

Benevolent Organisation for Development, Health & Insight
Founding Patron: His Holiness XIV Dalai Lama



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AGENDA AND REPORTS FOR BODHI AUSTRALIA AGM 22 MAY 2022

Online meeting via zoom: 11.00am Australian Eastern Standard Time

AGENDA

1. Present.
2. Apologies.
3. Ordinary business.
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes ([link to 2021 minutes](#)) of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting.
 - 3.2 To receive from the committee, auditor and servants of the Organisation reports* on the operations and transactions of the Organisation during the last preceding financial year of the Organisation; (i.e. reports from the President and Treasurer, for calendar year 2021);
 - 3.3 To elect the officers of the Organisation and the ordinary committee members;
 - 3.4 To appoint the auditor and determine his or her remuneration;
 - 3.5 To appoint a Public Officer;
 - 3.6 To determine the remuneration of servants of the Organisation.
4. Business Arising (if any)
5. Special Business (if any)
6. Date and place of 2023 A.G.M.
7. Meeting closed

BODHI AUSTRALIA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lucia Arman: 20 May 2022

1. Impact of COVID-19 on BODHI Australia funded projects

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in India over the past twelve months continued to affect BODHI Australia's projects. Our current partners, the Bahjan Hitay Pune Project (BHPP) and Aryaloka Computer Education (ACE) Programmes were reduced and altered, due to the pandemic, but recommenced after infection rates stabilised and more of the population was vaccinated. The COVID-19 pandemic in India was devastating; especially for those most disadvantaged. India went into lock down, people lost their jobs and income. Some were unable to access food, and many died of COVID-19.

BODHI Australia remained in frequent contact with project partners throughout the last year, seeking to ascertain how we could assist people in those communities who were severely impacted.

The BHPP programmes were greatly reduced, but our understanding is that funding for the staff was still provided by the Karuna Trust (UK). Thus, no financial assistance from BODHI was needed in the last year. Support provided by the Karuna Trust included food relief and including the distribution of infection control precautions such as face masks and soap to those living in the slums of Pune.

In partnership with ACE, under Aryaketu's leadership, BODHI Australia provided just over A\$5,000 from our 'welfare account' to assist with food relief for people living in the slums of Nagpur (this account holds funds from BODHI's advertisers, anonymous donors and the occasional donor who specifies that they do not seek a tax deductible donation).

The Indian Government provided ration cards or food parcels for many people in need due to the lockdown. However, distribution of these is imperfect, while the food provided (mainly a mixture of wheat and rice) is inadequate for optimal nutrition. In addition, many living in the slums did not know how to access the ration cards.

BODHI Australia funded food parcels for some 350 families; each food parcel containing staples such as chickpeas (channa), lentils (dal), soybeans, sugar, tea, cooking oil, spices (tumeric and mirchi powder), soap; and including sanitary products for women and girls.

Aryaketu, his staff, and team of helpers from the Aryaloka Computer Education (ACE) Programme (who were available while their normal work was disrupted) distributed the food parcels and helped people who were homeless apply for the Indian Government's ration card.

2. Trailokya Bauddha Mahasangha Sahayaka Gana (TBMSG); Bahujan Hitay Pune Project and loss of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) Status

The Bahujan Hitay Pune Project (BHPP), managed by Karunadeepa Wankade, is a subsidiary of an Indian non-government organisation called Trailokya Bauddha Mahasangha Sahayaka Gana (TBMSG) (see <http://www.tbmsg.org/>). Regrettably, at the very end of 2021, TBMSG's Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) status was revoked, making it impossible for BODHI Australia to provide funds to BHPP for projects such as the balwadi (kindergarten), creche and its health service. The reasons for this revocation are unclear to us, but not related to any alleged maladministration or fraud by the BHPP.

It is hoped that once TBMSG has its FCRA status reinstated that BODHI Australia might once again consider funding this organisation to deliver much needed development work for those living in the slums of Pune, and especially for women and children considered amongst the most vulnerable in those communities.

3. Aryaloka Computer Education (part of Aryaloka Education Society or AES)

BODHI Australia provided almost A\$11,000 from our general account (for which donations are tax deductible) to upgrade ten desktop computers for use as part of the Aryaloka Computer Education Programme. We also provided three lap top computers, on long term loan, to three talented and aspirational young women from extremely disadvantaged backgrounds. (See photos in newsletter).

