



Brooking Street Bulletin

Issue #69, January 2015

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

Teaching Program for 2015

Our weekly Saturday afternoon classes are on break until early April as we use this time to complete our new Sakyamuni Buddha Altar, our path and steps leading to our marble Quan Yin image and to maintain our centre's garden and buildings.

Four Day December Bhavana Course

Members and Friends attended a Four Day Bhavana Course held at our centre from 28th December to 31st December 2014. The main subject for the course was 'Punna (Pali) - Deeds That Cleanse'.

Venerable Sambath Sam, who is a senior Venerable from Wat Buddharangsi, Springvale, and several other monks from Wat Dhammaram Springvale attended on Monday the 29th of December for dana (lunch) offering. Venerable Sambath Sam blessed us with an excellent Dhamma talk on the subject of Punna. In his talk he explained the ten ways of making merit:

1. Giving alms (dana)
2. Observing virtue (sila)
3. Developing concentration (bhavana)
4. Honouring others (apacayana-maya)
5. Offering service (veyyacca-maya)
6. Dedicating (or transferring) merit to others (pattidhana-maya)
7. Rejoicing in others merit (pattanumodana-maya)
8. Listening to Dhamma Teachings (dhammassavana-maya)
9. Instructing others in the Teachings (dhammadesana-maya)
10. Correcting ones view (ditthujukamma)

We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to Venerable Sambath Sam and the Venerable Sangha

Important Dates

Every Saturday	Members' Day 11am - 10pm Merit Making Activities
Ongoing until the 28 th of March	Weekend Merit Making activities, from 11am. All welcome to attend.
Every Saturday	Buddhist Meditation Class 8pm - 10:00pm
Every Sunday	Buddhist Hour live on 3MDR 97.1fm 4pm - 5pm
Every Thursday	Dakini Teachings for female students 8pm - 10pm. <i>Dakini Teachings are on break until March 2015.</i>
First Saturday of each month	General Meeting 5.00pm. All welcome to attend
28th February & 1st March	Lunar New Year Vietnamese Temple Visits
Saturday 28th February	Guru Rinpoche Padmasambhava Tsok (Puja) 8pm
Sunday 8th March	Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser, Bunnings Warehouse, Scoresby
Sunday 20 th March	Guru Rinpoche Padmasambhava Tsok (Puja) 8pm
Saturday from 11 th April	"Dhamma teaching for everyday life" 2pm – 4pm

from Wat Dhammaram for visiting our temple and providing us with many ways to make merit in their Noble presence.

Throughout the course we constructed the new foundation and base for our 800 kg (approx) white marble Sakyamuni Buddha image. (see photos below)



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The Bhavana Course concluded on New Year’s Eve with a Guru Rinpoche Padmasambhava Tsok (puja) and a Bell Puja.



Photograph: Abbot Anita Carter, Members and Friends offering flowers to the nagas and local gods in the stump holes of the altar base for our white marble Sakyamuni Buddha image.



Photograph: Simon Kearney, Frank Carter, Destin Nguyen and Peter Marshall installing the concrete stumps of the marble Buddha base.



Photograph: Kym Merriman, Nicole Moustakas and Julian Bamford lay bricks to form the walls of the marble Buddha base.



Photograph: The Buddha base was near completion by the end of the course, and the marble mosaic was completed in the first week of January. Photograph taken on the 22nd January 2015.



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Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu to all who attended the course, developed their minds and made lots of merit to fuel their Buddha Dhamma practice.

Vice President Updates

Local Area Planning & Asset Management

On 23rd of January a crane company placed our marble Sakyamuni Buddha Image onto its specially made altar base and raised our marble Quan Yin image onto its lotus base. Well done to everyone who helped to make this happen.



Photo: Marble Sakyamuni Buddha Image on the 23rd January 2015.

Knowledge Management

Our Centre now has a YouTube Channel, which was setup on the 10th January 2015 by Anita Carter and Evelin Martin. The name of our YouTube Channel is "Lifetimes of Learning", and its logo is our Dhamma Chakra Wheel in the colour pink.

