



# Brooking Street Bulletin

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, October 2018

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 03 9754 3334

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## Abbot's Message



*Namo Tassa Bhagavato Arahato  
Sammāsambuddhasa*

My heart sings with joy and delight as I recollect our 40th Anniversary Celebration. My deepest thanks and appreciation for your help in making the event a success. May the merits generated follow you for lifetimes.

As we embark on our 41st year as a Buddhist Centre the single most important aspect of our function is to look after each other. Love is so needed in our world and is the one common nutrient required by all beings. Therefore our focus is to love all beings, never to abandon them.

Loving kindness meditation as taught by the Buddha Sakyamuni is the fundamental practice for our Centre.

*Whatever beings there be,  
May they be free from hatred,  
May they be free from harming others,  
May they be free from hurting others,  
May they be trouble free in body and mind,  
May they preserve their own happiness.  
May you be well and happy.*

With all my love,  
Anita

## Important Dates

<i>Every Saturday</i>	<u>11am - 10pm</u> Members' Day Meritorious activities and Classes when scheduled
<i>Every Saturday</i>	<u>7:30pm - 9:30pm:</u> Buddhist Meditation
<i>Every Thursday</i>	<u>8pm</u> Mahamudra Class
<i>Every Sunday</i>	<u>4pm - 5pm</u> Buddhist Hour live on 3MDR 97.1fm
<i>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<u>11am</u> Manjusri Puja <u>1pm</u> Members Thank You BBQ
<i>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October</i>	Padmasambhava Tsok
<i>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October</i>	Kathina Ceremony at Manohara Forest Monastery
<i>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October</i>	Kathina Ceremony at Sakyamuni Sambuddha Vihara
<i>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November</i>	Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunnings Scoresby
<i>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November</i>	World Fellowship of Buddhists Conference in Japan
<i>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November</i>	Kathina Ceremony at Dhamma Sarana
<i>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November</i>	Padmasambhava Tsok
<i>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November</i>	Kathina Ceremony at Wat Thai Melbourne



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## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2018, the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd held our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. The ambitious event was comprised of two parts – a Sangha Dana in the morning and the official ceremony held in our Heavenly Dhamma Garden in the afternoon. It was the culmination of months of planning and preparations by our members.

The day began very early in the morning with members rising to switch on the slow cookers to reheat the all the food that had been cooked two days before. The Centre soon became a hive of activity as many of our members arrived to complete the final preparations for the day. Flowers had to be placed on all the altars, the Sangha dana needed setting up, our newly published book was to be placed on seats and the finishing touches were added to the stages, all under dark clouds that threatened rain.

To our surprise, lay guests and sangha members started to arrive at 9:10am (we were expecting guests 40 minutes later). Slightly rushed, we managed to look after their needs and did our best to ensure they felt welcomed.

After an acknowledgement of country, Anita warmly welcomed the Venerable Sangha and our lay guests, thanking them for their attendance at our most auspicious 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. Instructions were provided by our MC Simon Kearney as to how to make the offering to the Sangha. Under the direction of head chef Destin Nguyen, the kitchen staff worked hard to produce enough food for the awaiting Sangha and lunch for about 100 lay guests.

Once the blessing of the food had been completed by each tradition, lunch was served for our lay audience. Buddhist Discussion Centre members were busy behind the scenes ensuring the

appearance of a smooth and professionally run event by discreetly removing furniture for the monks and nuns and directing lay guests to get their lunch.

The Sangha Dana was concluded with an excellent and engaging Dhamma talk by Venerable Thich Phuoc Tan on the importance of creating harmony which supported the growth of the participants.

The audience stood as the Venerable Sangha departed the first venue and made their way to our Heavenly Dhamma garden in which we had set up a temporary stage and placed about 100 seats. Each chair had a gift bag as an offering to our guests which contained a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Booklet, a USB stick containing our oral history documentary project and our chanting, and a gum leaf book mark. The rest of our guests followed, taking their positions to await the formal part of the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. As various sections of the ceremony employed multimedia, there were three digital LCD screens placed in strategic locations for everyone to watch.

