

JAMYANG

BUDDHIST CENTRE LONDON

ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

ALISON MURDOCH



On behalf of all the Jamyang trustees, I'd like to offer our very best wishes for your health and happiness during 2021, along with prayers that it will be less challenging than the year just past. Our hearts go out to everyone who has suffered during the pandemic, whether through illness, bereavement, loneliness and isolation, loss of income, or the general disruption that Covid-19 has brought.

It's been a disappointment for all of us that the centre has been physically closed for the past year. Safety has been our foremost concern, and we're very grateful for your patience and understanding, as well as your continued financial support. We're optimistic that it will be possible to welcome you back to The Old Courthouse very soon. However, the pandemic has also made it clearer than ever that the Dharma has no physical boundaries. One of the silver linings of the past year has been exploring new ways to study and practice together irrespective of where we live, and we look forward to offering the Jamyang community a blend of campus and online learning opportunities in the future.

This report celebrates both Jamyang's innovative and expanding education programme and the many other significant tasks that have been accomplished behind the scenes during 2020. We're also delighted that Jane Sill has been able to maintain an online programme of carers' activities and mindfulness classes throughout lockdown. The trustees are very grateful for having such skilled and dedicated leadership and staffing of the centre at this time.

ALISON MURDOCH

Chair of Trustees
March 2021



VEN FABIENNE PRADELLE

Dear friends of Jamyang,

2020 is a year that will be seared in our collective memory. Yet, despite its many challenges, the March 2020 shutdown of our beloved community space, The Old Courthouse, **freed up resources which were re-directed towards education.** Thanks to an excellent and dedicated team, we developed the e-learning infrastructure to support the community through difficult times. The September 2020 **launch of our flagship 5-year advanced 'Basic Programme'** taught by Geshe Namdak, would have attracted 50 London-based students at best. Taking it online has enabled **220 committed students to enrol from around the world.**

In this Annual Report, you will also read about a **new initiative, Science & Wisdom LIVE**, aimed at bringing contemplative traditions in dialog with scientists to tackle the issues of contemporary society. We are proud to partner with Mind&Life Europe.

Whilst a number of local community activities such as the Death Café or Dying Well were put on hiatus in 2020, we were able to keep the continuity support to care-givers with the 'Repaying the Kindness'.

During the holy month of Sakadawa, the community came together to generously sponsor a lineage altar of beautiful statues of Shakyamuni Buddha, Padmsambhava, Atisha, Lama Tzonkhapa and his two heart sons as well as a protector. Miguel Espinosa custom-made a stunning altar to house them in the main temple. Sakadawa 2021 will see the launch of the second part of this wonderful project.

With our financial health in mind, we invested in our B&B to add an en-suite double room and improve our rental income capacity. We received a £25,000 Historic England Emergency Grant for much needed restoration of our rooflights to both improve our energy efficiency and bring more light into our building making it more welcoming. We are also grateful to the London Community Foundation and The National Lottery Community Fund for awarding grants to support diversity and inclusivity events during Black History Month to fund a project-based Inclusivity Coordinator to support our Basic Programme Inclusivity Ambassadors. We also thank our partner, The Camellia Foundation for their ongoing support.

2021 will see us focused on the gradual reopening of our temple, community space, B&B and Café, to welcome back a community hungry for human connection. We will also be seeking grants to match a legacy donation towards the upgrade of the ground floor and garden area of The Old Courthouse.

