Modern Kadampa Buddhism

Modern Kadampa Buddhism is a special, practical presentation of Buddha's teachings that is particularly suited to the modern day. It was introduced into contemporary society by the world-renowned meditation master and scholar Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso Rinpoche (Geshe-la).

Modern Kadampa Buddhism preserves the meaning and intention of Buddha's original teachings while presenting them in a clear and systematic way that anyone of any nationality, age or gender can easily understand and put into practice.

Since 1977, when he accepted an invitation to become Resident Teacher at Manjushri Centre in the UK, Venerable Geshe-la has given thousands of teachings, composed twenty-three widely acclaimed books on Buddhism and meditation, established over 1,300 meditation centres in 40 countries, trained hundreds of qualified Teachers and developed practical study and meditation programs to suit the needs of the modern world.

Kadampa Meditation Centre Perth

Kadampa Meditation Centre Perth was the first Kadampa Centre in Australia. Incorporated in 1995 as Dharmapala Buddhist Centre, it began in a house in Ardross. Over the next 18 years, as the community grew, the Centre operated from increasingly larger rental properties in Applecross, East Fremantle and Fremantle. In 2012, following years of fundraising activities, the property at 158 Canning Highway, East Fremantle was purchased and Dharmapala Buddhist Centre became (Dharmapala) Kadampa Meditation Centre Perth.



In addition to being home to a thriving residential community of both ordained and lay practitioners, the Centre offers a rich program of classes, courses and in-depth study programs. Weekly classes are also offered in nine locations in the metropolitan area. Taught by qualified Kadampa meditation teachers, these classes and are open to everyone regardless of background or level of experience. Everyone, both Buddhist and non-Buddhist, can benefit from these practical instructions for living a more peaceful, joyful life.

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A Brief History of 158 Canning Highway & Introduction to Modern Kadampa Buddhism

A History of 158 Canning Highway

East Fremantle, Western Australia



This turn-of-the-century stone house was built in 1901 by Horace Hill-Parker who was one of eleven children and came from South Australia during the gold rush. In 1897 he was appointed the first Town Clerk for East Fremantle and held the position for 46 years. He married Winifred in 1898 and had one daughter, Dorothea, who was born in 1900.

At the age of 32 Dorethea married Harold and they had a son, Richard, two years later. She was the first locally born female doctor and conducted her medical practice here. What was her consulting room is now the first room on your right after coming through the front door. A brick fireplace, a plate rail, and a fancy cornice all testify to its 1930s vintage.





The oregon lead-lighted front door opens into the entry hall complete with its original floor tiles and ornate ceiling. On the left is a large bedroom (probably the original lounge) boasts beautiful leadlight windows and an extremely ornate fireplace with an enormous mirrored over-mantle; the cast-iron grate is surrounded by colourful Edwardian tiles.

Beyond the hallway arch and mosaic-tile floor there are three bedrooms with the original formal dining room, now the lounge with an elegant marble fireplace and a serving hatch which connects this room to the kitchen. The stained glass doors lead to a private verandah.

Back to our story of Horace and Winifred and their daughter Dorothea, husband Harold and son Richard who lived here until the mid 1950s, except Horace who died in 1944. The house was upgraded in the 1940s, possibly after Horace's death. In 1956 Winifred, her daughter Dorothea and family moved to Cottesloe.

In the 1960s, 70s and 80s Mr and Mrs Schaper, a Dutch couple with ten children lived here. Two of their children became policewomen and one of them, Anna Schaper, was the first female detective in the WA Police Force.

During the 1970s, Bon Scott, lead singer of ACDC lived here briefly.



The house was upgraded in the early 1980s. A heated salt-water pool was added and a full-sized tennis court built on the land behind the pool. In 1997 the land was sub-divided and two town houses built in place of the tennis court. The pool was later filled in to construct the meditation room that is there today.



The owner in the 1990s, Tony Hughes, was the designer of the new style Perth's CAT buses. He was followed by Colleen and Alan Hudson, who operated the house as Hayfield's Bed and Breakfast.

The Kadampa Meditation Centre purchased the property in 2012 and it underwent extensive renovations before officially opening in November 2014.



The following year an award was given by the Australian Institute of Architects for the construction of the meditation room.