Conducted with the appropriate gravitas, Director Julian Bamford directed proceedings as the MC. Once indigenous country had been acknowledged, the ceremony began with members performing the chanting of the Vandana for Buddha, Pancasila and Triple Gem refuge. This was followed by our President Frank Carter who welcomed everyone, explained the significance of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, spoke about our Founder John Hughes and his vision, and thanked all the beings who have contributed over the 40 years history to the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia.

The next speaker was Councillor Noel Cliff who provided a heart-warming show of support for our Centre. We were blessed to receive many congratulatory and auspicious messages from



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Venerable Sangha and other friends from around the world who have known us over the years. Julian took the time to acknowledge and thank each author for their show of support. To acknowledge the special relationship we share with His Holiness Sanghanayaka Suddhananada Mahathero, President of the Dharmarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh, Julian read aloud the Venerable’s letter of greetings.

Our Vice President Destin Nguyen took to the stage to introduce the Stone Laying Ceremony for our new building called the ‘Golden Pavilion Buddha House’. Our audience was treated to a digital display of the building on the LCD screens. Monks and nuns from each tradition were invited to the front of the stage to offer flowers into the ground in front of the stone and chant, each in their own tradition, to provide protection blessing for the new building.

The final section of the ceremony was conducted by Vice President Claire Ransome who presented our newly published book to the audience. She briefly explained the journey the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd undertook to publish ‘Bringing Wisdom to Life’ and provided a summary of the teachings. Working in pairs, Members then offered a copy to each of our guests.

Julian invited Venerable Tang onto the stage to complete the Dedication of Merits at the conclusion of the ceremony. All our guests were requested to gather in front of the Hall for a group photo which was taken by Jamal. Due to the inclement weather, afternoon tea was served in the marquee back where we started the Sangha Dana.

It was a highly successful event for all those involved in each of the stages. Much gratitude and thanks to Anita Carter and Frank Carter for providing us with such a meritorious opportunity to make a significant contribution to this Buddha

Sasana. All members were excellent in their roles as true Buddha Dhamma practitioners.

May the merits be shared amongst all beings.  
May you gain great insight as a result of your work on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.  
May you be well and happy.  
May all beings be well and happy.

**Article author:** Simon Kearney



**Group Photo**



**Photo:** Marquee Altar



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**Photo:** Our Centre’s 40th Anniversary Birthday cake. L to R – Chi Kwang Sunim, Venerable Phuoc Tan, Frank Carter, Anita Carter, Venerable Cathy Evans.

**Photos:** Venerable Phuoc Tan OAM speaking with our Abbot Anita Carter, **Below** - Sangha Dana



**Photo:** Dhamma Talk by Venerable Phuoc Tan, Abbot of Quang Minh Temple



**Photo:** Guests seated in our Heavenly Dhamma Garden



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**Photo:** President's Speech

## History of the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia

Our centre's major projects for our 40th Anniversary included creating two histories of our centre covering the period since its founding in 1978. The first history was an oral history presented as video interviews with past and present Members of our centre. The second was a brief written history of our centre compiled into four periods of ten years each.

### Brief Written History

Four of our Directors were involved in writing the brief written history with each compiling one of the four ten-year periods.

The finished written history was included in our 40th Anniversary Commemoration Booklet provided to our Guests at our anniversary celebration on the 9th of September. The sources used to compile the history were:

- Minutes of General Committee Meetings since 1978
- The Buddhist Discussion Centre Newsletter Publication 1978 - 1990.

- The Buddha Dhyana Dana Review 1991 - 2015
- The Brooking Street Bulletin.

The brief history is around 40 A4 pages in length and was broadcast on our Buddhist Hour radio as four programs just prior to our 40th Anniversary Celebration.

Australian Buddhist Scholar, Dr. Anna Halafoff has researched the history of Australian Buddhism and she contacted the centre just before our Anniversary event to ask for a copy of our Centre's history. Dr. Halafoff is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology and a member of the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization at Deakin University. Our Centre's history is an important documentation of one of Australia's first Buddhist Centres. At the time the BDC was founded there were only five Buddhist centres including ours in Melbourne. Three of these were founded about the same time as our Centre.

