

FutureDharma Fund

Gratitude Report 2020



2020. What an incredible year

COVID-19 swept through our lives, our Buddhist Centres and retreat centres closed their doors, and our sangha reached out online with the Dharma and spiritual friendship.

This report is our way of expressing our gratitude to you. Our financial year runs January to January but we've been so busy responding to the COVID crisis we've been unable to send you our report. We're very happy to be able to share it with you now. We hope you enjoy reading about some of the amazing things you are making possible. On behalf of the thousands of people around the world who are transforming their lives with your help – thank you.

FutureDharma team and trustees

Last year social distancing too often meant social isolation, and rates of depression soared. Triratna needed to get online, and quickly, if we were going to reach out to those in need. Many of our centres feared closure. Our Ordination Teams in India were unable to meet face-to-face and ask for the dana they rely on. Sangha members throughout the world found themselves stuck at home, trying to stay well, and keep connected with our beloved community.

Give to FutureDharma & India
Dhamma Trust

£201,456 of £200,000 raised



We launched the **Thrive Online Appeal** in April 2020 and asked you to give. And you responded. Your gifts and some support from Windhorse Trust meant we received £400,000 in 2020. Together we made 20 Triratna projects possible.

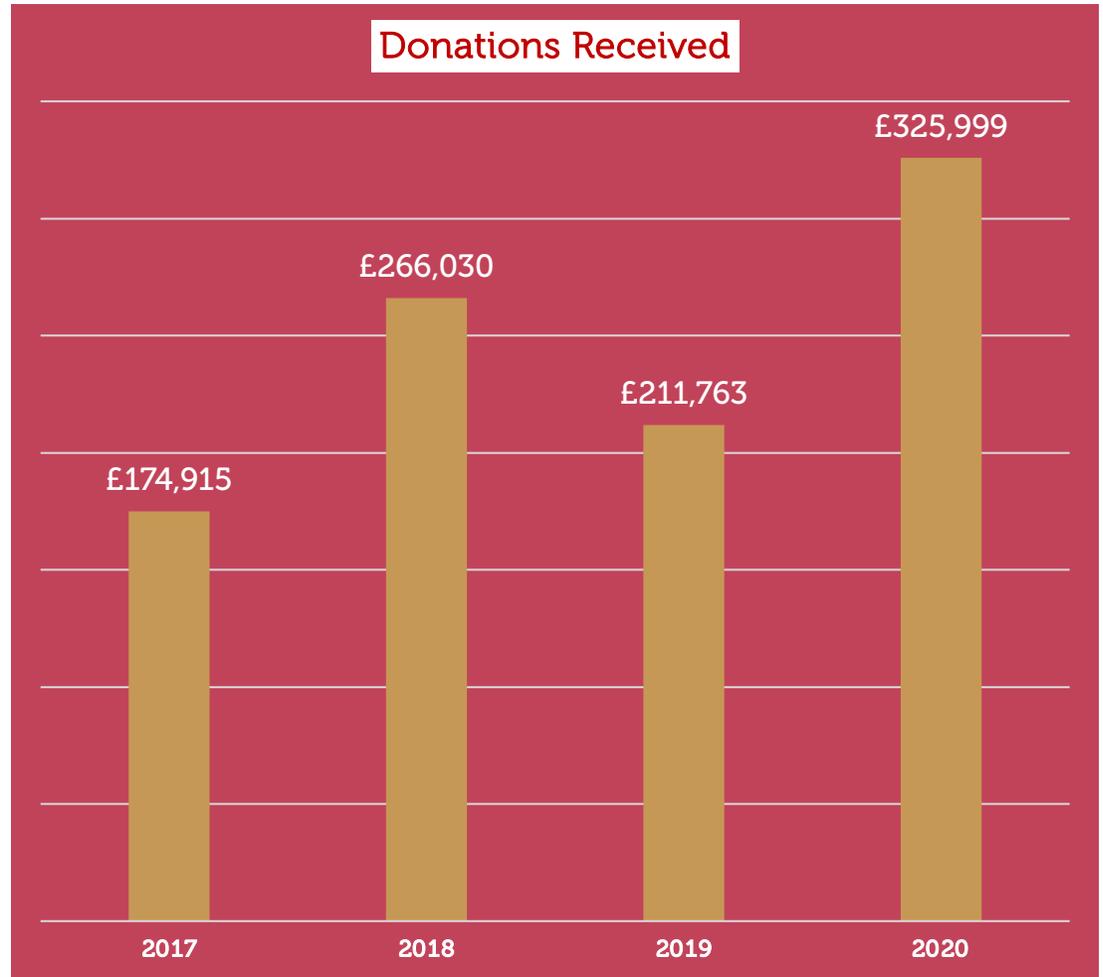
[You can see the full list here](#)

FutureDharma launched in 2016 to resource our precious Triratna Movement

We want to bring the Dharma to more and more people so they can benefit as much as we have. We measure our success by how much we're able to give away, and what difference your gifts make to peoples' lives.

You've helped us give more and more to Triratna projects:

Together we've passed on over £870,000 to Triratna Dharma projects. We're well on our way to exceeding £1 million over 5 years.



Why give to FutureDharma?



FutureDharmaFund

The world needs what you've been given. Pass it on.



**India Dhamma
TRUST**



"FutureDharma Fund is precisely the actualisation of the Bodhicitta. It's our attempt to change the world by spreading the Dharma. And that is the manifestation of our Bodhisattva purpose."

- **Subhuti, Wales, UK**



"In 2020/21 FutureDharma focussed on helping get Triratna online and supporting our sangha in India: two vital projects that are helping so many beings. Having great confidence in FutureDharma I am very happy to give, knowing the money will be used as wisely and compassionately as possible."

- **Nagasuri, Sydney, Australia**



"For me, well, I grew up in India and meeting the Dharma changed my life. Triratna activities came to my village when I was a child and since then I've never looked back. I want to give back to the Dharma. Without any doubt, FutureDharma is close to my heart."

- **Sanghanath, Cambridge, UK**



"I decided to tithe this year and when I thought about it, decided to give to Future Dharma as you support a wide range of projects. I am also very supportive of the work developing digital Dharma which I see as being increasingly important in the world. I'm always happy to give what and when I can."

- **Vidyamala, Malvern, UK**

Ease

Because we put a lot of care into choosing our projects you don't need to research which to support each year. You can even put us in your Will, knowing that in years to come, our Trustees will ensure your gift goes to the places it's needed most.

Low costs

Most of us work part-time and Windhorse Trust subsidise our costs. For every £1 raised, only 20p is spent on fundraising. And for every £1 we spend on fundraising we raise another £4.

India Dhamma Trust

We work in partnership with India Dhamma Trust, managing all their gifts and distribution of funds. We're committed to funding the Indian Ordination Teams and Preceptor's Kula. By working with IDT we save on fundraising costs and pass on more of your gifts directly to India.

Some of the Triratna projects you are making possible

FutureDharma projects span the globe. Each situation is unique, from tiny local pioneering projects in South America to the lynchpins of our International community like The Buddhist Centre Online. Your gifts touch the lives of thousands of people.

The Indian Ordination Teams

The Indian Ordination Teams usually raise half their costs through face-to-face dana appeals, and India Dhamma Trust gives the rest. But lockdown made face-to-face appeals impossible. Your gifts paid all the team's modest wages, allowing them to teach the Dharma and support thousands of people through the COVID crisis.

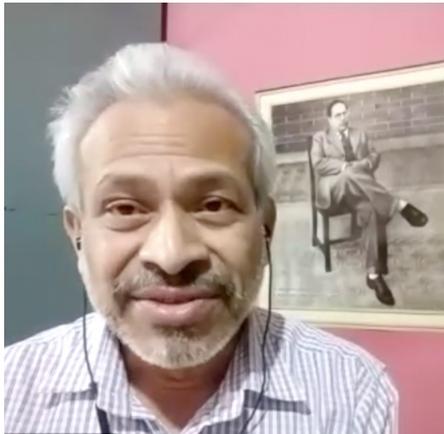


"This year it is really terrible ... since last month we've lost 16 Order members and 40 Mitras. We led an online retreat and every day we had a condolence meeting because every day somebody was dying; somebody very close. It was so difficult... but people were happy we could offer this retreat because in this difficult time they are in touch with the Dharma. I'm so glad and proud that our international sangha is standing behind us giving us support."

- Amoghasiddhi, Public Preceptor, India

India Emergency Relief Work

India Emergency Relief work is saving lives. Our sangha in India continues to work tirelessly; distributing food, medicine, and water to people who need it most. Your gifts support Amrutasiddhi our Movement Coordinator in India. Because you pay his very modest support costs he is able to dedicate all his time to coordinating Emergency Relief work.



"The second COVID wave is really horrible. We have lots of fear. There's a complete lockdown... hospitals are full, there's a lack of oxygen, a lack of hospital beds. For the last year I've led Coronavirus Relief Team work in India. If people need groceries we provide them, if they've lost their work we help them... and now we're thinking about starting Covid Care Centres in our Triratna Centres. This is the opportunity to practically implement the principle of compassion."

