

# **FRIENDS OF VELLORE**

## **TASMANIAN BRANCH**

### **NEWSLETTER MARCH 2015**



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Greetings friends

As another year gets underway we look forward to meeting again and sharing news. Our first opportunity will be on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at our Curry Banquet, 7:00 pm at the Club Place, see back page for details.

Our guest Speaker will be Dr N Cooling from the UTAS Menzies Centre who works with Medicine International Electives Program which includes some interchange with CMC.

**We are still anxiously looking for new recruits to help on our committee, please contact a committee member if you think you can help.**

### **Snippets from Vellore**

The work and training at CMC continues to grow.

#### **Facilities are continually being updated or renewed.**

Recently a new Community Facility was dedicated on the hospital campus to provide a place for people as well as staff. Staff volunteer to conduct activity groups such as Bird Watching, Gardening and Trekking etc. This brings community members into the Christian Community. New lifts have been installed in the Alpha Clinic, a new Pharmacy off campus is now available to the community.

Renovation and extension of M Ward to provide a Private Facility offering single rooms and some Deluxe rooms as required by patients.

Extension of accommodation for students to provide appropriate facilities, conducive to study and recreation for the increasing number of students.

New staff recreation facility to enable staff to relax and enjoy some down time in their busy schedule

#### **New Equipment**

The cost of Medical Equipment is ever increasing but CMC always strives to maintain its reputation for the highest quality care by ensuring its equipment is state of the art and meets international standards.

A new high end CT Scanner was recently dedicated which can perform non-invasive coronary angiography and visualisation of head and neck blood vessels. It is the world's first high definition scanner and has a detector speed

100 times greater than other current detectors, giving radiologists the ability to see more detailed vision than previously possible.

Pre analytical automaton equipment for the computerised sorting of samples was dedicated in the Department of Clinical Biochemistry. This equipment has enabled the department to meet relevant international standards, increase efficiency, save staff hours and minimise health hazards to staff.

**Education programs** continue to be a priority to upgrade skills and maintain a current knowledge of changing and best practice treatments in every area of healthcare.

Recent education programmes have included:

- training for prosthetic and orthotic technicians, specifically in relation to foot care procedures.
- medical staff update in Diagnostic Microbiology specifically for staff from the smaller facilities.
- distance education Diploma in Allergy and Asthma
- medical staff update on recent advances in mastoid surgery, cochlear implants, difficult stapes (ear) surgery and chronic ear infections in children.
- Update in Leprosy treatment including new prostheses available
- Medico-legal aspects of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences. Medical and nursing staff are generally the first line in recognising this problem in children and they gained knowledge of their responsibilities in reporting suspected cases.
- Update on care of the elderly, looking at nutrition, falls prevention and cognitive assessment within this group.

Health education for the local population is also a prominent feature of CMC's commitment and service

- World Asthma Day workshop and screening camp to assist patients with techniques to manage and control their asthma.
- Free health checks, dietary counselling and health education program for people suffering with Psoriasis.
- Public awareness program in relation to Osteoporosis, including nutrition, exercise, medical treatment to prevent fractures and management following surgery.

All the amazing health care work at CMC is underpinned with a focus on Spiritual health. The annual Missions Conference was attended by students from all over southern India and Sri Lanka. Entitled "Thy Kingdom come, in and through us" it gave attendees the opportunity to interact with their peers and mentors and gain an insight into successful ways of presenting the Christian message while responding the health needs of their communities.

Recently we read of a man who through the stamp recycling program at CMC was able to supplement his income enough to keep his family together and eventually with other work able to obtain a suitable house for them all.

There are still gaps in the services CMC is able to provide so we thank you for your continuing support of this work.

# **Curry Banquet**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015**



**7:00 pm**

**Anna Purna Restaurant**

**Salamanca Place**

**Tickets \$40 per person**

**If you have any food allergies please notify  
the committee member when booking**

**Book with**

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