Our 40th Anniversary PowerPoint presentation showed photos of the centre and its Members dating back to 1978. The original 1930's house was a small structure on the property and it included a typically wide verandah which encircled most of the building shielding it from the summer heat.

A copy of the brief written history is available on our website as two Buddhist Hour Radio scripts and a collection of about 200 photos from the 40 years of our centre past and recent history is available for Members to view at the Centre. Please see Frank to view or obtain a copy.

### BDC Video Oral History Documentary by Peter Marshall

Following numerous brainstorming meetings held by the Centre's Directors earlier this year, one of the many projects chosen was a documentary style video. Its purpose being to record, where possible,



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the recollections and reminiscences of past and present members of our centre, both for historical/archival purposes and also to produce an artifact in commemoration.

The only person we could interview who had attended the original founding meeting in 1978 conducted by John D. Hughes was Zarna Somaia who is presently resident in India. After unsuccessful attempts at a Skype video recording we settled for an audio version which was recorded by Frank Carter.

Some of the many other interviews were to be conducted by Anita, Frank, or myself, but the majority were facilitated by the indubitable Simon Kearney who was meeting many of our interviewees for the very first time. Jamal Twycross-Smith kindly filmed one interview and I filmed the rest, beginning with a visit to Ocean Grove in early April 2018 to visit another of our early members, Melba Nielsen.

She provided many wonderful anecdotes and insights covering her long lifetime of involvement, participation and contribution.

Over the following weeks and months both Simon and I continued to add to our archive, eventually conducting 24 separate interviews and amassing approximately 23 hours of footage.

Our selection criteria for interviewees were based on their availability and willingness as well as both Simon's and my schedules. As we both work full time most of the interviews were conducted on weekends, some on location at their homes, but many in the hall at our centre.

Despite often problematic lighting scenarios and extraneous sounds including aircraft, mowers, air conditioners, heaters and pesky birds which are all evident at various times, we have recorded for

posterity and future historians of our centre a unique and timely record of their remembered experience.

A big thank you is owed to Simon Kearney for his interviewing skills and confidence which helped put our guests at ease along with Frank Carter whose numerous revisions and suggestions helped shape the final product.

Finally, but most importantly, our sincere thanks to all those who participated for their generous involvement. As a special thank you a DVD version of both the oral history and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event is being prepared and will be sent to all the participants.

(In order of appearance)

Zarna Somaia, Melba Nielsen, June Young, Wendy Clancy, Dorothy Sadler, Frank Carter, Jeff Radford, Joy Fratelle, Leanne Eames, Roger Armitage, Julie O'Donnell, Lisa Nelson, Alex Serrano, Jocelyn Hughes, Julian Bamford, Master Yi, Anita Carter, Alec Sloman, Simon Kearney, Peter Marshall, Destin Nguyen, Mike Young, Vinse Cheung, Claire Ransome, Sally Kelly and, of course, our Founder John D. Hughes aka "Spike".

**Article authors:** Frank Carter & Peter Marshall

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kitchen

The planning and preparations for the food offerings, both to the Sangha and the laypeople, attending the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, started months in advance. Firstly there were discussions about how the food would be provided, would we be accepting offerings from all guest and members, would we be providing all of the food ourselves?

In the end, due largely to health and safety



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concerns, we made the decision that we would solely cater for the event. More planning was then involved as Destin, (Head Chef for the event) devised a menu, wrote out shopping lists, constructed recipes, worked out a kitchen floor plan, a work schedule, allocated roles and responsibilities and documented food safety rules. A massive amount of careful planning and many hours were involved in ensuring that this element of the event went smoothly and successfully.

On the Thursday evening prior to the event, the house kitchen was transformed into a stream lined commercial kitchen as per Destin's careful planning. Next came the shopping expedition which started Thursday night also, with Brooke and Simon visiting the Butchers Supermarket for the meat and chicken, then early on the Friday morning Dandenong Market for the majority of the fruit, vegetables and herbs. Side visits to an Asian grocer, spice shop; Whole foods market and two supermarkets were also undertaken. We carefully selected only premium quality produce to ensure that we were cooking with the freshest and best quality ingredients possible.

