

Edinburgh Theravada Buddhist Group

Mark Your Calendars!

Sept. 7 Thursday evening
visit by Harnham monastic

Sept. 17 Practice Day

Oct. 15 Kathina at Harnham

Nov. 2 Thursday evening
visit by Harnham monastic

Dec. 3 Practice Day

Dec. 7 Thursday evening
visit by Harnham monastic

Dec. 10 Inter-sangha
celebration, Salisbury
Centre, Edinburgh



www.TheravadanBuddhists.org.uk

Practice Days

Practice Days will be offered on **Sept. 17** and **Dec. 3** at the home of Peter Angelucci & Melanie Cook. The practice day will be from 10 am until about 6 pm. There will be walking and sitting meditation, as well as a midday meal, so please bring a vegetarian dish to share. The day closes with tea and an opportunity to share your experiences of the day with others. Contact Peter on 0131 664 0756 or e-mail angelink@blueyonder.co.uk for more information.

Inter-Sangha Event

The December gathering for Edinburgh's Buddhist community has been rescheduled. Originally planned for Dec. 3, the gathering is now scheduled for December 10 at the Salisbury Centre.

For more information, please contact Kimberley at kimberleycadden@yahoo.co.uk or visit www.MySangha.org.uk.

Kathina at Harnham Saturday, October 15

This year Kathina will be celebrated at the Harnham monastery on October 15, starting at 10 am. This event will also serve as a celebration of the monastery's 25th year.

Luang Por Sumedho and many other senior monks and nuns, including some of the previous abbots will be joining in the celebration.

The Kathina celebration this year is co-sponsored by Mrs. Kahakachchi and Mrs. Samarage. For further information please phone Mrs. Kahakachchi at +44 0191 386 7600.

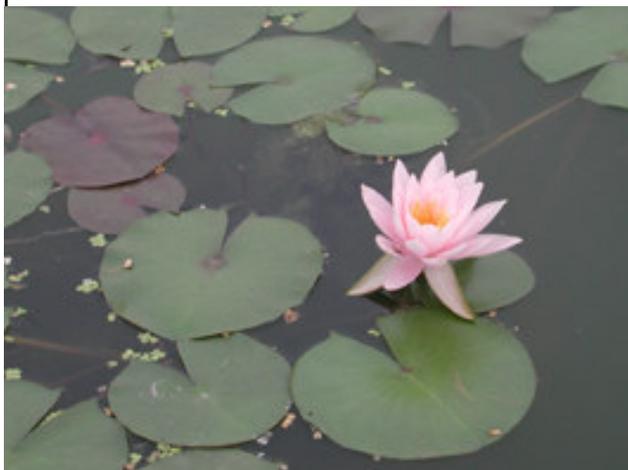
About the Tradition

The Edinburgh Theravadan Buddhist Group follows the forest sangha tradition as practiced by the venerable Ajahn Chah. This tradition originates in Thailand. In the UK, the main monastery, Amaravati, is located in Hemel Hempstead near

London. Monks from the Ratanagiri branch monastery, located in Harnham, visit the Edinburgh group.

For more information on the tradition, teachings, retreats, and materials available, please visit

www.ratanagiri.org.uk or
www.amaravati.org



*Live in joy, in love,
Even among those
who hate.*

*Live in joy, in
health,
Even among the
afflicted.*

*Live in joy, in
peace,
Even among the
troubled.*

— The Dhamma-
pada, Joy, 15

Dana Wish List

Monastics rely on *dana*, the generosity of the laymembers of the sangha, to meet their everyday needs. To donate items listed here, please contact Harnham.

