

# Trustees' Annual Report

**Trustees' Annual Report for the Period**

From	01/01/2024	Period Start Date
To	31/12/2024	Period End Date

<b>Charity name</b>	TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (BRIXTON)
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<b>Charity registration number</b>	1084889
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# About us

## Objectives and Activities

The object of the Association is the advancement of the Buddhist religion, in particular by:

- Encouraging members and others to live in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha
- Supporting ordained members of the Triratna Buddhist Community and other duly ordained Buddhists at the discretion of the Council of the Association
- Maintaining close communication with and working under the guidance of the Triratna Buddhist Order, and cooperating with other groups that have the same objectives
- Using applications of the Buddha's teachings to promote the health and well-being of all

## Our Community

The Brixton Buddhist Community is a network of individuals united by the shared aim of developing spiritually and living in accordance with Buddhist principles of friendship, generosity, honest and kindly communication, and care for each other's spiritual welfare. A key part of this vision is to help others benefit from the teachings of the Buddha, such as meditation, mindfulness, ethics, and social engagement. The community is made up of practitioners at different levels of commitment to the Buddhist path: Order Members, Mitras, people who attend regularly, and people who drop in to our classes.

## What is an Order Member?

An Order Member is someone who has been ordained into the Triratna Buddhist Order.

Ordination is a significant and powerful ceremony in which an individual makes a lifelong commitment to following the Buddhist path, placing it at the centre of their life. Training for ordination is a process that takes many years of personal practice, Dharma study, and periods spent on retreat. During ordination, a practitioner commits to practising for the benefit of all beings, acting in accordance with the ten Buddhist ethical precepts, and living in harmony with others. At ordination, they are given a special meditation practice and a new Buddhist name to signify their commitment to the spiritual life. You can usually recognise an Order Member by the symbolic white scarf (kesa) they wear, embroidered with the Three Jewels.

## **What is a Mitra?**

Everyone who has contact with the Brixton Buddhist Community (such as attending a class) is considered a 'friend'. However, someone who feels a particular connection with our community and has decided to follow the Buddhist path can ask to become a 'Mitra' (which simply means 'friend' in Sanskrit). Becoming a Mitra marks a deepening of commitment for the practitioner, and there are special activities, including retreats and study groups, open to Mitras to support them in this. People ask to become a Mitra when they:

- Consider themselves Buddhists
- Are trying to live in accordance with the first five ethical precepts of Buddhism
- Feel that the Triratna Buddhist Community is the appropriate spiritual context for them

Once a person's request to become a Mitra has been accepted, they take part in a simple public ceremony on a festival day. This ceremony is recognised at all Triratna centres worldwide, and they will be regarded as a Mitra wherever they go. Later, some Mitras may also decide to request ordination and begin the process of training for ordination. However, this is not expected, and many people happily practise as Mitras within our community for the rest of their lives.

## **What is a Study Group?**

All Triratna Buddhist Centres offer a four-year programme of study covering the key aspects of the Buddha's teachings and Sangharakshita's approach to them. These study groups are mainly for Mitras, to help them deepen their commitment to the Buddhist path. However, at Brixton, we offer the first year of this programme to anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of Buddhism and Buddhist practice. Those interested in joining a study group, can speak to an Order Member at one of our classes.

The main activities undertaken by the Brixton Buddhist Community are as follows:

- Weekly meditation classes for both beginners and experienced meditators
- Weekly Buddhist courses
- Several week, weekend and day retreats
- Men's and women's Mitra study groups (weekly meetings to study a four-year Buddhism course)
- Occasional study mornings led by visiting Order Members
- Buddhist Festival Day celebrations, held four times per year
- A programme of People of Colour events throughout the year

- 'Through Buddhist Eyes' – four morning activities per year where regular visitors to our activities, the Sangha members, can share how their lives are influenced by their Buddhist practice
- A small team of part-time employees, offering an opportunity for people to share skills needed to run the charity in a Buddhist environment
- A small men's community where up to six men can live and practise together
- A men's order chapter, where male Order Members regularly meet to discuss their practice. A women's chapter is planned.

The Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set, and ensure they are consistent with the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

# Structure, Governance and Management

Triratna Buddhist Community (Brixton) is a registered UK charity. We are constituted as an unincorporated association and voluntarily linked to the network of Triratna Buddhist Community (formerly Friends of the Western Buddhist Order) charities. We are governed by a standard Triratna Buddhist Community constitution. Decisions about the community's vision, activities, finances, and public communications are made by a Board of Trustees who meet bi-monthly. They are all volunteers, with the exception of Prajñaghosa, in the role of Chair. Because we are a spiritual community, the Trustees are all Order Members able to guide the spiritual direction of the community.

Trustees during 2024 are as follows:

Name	Legal Name	Other role
Prajñaghosa	Guilhem Monin	Chair
Maitrinita	Jacqueline Clarke	N/A
Maitrinara	Sam Farquharson	Men's Mitra Convenor
Amaladana	Alan Worrell	Finance Officer
Dharmasvara	Richard Bolley	N/A

## Voting members

Voting members are committed members of the Sangha who are invited to take part in voting on key decisions in the running of Brixton Buddhist Community such as the election of new Trustees. All decisions must be passed by majority vote and voting members are welcomed to give their opinions to any motion suggested. All voting members are either Order Members or people training for ordination and are selected based on the length of time they have been involved with the community and their level of commitment.

Elena Blanco, Pam Walton, Ian Jacobs-Dean (who became Shraddhin in 2024), Lizzie Lawrence (who became Tejasvati in 2024), Emma Thoroughgood, Alex Bermingham and Daisy-May James were our voting members in 2024.

## Leadership roles

**Chair** – Prajñaghosa. The role of the Chair is to oversee the direction of the community, support the team and all the volunteers, and make the many small day-to-day decisions involved with running a thriving Buddhist organisation.

**President** – Paramabandhu. Paramabandhu is the President of Brixton Buddhist Community. A president offers spiritual counsel and friendship to a community, and can be a source of help when issues arise. Paramabandhu is a senior Order Member, who along with others holds responsibility for ordinations within the Triratna Buddhist Community. He is also

an ex-Chair of the London Buddhist Centre in East London, where he lives and is a highly valued teacher. He visits us at least twice a year.

**Mitra Convenors** – Maitrinara (Men's Mitra Convenor) and in lieu of a Women's Mitra Convenor up until November 2023, Tejasvati. A Mitra Convenor takes special responsibility for supporting Mitras within our community, both through running events and meeting with people individually. They also meet with men and women who are becoming more involved with our community, to help them find appropriate study groups or events to support their practice. They help to guide people in the process of becoming Mitras and are also often a point of contact for Mitras who want to ask for ordination. They are always happy to hear from people interested in becoming more involved in our community.

### **The Centre Team**

The centre team is the organisational hub of Brixton Buddhist Community. Together they are responsible for coordinating all the events, as well as managing our online content. Tejasvati and Steph work two days a week, Alex and Elena work one day a week each.

Prajñaghosa	– Chair
Steph	– Events Coordinator
Elena	– Online Media Coordinator
Tejasvati	– Team Champion and Programmes Coordinator
Alex	– Graphic Design

### **Reference and Administrative details**

Registered Charity Name: TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (BRIXTON)

Registered Charity Number: 1084889

Address: Brixton Buddhist Community, 45 Abbotswood Road, London, SW16 1AJ

# Financial Review

	Charity Name			No (if any)		CC16a
	TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (BRIXTON)					
	Receipts and payments accounts					
	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date		
		01/01/2024		31/12/2024		

## Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fundraising	40,131	-	-	40,131	32,650
Retreat	25,099	-	-	25,099	20,716
Class	18,782	-	-	18,782	10,708
Course	15,385	-	-	15,385	9,407
Gift aid	6,320	-	-	6,320	14,925
Weekend events	5,953	-	-	5,953	-
Interest	1,240	-	-	1,240	976
Restricted funds		300	-	300	360
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>112,910</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,210</b>	<b>89,742</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>112,910</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,210</b>	<b>89,742</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Payroll	46,811	-	-	46,811	43,710
Rent	23,460	-	-	23,460	26,800
Retreat	20,135	-	-	20,135	14,981
Donation	2,480	-	-	2,480	2,037
Administration & expenses	7,071	-	-	7,071	6,830
Course	1,463	-	-	1,463	960
Restricted funds	-	300	-	300	2,754
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>101,420</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,720</b>	<b>98,072</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>101,420</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,720</b>	<b>98,072</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>- 8,330</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>47,796</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,952</b>	<b>56,282</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>59,286</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,442</b>	<b>47,952</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	3,166	-	-
	Deposit account	56,119	156	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>59,286</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>

# Achievements and Performance

## Racial Diversity

In 2024, we worked with other London Buddhist Centres to support London-wide People of Colour (POC) activities for our Sangha members. This involved monthly online POC events, two weekend retreats, and a Brixton-hosted POC day. Brixton also contributes some of its funds towards the European Chair's Assembly Diversity Group, part of whose remit is to employ a racial diversity coordinator. We hope that these initiatives will offer more pathways into our community for people of all ethnic groups, as well as offer specific support for People of Colour to deepen their Buddhist practice within our community.

Although our community is becoming increasingly diverse, especially at our classes, there is still room for growth. We now have POC representation on the Trustee board, and our hope is that, within a few years, our diversity efforts will result in more members of our Sangha from Black, Asian, and other ethnic groups stepping into leadership roles.

## Gender Diversity

Historically and culturally, the Buddhist tradition has maintained a strict divide between men and women practitioners. The Triratna Buddhist Community is unique in the Buddhist world as it recognises equal ordination for both women and men, who both join a single Sangha. However, it also acknowledges the benefits of sharing our lives with those whose experiences are more likely to align with our own. In Triratna, this has led to the practice of women being trained and ordained by other women, and men by men. For this reason, alongside our many mixed events, our study groups and residential communities are often established as women's or men's groups.

We are aware, however, that this structure does not suit everyone. In response to the growing awareness of gender diversity, Triratna is currently in the process of creating more supportive contexts for people who are gender diverse, so that they have the necessary conditions to deepen their practice, become Mitras, and train for ordination. These needs vary widely among individuals. Examples include connecting people with the broader Triratna Gender Diverse Sangha, establishing gender-diverse study groups and ordination training programmes or, in the case of people transitioning, supporting them to move between the existing men's or women's wings of the Order and movement.

# Chair's Report

As the founder of our Buddhist movement, Bhante Sangharakshita, used to say: we only commit to the unknown. In 2023, I stepped into the role of Chair of the Brixton Buddhist Community, and at that time, everything was still very new and unknown to me. 2024 has been a year of learning and growth for both the community and myself and it has felt truly rich, rewarding, and deeply enriching.

Our project continues to deepen. This year we welcomed two new Order members into our community, Tejasvati and Sraddhin, who have each made a lifelong commitment to practice the Dharma, witnessed and supported by our sangha. Welcoming them back after their ordination retreat was a very special and moving occasion. They have both since become key members of our project. We also welcomed five new Mitras, and several others have asked for ordination. It is inspiring to see people deepening their Going for Refuge and the project itself evolving in response.

The year began with great energy through our Meditation Challenge, which brought an unprecedented number of people to our classes. It was a wonderful way to start the year and launch ourselves strongly into 2024. Our drop-in classes and courses have continued to attract more participants, and our People of Colour day retreat was also a real success.

There have been so many highlights including the second instalment of the Summer of Love festival, which brought vibrancy, excitement, and growth to our sangha and was again a big success. The Alfoxton retreat, where a group of practitioners spent five days in intensive meditation, created ripples of benefit that continue to be felt within the wider community. Our festival days, each one, a joyous celebration of the living legacy of Buddhism, passed down through the ages from the Buddha to the present day.

Another great strength of our community is the growing culture of generosity. This year, more and more people have given their time, energy, and resources freely to support the project. Our sangha thrives on generosity and volunteers - without whom we could not sustain ourselves.

On a personal note, I have greatly enjoyed learning how to serve as Chair: guiding the project, supporting the flourishing of our sangha, and deepening friendships within the community. In the midst of the busyness of Brixton, it is heartening to see the Dharma thriving at the Brixton Buddhist Community. The project continues to grow from strength to strength, and I feel fortunate to be part of it. I am also grateful for the trustees of our community, who have been fully engaged, harmonious, and deeply committed. While at times our project feels precarious, particularly as we continue to seek a secure venue, I remain confident in our future. As long as we continue to deepen in the Dharma, I believe our path will be bright and prosperous.

Looking ahead as we move into 2025, I look forward to continuing to serve as Chair and to supporting the next chapter of our community's growth. Together, we will keep deepening our practice, strengthening our sangha, and sharing the Dharma in Brixton and beyond.

Prajnaghosa, Chair, July 2025

# Programme Coordinator's Report

We got our year off to a great start with our three-week 'meditation challenge' during which participants were invited to see if they could meditate every day, coming to classes twice a week to support them in doing so. It boosts attendance at the centre to run this in January. We invited two well-known teachers to lead a session each which was an additional attraction for many. People went on to attend further classes and courses throughout the year.

In 2024 we ran six courses, the ones in January and September being the most well attended in accordance with the trend of previous years. Using data, both quantitative and anecdotal, on 2023's course attendance and participant satisfaction we have been able to incorporate learnings about which courses work best at which time of year and which leaders work well together to improve the attendance and quality of our courses in 2024.

We ran two weekend retreats at Vajrasana Retreat Centre in 2024 which were well attended. We ran a longer meditation intensive retreat for regulars at Alfoxton Park Retreat Centre which was very positive for those who attended. We also ran a smaller retreat at Rivendell Retreat Centre for regulars which was fully booked and provided an opportunity for people to deepen their connections with others in the community and to practise together within the framework of myth and ritual.

The 'Summer of Love' festival, a series of five events taking place on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer, comprising music performances, rituals, yoga and 'gong baths' ran again. This festival continues to see a huge increase in numbers. Prajñaghosa developed the idea and it continues to be a unique element in our year's calendar and will be continued in coming years.

As usual we hosted four festival days throughout the year with some Mitra ceremonies. These are an important part of our yearly calendar as they provide the opportunity for regulars to come together and practice as well as for newer Sangha members to come and experience Buddhist ritual. We continued to try and attract well-known teachers to give key-note talks which have been a draw for people to come.

We have a regular class called 'Through Buddhist Eyes' run by a team of volunteers. The class involves inviting Sangha members to lead sessions on creative ways into practice. This has taken the form of rituals, writing and drawing workshops, singing and a tea ceremony. The events run on a Saturday morning and provide an important context for Sangha members to come together and also a space for people who can't make weekday evenings to come and practice together.

2024 saw two of our regular People of Colour day retreats. The Triratna People of Colour group is a pan-London group which involves members of our community. The group hosts events in different Triratna centres around London and it was a pleasure to be able to host them again. It is very important to us to provide a space for people of colour in our Sangha to practise together and to be represented, especially as Brixton has such a high population of people of colour.



## **Women's Mitra Convenor's Report**

Tejasvati (ex-Lizzy) was ordained in Spring of 2024 and assumed the role of 'Women's Sangha Coordinator' as no Women's Mitra Convenor was in place. She co-leads a large study group of twenty women which started in Autumn 2024, with Vandanasuri and Bex, a GFR Mitra. It has been a great success and out of the twenty women 6 have become Mitras.

In the autumn, a fundraising campaign for the Women's Mitra Convenor role was very successful and Shraddhamalini from the London Buddhist Centre was appointed to start in January 2025.

Meanwhile, the pool of women Order Members available to teach in Brixton continued to grow. Maitrinita, a Trustee, has developed People of Colour events in Brixton and is a valuable addition to the Council. Vandanasuri, originally from the London Buddhist Centre, has become increasingly involved in teaching and supporting new women in Brixton. Tarāmani co-leads courses, and Maitrekara has also started teaching and attending events.

Regular women's study events have continued. Four women asked for ordination in 2024.

Shraddhamalini  
Women's Mitra Convenor (As of January 2025)  
July 2025

# Men's Mitra Convenor's Report

Here are some of the highlights of 2024 from my perspective as Men's Mitra Convenor.