Big love,



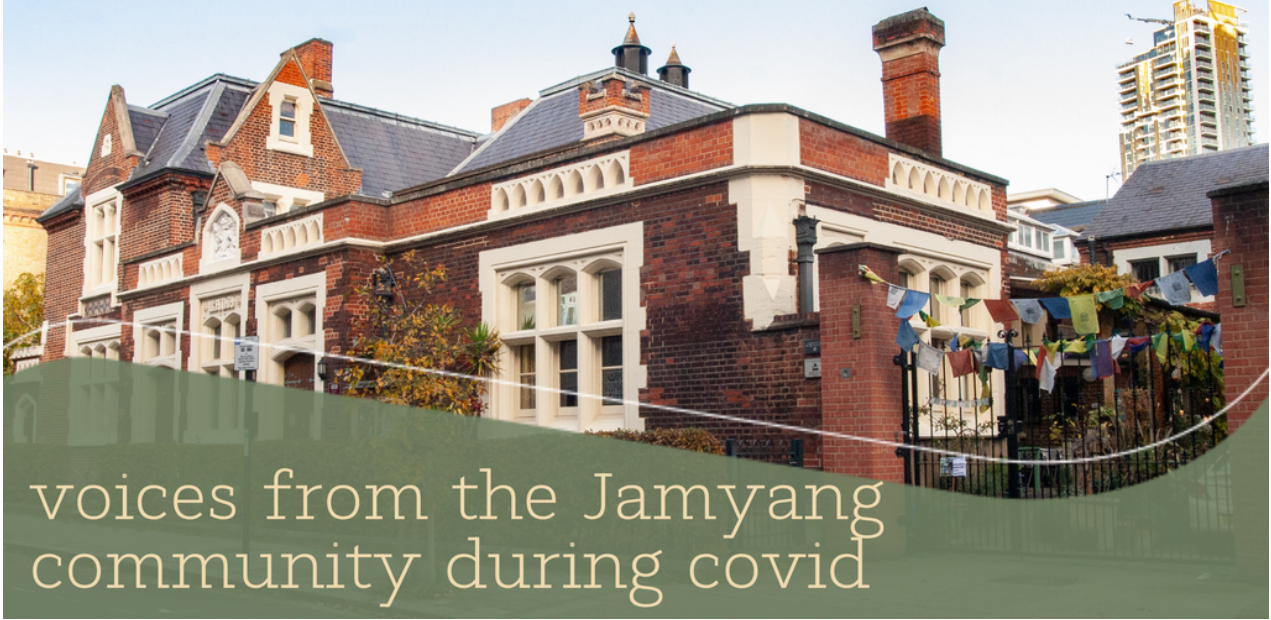
VEN. FABIENNE PRADELLE

Executive Director



"Jamyang's purpose isn't to recruit more Buddhists.
Its purpose is to alleviate suffering."

Geshe Tenzin Namdak - Resident Teacher



voices from the Jamyang community during covid



ROBIN BATH
TRUSTEE

Watch the entire video to listen to the voices of our community and discover what was going on during the pandemic.

<https://youtu.be/VdbYM3chVHM>



VEN. BARBARA
FPMT UK COORDINATOR



JACKIE YIP
BASIC PROGRAMME COORDINATOR



LAURA CAVINA
STUDENT

JAMYANG LONDON

EDUCATION PROGRAMME



Jamyang's education department is blossoming, and we have grand aspirations to take it further, building on the momentum we have gained in recent months. Despite the challenges of the pandemic and lockdowns, requiring us to quickly adapt our entire education programme for online learning, engagement has been as strong as ever. If anything, our reach has expanded, opening us up to a global Sangha of enthusiastic students. This is best exemplified by the enormous interest in the Basic Programme, which launched in October. Considering the downward trend in participation in in-depth Buddhist courses around the world, we are extremely heartened to have over 200 students signed up.

This programme is the springboard for our ambitions to turn Jamyang into a centre of global Buddhist academic excellence. The journey will continue with the launch of the (provisionally named) Bridge Programme in Autumn. Gradually, we will build a holistic curriculum which guides students from complete beginners to confident and learned Buddhist practitioners. We have our sights on partnerships with leading universities and academic institutions, with the aim of exposing the rigour of Buddhist philosophy and psychology to as wide an audience as possible. Our aim is to be at the vanguard of the revolutionary interface of Buddhism and science, collaborating with quantum physicists and neuroscientists alike, and squarely aligning ourselves with His Holiness the Dalai Lama's vision of Buddhist education according to the universal vision of the Nalanda tradition.

