

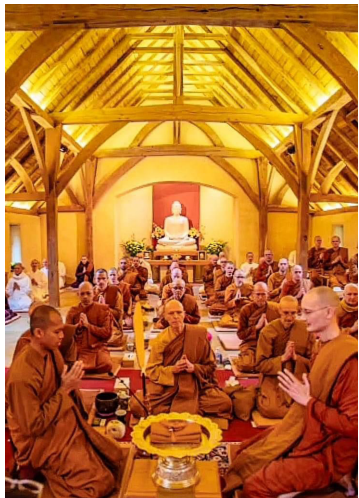
HISTORY OF THE KATHINA FESTIVAL

The Kathina Festival dates back to the time of the Buddha. It once happened that a group of 30 Bhikkhus were on their way to Jetavana Vihara in Sāvattihī, to spend their rainy season retreat (the Vassa) with their teacher, the Lord Buddha.

The Vassa, or Rains Retreat, began before they reached their destination. In accordance with their monastic rules, they had to cease travelling and live peacefully together during the three-month period of the Vassa. At the end of the Vassa they continued their journey.

Knowing their sad state, the Buddha rewarded them for their harmonious patient endurance by permitting them to wander freely, gather cloth, make a robe and offer it to a deserving monk among their group, as a gesture of goodwill, sharing and generosity.

The frame on which the pieces of cloth were spread and stitched was called a kathina. This practice continues to this day with a robe made from cloth offered by lay followers.



CHITHURST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Chithurst, Petersfield, Hampshire GU31 5EU

Tel: 01730 814986 www.cittaviveka.org

Driving Directions

The monastery is located approximately 60 miles south west of London, off the A3 (which runs from London to Portsmouth). Travelling south on the A3, turn off just before Petersfield on to the A272 (Midhurst turning). Seven miles along the A272, in the village of Trotton, there is a narrow bridge with traffic lights. After the bridge take the first left turn down the lane sign-posted Chithurst. The monastery entrance is about three quarters of a mile up the lane on the left.



KATHINA

12th October 2025



Cittaviveka
Chithurst Buddhist Monastery



FRIENDS & DEVOTEES

Kathina is a time when we all have a chance to celebrate the very special relationship between the monastic and lay aspects of the Fourfold Assembly: monks, nuns, lay women and lay men.

The Lord Buddha knew what he was doing when he set up this relationship more than 2500 years ago. By making the monastic community materially dependent on the generosity of his lay disciples, he ensured that his teachings would remain alive through the medium of human relationship. When this relationship is infused with generosity and goodwill on both sides, it becomes a very potent vehicle for Awakening.

The core values that are celebrated by the Kathina tradition are those that make living together in harmony possible; qualities like patience, moral conduct, kindness and empathy.

In our otherwise confusing, competitive and restless world, it is so important to remember that our own well-being cannot be secure unless it is founded on us practising benevolence to others.



HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

You are most welcome to participate, and help with the working together of everyone involved, encompassing the true essence of the Kathina celebration:

- By attending the **Kathina** on **Sunday 12th October**.
- By attending a planning meeting at the monastery at **1.30pm** on **Sunday 21st September** to discuss practical ways of helping.
- By helping to organise the day, offering food, decorations (flags and flowers) or by offering your time during the weekend of the **11th** and **12th October**.
- By making a financial contribution.
Financial donations are the most flexible way of offering support.
Your much appreciated generosity contributes to up-keep of the monastery and the welfare of its residents.
- By providing or sponsoring an item/s from the **LIST OF USEFUL ITEMS** (*see list opposite*).

1. Mrs Morakot Toon: **07788 550687**
2. Mrs Pornphan Heath(Maew): **07968 129935**
3. Mrs Rungarun Parsons(Aor): **07584 245405**

KATHINA PROGRAMME

10.00 am – Arrive

10.30 am – Paritta
(Auspicious) Chanting

11.00 am – Rice Pindapata
and Meal Offering

1.30 pm – Kathina Ceremony
(requesting the Five Precepts,
Paritta Chanting and offering of
the Kathina Cloth)

2.30 pm – Dhamma Talk

LIST OF USEFUL ITEMS

Books on Monastic Discipline
Travel digital battery alarm clocks
Brown short sleeved T-shirts
Small foldable desk
Silent 12 inch battery wall clock
Heavy duty portable mop and bucket
Makita compact cordless drill
Hand held combo window cleaning kit
Garden secateurs
Brita water filter cartridge
Graphenstone GrafClean matt paint
Garden kneeling pad

If you wish to offer something from the list of useful items or practical help, please contact one of the sponsors (listed to the left) to avoid duplication. Also, there are a few items where a link to a specific product will be provided.