Our residential community, Danaprasada, continued to provide a wonderful platform for six men to live and practice Buddhism together. The community continued to act as a hub for many of our wider community activities, which include men's study groups and events, chapter meetings, gfr meetings, trustees meetings as well as a social hub for many friendships to flourish.

In 2024 a new men's study group embarked on a course of Buddhist study with eight participants. There is also a second study group which is in its third year of study. These study groups are a highlight of Brixton community life, meeting weekly as they do they serve as a forum to explore and deepen understanding of how Buddhist practice relates to our actual lives. It's heartening to see how, as the men grow to trust and enjoy one another more fully, and as their understanding and confidence in Buddhist practice increases, a special atmosphere of confidence and possibility emerges in these groups.

In 2024, two more men from our community also asked to become ordained, and the 'going for refuge group', which is for those men who have asked to join the Triratna Buddhist order to deepen their training, continued after its inception in 2023.

In 2024 we had one man getting ordained, it was particularly moving to see Shraddhin get ordained as he had originally been in a study group I had co-lead with Sagarasila, and we had both got to know him very well over the four years of the group. He has thrived in our community since getting ordained and is a great example of someone taking their life and Buddhist practice very seriously and making genuine progress.

We had another five Brixton retreats in 2024, which included two retreats for newcomers and regulars at Vajrasana, one longer meditation retreat at Alfoxton and one weekend retreat for Mitras and study groups at Rivendell. We also had one men's working retreat at Alfoxton. It was lovely to see the men engaged with the meaningful work of restoring and renovating this retreat centre which previously belonged to William Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy.

In 2024, one man became a Mitra with the commitment of deepening their connection to the Three Jewels of Buddhism. The ceremony, held on the Sangha day festival day, was marked by great rejoicing from the Brixton Buddhist Community. It was delightful to hear Nat talk about what had led him to this point of wanting to deepen his connection to the Buddhist path and community.

Our classes and courses at Effra Space reached another all-time high. They remain the primary gateway for newcomers to connect with the vision, practices, and people of our community. The special and friendly atmosphere of our regular events is due to both the quality of our teaching team and the fantastic support team, all of whom volunteer their time with great humour and dedication. The overall success of our programme is attributable to the efforts of our centre team, a small group financially supported to work together in promoting and organising all our events. It is a great privilege and inspiration to collaborate with this team in an atmosphere of dedication, creativity, and friendship, and to witness the impact of their efforts in the growing number of people coming to Effra Space and transforming their lives through encounter with the Dharma.

Maitrinara, Men's Mitra Convenor, July 2025



## Finance Officer's Report

2024 saw a profit of £11.5k in 2024 and a performance 23% above budget. This was a relatively large profit for us which follows on from 3 years of deficit during which we have increased the size of the team and rented more space to increase our activities. This 3-year deficit period can be seen as us investing in Brixton, allowing us to extend the activities we offer and increase the size of our sangha, and as our bank balance has now returned to its level prior to this period and significant growth has been achieved, we can say that our investment has paid off! This has been achieved while continuing to offer the majority of our services on a donation basis so that those who cannot afford to pay are not prevented from attending.

Key contributors to our 2024 success are: the 46% increase in fundraising income compared with 2023; the increase in activities offered and attendees attracted; and the maintaining of the main costs of payroll and rent at 2023 levels.

The following table summarises income and expenses by category for 2024 and shows the end of year cash balance. The sections following give more explanation on these categories\*.

	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>		
Money from events	<b>£66,459</b>	£52,581
Money from fundraising	<b>£40,131</b>	£27,394
Gift aid	<b>£6,320</b>	£9,407
Subtotal	<b>£112,910</b>	£89,382
<b>Expense</b>		
Class rent & event costs	<b>(£52,129)</b>	(£51,965)
Team	<b>(£46,811)</b>	(£43,710)
Contributions to other Triratna charities	<b>(£2,480)</b>	(£2,037)
Subtotal	<b>(£101,420)</b>	(£97,712)
Net surplus/deficit	<b>£11,490</b>	(£8,330)
Cash balance previous year	<b>£47,952</b>	£56,282
End of year cash balance	<b>£59,442</b>	£47,952
Restricted balance	£156	£156

