

Supporting

Charity Hospital with 200 beds
Outpatient Clinics treating 80,000 patients a year
2 Day Centres for 80 severely disabled children
Residential School for 200 profoundly deaf children
Nursing College with 80 students

Newsletter Christmas 2014

www.sylviawright.org



Dear Friends

This year has been very busy in our Hospital, Rangammal School for Deaf Children and the two Day Care Centres for mentally and physically challenged young people. I hope you like their recent photo on the back of the bookmark enclosed with this Newsletter.

As you can see, the children were very excited and delighted when we brought them all together in the Nursing College Hall for the photograph. Their transport is much better now with the new bus which

was funded by some very generous supporters in Yorkshire.

The children come from very deprived backgrounds and have no other opportunity to develop and learn. Their disabilities are distressing and confining. We hope it will be possible to provide them with a purpose-built Day Centre on the Rangammal School site one day.

With your help I am constantly striving to improve the quality of the services we give to those in our care and to inspire others to do the same. Yet as our Lord reminds us, when we do all that He commands us, we are just servants and we have done no more than our duty. Well that puts me in my place!

Happy Christmas to you all and a very happy New Year ~ Love Sylvia

The new Day Centres bus has been delivered. An added bonus is that this bus is also available to transport the hospital night staff to and from work. Nothing remains idle for long where Sylvia is concerned!



New Bus for Day Centres

Elumalai HEARS THE WORLD FOR THE FIRST TIME



Elumalai, age 4, is one of the youngest pupils to receive the new digital hearing aids from the Hear the World Foundation as explained below. This photo, by Alice Alkins our volunteer UK audiologist, captures the magical moment when Elumalai hears his name spoken by a teacher for the first time in his life. The joy and wonder on his face says it all.

140 new Hearing Aids

Following our successful bid to the Hear the World Foundation, all 200 children at Rangammal School have had their hearing tested by a Phonak-India audiologist. The HWF donation, one of only 25 globally, also provided ultra-power digital hearing aids for 87 children. These were fitted in October and will make a huge

difference to the children's lives. The aids will need adjusting as the children grow. Alice Alkins is training several Rangammal School teachers to do this. Our photo shows Alice using the newly installed equipment with a deaf pupil in the Audiology Room endowed by the Macaulay family. A duck looks on. Along with donations from Headingley Rotary and individual supporters, 140 children now have digital hearing aids. This is a long-term commitment for the Trust and we are grateful to those UK schools who have recently offered their support. More details and photos on our website.



Rangammal pupils now teach English

The children, now learning English, discovered that some of the older domestic, manual and farm workers are illiterate. So on World Literacy Day they volunteered to help these employees and taught them how to read and write their names and addresses not only in Tamil but also in English.

To read more about this and for some wonderful photos, see page 21 of the latest school magazine which has been sent to supporters for whom we have email addresses. It can also be downloaded and read on the homepage of our website: www.sylviawright.org

One reader wrote: "Thank you for the magazine: the children certainly have busy lives but I am glad there is a balance between 'Work and Play'. They certainly thrive at school."

MEDICS support Sylvania

The Dharma Foundation was set up by keen, enthusiastic medics from Hull & East Riding. It is a platform to raise money for local and international charities by organising cultural shows and other activities. Our photo shows Raghuram Lakshminarayan and Rajesh Ramaswamy, two of the Hull doctors, presenting Sylvania with a cheque for £2,500 after their Social and Wine Tasting Evening.



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New Operating Theatre
& Cardiac CathLab



thanks to:

- Those who supported the Summer Concert with the Harrogate Male Voice Choir and the Sally Barnes Madrigal Group at St Andrews URC in June. The concert raised over £1,000 for Sylvania.
- The family who have endowed a Bursary Fund to help the poorest students go on to Further Education when they leave Rangammal School.
- Abbey Runners for their club's generous donation of £1,250 from the Eccup 10 Road Race sponsorship.
- Roundhay Rotary, Leeds, who organised a very successful and enjoyable Bollywood Evening in support of Sylvania's School and John Jamieson Special School in Leeds.
- Everyone who has bought our 2014 Christmas Cards. They are selling well. To order your cards please ring Barbara Dodman (0113 2619152) while stocks last.
- Steve Bates (Ptarmigan Design) for all his support & expertise with our website which is regularly updated. You will find more details, news and photos there. Please take a look.

Great North Run

Congratulations and thanks to Lucy Furniss and Lisa May Abrahams who successfully completed the GNR half marathon in September raising £775 for Sylvania in the process. Our photo shows Lisa (left) and Lucy wearing their Sylvania Wright vests and looking very athletic **before** the race! Our SWT logo is available to any other keen runners!

