



BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

Issue #47, August 2012

Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
A.C.N. 005 701 806 A.B.N. 42 611 496 488
33 Brooking Street, Upwey, Victoria 3158
Phone / fax – 03 9754 3334

email – chanacademy@bdcu.org.au web – www.bdcu.org.au



NEW TEACHING PROGRAM

Our main Teaching Day for 2012 occurs each weekend on Saturday afternoons and evenings.

The Saturday afternoon classes led by Anita are conducted from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Our next course titled “Learn to Practice Meditation” starts on the 4th of August.

These classes are designed to help us increase and improve our practice of mindfulness and develop the stages of meditation which lead to a clearer perception of reality through direct insight.

Our regular class on Saturday evenings from 8.00pm is an introduction to Mahayana Buddhism including the Diamond Cutter Teachings and the fundamentals of Mahayana practice.



Photo: Buddha Image, Jogyesa Temple; Seoul, Republic of Korea.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd is being held at 2:00pm Saturday 11th August 2012 in the John D. Hughes Dhamma Cetiya Meditation Hall and Library.

The positions of Directors, President, Secretary, Treasurer and all other office bearers will be declared vacant.

Important Dates

SATURDAY WEEKLY	LEARN TO PRACTICE MEDITATION 2-4PM, 4 AUGUST TO 27 OCTOBER 2012
SATURDAY EVENINGS	MAHAYANA TEACHINGS 8.00PM
SUNDAY WEEKLY	BUDDHIST HOUR RADIO 4-5:00PM 97.1FM
28 JULY	GENERAL MEETING – 4PM
4 AUGUST	Breakfast at the Pancake Parlour
5 AUGUST	CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL
11 AUGUST	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2PM
2 SEPTEMBER	CAMBERWELL MARKET
9 SEPTEMBER	FOUNDERS DAY COMMEMORATION
29 SEPTEMBER	GENERAL MEETING – 4PM

The following persons have been nominated for election as office bearers for the period 11 August 2012 to 10 August 2013.

- President: Anita Carter.
- Secretary: Anita Carter.
- Assistant Secretary: Nicole Moustakas.
- Treasurer: Frank Carter.
- Assistant Treasurer: Nicole Moustakas.
- Executive Producer Buddhist Hour: Simon Kearney.
- Websites Manager: Frank Carter.
- Fire Prevention and Occupational Health & Safety Manager: Peter Marshall.
- Publicity and Recruitment Team Leader: Simon Kearney.
- Flower Stall Manager: Adam Richards.
- Teaching Program Manager: Anita Carter.
- Events Manager: Frank Carter.
- Assets and Maintenance Manager: Frank Carter.

The following persons have been nominated for election as Directors for the period 11 August 2012 to 10 August 2013.

- Anita Carter.
- Frank Carter.
- Peter Marshall.
- Adam Richards.



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SAUSAGE SIZZLE FUNDRAISER

The Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia will be running a Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser on Sunday 25th November 2012 at Bunnings Warehouse 1467 Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby VIC 3179. The Sausage Sizzle will be operating during the Bunnings Warehouse Sunday trading hours from 8.00am – 6.00pm.

This is an opportunity for our organisation to generate substantial fundraising and our members to make merit by volunteering. Your help and support is greatly appreciated. Please mark the date in your calendar.

ROMY'S FAREWELL

To Anita and Frank, and all my friends at BDCU; I have moved to the beautiful township of Kyneton. I am sad to leave our beautiful centre, but happy to recollect what I have learned and the friendships I have gained! I loved spending time with all of you. Thank you for your wisdom and help. Look after each other, and may we see each other again!
With metta, Romy

MONTHLY MARKET STALL FUNDRAISER

Our monthly Camberwell Market Stall is in need of suitable secondhand donated goods which we can sell to raise funds. If you have any items to donate please see Frank.

The market stall held on Sunday the 3rd June raised \$183.80 for the centre and \$16.00 for the Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh. Our recent market stall held on Sunday the 1st July raised \$177.00 for the centre and \$25.70 for the Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh.

Thank you to those who donated secondhand goods and to our Market Stall Team on the day Adam, David, Simon and Kate.

DHAMMARAJIKA ORPHANAGE

We recently completed our quarterly collection of donations from the Ishka stores around Melbourne, which have Dhammarajika collection boxes. It was noticed that in the last 12 months some of these stores have removed the collection boxes from their sales counters as the sales staff have changed and we not aware of our orphanage fundraising program.

Julian has offered to relaunch the collections through Ishka Stores over the next few months, as this has been such an important source of funding for the Dhammarajika Orphanage for many years. We thank Michale Slovsky who is the Managing Director of Ishka and their staff for the support they have given the Dhammarajika Orphanage.

If any one wishes to make a donation to the orphanage please send payment noting this offering is for the orphanage.

PUBLICITY AND RECRUITMENT

A company called Search Engine Xperts has generously offered to provide us with free Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) service for our website (www.bdcu.org.au) over the next 12-18 months.

Thank you to Sam Bochiwal, a consultant at Search Engine Xperts, for organising this incredible service. Sam has also volunteered to look after our Facebook page and become involved at our Centre as a volunteer.