After all of this produce was unpacked back at 33 Brooking Street, the kitchen prep team (Simon, Brooke, Anita, Trish, Leonie, Sally and Julia) got to work! All day Friday was spent mindfully, chopping, peeling, crushing, dicing, grating, washing, frying, soaking, boiling, searing and slow cooking! By late on Friday night we had prepared 8 delectable dishes, ready for Sunday. In addition to maintaining high standards of safe food handling in the cooking and preparation, we also had to ensure that the food was properly stored in a temperature-controlled walk in, mobile cool room that was hired especially for the event.

Saturday was spent checking temperatures, running through the work schedule, cleaning, clearing and setting up the work space and setting out dishes and utensils ready for the big day. A run sheet of each dish, how many serves was required for the Sangha

offering and the order they would be served, was devised.

As the morning of the event came around, the kitchen team (Des, Sally, Leonie, Trish and Brooke) arrived bright and early. Dressed in black and with aprons at the ready, we first made offerings to the Kitchen God and then began to heat and prepare the food. We had slow cookers, ovens, deep fryers and stoves all going to ensure that all the food was hot and ready to serve. The kitchen prep team was joined by two wait staff who were responsible for ferrying food from the kitchen to the tables set up outside for offerers to collect food from. A steady stream of dishes (somewhere in the vicinity of 180 -200) were served up and offered to the Sangha. Ushers and other members assisted in directing the flow of service. After the Dana Blessing, all available members joined the food team to serve the guests and visiting dignitaries. Afternoon tea of cake, coffee and tea was served in the marquee at the conclusion of the day.

A massive thank you to all that assisted with this important element of the day. Destin, Leonie, Anita, Simon, Trish, Sally, Brooke, Julia, Nicole M., Alice and Carol all played an important part in ensuring that it all went smoothly. A big thank you also to all the ushers and other members who jumped in and assisted. Also big thanks to David Ley for washing literally thousands of dishes! I think we can be very proud of the food we produced, the service we provided and the manner in which we worked together. A massive amount of merit was made and shared with all.

**Article author:** Brooke Cross



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**Photo:** Members of Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia preparing food for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia Chanting CD

One of our 40th Anniversary Celebration projects has been to create a CD of the chanting we regularly do as part of our practice at our Centre.

The CD contains recordings of the entire chanting booklet as it is chanted in our classes, as well as a number of mantras from the Mahayana tradition which have been accompanied by some members at our Centre who are musicians.

Some of the tracks have been played on our Buddhist Hour Broadcast on 3MDR 97.1fm over the past couple of weeks.

Qambar Ali, one of our Members, designed and printed a beautiful cover for the CD case which has the entire chanting booklet inside and can be used by students in their home practice.

A digital copy of the CD and Chanting Booklet was offered to guests at our 40th Anniversary Celebration on the USB stick they received in their gift bag. Hard copies of the CD can be collected from our Centre.

Please contact Claire if you would to assist in

making copies of this Dhamma Dana.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all members and friends involved in the recording and production of this CD. In particular, we thank our dear Abbot and Teacher, Anita Carter, for her guidance, wisdom and chanting; Nicole Truscott, for recording and mixing the tracks, and for her guitar and chanting; Qambar Ali for designing the beautiful CD booklet and casing; Claire Ransome for playing violin and arranging the CD, Martin Lawless for playing flute, Julian Bamford and Simon Kearney for their chanting, and the members who chanted together for this CD.

The merit of this Buddhist Chanting CD is dedicated to all beings. May this gift of merit help all beings know the path, realise the path and follow the path.

May the merit ensure that the Buddha Dhamma be taught, practiced, preserved and realised at the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia now and for the next 500 years.

May all beings be well and happy!

**Article author:** Claire Ransome



**Photo:** Members and Friends recording chanting together for the Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia Chanting CD. Photo by Julian Bamford.



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**Photo:** Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia Chanting CD Cover. Designed by Qambar Ali.