Our YouTube Channel provides teachings and meditation as taught by the Buddha. The teaching program includes the Buddhist Hour radio broadcast recorded live, recordings of Chan painting classes and more.

The first three videos loaded are titled “Constructing Buddha Shakyamuni Image Base, parts 1 to 3.

Persons can find our YouTube channel by going to www.youtube.com, and typing “lifetimes of learning” into the search bar.

Public Relations: Lunar New Year Vietnamese Temple Visits

We wish you, your family and friends a healthy, harmonious, joyful and prosperous new year.



Photo: Marble Quan Yin Statue on lotus base; 23rd January 2015.

Our next major projects are building a Sakyamuni Buddha image canopy and a Vajra Guru Room for our Abbot Anita.



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On the 28th of February 2015, the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd will be hosting Venerable Thich Thien Tam and the laypeople from Hoa Nghiem Temple on their Tet New Year Pilgrimage. The next day (Sunday the 1st of March, 2015) we are privileged to receive Thich Tam Hoa and the members of Phat To Temple.

The Vietnamese temple visits are a precious opportunity to form a cherished friendship with our Vietnamese Buddhist brothers and sisters and partake in 'deeds that cleanse' the mind. It is a very special day on which we welcome in the new and rejoice in the blessings of the Dhamma together.

Our aim is to make the Centre and its gardens lush, beautiful and inviting in preparation for the two days. All members are invited to be involved in the working bees which will begin on Saturday the 14th of February 2015, and continue until the conclusion of the events.

We request all our Members to assist in providing a heartfelt welcome.

If you would like to be of assistance, please contact Simon Kearney at the Centre on (03) 9754 3334.

Fundraising

Thank you very much to everyone who helped with our Christmas Day Flower Stalls fundraiser on the 25th December 2014. We held two stalls; the first was on Burwood Highway in Ferntree Gully and the second on Canterbury Road in Bayswater. The combined net profit of the stalls was \$601.00 and we raised \$119 for Dharmarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh.

We wish to advise that the proposed Roti Wrap Food Stall Fundraiser at Belgrave Survival Day on 26th January 2015 will not be going ahead. Please advise the Vice Presidents' CGR Fundraising: Adam Richard and Claire Ransome if you know of any

good events that we can trial our Roti Wrap fundraising product. Thank you.



Photograph: President of the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia, Frank Carter at one of our Christmas Day Flower Stalls.

Mahakala Empowerment

His Eminence Luding Khen Rinpoche recently offered a Refuge Ceremony and Mahakala Empowerment (Highest Yoga Tantra) at Nalandra Buddhist Meditation Centre on Saturday 17th January 2015.

Several Members and Friends from our Centre had the great privilege of attending and receiving the



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Mahakala Empowerment. Some attendees formally took Refuge in the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha in a special ceremony led by H.E. Luding Khen Rinpoche.

The Zimwock Rinpoche website states that “Mahakala is the King of the Dharma Protectors and he has enormous strength and power to help Buddhist practitioners dispel obstacles on their path. As the Lord of the Vajra Pavillion, Mahakala is one of the most revered Tibetan Buddhist protector deities, and is the principal protector of the Sakya Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. In his most common form, Mahakala is considered to be the wrathful manifestation of Avalokiteshvara, the Bodhisattva of Compassion.” Reference: <http://www.zimwock.org/>, accessed on the 3rd December 2014.

During the empowerment, a powerful human-sized Mahakala statue with silver teeth and copper nails was unveiled at Nalandra Buddhist Meditation Centre.

We wish to express our deep gratitude to H.E. Luding Khen Rinpoche for visiting Nalandra Buddhist Meditation Centre and offering this special empowerment. We also thank the Spiritual Director of Nalandra Buddhist Meditation Centre, our friend H.E. Zimwock Rinpoche, for inviting H.E. Luding Khen Rinpoche and providing the conditions for this Empowerment to take place.

