

Supporting

Charity Hospital with 160 beds
Outpatient Clinics treating 80,000 patients a year
New Centre for 100 severely disabled children
Residential School for 200 profoundly deaf children
Nursing College with 80 students

Newsletter Christmas 2016

www.sylviawright.org



Dear Friends

Our work in India is going from strength to strength. I am deeply grateful to all the talented and dedicated people who are visiting our Centre and sharing their expertise – motivating existing Indian staff to develop their skills and to realize the deep joy that can come from serving others – even if on the surface it can seem nothing but ‘hard work’!

India is going through a period of accelerated change but the weaker are often left behind. Only about 1% of the total budgeted income is spent on health care nationally. However, Tamil Nadu is an exception and health facilities are improving for the poor.

As priorities change, we have to be ready to respond as we are only here ‘to do His will’ which, in my case, seems to be a great deal more hard work!

Education & Therapy Centre to open in February



Artist's impression of completed Centre.

raising. Lee, who has been visiting India for over twenty years to work with children with special needs, is also helping with curriculum design and training the current staff in neuro-development therapy. It's called multi-tasking!



Lee (left) & Marian assess village child

therapies. They visited the children's homes and involved the parents in order to understand each child's needs. We are most grateful to Lee, Marian and Jenny for sharing their expertise so generously.

Lee Morgan, our volunteer Osteopath from San Francisco, has been working with Sylvia supervising the final details of the Centre, deciding upon furniture and physiotherapy equipment and continuing her fund-

Marian Emy and Jenny Loan Clark, experienced NHS professionals in the treatment of childhood disability, visited in November to do an assessment of every disabled child and to offer additional guidance on enhanced



Happy Christmas, love Sylvia

As with the children in Rangammal School for the Deaf next door, these disabled children can also be sponsored - please contact Angela Clark 01132 676600 for details and advice.



Children are delighted with their new Centre

IT gathers pace

IT is now being extended into the school classrooms. This will be a 2 stage process, beginning with simple “digital classrooms” using material linked to the existing curriculum.



Digital classroom in use

Silence to Hearing to Speech

The Hearing Project, championed from the UK by Dianne Ward, has gone from strength to strength. More hearing aids have been funded by individual supporters and by the Hear the World Foundation (HWF) - the charitable arm of Phonak.

HWF have also sent volunteer audiologists led by Crystal Variava (Director of Audiology & Education India) and Nicolas Beck (Head of HWF Switzerland) to help with fitting and training the staff further. All the school staff have been taught how to manage the hearing aids on a day to day basis and 4 have been given extra training in basic audiology.

Nico says: "We find the project at the Rangammal School to be one of our showcases." Kiran was "...moved by the dedication of the whole team of Rangammal School and by the plight of these kids...I am thankful to God for whatever he has given me."

We say: "Thank you HWF for your brilliant support."



HWF volunteers arrive at the school

L-R : Crystal Variava, Nicolas Beck, Kaushik Mukherjee, Suresh K, Kiran Kumar, Avinash Grubb, Dharti Makeswar

Jessica Lofthouse, a UK Speech and Language Therapist, visited the school for two weeks in August. She assessed the speech of new pupils before they received new hearing aids. This allows teachers to tailor speech therapy to individuals' needs and also to monitor progress accurately. We are most grateful for Jessica's professional input.



Jessica assessing a pupil

100th Nurse Qualifies

Sylvia's Nursing College opened in 2009 and admits 20 female students each year.

They come from simple village backgrounds and have made remarkable progress in adjusting to being away from home for the first time and in coping with a difficult course in a "foreign" language (English). 100 nurses are now fully qualified and all have got nursing posts – some with Sylvia but most at facilities nearer their homes. Congratulations to them all as well as their tutors!



Nurse Nithaya, with patient, Sylvia and Tamil Selvi, College Principal

Thanks to:

- To those who bought our Christmas puddings; they sold like hot....puddings.
- Sand Moor Golf Club, St Andrew's United Reformed, Holy Name and St Urban's Churches for hosting trust meetings in 2016.
- Tom Kelly who cycled 35 miles and visited 21 churches across North Shropshire. Tom raised the splendid sum of £2,722 as well as "attending" three weddings.



Tom Kelly takes a rest in Chester

CONTACT US

Chairman:	Tony Allinson	0113 2675735 swtchair@outlook.com
Secretary:	John Howley	0113 2673936 swtsecretary@outlook.com
Treasurer:	Geoff Fuller	01226 383757 swttreasurer@outlook.com
Sponsorship:	Angela Clark	0113 2677660 swtsponsorship@outlook.com

Speakers/Talks:	Anne-Marie Rose	0113 2685423 swtspeakers@outlook.com
Schools' Coordinators:	Andrew Lowe Bernadette Barnes	01937 834361 swtschools@outlook.com 01765 278247 swtschools@outlook.com
Hearing Aid Project:	Dianne Ward	0113 2758260 swthearing@outlook.com
Newsletter/ Publicity:	Tony Hartigan	01943 851431 swtnewsletter@outlook.com