



## Leong Hwa Monastery

### Annual report for the year ended 31 December 2012

**General information:** Leong Hwa Monastery (LHM) was established in 1995 as a religious organisation, registered under the Societies Act (UEN: S95SS0035G). It is also a charity under the Charities Act, Charity Registration No. 1659.

**Objectives:** The principal activities of the Society are to propagate the religion of Buddhism through inter alia Buddhist teachings and seminars, religious ceremonies and festivities, and other social, recreational and cultural activities.

Management Committee: LHM is governed by a management committee comprising individuals with varied skills, in particular, individuals who are committed to propagate Buddhism for the benefit of society and helping to make the world a better place for all humanity.

The Management Committee oversees and approves the formulation of the Society's strategy and sets directions and standards of the organisation. It also reviews the Society's activities, adequacy of internal controls, financial reporting and compliance and management and operational performance.

#### Management Committee members:

Full name of Officer	Title of Office	Occupation
CHIA ENG SOON	President	Venerable, Leong Hwa Monastery
CHEN SHOOU	Vice President	Venerable, Yan San Shu Monastery
GEORGE LAU KUM HON	Secretary	Senior manager, Kordamentha Pte Ltd
ALAN WONG THIN HEE	Treasurer	Business consultant
TAN CHEE BENG	Member	Director
TENG CHOON PEH	Member	Self employed
LEE LI SIM	Member	Admin Executive
YEO PECK HAR	Member	Home maker
TAY HOCK BEE	Member	Building services' technician

**Trustees:** The following trustees hold the properties located at 57, 67 and 72 Shrewsbury Road in trust for the Society.

Chia Eng Soon (aka Venerable Sek Meow Ee)  
 Chia Eng Kheng (aka Venerable Sek Meng Kheng)  
 Zhang Guo Lim (aka Venerable Zhi Hui)

**Corporate Governance:** The management committee and the management staff are committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance and abiding to the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs. The management committee endeavours to enhance its governance practices throughout the financial year. The committee also assessed its compliance with the code of governance for the evaluation period from 1 April 2011 to 31 December 2011. As at date of this report, the Society had complied with the various areas required in the governance evaluation.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The Society maintains a Conflict of Interest policy, requiring management committee members and staff to disclose areas of conflict and abstention from discussion and decision – making on the matter. During the year under review, there were no such conflicts that required disclosure and action.

**Finance and funding:** The Society is funded by donations and contributions by the devotees and the public, lease and maintenance of ancestral tablets and niches. The Society also collects annual membership fee of \$12 (excluding GST).

The Society’s banker is United Overseas Bank Limited.

**Financial results:**

**Revenue**

Ancestral tablets and niches	313,047
Amortisation of Light of Centre Fund	252,767
Donations received	193,842
Maintenance fee	57,238
Membership fee	6,941
Other income	95,472
Special events	984,371
	1,903,678

**Expenditure**

Direct expenses	349,832
Contribution to other organisations	20,500
Depreciation	576,995
Operation & administration	143,751
Personnel & related costs	135,037
	1,226,115

Surplus for the year	<u>677,563</u>
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Unrestricted fund as at 31 December 2012 2,966,128

Unrestricted fund / Total operating expenditure 2.42

Further details can be found in our audited financial statements, audited by Onn Ping Lan & Company.

**Reserve policy:** It is the Society's desire to build up a reserve to meet three years' operating expenditure. Unrestricted fund that is in excess of three years' operating expenditure will be transferred to an endowment fund to strengthen the financial position of the Society.

**Society's assets:** The Society's properties located at 57 and 67 Shrewsbury Road are for its own use. In the year under review, our community service arm, Viriya Community Services (VCS) consolidated its programmes for the elderly at My Centre @ Moulmein. VCS remains committed to use 72 Shrewsbury Road, known as Lights of Hope Centre for charitable purposes, consistent with its mission. In the meanwhile, the place is being rented out and rental income is shared between VCS and the Society.

The Society also owns a lorry largely for its own use.

**Future capital commitments:** Based on existing plan, the Society does not have any future capital commitments.

The road ahead: With the completion of The Great Festival to Liberate Beings of Water and Land (ShuiLu), we will now focus on dharma education to enhance spiritual life of individuals and enrich the human spirit of loving kindness and compassion.

For VCS, while it will strive to work on projects where it can make a significant contribution and which are truly important and meaningful to them, their focus remains enhancing the quality of the lives of the people whom they serve and making a difference to them. In this regard, VCS will launch the Viriya Elderly Medical Fund in the current year.

Most importantly, we should always remain guided by the teachings of Lord Buddha, especially in achieving inner peace and practising compassion and loving kindness for beings who are less fortunate than us. Only then, can we have peace and harmony in this samsara world.

**Management:** The Abbot is given the responsibilities of implementing policies and directions set out by the Management Committee. Venerable Zhi Hui has held this position since 1 May 2010.

**Activities and events:** In the year under review, we held the Great Festival to Liberate Beings of Water and Land (ShuiLu) for the final of our three-consecutive year's event, all in celebration of Vesak Day. ShuiLu is the most meritorious ceremony in the Buddhist calendar and our three-year ceremony has provided a rare opportunity for many of us in the human realm to receive great merits and blessings, as well as dedicate these merits and blessings to our departed beings and beings in the lower realms.

We rounded this Great Festival with a Grand Finale, the Great Heavenly Blessings ceremony on Sunday 30 December 2012 to offer our blessings to the remaining realms of Existence in the samsara world. With this, we have indeed completed our dedication of merits and offering of blessings to all Beings in all Realms.

Other highlights of the year include the following events:

- Lunar New Year Eve cum Maitreya Bodhisattva's Birthday;
- Lunar New Year – Homage to Three Thousands Buddhas;
- Qing Ming Festival;
- 8-precepts retreat during Vesak;
- One-day continuous chanting of the Great Compassion Sutra and ten small mantras in conjunction with the birthday of Ven Sek Meow Ee;
- 7<sup>th</sup> lunar month / Ullambana festival; and
- Amitabha Buddha's Birthday and 8-precepts retreat

**Community projects:** These are included in VCS' annual report, a copy of which is attached to this report.

**Acknowledgement:** We are very grateful to many of you, including our donors, devotees and staff who have unwaveringly supported our mission and activities. We also appreciate the advice and guidance from our Patron, Mr Chan Soo Sen.

Report by: Venerable Sek Meow Ee  
President

23 March 2013

***Our Mission Statement:***

***Leong Hwa Monastery aims to expound the teachings of Sakyamuni Buddha and to cultivate compassion, loving kindness and wisdom for the benefit of all sentient beings in society.***

**Registered office:**

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[www.lhm.org.sg](http://www.lhm.org.sg)