

# QSA NEWSLETTER

*Sangha Samaggi Togetherness of the Sangha*

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**QSA WEBSITE** [www.sanghaqlld.org](http://www.sanghaqlld.org)

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## INTERNATIONAL BUDDHA COMMEMORATION DAY MAY 2016

For the first time the Sangha and lay supporters of several temples got together as members of one family to commemorate the Buddha remembering his birth, enlightenment and demise on full moon days in the month of Vesakha now taken as May.

The event was held in the Sri Lanka Temple at 114 Considine Street in Ellen Grove, Brisbane at the request of the former president of the Queensland

Sangha Association Venerable W. Dhammawasa from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on 21 May 2016.

Brief speeches, worship, chanting and offerings were presented by Reverend James Wilson, the new president of QSA, Venerable W. Dhammawasa, former president of QSA, Venerable Pynyawadi a Buddhist nun from the Burmese temple, Venerable Thich Huyen Dat from the Tuong Quang Buddhist monastery in Darra, Venerable Tri Hang from the Buddhist Nunnery in Brookfield. Venerable Dhammawasa conducted the overall ceremony. He thanked all temples that had participated.

Many other devotees from the Vietnamese community, Lyndall Lancaster a Buddhist Chaplain of the QSA were also present. A large group of Sri Lankan devotees including children helped in and participated in the event.

This is the first such event organised by QSA and it is hoped to repeat this every year at different temples possibly to coincide with the United Nations Vesak Holiday observed throughout the world.

As part of its own celebrations the Sri Lanka temple was well decorated, full of Vesak lanterns, and brightly illuminated throughout the premises. Some of the photographs appear below.

*A SMALL PART OF THE ILLUMINATIONS AT THE VESAK CELEBRATIONS IN THE SRI LANKA TEMPLE IN ELLEN GOVE BRISBANE PHOTOS*



The entire premises of the temple were gaily decorated with Buddhist flags and Vesak lanterns of different colours made by children of the Yasodhara Dhamma School.

An all-night chanting of scriptures was conducted the previous night in connection with the opening of the new cultural building at the temple. The picture shows the temporary paper decorated chamber in which a large group of monks conducted the chanting from 9.00 pm till 6.00 a.m. An alms giving was conducted by the lay people early morning on 21 May 2016.

### ALL NIGHT CHANTING OF SCRIPTURES



A SMALL SECTION OF DEVOTEES AT THE CHANTING

### FOURTH DELIVERY OF BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY COURSE

**(Developing peace within and empowering others to achieve peace)**

The third session of this course is planned for Saturday 18 June 2016 and will be held at the Sri Lanka temple at 114 Considine Street, Ellen Grove, Brisbane. The face to face class and the tele-conference will both be held at the same time beginning at 9.30 a.m. and finishing at 11.30 a.m.

A confirmation will be sent to registered participants closer to the date by the Registrar Chathuri de Silva. It will include instructions on how to enter the tele-conference.

Answers to assignments can be sent to [infoqsa@gmail.com](mailto:infoqsa@gmail.com) and will be re-directed to Venerable Lozang Drolkar, a member of the Buddhist Chaplaincy Board of QSA.

The text book is in our website under 'Resources' or you can get a hard copy of the book free of charge.

## **QSA DIPLOMA COURSE IN ABHIDHAMMA**

The Diploma Course in Abhidhamma which commenced in July 2015 and was completed in May 2016. Question and answer sessions will continue according to requests.

