

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #39, APRIL 2011



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

ABBOT'S REPORT

We welcome autumn and winter seasons... a time to reflect and take stock of where we are. One thing that I have been considering lately is 'energy'. How does one develop enough energy to do all the things that are needed. There are several Buddha Dhamma resources that give us information about what the Buddha said about energy... Please read them they have been sent to us from Bhikkhu Sammahita.

From my own experiences I have found that developing a sense of urgency about something tends to raise the energy within me that propels me into action... the main thing that I use is to reflect on how precious human life is (so difficult to gain and rare to keep) and how old I am... that I may only have another 20 years left of active ability... also knowing the fragility of living... that sickness or injury can also stop me doing what I want... the other trigger I use is seeing that the conditions for doing something are difficult to accumulate... so when the right conditions are there... I must act ASAP before the conditions change... otherwise it will make it difficult to do...

So I see each day as an opportunity do something valuable... to make a real difference to my self and others... not to just go along each day... with the same expectations and routine thinking.

May you be well and happy and gain and develop all the energy you need to achieve what you need.

All my love, Anita xxx

OUTSTANDING WOMAN IN BUDDHISM

We congratulate Anita Carter for being chosen for an Outstanding Woman in Buddhism Award by an international committee of scholars and Buddhist monastics. Anita was honoured at the awards ceremony on 4 March in recognition of the United Nations International Women's Day 2011.

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAY	MEMBERS' DAY MERIT MAKING
SATURDAY EVENINGS	BUDDHA DHAMMA MEDITATION TEACHING BY VENERABLE SANGHA OR GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER 8.00PM
SUNDAY WEEKLY	BUDDHIST HOUR RADIO 4-5:00PM
9 APRIL	THE WAY OF THE BRUSH WITH ANITA CARTER 9:30-10:30AM
16 APRIL	INTRODUCTION AND BAMBOO CLASS WITH PENNIE WHITE 9:30-10:30AM
23 APRIL	BEGINNERS SUMI-E CLASS WITH JULIAN BAMFORD 11.00AM-12 NOON
22-26 APRIL	BHAVANA COURSE
30 APRIL	CHAN CLASS WITH MELBA NIELSEN
30 APRIL	GENERAL MEETING
1 MAY	CAMBERWELL MARKET STALL
7 MAY	INTRODUCTION AND BAMBOO CLASS WITH PENNIE WHITE 9:30-10:30AM
8 MAY	MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER STALL
21 MAY	UN VERSAK CELEBRATION MELBOURNE TOWN HALL



PHOTO: ANITA CARTER RECEIVING THE OUTSTANDING WOMAN IN BUDDHISM AWARD [PHOTO: MALIWAN]

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PHOTO: ANITA CARTER MAKING A SPEECH AT THE CEREMONY FOR THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF BUDDHISM AWARDS HELD ON 4 MARCH 2011 [PHOTO BY MALIWAN]



PHOTO: ANITA CARTER (RIGHT) AT THE OUTSTANDING WOMAN IN BUDDHISM AWARD ON 4 MARCH [PHOTO BY MALIWAN]

See the cover image of the latest BDDR Number 21 Volume 2 for a group shot from the event at:

<http://www.bdcu.org.au/BDDR/bddr21no1/bddr21no1.html> There will be more pictures uploaded to this issue soon.

UN DAY OF VESAK 2011

The United Nations Day of Vesak 2011 will be held on 21 May at the Melbourne Town Hall.

The United Nations Day of Vesak Fundraising Dinner was held on Saturday the 2nd of April at 6.30pm at Quang Minh Temple, Braybrook.

Rachael Wass recently sent a link to the video of last year's UN Vesak musical which is online on Quang Minh Temple's website.

Please use the link below to locate the video and enjoy it all over again as it is delightful.

<http://www.youtube.com/quangminh temple>

PUJA FOR THE EARTHQUAKE TSUMANI IN JAPAN

A Medicine Buddha – Azure Radiance Tathagata Puja was held on Saturday 19 March 2011 to generate blessings, request the help of the Heavenly Dhamma Assembly, and to transfer merits to all those, human and other who have passed away or are suffering as a result of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami, and for all affected by the tragedy of natural disasters occurring in New Zealand, the floods in Queensland and disasters around the world.

The puja was guided by our Abbot Anita Carter, and the participating Dhamma students were Frank Carter, Peter Marshall, Julian Bamford, Sally Kelly, Kate Lindbeck and Simon Kearney. Participants made offerings of food, flowers and juices for the puja.

Students who were present as well as some who were not able to attend wrote messages, requests and blessings. These messages contained; wishes for those suffering from effects of the tsunami, earthquake and nuclear disaster, as well as requests for blessings for family members and friends.

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Together we read the Bhaishaja Gura Prayer ritual in full, with the Twelve Vows of the Medicine Buddha, and chanted repetitions of many powerful mantras. Homage and requests were made to Lord Sakyamuni Buddha, the Medicine Buddha, Padmasambhava, Quan Yin, and nine Maha Bodhisattvas including John D. Hughes, Ksitsigharba, Maitreya, Avalokitesvara, Manjushri, Aria Tara, Mahastamaprapta who were requested to ease the sorrows of the Japanese people, all beings residing in Japan, and all beings around the world who are experiencing suffering at this time.

