

Annual Report to Annual General Meeting of the Buddhist Society of WA at Dhammaloka on 27th March 2021

Overview

2020 to 2021 was another historic year for Dhammasara and the BSWA and its committee & members. After the completion of the Sala Complex, the carpark & Dhammasara Access Road, The 4 additional New Kutis have been completed and fully occupied before Vassa 2020, 2 Retreat Kutis are work in progress. Due to shortage of training space, overseas candidate intake had been closed. We are glad to announce that Dhammasara will be taking over Santi Forest Monaster as its branch monastery. Therefore, we are now open to overseas candidates again. As always, we are thankful for the ongoing support and generous donation from our supporters in helping us realize this project, and to enable more women benefit from the fruit of monastic life.

Community 2020-2021

- Now, we have a community of 10 Bhikkhunis, 6 Samaneris and 3 Anagarikas in total a community of 19. Venerable Ajita had left for her home country Indonesia in March 2020 due to the Covid-19.

Activities

- Ajahn Hasapanna has been giving the Friday night talk, conduct meditation class and sutta class at Dhammaloka.
- Dhammasara Kathina was held on Sunday, 11th October 2020 well over 500 people participate in the Auspicious Event and received donation of \$22,000.00.
- We have rented 2 Event Terminals to function as self-serve Cashless Donation counter during our Kathina. One terminal will be capturing for Nuns Expense Fund, and the other is Nuns Building Fund. The 2 Terminals are registered directly our organisation: The Buddhist Society of WA (Inc).
- The Cashless Donations option was well received by our supporters. With a successful pilot last Sunday, Dhammasara is making this Cashless Donation option available on a ongoing basis.
- 2 Quest Donation terminals are displayed at our Donation Table outside the Kitchen. They can be used unattended as the operation is very intuitive and straightforward.
- User can choose to email the receipt to them. The pre set Donation amount are: \$10, \$20, \$50, \$99 <-- Bank capped at under \$100 for cashless transactions without PIN.
- Ajahn Hasapanna had attended the Santi Forrest Monastery AGM on the 5th December and gave a Dhamma talk at Metta Centre on the 8th December 2020.
- The whole community had attended a full day Fire Training course conducted by the Gidgegannup Fire Brigade at Dhammasara on 15th December 2020. Our monastery is located far away from the escape road (unlike Bodhinyana and JG which is next to a road). We are constantly reminded by the Fire Brigade to prepare for the worse case situation where we cannot evacuate and need to defend ourselves during a bushfire.
- On Monday, 1st February 2021 at around 12:00pm there was a fire incident at Wooroloo, approximately 15 kilometres away from Dhammasara. The incident then turned into an Emergency Warning for the surrounding areas. As the fire had jumped across Toodyay Road, it was now located about 2kms East of us. The wind was forecast to be blowing from the East for the rest of the day. Ajahn Hasapanna and the Fire Warden made the decision for the community to evacuate immediately.
- Ajahn Hasapanna and 2 nuns stayed on at Dhammaloka, and the others stayed at Jhana Grove. During this time, we received many calls from supporters reaching out with

offering of food, medicines and supplies. We were very touched by every single act of kindness; even getting concerned calls and emails from unexpected people, including tradespeople who had previously done work at Dhammasara.

- We return to Dhammasara on Sunday, 7th February. Thankfully Dhammasara was untouched by the fire.
- Ven. Hasapanna conducted the Weekend Retreat at Jhana Grove 26th February to 28th February 2021.
- Dhammasara nuns have been participating in the Dependent Origination & Noble 8 Fold Path workshop and also led the guided meditation.
- Ajahn Hasapanna and Venerable Upekkha conducted a Children Buddhist program at Kenwick Temple on 21st March 2021.

Building & Maintenance

- There are more rock pitching needs to be done at various embankment at the monastery to prevent erosion (on going).
- We received a donation of \$10,000.00 for asphaltting (2nd hand Asphalt) the access road to Hill Kutis, water tank area & Stupa 2 and part of short cut to Campsite. Please see the attached photos.
- The maintenance and repairs of the Emergency Exit road has been completed.
- We had replaced the roof over the caravan with insulated Bondor Solar Span roof.
- The vinyl Installation of Kuti 11 and Kuti 13 have been completed.
- The Blind at the library has been installed to prevent the birds hitting the library's windows.

Retreat Kuti

At the moment, we are still in the process of rock pitching the embankment of the Retreat Kuti site. Due to the Lockdown and bushfire that happened recently, the preparation of 1st Retreat Kuti site is still work in Progress