



QSA NEWSLETTER

Sangha Samaggi Togetherness of the Buddhist Sangha

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SHORT SAYINGS OF THE BUDDHA - SELECTED FROM THE DHAMMAPADA

The Bhikkhu who delights in heedfulness looks with fear on heedlessness, advances like fire burning all fetters great and small. (Dhammapada 31)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING COURSES

Qualifying Course in Buddhist Chaplaincy (SIB 001-Delivery 6)

Enrolments for 2018

[PLEASE NOTE NEW DATES]

This course is for anyone who is involved in a helping/service role in the community or who wants to be in the future. The work includes: looking after the sick or elderly; supporting people who are facing life difficulties (marital problems, unemployment, bereavement etc.; advising and guiding school children or university students; visiting in hospitals, hospices and prisons; teaching basic meditation skills and running meditation practice groups (for example in hospitals and workplaces).

Offering help and support to people in need can be hard and challenging work. This course aims to provide some basic tools to guide those who are interested in this type of work. It draws on the teachings of the Buddha, as well as contemporary knowledge about counselling and mental health.

The topics to be covered include: theory and practice of Buddhist chaplaincy, the goal of service, how Buddhist philosophy facilitates chaplaincy work, identifying and assessing the needs of individuals and communities, the limits of Buddhist chaplaincy (legal and otherwise), listening skills, effective communication skills, common mental health problems (and when to refer clients), suicide prevention, self-care for chaplains.

The dates for the Buddhist chaplaincy course are:

Sunday March 04,

Sunday March 11,

Sunday May 13

Sunday May 20

Sunday June 3

All classes run from 9am to 1pm at the Sri Lanka temple, at 114 Considine Street, Ellen Grove, Brisbane, Queensland 4078.

On successful completion of this course, students may apply to the QSA for registration as a Buddhist Chaplain.

Additional information about this course

This course assumes no prior knowledge (of Buddhism, counselling or mental health). Please just come as you are! We particularly welcome students with life experience of performing service work. Even if you do not possess such experience you are still welcome.

We are asking students to attend all classes in the course (see dates above). There is a course requirement of 80% attendance (4 out of the 5 classes); this is because we want to maximize discussion and experiential learning in the course. One make up assignment will be available for students who miss one class.

The textbook for the course is: Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, *Buddhist Chaplaincy. Buddhist Religious Care*

Copies of this textbook will be distributed at the first class.

Other readings will also be assigned and made available during the course.

Assessment for the Buddhist Chaplaincy training program is as follows:

- satisfactory participation in classroom discussion
- satisfactory participation in the in-class exercises on listening skills and effective communication
- a take-home exam (to be emailed to students at 9am Monday 19 March; answers due by 5pm Monday 26th March); pass mark is 75%

Course Convenor: Dr Barbara Sullivan BDS (Syd), PhD (Qld), Cert Hol Counselling

Please contact Dr Sullivan if you have any questions about the course and/or if you wish to enroll in the course. Her email address is barbara.sullivan4005@gmail.com

Workshop on Teaching Meditation for Teachers of Buddhism (SIB 007)

In this workshop the main theme will be Mindfulness. A number of methods of encouraging children to learn and practice mindfulness will be discussed and tried. The workshop is intended for teachers of Buddhism but will also be useful for parents interested in helping children to be mindful at all times.

This workshop was sponsored by the Buddhist Education Services for Schools Inc

The first workshop is on Sunday 1 April 2018 for about two hours. The venue is Chung Tian Temple on Underwood Road, Priestdale.

Email QSA on infoqsa@gmail.com for enrolments.

Course on Teaching Meditation for Buddhist Chaplains (SIB 006)

This course is open to anyone but is primarily intended to help Buddhist Chaplains to learn meditation so that they can teach others including their clients.

The course attempts to cover different types of meditation emphasized in different traditions of Buddhism. The lecturers come from different traditions too.

Several sessions are held to discuss questions that arise in trying to meditate. How to discuss questions that arise in meditation sessions is also covered.

The course convener is Dr. Barbara Sullivan.

Email QSA on infoqsa@gmail.com for enrolments.

QUEENSLAND SANGHA ASSOCIATION INC (QSA)

The Annual General Meeting for 2018 will be held at the Chung Tian temple on Underwood Road in Priestdale, on the morning of Sunday 1 April 2018. The new committee will have its first meeting thereafter.

An educational program on Teaching Meditation to children will follow. Details of the program will be published later.

The invitation to the AGM will be sent to all members in March 2018.

Invitations to the committee meeting and the agenda will be sent to members of the committee and a few executives around the same time.

AUSTRALIAN SANGHA ASSOCIATION INC (ASA)

The annual general meeting of ASA will be held in March 2018 in Perth. A request from the ASA is given below.

“Dear friends in the Dharma,

I am writing to inform you registration is open for the Australian Sangha Association's (ASA) 2018 AGM and Conference Day (Tuesday 13 March), as well as the (optional) Nuns' Vinaya Training Day (on Wednesday 14 March). The ASA's AGM and Conference day is a great opportunity to hear what the ASA has been doing; as well as a wonderful opportunity for monastics and lay people to meet and connect with Buddhists from other traditions; and to preserve the legacy of the Sangha. This year we are very fortunate to also have an optional nuns' vinaya training day for nuns of any tradition and any ordination level.

You can register even if you are not currently a member of the ASA, however if you would like to join the ASA (it's simple and free!) go to www.australiansangha.org/membership and fill in the online form.

How to register for the AGM/Conference Day and/or Nuns' Vinaya Training Day:

Simply go online to www.australiansangha.org and click on the blue "Info and registration" button under "ASA in WA 2018" heading. This will take you to the information and registration page which has:

- information about the beautiful venue, Jhana Grove Meditation Retreat Centre, W.A.
- the program for both days
- the AGM speakers and their topics
- 2 online forms: the (compulsory) registration form and the (optional) accommodation and transport form, click on them and you will be taken to an online form to fill out

- at the bottom of the page are 2 event flyers that you can download, print and/or share with others (I have also attached them for your convenience).

Please note: registration closes 28 February 2018.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Kind regards
Venerable Drolkar

(for ASA)“

END OF THE 6-PAGE QSA NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2018
Issued by the president of QSA, Reverend James Wilson
YOU ARE WELCOME TO FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER
TO A FRIEND WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT

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