



Brooking Street Bulletin

Issue #48, September 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

Founders Day 9th September 2012

This year our centre's Founder's Day on the 9th of September occurs on a Sunday.

Anita wishes to bless our celebration by inviting many Sangha Members to the centre for lunch offerings. We have heard that 9 monks have accepted our invitation so far and several others may also accept. Being a Sunday many of you will be able to come to participate in this great opportunity to make merit.

Offering dana to the Sangha produces extraordinarily good karma which is very difficult to make in our usual daily lives. The karma is purified by the quality of the receiver's moralities as Buddhist monks and nuns keep many, many precepts. Without the monks and nuns help it is very unlikely we can produce such pure good karma.

It's the Buddhist version of Gold, Gold, Gold!

Other activities will be planned for Founder's Day also. Please plan your September to participate in this great day.

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 August social outings were a great success, thank you to those who attended our breakfast at the Pancake Parlour, Ringwood on 4th August 2012, and dinner at Tamarind Thai Restaurant, Upwey on Sunday 19th August 2012. Happy Birthday to our members born in August: Evelin Martin and Julian Bamford.

Still to come is our visit to the Nobbies at Phillip Island including lunch on Sunday 30th September

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
5 August	Camberwell Market Stall
9 September	Founders Day Commemoration
23 September	Kinglake Temple Opening
29 September	General Meeting – 4.30pm
30 September	Visit to the Nobbies inc. Lunch
7 October	Camberwell Market Stall
21 October	Bushwalk & Barbeque
27 October	General Meeting – 4.30pm
November	Kathina Ceremonies
14-21 November	One Week Retreat
25 November	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
25 December	Christmas Day Flower Stall
27-31 December	Five Day Bhavana Course
31 December	New Year's Eve Bell Puja
12 January	Masters Sausage Sizzle
End January	Vietnamese Temple Visits

2012. Please note we have changed the date of the visit to the Nobbies because Anita has been invited to attend the Kinglake Bau Sen Buddha Ru Yi Temple for their Opening Ceremony on Sunday 23rd September 2012. (Please see below)

While we're visiting The Nobbies we will make offerings to the Dragon King and request his blessings and protection for our Centre for the year coming. Please bring flowers and incense as offerings for the Dragon King. Chan painting materials will be provided for those who wish to paint.

We plan to carpool from the Centre. Please arrive at the BDC by 9.15am and for a 9.30am departure (approx. 1 hour and 15 minutes' drive). Depart the Nobbies at 2.30 - 3.00pm and arrive at the BDC by 3.30 - 4.00pm. Please pack a hat and sunscreen; rain

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jacket and umbrella; snacks and water bottle. Please RSVP Nicole 0410 476 721 by 9 September 2012.

In October we've planned a bushwalk including a barbeque lunch on Sunday 21 October 2012, at O'Donohue Picnic Ground, Sherbrooke Forest, Dandenong Ranges National Park. A reminder including full details will be emailed closer to the date. Please RSVP Nicole (0410 476 721) by 10 October 2012. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our aim is to organise at least one social outing per month. We would love to hear your social outing suggestions, please email them to nicoloemoustakas@gmail.com.



Photo: Simon Kearney at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2012 in the Meditation Hall.

Kinglake Temple Opening Ceremony

Anita and all Members have been invited to attend an Opening Ceremony at Bau Sen Buddha Ru Yi Temple on Sunday 23rd September 2012 from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

This Temple was constructed by the Late Master K.S. Lin who was a friend of John Hughes. The current Abbot of the temple is Taiwanese Master Ming Quang who we know well from our attendance at WFB Conferences.

The Kinglake temple is conducting the Opening Ceremony for a new residence they have built onsite near the temple and Anita has been requested to be one of their honored guests who open the new building.

All Members are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided. It is recommended to bring an offering to give to the great Master Ming Quang who is their Abbot.

Address: 210 Burtons Road, Kinglake West, VIC

Kathina Ceremony

Every year at the end of the three month rains retreat in November Theravadin Buddhist Temples conduct their Kathina Ceremony, which is the annual robe-offering to the Sangha.

The Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd encourages all members to attend at least one (preferably two) Kathina Ceremonies per year. Buddha explained offering robes to a Sangha member is one of the most powerful and beneficial types of merit that can be done.

Our Members usually attend Kathina Ceremonies by three temples each year; these temples and dates of each ceremony will be advised in October. Please contact Nicole 0410 476 721 if you would like to attend with us on one or more of these days. We plan to carpool from the Centre.



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Each temple has their own method of arranging the offering of robes. For some temples we will need to order the robes from them, while others will have them available at the event for anyone to offer on the day. This information will be provided closer to the events.

Robe purchase is generally \$50. If you cannot afford this, then it is recommended to buy one robe between two and make the robe offering together.

