



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From Period start date 3.10.2022
To Period end date. 2.10.2023

Charity name: Triratna East Kent Buddhist Group

Charity registration number: 11885433

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To support the advancement of the Buddhist religion, in particular by: 1. Teaching members of the public the Buddhist practices of mindfulness and meditation. 2. Promoting and teaching Buddhist ethical values thereby enabling people to live more healthy and harmonious lives. 3. Enhancing the understanding and practice of spirituality* in our local community in particular by cooperating with other organisations delivering similar benefits. (*Spirituality being understood as pertaining to life's meaning and purpose.) 4. Supporting ordained members of the Triratna Buddhist Community and others (at the discretion of the CIO), who are working to actively promote the above values and practices.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We have: Held services of worship and devotion both in person and via zoom. Organised lectures, courses, classes and retreats, both in person and via zoom. Maintained contact and provided information and resources, for example via regular emails, Facebook and Instagram. Invited and received contributions. Supported individuals to attend learning events and retreats. Established and maintained connections with the local community. Continued to encourage and support people to practise mindfulness and meditation with all their psychological and spiritual benefits.

		<p>All of our activities are designed to encourage individuals to lead more ethical, purposeful, friendly and compassionate lives; to deepen their understanding and practice of Buddhism through study, friendship and events, and through working with others for the benefit of the local community and environment. Most of our events are offered on a donation basis and, where there is a charge, we have a bursary available to help those in need of support.</p> <p>No Order members are currently receiving ongoing support.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when carrying out the charity's activities.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>We have continued to develop and consolidate the principle aims established for our sangha: to attract a younger and more diverse membership; to have a greater community presence.</p> <p>A 'Vision Team' meets frequently to plan and monitor sangha activities and membership, and minutes of meetings go to the trustees.</p> <p>A self-employed 'social media co-ordinator' is appointed for 8 hours a week to promote our activities. They have created a presence for us on Facebook and Instagram and been instrumental in setting up a website and keeping it up to date. This publicity has attracted newcomers, including younger people, to many of our events and classes.</p> <p>We have held regular Saturday morning meditation classes in Deal and Canterbury. These have proved very popular for newcomers and regulars alike and are well attended.</p> <p>Our Friday morning meditation on the beach and on zoom, has continued and attracted newcomers.</p> <p>Regular study groups have continued, both on zoom and in person, and a new Year 1 group commenced in person in July. All are well attended.</p> <p>Sangha meetings in Deal and Canterbury have continued - mostly in person, with one evening per month on zoom. Some new people have joined us.</p> <p>The continued use of zoom for some activities enables participation from a wider sangha membership and from visiting speakers.</p> <p>A new group was formed in Margate in September with a weekly drop-in meditation class and a monthly sangha evening. The group has attracted young people.</p> <p>We hold regular women+ and men+ events.</p> <p>We have celebrated some Buddhist festivals with in-person evening and day events. In addition, sangha members</p>
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		<p>have been able to join online festivals, retreats and classes held by the wider Triratna Community.</p> <p>We held 2 very successful weekend sangha retreats – in October and May.</p> <p>Our annual Buddhist Action Month event took place in June. The theme was “Climate and Compassion for Ourselves and the Earth”, through reflection, sharing our hopes and fears and taking actions for the good of the earth. Activities included poetry, meditation, talks and a 30-day eco-challenge.</p> <p>The sangha Lunch Club has continued to be very popular and enabled connections to grow.</p> <p>An ‘Art Space’ took place twice a month with varied activities and materials available.</p> <p>A Sangha Care Group formed at the end of the year, offering friendship and simple care to people in the sangha in East Kent.</p> <p>The trustees have explored, with input from a professional charity fundraiser, how we could use our legacy to set up a Centre. We are continuing to consider the viability of this.</p> <p>It was agreed by the trustees that the year had been successful in working towards our aims, and consolidating all that has been achieved so far.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	

Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Our finances have remained healthy throughout the year. We have received regular and one-off donations from sangha members for classes, retreats and events.</p> <p>Our outgoings have included donations to visiting speakers and Triratna charities approved by the trustees; regular payments to the social media co-ordinator; regular costs such as hire of premises, insurance, zoom and bank charges; payments for the website and accounts auditing.</p> <p>The bursary fund has been used to pay for Triratna centre retreat and travel costs.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>We hold a reserve of unspent income from a legacy of unrestricted funds. The legacy has so far been used for payments to the social media co-ordinator and donations to Tiratanaloka Unlimited for a larger centre for women training for Ordination.</p> <p>The trustees have explored, with input from a professional charity fundraiser, how we might use our legacy to set up a Centre. This could not be met from other income. We are continuing to consider the viability of this.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Our reserve of unspent income is within our revised target range of £140,000 - £150,000. The reserves are deposited in 2 bank accounts earning interest.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any	Para 1.46	

social investment policy adopted		
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The members of the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee. The maximum number of trustees is 12.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	TEKBG is part of a worldwide network of Triratna Buddhist centres, groups and practitioners – the Triratna Buddhist Community – all sharing the same aims and objectives. This provides us with both support and access to retreat centres, study materials, teachers, other centres and other Buddhist practitioners with whom we can share and discuss our plans and vision.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Triratna East Kent Buddhist Group
Other name the charity uses	Deal Buddhist Group
Registered charity number	1188543
Charity's principal address	13 Herschell Square, Deal, Kent CT14 7SH

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	Madeline Borland	Safeguarding Officer		
2	Richard Gifford			
3	Maddava John	Group Treasurer		
4	Geraldine Moon	Group Secretary		
5	Graham John Patterson			
6	Marilyn Ann Williams	Chair		
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15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

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Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

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Date

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
10/3/2022

To

Period end date
10/2/2023

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	5,826	-	-	5,826	4,226
Legacy		-	-	-	85,194
Study classes	145	-	-	145	315
Sangha retreats	2,800	-	-	2,800	4,155
Bank interest	1,270	-	-	1,270	124
Refund of bank error	337	-	-	337	-
donations for visiting speakers	-	-	-	-	392
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,378	-	-	10,378	94,406
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,378	-	-	10,378	94,406
A3 Payments					
Premises fees	1,662	-	-	1,662	772
Retreats	4,161	-	-	4,161	2,659
Sangha purchases	307	-	-	307	576
Regular costs, insurance, zoom	507	-	-	507	526
Social Media Co-ordinator	5,036	-	-	5,036	4,380
Visiting speakers	144	-	-	144	854
Website	-	-	-	-	600
Sundries	185	-	-	185	43
Audit	175			175	175
Support Order members, convenors					132
Bank error	337			337	
Bank charges	59			59	59
Refunds					176
Donations to Triratna charities	3,530	-	-	3,530	550
Sub total	16,103	-	-	16,103	11,502
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,103	-	-	16,103	11,502
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,725	-	-	- 5,725	82,904
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	177,456	-	-	177,456	94,552
Cash funds this year end	171,731	-	-	171,731	177,456

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Triodos current account	1,838	-	-
	Triodos deposit account	83,964	-	-
	Co-op Community Directplus account	85,929	-	-
	Total cash funds	171,731	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

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

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval