

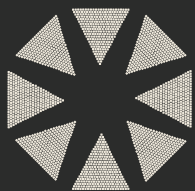
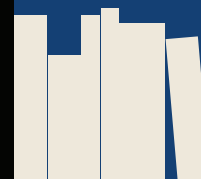
# URGYEN SANGHARAKSHITA



URGYEN  
**SANGHARAKSHITA**  
TRUST



2025



Annual Report

2025

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# 01

## Director's Message

2025 felt different. As we marked what would have been the year of Bhante's hundredth birthday, many of us found ourselves pausing — grateful, reflective, and quietly inspired to carry our teacher's work forward. This year, we again sought to honour his legacy not with words alone, but with action.

Thanks to your generosity and support, for which we remain sincerely thankful, our projects continued to flourish — bringing Sangharakshita's life and teachings to ever more people and helping us all keep Bhante firmly at the heart of our spiritual lives. The Trust receives no grant funding. All we have achieved is wholly thanks to the financial support we received from you and others like you. So you'll understand how important our donors are to our work and why I'm keen to express our appreciation.

We saw some changes in the team. In July we thanked the great Shantavira who stepped down after having been an invaluable contributor to the work of the Trust for many years.

Towards the end of 2024 (since the last report) we bid farewell to both Prajnaketu for his excellent work as Director and the wonderful Amalavajra who stepped down as

trustee and Chair in order to focus on his new role at the West London Buddhist Centre. Happily, Paramartha was ready and willing to become the new Chair of the Trust and so a celebratory ritual was held in Urgyen House.

I hope the brief summary below gives you a good sense of our work in 2025 and how your generosity and support to the Urgyen Sangharakshita Trust is making a substantial contribution to our Movement.

Thank you

Mokshapriya  
Director  
Urgyen Sangharakshita Trust



# 02

## Urgyen House

As each year passes Bhante's rooms in Urgyen House become increasingly precious. For those that knew him, sitting in his living room, kept just as it was, enables a reconnection and an opportunity for reflection. But for the increasing percentage of the sangha that never knew him those spaces offer an intimate tangible introduction.

Opening up his life and work to more and more people is a key objective of the Trust and throughout 2025 a particularly vivid encounter with Bhante was offered by the exhibition 'Foundations' which brought together many precious objects, photographs and letters to tell the fascinating story of the birth of the FWBO/Tirratna from

1965 - 1970. It's been such a success that we decided to let it run on until the summer of 2026.

The other spaces in Urgyen House were also very well utilised - the lobby area became an invaluable study group space for Adhithana retreats and the shrine room next to Bhante's living room witnessed many kalyana mitra ceremonies and private ordinations.

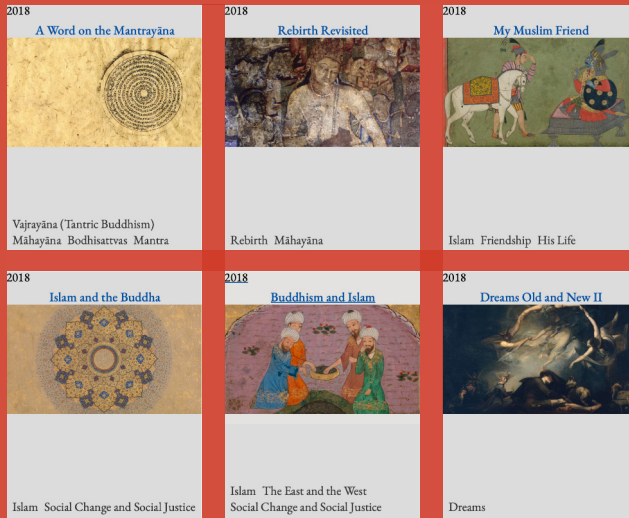
Documentary video blogs are another means by which Urgyen House continued to share Bhante's life and work. This year saw a new programme written and presented by Paramartha called 'The Sweet Mystery of

Friendship'. We had to make a trip up to Rievaulx Abbey in Yorkshire to illuminate this particular tale.

The Urgyen House website is a crucial medium reaching those that cannot visit in person, and this year we commissioned two foreign language translations. So now the entire site, including the exhibitions, can be read in Hindi and in Spanish.

[www.urgyenhouse.org](http://www.urgyenhouse.org)





# 03

## Sangharakshita.org

www.sangharakshita.org continued to be updated and we've now looked towards creating Hindi and Spanish versions of this site too.

The site became top of the google search list for Sangharakshita (after Wikipedia of course). It had a 15% increase in unique users this year averaging at 1,150 per month. The articles page received the most traffic, closely followed by Bhante's life story.



