

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 evening 6.30pm - 8.30pm
- Saturday morning 10.00am - 12noon
- Last Saturday of the month 9am - 1pm
- Full moon sits - see page 3 for details.

Please arrive early. Help in setting-up is welcome. To help cover costs, we recommend a \$5 contribution, or \$3 concession, per session, or a weekly amount (if sitting more than one session) of \$6, or \$4 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, guidance and support

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

Venue (Melway Map 30 B7)

Enter CERES Community Environment Park in East Brunswick from Lee Street. Go to the Education Centre, second building on the right after the CERES entrance gate.

Committee Members 2010-11

- Peter Wong (Chair) 9481 5986
- Clive Williams (Secretary) 9489 5214
- Gayle McPherson (Treasurer) 0415 352 575
- Colin Briton 9481 5986
- Tineke Lagerwey 9489 5880
- Michael McInerney 0413 550 332
- Paul Gardiner 0415 714 111

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, Vic 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 us C/- CERES, Cnr Roberts & Stewart Streets, Brunswick East, Vic 3057, or contact Jill Baird on 9328 2207 or at jillebaird@yahoo.com For other matters, please contact a committee member. You can also visit 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 MZG Sesshin

3 – 10 Dec with Subhana Barzaghi at Adekate Forest Lodge

MZG Calendar OCTOBER 2010

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

Melbourne Zen Group

Melbourne Zen Group Inc. (A0026699B)

Newsletter-October 2010

MZG NEWS & NOTICES

Rohatsu Sesshin with Subhana

Barzaghi Fri 3 – Fri 10 December, Adekate Forest Lodge at Dean, near Creswick

It is a joy to support one another along the ancient and noble path of awakening. Traditionally December 8th is celebrated as the time of the Buddha's awakening. We celebrate this profound event with a seven day silent Rohatsu Sesshin. The schedule includes extended periods of zazen (sitting meditation), kinhin (walking meditation), dokusan (interviews with the teacher), work and rest periods. 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 – we are one with the universe of flowers, frogs, forest and all beings.

Sesshin flyer and application form will soon be available on our website. Contact Gayle McPherson on 9312 7512 or 0418 352 575 or email: gaylemcpherson@optusnet.com.au

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.

Melbourne Buddhist Film Festival: 13 - 17 Oct

This year the festival will run at the Nova Cinema in Lygon Street, Carlton. Six films will be shown over 8 sessions:

- *Blessings*
- *Enlightenment Guaranteed*
- *Un Buda*
- *Buddha's Lost Children Revisited*
- *The Buddha*
- *Tulku*

Keynote speakers include Venerable Chi Kwang Sunim. For more information visit <http://melbournebff.com/>

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 22 Oct (and 19 Nov, 17 Dec), 7-10 pm. For further details contact Meg on 9489 5880.

Sangha Forum regarding Women in Sutra Dedications & AGM finance report

A report of the forum held on Sat 18 Sept appears on page 4. Prior to the forum the AGM was briefly reformed to consider the re-tabled financial report, which was passed. Minutes of the AGM are enclosed for members in this edition of Vast & Ordinary News.



Tea following a recent Sat sit, photo by Meg Irwin

Ordinary Mind Zen Melbourne

Sesshin with Geoff Dawson: Sat 30 Oct – Tue 2 Nov (Melbourne Cup weekend)

For details contact Tom Fisher:

T.Fisher@latrobe.edu.au or phone 9712 0451

Communicating Mindfully in Difficult & Conflict Situations, with Carol

Perry: 30 & 31 Oct

For details contact Fran Woodruff on 5470 6878 or 0407 822 723