



Brooking Street Bulletin

Issue #82, June 2017

Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
A.C.N. 005 701 806 A.B.N. 42 611 496 488
33 Brooking Street, Upwey, Victoria 3158
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email – wbu@bdcu.org.au web – www.bdcu.org.au

40 Year Anniversary Celebrations

Recently we completed our first Buddhist Discussion Centre 40th Anniversary project with the publishing of our new website which is a great enhancement of our online presence.

To begin another of our 40 year celebration projects, on Wednesday the 31st of May 2017, Anita, Frank and Claire met with Professor Quinghua Guo of Melbourne University, School of Design regarding designing our new Buddha House / Pavillion.

The Melbourne University School of Design is one of Australia's leading teaching institutions in architecture and it is a wonderful opportunity for our centre to participate with them in creating our new building.

The design project will be conducted under the guidance of Professor Guo who is an expert in traditional Asian architecture, and will result in 10 or more different design proposals being created as each Masters student is responsible for their own design. The project will commence in Semester 2 (July), 2017.

The Professor has indicated that rather than focus on the design of just one building they would prefer to ask their students to provide a site design for the whole area of the property that is used by the Buddhist Discussion Centre. This will provide a blue print for our site development for many years to come and may include moving some existing structures to achieve a better overall integration of our garden and the various structures within it.

Anita invites all our Members and friends to also be involved by contributing any ideas or feedback that they may have. We will also inviting our local council to be involved in the project.

Our centre will award three prizes to the students whose designs we wish to acknowledge and commend for excellence.

Important Dates

Every Saturday	<u>11am - 10pm</u> Members' Day Meritorious activities and Classes when scheduled
Every Saturday	<u>2pm – 4pm</u> Course: 'Bringing Wisdom to Life – The Legacy of the Buddha'. Term 2 concluding on 1 st July <u>8pm - 9:30pm:</u> Buddhist Meditation and Abhidhamma Study Class
Every Thursday	<u>8pm</u> Mahamudra Class
Every Sunday	<u>4pm - 5pm</u> Buddhist Hour live on 3MDR 97.1fm
17 th June	<u>11am – 12:30pm:</u> Medicine Buddha Puja
24 th June	<u>11am – 12:30pm:</u> Chan Painting Class: Clouds, Chrysanthemum, Orchid and Plum Blossom
3 rd July	<u>8.00pm – 9.00pm</u> Padmasambhava Tsok
15 th July	<u>11am – 12:30pm:</u> Chan Painting Class: Bamboo
29 th July	<u>11am – 12:30pm:</u> Chan Painting Class: Birds
28 th July	<u>5:30pm</u> General Meeting
3 rd August	Padmasambhava Tsok (Time TBC)



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The Professor commented that it will be a great opportunity for our centre to increase our profile and gain recognition by being included as a project in the University's School of Design curriculum.

It will be a magnificent architectural redevelopment for our garden and facilities which provides a unique and beautiful feature for our centre's gardens.

We expect the project will be done in stages over a five year period and will be an important opportunity for all Members and students to accumulate powerful causes needed for their wellbeing and happiness.

May the merit of this Buddha project enable the Buddha Dhamma to be taught and realised here now and for the next 500 years.

Bringing Wisdom to Life Course, Term 2

The Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia is currently offering an academic course titled 'Bringing Wisdom to Life: The Legacy of the Buddha'.

In this course, Students are studying the history of Buddhism, the basic Buddhist teachings of each of the major Buddhist traditions and the preliminary practices, to understand, appreciate and participate in Buddhism as we see it in our world today.

In the second term of the course, we are examining the development, principle teachings and practice of Mahayana Buddhism.

Term 2 is running from Saturday 6th May – Saturday 1st July. Students are welcome to join at any time. The course is offered free of charge. For further information and to obtain a course registration form please email Frank Carter at wbu@bdcu.org.au.

40 Venerable Sangha Members to visit our Centre

Another of our Centre's 40th year Anniversary projects is to host 40 Monks and Nuns for dana at our centre over the next 17 months.

On 6th May 2017, we offered dana to Venerable Sambath Sam (Wat Buddharangsi) and Venerable Tejinda (Mahasi International Meditation Centre, Yangon, Myanmar) and were most fortunate to receive a Dhamma talk and meditation instruction from the Venerables.