SEO services will help improve our search engine rankings; this means our website will over time be higher ranked on the search results page. The more frequently a site appears in the search results list, the more visitors it will receive from the search engine's users.



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BDC KALYANAMITTA SOCIAL GROUP

We have started a social group called: The BDC Kalyanamitta Social Group. Kalyanamitta means good spiritual friends. The purpose of this group is so our members can come together on a regular basis to socialize in harmony, grow in friendship and enjoy themselves.

Our first social group outing was a great success, thank you to those who made dinner at Saffron Cottage Restaurant Tecoma on 28th June 2012.

Still to come is a fun night of bowling including dinner on Thursday 26th of July and on the 4th of August breakfast at the Pancake Parlour Restaurant in Ringwood at 9.00am. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our aim is to organise at least one social outing per month; thank you Nicole for taking on this role. We would love to hear your social outing suggestions, please email them to nicoloemoustakas@gmail.com.

NEW LIBRARIAN VOLUNTEERED

We recently placed a request for volunteer help for our Library on the Probono Australia Volunteer Match website: (www.probonoaustralia.com.au/volunteer) So far we have one kind offer of help from a professional librarian; we look forward to talking to her in a few weeks as she is currently overseas doing a trek in Nepal.

Pro Bono Australia is a national volunteering hub. Volunteer Match helps people from right across Australia match their skills to Not for Profit Organisations. Pro bono service, unlike traditional volunteerism, uses the specific skills of professionals to provide services to those who are unable to afford them.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2012-2013

Thank you for being a Member of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd. during 2011-2012.

Your membership supports this Buddha Sasene and helps us continue to exist as a place where beings can learn, practice and realise the Buddha Dhamma.

We pay respect to you and thank you for your friendship, generosity and support.

Over the past year our Members' generosity, involvement and support has enabled our Centre to initiate and maintain many Buddha Dhamma projects.

We look forward to your continued support and welcome you to renew your Membership for the next 12 months.

REFLECTIONS ON THE WFB 26TH GENERAL CONFERENCE, BY NICOLE MOUSTAKAS

The World Fellowship of Buddhists 26th General Conference was held at Yeosu, Republic of Korea on the 11 to 16 June 2012.

Together with our team, Frank Carter, Julian Bamford and Simon Kearney we attended the WFB 26th General Conference to fulfil the Buddhist Discussion Centres Australia's role as conference rapporteurs.

The WFB 26th General Conference is a gathering of delegates and observers from many different World Fellowship of Buddhist's Regional Centres around the world. The WFB Regional Centres representatives gather every two years to promote harmony and peace among their different traditions and prolong the Buddhasasana.

To fulfil our mission as conference rapporteurs it was necessary to always work as a team. This meant



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obeying our team leader Frank, no matter what. Our first night spent in Seoul was a test of my team work. We arrived at our hotel that evening after a long day of travel and my only desire was to shower and sleep. We had agreed to have a team meeting every evening and chant. Frank requested us to continue to chant to create a better energy field which would help us have a peaceful, well rested sleep. I wished to just go to bed but I persevered to help my team and felt glad I did.

Rapporteur for the conference generated lots of merit; this in turn had many benefits, including that I didn't need as much sleep even though I was working hard long hours. This was very obvious to me as one day after only 4 hours sleep I felt the same as I did after my usual 8 hours. When rapporteur I really noticed that performing my task was much easier when I wore my blessing scarf. This made it clear to me the benefit of having the support of the Devas and blessings on the protection scarf.

Our team aimed to practice and develop professionalism, this included looking professional. Wearing professional clothes and make-up each day taught me that looking the part helps me be the part, and prompt the right minds for my role.

The Sangha present at the conference practice morality at the highest level, while remaining relaxed, at ease and enjoying themselves. From observing this I learnt that I can keep many precepts without being sanctimonious.

It was pleasing to be in a setting where each person I met was friendly, respectful, kind, and caring and there were many great role models I could learn from. It was especially pleasing to see everybody enjoying themselves over good food without the need of alcohol. The conference and hotel staff were also great models of the five styles: friendliness, professionalism, scholarship, practicality and cultural adaptability.



Photo: Simon Kearney and Sunim, WFB 26th General Conference, Yeosu Republic of Korea.

Our team's objective was to practice the five styles, especially friendliness with everyone we met. Therefore I was acknowledging, smiling, greeting, introducing myself, thanking and saying goodbye to persons in the lift, bus, queue, and where ever I sat. I aimed to ignore no one. Soon it became automatic.

Usually I pick and choose who I make an effort to smile and talk to. What I learnt was it takes little effort to practice friendliness and smile. Practising friendliness made me happy, helped me stay in the present moment and taught me to make an effort with everybody regardless of my likes, dislikes and current mood. I also wanted to make contact with great Dhamma practitioners so that I meet with them again in future lives.

The South Korea culture and people were very courteous, gentle and friendly. I really admired how for such a high population country our surroundings felt unrushed and uncrowded. The people's mannerism and way of living is something I aspire towards.