



ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS 2025-2026

SUPPORTING THE AMARAVATI
SANGHA
INFORMATION FOR LAY
SUPPORTERS FROM
THE ENGLISH SANGHA TRUST

AMARAVATI BUDDHIST
MONASTERY
GREAT GADDESSEN
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
HERTS HP1 3BZ UK

MONASTERY: +44 (0)1442 842455
EST: TEL: +44 (0)1442 927018

THE ENGLISH SANGHA TRUST LTD
CHARITY NO: 231310
COMPANY NO: 565499

DEAR FRIENDS

We are delighted to share this update from the Amaravati community, outlining the activities and financial overview of The English Sangha Trust for the period from April 2025 to March 2026, together with our vision and objectives for the upcoming year, 2026–27.

A YEAR OF TRANSITION

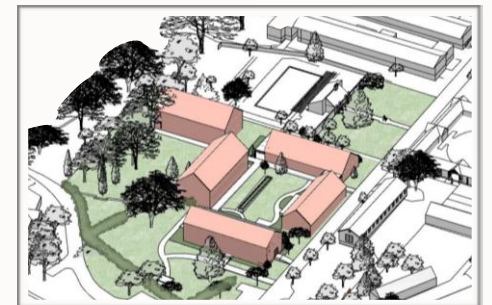
Luang Por Amaro entered a year-long sabbatical on 1 April 2025. During his absence, Ajahn Nyanarato served as Acting Abbot, and Luang Por Pasanno remained in residence as Guiding Elder until November 2025. During this period, the monastery continued its regular activities under the guidance of the resident monastic community.

A WARM WELCOME HOME

We joyfully welcomed Luang Por Amaro back to Amaravati on 31 March 2026, at the close of his sabbatical. His return was received with deep gratitude, bringing renewed continuity and reassurance to the community. We rejoice in his presence among us, and in the wisdom, warmth, and steady guidance he continues to offer to the life of the monastery.

VIHĀRA REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

This year's major project is now under way, with demolition of the old Bhikkhu Vihāra making way for new, sustainable monks' accommodation as part of Amaravati's long-term development plan. The new Vihāra will support the life of the Sangha and the wider community for many years to come.



LUANG POR AMARO RETURNS

On 1 April 2025, Luang Por Amaro set out on a year-long sabbatical — a rare and precious pause after many years of guiding the community as Abbot. Wishing to remain incommunicado, he stepped quietly out of the role, entrusting the monastery to the care of Ajahn Nyanarato as Acting Abbot, with Luang Por Pasanno in residence as Guiding Elder.

Though far from view, a thread of connection remained: throughout the year, chapters of his book *Mara and the Mangala II – The Liar* were released fortnightly on the monastery's media website, the final instalment arriving — fittingly — on the last day of March 2026.

Then, on 31 March 2026, as the Winter Retreat drew to a close, Luang Por Amaro returned to Amaravati. From 1 April he once more took up leading the pujas and mealtime proceedings, and a few days later offered his first Dhamma talk since returning “A Break from the Role of Abbot: A Few Stories from a Sabbatical”, sharing something of his year away”. To have him home again, refreshed and well, is a source of great joy for the whole community, monastic and lay alike.

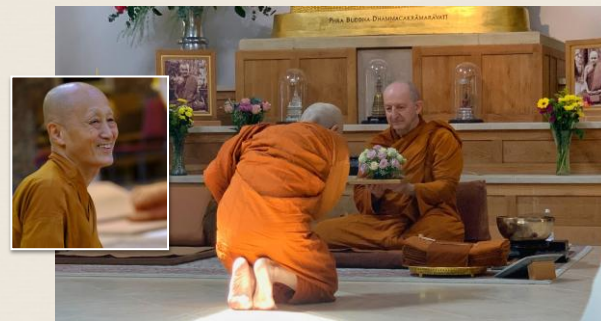


WITH THANKS TO LUANG POR PASANNO

We are deeply grateful to Luang Por Pasanno, who stayed with us as Guiding Elder until November 2025, generously sharing his broad and long experience of monastic life.



REFLECTIONS & GRATITUDE



Ajahn Nyanarato came to Amaravati in 2001 and it has been his home monastery ever since. For many years he served as vice-abbot, and this year stepped into the role of Acting Abbot during Luang Por's sabbatical. He has been an exemplary inspiration to the Sangha and lay community through his Dhamma teaching and his warmth and skill in guiding people.

Having long been invited by a community of practitioners in Japan, the conditions have now come together for Ajahn Nyanarato to make a permanent move to his home country. He will be based in the Nara area, where he was born, to begin developing a formal residence, departing Amaravati on 28 April 2026.

We offer him our heartfelt gratitude for his 25 years of dedicated service, and our warmest good wishes for this auspicious new undertaking.

Although Amaravati has an increasing number of solar panels, utilities remain one of the largest expenses, covering electricity, gas, water and heating oil.

Another significant cost area is Maintenance and Estate, as Amaravati is a big site with over 20 buildings and includes the stupa field, memorial garden and Eastern field.

As lay people we support the monastery best by practicing. Many people find that volunteering helps, and to volunteer you can contact the Monastery, or the Lotus Volunteer Group at lvq.enquiry@gmail.com. They have opportunities, particularly for people who cannot visit often.