To view a video of the Dhamma talk and instruction, please visit our Facebook page or email wbu@bdcu.org.au for a link.



Photo: Venerables (L-R): Venerable Sambath Sam (Wat Buddharangsi) and Venerable Tejinda. Members: Mike Young, Frank Carter, Kong Chan, Brooke, Anita Carter, Lin Chan, Sally Kelly, Simon Kearney, Claire Ransome.



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Victorian Observance of the United Nations Day of Vesak

On Saturday 27th May, 2017, Buddhist communities came together from across Victoria, and some from interstate, to commemorate the Buddha’s birth, death and enlightenment at the 10th Annual Victorian Observation of the United Nations Day of Vesak.

This was the Buddhist Discussion Centre’s 10th year supporting the Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak and it was delightful to see that it is now an established tradition for many temples and their Members to participate in this extraordinary event each year. Our audience was very fortunate to have about 80 Sangha members in attendance most of whom were present for the Sangha Dana and participated in the Vesak Procession prior to their arrival at Melbourne Town Hall.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped to create and run this year’s event as an offering to our Victorian Buddhist community for the celebration of Vesak. You each did really well in your various roles which were carried out with friendliness and generosity to each other and to all who participated. It was great to work together in such a harmonious way. Certificates of Appreciation have been issued for everyone who helped on the day. If you haven’t received your certificate you can collect it from the centre.

Simon and Julian in particular made significant contributions to prepare for this year’s event and there were many areas where the event found new direction and became more sustainable for the future. Thank you to you both for your hard work and commitment and representing our temple so well.

Please find some photos below of the events throughout the day, which were sourced from the Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak Inc. facebook page.

There are many more available for viewing on the Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak Inc. Facebook page and a 30 minute video of the event prepared by Peter Marshall is on our Buddhist Discussion Centre Facebook page.

Thank you also to Anita whose wish it is to help the Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak always be successful.





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Daniel attended our centre recently and installed the new server which has a Linux based operating system in just one afternoon.

The new server has an inbuilt mirror hard drives meaning if one disk crashed there is a second disk with an exact copy of the contents still accessible.

This upgrade will provide many years of usage and is considerably faster. Daniel has offered to help us at any time with our computer systems.

We sent a letter of thanks to Daniel for his kind help.

Public Relations

On 22nd May 2017, Members of the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia attended the annual Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak Friendship Dinner Fundraiser at Quang Minh Temple.

The fundraiser was attended by about 600 guests from many Victorian Buddhist Temples. Thank you to Venerable Phuoc Tan and the many volunteer members of Quang Minh Temple for hosting this wonderful event.



Photo: Buddhist Discussion Centre Members at the Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak Friendship Dinner, 22nd May 2017

Vice President Updates

Knowledge Management

Our Centre’s LAN computer network was installed about fifteen years ago and has been running until recently with the original computer (server) which by today’s standards was very outdated.

Daniel Desouza, who is a network engineer, offered his help to us to build a new LAN with a capacity of 300 gigabytes of storage. This compares to our earlier LAN which had 10 gigabytes!



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Photo: Anita Carter presents a Chan painting by Melba Nielsen called "Rock tendrils" to the winning bidder on stage at the fundraising auction of the annual Victorian United Nations Day of Vesak Friendship Dinner. The painting was donated by Frank for the auction.

Fundraising

Congratulations on the success of our Mothers Day Flower Stall fundraiser, held Sunday 8th May 2017!

This year we had two sites, the first being Outbound on the corner of Applegum Crescent and Burwood Highway, and the second being inbound, outside Knox Ford, Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully.

Our volunteers worked harmoniously and effectively together to provide flowers to people to offer to their mothers, loved ones and in their homes.

We raised a total of \$1,126.20 for our Centre and \$165.65 for Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh.

Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu!

We offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in this fundraiser. Thank you for volunteering your time and effort on this special day.

We also offer our thanks to Knox Ford for allowing us to conduct fundraising activities outside their premises, and the Knox Shire for granting us permits.



Photo: Enzo and Leonie smiling amongst the flowers at our Mothers Day Flower Stall, 8th May 2017.

Multimedia

We are developing a series of Podcasts which use the Dhamma talks from our Buddhist Hour radio program as the main content. The podcasts will be uploaded onto our website and comprise a standard



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introduction which is the Vandana for Buddha with a short spoken welcome for each recording.