## **NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR QSA (2016-2017)**

President	Reverend James Wilson (Jodoshu Temple)
Vice-President	Venerable C. Chanhorm (Wat Thai Buddharam, Forestdale)
Secretary	Venerable S. Sugathasara (Buddhist Vihara, Queensland)
Treasurer	Venerable S. Sugathasara (Buddhist Vihara, Queensland)

Committee members:

- Venerable N. Chandima (Daham Niketanaya, Inala)
- Venerable Phra U. Thitamano (Wat Sangharatanam, Gold Coast)
- Venerable D. Sudewa (Sri Lankaramaya, Brisbane)
- Venerable A. Gnanweera (Sri Lankaramaya, Brisbane)
- Venerable Bhikshuni Tri-Hang (Buddhist Nunnery, Brookfield)

**The committee of management of QSA had its 30<sup>th</sup> meeting in the Sri Lanka Temple on considine Street in Ellen Grove, Brisbane on 12 May 2016**



**PHOTO TAKEN AFTER THE 30 TH COMMITTEE MEETING**

**FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:**

**Venerable Dhammasamadhi, Reverend James Wilson (President), Venerable C. Chanhorm,  
Venerable Phra Niyom Venerable Phra Siphuthinitet,**

**In the shrine room of the Sri Lanka Temple in Ellen Grove**

**Venerable Sudewa was present but is not in the photograph. Venerable Gnanweera was not available as he was indisposed. Venerable Chanhorm, Venerable Sugathasara, Venerable Chandima, Venerable Thitamano and Venerable Tri-Hang were not present.**

### ***NEW COMMITTEE BECOMES ACTIVE IN LIAISON***

*The new president Reverend James Wilson has started building relationships and rapport with individual temples and the members of the Sangha by visiting them and discussing matters of interest.*

*In the process in the month of May he has met the Venerable chief nun at the Linh Son Nunnery at Rowe Street, Darra, Venerable Thich Huyen Dat the chief monk in the Tuong Quang Monastery on Queensland Road, Darra, Venerable Chief monk at the Phap Quang*

*Monastery on Blunder Road, Durack, Venerable Thich Thien Huu, Chief monk of the Phat To Temple on Atunga Road in Greenbank.*

*Temples may arrange to meet the president when necessary or convenient to them.*

## **VESAK FUNCTION IN THE TUONG QUANG BUDDHIST MONASTERY IN DARRA**



### **VESAK FUNCTION IN THE DARRA VIETNAMESE TEMPLE**

Reverend James Wilson (third from left) and Venerable Thich Huyen Dat (second from left) participated in a ceremony at the Tuong Quang Monastery in Darra.

## **CABOOLTURE MINDFULNESS PRACTISING MEDITATION GROUP**

Joyce and Rhys Davies have sent QSA some information about this group at our request. The group meets every Tuesday evening from 6.30 to 8.30 pm in Caboolture in the Free Masons Hall on the corner of Dux Street and Lower King Street. The core practices and teachings used are grounded in the Buddhist tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh with its accompanying focus on mindfulness and the benefits of living a mindful life in accordance with Buddhist principles. We also incorporate from time to time the teachings of some Western mindfulness teachers such as Jack Kornfield, Jon Kabat-Zinn, Sharon Salzberg.

The program for each evening is usually divided into two parts. In the first half of the evening we do some Mindful Movements, followed by a period of sitting meditation, followed by walking meditation. In the second half of the evening, we do something different each week related to either mindfulness, Buddhism or both.

If you are interested you can write to QSA and your communications will be forwarded to Joyce and Rhys.

### **QSA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS**

**Executive Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Mail Manager (Mostly for group email system)**

**Website Writer (to communicate with the web master)**

*[Please indicate your interest via [infoqsa@gmail.com](mailto:infoqsa@gmail.com)]*

## **DONATIONS TO QSA**

Donations to QSA can be made by direct credit to the bank account detailed below:

### **Name of account**

Queensland Sangha Association Inc,

**Account                    1159 2818                    S21**

**BSB                            638-070**

Heritage Bank, Forest Lake Shopping Centre, Forest Lake

**Once a deposit is made please inform QSA by email**

### **CHEQUES CAN BE POSTED TO:**

Queensland Sangha Association Inc

108 Eric Street, Goodna, Queensland 4300

**END OF THE 9-PAGE QSA NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2016**

**Compiled by Rahu Sarath-Chandra**

**Issued by the president of QSA, Reverend James Wilson**

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO A FRIEND  
WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT**

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOT FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION BUT FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS OF  
QSA, SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS**