



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date		
From	1 st	January	2022	To 31 st December 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Buddha Metta Society

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1154796

Charity's principal address

19E LAWNGREEN AVENUE

CHORLTON CUM HARDY

MANCHESTER

Postcode

M21 8FH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ken Garrod	Chairman		
2	Mandy Walker	Secretary		
3	Peter Foster	Treasurer		
4	Hui Pheng Teoh	Vice-Treasurer		
5	Marjorie Jack			
6	Jeremy Bruce			
7	Zarine Zatrak			
8	Sarah Horn			
9				
10				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Caerwyn Jones	Emstrey House, Shrewsbury Business Park, Sitka Dr, Shrewsbury SY2 6LG

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Trust

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by existing Trustee majority vote

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance the understanding of the general public in the Buddhist religion by:

- providing opportunities for them to spend time with experienced and ordained representatives from the Thai Forest Tradition Monastic Sangha
- arranging pilgrimages to significant world Buddhist sites for anyone interested in Buddhism, accompanied by experienced guides and teachers
- supporting the work of the Buddhist monk Luangpoh Sudhiro who has been ordained for over 30 years in the Thai forest tradition to teach and host pilgrimages
- providing information to the general public in relation to the Buddhist religion

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The charity has a number of regular donors who give money to support the work of Theravadin Thai Forest tradition monk Chaowaphit Sudhiro (Luangpoh).

The charity also invites Luangpoh to the UK and provides transport and accommodation for him during his stay. He tries to visit everyone that invites him and he spends time at various places including Buddhist temples around the country.

The BMS have planned his next visit to the UK for the summer of 2023.

It also arranges annual pilgrimages to provide an opportunity for people to experience living simply as the monks do and the money raised from these also contributes to the charity's objectives.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Luangpoh has a close relationship with Mahamakut Buddhist University Isan Campus (MBUISC) in Khon Kaen NE Thailand where the Vice Rector Phra Ajahn Sakorn is also a monk and he has arranged for representatives of the charity to help there.

So far 3 of the BMS members have volunteered as native English speakers to offer opportunities for conversation to the students and to help with students' learning of the English language.

Due to the risks and restrictions involved with Covid-19, it was not possible to teach at the university in 2022, however students travelled to Luangpoh's temple Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri and lessons were held there during January and February. Members of the BMS also taught the growing number of young Mae Chee (Thai Buddhist nuns) resident at the temple during their stay.

The BMS will continue to provide free help with English teaching and members of the charity will return to Thailand again in January 2023.

During the pandemic, the BMS provided online help with students' English, providing face to face conversation via social networking sites and remote essay and homework correction and help. This has continued following the relaxing of the restrictions and currently a number of young Thai students and a young Tibetan monk in India are having online lessons and conversation sessions.

**Summary
of the main
achievements
of the
charity
during the
year**

The involvement of the BMS charity with the university and the interest in Buddhism of western visitors encourages students to value their national religion and there has been an increase in students ordaining as monastics to study. This is especially true of the Mae Chee (Thai Buddhist nuns).

This is continuing to contribute to the improvement of English spoken by the monks and nuns, allowing them to participate in 'Monk Chat' sessions at their temples when speaking to foreign visitors.

The charity is providing help over and above the obvious financial purpose it serves and we are warmly welcomed as well as the volunteers getting a sense of personal satisfaction through the aid.

Luangpoh has continued to sponsor students with our donations, both ordained and lay at Mahamakut Buddhist University Khon Kaen, offering some less privileged young people to be educated at a higher level than they might otherwise have been able.

The donations have also been used to support the establishment and ongoing development of three temples :

- The first of these is in Baan Sammuang called the 'Buddha Metta Project' which has 2 Thai style houses where visitors are able to stay and experience the traditional life of Buddhism in Thailand. A large temple Wat and a sanitation block has been built here, helped by support from the BMS.
- The second is in Phu Kaat, a village about 30 minutes drive north from Luangpoh's main temple Wat Pah Kanjanabhisek in Phu Wiang. This second temple has been given the name Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri and it is Luangpoh's intention that this will provide a safe space for students from MBUIISC to visit and practice together. There have been a great deal of developments at this temple over the last 2 years. A new building has been built to support the growing community of nuns and a Stupa for relics and Ordination Hall are well on the way to being complete.
- And the third is for continuing support to Luangpoh's first temple in Phu Wiang, Wat Pah Kanjanabhisek which continues to provide religious services and support to the local surrounding village people.

The charity donations continue to provide school socks for all the children at the primary school in Baan Sammuang.

Since the Sangharaja of Laos passed away, Luangpoh has been raising money to build a 'chediya' (stupa) in his honour at his birthplace in Ubon Ratchathani. Some of the BMS donations have been directed there too. It is hoped that the chediya will attract visitors from different neighbouring countries as Luangpoh would like to have information on the inside in various ASEAN languages and Ubon is on the border with Laos and Cambodia.

Due to continued concerns over the pandemic the BMS decided not to arrange a large pilgrimage in 2022 but a small group did travel to stay at the temples to experience what Luangpoh refers to as 'Living in the Dhamma'.

It is the BMS charity's hope that travellers who experience this simple life, gain a clearer perspective on life in general. And it doesn't matter whether you are religious or not, everyone is welcome.

To date, everyone has returned to their country valuing what they have far more than

when they left.

But most importantly, there are some who realise they have too much and gained an understanding how much they do actually need to achieve happiness and contentment.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We will continue to try and invite Luangpoh on an annual basis and arrange a pilgrimage around the UK during his visit.

Due to the repercussions of the Covid-19 pandemic with border and visa issues, Luangpoh was unable to travel in 2022. All of the donations made to the charity were therefore forwarded to Thailand in the usual way to support his work.

We are delighted to announce that Luangpoh has agreed to visit the UK in 2023 when his transport, accommodation and food will be financed by his supporters in the UK. To support this, the events held during his stay will be used as fund raisers to finance his travel costs.

Depending on the future annual income, the BMS may need to reserve an amount to pay for an independent examination as the 2022 charity's income exceeded the 25K limit after which an examination is required.

All remaining donations will be forwarded to continue to support the causes in Thailand and no member of the BMS benefits from any donations made.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principle source of funds is via individual donations made. Some of these are regular donors, some donate to support particular causes arising through the charity and some are due to events held by the charity.

Two members of the charity continue to host an annual weekend "Living in Dhamma" retreat at Hill Cottage Retreat Centre in Wales and donations made are forwarded to support Luangpoh.

The BMS will continue to offer advice and support in travelling to Thailand and spending time at a monastery, living in a simple and often monastic-style way. It is also possible for people to ordain, either temporarily or long-term and through these kinds of events, people often feel it right to donate.


Section F**Other optional information**

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Section G**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Peter Foster	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	12 th October 2023	

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY ACCOUNT

Year Ending December 31st 2022

The BMS would like to thank everyone who has donated this year through the charity towards the work of Luangpor Chaowaphit Sudhiro. Your kind donations continue to provide many benefits to people and communities and to the teaching of Dhamma both here in the UK and abroad.

The charity began receiving donations into the Barclays Community account in May 2013 until the present date and has raised : **£250,649.33**

This Income & Expenditure statement details the totals of donations made to the charity in months up to 31st December 2022 along with the dates and amounts of the account balance transferred via International Money Transfer to the Siam Commercial Bank Thailand in the name of Phra Chaowaphit Sudhiro to support the work of Luangpor (Phra Ajahn Chaowaphit Sudhiro).

Some of the donations are used to support special projects, e.g. the Buddha Metta Village at Baan Sammuang, the Chediya in Ubon for Luangpoo Maha Pong the late Sangharaja of Laos and the building of Wat Phu Kaat/Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri.

Over the past year, Buddha Metta Society members have also continued to donate generously towards the 'Savika Fund' that was established to help support the Mae Chee community.

The Mae Chee community spend their time at Wat Pah Kanjanabhisek and Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri and is continuing to grow.

In 2022 two of the young Mae Chees from poor backgrounds, who decided to become Mae Chees in 2021 to help their families financially have continued to benefit from the kind generosity of the BMS and other donors who help support their living at the temples and the cost of their studies.

Some of the Savika donations are also used to support two Mae Chees studying for their Master's Degree and who have been granted sponsorships to study in India.

Due to some larger than normal donations for specific projects (e.g. the Ordination Hall and monk "kutis" at Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri) the charity exceeded the 25K limit and needed an independent audit. We chose Caerwyn Jones who charged 600 and this cost was generously covered by a BMS donor. We decided to retain some of the larger donation amount to cover such a charge in 2023 should we again exceed 25K, but will send it along with other donations in 2023 should this prove not to be the case.

Everyone is welcome to donate either on a one off basis or through a regular standing order.

Anyone making donations through the Buddha Metta Society charity are also welcome to indicate where they wish their donations to go whether to a specific cause or to the general work and projects supported by Luangpor. All donations made for pilgrimages held in January each year are used to defray the costs incurred during the pilgrimage and to support Luangpor's work in general.

The charity has been granted gift aid status by the UK Inland Revenue, which means we are able to reclaim tax paid for donations made by tax payers who gift aid their donations. This means the BMS can claim another 25% of your donation from the UK Tax Office and will in time amount to a quite considerable sum, the first such claim was received in October 2014 and so far we have claimed : **£25,151.47**



If you don't currently 'Gift Aid' your donations and are a tax payer, please get in touch to find out how.

Donations to Buddha Metta Society

			Income	Expenditure	A/C Balance
2021	December	Balance B/Fwd from year end December 2021	£1,120.00		
2022	January	Total of donations	£230.00		
	February	Total of donations	£6,603.50		
	2nd March	Transfer to Thailand		£7,953.50	£0.00
	March	Total of donations	£280.00		
	April	Total of donations	£530.00		
	Early May	Total of donations	£40.00		
	18th May	Transfer to Thailand		£850.00	£0.00
	Mid May	Total of donations	£1,030.00		
	20th May	Transfer to Thailand		£1,030.00	£0.00
	Late May	Total of donations	£6,280.00		
	6th June	Transfer to Thailand		£6,280.00	£0.00
	Early June	Total of donations	£24,121.21		
	23rd June	Transfer to Thailand (600 reserved for professional account audit)		£23,521.21	£600.00
	Late June	Total of donations	£710.00		
	July	Total of donations	£583.79		
	Early August	Total of donations	£680.00		
	9th August	Transfer to Thailand (573.29 retained ready for audit)		£2,000.00	£573.79
	Late August	Total of donations	£1,600.00		
	September	Total of donations	£4,750.00		
	30th September	Transfer to Thailand (623.79 retained ready for audit)		£6,300.00	£623.79
	3rd October	Donation from Hill Cottage Retreats for independent audit	£600.00		
	3rd October	Independent audit conducted by Caerwyn Jones		£600.00	
	Early October	Total of donations	£1,575.04		
	25th October	Transfer to Thailand (retained 598.83 for audit in 2023)		£1,600.00	£598.83
	Late October	Total of donations	£20.00		
	November	Total of donations	£250.00		
	21st November	HMRC gift aid claim	£1,035.00		
	12th December	Transfer to Thailand (retained 403.83 for audit in 2023)		£1,500.00	£403.83
	December	Total of donations	£250.00		
		End of year balance			£653.83
		End of year totals	£52,288.54	£51,634.71	

Donations towards Wat Buddha Metta

Due to the initial lack of funds and the start of the global pandemic at the beginning of 2020, plans to purchase a permanent temple in the UK were put on hold. However, the appeal for Wat Buddha Metta is still ongoing in the hope that once the disruptions caused by Covid-19 settles down, there may be the possibility to pursue it again.

It is worth noting that if this venture is progressed, it is outside the responsibility of the Buddha Metta Society.

The intention is for a separate entity to be formed to take ownership for establishing and developing Wat Buddha Metta.

In the interim, any donations received for Wat Buddha Metta will be kept in a separate account and will be transferred to the new entity when it is formed.

If plans to establish Wat Buddha Metta do not materialise, unless we receive alternative instructions from individual donors, the donations will go towards supporting Luangpor's other charitable work. The primary purpose of the Buddha Metta Society is to continue to support Luangpor's work in the Far East (Thailand, Laos, etc) and invite him here to the UK.

			Income	Expenditure
2021	December	Account opening balance	£4,577.34	
2022		Total of donations (incl interest on account)	£79.48	
		End of year balance	£4,656.82	

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1154796

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022
for
Buddha Metta Society**

Buddha Metta Society
Year end 31 December 2022
Report of the Trustees

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

When planning the activities for the period, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Charitable activities

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The charity began receiving donations into the Barclays Community account in May 2013 until the present date and has raised £250,649.33.

This Receipts and Payments statement details the totals of donations made to the charity in months up to 31st December 2022 along with the dates and amounts of the account balance transferred via International Money Transfer to the Siam Commercial Bank Thailand in the name of Phra Chaowaphit Sudhiro to support the work of Luangpor (Phra Ajahn Chaowaphit Sudhiro).

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Over the past year, Buddha Metta Society members have continued to donate generously towards the "Savika Fund" that was established to help support the Mae Chee community.

Buddha Metta Society
Year end 31 December 2022

Report of the Trustees

The Mae Chee community spend their time at Wat Pah Kanjanabhisek and Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri and is continuing to grow. In 2022 the community gained two young Mae Chees from poor backgrounds, who decided to become Mae Chees to help their families financially and who are benefitting from the kind generosity of the BMS and other donors who help support their living at the temples and the cost of their studies. Some of the Savika donations are also used to support two Mae Chees studying for their Master's Degree and who have been granted sponsorships to study in India.