LAUNCH OF A NEW INITIATIVE

SCIENCE & WISDOM LIVE



Science & Wisdom LIVE – the new project from Jamyang – was conceived and launched in the ominous year of 2020: right at a moment that many people needed to adjust to a new, mostly digital world, and were looking for mental, physical, and spiritual support. Science & Wisdom LIVE aims to bring scientists and contemplative practitioners together in dialogue around society's biggest challenges, building a bridge between scientific research and contemplative traditions. Science & Wisdom LIVE arises from Geshe Tenzin Namdak's aspiration to forge new connections between scientists and contemplatives from different traditions. Not only does this new project fulfil HH Dalai Lama's vision of forging connections between scientists and meditation practitioners, but it also builds on Jamyang's commitment to Universal Education, initiated by Lama Yeshe. Science & Wisdom LIVE is now an official partner of Mind & Life Europe.

The project was launched in November 2020, with an insightful dialogue between two contemplative practitioners (Geshe Tenzin Namdak and Father Laurence Freeman) and two scientists (Dr. Elena Antonova, and Dr. Wendy Hasenkamp). Science & Wisdom LIVE is the springboard to forge closer connections between Jamyang and both the larger public (including people from different spiritual traditions or with a secular background) and the academic community. Through monthly talks, dialogues, and podcast interviews, Science & Wisdom LIVE already reaches a very diverse audience, and its online and multi-media approach (with podcasts, videos, and blogs) has also proven to be very attractive to the younger generation - the world's future. We are aiming to expand our programme further during 2021, establish more partnerships, and contribute more by spreading the vision of our founders – for example by exploring important issues like climate change, mindfulness for mental health, the benefits of compassion, and other contemporary relevant topics in our future events.

JAMYANG LONDON

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

With the arrival of our new Director came the aspiration of Jamyang's leadership to put diversity and inclusion at the heart of our operations, policies and culture. The tragic killing of George Floyd, and the ensuing global anti-racism protests, accelerated the need to centre inclusivity in our future vision for the centre as a matter of social justice. Furthermore, we recognise that creating a culture that lives up to the fundamental truth of the equality of all people is our responsibility as spiritual practitioners, and is not separate from our individual spiritual paths.

In that spirit, it is important that we are transparent about how inclusive and welcoming Jamyang is now, acknowledging the hurt that may have been caused to members of marginalised communities, whether intentionally or through ignorance. We recognise that we are in the very early stages of our journey towards being an inclusive organisation, and we hope that we can continuously improve by sustaining meaningful dialogue, even when we find those conversations uncomfortable. We know we will make mistakes along the way, but it's through this process that we will learn and grow, which we believe is far preferable to being paralysed by the fear of moving forward.

Several of the steps we have taken so far are about beginning this dialogue. They include our series of events for Black History Month, which featured a talk on racial justice from a Buddhist perspective by Professor Jan Willis. These events then kicked off a series of meetings and conversations at various levels of leadership, both within Jamyang and between regional FPMT centres. The first was facilitated by Professor Willis herself. We have also piloted an Inclusivity Ambassador initiative, selecting our Ambassadors from our pool of Basic Programme students based on their diverse backgrounds, and inviting them to work with us on outreach and our long-term inclusivity goals.

When we look to the future, we can see that there are many facets and layers to the discussion of inclusivity, and we will have to apply our efforts in many domains, from our Communications and HR departments to our education and event programming, to name just a few. However, we make the commitment to be bold in our ambition, and with your support we believe we can make real progress.

Basic Programme Inclusivity Scholars

Our first call for the new BP Inclusivity Scholarship was hugely successful and for the next 5 years, our BP Inclusivity Scholars are, from the left:

- Jonathan Cox – based in London, UK
- Matheus Pangraco Italiano – based in Curitiba, Brasil
- Adam South – based in London, UK
- Tiffany Singh – based in London, UK (originally from New Zealand)



PART I COMPLETED!

HONOURING OUR LINEAGE



In these turbulent times, it seemed critically important to honour the lineage that created and sustains Jamyang's work and spiritual community. With this in mind, Geshe Namdak had advised that it would be beneficial to acquire some additional holy objects for our main shrine room. We completed Part I of this project in 2020. Seven statues were commissioned from master craftsmen in Nepal: Shakyamuni Buddha, Padmasambhava, Atisha, Lama Tzongkhapa and his two heart sons and a protector. This vision struck a deep chord and the community rallied together to fund the entire project.

Miguel Espinosa, long term community member and master craftsman himself, designed and custom-made an altar beautifully fit-for-purpose to house these new statues.

Huge thanks to Geshe Tenzin Namdak for his guidance and inspiration, Miguel Espinosa, Robin Bath, Mike Fry for the lighting, Margaret Jailler for altar curtains, Silvia, Maria, Thomas and Inge for the mantra rolling and filling of the statues, Jackie Yip and Geshe Sherab for helping us source these beautiful statues and to all our benefactors for making this project happen!

A message from Geshe Tenzin Namdak to all helpers and benefactors of the Honouring our Lineage Project:
"Thank you all very much for your kind, positive and meritorious contributions and help toward bringing the lineage of our tradition to Jamyang. Seeing, remembering, and hearing about this project creates an unbelievable strong karmic connection with the Buddha and his teachings to always meet this profound spiritual path until enlightenment is achieved. And as a community it is an incredible opportunity to accumulate merit for our Jamyang family. This will help us to remove obstacles of our individual spiritual paths and of Jamyang's projects to alleviate the sufferings of sentient beings.

Thank you very much again from the depth of my heart.

With prayers, Namdak "

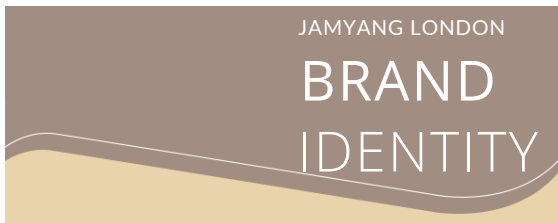
PART II

HONOURING OUR LINEAGE



2021 Preview: Part II of this altar project will launch over Sakadawa 2021.. This part will see the addition of Chenrezig, Manjushri, Vajrapani, Nagarjuna and Asanga on the other side of the main Shakyamuni Statue. Stay tune!





In 2020 we have started to implement Geshe Tenzin Namdak's vision for the future of the educational programme in Jamyang's communications. Our education offering will continue to be developed into the future, with a long-term aim of delivering a Buddhist Education Curriculum in partnership with British Universities. The communication team started the process of evolving Jamyang's visual language to support this future vision. Here's glimpse of our behind-the-scenes process.

We renovated the branding to look like it belongs within other reputable educational institutions, creating a new: signature, letterhead, newsletter, social media presence and website. Below are some examples of the new social media presence.

A significant focus of this work was the creation of a natural branding evolution, celebrating our roots, our values and our precious history. We have researched how we can clearly communicate our mission, values, humanity, compassion and individual voice in an attractive way for a broader audience, and through the tactical use of shape and colour.

We have conducted internal analysis on our branding evolution, tone of voice and aspirations, including a Gestalt analysis of audience perceptions evoked by the combination of colours, shapes and words. On top of that, we have applied the philosophy of Feng-Shui to our design principles.

Feng-Shui is at the very core of Jamyang. The entire centre was recently re-decorated with this intent and it even features in the three lines of our logo. In order to strengthen this connection, we have positioned Jamyang on the "Family" and "Knowledge" side of the Feng Shui Energy Map, to represent compassion and wisdom.

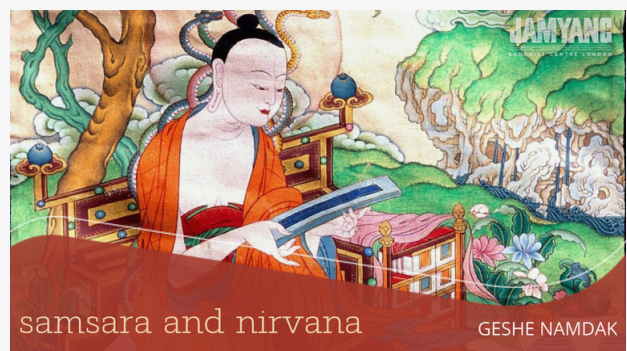
- Compassion denoting the warm 'family feeling' aspect.
- Wisdom denoting the educational aspect.