# 04

## Literary Executors

Another important aspect of the Trust's work is that of the Literary Executors. They contributed to the centenary year celebrations in a number of ways. Kalyanaprabha writes:

Our major project – Sangharakshita's Complete Works – was completed just before the start of 2025, and was marked by a wonderful celebration and dedication that took place at Adhithana.

In the spring, Vidyaruchi and Vidyadevi approached 100 Order members with an invitation to send a favourite passage from Sangharakshita's writings, together with a few words explaining their choice. 'Abundant Treasures' is a delightful and rich compilation, the extracts representing the whole range of Sangharakshita's output.

In the Statement of Wishes appended to his Will, Sangharakshita requested his Literary Executors – among other things – to bring out any unpublished writings. In a talk given to the Order in

1990, he had referred to his 200 transcribed lectures and 120 seminars saying:

"...I would therefore like my lectures and seminars to be accessible to as many Order members, Mitras, and Friends as possible, and to be accessible to them in book form. [...] This means that these lectures and seminars will have to be edited and properly published."

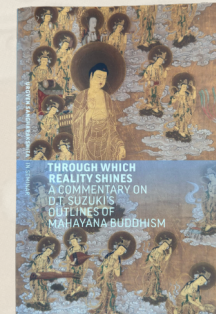
Some lectures and a few seminars were published as part of the Spoken Word Project. But – as the Literary Executors came to realize – the Complete Works were not, after all, complete and another huge project lay ahead: the editing and publication of the seminars which contain a vast array of Bhante's communication.

We were, therefore, very proud that on the 100th birthday itself we launched our first such book: *Through Which Reality Shines*, a commentary on D.T. Suzuki's *Outlines of Mahayana Buddhism*. Nagapriya was the editor, reducing the sheer number of words

to something manageable, and writing a stimulating introduction.

Two other important events took place during the centenary year: Vidyadevi, founding co-editor of the Complete Works, creator of the extraordinary Concordance, and Literary Executor since 2003, stepped down after her many years of service. And Nagapriya joined us, at first online and then, in November, in person which we marked with a ritual in Urgyen House.

And so we were ready for the next chapter...



# 05

## Sangharakshita Library

Dharmalila is our precious librarian and she writes:

'It's been a relatively quiet year in the two rooms housing Bhante's books. We have had the usual trickle of enquiries from people looking for particular books and also a few visitors carrying out research.

Now we have done some reordering and sorted out a few anomalies my mind has turned to how to help visitors explore – particularly the non-dharma books room. There are so many books – so where to start?

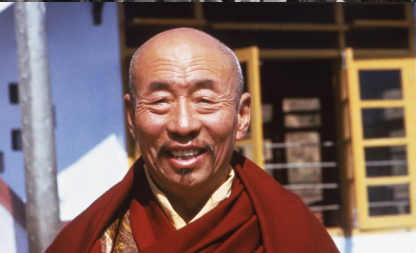
I thought I would try to highlight the books that Bhante has referred to in his writings. I have made a start using the Concordance to identify poems, philosophical references etc. I think that even drawing attention to the books that Bhante writes about reading in his memoirs will help make the books a bit more accessible and indicate where to start. Anyway, early days and I will need some skilled volunteers to help me.

I have also made a start on listing the books in Urgyen House. These may throw some light on what books Bhante liked to keep with him and also perhaps some of his later

reading. It will help to give us a fuller picture.

I am excited about the forthcoming archive project – particularly as it intends to include all of Bhante's books. This will be an excellent way for highlighting what is available in these collections and I look forward to working with Mokshapriya, to achieve this.'





# 06

## Triratna Picture Library

Over the last few years we have been steadily developing a substantial archive of photographic prints, negatives and transparencies the majority of which were Sangharakshita's own. It is painstaking work as archiving involves not only digitising, repairing and cleaning the images but researching and recording useful data to accompany the digital records. The originals are then catalogued and stored in archive standard card boxes on metal shelving in a controlled environment.

Progress was slower this year with a daunting number of images awaiting their turn, nonetheless more images joined the archive and a significant number of them were added to the online Triratna Picture Library which now totals a staggering 5900 images.

The online library offers a fascinating glimpse into the world of Sangharakshita and the development of Triratna through a vast searchable collection of images most of which would never see the light of day were it not for this vital work.

# 07

## Triratna Video Library

It was a particularly busy year for the Triratna Video Library and Archive. Having finally completed the digitisation of all the video material in the archive, most of which was inherited from Clear Vision, we invested in a second computer server to ensure the entire video archive is stored in three places (including the cloud).

