



### David and Subhana's Wedding



*David and Subhana walking up the paddock to the Dojo*

Subhana and David celebrated their marriage at Kokoji on Sunday 6th April, surrounded by all their family, including David's father, Adam Bubna-Litic from the Czech Republic, Subhana's mother Margaret Robbins, brother and sister from Lismore. There were a host of sangha friends from the Sydney region, Northern Rivers and Melbourne, along with psychotherapy & university friends. It was a unique blended family event where David's sons, Subhana's son and daughter and grand-children all played a role in the rich ceremony.

Interfaith minister Stephanie Dowrick, and an old friend of Subhana's from the north, civil celebrant Zenith Virago conducted the ceremony which was a weaving of many voices and songs.

Maggie sang the metta Sutta and Joe Neparrnga Gumbula, Aboriginal Elder from the Northern Territory, played the didjeridoo (yidaki) to accompany Allan Marett who led the chanting of 'Ancient Ground'.

Subhana and David, with Bija and her two children, walking along the mown path through the paddock towards the dojo, under a giant umbrella -- while the high red cliffs silently witnessed -- a dream image to recall.

David and Subhana requested no presents and invited guests to give a donation to support the Kodoji Building fund.

David and Subhana express their thanks for the generous donations.  
(Caroline Josephs)

## COMING EVENTS

**MANJUSRI SESSHIN Friday June 6 – Monday June 9** at Annandale. Led by Maggie Gluek. This is a non-residential sesshin, where we take the opportunity of sitting together in the city for longer periods, stopping to find where we really are. It is a wonderful chance for people to experience a little of sesshin before committing to a full 7 day Great Sesshin. We bring food and share. Cost: \$100 members \$150 non-members or \$12 and \$20 per block. Applications should have been in, but contact Jean Brick (02)9560 3632 or [jeanbrick@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jeanbrick@yahoo.com.au)

**WEEKEND SESSHIN July 5-6** at Gorricks. Led by Paul Maloney. Weekend sesshin have proved themselves as wonderful opportunities for concentrated practice in a beautiful place. It will be cold, and there is a 4am starting time. Numbers are planned to be small to allow meals by the stove, and most of the cooking is done before hand. Cost: \$100 members, \$150 non members. Contact Jean Brick (02)9560 3632 or [jeanbrick@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jeanbrick@yahoo.com.au)

**ZAZENKAI July 20 8.30-12pm** talk and dokusan – Gilly Coote. bring your lunch and share, and then join in the study group.

**STUDY GROUP July 20 1.30-3pm**  
Focussing on Chapter 7 of Roaring Stream: Ma-Tsu, (709-788) facilitated by Maggie Gluek.  
A wonderful way to find out more about our Zen ancestors.



**SAMU at Annandale 15 June 10- 4 pm** (in place of the usual Zazen kai)  
Samu, work practice, is a most important aspect of our practice. The action! There are plenty of jobs, including cataloguing the books in the Anne Buescher memorial library in the hojo. Come for all, or part, of the time, and have fun working together, maintaining our city dojo, and getting to know each other better. Tony Coote is the contact. 9817 3466.

## REPORTS

### **In memory of Anne Buescher**

Over the last four years I was privileged, as were others, to walk with Anne Buescher through her years of illness to the intensity of her final illness in March. Those last four weeks were some of the most intense, and the most precious, that I have ever experienced. Here is an extract from an email Anne sent to Ellen some months before her death:

What I do hope is that all the people around me realise how beautiful life is, every hour of it, even if it is plastered with worries about houses and mortgages and jobs and incomes and illnesses or parents ...

*(Jean Brick)*

## **Easter Sesshin, March 2008**

Easter sesshin this year was small and intimate, probably because Easter fell very early and so did not coincide with school and university holidays, as it usually does. This meant that most participants had to return to work on Tuesday. It was therefore decided that sesshin itself would be reduced to five days, finishing at mid-day on Tuesday. For the six people who were able to stay (all of them from Darwin or Melbourne), Paul Maloney and Ellen Davison, who had been co-teaching with Subhana, continued until Friday. Another complication was that Allan Marrett, who was to have been Ino, fell ill just before sesshin began. We are grateful that Leo Kram stepped forward and in spite of having no experience whatsoever filled the role with aplomb, mentored by Jean and Ellen.

