Assistant Spiritual Director's Address

Annual Report to Annual General Meeting of the Buddhist Society of WA at Dhammaloka on 10th May 2025

Overview

During the period from 2024 to 2025, we successfully completed all major building projects, while also carrying out extensive maintenance and improvement work on the existing older buildings. Additionally, in June 2024, we completed the construction of Retreat Kuti 2. Throughout the year, the nuns have dedicated themselves diligently to training and guiding junior nuns and Anagarikas, ensuring the monastery continues to run smoothly in my absence. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the nuns for their invaluable presence and contributions.

Dhammasara Community

Currently, Dhammasara hosts a community comprising 13 Bhikkhunis, 3 Samaneris, and 4 Anagarikas, totalling 20 members.

Santi Community (NSW)

At Santi Forest Monastery, there are five Bhikkhunis in residence. Santi Monastery continues to receive strong support, and the nuns have been working diligently to maintain the property and provide services to the lay community.

Khemaloka Vihara (NSW)

It has been over a year since we purchased the property for the Suburban Vihara, which we have named Khemaloka Vihara.

Ayya Nirodha experienced some health challenges this year and, in June, requested to reside at Khemaloka Vihara long term. Since then, the Vihara has been home to two nuns. While we have held a day retreat and offered occasional teachings at the new Vihara, it primarily serves as a residence for nuns. We have received excellent support with requisites and volunteers assisting with tasks such as gardening at Khemaloka. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed their time and effort to help at Khemaloka. The Vihara is in good condition, though we replaced the blinds to improve insulation during extreme weather.

Key Activities & Event Highlights

- Ajahn Hasapanna attended the Fu Guang Shan Vesak Celebration on 13th April at the Supreme Court Garden.
- Ajahn Hasapanna and Venerable Jotika were invited to attend the Consecration Ceremony of the Ariya Vihara Bhikkhuni Sima, Malaysia from 21st April to 23rd April.
- Ajahn Hāsapañña and Venerable Karunika attended the NSW Parliament House Vesak Celebration on 8th May 2024. Ajahn Hāsapañña also attended the WA Parliament House Vesak celebration on 14th May.
- Ajahn Hāsapañña conducted the weekend retreat from 21st June to 23rd June at Jhana Grove.
- Ajahn Hāsapañña attended the Kathina Ceremony at Santi Forest Monastery on October 19 and the Bhante Sujato Kathina Ceremony in Sydney on October 20.
- Ajahn Munissara and Venerable Jenti attended Ajahn Brahm's 50th Bhikkhu Anniversary events on November 2 and November 9, 2024, respectively.
- Ajahn Hāsapañña was invited by BAMBI for the Weekend Teaching at Magaret River 15th November to 17th November 2024.

- The Dhammasara Fire Season Busy Bee took place on Sunday, November 17, to prepare for the upcoming bushfire season.
- Ajahn Hāsapañña and Venerable Jotika attended the Opening Ceremony of retreat centre at Newbury on 26th January 2025.

Building & Maintenance

- The K8 RCD protecting lights and power point is faulty and is urgent to be replaced. Switchboard change and rewiring to include the Power inlet for Generator. Fully funded by 2 supporters.
- Window Replacement: As part of our monastery's security enhancement initiative, we are replacing all the old Kuti windows with double-glazed security windows. The existing windows are single glazed, resulting in low energy efficiency. During winter, heat dissipates rapidly through these windows, while in summer, they allow heat and sun glare to enter. This inefficiency leads to difficulties in maintaining consistent temperatures within the huts. After over 20 years of use, some windows have deteriorated and become damaged due to weather exposure and daily use.
- New solar generator in the office. Key takeaways from the recent storm, which resulted in a six-day power outage: To address the challenges posed by power outages, we have installed a solar generator in our office. This generator ensures uninterrupted power supply to essential communication devices. Additionally, a solar panel has been mounted on the roof to harness solar energy. Furthermore, we received a donation of a satellite internet solution, serving as a backup to our current ADSL copper wire telecommunications system.
- Installation of Security Screen door at our Kutis. We will be starting to replace old and broken fly screens with better security screens.
- We removed the deteriorated insulation from the walking paths of Kuti 5, 6, and 7 and replaced it with PU spray foam.
- Each year, we are required to maintain the access road as part of the Council's conditions when they approved the building permit for our four new kutis. Due to erosion, we have been spending several thousand dollars annually to maintain the road. The Sangha has decided to reprofile the access road using second-hand bitumen, as it is more cost-effective. The reprofiling of the access road was completed in June.
- Our fire water tank experienced leakage due to improper installation of the liner, which caused rust in some areas. Following Prem's advice, the tank was replaced. The replacement process, completed on November 30th, took four days to demolish the old tank and install the new one.

Demolish Kuti9 (at Campsite) and rebuild

The Sangha has given unanimous approval to demolish and rebuild Kuti 9.

K9 has been experiencing mould and water leak for the last few years – during rainy season.
There was also termite infestation in the damp walls and damaged the electrical system.
We have rectified the roof, gutter and installed awnings to attempt to solve this ongoing problem.
However, the leak and mould returned at the start of this year's rainy season.

Ajahn Hasapanna
March 2025