*\*2024 categorisations have changed since 2023, as follows:*

- *Money from events includes all income from any specific activity paid for (including retreats, Monday and Wednesday classes, weekend classes, courses, special events (eg Summer of Love)).*
- *Money from fundraising includes standing orders and one-off donations.*

*All of the following comparisons between 2023 and 2024 take account of these categorisation changes which effectively reduces 2023 Money from fundraising by £5,256 and increases 2023 Money from events by the same amount*

## **INCOME**

### **Money from events**

Overall income in this category was £66,459, a 21% increase over 2023 income. Money from Events is composed of Retreats, Weekday Drop-in classes, Courses and Weekend Events. Interest on our deposit account (£1,240) is also included in the high level total for this category but is not detailed in the specific events below. The following detail explains how each of these have performed in 2024 in comparison with 2023 equivalents:

#### **Retreat**

<b>Retreat</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>% change</b>
Vajrasana	<b>£4,949</b>	£2,747	80%
Alfoxton	<b>£2,519</b>	£2,730	-8%
Vajrasana	<b>£9,364</b>	£8,712	7%
Rivendell	<b>£3,452</b>	£1,608	115%
Vajrasana	<b>£4,815</b>	£3,289	46%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,099.00</b>	<b>19,086.00</b>	32%

Income increased 32% overall in 2024 with all but the Alfoxton retreat showing gains. Whilst the number of retreats remained the same, attention to the number of bursaries and the team paying a bursary contribution were the main contributors to the gain.

#### **Weekday drop-in classes**

<b>Class day</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>% change</b>
Monday	<b>£14,002</b>	£12,106	16%
Wednesday*	<b>£4,780</b>	£3,955	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£18,782</b>	£16,061	17%
*Total Wednesday evening class income is £20,165 when Courses (which are run on a Wednesday) are taken into account.			

Monday drop-in average class numbers increased from approximately 36 to 49 per night with a 16% increase in income (all cash collected at Effra Space is recorded against the Monday class).

Wednesday drop-in shows a 21% increase in income, this is due to 2 additional special events (Gong bath, sound / movement events) run on 2024.

## Courses

Courses (# weeks)	2024	2023	% change
Heart's release (6)	<b>£3,283</b>	£0	
J&G (8)	<b>£2,736</b>	£0	
Intro to Buddhism & Meditation (6)	<b>£2,645</b>	£2,185	21%
Living with confidence (5)	<b>£2,574</b>	£781	230%
LWFA (8)	<b>£2,312</b>	£2,969	-22%
Meditation & the dhyanas (4)	<b>£1,835</b>	£1,424	29%
Taste of Freedom of 2023 (6)	<b>£0</b>	£2,153	
Vision & transformation (6)	<b>£0</b>	£1,196	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£15,385</b>	<b>£10,708</b>	<b>44%</b>

The courses run in 2024 were not always the same as in 2023, but where they were a comparison of income has been made. Overall attendees in 2024 increased 20% over 2023, 266 versus 222 in 2023, with an overall 44% increase in income.

## Weekend Events

Weekend Events	2024	2023	% change
Day retreat	<b>£2,016</b>	£1,243	62%
Study	<b>£1,717</b>	£440	290%
TBE	<b>£1,099</b>	£608	81%
Buddhist Festival	<b>£661</b>	£1,013	-35%
POC	<b>£460</b>	£387	19%
Special (skills auction)	<b>£0</b>	£2,082	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,953</b>	<b>£5,773</b>	<b>3%</b>

**Day retreat** – There was one fewer Day Retreat in 2024 (3 versus 4 in 2023) but numbers attending was greater, (total in 2024 was 82 and 58 in 2023) and 62% greater income achieved.

**Study** – 5 study mornings run in 2024 versus 3 in 2023

TBE (Through Buddhist Eyes) - There was one fewer TBE event in 2024 (3 versus 4 in 2023), but booking was made necessary in 2024 and income was raised 81%.

**Buddhist Festivals** – Income collected at festivals decreased by 35% as the emphasis at festivals has shifted towards encouraging people to make standing order commitments rather than collecting money on the day.

