



Published on *Mandala Yoga Ashram* (<http://mandalayoga.net>)

[Home](#) > [About the ashram](#) > [History](#)

History ^[1]



1985: First known as Satyananda Ashram and registered as a charity - but only existed on paper as it had no physical location.

1986: Started to come into physical existence at a dilapidated, old farm in the beautiful countryside of south Wales. Swami Nishchalananda became the Director with Swami Sivadhara as Secretary.

1987: Produced its first newsletter in 1987.

1986-1996: Old farm buildings were renovated and new buildings constructed to create a beautiful new hall for yoga practice and accommodation for 30 people.



In the early days:

- Water was collected from a well and had to be boiled before drinking. Springs were then found, underground holding tanks constructed and a water purification plant installed.
- The $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile-long track from the lane to the ashram was impassable by anything but a four-wheel drive so people left their vehicles at the bottom and used a wheel barrow to carry their belongings up and down the hill!

1990: First Yoga Teacher Training Course started.

1996: Became officially independent from the Bihar School of Yoga -although we remain on very close terms with it. This was so that the ashram could create its own style of teaching and propagating yoga. It was renamed Mandala Yoga Ashram.

1998: A light-filled big conservatory was constructed for classes, eating and a space to just ?be?.

1999: The ashram website was started.

2002: An extensively stocked library was installed with numerous books on yoga and related topics.

2009: The first 1-year Meditation course was run.

2011: The first 1-year Kriya Yoga course was run.

2014 (Sept): The first 1-year Chakra course was initiated.

Looking to the future:

The ashram is proposing to build a much needed office extension and a conference room, plus further accommodation. Provisional plans have also been drawn up for new eco-chalets and a large hall for yoga practice.

Links:

[1] <http://mandalayoga.net/yoga-UK/history>