In spite of these setbacks, sesshin was deep and rich, and attended by a number of creatures who normally do not appear, including a brown snake (surprised in the toilet on the first day) and numerous spiders, some less benevolent than others. The brown snake decided that Zen was not its thing and was not seen after the initial encounter. A deep bow of gratitude to Subhana for her teachings, to Paul and Ellen as assistant teachers and to Tony Miller, who organised everything in spite of being unable to attend himself.

*(Maggie Gluek)*



*Departure, Doug Mason*

## **Weekend Sesshin, May 3-4**

Nine people sat together at Gorricks over the weekend of May 3-4. We enjoyed the long silence that has become a distinguishing feature of these short sesshin. Meals were taken at the family table in the cottage, warmed by the potbelly. Zazen and teisho on the verandah midmorning ensured the warmth of the sun. It was wonderful to see the clear creek water and hear it running. Discovering that there was a 3-hour wait for the ferry on Sunday afternoon, we repaired to the Forgotten Valley restaurant, serendipitously open on the first weekend of the month, for German cuisine. Then made circuitous journeys home through back blocks.

*(Maggie Gluek)*

## **Art Re Treat, April 24-27**

Teachers -Janet Selby, Diana Levy, Judy Belnick

This retreat had 5 adults and 2 children, all of whom had their own marvellous thing to offer. Each day we had about 2 hours of Zazen, learnt to write haiku, went on walks, had individual editing and group sharing of poetry, yoga, art book making and lino cut /calligraphy/ art work. The participants loved it. They liked the relaxed feel to it, the casual atmosphere. They would have liked the re-treat to be longer.

Janet and Diana would like to offer a follow up workshop in a few months, where we could experience drawing (en plein air) as well as writing more. We all learned something from each other. Writing poetry, a scary thing to do, was made easy. A beautiful place.

## **Study Group, April 20**

April's study group featured Wang Wei. Having invited him into the circle in the dojo, Linda Aitken introduced the T'ang poet and his world. Poems were read aloud and were particularly appreciated as they alternated with short periods of zazen.

*(Maggie Gluek)*

## **Study Group, May 18**

The May 18 study group had only five participants, although that did not detract from the quality of the discussion.

The subject of the discussion was the Shih T'ou (700-795) of T'ang Dynasty China, who was known as one of the two gates of C'han, the other being Ma-tsu Toi-i. As with such discussions, it developed a course of its own, with a satisfactory outcome that demonstrated the relevance of Shih T'ou to modern life. Sally was moved to speak of a prison inmate with whom she is corresponding, and we discovered in Shih T'ou's poem "Song of the Grass-Roof Hermitage" a deep lesson for this person's existential dilemma.

So, I would encourage others to take the opportunity to hear what these old Chinese battlers have to say to us in our time. Who knows what they might discover for themselves?

*(Paul Maloney)*

## **NEWS FROM THE BOARD**

The Board wishes to acknowledge the bequest of furniture and monies left to SZC by Anne Buescher, and to thank her executives, Sue Bidwell and Jill Steverson, for their careful work in carrying out her wishes.

A bookcase of some of Anne's books, a memorial library, has been placed in the hojo. The books will be catalogued at the Annandale Samu on June 15. Volunteers to do the cataloguing are called for.

The Board wish to thank :

- Subana and David Bubna-Litic for their generous gift of \$830, donated to the Building fund on the occasion of their wedding.
- Ellen Davison who generously returned the payment made for her teaching at Easter Sesshin to the Building Fund.
- Daniel Lyons who made a generous donation on resigning his membership.

### **Annadale residents**

Sally and Colin have been joined by Angela Murray, a most energetic Irish woman, and on July 2 Gail of Gorricks will be moving into Anne's old room. All is very well at Annandale.

## NOTICE BOARD

### FULL MOON CEREMONY

June 16, 18 Precepts to be discussed – I take up the way of Not Indulging in Anger.