To celebrate our history, we have also used the image of Manjushri's Wisdom sword. In fact, the inspiration came from the logo made by Robin Bath at Jamyang's inception, which integrates the sword of Wisdom. Working on this element we have reached a unique shape that represents:

- *Guidance:* Like Manjushri, Jamyang is a guide to the nature of reality. The lines of the shapes that follow each other represent that.
- *Welcoming Attitude:* The coloured text-containing section represents the message from Jamyang, the transparent layer standing for the welcoming, genuine and honest attitude of Jamyang.
- *Walk Your Own Path:* The white line represents each person's unique path, Jamyang is just a guide but everyone ultimately makes their own path.
- *Cutting Through Delusions:* Just as Manjushri cuts through the root of delusions, so these soft lines cut through the page.

The final result is an updated look with a compassionate feel that evolves the communication of Jamyang as a reliable actor in the educational arena, retaining a certain gravitas, but not at the expense of our humanity, kindness and compassion.

Look out for the imminent launch of our website. We are especially grateful to The Camellia Foundation for their support in this project.



JAMYANG LONDON

FINANCE REPORT

Like so many other organizations, 2020 was a challenging year for us financially. Since the start of the pandemic we lost all income from venue hire and B&B amounting to around £66,000. At the same time, centre fixed costs remained the same, the team needed to be paid for all their hard work, and money needed to be spent on construction and renovations (£22,000, though these are now counted as assets rather than expenses).

Fortunately, the biggest new income boost came from being able to offer Basic Programme online, which brought in around £42,000 in 2020. Payroll savings of £10,000, donations of £62,222, and Friends' donations of £26,024 (thank you!) meant that we ended the year with a surplus of £57,486 (though £49,000 of this is earmarked for construction and renovations that will now be completed in 2021 rather than 2020 as originally planned).

It is difficult to predict what might happen in the coming year. Currently, 2021 lockdown means that we are forecasting a deficit of £12,731 for this year. We do currently have cash reserves to handle this, and so are still investing in new projects for the future, such as the exciting new Science and Wisdom Live.

We strongly hope of course, that through the re-opening of the centre, our newly renovated B&B facilities, Dharma courses and your continued generosity, that we will not have to face a deficit budget again in the future.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

KEVAL SHAH

JBC Board of Trustee and Treasurer
March 2021

JAMYANG LONDON

ABOUT US



- **Resident Teacher** Geshe Tenzin Namdak
- **Director** Ven Fabienne Pradelle
- **Spiritual Programme Co-ordinator** Kamlo Chen-Duffy
- **Geshe Namadak's Secretary** Mike Murray
- **Lama Liaison Officer** Jackie Yip
- **Communications** Fabiana Lotito
- **Admin** Margaret Jailler
- **Book-keeper** Jyoti Shah
- **Basic Programme Inclusivity Project Coordinator** Kunsang Kelden
- **Regular Course Facilitators** Steph Hill, Vinod Ravi, Rhona Sayer, Roy Sutherwood
- **Science and Wisdom Live Project Coordinator** Sajda van der Leeuw, Marco Colnaghi
- **Community Events Coordinator (CCC)** Jane Sill
- **School Visits** Jane Sill, Cynthia Bonell, Ros Boughtflower
- **Interfaith Activities** Jane Sill, Joe Backus
- **Dying Well Group** Robin Bath, Sue Aldam
- **Repaying the Kindness Group** Jane Sill, Robin Bath
- **Jamyang Walks** Robin Bath
- **MBSR** Jane Sill – London Centre for Mindfulness
- **Head Gardeners** Steve and Janice Sin

Board of Trustees

- Chair – Alison Murdoch
- Deputy – Jan Andresen
- Robin Bath
- Erick Rinner
- Andras Kondor
- Keval Shah

FPMT UK Coordinator Ven. Barbara Shannon

JAMYANG LONDON

MUCH GRATITUDE



We cannot thank enough, all our volunteers and benefactors who supported Jamyang London Buddhist Centre in 2020. It is your help that has allowed us to adapt and use the space to be innovative and expand our education offering for the benefit of the wider community.

We could not have done it without you!

It is difficult to predict what might happen in the coming year but we are confident that the educational development work done in 2020 and the new ways of interacting we have become used to that transcend physical boundaries will keep supporting a thriving community.

You can support our work by volunteering, attending courses and classes, making a contribution or becoming a Jamyang Friends.

You can find more information on our website www.jamyang.co.uk