The upgraded computers will assist ACE in its work to continue to train young people, who are socially, economically and occupationally disadvantaged, in information technology (IT) skills in order to improve their education, training and employment opportunities and outcomes.

4. BODHI Australia Committee Membership

BODHI Australia welcomes Melinda Mayne who has nominated to become a BODHI Australia Committee member for the period May 2022 to May 2023. Melinda has been a BODHI member for several years; she has qualifications in social work and law and is well known to myself and to Professor Colin Butler, BODHI Australia's co-founder, secretary and treasurer. Melinda has experience on boards in the political, health, welfare and arts field. Melinda has done "on the ground" development projects in Uganda.

5. Newsletter for 2022

We distributed our annual newsletter (electronically) in April 2022 to all BODHI Australia members and to others on our mailing list. Details of our AGM (22 May 2022) were included, with an invitation for all BODHI members to attend if they wish to do so (by Zoom).

6. Project Proposals for funding consideration.

A. Aryaloka Computer Education (ACE) Programme (two proposals)

- (a) The first is to support three young women to undertake a nine-month residential training programme in New Delhi, in 3D Computer Animation. The proposal is for the purchase of computers, residential living expenses and tuition. Total funds requested: Rs340,600 (approximately A\$6,500).

Comment: This has not so far been funded as, in the view of Professor Butler, it seems too much money for too few people – with no guarantee of significant broader social dividend, other than to

the three women and their families. Nor is there any guarantee that the beneficiaries will refund AES, even if they become very successful.

- (b) To support 50 students, from highly disadvantaged backgrounds, to undertake a six month computer and IT skills training programme, based in Nagpur and administered by Arayaloka Education Society (AES) (ACE is a programme of the AES). The course includes tuition in hardware networking, information technology, graphic design, Tally accounting, career guidance (e.g. interview skills and job applications), and 3 months of English language tuition. Funding sought: In Rs725,000 or circa A\$13,800.

Judging by past experience, it is anticipated that 25% of students who complete this course will quickly gain employment in the IT industry, and a further 70% will undertake additional IT studies. This proposal is consistent with several others, administered by ACE, funded by BODHI, in the last few years.

Comment: This programme has recently been approved for funding by BODHI Australia.

Manuski Trust (website- <https://manuski.in/contact/> currently listed as “dangerous”)

Manuski is a not-for-profit organisation based in Pune. It has FCRA status. BODHI’s support for this was suggested by BODHI’s advisor, Dh Lokamitra. Manuski’s stated aim is to train, empower, build capacity, and develop leadership in marginalised communities across India. Manuski identifies its mission as developing an *“all-India network of social activists inspired by the vision of a caste-free society, working towards community mobilisation to realise the human and civil rights of marginalised people”*.

The Savitri Bai Phule Social Fellowship (SBPSF) project is a Manuski-supported programme that aims to support women identified as community leaders and to place them in identified organisations in order to build their and their organisations’ capacity to address the social and political rights of marginalized women living in their states. This programme is led by Manjula Pradip, a trustee of Manuski, who is described as one of India's leading Dalit women activists.

In the next 12 months (April 2022 - March 2023) the SBPSF seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Strengthen five civil society organizations, by supporting 15 community SBPSF women to be independent and transformative change agents for the effective implementation of laws for the protection of the rights of the marginalized women.
- Enrich the capacity of Nagaloka Women Fellows to support and monitoring domestic violence cases and atrocities affecting women and girls from the Dalit, Adivasi, and other deprived communities.
- Generate awareness and build capacity of the civil organisations and the women and girls from the Dalit, Adivasi, and other deprived communities.
- Generate gender sensitivity and breaking patriarchal structure and caste barriers from within the community.

To meet the above objectives the Manuski Trust will provide training, guidance and mentoring to women recruited to undertake the fellowship on issues relating to patriarchy, gender equality, socio-political issues, and its relationship with intersectionality in Indian society.

Whilst the SBPSF programme is already funded by the Manuski Trust to work with 15 women in five different organisations, a grant of Rs 700,000 from BODHI Australia will enable the Manuski Trust to include another four women in the programme.

Comment: this project warrants further investigation; it is currently unclear how on a practical level the “fellowships” will work to achieve its objectives listed above.

