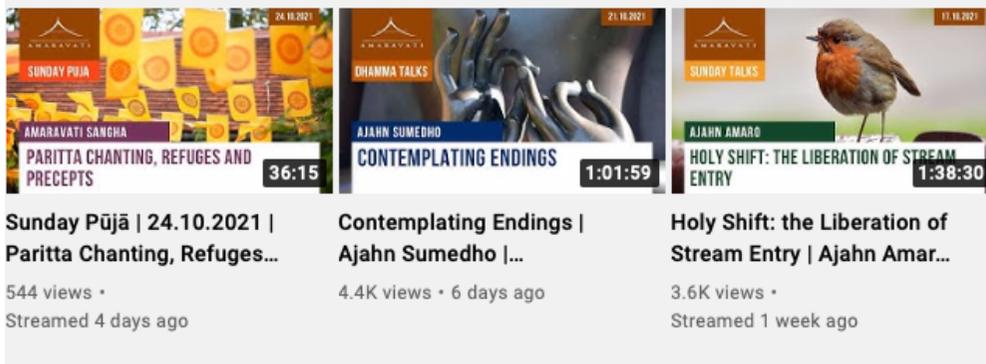


This leaflet updates supporters about the practical work that the EST supported at Amaravati during 2020-21. There is a separate insert detailing finances.

Review of 2020

Covid had a big impact throughout the year, and the community prioritised protecting the elders and vulnerable residents. Still, hundreds of people did visit to make offerings and pay respects, and the locked-down community was very grateful for all the food and support that arrived.

The sangha started to offer more live-streamed parittas, teachings and retreats online and these are available by searching for 'Amaravati YouTube'.



Philanthropic Gifts

Many people support Amaravati in whatever way inspiration, ingenuity and other resources allow them. Some people are in a position to offer funds, not for running costs, but for securing the longterm future of the community through large donations.

Three times in recent years the Trust has received large donations especially for nuns' buildings. And then in mid-2020, a donation of £10m was received to take forward the ecologically sound re-building of the Sala and whatever else we could include.

The construction industry was exempt from lock-downs, so the community pressed on with the construction of The Bojjhanga Nuns' Nursing Kutti.

Sr. Ajahn Bodhipala is shown here receiving the keys during the Blessing ceremony in spring 2021.

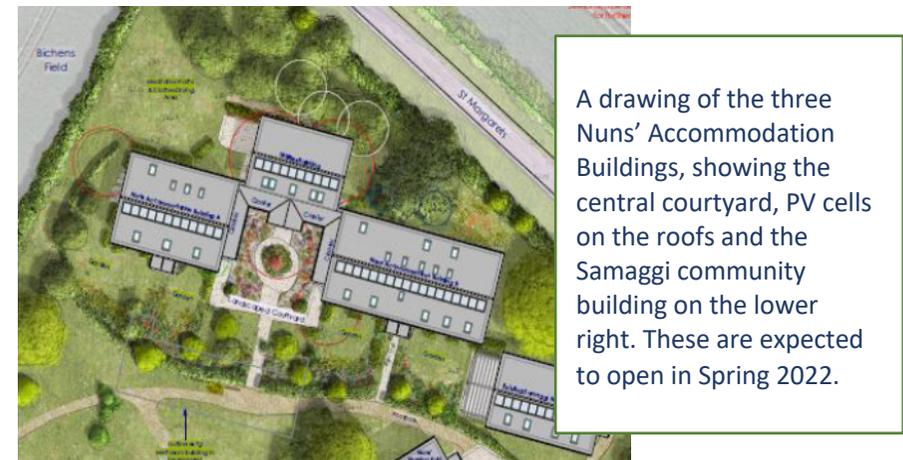


In addition, the community used the year to undertake a number of repair and renovation tasks that are harder to do when the monastery is open; the public toilets are much improved, and now provide hot water and a dedicated disabled toilet next to the disabled parking spaces.

In order to prepare for rebuilding the Sala the Sangha created the Transition Project. Over 100 different functions take place in the Sala normally and the community wanted as many as possible to continue during the two years it takes to demolish & build the new facilities. The downside is that the Retreat Centre, already closed by Covid, will now not be able to re-open until 2024-25. The RC kitchen is being fully renovated to take the strain of being the main monastery kitchen, and the women's dormitory is being converted into a Sala.



The senior Sangha and Trustees looked at the needs and possibilities and decided to build the three remaining Nuns' Accommodation Buildings, plus the Sala, two maintenance buildings and all the landscaping surrounding them. Not a small undertaking for a monastery where every inch, minute and penny are already put to good use.



The Library is moving to the Publications' Building, currently looking fresh and spacious and awaiting the transfer of all its 20,000 + books. The Tipitaka was, unsurprisingly, the first to move.



With improved lighting, accessibility and upgraded insulation, the Library should be a good space for reading and contemplation of the texts by sangha and lay people.



The Amaravati Community during 2021-22

The community cautiously began to open up with the easing of the Covid restrictions, and day visitors who book are now able to come and sit in the temple, as well as make offerings. Lay guests now tend to come for much longer periods of time as they have to quarantine to protect the community as a whole.

The sangha is offering more online retreats, and as far as possible those retreats have the same level of support for retreatants as retreats held in the Retreat Centre have had previously.

The English Sangha Trust will continue working through Amaravati Developments to build buildings for the benefit of all. We have almost all the funding needed for the Sala, kitchen and workyard construction to begin in July 2022.

If you have any questions, please do contact Caroline Leinster,
Trust Secretary on est@amaravati.org



Supporting the Amaravati Sangha.
Information for lay supporters from
The English Sangha Trust

Activities and Projects 2020-21

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