Buddhafield

Annual General Meeting Report 2024

With Arms Wide Open

Offerings in the Dharma life

As 2024 comes to an end, I find myself thinking of a moment at the Buddhafield Festival this year. I felt a bit tired and wanted to lie down, but it was only 7.30pm. I argued with myself a bit as it seemed a bit lame, but I decided to go with what my body was asking for. I lay down and relaxed, and soon, to my left, I heard Mahasuka's workshop on the Tara mantra, which had serious harmonies. A little while later, the Padmasambhava puja was in full flow to my right. My bell tent was equidistant from the two, and as I was lying on the ground, I could feel the vibration from both coming through the ground into my body through my back. At first, it was a little overwhelming, but I breathed into it and let go of my need for quiet or order. I must have dropped off, but as I woke up, it felt like the two mantras had wrapped themselves around each other and were making their way to my heart, where they seemed to combine and produce a new song that produced energy and warmth. It was such a thrilling moment, and I thought, 'Where else could something like this happen? Where else do we have the possibility to be cradled by mantras while lying on the earth?' It was a beautiful gift. Perhaps it was the song of the deathless, which is always happening…. waiting to be recognised when we let go of our demands on life and our preferences. Something unexpected came into being, something beyond the rational or material. It was only possible because of the efforts of countless beings who created the possibility of that moment. I offer heartfelt gratitude to all of you/them for this gift.

It is a privilege to work with such wonderful beings. The care and devotion of so many have allowed us to offer what we love to others. This I find deeply heartening. May we continue to bring these qualities into the Saha world.

- Amaragita, Chair of Buddhafield

Mitra News

We welcomed four beautiful beings into the community at the Autumn team gathering- Ember, James, Felicia, and Sam. Two of them had participated in the 4-month Anuruddha programme, and Felicia was an Anuruddha in 2023.

Witnessing people being rejoiced in and making this commitment is always very moving, reminding us of all of what is important to us and connecting us with gratitude for all the conditions and people who have helped us find a way to express our aspirations.

We currently have six Mitra study groups running, with nearly 50 participants altogether. We are also very pleased to have retreats at Tirylan House for women and men Mitras in November, allowing us to deepen practice and get to know each other.

Ordination News

It was very special to have the 'Welcome Home' celebration for the newly ordained Mokshadharini - she who touches the earth of liberation! After working for Buddhafield for over 10 years and taking some time out to have her three children, she returned glowing and full of creativity.

Plenty of people want to be ordained in the Buddhafield context. Our Pathways to Ordination sessions were all booked up at the Autumn gathering. These may need to be redesigned to accommodate everyone who would like to participate. We will let people know as a new format emerges.

The Anuruddha Project (Mandate holder: Alobhin, admin: Felicia - passing on to someone else for 2025)

The Anuruddha Project ran this year from April to August, with a group of eight Anuruddhas, an order member and a GFR Mitra guiding and holding the project. The project aimed to exemplify Work as Practice and build a small, itinerant spiritual community within the wider Buddhafield community. Most of the time was spent outdoors camping, with two indoor retreats.

The project began with an induction retreat at Tirylan House, followed by supporting the Glastonbury Yatra and moving to Bowerwood to help set up the Body of Bliss retreat. The Anuruddha then went to a week-long dream retreat offered by Arthabandu in a delightful, rented lodge. This was followed by two weeks of volunteering at Alfoxton. A return to Bowerwood to help with the mid-season tat-down, followed by a Deep Play retreat at Hridayabija, Sagaravajra's East Devon Forest Garden.

A little break was followed by almost four weeks at the festival site, where they helped to set up and tat down the shower and sauna space. Lastly, the Anuruddhas helped with the Village retreat pre-setup before returning to Bowerwood to rest and regroup for their final week together.

The programme aims to provide an intense opportunity to live a full-time Dharma life. It also seeks to build capacity in Buddhafield by imbuing more people with in-depth knowledge of our structures, processes and principles.