FOOD ITEMS

Long life milk—vegetables—tofu
Honey—eggs—fruit—fruit juice
Cranberry juice—olive oil—tahini

NON-FOOD ITEMS

Ecover multi surface cleaner—
Batteries (AA+D-size)—stamps
Ear plugs—kitchen rolls—tape
Measures—black felt-tip pens

**Thank you! We now have
enough of:** Toothbrushes, salt,
cooking oils, instant coffee, rice,
towels, soap.

*Updated 23 Aug 2006 from the
Ratanagiri website's "Dana list."
for the most current list.*

www.TheravadanBuddhists.org.uk

A Dhamma Miscellany

History of Buddhism in Edinburgh

This is the first installment of an article written by Rowdon Goodier.

1. Introduction

Some years ago I was encouraged to try to gather information on the development of Buddhism in Edinburgh by a short essay, prepared by the late Morton Bryce, on the history of the Edinburgh Buddhist Group. This group was the main focus of Buddhist activity in Edinburgh between 1966 and 1993. In the event it has proved quite difficult to gather sufficient information on this subject to enable a comprehensive account to be written. However I would like to offer these working notes to Edinburgh Sangha members as a tribute to the sustained commitment by Morton Bryce over many years to the establishment of Buddhism in Edinburgh and in the hope that others may be stimulated to contribute additional information.

2. Pre-history

It seems likely that the earliest explorations of Buddhism in Edinburgh took place under the auspices of the Theosophical Society. Thus the Orient Lodge of the Edinburgh Theosophical Society, which was founded in 1910, at its meeting at 28 Great King Street of April 1912, discussed a paper on Buddhism and afterwards listened to a reading of Edwin Arnold's *The Light of Asia*. In 1914 they presented a series of discussions on "Meditation in terms of the Great Religious teachers".

It is recorded that the well known Zen Buddhist teacher D T Suzuki lectured on Zen Buddhism in Edinburgh in 1936 and that in 1958 he toured Edinburgh.

In the issue of the *Middle Way* (the *Journal of the London Buddhist Society*) for 1952-53 the announcement was made of the formation of a branch of the Buddhist Society in Edinburgh in 1952 under the presidency of a Mr W H Pass from Dunbar. Meetings were held in the Chinese Institute on

George IV Bridge. In May 1953 the Edinburgh Society promoted a Wesak celebration at which "the Venerable Y Siri Nyana led Pansil and gave an address". I have found no further mention of this Group.

No further reference occurs in the *Middle Way* until the announcement of the establishment of the Edinburgh Buddhist Group under the guidance of Mr Fraser Anderson in 1966.

The years around 1950 seem to mark a transition in British Buddhism. In the first half of the 20th Century most of the available translations were of the Pali scriptures and Buddhism was largely equated with the Theravadin tradition which predominated in the then Ceylon, Burma and Thailand. After 1950 the scene becomes much more diverse with the influx of teachers from the Mahayana schools of Tibet, China and Japan and these turned out to contain much variety. Translation of the literature of these schools began to become available.

Nuns Visit

Mid-October may well find a group of nuns from Chithurst spending a few days in Scotland. The group has tentatively booked Jody's Cottage near Aberfeldy for the week of October 17-24.

In the past, bookings have been cancelled due to conflicts, and it is not yet 100% certain that the nuns will be able to come up for the week. But if they do, there will be opportunities for members of our lay community to provide support for them.

Support might take the form of providing transportation, food offerings, etc. For more information on whether or not the visit has been confirmed and the type of support that is needed, please call Jody on 0131 332 7987, or look for updates on our group's website, www.theravadanbuddhists.org.uk.



Meeting Information & Contacts

Meetings are held every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm, Christchurch Hall, Holy Corner, Bruntsfield Place.

We aim to encourage deeper investigation of the practice of meditation

Contacts

Neil Howell 0131 226 5044

Jody Higgs 0131 332 7987

Newsletter

Claralynn Nunamaker 0776 747 4650 info@heartwoodmusic.com

within an atmosphere of group support. We actively support and are supported by the monastic community at Harnham Buddhist Monastery (Ratanagiri), Newcastle.

www.TheravadanBuddhists.org.uk

Scheduled visits from Harnham Monastery monastics

Sept. 7 November 2

December 7