## Bringing Wisdom to Life

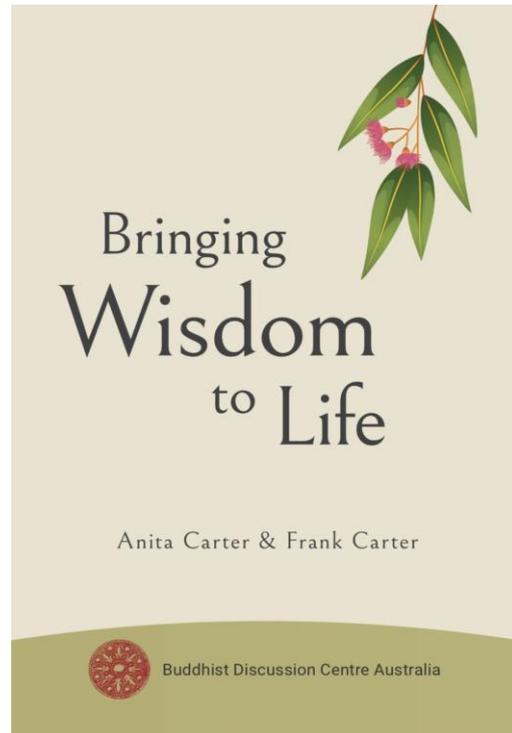
The Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia recently published our first book titled *Bringing Wisdom To Life* just in time for our 40th Anniversary event. We had the great opportunity to offer a free copy of our book to all our Guests and Members on the day as Dhamma Dana. Dhamma Dana is the highest form of dana according to the Buddha because its function is to help beings be free from suffering.

The book is available online through sellers such as Amazon for \$19.95 inc. GST and is available as an iBook and Kindle publication for \$9.95 inc. GST.

Venerable Phuoc Tan from Quang Minh Temple who provided the Forward for the book said that he would recommend our book to anyone wishing to learn about Buddhism. He has placed an order for 200 copies for his temple to give away. He said it is the most suitable book he has read to introduce Buddhism to persons living in our current social conditions.

Anita is also writing a book about Buddhism for families in preparation for our BDC delegations upcoming trip to the World Fellowship of Buddhist Conference in Japan in November this year. The WFB Women's Standing Committee passed a resolution at the last conference in 2016 to publish this book and some of the Members of the standing committee have offered to fund the printing costs.

**Article author:** Frank Carter



**Photo:** Buddhist Discussion Centre Australia *Bringing Wisdom to Life* book cover. Designed by Qambar Ali.

## Annual General Meeting

In this our 40th Anniversary year Members gathered in the Meditation Hall on Saturday the 11th of August for the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd's 39th Annual General Meeting.

The AGM followed the 1pm Annual meeting of the



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Company Directors, which was chaired by Frank Carter, and attended by fellow Directors of the Company: Anita Carter, Peter Marshall, Simon Kearney and Julian Bamford.

The Annual General Meeting commenced at 2pm and was chaired by our President Mr Frank Carter.

The meeting began with chanting by all present of the Vandana for Buddha, Five Precepts and Refuge in the Triple Gem.

Frank opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all attending: to the Chief Deva and Heavenly Mahasangha, to our Abbot and Spiritual Director, Anita Carter, to the Directors, Officer Bearers, Members and Guests.

Following the passing of the Minutes of the previous year's AGM, Frank then delivered the President's Address. He noted the many achievements of the past year, in particular making a contribution of around \$6,600 to Dharmarajika Buddhist Orphanage in Bangladesh, hosting approximately 650 Vietnamese guests from Hua Nghiem Buddhist Temple Springvale and Giac Hoang Temple Noble Park for the celebration of the TET Vietnamese New Year, and conducting an Introduction to Buddhism Course on Saturday afternoons with Teacher Simon Kearney and a Children's Dhamma Course run with Teachers Claire Ransome and Sally Kelly.

He thanked with gratitude, our Abbot and Kalyanamitta Anita Carter on behalf of everyone for her tireless friendship, teaching, direction and support; warmly acknowledged the Directors, Office Bearers and all Members for their kindness, time and good efforts, individually and collectively given to look after the Centre over the year; and invited and encouraged all to please continue to support the Centre through their practice and generosity.