2024 Events

Buddhafield Festival (Attendees: 2101, mandate holder: Muditajina)

The Buddhafield Festival celebrated its 27th year in 2024. The event went well, with the weather holding out and people having a spacious and joyful time together. O

ne of the highlights this year was our new ticketing system, which made queues at the gate a thing of the past. We had some layout changes with the affinity spaces moving up to the hurdles field and creating a beautiful communal feel to the area. This was also the first year for the Green Tara Spa, which went well and will continue growing and thriving. The area coordinator team is a wonderful group that commits much time and energy. Without their dedication and energy, this wouldn't be possible. Much gratitude and love to them and all our volunteers.

Buddhafield Café (@Glastonbury and @Green Gathering as well as the festival, mandate holder: Priyadaka)

Perhaps the best thing to say about the cafe season is that Trevor thought it was the most enjoyable in a long time. He said that Laura's role as kitchen manager and other roles made a big difference.

It feels like we've been rebuilding for a couple of seasons now, and, significantly, we are becoming a good team that may be with us for some or all of the next few seasons. People are developing friendships and want to practice and take the cafe forward. Several are in Mitra study, and there are occasions when they meet outside the cafe.

We weren't so profitable this season, which may be due to the economy; we need to pay attention to that, make more from each event, and get ourselves to more events.

Green Earth Awakening (Attendees: 112, Managers: David Basak, Joanna Spence)

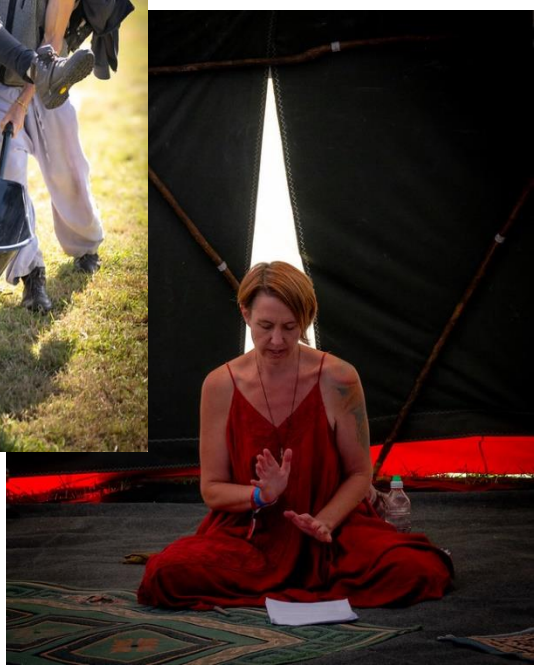
Green Earth Awakening is back, and this year's event was a great success! Returning as an annual gathering, the team faced exciting changes and challenges with new managers, a new site, and many unknowns. Nagalila stepped down as Organiser and Programming Lead, with Jo Spence and David Basak stepping in to take the reins. The new location worked beautifully, and we received a warm welcome from our new neighbours.

As an event, Green Earth Awakening offers a unique space for building community and exploring the intersection of inner and outer transformation. It's also a place

where we engage in meaningful, sometimes difficult conversations about the pressing issues in our world today. While we met our financial goals this year and even achieved a small surplus, there's still room to grow our ticket sales to ensure the event's long-term sustainability.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dave and Rebecca Lee—Dave being the son of the late Steve Lee—and to Margaret Lee, who hosted us for many years on their land at the previous site.

The feedback from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive, with the team leaving nourished and energised. Looking ahead, the aim is to clarify the vision further and build on our marketing.



Buddhafield in the City (Attendees: 255, Organiser: Lucy Barber)

Buddhafield in the City hosted more than 250 attendees, ranging from babes in arms to people with a long history with Buddhafield. It was held at The Pickle Factory- an up-and-coming, quintessential Bristol venue with street art lining the walls of the yard, a fire pit and posters advertising wholesome events and courses inside.

The team spent the day and morning before the event setting up and sweeping an unexpected snowfall off the roof of the shrine tent in the garden. People ate good vegan food at the Buddhafield Café and drank chai. There was yoga, beatboxing, singing, yoga, and much more. Pete the Temp and the Vibe Mechanics took us into the evening, and we finished with an ecstatic dance set from Sophie Bolton.
Amaragita and Satyadaya hosted sessions in the shrine tent, culminating in an evening puja where we chanted the words of the Earth Puja by Maitridevi.