- Amrutasiddhi , Movement Coordinator, India

The Buddhist Centre Online

The Buddhist Centre Online responded within weeks of the first lockdowns with the Dharma Online Toolkit. Online retreats and international practice days continue to bring our international community together and allow us to reach out to others seeking the Dharma and sangha.



"As someone who lives on their own, through lockdown the sangha jewel has been shining the brightest for me... I'm just feeling the love and support from the community; how everything moved so quickly online. I've been participating in the TBCO meditations as many mornings as I can. I'm so grateful for that; just the care that's there for everybody."

- Diana, Training For Ordination Mitra, Scotland, UK

LBC Schools Project

LBC Schools Project teaches mindfulness and Buddhism to over 1,000 school children and their teachers each year. Your gifts are helping this team-based right livelihood project teach children valuable mindfulness practices in these stressful times.



"It was like a little miracle to get the support from FutureDharma. Both our mindfulness and Buddhist work for schools disappeared in lockdown. Students and staff tell us they love visiting the London Buddhist Centre and those learning about mindfulness - young and old - find it so helpful. With your help we can visit schools via Zoom and share resources much more easily and professionally. It's great to be able to offer support to pupils and staff at a time when they need all they can get..."

- **Srivati**, Breathing Space, London

The Urgyen Sangharakshita Video Project

The Urgyen Sangharakshita Video Project is collecting our rich heritage of video and film footage of Sangharakshita and our movement's history from all over the world. They're preserving video footage from Clear Vision and old Super 8 film and creating an online resource for us all to share.



"These video clips of Sangharakshita are such a gift, and are especially inspiring for those of us who never had the opportunity to meet Bhante in person, but have developed a relationship with him via his written teachings and audio recordings. Seeing Bhante in India, or with Order members from decades past, gives me a much richer context and insight into his personality, humour, and passion for the Dharma."

- Todd, Training for Ordination Mitra, London, UK

New Triratna Centres

New Triratna Centres will play a vital part in Triratna's return to face-to-face life. Your gifts helped York Buddhist group create the first Triratna centre in the city. A dedicated team of volunteers sanded and painted their way through lockdown until they'd created a perfect little Buddhist centre complete with shop, shrine-room, and all-essential tea area.



"It's been a real privilege and joy to form a new sangha... to see people's lives change the online meditations have reached out to people who are starting to become part of the sangha. The centre is now there during the week for anybody to pop into and meditate. I'm really grateful to FutureDharma supporters... it's just fantastic, and it's what we should all be doing – helping this fantastic Movement grow and thrive in the future."

- **Shakyapada**, Chair of York Buddhist Centre, UK

You help us pass on what we've been given

There will always be more fantastic Dharma projects than we can fund. So we try to share our team's expertise as much as we can. When the lockdowns caused financial hardship for many Triratna Centres we employed Kusaladevi to provide centre fundraising training. Kusaladevi helped over 20 Triratna centres raise more than £160,000 and stay afloat.

We also gave help to the Abhayaratna Trust, the Order Office, and made emergency funding to India. This funding is an extra that you won't see reflected in our financial reports, but we estimate that when we take it into account the amount spent on fundraising drops to just 16p in every £1.

Looking forward

Whatever comes next, our projects will be ready to respond. You're already helping Triratna projects transition from online provision to hybrid and in-person retreats and classes.

Aryaloka Retreat Centre, NH, USA is making a safe return to in-person retreats by installing air filtration systems in shared spaces. This is what going on retreat means to sangha member Maryellen:



"In light of the past year I've been reflecting on the role of the Dharma in my life. It does feel like it's saved my life. It's extremely traumatic what we're all going through and the Dharma has been just life-giving.... The air filters are going to make the space far safer ... I'm so grateful to be able to be face-to-face with some other sangha members. ... not being able to practice anywhere except in these zoom boxes for over a year has been hard. There's something very magical about the Aryaloka shrine room – even just thinking about it makes my heart well-up."

- **Maryellen**, Training for Ordination Mitra, Portsmouth, NH, USA

Because you give to FutureDharma and India Dhamma Trust thousands of people practice the Dharma and are transforming their lives.



Thank you!

The world needs what you've been given. Pass it on.

futuresdharma.org/give

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Subhadramati (Preceptors College)
Vajratara (IDT Trustee)

**With special thanks to Keturaja and
the team at Windhorse Trust**



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