We then had the bright idea of editing and releasing a number of discovered talks by Sangharakshita that were previously unseen. And so to celebrate Bhante's 100th birth anniversary year we edited, subtitled and released one talk every month throughout the year. So much great material no longer hidden away and the number of Sangharakshita's talks in the video library increased to 55 titles.

A number of other documentary titles were added to the library including the films by Robert Mullan, by kind permission of his family.

The website itself saw a major development with the introduction of a 'Collections' tab allowing the increasingly substantial catalogue of titles to be explored by key themes.





# 08

## Elders Project

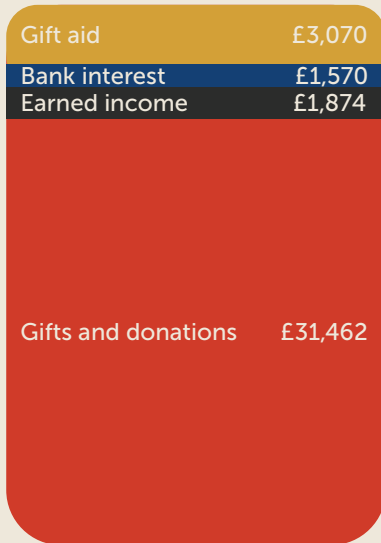
This new initiative is a joint project between the International Order Office and the Urygen Sangharakshita Trust and is led by Vajrapriya. It aims to collect video interviews with as many Order members who were ordained by Sangharakshita as possible as well as others (particularly in India) who had a strong connection with him.

The aim is to create an archive of personal memories and stories about the early days of the Movement and Order and first hand experiences of Sangharakshita.

Fifty eight interviews were conducted during the year by Amalvasin, a volunteer appointed for this work by the International Order Office. The interviews are now safely archived on the Trust's computer servers.

# 09

## 2025 Financial Overview



Income £37,975



Expenditure £30,206

### Other work

#### Lights in the Sky

We continued to host the 'Lights in the Sky' website which showcases Suryaprabha's films. The entire collection was also added to the Triratna Video Library website to increase accessibility.

#### Audio Archive

We started databasing the many original reel-reel and cassette audio recordings of Bhante's lectures and seminars and built an archival space in Urgyen House to store them.

#### Urgyen House Postcards

The range of our high quality cards was increased and we set up online purchasing for Triratna Centres.

# 10

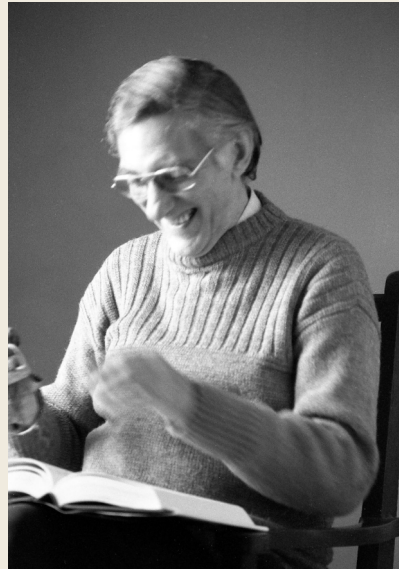
## What's Next

As you can imagine, all these Trust projects demand much time and energy and cost a lot of money to keep operational. Nonetheless we have a major new project in the pipeline for later in 2026.

The fundamental purpose of the Trust is to preserve and share the legacy of Sangharakshita. In 2005 Sangharakshita donated all his books and artefacts to the Trust, and by his Will placed his literary, photographic and audio archives also into the Trust's care. The Trust looks after all of this and works to make this valuable legacy accessible to future generations.

Our next plan is to start archiving Sangharakshita's papers - personal letters, notes, journals, diaries, manuscripts, poetry books etc. The Sangharakshita Archive will shift all of Bhante's papers into archival boxes, database each item, create digital scans and establish an online digital library accessible around the world which will bring together the papers, books, photographs, videos, objects etc. The research for this major undertaking got underway during 2025 and involved consultation with Herefordshire Archives

and Records Centre, Bromyard & District Local History Society and the National Archives. We look forward to sharing more of this exciting project with you soon.



### Trustees

Paramartha (chair)  
Mahamati  
Prajnanita  
Mokshapriya

### Literary executors

Subhuti  
Vidyadevi  
Nagabodhi  
Sagaraghosha  
Kalyanaprabha  
Prajnaketu  
Vidyaruchi  
Vajratara  
Nagabodhi

### Valued team support

Visarada  
Dharmalila  
Shantavira  
Maitrishura  
Upekshapriya  
Manjuvajra  
Khemajoti