As the Spring after Snow,
As the sun after cloud
As dawn after night
As rainbow after rain…
So, may the Dharma
always shine anew
In this fleeting world
Never leaving us in darkness.

(Adapted by Maitridevi from the Green Puja in Puja: The Triratna Book of Buddhist Devotional Texts)

After the snow and on the cusp of early spring, it felt fitting to be right in the middle of Bristol, lighting candles and working on our experience of the relationship between our modern world and the earth in this way.

There was so much about the day, which was moving and successful. We raised just under £3,500 for Buddhafield Base and connected with many people around the values of the project.

2024 Retreats

Retreats Mandate Holder: Mark Wells

At Home with the Elements - Voices of the Rain Online Retreat (Attendes: 71, Organiser: Roz Bird)

In the depths of February, we reach out to people over the internet and gather faces, locations, mediation and Dharma talks on Zoom to practice. At Home with the Elements has been going strong since the first event in 2021. Although we are taking a break from it in 2025 to make way for a course - Archetypes by Candlelight with Amaragita - it remains an important event in the Buddhafield calendar, and we will see it again in the future. It's a unique opportunity to connect with old and new friends- those we see at other times of the year and those we don't see out in the fields at our other events. We thank this year's element leaders - Akshayapradipa, Lokabandhu, Subhadassi, Singhasri, Maitrijyoti, Maitridevi and Amaragita- for their strong Dharmic input. They are supported by a committed behind-the-scenes team who do everything from building the online programme to hosting the sessions.

Spring Yatra (Attendees: 41) Leaders: Amaragita, Ratnadeva, Guhyasaki and Prajnahridaya

This year's Spring Yatra was big, with many retreatants combined with a large team, including the Anuruddhas. Our pilgrimage began at Bowerwood, leading us on a journey through the beautiful Blackdown Hills, across the expansive Somerset Levels with their vast, open skies, and into the mythic landscape of Avalon, where we spent our final night together in Glastonbury. The teaching team offered a rich programme of meditation, ritual and Dharma, weaving Buddhist teachings with the sacred landscape which was our home and context of practice during our journey. The water element played a prominent role in our pilgrimage, with a number of very soggy days! The retreat coincided with Beltane, and we had a wet but very jolly evening on 1st May huddled under the canopy together, singing traditional Beltane songs and sharing stories and poetry.

Body of Bliss (Attendees: 34) Leaders: Viryadeva and Muditajina

In this intensive meditation retreat, we explored the jhanas, inspired by Rob Burbea's framework. Silence, daily teaching and individual meditation interviews helped

guide practitioners and demystify the practice without stripping it of its magic. A significant group of retreatants accessed the jhanas for the first time. Others gained more reliable access to these resourcing and insightful realms. The retreat was mind-bending and confidence-bestowing for many. Maitriyjoti was unable to join the teaching team for unavoidable last-minute reasons - we look forward to welcoming her back another year!

Total Immersion: Meditating in the world, Living in Solidarity (Attendees 29) Leaders: Paramananda, Padmadarshini, Satyamuni, Ratnadeva

We spent two weeks living and meditating together amongst the beautiful trees of Bowerwood. Under the soulful guidance of Paramananda we explored how opening to nature and our embodied experience can lead to a deeper connection with ourselves and the world. This retreat was largely held in silence and was enhanced by excellent bodywork from Padmadarshini and rituals from Satyamuni and Ratnadeva. The weather was very rainy for the first few days, but mysteriously improved once we had done the proper rituals to pay our respects to the land.

Village 1 (Attendees: 23) Leaders: Ratnadeva, Mike Fletcher, Dayaloka

Village 1 is a unique event that combines building a place for the Village 2 community to emerge and practice with the threads of family life. Children over the age of 7 can attend, and they are encouraged to play and flourish on the land. People always speak highly of this event's quiet, working rhythms and the opportunity to connect to the wild and beautiful energy at Frogmill.