C. Nishtha <http://www.nishtha.org.in/vision.php>

In conversation with Professor Butler, Suddhaka, head of programmes at the Karuna Trust, suggested that BODHI might consider forging a working partnership with Nishtha (the Bengali word for dedication); an organisation focussed on the empowerment of women and girls. It has FCRA status; we were given the name and email address of a representative, but have not yet made contact. Nishtha has a connection with the Ramakrishna Mission, but we are unsure for how long.

Nishtha began as a movement for women and girls in the villages of West Bengal in 1975. Its mission is stated as “*to build a discrimination free just world where every woman can experience equal opportunity, equal rights and equal dignity.*” Nishtha strives to usher in a new world free of discrimination on the basis of sex, class, caste, creed, religion or colour; and to achieve equality in rights, opportunities and social dignity for women and girls. Nishtha works from a set of values that guide their policy and practice. These values are based on gender equity, child protection, human rights and the right to financial independence for all women and girls.

Examples of Nishtha’s programmes (taken from their Annual Report for 2018-2019) include:

- Education opportunities and support for girls (pre-entry education, school retention or support for girls attending schools via tuition or the payment of tuition fees).
- Opposing early marriage for girls by way of education, advocacy, activism and intervention.
- The education of boys and girls in relation to equity and gender discrimination; and to encourage both genders to act as change agents for the improved rights of women and girls; and including working to end domestic violence.
- A Day Care Centre for children with disabilities.
- Peer support training and networks.
- Educating and working with men to end violence against women and girls.
- Specific vocational skills training courses that lead to direct employment opportunities for women and girls.
- Health and hygiene education for girls.
- Night shelter for the children of sex workers who work by night (includes night school and protection against child exploitation and trafficking).

- Day care for children of sex workers (education and health).
- Support for elderly women via their grandmother's programme (food, clothing and intergenerational relationships reducing loneliness and isolation).
- Supporting micro-business finance for women in the villages.
- Creative expression for girls as a way of developing self-confidence and educating others about the rights of women and girls (e.g. creative dance).
- Support to women who have experienced domestic violence.
- Legal aid for women escaping abusive marriages.

- Reproductive and sexual health education for young people.

Comment: Perhaps of concern, however is that Nishtha's online annual, and financial reports, do not appear up to date (see <http://www.nishtha.org.in/financial-report.php>). I recommend that we explore these more before deciding whether to support Nishtha, but in principle this NGO looks promising.

BODHI AUSTRALIA FINANCIAL REPORT

2021 CALENDAR YEAR

Prof Colin Butler (Treasurer), 21 May 2022

This supplements the auditor's report (Camerons Accountants, Launceston Tasmania, dated April 4, 2022), and the numerical table on pages 8-9. All current committee members have seen drafts of this audited report). I will read a summary of this report at the AGM to be held May 22, 2022.

1. Total income for 2021, compared to 2020, declined by 54% (almost \$25,000) to almost \$21,500. This was partly because of the loss of our main advertiser (Fortress Learning), after their business was sold; advertising income fell by 89%, or by almost \$12,000. General donations also declined, to about \$18,000, from almost \$31,000. This was a big decrease; however donations were almost as high as for 2019 (\$20,333).

2. Bank interest was almost the same as for 2021 (\$1,515).

3. Dividends: increased from \$221 to \$395; these dividends accrue because we have two accounts with My State Bank, of which BODHI is a member. I don't understand the reason for this increase – our accounts have not changed; I suspect My State is being overly generous.

4. We did not sell any **posters** in 2021.

5. Travel expenses were again zero in 2021.

6. Project expenses in 2021 were almost identical to 2020 (at \$19,217 in 2021 they were \$233 lower). Most of this (\$15,883) was provided to the Aryaloka Education Society (AES), both for “development” (\$9,803) and “welfare” (\$6,080). Included in this grant to AES was \$981 towards their administration expenses (shared proportionally between the different projects).

In comparison, in 2020, we made a “welfare donation” of \$8,455 to AES, in order to provide acute relief (as food) to some of the day labourers (and their families) and others whose lives were made precarious by the initial response of the Government of India to the pandemic, i.e. a strict two week lockdown. Similarly to 2020, part of the donation to AES in 2021 is closer to a conservative definition of “welfare” instead of “development”; funds for this purpose were drawn from the account in which we hold our non-tax deductible income; i.e. money from advertisers, from donors living overseas (if they do not pay tax in Australia), anonymous donors, and from donors who prefer to not seek a tax deduction (or who fail to advise us of their email address, even if asked).

