BSWA AGM 2025 – Operations Manager Report
Period: Jan 2024 to Dec 2024

Here are some of the highlights for 2024:

Events in 2024

Yoga session – Added yoga classes to the Dhammaloka Saturday afternoon programmes, when there are no Be Quiet or Kalyana Friendship Group sessions.

Mental Health First Aid Refresher Course – Organised a MHFA Refresher course for the previously qualified and trained MHFAiders in the BSWA.

Ajahn Brahm 50th Anniversary as a Bhikkhu
Organised a 5-week celebration with the main event taking place on 1 Dec 2024. Also invited other Buddhist organisations affiliated to Ajahn Brahm to conduct meditation sessions or Dhamma Talk online in honour of our great teacher.

People

Dhammaloka is supported by a great team including Admin (Elle and Aurora job sharing and Cherry), Treasury (Ronnie and Madu) and both the Caretakers (Lynne and Nick). Notable is Cherry who retired in Feb 2024 and yet, continue to spend a day a week helping out the admin team.
Volunteers – Grateful for ongoing support by volunteers.

Incidents

During the year in Dhammaloka, an unidentified person threw an object into our female caretaker's residence; fortunately, no one was harmed. In response, we decided to install security windows. Additionally, we received two religiously motivated threatening letters, which were reported to the police. To enhance safety, we temporarily hired security guards for Friday nights for the few months before the 2024 rains retreat.

Grant Applications

We were successful with the Grant for Securing Faith Based Places and awarded a grant value of $195,000. The Grant agreement was executed in Feb 2024.

However, we were unsuccessful in the following grants applications:
Apr 2024 - Collier Charitable Fund ($34,000)
May 2024 – Tree Planting Grant ($500)
Jul 2024 – Women's Grant ($10,000)

Following Grant (Expression of Interest) was applied pending results:
Dec 2024 – Volunteer Grant ($5,000)

Reported by: Lay Har Goh
Date: 16 Jan 2025