Village 2 (Attendees: 130) Mandate holder: Ruth Love

If you've never attended Village 2 then it's hard to fully understand the power of this event. With almost as many children as adults on the land and the full experience of family life in a field alongside practice and community, magic happens. It manifests as Naga in the river, tipis full of music and smiles in

the field, dinner in big pots served by teenagers, tweens walking the moor in their independence challenge and big rituals in the shrine tent and out on the land and by the water. Holding each other's hands and seeing each other's hearts in a grand exemplification of community with all its expressions from newborns to elders, the Village goes from strength to strength.

Exploring the Bardos: Late Season Working Retreat (Attendees 30) Leaders: Alobhin, Ratnadeva, Siwan Morus, Leslie Flaherty, Saffron Clackson
This year, we successfully turned the final phase of the Buddhafield season at Frogmill into a working retreat. The participants arrived immediately after the Village 2 retreat, completed the partial tat-down, took part in the Animism retreat, and then stayed until the full tat down was complete. The daily routine included the usual three meditations for setups and tat downs, with work finishing early to allow a late afternoon teaching session, with more practice in the evening. Alobhin skillfully shaped the retreat, supported by input from a multi-talented teaching team, and bringing in themes from the Tibetan Book of the Dead.
The retreat included some remarkably powerful and imaginative collective practices, culminating in a moving ritual, 'unskinning' of the tepee, where we sat within the structure and surrounded by mantra, we watched the blue sky of liberation emerge.

Animism: Kinship with All Life – Open retreat (Attendees 60) Leaders: Sanghasiha, Ratnadeva, Suryamani, Moksacara
This is our first retreat on this topic, and it looked at how an animistic way of seeing the world can enrich our lives and support Buddhist practice while encouraging a more reverent attitude to the more than human world. The theme felt very timely and attracted a diverse community of retreatants who practised alongside the members of the working retreat who were already on site. The teaching programme was rich and varied, including talks connecting animism to the Dharma from Ratnadeva, guided nature connection practices from Sanghsiha, bodywork and story from Suryamani, and nature-inspired Metta Bhavna meditations from Moksacara.

Southeast Family-Friendly Retreats (Spring Attendees: 42, Autumn Attendees: 37 Mandate Holder: Sharon Trodd)
West Wartling Woods is a beautiful place to be with the trees, the bluebells and the falling leaves in their respective seasons, with a few geodomes, an outdoor kitchen and a sangha. The simple rituals and practices of this retreat weave themselves with the domestic realities of family life, cooking, washing up, sorting the toilets out and so on, until everything has a Dharmic sparkle. And if you can manage the quirky parking at this event then enlightenment can't be that far behind. The team consists mostly of committed regulars who hold this unfolding of Buddhafield in the southeast with grace and joy.

Team Gatherings

Leader: Amaragita, Organiser: Ruth Love. Attendance peaked at 70/80 people during each weekend.

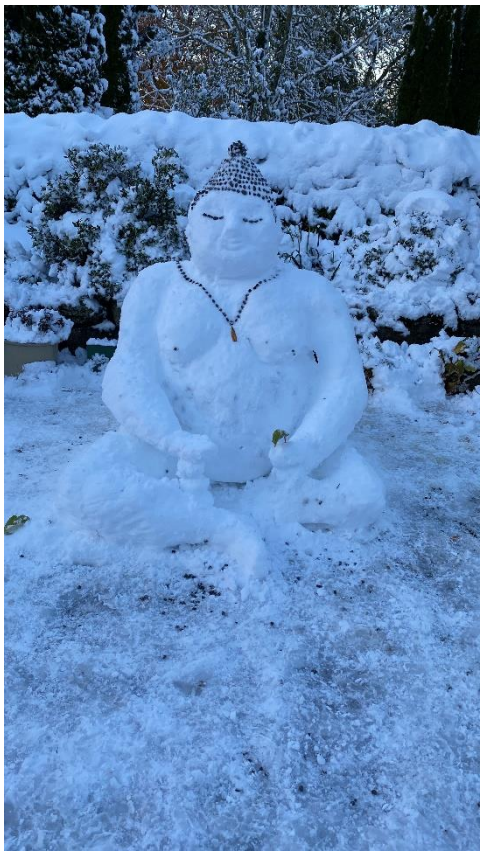
Our team gatherings were at the Mayhill site in Gloucestershire this year. As well as going for walks and sitting around the fire with songs and poems, we had many interesting and useful workshops. Lotus's workshop on building capacity and our community conversation around what we can do to deepen our practice were particularly useful. We also had practice days covering Sila, Pranja, and Samadhi, as well as lots of sparklingly industrious side meetings covering all aspects of Buddhafield.