7. Other expenses (bank and PayPal, audit, computer and website) totalled \$1,102. Of this, most (\$770) was for the audit. The payment to the treasurer (agreed at the 2021 AGM as 7.5% of gross income minus donations from committee members) was not deducted in 2021, but is shown as a liability – this is for \$1,612.

8. In 2021 the total income for our “discretionary” account from sources received in 2020 was calculated, to be transferred by the time of the 2021 AGM (for details see 2020 report). The balance for this account at January 1, 2021 was approximately \$7,354, but at the AGM was \$14,576. As of January 1, 2022 this balance had fallen to \$9,626 after accounting for inputs in 2021 (mainly advertising by Biodistributors and a very generous donation from overseas) and the “welfare” donation to AES.

9. Closing balance, for all accounts in 2021 rose slightly to \$177,395, from \$176,226. Note, however, the liability of \$1,612. We also hold posters to the value of \$950.

10. Our ratio of non-project expenses to total income was higher in 2020 than in 2021 (12.6% compared to 6.9%). These expenses were higher as a proportion because the income was so much lower.

11. Thanks again to our **auditor**, Greg Harper, at Camerons Pty Ltd, in Launceston, Tas. Greg suggested that we convert to a new account keeping record, electronically linked, to make the audit slightly easier. We did this in late 2021. Although there have occasionally been suggestions to appoint another auditor (in order to show any potentially sceptical examiner of our reports that our records are correct) I continue to believe such a strategy would entail a significant transaction cost, as we would have to start from scratch with a new auditor.

12. All international transfers continued to be done electronically, using ANZ. In 2021 there were no problems, other than to TBMSG, as described above.

13. Bendigo Bank: As reported previously the ordinary account with Bendigo Bank remains useful (it is free of regular charges, as are all of our bank accounts) as this is where interest from one of term deposits is transferred to (the interest in the other term deposit rolls over).

14. Changing the terms on the two term deposits requires a resolution made at either our AGM (with 28 days notice) or at a special meeting. Emilia della Torre (a former committee member) and Lucia Arman are still listed as signatories with Bendigo Bank. I think the rule is that any two of these three signatories (i.e. Colin David Butler, Emilia Della Torre, Lucia Arman) can change the term or close the term deposit, **but** this also requires the resolution at the AGM or a special meeting. I propose that at this AGN members of BODHI at this AGM pass a motion, minuted, to reduce one of our term deposits by either \$10,000 or \$20,000 – or, if this should be classed as special business, it be considered separately, with adequate notice.

	2021	2020
Opening Bank Balance (all accounts; Jan 1)	177,176	152,157
INCOME		
Advertising (non-TDS)	1,515	13,500
Dividends (all accounts)		221
Dividends (BAORF)	296	
Dividends (non-TDS)	99	
Donations to BAORF – general	17,050	25,993
Donations to BAORF - committee members*	0	1,200
Donations (non-TDS)	1,015	3,709
Interest (BAORF)	1,515	1,661
posters (non-TDS)	0	12
Total Income BODHI	21,490	46,296
Total Income BAORF	18,861	28,964
Total Income BODHI Non-TDS	2,629	17,332
EXPENDITURE		

Admin Fee (Colin)	1,612	2,254
Auditor	770	770
Bank charges (includes paypal, transfers, stripe)	98	91
Filing Fees	0	65
Printing, Postage, Stationery, faxes	0	12
Development Projects	13,137	11,005
Welfare Projects (non-TDS account)	6,080	8,455
Travel	0	0
Website fee	235	0
Total	21,932	22,651

Closing BANK BALANCES (31/12/2020) (plus poster stock and petty cash)		
My State (BAORF)	17,008	19,376
My State (non-TDS)	9,626	7,354
Bendigo Bank	798	487
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit 1 (shorter term)	50,916	50,916
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit 2 (longer term)	90,312	89,109
ANZ savings	5,043	8,242
ANZ working	3,578	627
Cash on hand	114	114
Posters (nominal value)	950	950
TOTAL	177,395	177,176

