

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #11 28TH JANUARY 2007

Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
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ABBOT'S REPORT

Happy New Year. May you be well and happy. A great year as we will be blessed by the Dalai Lama's visit. We have finally moved the Padmasambhava image up onto the hall floor and the new base. The meditation hall floor is now completed.

We had a great Long Life Christmas dinner and our Christmas day flower stall went extremely well- thank you to all who helped.

The five day Bhavana Course participants were Lainie, Frank, Adam, David, Eveline, Kate, Pennie and John. We reviewed our plans for the new year with great motivation and energy to find the mantra we are running on.

The New Year's Eve bell puja sent metta and shared our merits around the world- in all directions for the happiness and well being of all beings, seen and unseen.

Tuesday Night teachings will resume in November 2007. We will spend the next 9 months writing the scripts for the course – The Bhojanganas: The Seven Factors of Enlightenment.

I have two main aims this year. One is to digitise the Teachings of John D. Hughes given on audio tapes prior to 1986. We have to move fast in order to stop these teachings from deteriorating and being lost to us. The second aim is to complete our hall- with full relocation of the main altar and library.

Members Day, the Buddhist Hour, Camberwell Market, Abhidhamma teachings and Saturday night meditation will continue.

A new class will be held at 11.00am on Saturday mornings called "The Teachings of Buddha Sakyamuni for beginners". This has become more and more necessary as we have had many new persons enquiring about 'Buddhism'.

Wishing you all ease along the Buddha Dhamma path.

~Anita Carter

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAYS	MEMBERS' DAY - BUILDING OF THE NEW MEDITATION HALL
SATURDAY EVENINGS	BUDDHA DHAMMA TEACHINGS BY THE VENERABLE SANGHA AND/OR MEDITATION GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER
14 FEBRUARY	VALENTINE'S DAY FLOWER STALL
22 FEBRUARY	CHINESE ELDERLY CITIZENS VISIT - SMALL MID WEEK GROUP OF VISITORS
24 FEBRUARY	HOA NGHIEM TEMPLE 250 – 300 PERSONS
24 FEBRUARY	CHAN CLASS AT THE CENTRE STARTING 11.00AM
24 FEBRUARY	GENERAL MEETING 5.30 PM
25 FEBRUARY	PHAT QUANG TEMPLE VISIT 250 – 300 PERSONS
4 MARCH	QUANG DUC TEMPLE VISIT 120 -150 PERSONS

CHRISTMAS & VALENTINE'S DAY FLOWER STALLS

Thank you to all our Memers who helped out with our Christmas Day Flower Stall this year. The stall raised \$906 profit for the Centre and we can claim back GST on the cost of the flowers we purchased for the event.

We have our other flower stalls on Valentine's Day, Easter and Mother's Day.

These are high merit making events because of the 10 blessings associated with giving flowers to others.

The Valentine's Day Flower Stall occurs on Wednesday 14 February from 1.00pm in the afternoon to 7.30 pm in the evening. A roster for this stall is being done now so please see Frank to help out on the stall.

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MEMBERS BUILD OUR NEW MEDITATION HALL AND LIBRARY

In our last Bulletin we wrote that our aim is to have the building painted inside and at lock up with the floor underneath the Padmasambhava image completed for the Vietnamese Temple Members Chinese New Year Pilgrimage which starts in late February 2007.

To achieve our aim we need to continue the painting work on the ceiling on the weekend of the 3rd of February and arrange for the front entrance double doors to be purchased and fitted.

Brian the plasterer completed the ceiling and ceiling edges ready for painting last weekend. Thank you to John who built the base which the Padmasambhava image now stands on.

A past Member June Young has offered her skills to work with Melba to restore the Padmasambhava image which has some minor cracking and reshaping work to be done.

All are invited to take part in this rare building project. We build every Saturday and some mid week days so please come along. Lunch & refreshments are provided.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS- LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30PM

Our next General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday the 24 February 2007 all Members are encouraged to attend. We require a quorum of 7 members to conduct a general meeting.

MASTER YI VINNAY RETREAT AT BUDDHIST DISCUSSION CENTRE (UPWEY) LTD

We were most fortunate to have Master Yi staying at our Centre recently and be able to provide him with the right conditions and suitable information he required to study the Vinaya Rules of Discipline of

Buddhist Monks and Nuns.

John Hughes taught his students on many occasions the importance of helping and serving the Sangha with our best minds and hearts. We followed this training very well in looking after Master Yi.

A few days after his visit concluded we received the following email from Master Yi.

Dear Frank;

I would like to thank both yourself and Anita and all the Members at the B.D.C. (U) Ltd for the great support and kindness shown during my stay.

It was a great opportunity for me and i found everyone to be very kind and helpful. The environment was very suitable for my study and the library is such a treasure trove.

I know from past experience the effort taken to look after a Monk and i so i really do appreciate all the effort of everyone there.

Since i have returned i have been involved in many meetings regarding our new building project. So i must now earn another opportunity for quiet practice.

I'm sure you will complete the new Hall soon and may this and all future projects go smoothly.

May you be well and happy.

Regards
Yi Sifu

FUEL REDUCTION

As the fire season approaches, a fire fuel reduction program will be undertaken at our Centre particularly on Saturdays over the next few months.

Please assist as this is a most important precaution

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we need to attend to throughout the fire risk season.

DINNER AND GROCERY SHOPPING ROSTERS

Members are requested to please help out by offering money towards our weekly shopping. It is estimated the weekly shopping for food and supplies consumed by Members at the Centre costs about \$60 - \$70.

This does not include meals brought or offered by the Members. Currently most of this is contributed by Anita and Frank who keep the fridge, pantry and bathrooms well stocked at all times.

As we have done in the past Members are requested to help out by offering a weekly or monthly cash donation towards these costs. Please see Frank to arrange a regular contribution with him.

Our other request is to help Anita in cooking and offering meals. On many occasions every week Anita cooks for Members or guests which is something she loves doing. However this year Anita will be increasing her work commitments and it will make it easier for her to run her home and the Centre if Members can help out by cooking and offering some of the meals.

Please see Frank to be included on the food roster which has been prepared.

VIETNAMESE VISITS

Members are requested to make a note in your diary's to keep time free on the weekend the Vietnamese Groups are to visit us to celebrate the Lunar New Year. (24 & 25 February)

Each visit generally lasts for about one hour but in that time many helpers are needed to offer food and refreshments to our guests.

It is an inspiring experience to experience first hand the devotion to Buddha and good heart of our Vietnamese visitors.

THE SCHOOL OF SEMARA TANTRA

H.R.H Princess Marianne Maitrie Pandji Sakti and The School of Semara Tantra are conducting intensive courses in the art of transformation, refinement and inner confidence. Princess Marianne is wife of the late H.E. Prince Ratu Pandji Pandita, Lineage Holdor of the Indonesian Vajrayana Buddhist Tradition.

Princess Maitrie has offered to run a weekend course for our Members on 10th and 11th of March at the reduced cost of \$50.00 per person. Members who are interested please see Anita Carter.



Cambodean Dhamma Master Buth Savong together with Dr Tel and Venerable Sambathsam during their recent visit to Upwey.



Christmas Dinner 2006

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