Resources

Operations Circle (lead link: Muditajina)

Kit (Mandate holder: Trevor Walker, Deputy and kit week organiser: Laura Claffey)

Whether practising in it, driving it around, putting it up or taking it down, the Buddhafield kit has been part of your experience this year. It is fundamental to the fabric of almost all of our events and holds so much of the history of the work of our community. It is expertly maintained year-round by Trevor at the barn. He's also joined by teams twice a year for the kit weeks.



Vehicles (Mandate holder: Luke Griffiths)

The Buddhafield vehicles successfully supported a full season of events and allowed other Triratna organisations to hire Buddhafield structures. We continue to mature in our DVSA HGV operator license compliance and have a reliable record of organisational vehicle data. Improvements could be made to secure volunteer HGV drivers ahead of events in good time to ensure compliance.

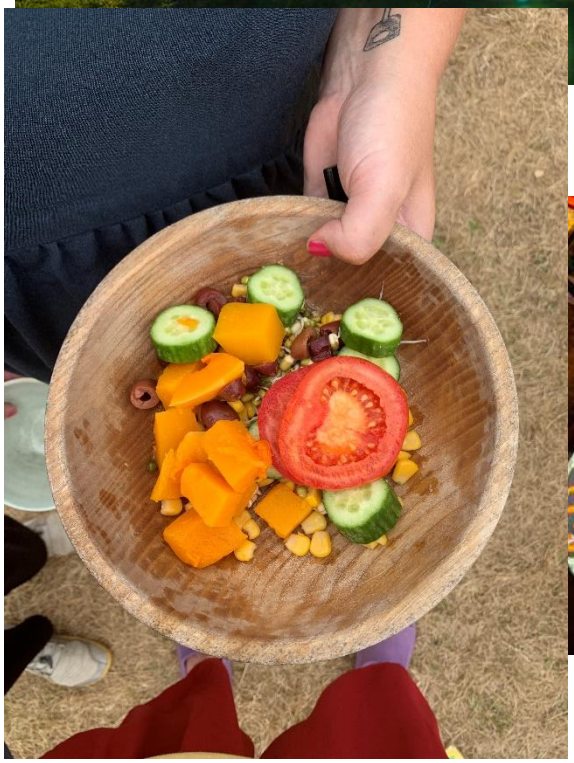
This winter, we anticipate replacing one of the Buddhafield vehicles (Peggy) with a similar vehicle whose cab is in better condition. Our vehicles continue to keep the Buddhafield project on the road.

Showers and Saunas (mandate holder: Richard Hymas)

This year, we made a big change from wood-fired showers to gas-powered at our events and retreats. The poetry of being able to turn the shower on at ANY time of

day and get hot water was appreciated by so many. These are alongside the saunas, so the chance to warm up, get clean and enjoy steam rising into the night air under the stars is always available. The evolution of this continues as we look to consolidate the resources behind this aspect of Buddhafield.

Retreats Kitchen (Mandate holder: Jay Sacher)
Food and sustenance are at the heart of what we do. Whether it's feeding teams, retreatants or entire events, the kitchens of Buddhafield hum away full of dedicated people, hard work and love putting out thousands of meals over a season. Hot water, teas, organic food, washing up, storage, stock takes, and ordering supplies are in a continuous flow every day during every event. It's a role and environment that comes with some challenges. This year, we had to look at the provision of restricted diets at events and make some changes for 2025 that reflect both inclusive provision and realistic expectations.