Due to some larger than normal donations for specific projects (e.g the Ordination Hall and monk "kutis" at Wat Makhut Vimutti Giri) the charity exceeded the £25,000 limit and needed an independent examination of the financial statements. We chose Caerwyn Jones Chartered Accountants who charged £600, and this cost was generously covered by a Buddha Metta Society donor. We decided to retain some of the larger donation amount to cover such a charge in 2023 should we again exceed £25,000 income, but will send it along with other donations in 2023 should this prove not to be the case.

Everyone is welcome to donate either on a one off basis or through a regular standing order. Anyone making donations through the Buddha Metta Society charity are welcome to indicate where they wish their donations to go, whether to a specific cause or to the general work and projects supported by Luangpor. All donations made for pilgrimages held in January each year are used to defray the costs incurred during the pilgrimage, and to support Luangpor's work in general.

The charity has been granted gift aid status by the UK Inland Revenue, which means we are able to reclaim tax paid for donations made by tax payers who gift aid their donations. This means the BMS can claim another 25% of your donation from the UK Tax Office and will in time amount to a quite considerable sum, the first such claim was received in October 2014 and so far we have claimed £25,151.47.

Buddha Metta Society
Year end 31 December 2022
Trustees Report

Charitable activities

giftaid it

If you don't currently "Gift Aid" your donations and are a tax payer, please get in touch to find out how.

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Due to the initial lack of funds and the start of the global pandemic at the beginning of 2020, plans to purchase a permanent temple in the UK were put on hold.

However, the appeal for Wat Buddha Metta is still ongoing in the hope that once the disruptions caused by Covid-19 settles down, there may be the possibility to pursue it again.

It is worth noting that if this venture is progressed, it is outside the responsibility of the Buddha Metta Society. The intention is for a separate entity to be formed to take ownership for establishing and developing Wat Buddha Metta. In the interim, any donations received for Wat Buddha Metta will be kept in a separate account and will be transferred to the new entity when it is formed. If plans to establish Wat Buddha Metta do not materialise, unless we receive alternative instructions from individual donors, the donations will go towards supporting Luangpor's other charitable work. The primary purpose of the Buddha Metta Society is to continue to support Luangpor's work in the Far East (Thailand, Laos, etc) and invite him here to the UK.

Buddha Metta Society
Year end 31 December 2022
Report of the Trustees

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity number

1154796

Registered office

19E Lawngreen Avenue
Manchester
M21 8FH

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Kenneth Garrod	Chair
Miranda Susan Walker	Secretary
Peter Ernest Foster	Treasurer
Hui Pheng Teoh	Vice-Treasurer
Marjorie Jack	
Jeremy McLaren Bruce	
Zarine Katrak	
Sarah Horn	

Independent Examiner

David Blofield
Caerwyn Jones Chartered Accountants
Emstrey House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Buddha Metta Society
Year end 31 December 2022
Report of the Trustees

Reference and Administrative Details

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
Crewe Market Street
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Kenneth Garrod - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Buddha Metta Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Buddha Metta Society

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out in this report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act,
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met: or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Buddha Metta Society

D C Blofield BSc FCA MEWI
Caerwyn Jones
Chartered Accountants
Emstrey House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG



Signature

Date 20 October 2023

Buddha Metta Society
Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary receipts:				
Receipts from donors	49,063.54	79.00	49,142.54	26,518.00
Gift Aid	2,105.00		2,105.00	1,692.63
Investment income		0.48	0.48	0.44
Total receipts	<u>51,168.54</u>	<u>79.48</u>	<u>51,248.02</u>	<u>28,211.07</u>
PAYMENTS				
Charitable activities	51,034.71		51,034.71	27,341.63
Independent examination	600.00		600.00	-
	<u>51,634.71</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,634.71</u>	<u>27,341.63</u>
CASH FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	1,120.00	4,577.34	5,697.34	4,827.90
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	(466.17)	79.48	(386.69)	869.44
CASH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>653.83</u>	<u>4,656.82</u>	<u>5,310.65</u>	<u>5,697.34</u>

Buddha Metta Society
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
at 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
CASH FUNDS				
Bank accounts	653.83	4,656.82	5,310.65	5,697.34
	<hr/> 653.83 <hr/>	<hr/> 4,656.82 <hr/>	<hr/> 5,310.65 <hr/>	<hr/> 5,697.34 <hr/>

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Kenneth Garrod
Chair

Date: 20 October 2023