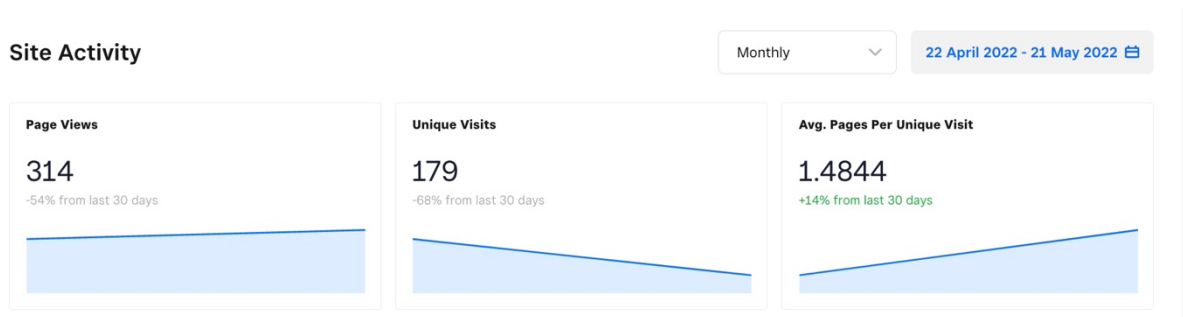
PROJECTS		
Aryaloka Education Society (development)	9,803	0
Aryaloka Education Society (welfare)	6,080	8,455
TBMSG/BHPP	3,334	11,005
TOTAL	19,217	19,450

- A donation was received from EdV before she was a committee member, we also received a generous donation from a family member of EdV.

BODHI AUSTRALIA COMMUNICATIONS REPORT 2021

Colin Butler, BODHI Australia Secretary (and Treasurer) 21 May 2022

1. Website Continues to be maintained. Suggestions welcome.

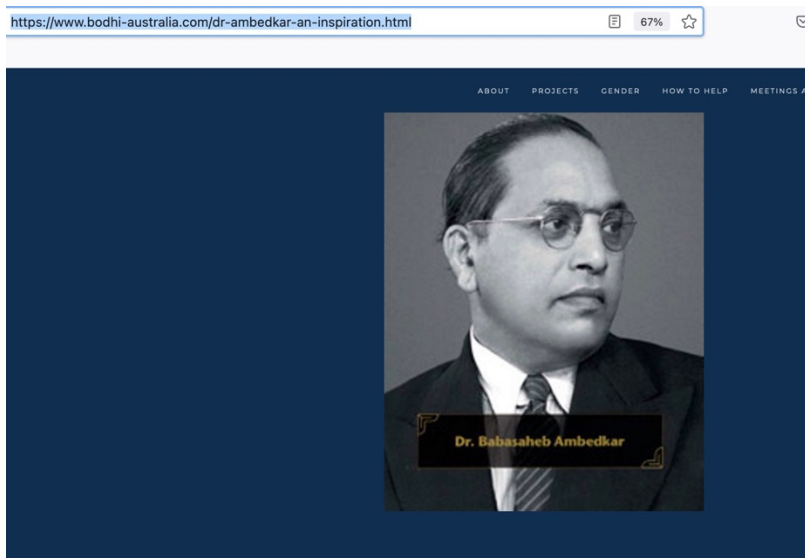


- Page visits in the last month were 314 (179 unique visits); 1.5 average pages per visit. Unfortunately I can't go back longer than a month, and haven't kept note of these indicators through the last year.
- The top page visits in the last month included “Dr Ambedkar – an inspiration” <https://www.bodhi-australia.com/dr-ambedkar-an-inspiration.html>, Bahujan Hitay Pune Project (BHPP) and Dr Maurice King. Speaking of Maurice, he is still alive (born 1927) and our forthcoming co-edited book “Climate Change and Global Health” is to be dedicated to Maurice and to the late Prof Tony McMichael.

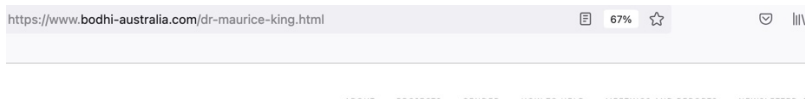
Top Active Pages this Month

Search

Page Name ↑	Views ↑	vs Previous
/	34	+40%
/2021.html	5	+35.71%
/bahujan-hitay-pune-india.html	16	+266.67%
/blog	3	+60%
/blog/bodhi-the-bahujan-hitay-pune-project-and-the-ongoing-work-of-dr-ambedkar	3	+100%
/blog/limits-to-growth-planetary-boundaries-and-planetary-health	3	+60%
/bodhi-times-newsletter-archive.html	2	+66.67%
/bodhis-history.html	6	+33.33%
/contact-us.html	3	+100%
/dr-ambedkar-an-inspiration.html	56	+11.74%
/dr-maurice-king.html	11	+64.71%
/how-to-help.html	6	+66.67%



