

Brooking Street Bulletin

Issue 43, November 2011



Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
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India Trip Update

Several members and friends of our centre will be joining His Eminence Zimwock Rinpoche and his party from Jamchen on a pilgrimage to Nepal and India in November.

Our party includes Anita, Frank, Simon, Sally, Trish, Nicole and Peter and we will be visiting and meditating at the historic sights of significance in the life of the Buddha.

They will be departing Melbourne on Saturday 5th and returning late Sunday 20th September.

We extend our thanks and gratitude to Heather Morris from Jamchen, who, as the pilgrimage co-ordinator, has done a wonderful job organizing the event.

For those members remaining in Melbourne, meditation will run on Saturday evenings, Chan will run Saturday mornings and Prajnaparamitta will run Wednesday evening.

Katina (robes giving) Ceremonies

Mid October marks the end of the Buddhist rains retreat, which means it is the time of year where members of various Buddhist communities can offer robes to the Sangha as part of the Katina Ceremony.

On Sunday the 16th of October, a Katina Ceremony was held at Sakyamuni Buddhist Vihara in Berwick. The day began with a procession involving many members of the Sri Lankan community circumambulating the temple and carrying a monk's robe on a palanquin. Once the palanquin had entered the hall and been placed next to the main altar, the Ceremony began with some chanting and a Dhamma talk by the Abbots of the different Sri Lankan temples that were attending.

Simon Kearney, Adam Richards, Pennie White,

Important Dates

Saturday	Members' Day Merit Making (Not running in Nov)
Saturday evenings	Buddha Dhamma Meditation 8.00pm
Sunday Weekly	Buddhist Hour Radio 4-5:00pm
5 November	Introduction and Bamboo Class with Pennie White 9:30-10:30am
6 November	Camberwell Market Stall
12 November	Introduction and Bamboo Class with Pennie White 9:30-10:30am
5-20 November	India Trip
19 November	Introduction and Bamboo Class with Pennie White 9:30-10:30am
26 November	Chan Class with Melba Nielsen 11.00am-12 noon
26 November	General Meeting, 3:30pm

Bodhi White and Romy Sai Zunde all represented the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd. by taking part in the offering of lunch dana and robes to the Sangha at the Sri Lankan Temple. Adam, Simon, Pennie and Bodhi also had the opportunity to assist in making the ceremonial robe that is offered to the monks on behalf of the whole Community.

It is a rare opportunity to offer robes to the Sangha as it is one of the most powerful methods of making merit for a Buddha Dhamma practitioner, so we encourage everyone to attend this special occasion.

by Simon Kearney
18 October 2011

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Jamchen Centre Sponsorship

We wish to extend the request and opportunity for you to offer sponsorship to Jamchen Centre. Jamchen are seeking the urgent sponsorship from 40 persons who can each provide a \$1000 sponsorship per year for the support of H.E. Zimwock Rinpoche and his family to remain living in Melbourne.

We see the importance for Melbourne and Australia to have such a realised being living here as well as recognising the virtue and merit of this offering. We wish to support Rinpoche in whatever way we can. If you are able to assist in any capacity please see Frank Carter.

Tour Vietnam Opportunity

Venerable Jampa Drolma (resident teacher at Drolkar Buddhist Centre) will lead a tour in 2012 to her home country of Vietnam. For further information please contact the Drolkar Buddhist Centre directly.

Quang Minh Temple Buddha Hall Grand Opening Ceremony

The Grand Opening Ceremony of the Buddha Hall at Quang Minh Temple was conducted on Sunday the 16 October in the presence of about 1,000 guests including Chief Monks from about 15 Buddhist Temples and about 10 Australian and Victorian Government Senators, Ministers and opposition MPs as well as the Mayors of two Local Councils and a CEO of a third local council.

The Honorable Bill Shorten, Federal Member for Maribyrnong. Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services and Superannuation spoke of the difficulties the Vietnamese community had experienced as refugees coming to live in Australia after fleeing the Vietnam War. It had been a long and

painful struggle since the late 1970s for them to re-establish their life and community in Australia and the completion of the new Buddha Hall was a tremendous landmark in their community. The new building construction cost about \$12 million dollars however much of the work was done voluntarily. Venerable Phuoc Tan said the costs would have been closer to \$20 million if not for the volunteer help over many years.

Our Director Frank Carter represented our centre at the ceremony along with representatives of many other Victorian Buddhist Temples and communities. After the Opening Ceremony lunch was served to about 900 guests in the community hall underneath the Buddha Hall and this was followed by cultural performances throughout the day and a fire works display in the evening. It is estimated about 2,500 persons visited the temple for the occasion. Quang Minh Temple provided at least 200 of it's Members to facilitate the event as ushers, cooks, stall holders, security, sound system personnel, and so on.

Dana Jars fundraiser

Please join in our Dana Jars fundraiser to contribute to our Dhamma Centre having the income to fulfill our program of activities and events without financial stress.

For many years our centre has issued Members with a "Life Change Dana Jar" to keep at home and place our loose change in from time to time. Offering a few coins into the jar is an easy way to support our centre and when the time comes to bring your offering to the centre it can really add up to a considerable amount.

If we have 15 Members each offering \$2-3 of change each week at the end of the year together we will have raised about \$2000 for the centre. This is a greater amount than last year's Mother's Day Flower

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Stall profit.

If we each offer about \$5 per week at the end of the year together we will have raised about \$4000.

We wish to allocate our Dana Jars Offering to some of our most important merit making activities to bring great benefits from our donations.

These are the projects the Dana Jars Offerings will fund this coming year:

1. Our new Buddhist Discussion Centre website being developed and put online by website designer Meg Streiff (approx \$1,000)
2. Printing our Student's Handbook to give to new students which provides the information they need to know about our Centre (approx \$300)
3. Our Centre's contribution to the United Nations Day of Vesak 2012 Commemoration. (\$300)
4. Our Centre's Annual Membership of the World Fellowship of Buddhists for the years 2010, 2011 2012 (\$300)
5. Our Centre's contribution towards funding our delegation to next years' World Fellowship of Buddhists Conference in Korea. (approx \$500).

Without much effort our Dana Jars Fundraiser can fund all these projects in the next 12 months. Please reply to this email to obtain a "Life Change Dana Jar" and help fund these great projects. Please nominate which project(s) you wish your Dana Jar to fund.

Cash donations to any of these projects are also greatly appreciated.

If you already have a coin jar thank you for providing your continuing support to our centre through this important fundraiser.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