Land

Bowerwood (Land Manager: Pom McFadden- stepping down in 2024)

Our land on the Blackdown Hills was well-used this year, with two successful long retreats held there – Body of Bliss and Total Immersion – plus a retreat team weekend in March, a visit by the Spring Yatra Retreat, two stays by the Anuruddhas in June and August and several work days across the year.

The Anuruddhas got stuck into some bracken bashing whilst the retreats Team cleaned and made some improvements to our water system. The rest of the work was undertaken primarily through a mix of volunteer activity at work days, additional work by Land Circle members and some significant input from outside contractors, specifically in the areas of tree and vegetation management and improvements to the access track and live-in vehicles access.

Highlights included:

- Work to trees noted as high risk by last year's professional tree survey;
- Opening up of the access track through the former Forest Garden and removal of adjacent ash trees infected with Hymenoscyphus fraxineus (Ash Die-Back)
- Marking of all remaining Ash trees with pink ribbon, and those badly infected with Ash Die-Back with an additional blue ribbon to facilitate easy identification
- and consideration of future management decisions
- Roping off of two woodland terraces compromised by adjacent tree defects, where the trees are otherwise in good condition and therefore important to retain
- Safety improvements to the boardwalk in time for the main retreats
- Construction of two wood stores
- Care of the trees planted in the last few years.

Other notable activity:

- The timber-framed barn erected last year by a dedicated team of volunteers was put to good use this year as a storage space, an area for cooking and hanging up washing, and a shelter for the hot tub!
- Our water supply has been professionally tested and the results will inform future management activities.
- We were approached by a local enthusiast researching the whetstone mining history of the area, and we are currently working out an agreement to enable them to undertake on-site investigations.

Frogmill (land manager: Mike Fletcher)
Some highlights from work at Frogmill this year:

- The green lane hazel was coppiced to let a huge tractor and bailer in.
- It was increasingly difficult to cross the brook ford so we had to create a new access to the mill-side fields.
- There was coppice work to mill shed sycamore. This involved reducing height and weight to prevent collapsing.
- Another year developing a working relationship with Clive, our farmer neighbour, grazing his old English breed, Jacob sheep, throughout the winter to reduce the thatch to keep the ground good for camping and wildflowers.
- Our plan for an orchard planting extension by Lou was paused because of awful weather in spring. We will have a second attempt next early spring.
- Location planning, design, costing and construction detailing are all done for a storage shed and specified to keep canvas aired. Shropshire company to build and supply, I was to do groundworks and sub-base without using concrete. The project is currently on hold pending discussion with trustees and further consideration of some further factors.
- There was a big accessible project with £9k of funds raised by Cat Powell. Part of the project was to build and install a compost loo in time for the Village retreat. The shed will stay on site (though it can be moved because it was designed on skids). This accessible project was a highlight for Mike this year. We had a great team led by Cat, with Mina, Charlotte, Visvadhakini, Pete and Jeni. We designed a bespoke loo for the specific needs of people we have coming to the Village. We had some technical challenges to overcome, such as the ramp, but the loo worked brilliantly.
- Meadow diversity continues to increase, with Yellow Rattle found self-seeding near Naga Bridge. Along with Southern Marsh Orchid in the village field are very exciting additions. It has been proving hard to keep traffic off delicate areas during retreats, even with signs and fenceposts so we continue to seek solutions to this.
- Field management- we are settling into a sustainable system to increase biodiversity, recreate traditional Dartmoor hay meadow and rewild the edge zones, as well as provide good camping land. It will always be slower than possible because we need to cut hay a bit early to suit village retreat timings. The overwintering sheep have been positive, and developing good relationships with local farmers is just as important. The removal of the dock by hand continues and is starting to show results after several years. It is hard but satisfying work. The main camping field was dock-free for the first time this year.
- Oak circle- the young oaks finally feel their roots have settled into the earth and, as a result, are putting on more top growth. Some are now 9 feet tall. Giving us a glimpse into what the grove might feel like in 30 years. However, the docks are proving really hard to remove from the circle, so a few more years of pulling are required.
- Composting- our system of three-year rotation of shallow pits is now working after some trials and fails, mostly of too deep and not marking the previous year clearly. Village site crew, led by Anna, look after the site with love and care.
- Plumbing- worked with the wonderful festival site plumber, Jon, who helped put a second water pipe line for direct feed to the new shower set up. We

also added some pressure controllers to fine-tune the feed to the kitchen and field sinks.