Dr Ambedkar: breaking chains of caste

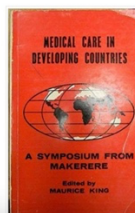


DR MAURICE KING

(OUR PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISER SINCE 1991)

Dr Maurice King (1991- present) (public health adviser) (written by Colin Butler, December 29, 2017 and January 6, 2018)

I first heard of Maurice's name in 1983, while preparing to go to Africa for 3 months, as a medical student, in 1985. My future supervisor there, Dr Philip Andrew, recommended that I read Maurice's edited book "Medical Care in Developing Countries", which I did. I found it second hand in a bookshop on



2. Facebook

- BODHI continues to have a presence on Facebook, with three sites. We continue to get “likes” and have over 1300 “friends”. The FB pages continue to attract posts that are not relevant (mainly religious, but sometimes advertising or political). I delete these and block such people from re-joining, usually without reason (the site clearly states: Posts must be related to engaged Buddhism, not just Buddhism! People who post unwanted material generally have their posts removed and themselves are blocked, usually without warning, other than this one.”) If in doubt I ask the poster how the post is relevant to the aims of BODHI, which focuses more on humanitarian work and the reduction of poverty. I do this because I do not want new visitors to the site to gain the incorrect impression that BODHI’s purpose is either mainly religious or political.

BODHI

Public group · 1.3K members

Joined

Invite

About Discussion Featured Topics Events Media People

About this group

Posts must be related to engaged Buddhism, not just Buddhism! People who post unwanted material generally have their posts removed and themselves are blocked, usually without warning, other than this one.

BODHI is an NGO (non government organisation) founded in 1989, it is Buddhist influenced, but secular; it seeks to promote development, education, environment, and human rights. Via partners we have been active in Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Tibet; we have worked with minorities including Chakmas, Dalits, and people with disabilities. Currently we work mostly with Dalits in India. BODHI Australia is a tax deductible organisation; in the US we are trying to clarify our status, after a crisis following the death of one of BODHI's co-founders. We encourage you to join and support us, especially if you are based in the West and genuinely interested in "engaged Buddhism"

FOUNDING PATRON: His Holiness XIV Dalai Lama

- A few people (including in India and Nepal) do understand BODHI's goals, and post relevant material; such posts are appreciated. More re-posting of Facebook material would be welcome. In 2021, we again received some donations via Facebook. All of these Facebook donors are personally known to me, but two of them had never donated previously. I thus continue to be sceptical about the value of advertising BODHI on Facebook.

3. Twitter

- A BODHI Twitter account still exists but remains rarely used. I hope to revive it, and also start a BODHI Australia twitter account.

← **BODHI**
309 Tweets

BODHI
@BODHIgroup Follows you

Benevolent Organisation for Development, Health & Insight (BODHI): compassion in action for the committed who despair of traditional approaches to development.

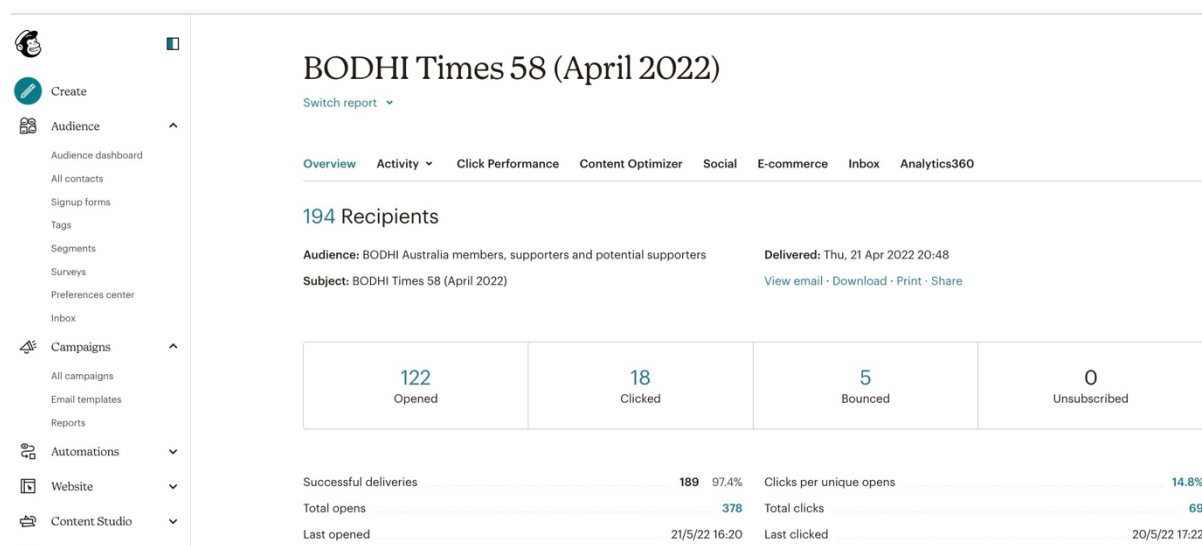
United States bodhius.org Born July 1 Joined November 2010