Dhammarajika Orphanage

We are delighted to announce that on the 6th January 2015, our Centre deposited AUD \$3,170 into the Dhammarajika Orphanage bank account. Thank you to all those who contributed to this wonderful and much needed fundraiser. We extend our special thanks to Ishka for their efforts in collecting significant donations in their stores across Australia.



Photograph: Students and teachers of Dharmarajika High School enjoying a picnic on the 2nd March, 2012 at Shafipur picnic spot near Dhaka City. Photograph supplied by Dhammarajika Orphanage

Below is an email which we received on the 14th December 2014 from Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero, Chief Monk and President of Dharmarajika Orphanage to convey his deep gratitude for our and Ishka’s kind help in providing support to the orphanage.

To
Mr. Frank Carter
Hon'ble President
Buddhist Discussion Center
33 Brooking Street
Upwey, Victoria 3158, Australia.

Dear Mr. Carter,

At the beginning I wish to express my hearty greetings to you and the same to Mr. Anita Carter and all the dedicated members of Buddhist Discussion Centre.

Since the Merry Christmas is ahead; therefore through you I also wish to offer my sincere greetings and best wishes to all your Christian friends, Kiths and Kins. Moreover I gratefully convey my blessings to the staff members of ISHKA Store who are also much concerned towards our resident children of



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Dharmarajika Orphanage, Dhaka.

I am not much well physically. Last month I had to undergo one minor operation in my leg. Despite my old aged physical condition I have been making my untiring efforts for the welfare of orphan and destitute children of our society. You have been coming forward with helping hand in my philanthropic activities. I am confident that you will continue your such trend in the days to come for the sake of humanity. I always pay my homage to Most Respected John D. Hughes who is always revered by all our organization.

Once again I offer my hearty blessings to you all.

With Metta & best wishes in Dhamma,

Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero
President, Dharmarajika Orphanage
And
Lord Abbot, Dharmarajika Buddhist Monastery
Atisha Dipankar Sarak, Sabujbag
Dhaka-1214, Bangladesh.

On 5th January 2015, our President Frank Carter responded with the following correspondence to Venerable Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero, President of Dharmarajika Orphanage and Lord Abbot of Dharmarajika Buddhist Monastery.

Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero
President, Dharmarajika Orphanage
And
Lord Abbot, Dharmarajika Buddhist Monastery
Atisha Dipankar Sarak, Sabujbag
Dhaka-1214, Bangladesh.

Dear Venerable Suddhananda Mahathero,

May you be completely recovered and strong and healthy to continue your extraordinary benevolent work for your community in Bangladesh.

Thank you for your recent letter and Blessings which we were very happy to receive on the 14th of December.

We are all well and have benefitted from a recent meditation course we conducted at our centre in Melbourne in the days following Christmas. We have been building a rectangular platform which we are covering in polished granite which will support a solid marble Buddha image which was donated to our temple some time ago. We believe the image weighs about 600 – 700 kilograms so the base on which it will sit has to be constructed very well to last for 100's of years.

I have passed on your best wishes to our Members and to Ishka. Coincidentally they have recently advised us of a money transfer of funds into our account resulting from the collection jars they have placed in their stores. The donation which they kindly sent to us was AUS\$2,773.

As a result we will be able to send an international funds transfer to your account sometime this week which we hope will be about \$US2,750. Our Australian dollar is now quite weak against the US dollar so this does reduce the amount we can offer to Dharmarajika Orphanage.

Please send our best wishes for the New Year to all our friends in Dhaka who we were delighted to see in China recently.

On behalf of our Abbot, Anita Carter; may you be well and strong to continue to uphold the great Buddhist heritage of Bangladesh.

With metta,

Yours in the Dhamma,

Frank Carter
President.



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WFB Communication

We received the following email from the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB).