The land gives us so much. Thank you ♥

Behind the Scenes

Programming Circle (lead link: Muditajina):
Buddhafield ran a successful retreat program this year with Body of Bliss and Animism: Seeing into the life of things, adding to and enriching our usual program. We continue to pack the season with retreats, nourishing events, workdays, online offerings, and one-day events, all of which contribute to the rich tapestry of the Buddhafield year.

Connectivity and Communication Circle (lead link: Lotus)
Publicity (mandate holder: Beth Jones stepping down and passing on to Kamalanandi)
Publicity continues to support all of our events as well as fundraising and community building in the world. Many of our retreats and events were sold out and we sold a good number of tickets for all our offerings. People have responded to our wheel of the year newsletters with great joy.

Beth is stepping out of the role after three years holding this vital and sometimes challenging role. We offer her our heartfelt thanks for all she has brought and held during her time.

Front of House (mandate holder: Joel & Nelly)
Front of house is by turns delightful, surprising and relentless as the role manages all the communication that comes into the Buddhafield inbox. Joel and Nelly were new in the role this year and took to it well. They responded to people with calm friendliness and began to build connections to the team and the Buddhafield year. They also put their first Buddhafield season on the website, and 2025 is looking delightful and ready for people to join us on another journey through the year.

IT & Data Management (bundle holder: Ruby Hughes, moving to Lotus)
The tech that holds together the back end of Buddhafield is extensive and allows us to communicate, collaborate and manage everything we do. This year, we successfully rolled out the new eventree system to retreat teams, Green Earth Awakening and Buddhafield festival crew and to the cafe team. We are midway through a website rebuild, which we expect to complete in 2025. Exciting times are ahead as we take on new systems to streamline some of the back-office processes for everyone.

Mandates Circle (lead link: Cait Crosse)
The support around the mandates system has fallen into a steady rhythm - mandates meetings at team gatherings and a longer get-together in January. We've also had regular Introductory talks online and at team gatherings.

We're looking to update the constitution this coming year and better organise our online resources. We may rename some roles within the system to provide more clarity.

Buddhafield Base

(lead link: Amaragita, project lead: Lotus)

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Buddhafield BASE
RESOURCE, CONNECT, REGENERATE

Community Share Offer
Branch 2

It's been another good year for the Base project. Our fundraising year started in the snow in Easton, Bristol, at Buddhafield in the City. There is a quality that travels with us through the history of Buddhafield, the team, the kit, and the Dharma that can be felt even in environments so different from our usual offerings. We raised money for Base and brought people together to share community and practice.

We opened the second branch of our share offer in the spring and have welcomed 20 new applicants throughout the year. This offer will be open until we purchase the property or until March 2026, so there's time to join us if you want to support the project.

Our property team and property consultant continue to consider opportunities that come our way. They have looked at over 100 prospects online. The team has visited a handful, and we considered two seriously this year- both were eventually let go as not quite right. Our needs as an organisation and community remain complex and tricky to meet, especially with the speed of the current property market.

The fundraising and events team had a strong presence at our events, including the Buddhafield Festival and Green Earth Awakening. Amaragita took our story to the Combined Area Order Weekend, and we were heartened by the response from the Order.

More than 30 team members directly worked with the Buddhafield Base project this year with the ever-present support of the wider Buddhafield team, who created the context within which we grow this new endeavour. We raised around £35,000 while offering the connection and experiences at the heart of everything we do. It has been a successful year in the Base project by many measures. Yet, we find ourselves in a particular position as the season draws closer. We have scaled a mountain in the last few years, and we're now considering the angle of the last stretch of the ascent. You can stay connected with news from the Base project by signing up to the newsletter at www.buddhafieldbase.com.