### ZAZENKAI at ANNANDALE -

July 20 8.30 am-12 pm Talk and dokusan offered by Gilly Coote.

### Study Group

July 20 1.30 – 3 pm. Chapter 7 of THE ROARING STREAM: Ma-Tsu, led by Maggie Gluek.

### YOGA CLASSES

Jude Belnick conducts a yoga class at the Zen centre on Wednesday mornings, from 6.30am - 7.30am, followed by an optional sitting until 8am. Monthly enrollment is \$40- \$50 depending on whether there are 4 or 5 classes in the month. \$12 for a casual class. Income goes towards Aitken Roshi or Sydney Zen Centre. Contact Jude [jude.belnick@gmail.com](mailto:jude.belnick@gmail.com)

**WOMEN'S GROUP** The women's group is open to SZC female members. If you are interested in joining, and want to find out more about the nature of the group and how we operate, please just link into the group and ask any questions. Next meeting is scheduled for Friday June 13 at Sarah Wall's, then July 11 at Kerry Stewart's.

### ORIENTATIONS: Monday evenings 6pm, Wednesday evenings 6.45pm

- for newcomers to receive orientation to the practice.

**Monday evenings** : April 14,28 - every two weeks at 6 pm. Main organiser is Sue ([suebazbi@bigpond.net.au](mailto:suebazbi@bigpond.net.au)) please email to book.

**Wednesday evenings** : Call Janet Selby on 9589 4636 or just turn up at 6.45pm for an introduction to the practice.

**USE OF KODOJI** - Kodoji is available for use by members of the SZC and guests (if accompanied by a member). It can also be hired by other groups if approved by the Board. Fees are \$15 per night for members and \$25 for non-members. There is a \$100 booking fee for non-member groups. Booking of Kodoji is essential and it is also essential to receive instructions about use of the facility before going there. Try giving the family a wonderful weekend, or yourself a few days of private retreat? Enquiries to Brendan Stewart - phone 9879 7290, email [br.stewart@uws.edu.au](mailto:br.stewart@uws.edu.au)

**GIFT RECIPIENT STATUS FOR SZC BUILDING FUND** The Australian Tax Office has confirmed that we are a DGR, or Deductible Gift Recipient for a fund (in our case the Sydney Zen Centre Building Fund). This restores the status of gifts to the building fund as tax deductible for the donor. If you would like to make a donation to the building fund, simply flag it as such and we will issue a receipt against which you can claim a tax deduction from your income.

### BOOKS FOR SALE

*The Roaring Stream. A New Zen Reader*, ed. Nelson Foster and Jack Shoemaker is on sale at Annandale, along with Robert Aitken's books: *Taking the Path of Zen*, *Mind of Clover*, *The Dragon that Never Sleeps*, *Encouraging Words*, *The Morning Star*, *Vegetable Roots Discourse*, *Zen Master Raven* and *The Gateless Barrier*.

### REORGANISATION OF DOJO ROLES AT ANNANDALE

From May 2008 dojo roles for evening sitting and zazenkai will be organised in a new way. The following coordinators will organise rosters and training for the roles of Ino, Jikijitsu, Jisha and Orientation: Orientation—Maggie Gluek; Ino—Allan Marett; Jikijitsu and Jisha—Tony Miller. Training will also be provided twice a year for people wanting to learn these roles. One important innovation, which is aimed at improving the standard of our ritual practice, is that all members of the Ino, Jikijitsu and Jisha pool must, however experienced, attend one training session a year.

We wish to thank Allan Marett who organised a roster of Leaders for Monday and Wednesday nights for the 3 months to August. This is working very well.

## LEADERSHIP ROLES AT EVENING ZAZEN

Any members, regularly sitting, who would like to take up the practice of being a dojo leader at evening zazen, please see one of the leaders, or speak to a teacher.