Offering food for the Sangha, often in memory of a loved one, is a traditional and joyful way to connect to the Dhamma and Monastery. You can bring food on the day, or offer money for, say, an anniversary.

Both women and men are welcome to stay as guests by applying via the www.amaravati.org website. This opens up other ways of helping. People staying for the first time are generally offered three nights, depending on how far they have travelled.

Donations can now be made using card machines at the monastery. If you would like to donate online please visit our website amaravati.org. You may also wish to consider leaving a legacy to the Trust in your will.

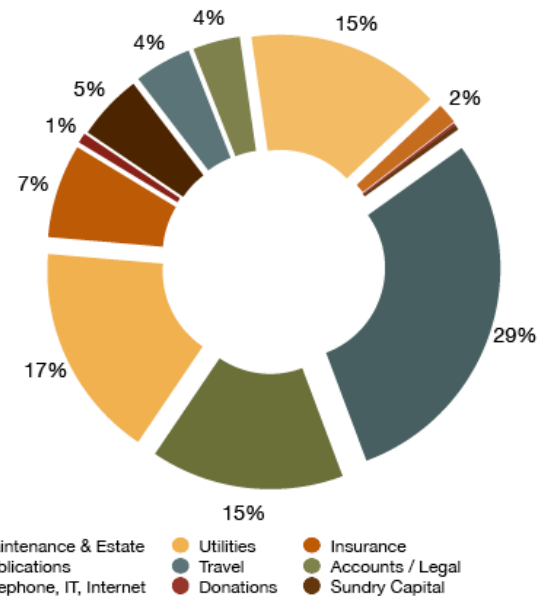


SUPPORTING THE MONASTERY

Amaravati General Spending 2025-26 £623,273

Excl. £601,366 on New Buildings

Spending	
Welfare & Food	£182,041
Maintenance & Estate	£94,451
Utilities	£105,242
Insurance	£45,811
PPS	£4,730
Publications	£32,133
Travel	£27,732
Accounts / Legal	£22,947
Administration (incl salary)	£94,782
Telephone, IT, Internet	£9,878
Donations	£1,010
Sundry Capital	£2,516



The Trust spent, in 2025-26, a total of £623,273 on the general running costs of the Monastery, and £601,366 on buildings including the Vihāra and the Sala.

More information on any topic addressed in this leaflet is available from The Trust Secretary, Chathumini Wickramasingha. Email est@amaravati.org, or phone +44 (0) 1442 927018.

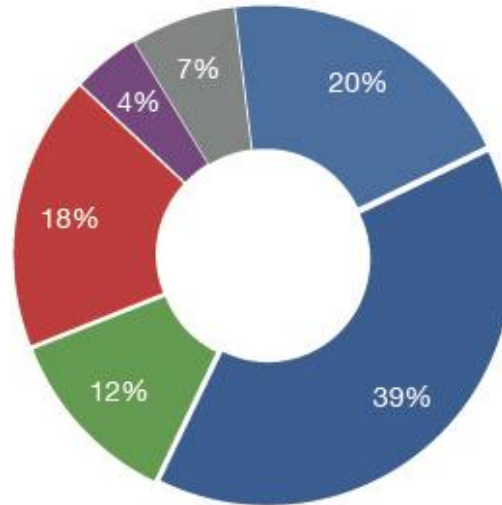
THE ENGLISH SANGHA TRUST

FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2025-26

Amaravati General Income 2025-26 £519,673

Excl. £9,351,248 Restriction for Buildings and Publications

Income	
General Donations	£204,345
Standing Orders	£61,311
Overseas Teachings	£0
Travel, Welfare & Other	£93,247
Gift Aid	£22,314
Deposit Interest	£35,561
Legacies	£102,895



General Donations Standing Orders Overseas Teachings Travel, Welfare & Other
Gift Aid Deposit Interest Legacies

The English Sangha Trust is the financial steward at Amaravati.

The figures show that in 2025-26, Amaravati received £519,673 in general donations that the trustees applied toward the running costs. General expenditure for running costs was £623,273. The gap was covered from reserve funds.

Another £9,351,248 was donated and restricted for the new Vihara buildings, the future Karunasom rebuilding project, and a small amount for publications.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Amaravati Long Term Plan:

The redevelopment of the Vihāra marks the next major phase in Amaravati's long-term masterplan for the monastery site. Planned in phases, this latest stage of renewal focuses on the monks' and laymen's area within the wider development of the monastery grounds.

Five integrated buildings, three of them two-storey, will replace the four one-storey buildings that were there before. Completion of this project is scheduled for October 2027.

After the Vihara, the rebuilding of Karunasom, the lay women's accommodation, is the next phase of the long-term plan, scheduled for 2028.

Care for Ageing Monastics:

An emerging theme these last years is that certain elder monks and nuns are requiring more attention and care. Most of the new buildings have been designed around ease of access and facilities to accommodate ageing and disabilities. Additional companionship, and even hands-on care have begun to be needed. This includes visits from NHS health workers, funding support, hiring carers, and in some cases may require the use of care homes. All this is requiring a new level of coordination, and in 2026 has resulted in significant increases in the running costs at Amaravati.