May whatever resources and help they need come quickly and in abundance.

May their pain ease quickly.

May all beings be free from mental and physical suffering.

WORLD FELLOWSHIP OF BUDDHIST'S 2012 CONFERENCE

Please note that we have recently identified that the next World Fellowship of Buddhist's conference will be held in Korea early in May 2012. We are seeking a team of 8 members to assist Anita and Frank at this immense merit-making event. Please notify Peter Marshall by email (titan@alphalink.com.au) to register your interest.

ALL ABOARD FOR INDIA 2011

Members should be aware that a pilgrimage to the significant historical sites of the Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment, first turning of the wheel of Dharma, Vulture Peak (where he taught the Prajna Paramitta), and, the place where he entered Paranirvana, is being planned, now.

It is expected that Anita, Frank and other members will be travelling for a 2 week period, from 1 to 15 November this year.

Any persons contemplating accompanying us, should contact Peter Marshall by email (titan@alphalink.com.au) to register your interest ASAP. Come join us for this extraordinary opportunity. All members are encouraged to participate.

FIVE DAY BHAVANA COURSE

The next Five Day Bhavana Course will be held from 22 April to 26 April 2011.

MERIT MAKING ACTIVITIES CALENDER

Shortly, you will be receiving your, (better late than never), Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd's, Merit Making Activities Calender. Please, do not be alarmed! Our intention with this planning tool, is to inform you of the breadth and scope of the merit making opportunities available.

By knowing in advance, the range of activities and tasks available, we hope that you will take advantage of this aid to help schedule and integrate your activities with those of the Temple. You will note that each month's activities are divided into 4 categories, 3 of which will be familiar to many of you.

These are: International Dharma Activities (IDA); a new designation, Dharma Environment (DE); Corporate, Governance and Reporting (CGR); and, Local Area Planning and Asset Management (LAPAM).

We suggest that each member schedule and commit, to some activity from each of these categories, every month. Further, by notifying the appropriate, responsible, person in charge, of your commitment, you will assist them, in coordinating the timely and efficient dispensation of their tasks.

This is an effective method, enabling you, to make necessary positive causes, in areas that you may not have a Karmic disposition towards. Our Bodhisattva

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practice requires us to make enormous good causes in many, various and diverse areas of endeavour.

Whilst we have sought to make a comprehensive listing of all our associated activities and their time parameters, it is potentially probable that due to the nature of Samsaric existence, changes will occur and omissions will have gone unnoticed. We encourage you to take full advantage of this valuable tool and remind you that it contains Dharma material and so expired sections should be placed in a rotatorium.

Please note that an electronic pdf version is also available by request. Contact Peter Marshall at titan@alphalink.com.au.

MONTHLY MARKET STALL FUNDRAISER

Our new stall site at the Camberwell Market, No 211 located along the west side, with only one row of stalls gives more space and seems to promote less bustle enabling buyers to browse a little more.

Combined with our enthusiastic market stall team and a steady inflow of donations of second hand items over recent months has resulted in net income of \$807.05 (after the monthly site fee of \$52) for the four markets since January.

We have received donations for Dhammarajika Orphanage totalling \$37.75. If you, family or friends have something you do not want to throw out but do not need to keep, in the second hand market one person's junk often becomes another's treasure. Please see Sue Goodes if you have items to donate.

Thank you to our market team for 2011. Thank you to Julian, David, Michelle, Kate, Sue, Simon and others for their dedication.

The Camberwell Rotary Club announced on Sunday that the proceeds it raised from Sunday's market will be going to the Japanese Tsunami and Earthquake appeal. We will be donating \$122.25, half of the net income from our stall on the weekend

to the Japanese Tsunami and Earthquake appeal.

May all beings affected by the disaster be free from suffering. May they acquire all the help and resources need to rebuild their lives in safety.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE FUNDRAISER

On Sunday 17 July we are running a Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunnings Scoresby, 1467 Ferntree Gully Road, from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Please put this day in your diary. Julian is coordinating the event this year and will be in touch over coming weeks to tell you more, seek your help and get the event team roster organised. See you at the sizzle – Julian.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER STALL

On Sunday 8 May we will run a Mother's Day Flower Stall at the Mobil Service Station in Boronia. Please see Adam Richards if you would like to participate.

SPECIAL INTEREST ITEM

Our Member Michelle Hill came across an interesting article in the Shambala Sun Magazine website. This interesting article announced that Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala would be attending the Wedding of Kate Middleton and Prince William later this year. Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala would be the first Buddhist monk in Britain to ever attend a Royal Wedding.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Michelle Hill is on a visit home to California. During her time away, Michelle has been very busy strengthening her faith in her Buddha Dharma practice and creating good causes to experience even more harmonious relationships in her family and among her Dharma friends back in Australia.