### REGULAR DATES

**Dokusan – Mondays:** Subhana June 2 July 7, 21  
Paul Maloney Jun 23, 30  
Maggie Gluek July 28

**Wednesdays:** Gilly Coote June 4, 11, 25 July 2, 9, 23, 30

(No dokusan June 9, due to sesshin)

**Full Moon Ceremony** – June 16, 18: *I take up the way of not indulging in anger.*  
July 14, 16 Precepts recitation..

#### Zazenkai at Annandale

July 20 8.30 – 12 noon – Dokusan and talk by Gilly Coote

#### Study Group at Annandale (after Zazenkai)

July 20 1.30-3 pm. Chapter 7 of THE ROARING STREAM : Ma-Tsu, led by Gilly Coote

**Blue Mountains Zen** The Blue Mountains Zen Group meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month, from 3.00-5.00 p.m., at Paul Maloney's home. The address is 19 Russell Road, Leura. Phone 4784 2136. The meeting is occasionally held at another venue, so it is best to check some days before, should one think of joining us for a sit.

**Canberra Zen Group** Wednesday evenings fortnightly at 7.45 at the Orana School in Weston. Contact Tony Shields for details – email: [tshields@netspeed.com.au](mailto:tshields@netspeed.com.au), phone 6262-5150

**Braidwood Zen** meet weekly on Tuesdays at 5.30pm. Casual trippers through Braidwood of course particularly welcome. Contact Nicola on (02) 4846 1075 or email: [geemonga@bigpond.com](mailto:geemonga@bigpond.com)

**Board Meetings** are held on 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm (with zazen at 7pm beforehand). All SZC members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Next meetings are on June 10 and July 8.

**Full minutes of every board meeting are posted on the notice board at Annandale for public perusal.**



### CONTACT INFORMATION

SZC (02) 9660 2993 [www.szc.org.au](http://www.szc.org.au)

**Members of the Board:** Nigel Pearn (Chairman), Tony Coote (Treasurer), Britta Biedermann (Correspondence Secretary, Will Moon, Janet Selby (Minutes Secretary), Sally Hopkins (General Secretary), Allan Marett, John Merson (representing Blue Mountains). **Teachers:** Subhana Barzaghi, Gillian Coote **Apprentice Teachers** - Paul Maloney (w) 9514-2519; Maggie Gluek 9987 4312 **Newsletter editor** – Doug Mason [dougmason@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dougmason@ozemail.com.au)

## SANGHA-RELATED EVENTS

### Shakuhachi Performance

Jim Franklin will be performing at the World Shakuhachi Festival, to be held this year in Sydney, July 4-8, at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (see their website for details).

### Buddhist Conference

Mitra Youth Buddhist Network are organizing a Buddhist Conference, WISDOM FOR A MODERN WORLD , Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 July at the Great Hall UTS.

For information and to register: [www.wisdomforamodernworld.net](http://www.wisdomforamodernworld.net)

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*Fuke Zenshi, Zen priest of Tang era of China, and Sakuhachi master*  
Source: <http://www.zenflute.com/links.html>

## SZC Calendar June - July 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jun 1</b>	<b>2</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Manjusri Sesshin</b> Annandale (Maggie Gluek)	<b>7</b> <b>Manjusri Sesshin</b> Annandale →
<b>8</b> <b>Manjusri Sesshin</b> Annandale	<b>9</b> <b>Manjusri Sesshin</b> Annandale →	<b>10</b> <b>Board Meeting</b> start 7.30 pm	<b>11</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Women's Group</b> (Sarah Wall's)	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>Samu</b> Annandale 10am-4pm	<b>16</b> <b>Full Moon Ceremony</b> Not indulging in anger	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Full Moon Ceremony</b> Not indulging in anger	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>July 1</b>	<b>2</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Weekend Sesshin</b> Gorrick's (Paul Maloney)
<b>6</b> <b>Weekend Sesshin</b> Gorrick's	<b>7</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>8</b> <b>Board Meeting</b> start 7.30pm	<b>9</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Women's Group</b> (Kerry Stewart's)	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Precept Recitation</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Precept Recitation</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>ZAZENKAI</b> 8.30-12 (Gilly Coote) <b>Study Group</b> 1.30-3pm Ma-Tsu (Gilly Coote)	<b>21</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Zazen 7-9pm	<b>31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b>	<b>Aug 2</b>

*This newsletter is available on our web site: [www.szc.org.au](http://www.szc.org.au)*