We can also create Podcasts of our ten part course teachings that we have recorded on the Buddhist Hour.

The listener will be able to select each recording so that they hear them in the right sequence.

Copyright Law

Our recent Buddhist course titled “Bringing Wisdom to Life”, which is a combined short history of Buddhist together with a brief introduction to each of the three major Buddhist traditions, has been compiled using the contents from about 20 Buddhist texts and numerous online sources.

These sources have been quoted extensively and in some cases a whole page from a text may have been incorporated as part of our course. As we have never included such large extracts from published materials in our previous courses and Dhamma writings we need to find out what are the copyright allowances for authors and publishers before we can place these courses on our website or broadcast them on the Buddhist Hour or World Buddhist Radio.

There are different allowances under the Copyright Act (1968) depending on your proposed use of the materials. Students studying a topic may legally copy up to 10% of a copyrighted book for example, but authors quoting the same text are dealt with by a different part of the act, and publishers are also dealt with by a separate section.

We are seeking pro bono legal advice for the purpose of

1. Reviewing our current authorship, broadcasting and publishing activities with regard to Copyright Law.

2. Providing written recommendations for our authors, presenters and publishers, and
3. Providing a copyrights policy statement for our organisation.

Once this work is done we will be able to know exactly what we can reproduce and quote without infringement.

Librarian’s Report

We are continually working on our new online library catalogue. Please feel free to visit bdcu.libib.com to see our progress.

Member News

We warmly welcome Han Hoang and David Yates as new Members of our Centre. We wish you ease and happiness on the Buddha Dhamma path!

Han Hoang has been helping us with the marketing of our Centre, and in particular our online social media presence with platforms such as ‘Instagram’ which allows us to share the Buddha’s teachings with a wider audience.

Correspondence from Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh

Our Centre has been raising funds for Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh for many years.

We received the following emails from the orphanage’s president, Venerable Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero:

20th May 2017

Dear Mr. Carter,



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At the beginning I offer my hearty greetings to you. I wish to offer the same to Anita Carter and all other members of your great organization.

I have the pleasure of informing you that we have celebrated the Holy Buddha Full Moon Day on the 10th May with much enthusiasm and religious fervor. The Minister for Commerce of our Government was the Guest in the morning session while in the afternoon seminar the Chief Justice of Bangladesh was present as the Chief Guest.

Our children are all well. The result of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) Examination is quite satisfactory. Students shall have to get admission in colleges within one week or two.

Our Government is now making efforts for ensuring quality education to all students of Bangladesh and its influence has also become visible towards the education of our children.

I reiterate my gratitude to all of you for your sympathy towards our children.

May all of you live long with sound health and mind.

With Metta,

Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero
President, Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha and Dharmarajika Orphanage

30th May 2017

Dear Mr. Carter,

I feel pleasure to write to you upon the celebration day of the Holy Vesak Day at our complex. All the Buddhists of Dhaka along with the inmates of Dharmarajika observed the day on the 10th May with religious fervor. The day long program included the morning march past, mass prayer,

short meditation in the morning and discussion meeting in the afternoon.

In the morning the Honorable Minister for Commerce, veteran political leader of Bangladesh Mr. Tofail Ahmed was the Chief Guest while in the afternoon in discussion meeting the Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Supreme Court Mr. S. K. Sinha was kind to remain present as Chief Guest. The Honorable President of Bangladesh and Prime Minister of the Govt. of Bangladesh exchanged greetings with Buddhists of Bangladesh at the Palace called Banghabhan and Gonobhan respectively.

I have thought it wise to share with you on these issues. Our inmates are fortunate to heartily welcome to the country's above-mentioned illustrious sons at Dharmarajika Complex, Dhaka.

I hope you have also observed the Vesak Day with due religious fervor. I am somehow well with vulnerable health condition.

May you and Anita Carter live long with sound health and mind.

May all beings be happy.

Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero
President, Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha and Dharmarajika Orphanage

Renewal of Membership

We will be posting out our annual Membership renewal letter in the next week or so.

Anita wishes to thank all Members for your generous help, support and participation during the past year and warmly welcomes you to renew your Membership for the year ahead.

Please fill out and return your renewal form to our centre so we can keep our Members Register up to date. Thank you very much.