32 Following 59 Followers

Followed by Gillian King STAY SAFE x3 1.5m WASH HANDS Global Climate and Health Alliance, and 13 others you follow

4. Mailchimp

- BODHI produced (thanks to help from committee members) one newsletter in 2021 (BODHI Times 57) and another in April 2022 (number 58). Suggestions for additions to the email addresses remain welcome; Mailchimp rules prevent the addition of addresses without the recipient's permission.
- We currently have only 194 members in the BODHI Australia Mailchimp data base, who are based in Australia. Of these, 122 recipients opened the most recent newsletter.



5. YouTube

- No progress, albeit Lucia managed to find a film student who was willing to assist make a BODHI Australia promotional video but regrettably the COVID19 pandemic got in the way and the idea was shelved. It is uncertain whether that film student continues to be willing to assist.

6. Mainstream media

- No successful contact in the last year

GENDER REPORT: 21 May 2022

Women & Girls

BODHI Australia recognises systemic, political, economic and social disadvantages experienced by women and girls, for no other reason than that they were born female. BODHI Australia has, since its foundation, had a focus on improving opportunities for women and girls. This focus continues; we preference projects that will allow women and girls to achieve their potential. BODHI Australia actively works towards enhancing the social participation of women and girls. We work toward improving the lives of women and girls in “developing” countries; wherever possible we seek to improve women's economic independence and their, political and social standing.

Whilst much of BODHI Australia’s work during the last reporting period was hampered by ongoing effects of COVID19, BODHI Australia has nevertheless made a solid attempt to highlight how our project partners can support and improve the dignity and human rights of women and girls. BODHI Australia will continue to make issues affecting women and girls a focus of its work and will seek to fund projects that will allow women and girls equality of opportunity.

As indicated in the current President’s Report BODHI Australia has received some exciting possibilities for potential projects that seek to improve the position of women and girls. These project proposals will be given due consideration by the BODHI Australia Committee and where we will undertake the usual due diligence to ensure that donors' money will be expended in accordance with BODHI Australia objectives and for the benefit of women and girls.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ).

BODHI Australia recognises the discrimination and persecution faced by people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ).

Those who identify as LGBTIQ are often subjected to physical and sexual violence, tortured, or killed. The laws in many countries criminalise consensual same-sex relationships, making people who identify as LGBTIQ vulnerable to arrest, prosecution, imprisonment, and in some countries, the death penalty. In India, Nepal and Bangladesh some laws have been passed to protect this community, however the application of these laws varies. Discrimination against members of these communities takes many forms.

The United Nations explains that *“deeply-embedded homophobic and transphobic attitudes, often combined with a lack of adequate legal protection against discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, expose many LGBTQI people of all ages and in all regions of the world to egregious violations of their human rights”*.

BODHI Australia supports the United Nations call for the need to protect LGBTIQ persons from violence and discrimination.

At the beginning of 2020 BODHI Australia began looking into a potential project that looked to support women who identify as LGBTIQ in Nepal. In brief, the program sought to provide mental health services to LGBTIQ+ women in Nepal by training counsellors in how to appropriately respond to a disclosure of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. The proposal sought to work in partnership with the Green Tara Trust and an organisation in Nepal that currently provides support to LGBTIQ+ women. This project proposal was put on hold due to COVID19 pandemic but will once again be reconsidered, assessed, and progressed by BODHI Australia for its viability as a potential BODHI Australia funded project.