Following the presentation of Financial Reports for year ending 30 June 2018, verbals reports were also presented by: Claire Ransome, Vice President

Corporate Governance and Reporting Fundraising, Simon Kearney, Vice President Corporate Governance and Reporting Public Relations, Destin Nguyen, Vice President Social Media and Vinse Cheung, Librarian and soon to be elected Vice President Knowledge Management.

**Article author:** Julian Bamford

## New BDC Office Bearers

The following persons were elected as Office Bearers for the period of 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018 – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019:

President: Frank Carter

Secretary: Anita Carter

Teaching Program Manager: Anita Carter

Treasurer: Frank Carter

Assistant Treasurer: Destin Nguyen

Vice President Corporate Governance and

Reporting Public Relations: Simon Kearney

Vice President Corporate Governance and

Reporting Fundraising: Claire Ransome

Vice President Social Media: Destin Nguyen

Vice President Knowledge Management: Vinse Cheung

Local Area Planning and Asset Management

Manager: Frank Carter

I.T. Manager: Frank Carter

Joint Assistant I.T. Manager: Jillo Iya and Julia Jouravlev

Fire Prevention and Occupational Health & Safety Manager: Frank Carter

Members Day Manager: Simon Kearney

Executive Producer of Buddhist Hour Radio

Broadcast: Simon Kearney

Librarian: Vinse Cheung.

We congratulate all elected office bearers. A special welcome to our new Joint Assistant I.T. Managers, Jillo Iya and Julia Jouravlev and to our new Vice President Knowledge Management, Vinse Cheung.

**Article author:** Vinse Cheung



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## Grand AGM Dinner

Our yearly Grand Social Event, the Annual AGM Gala Dinner returned this year to the Melba Restaurant, in the Langham Melbourne, No.1 Southgate Ave, Southbank this year.

Joining with Anita and Frank on the Sunday evening following Saturday's AGM, for a sumptuous buffet dinner, 14 of us, Members and partners, dressed up in our elegant finest and shared a joyous and fun evening together.

With our table overlooking the Yarra River and city lights, in the Melba's fine surroundings, we shared in a delicious buffet meal, chosen from the interactive open kitchens and cooking stations, enjoyed good conversation and warm-hearted laughter, and together celebrated our good fortune and the many auspicious blessings of being a Member of our Buddha Dhamma centre's lay Sangha.

Thank you, Destin, for making the booking and facilitating yet another delightful AGM Grand Gala 'Kalyanamitta' Dinner, in this our 40th Anniversary Year.



**Photo:** Members and Friends of the Buddhist Discussion Centre attending Grand AGM Dinner at Melba Restaurant.

**Article author:** Julian Bamford

## Golden Pavilion Buddha House Update

The design for our new Buddha House has been completed by Architect Lawrence Li and was displayed for guests at our 40th Anniversary event. Lawrence is a retired architect who previously designed the temple buildings at Yun Yang Temple in Narre Warren and was recommended to us by Master Yi.

The next step is to find out if we require a Planning Permit for the proposed building. Councillor Noel Cliff has offered to discuss this with the Shire of Yarra Ranges Planning Department to see if we can proceed without needing a Planning Permit. The process would be quicker and simpler for us if this permit is not required.

It is hoped we will receive a response in the next couple of weeks. Then we need to have the final building plans drawn up to apply for a building permit. If these stages can be completed without delay we would be able to start construction of the new building over the upcoming summer period.

Our building fund has \$16,284 available for the building which will be enough to start the project. It is estimated the completed building will cost around \$30,000 on the basis that we provide much of the labour ourselves.

We recently had an opportunity to purchase 169 Buddha images from an importer which is closing down at \$6.19 per each inc. GST. This brings us up to date for all the Buddha images which have been sponsored so far. Since our 1,000 Buddha Images Sponsorship Project commenced in 2006 we have had 771 Buddha images sponsored!

