

THE LONGCHEN LINEAGE HOME



A HOME FOR THE LONGCHEN LINEAGE

The Longchen Foundation is a small but vibrant Buddhist group based in Oxford run by its spiritual director Rigdzin Shikpo It has students all over the UK and Germany

For years Longchen has survived by hiring a range of sites for teachings and for meditation retreats. But both Rigdzin Shikpo and his Dharma partner the Mandala Mother, feel that now is the time for the Longchen Foundation to put down some roots

We are looking to raise in the region of £6,000,000 to establish a home for the Longchen Lineage

MEDITATION HALL

At the heart of the site would be a decent sized room to serve as a meditation space and as a place where Rigdzin Shikpo could teach his students The group would at last have a permanent shrine for key Longchen lineage masters such as Longchenpa, Vimalamitra, Jigme Lingpa and Guru Rinpoche





Chögyam Trungpa was Rigdzin Shikpo's main teacher. He admired British stained glass windows and Rigdzin Shikpo would love the Meditation Hall to have dharma related stain glass installations



LIBRARY

An essential part of the new development would be a temperature and humidity controlled library. Rigdzin Shikpo has an extensive catalogue of hundreds of Buddhist books in English, Tibetan and Sanskrit and they all need to be properly looked after

The library could also function as a research facility for academic studies and as a translation centre, so more precious Tibetan and Sanskrit Buddhist texts could be made accessible to an English speaking audience



Longchen has already published a number of books and has a massive audio and visual archive of Rigdzin Shikpo's teachings It stretches back decades and in the last ten years, as well as audio, we have collected HD video recordings of every teaching. This is a huge resource that we hope will provide valuable material for many practitioners long into the future



This could be a dedicated space to learn and explore art in many different forms. Chögyam Trungpa always encouraged his students to do everything from calligraphy to flower arranging as a means of better understanding themselves:

'In art, the basic sense of delight and spontaneity in a person who has opened fully and thoroughly to themselves and to life can provide wonderful rainbows and thundershowers and gusts of wind'



LOCATION

Somewhere in the countryside NW of Oxford, ideally away from surrounding properties In a quiet location suitable for meditation and reflection



RESIDENCE FOR THE LINEAGE HOLDER

One of the most important areas of the grounds would be some private rooms for the current Longchen Lineage holder Rigdzin Shikpo and his partner the Mandala Mother A bedroom, study, and sitting room and a private shrine room would provide them with some privacy





GARDENS

Peace and quiet are essential for meditation and contemplation; well kept gardens with walkways; wooded areas and benches hidden away in secret corners would give people somewhere to rest between practice sessions Perhaps a small lake laden with lotus flowers? The more grounds to isolate the property from the hustle and bustle of the outside world the better



RETREAT HUTS

Somewhere on the property there would be a need for accommodation both for students wanting to stay for long term retreats, and for other visiting students on shorter retreats and teaching weekends. Huts or converted outbuildings would be ideal

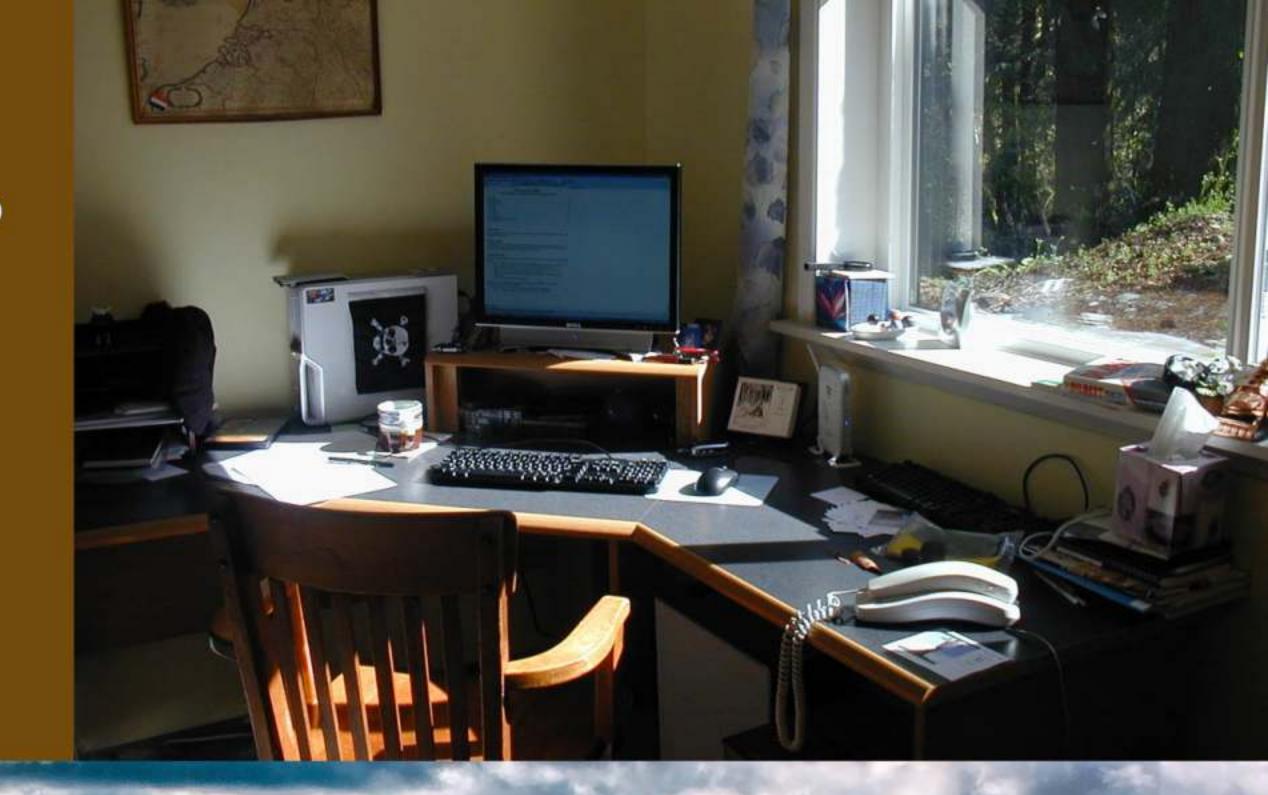


A stupa consecrated by Rigdzin Shikpo would be a lasting pilgrimage site for future students. Stupas are a reminder of Siddhārtha Gautama, the historical Buddha, and his teachings
They have symbolic meaning; the thirteen steps for instance representing stages on the way to enlightenment



OFFICE

Even running a relatively small Buddhist group generates a lot of paper work. A single well organised repository for the group's administrational needs is essential. It would make managing the Foundation's finances much easier and help us plan teaching and outreach programs





WE ARE LOOKING AT A TARGET £6,000,000



TO SUPPORT US PLEASE VISIT OUR FUNDRAISING PAGE www.longchenfoundation.org/lineagehome

