



Holy Stupa

If it's been some time since you visited the temple, you may not have seen the holy stupa that now graces the stage. The stupa houses the relics of our most kind & precious spiritual head and founder of the Tibetan Buddhist Society, Geshe Acharya Thubten Loden, who passed away in August 2011.

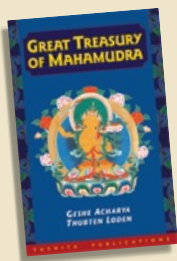
The construction of a stupa is an important part of Tibetan Buddhist tradition and is built to house the relics of great masters and teachers that have passed away. Made by Nepalese craftsmen based in South India, and assisted by monks from Geshe.La's college at Sera Monastery, three stupas were commissioned by the Tibetan Buddhist Society, one for each centre in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney.

Late last year, with the generous assistance of the Venerable Thupten Lodey, a Gyuto monk living here in WA, we spent a day carrying out the rituals for consecrating the stupa. Various prayers and practices were recited and the stupa was then filled with rolls of mantras and prayers, sandalwood and other precious items along with Geshe la's relics.

The stupa is made from copper and then covered with silver plate and adorned with gold leafed decorations. It stands about a metre tall and is currently in front of the altar on a table decorated with silk brocades. The stupa will eventually be housed in a glass case and then installed on the alter once some minor remodelling has been carried out.



New Year Mahamudra Retreat



Once again our annual New Year Mahamudra retreat was a great success. This year we had almost 70 participants, with around 20 interstate and country students attending for the 8 days. Les guided all sessions, giving teachings on how to gain an understanding of both the conventional and ultimate nature of mind and frequently quoted from Geshe Loden's extraordinary book, Great Treasury of Mahamudra.

As usual, as well as the formal teachings, Les gave many examples & anecdotes from his own life experience. As is always the case, we received great feedback from the retreat participants and many commented that this retreat, along with the wonderful guidance and teachings from Les, helps to motivate them in their daily practice and provide a great start to the year.

Dharmakids - Back for Term Two

We are pleased to advise that the next Dharmakids class will be held on Sunday April 18th at 10.30am.

In order to help us prepare, please register the ages & number of children that will be attending by emailing the office .



Suggested donation (on the day) \$10 per family.

2014 AGM & Member's Dinner

Please be advised that the 2014 Annual General Meeting will be held in the dining room of the temple at 6pm on Sunday 11th of May following the Path to Enlightenment class.

Please note that the AGM is open to financial members only and we encourage everyone to attend. At 7pm, following the AGM we will be holding our member's dinner to celebrate Vesak. Non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of \$20 per person.

Please RSVP by email or phone by Monday May 5th to advise if you will be attending the dinner and whether you wish to register for the meat or vegetarian menu.



Book Reviews

The Path to the Union of Clear Light & Illusory Body *Geshe Acharya Thubten Loden*



This title from Geshe Loden sets forth the mother tantra of the Venerable Vajrayogini. The eleven generation stages and special completion stage techniques are explained in great clarity.

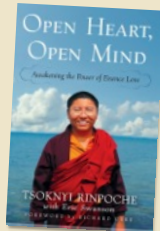
A must for all students of Vajrayogini and the commentary from which Les will teach during our upcoming Vajrayogini retreat.

Available from the temple bookshop to students with Highest Yoga Tantra initiations only.

615 pages - Hardcover - \$140

Open Heart, Open Mind (Awakening the Power Essence of Love) *Tsoknyi Rinpoche*

In this book Tsoknyi Rinpoche explains the concept of 'essence love' as 'a spark of unparalleled brilliance, an unlimited capacity for warmth, openness and courage which resides in all of us'.



In order to unlock this capacity for inner peace and the ability to love and be loved freely, and the confidence and clarity to meet the various challenges we face in our daily lives. Open Heart, Open mind is a truly inspirational and stimulating work, which provides the reader with the confidence to light the spark which exists in us all.

272 pages - Hardcover \$30

Buddha at Bedtime (Tales of Love & Wisdom to Read with Your Child) *Dharmachari Nagaraja*



Growing up in the modern world, our children have to cope with an ever-increasing amount of stress, which can have a negative impact on their development. Buddhism, with its emphasis on peace, mindfulness and compassion, is the ideal basis for helping any child to face these challenges with inner confidence.

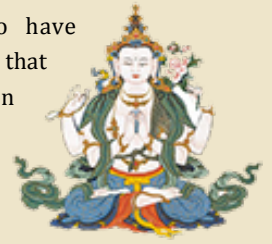
This book is a magical collection of stories, which will draw your child into enchanting new worlds and help them to discover a treasury of Buddhist wisdom.

144 pages - Paperback - \$25

These books and many other titles are available from the temple bookshop or through our online store at www.tibetanbuddhistsociety.com.au

The Path to Enlightenment - Great Love

Love is the wish for others to have happiness, and great love is the wish that all living beings without exception have happiness and the causes of happiness.



Great love transcends ordinary love because it is directed toward the vast expanse of all living beings, and not particularised to extend only to those who are close to you. It is the great heart-warming love that embraces all living beings without discrimination.

Lord Buddha praised loving-kindness and said that concentrating on great love for just a second creates more merit than making offerings to a thousand Buddhas.

*From "The Path to Enlightenment in Tibetan Buddhism"
Geshe Acharya Thubten Loden*

TEACHING PROGRAM

Term Two

Begins Sunday May 4th with Path to Enlightenment & concludes on Sunday June 22nd.

Term Three

Begins Sunday August 3rd with Path to Enlightenment & concludes on Sunday June 22nd.

Weekly Classes

Path to Enlightenment

Sunday afternoons 4.00pm - 5.30pm

Vajrayana Classes

Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.00pm

(Please note each term commences with Yamantaka practice & that relevant initiation is required to attend these classes).

Annual Vajrayana Retreat

Commencing on Saturday July 5th and concluding on Saturday July 26th, 2014.

This year we are holding a three week Vajrayogini retreat.

During the retreat Les will lead the sessions and teach from Geshe Loden's Vajrayogini commentary - "Path to the Union of Clear Light & Illusory Body". The retreat will conclude with a fire puja on the last day.

The cost for the retreat is \$1400 with accommodation and \$1250 without. Please note that some experience with the practice and the relevant initiation are required to attend this retreat.

Please contact the office if you are interested in attending.