Guardianship

(lead link: Kamalanandi)

Staffing (Bundle holder: Nagalila)
We have nearly 30 people mostly part-time. We raised our budget to increase people's support bundles. Negotiating the currents of contracts, right livelihood, recognising contribution and hitting budget targets is work that takes considerable focus and skilful action.

Safeguarding (Bundle holder: Kamalanandi passing on to Jo Worthington)
Huge thanks to Kamalandi for his work for the last 7 years building the safeguarding aspect of Buddhafield from scratch and negotiating this tricky mandate. Pulling together professional support from outside agencies, various teams, policies, paperwork, follow-ups and multiple facets of conversation in a massive range of situations is a significant challenge that must be done well to work. The role was much more supported this year by Dexter in a deputy role and the new safeguarding circle.

Health and Safety (Bundle holder: Lotus passing on to Karen Honey)
Many thanks to Lotus for taking it on this year and turning it over in a shape that is fit for purpose. Karen joins us to continue the work of keeping Buddhafield compliant in ways that work well for our systems and unique environments.

Inclusivity (lead link: vacant)
This role was vacant throughout the year, so we commissioned Cait to do a light research project on what key individuals thought and wanted from Inclusivity.

Cait's piece of research produced interesting reading and ideas about how to move forward. We had new conversations about 'empowering adoption' for the festival and had a courageous conversation about 'culture wars' at the team gathering.

Financial Forecast Highlights

	£	£	
Buddhafield Festival			
Ticket sales	383,500		Down from £459,600 in 2023
Traders and other income	53,100		Up from £18,700 in 2023, includes sauna and advance fees
Total Income		436,600	
Forecast Surplus (donated to charity)		**101,000**	Compared with £183,000 in 2023
Buddhafield Café			
Increased Glastonbury Buddhafield & Green Gathering takings, additional small events and pancakes at GEA	89,500		Compared with £80,000 in 2023
Expected surplus		**16,330**	
Green Earth Awakening			
Ticket & other income sales	29,065		Dormant year in 2023.
Expected surplus		**3,647**	
Retreats			
Booked places on all retreats	60,340		Compared with £52,350 in 2023
Rereat dana	30,500		Compared with £38,200 in 2023
Expected contribution to support & overheads		**27,000**	
Support			
Buddhafield was able to increase support staff and volunteers through bundle system due to surplus in 2023	172,000		Compared with £128,500 in 2023
Other noteable income/ expenditure			
Investment in Bowerwood land and facilities	14,000		
Expanded Annuruda programme	5,400		
Support of team on external retreats	6,000		
Gifts to volunteers	2,000		
Donations to other Triratna charities	2,000		
Surplus/(Deficit) for year Estimated		**(65,000)**	**Compared with £69,600 surplus in 2023**
Free/contingency reserves forecast at end of 2024		**134,000**	**Compared with £199,000 in 2023**

Coming Up in 2025

3rd February- 7th March- Archetypes by Candlelight
29th March- Buddhafield in Avalon
2nd May- 5th May- Buddhafield Southeast Family Friendly Spring Retreat
3rd May- 10th May- Spring Yatra
16th May- 30th May- Total Immersion: Dwelling in the World's Soul
23rd May- 30th May- Men's Wilderness
1st Jun- 8th June- Routes to Resilience
10th June- 17th June- Dakini Retreat
16th July- 20th July- Buddhafield Festival
31st July- 6th August- Village 1 Family-Friendly Retreat
9th August- 16th August- Village 2 Family-Friendly Retreat
20th August- 24th August- Touching the Earth - Introduction to Buddhism and Meditation- Open Retreat
29th August- 31st August- Buddhafield Southeast Autumn Family Friendly Retreat
10th September- 14th September- Green Earth Awakening

Plus, team gatherings in April and October, work days, kit weeks, meetings and more... Our theme for 2025 is Uncovering the Jewel.

Wishing everyone a beautiful journey.

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