**Article author:** Frank Carter



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## 29<sup>th</sup> World Fellowship of Buddhists General Conference

This year, the 29th World Fellowship of Buddhists General Conference will be held in Narita and Yokohama, Japan. The event will be hosted by the Japan Buddhist Federation (JBF) commencing on Tuesday 6th November and concluding on Friday 9th November. “Compassion in Action” will be the theme for this conference.

Anita and Frank will be joined by our team of rapporteurs consisting of Simon Kearney, Claire Ransome, Destin Nguyen, Mike Young and Jenny Liu. The team will be responsible for writing the minutes from each meeting before submitting the final version to the Secretary General of the WFB, Mr. Phallop Thaiarry at the Closing Ceremony.

After the conference, the team excluding Simon will continue their stay in Japan with a visit to the Kansai region which will include the two old capital cities, Nara and Kyoto. This will provide our Teachers and Members an opportunity to visit many ancient Buddhist Temples and further our understanding of the Japanese culture.

Please wish our team a safe, enjoyable and highly meritorious trip.

**Article author:** Destin Nguyen

## Social Media Update– live on Facebook

In recent weeks, we have been live broadcasting our 7:30 pm Saturday evening chanting and meditation via Facebook live. The broadcasts have been receiving positive feedback from our online following. However, we’ve had experienced some technical difficulties with the feed breaking up during class. If you have suggestions on how we can resolve the technical issue or wish to learn more about the broadcast, please contact Destin via email [wbu@wbu.com.au](mailto:wbu@wbu.com.au).

We look forward to having you at our next Facebook live broadcast.

**Article author:** Destin Nguyen

## Upcoming Sausage Sizzle

In recent years on Melbourne Cup Day, our Centre has run a Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunnings Warehouse in Scoresby. We have been granted this opportunity once again in 2018. This year, Melbourne Cup Day (Tuesday 6th November) will fall during the World Fellowship of Buddhists conference, and seven of our Members will be away in Japan on the day of the Sausage Sizzle.

We wish to go ahead with the fundraiser if we are able to gather a team of volunteers for the day. Please let Claire know if you would like to participate in the Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser.

These events raise much needed funds for our Centre as we are a not-for-profit organisation and do not charge for classes. We warmly thank all those in the past and future who offer their time and resources to help raise money for the BDC.

**Article author:** Claire Ransome

## Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony

Every year at the end of the three-month rains retreat in November, Theravadin Buddhist Temples conduct their Kathina Ceremonies, the annual offering of robes to the Venerable Sangha.

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

There are several Kathina Ceremonies for BDC Members to attend this year. The dates and venues are as follows:

- Manohara Forest Monastery (27<sup>th</sup> October 2018)



# Brooking Street Bulletin

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, October 2018

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- Sakyamuni Sambuddha Vihara (28<sup>th</sup> October 2018)
- Dhamma Sarana (11<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
- Wat Thai Melbourne (18<sup>th</sup> November 2018).

Other temples will be holding Kathina Ceremonies at a similar time and we can let you know when and where they are in early October.

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.

Robe purchase is generally \$100. If this amount is beyond your budget, you can contribute to a robe and share the offering between you. If you wish to participate, please contact Simon Kearney on 0488 666 720 so I can have one put aside for you.

Lay Buddhists arrive around 9:30am. 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.

**Article author:** Simon Kearney

## **‘BLESSED’ Shop**

We are in the process of planning a new fundraiser for our Centre which is a little shop that will stock items for Dhamma practitioners such as mala beads, incense, candles, as well as cards and gifts.

The name of the range will be *‘Blessed’*. We hope that the items in this shop will be of benefit to the practitioners who visit our Centre, and help to raise money for the Centre to continue to flourish.

We do not charge for Dhamma classes at our Centre (except for the Ch'an Painting classes), therefore we arrange fundraisers to help to keep our Centre running.

For now, the shop will be set up near the entrance of our Meditation Hall. In the future, we may set up an online shop as well.

If you would like make some items for the shop or have ideas for products, please contact Claire on 0425 864 056.

**Article author:** Claire Ransome



**Photo:** We will soon be selling mala beads and other items for Dhamma practitioners as a fundraiser for our Centre.