WFB communication CC 18-57 - Warmest Greetings for New Year B.E. 2558 (2015)

No: CC18-57

Subject: Warmest Greetings for New Year B.E.2558 (2015)

Date: 30 December B.E. 2557 (2014)

Originator: PHALLOP THAIARRY
Secretary General of The WFB

Suggested Distribution: The WFB Office Bearers, Executive Council Members, Regional Centres and its networks

The year B.E. 2557 (2014) is going to pass us in the blink of an eye and replaced by B.E. 2558 (2015). May I respectfully invoke the Royal Address of His Majesty the King of Thailand to endow you with propitiousness on New Year B.E. 2558 (2015).

“May you be blessed with pure perseverance, sharp wisdom, and complete physical health ”

And I also would like to convey warmest greetings for New Year B.E.2558 (2015) from H.E. Phan Wannamethee, President of the WFB, to all Buddhist fellows.

“On the auspicious occasion of New Year B.E. 2558 (2015), I, as the President of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB), would like to convey my warmest greetings of New Year to all Buddhist fellows. May I respectfully invoke the holy Triple Gem and all sacred things to protect and guard you to experience happiness physically and spiritually, excellent health and prosper with the four grace

blessings – age, vitality, happiness and good health – unhinged by grieve, sickness and peril.

I also wish that this New Year endow you with contentment, prosperity and success in all your endeavors throughout the years. ”

Phan Wannamethee
President
The World Fellowship of Buddhists

WFB Communication (continued)

On 5th December 2014, we received the following letter from the President of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB).

WFB 112/2557

28 November B.E.2557 (2014)

Mr. Frank Carter
Hon. Assistance Secretary-General
The World Fellowship of Buddhists

Subject: Sincerest thank

Dear Mr. Frank Carter,

On behalf of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB), I would like to convey our sincerest thank for dedicating your time and effort in attending the 27th WFB General Conference held in Baoji, Shaanxi, People’s Republic of China.

Regrettable, I was unable to attend the Conference due to having got a high fever before going to China and my doctor had forbid me to travel. Nevertheless, I was informed about the success of the Conference by Mr. Phallop Thaiarry, the Secretary-General, who I entrusted to co-operate with the host Country – Buddhist Association of China and assist in convening the Conference. We can say achievement of the Conference was resulted from collaboration,

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commitment and dedication from all the WFB Regional Centres, honourable guests, delegates and observers including most importantly the enthusiastic of all participants.

In addition, accomplishment of the WFB General Conference will not be perceived unless the entire effort of yours and all rapporteurs was received. And please also allow me to praise the following persons in this regard.

1. Mrs. Anita M. Carter
2. Ms. Nicole Moustakas
3. Ms. Sally Kelly

We value your contribution to the WFB which you have collaborated throughout the time. Hopefully, we will receive your kind co-operation as always for next of the WFB General Conferences in B.E. 2559 (2016) and in Japan B.E. 2561 (2018) which will be hosted by Japan Buddhist Federation. Meanwhile, we may have the WFB forum or assembly; we hope that you will extend your co-operation to the Secretariat Office as always.

A sincerest thank to your once again and look forward to seeing you in the next EXCO Meeting.

Yours in the Dharma,

Phan Wannamethee
President
The World Fellowship of Buddhists



Pictured is the Dhamma Chakra Wheel, which was presented to our late Founder Master John D Hughes by Chan Painter Melba Nielsen. Our logo was created from this wheel.

Monthly Recipe: Sangria Punch - Red

Recipe from Melba Nielsen

Ingredients:

- 4 bottles cranberry juice
- 2 bottles dry ginger ale
- 1 lemonade
- 4 soda water
- 1 raspberry syrup
- 1 punnet strawberries
- Fresh mint leaves

In a punch bowl mix chilled cranberry juice, dry ginger ale, lemonade, soda water, raspberry syrup and cut up strawberries, orange slices, lemon and mint leaves.

You can also freeze a wreath of bay leaves set with cherries, strawberries and blueberries to dunk in the punch.