Generally lay Buddhists arrive around 10am. There is also an offering of food (dana) to the Sangha and anyone can bring a prepared meal (hot or cold) to be placed in the offering. Most temples do not arrange for all guests to participate in the food offering, this is because it is usually done away from the main hall in a quiet room by a few of their own members.

Saturday Dana at the Centre

Many of us attend the Saturday afternoon Buddha Dhamma class from 2.00pm – 4.00pm each week, followed by the evening class from 8.00 – 9.30pm. Frequently lunch and dinner have been provided by Anita and Frank from the house kitchen along with some other dishes offered or purchased as take away meals by other Members.

Recently however a new kitchenette has been installed in the Sariputta Room with a fridge, sink, cupboards and a microwave oven so it is now possible for dishes to be heated and plates and cutlery to be washed and put away without use of Anita's house kitchen.

Nicole has offered to organise Saturday meals for those who are attending the centre to provide an opportunity for us all to make food offerings to our community and visitors as well as providing food offerings to our Teachers.

If staying for lunch or dinner, please bring a plate or item of food to share. Food can be stored in the two Sariputta Room bar fridges. Hot dishes are best pre-cooked and just reheated at the Centre in the

member's microwave.

Please call 0410 476 721 or email Nicole nicolemoustakas@gmail.com, each week by Wednesday if you're attending; stating what you're planning to bring. Thank you for your generosity.

Buddhist Council of Victoria Election

Past President Julian Bamford was recently elected as Chairperson of the Buddhist Council of Victoria at their Annual General Meeting held on the 21st of July at Hoa Nghiem Temple Springvale.

Congratulation Julian! We wish you every success and our full support in this important role for the Victorian Buddhist Community.



Photo: Simon Kearney, Adam Richards and Julian Bamford at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2012 in the JDH Dhamma Cetiya Meditation Hall.

Occupational Health and Safety

The Directors of the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia wish to advise all Members and visitors that Occupational Health and Safety is an immediate and ongoing concern at our centre.

Therefore, we encourage you to report any relevant OH & S incident and also to make known any and all hazardous and/or potential hazards to the safety of all those visiting or residing at the centre.



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Over the coming months, as we refine our systems and attend to those issues already known, those of you attending the centre regularly, can expect more detailed OH & S reports.

Please advise Peter Marshall and Frank Carter of any issues you become aware of in this regard, either in person and/or by a detailed email, at your earliest convenience.

Thank you, and please remember...Safety is everyone's concern!

Contact details:

Peter Marshall – mobile: 0409 366073, email: titanic@virginbroadband.com.au.

Frank Carter – mobile: 0408 303550, email: ftcarter@optusnet.com.au



Photo: Peter Marshall and his offering of homemade Mama Marshall's Neenish Tarts, at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2012 in the Meditation Hall.

OHS Hazard Alert

It is most important to place a high priority on the personnel safety of our Members and to ensure we always use safe work practices whilst we are doing any activities at the centre.

To help this we will be providing Members with regular Hazard Alert emails which will identify areas or activities of danger so we are all aware to avoid these risks to our health and safety.

Please find below details of our August Hazard Alert Notifications. Copies of these notifications will be kept on file in the Sariputta Room for Members reference. Each year we will ask Members to review the file containing our Safety Bulletins and Hazard Alerts to renew awareness of the importance of us keeping a safe workplace at 33 Brooking Street.

Hazard Alert Number 1: Issued 14 August 2012

On 11 August 2012 at approximately 6.00pm a tray of empty cups was placed on the side steps leading to the house kitchen. A member coming out from the house kitchen/dining room stood on the tray of cups and fell. Fortunately no injury was sustained.

Prevention:

- No items are left on steps or pathways.
- No items are left/ kept near steps or pathways that may fall across and become an obstacle.
- Caution when walking along wet steps or pathways as they tend to be slippery.
- Always check steps and pathways are clear before proceeding. Be mindful.
- Always think, is this safe?

Hazard Alert Number 2: Issued 19 August 2012

Please be aware that the wooden steps leading up to and forming part of the Golden Pavilion pose a severe slipping hazard, particularly when wet.

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All members are advised to exercise extreme caution if traversing them until they can be resurfaced.

Prevention:

- Area to be signed with caution or roped off until rectified.
- Caution when walking along wet steps or pathways as they tend to be slippery.
- Always check steps and pathways are clear before proceeding. Be mindful.
- Always think, is this safe?



Photo: Sally Kelly at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2012 in the Meditation Hall.

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.

Our recent market stall held on Sunday the 5th August raised \$100.30 for the Centre and \$5.55 for the Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh.

Thank you to those who donated secondhand goods and to our Market Stall Team on the day.

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 – 5.00pm.

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.

In addition to our Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunnings Warehouse each year, we will now be operating two more Sausage Sizzle Fundraisers each year at Masters Home Improvement, with the most recent being held on Saturday 12th January 2013.



Photo: Frank Carter at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2012 in the Meditation Hall.