**POC** (People of Colour) – one event day each year with a 19% increase of income in 2024.

**Special (skills auction)** – The skills auction of 2023 was not repeated in 2024, but due to its success may be tried again in coming years.

## Money from fundraising

Fundraising	2024	2023	% change
Standing orders	<b>£26,032</b>	£18,276	42%
Major gifts (Single source =>£1,000)	<b>£10,267</b>	£7,781	32%
One-off donations	<b>£3,832</b>	£1,337	187%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40,131</b>	<b>£27,394</b>	<b>46%</b>

2024 was a very successful year for fundraising with an overall 46% increase over 2023.

The main reasons for this success were a very successful telephone campaign in October to ask for one-off and major donations towards the employment of a Women's Mitra Convenor together with the encouragement of people at festival days to set up standing orders.

## Gift Aid

Gift aid	2024	2023	% change
Gift aid	<b>£6,320</b>	£9,407	-33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,320</b>	<b>£9,407</b>	<b>-33%</b>

A late recognition of a 2024 gift aid submission to HMRC resulted in this apparent decrease in income. In reality a further £7,868 gift aid relating to 2024 was received in January 2025. When this is taken into account a 31% decrease in gift aid turns into a 51% increase. This increase is due to larger income and a focus on ensuring as many donors as possible consider gift aid collection.

## OUTGOING

Overall costs rose by only 4% and this was mainly due to salary increases in line with inflation.

Expense	2024	2023	% change
Class rent & event costs	<b>(£52,129)</b>	(£51,965)	0%
Team	<b>(£46,811)</b>	(£43,710)	7%
Contributions to Triratna charities	<b>(£2,480)</b>	(£2,037)	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>(£101,420)</b>	<b>(£97,712)</b>	<b>4%</b>

## Reserves policy and risk management:

Triratna Buddhist Community (Brixton) has no appreciable assets and operates from rented premises. The charity is operated by a combination of part-time paid employees and volunteers. Income is from attendees of classes, courses, retreats and special events run by the charity.

A reserves policy is considered necessary in order to respond to the risk of losing our rented premises at short notice and thereby losing the basis of our financial support. In such an event the reserves policy seeks to maintain the paid employees (and volunteers) for a period of at least 6 months in order to maintain our programme of events as best we can whilst searching out alternative premises. The reserves policy will also allow for administrative expenses during this period. The table below shows the reserves amount within the closing bank balance:

<b>Reserves</b>	
Payroll (6 months)	£23,405
Expenses (6 months)	£3,536
<b>Total</b>	<b>£26,941</b>
<b>2024 closing bank balance</b>	<b>£59,287</b> (minus restricted balances)

Amaladana, Finance Officer, July 2025

Charity Name		No (if any)		CC16a
TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (BRIXTON)				
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
	1/1/2024		12/31/2024	

## Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fundraising	40,131	-	-	40,131	32,650
Retreat	25,099	-	-	25,099	20,716
Class	18,782	-	-	18,782	10,708
Course	15,385	-	-	15,385	9,407
Gift aid	6,320	-	-	6,320	14,925
Weekend events	5,953	-	-	5,953	-
Interest	1,240	-	-	1,240	976
Restricted funds		300	-	300	360
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	<b>112,910</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,210</b>	<b>89,742</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>112,910</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,210</b>	<b>89,742</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Payroll	46,811	-	-	46,811	43,710
Rent	23,460	-	-	23,460	26,800
Retreat	20,135	-	-	20,135	14,981
Donation	2,480	-	-	2,480	2,037
Administration & expenses	7,071	-	-	7,071	6,830
Course	1,463	-	-	1,463	960
Restricted funds	-	300	-	300	2,754
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>101,420</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,720</b>	<b>98,072</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>101,420</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,720</b>	<b>98,072</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>- 8,330</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>47,796</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,952</b>	<b>56,282</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>59,286</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,442</b>	<b>47,952</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	3,166	-	-
	Deposit account	56,119	156	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>59,286</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Triratna Buddhist Community (Brixton)

On accounts for the year  
ended

31/12/2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1084889

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent  
examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

23/09/25

Name:

Fay Pritchard

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

MAAT

Address:

8 Darwin Street, Shrewsbury, SY3 8QE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).