009 Vesak Plans and will preview the performances.

SOGYAL RINPOCHE TEACHING

On Wednesday 18 March, Members attended a public Teaching at the Camberwell Centre by Venerable Sogyal Rinpoche. Sogyal Rinpoche is one of the most venerated living Tibetan Masters. Our Prajna Paramitta class for that week was held at the Teaching which was titled 'Finding peace and stability in a troubled world'.

Sogyal Rinpoche's Teachings are given in the form of Meditation instructions on the true nature of the mind. The central theme used by the Teacher was

the statement that "Samsara is the mind looking outwardly lost in it's own projections, Nirvana is the mind seeing inwardly".



PHOTO: ON THE GOLDEN PAVILION, (AT BACK) KIM LAM FROM THE HOA NGHIEM TEMPLE. DANIELA DEPABLO AND ADITYA KUTHALAM WHO FILMED THE INTERVIEWS AND (FRONT) OUR YOUTH WHO WERE INTERVIEWED, ADAM RICHARDS, TANYA POYNTON AND BODHI WHITE.

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CHAN EXHIBITION

Our annual Chan Exhibition will be held 2 to 22 June 2009 at Burrinja, Upwey and the theme is 'Renewal'. All Chan students are invited to contribute some of their artworks to this exhibition. Please see Helen Costas for details.

LEARN TO PRACTICE BUDDHISM

A new series of classes for beginners commenced at the Centre on 4 April 2009 at 11am and is running for six weeks. Anita and Frank Carter will teach the classes. The class will begin with meditation and all members are invited to attend this first half to three quarters of an hour. The teaching after this will be suitable for beginners and will be for an hour. Others are welcome to stay if the topic interests them. For further details contact Frank Carter at the Centre.

MOTHERS DAY FLOWER STALL

Our next flower stall will be conducted on Mothers Day, 10 May 2009, and we expect to make about \$1,800 profit from this one fundraising event. It will be held at the front of Carrington Park Reserve Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby, between the Bunnings store and Harley Street.

The flower stall will be conducted the day after the United Nations Day of Versak and so we wish to do our planning for the event in the next 2 weeks to give Members plenty of notice. Please see Adam if you wish to help.

BUNNING SAUSAGE SIZZLE

On Sunday, 22 March 2009, we ran our annual sausage sizzle at Bunnings Hardware Store, Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby, 8am – 4pm. All participants were trained prior to the event in 'food handling' by Anita Carter. Our profit target for the day was \$850.00. We sold 578 sausages with a profit total of \$1073.83. We exceeded our profit target by 223.83! We had 11 people helping on the

day. Thank you to all who participated. If you would like to help next year please see Jakki Graham who will manage the 2010 event.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

Over the last few weeks our vegetable garden has been progressing very well. Anita Carter, Sue and Katie Goodes, Tanya Poynton and Daniel White have worked in the garden planting vegetables. The vegetables have begun to sprout. If you would like to help maintain our vegetable patch please see Sue Goodes.

CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL

Our Camberwell Market on Sunday 5 April was a huge success. The gross profit was over \$321.90 dollars. Sue Goodes is training to become the Market Manager, and will report each month. Thank you to David Martin, Evelin Martin, Jakki Graham and Sue Goodes for donations of goods made during the past month to our market stall, which helped achieve this great result for the April market day. If Members have any suitable second-hand items, please call Frank or Sue.

MEMBER'S NEWS

Melba Nielsen is recovering well and has a new cat named Inky. She is still teaching Chan on the last Saturday of each month at 10am.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BULLETIN

Thank you all for your contributions to this month's bulletin. An excellent internal newsletter only comes about from the collective efforts of the Members of an organisation. We develop our writing to reflect our five styles of friendliness, cultural adaptability, professionalism, practicality and scholarship. We request Members who are learning to manage or who are managing various projects or events to please write a regular update for publication in this bulletin. Please email your articles to Pennie White.