

MZG Calendar & Contacts

About the Melbourne Zen Group

MZG was established in 1985 and is affiliated with the Diamond Sangha, a group founded in 1959 by Robert Aitken Roshi in Hawaii. The lineage has roots in both the Rinzai and Soto schools of Zen Buddhism. Our teachers are Subhana Barzaghi Roshi and Susan Murphy Roshi; both live in Sydney and visit Melbourne twice a year. Our activities include: weekly zazen (group sitting meditation), monthly zazenkai (longer group meditation), full moon sits, twice a year sesshin (week-long retreats with our teachers), weekend workshops and talks.

Group Zazen Schedule

- Tuesday night 6.30pm–8.30pm at Kagyu E-Vam Buddhist Institute (KEBI), 673 Lygon Street North Carlton.
- Saturday morning 10.00am–12noon (and 9am–1pm on the last Saturday of each month) at Batman Park Hall, corner of Separation Street and St Georges Road Northcote. The hall is attached to the kindergarten. Melway Map 30D7.

For full moon sits, see page 3. For all sessions, we recommend a \$5 contribution (\$3 concession).

On the first Tuesday of each month, zazen finishes half an hour earlier to allow time for Dharma Sharing: reflecting on personal experience in relation to an aspect of Zen practice. On the last Saturday of each month, there is a talk and Dharma Sharing in the last hour of zazenkai.

Orientation

Orientation for newcomers is available by arrangement. Contact Jill Baird (details below).

Practice Facilitators

For guidance or support in matters relating to Zen practice, contact our Practice Facilitators via Jill Baird on 9328 2207 or email: jillebaird@yahoo.com

Committee Members

- Peter Wong (Chair) 9481 5986
- Clive Williams (Secretary) 9489 5214
- Nola Firth (Treasurer) 5428 9363
- Colin Briton 9481 5986
- Tineke Lagerwey 9489 5880
- Michael McInerney 9023 0787

Membership & Newsletter Subscription

Enquiries about subscribing to the newsletter may be directed to Clive Williams: 9489 5214 or cliwil@hotmail.com We suggest that applications for financial membership be made only after having spent some time participating in the group's activities.

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions from members, however brief, of any facet of their experience with Zen, are very welcome. Send contributions to Colin Briton at 8 Edward Street Northcote 3070 or cbriton@alphalink.com.au

Brief extracts from publications appearing in this newsletter are for the purpose of private study.

Contacting Melbourne Zen Group

For introductory information about MZG write to PO Box 324, Carlton North 3054, or contact Jill Baird on 9328 2207 or at jillebaird@yahoo.com For other matters, please contact a committee member. You can also contact us by visiting our website.

Our website: www.mzg.org.au

Visit our website and subscribe to our latest news updates by email. The website features information and resources regarding Zen practice.

Upcoming Sesshin:

- 25 Sept - 2 Oct 2009 with Subhana Barzaghi at Adekate Forest Lodge,
- 2 – 9 April 2010 with Susan Murphy at Casa Pallotti.

MZG Calendar JULY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Zazen, 10 am–12 noon, Batman Park Hall.
5	6	7 Zazen, 6.30 pm–8 pm, followed by Dharma Sharing, KEBI	8	9	10 Full moon sit, 7-10 pm, See page 3.	11 Zazen, 10 am–12 noon, Batman Park Hall.
12	13	14 Zazen, 6.30 pm–8.30 pm, KEBI.	15	16	17	18 Zazen, 10 am–12 noon, Batman Park Hall.
19	20	21 Zazen, 6.30 pm–8.30 pm, KEBI.	22	23	24	25 Zazenkai, 9 am - 1pm, Batman Park Hall.
26	27	28 Zazen, 6.30 pm–8.30 pm, KEBI.	29	30	31	

MZG NEWS & NOTICES

A Zen workshop with Subhana

Barzagli, 8th & 9th August, Brunswick South Primary School

Saturday, 10am – 5pm, will be a traditional **zazenkai** with sitting and walking meditation, opportunity for personal interview with the teacher, silent lunch, and a dharma talk by Subhana on aspects of Zen practice.

Sunday, 9am – 4.30pm, will feature a **yatra to the banks of the Yarra**, weather permitting, from the school to Deep Rock on the Yarra, and back. Yatra is a Sanskrit word meaning pilgrimage.

Bookings are essential. A flyer and application form is available on the MZG website (www.mzg.org.au). To enquire please phone Colin Briton or Peter Wong on 9481 5986, or email: cbriton@alphalink.com.au

Sesshin with Subhana Barzagli

25th Sept – 2nd Oct, Adekate Forest Lodge at Dean

It is a joy to support one another along the ancient and noble path of awakening. Zazen is the practice of peacefully abiding in the vast valley of your true nature that swallows up all names and forms. “On a withered tree flowers bloom”, is a Zen metaphor to describe the perennial wisdom that comes forth from dissolution of the old ways of seeing and knowing. Wisdom teaches us that we are nothing, love teaches us that we are everything; which is to realise our oneness with the universe of flowers, frogs, forest and all beings.

Sesshin flyer and application form are enclosed with this newsletter, and will soon be on our website. Contact Gayle McPherson on 9312 7512 or email: gaylemcpherson@optusnet.com.au

Telephone dokusan

Susan Murphy offers telephone dokusan to MZG; if interested please contact Kirk Fisher on 0425 754 057 or email kirkfisher@aapt.net.au

Full moon sits

Full moon sits are on 10th July (and 7 Aug, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, 30 Oct, 4 Dec, 1 Jan), 7-10 pm. The venue is Chapel of Hope, upstairs and at the back of St Marks Church, 100 Hodgkinson St, Clifton Hill. Enter by gate between the hall and church building. For further details contact Meg on 9489 5880.

Committee meeting

The MZG Committee meets each month. If you would like to attend, or would like some matter raised, please contact a committee member.

Our future home at CERES

The new CERES Community Environment Park Education Centre, due to become MZG's new home (shared with the Fitzroy Uniting Church and CERES Education Programs) is nearing completion, at least to lock-up stage. For information about the Community Environment Park, visit their new website: www.ceres.org.au The most recent meetings involving MZG, CERES and the Church have concerned flooring, wall colour, storage arrangements. Updates will continue to appear on our website and in *Vast & Ordinary News*.

OTHER GROUPS AND RESOURCES

Introduction to Zen - Sat 11th July

Ordinary Mind Zen Melbourne and the Augustine Centre present an introductory workshop to Zen with Geoff Dawson, psychologist and Zen teacher. This workshop is also suitable for experienced students. Bookings essential. For further information phone: 9819 2844 or email: www.augustine.org.au or www.ordinarymindsydney.com.au

Stillness in Action: Meditation,

Community & the Earth, Seymour, 12 - 18th September. Retreat leaders, Bobbi Allen and Tathra Street, have both trained and worked with Joanna Macy. For details contact Tathra on 0416 743 605 or tathra@gmail.com

Happy 50th anniversary!

As previously reported, on 12th July Palolo Zen Centre, Hawaii, will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding in 1959 of the Diamond Sangha by Robert Aitken Roshi and his wife Anne Hopkins Aitkin.

The Dalai Lama's birthday

The Tibetan community and supporters of His Holiness the 14th Dali Lama, born on the 6th July 1935, will be celebrating his 74th birthday this month.