

Massive service projects for a better tomorrow

DG Deshabandu Lion Diresb Hettiarachchi

Text & pix
Beverly Jansz

Serve with love and affection for a better tomorrow. Every Lion should feel happy and proud of being a member of the world's number one largest service organisation in community and humanitarian service, said District Governor, 306 C1, Deshabandu Lion Diresb Hettiarachchi.

He was delivering the keynote address at the installation of the cabinet members of District 306 C1, for the Lionistic year 2008/2009, for his district 306 C1, held at the Galadari Hotel.

My vision is to develop and strengthen all Lions be knowledgeable, qualitative, passionate, friendly, disciplined, skilful and capable in providing required



Lion Kusum Sandanyaka being installed as District Governor's Program Coordinator, by IPIP, Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya and DG Diresb Hettiarachchi.

community and humanitarian service to the needy, with love and affection, for a better tomorrow for the needy."

DG Deshabandu Diresb emphasised the need for cabinet officers and club officers to be disciplined in financial and administration procedures.

With the assistance of Dr. Lal Thilakarante of the Japan/Sri Lanka Association, Lion Diresb has planned to distribute 5,000 wheelchairs to the disabled, 10 modern ambulances to the army, and 100,000 spec-



Lion Lady Leoni Jurie Ginnavage being appointed as District Chairperson for welfare street children by IPIP, Mahendra Amarasuriya. Looking on is DG Diresb Hettiarachchi.

ties to improve the vision of the needy. Immediate past International President and Chairman, Lions Clubs Interna-

DG Buddheni appeals for nation building projects

District Governor of Lions International District 306 C2 Buddheni de Z. Gunesekera is appealing to the Corporate Sector to join hands with the Lions through their Corporate Social Responsibility in fulfilling some of the well deserving ambitious projects planned out during the 2008 - 2009 Lionistic Year.

Lions District 306 C2 comprises of Colombo, Ratnapura, Nuwara Elyi, Badulla, Ampara and Batticaloa Districts, serving the needy through hundred Lions Clubs.

This year she has planned out a number of well deserving nation Development Projects through a ten point programme.

Plans are being finalised to construct a 50 bed "Sight First" eye hospital to render free services in Ratnapura for which the Urban Development Authority has already allocated one acre land. This hospital is expected to be



Governor Buddheni - with a vision to serve the needy

funded by the Lions of Finland and would be equipped with the State of the Art surgical equipment.

In addition plans are underway to upgrade the Eye Wards and the surgical units at the Embilipitiya, Nuwara Elyi, Dettiat-takandiya and Batticaloa hospitals coordinated by the Lions Clubs of these areas.

Well planned eye screening camps will be conducted in schools within these districts and the children would be provided with spectacles and necessary follow up treat-



International President Mahendra Amarasuriya's Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Lion Rajah Sinnathuray in recognition of distinguished achievements in fulfilling the Mission of Lions Clubs International. Here District Governor District 306 1A, Lion Lester Aponso (left) presenting the certificate to Lion Sinnathuray.

Lions open children's village in Chilaw

A Rs.14 million Holland/Lanka project

Beverly Jansz

The opening of the stage one of Lankabrook Children's Village, took place at Andigama-Chilaw on Tuesday. This is a Rs.14m project by the Lions Club of Modera/Mattakkuliya in association with Sariputharama Temple of Andigama, with major financial assistance from Lankabrook Foundation, Holland.

The Children's Village was opened by Bastian Van Kooten, Chairman Lankabrook Foundation, Holland and Lions District Governor, 306B1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse MJP, amidst a host of Lion dignitaries of the district and members of the Lankabrook Foundation, Holland.

To mark the occasion, the Lions Club of Modera/Mattakkuliya organised an Eye Camp at the venue where 125 men and women were screened and new spectacles were given to them. Fifty pre-selected children of Andigama Maha Vidyalaya were also screened to be issued with special calibrated children's spectacles.



The first orphan being admitted to the home by Ven. Amarasiri Thera in the presence of District Governor, 306B1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse and Bastian Van Kooten.

District Governor, 306B1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse said that after the tsunami devastated the coastal belt, a group of service-minded men and women from Netherlands visited Sri Lanka and formed themselves into an organisation named, Lankabrook Foundation to assist and build houses for the tsunami victims of the Southern Province.

Two acres of the land on which the children's village stands, was donated by the

Sariputharama Temple, Andigama, Chilaw and the adjoining two-acres of land was purchased by the Lions Club of Modera/Mattakkuliya to initiate the project.

The village will cater to many abandoned and orphaned children in the vicinity of Andigama and other parts of the country, who for various reasons are no longer able to live with their families, or who have lost their parents, or have

been abandoned and orphaned without care and basic facilities.

The Lankabrook Children's Village will consist of a fully equipped building complex to accommodate orphaned children, a Vocational Training Centre for sewing and cookery, a pre-school, dairy farm, Self-employment Training Centre and a sales outlet.

The Lions Club of Modera/Mattakkuliya, Sariputharama Temple,



Chief Guest, Chairman, Lankabrook Foundation, Bastian Van Kooten and District Governor 306 B1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse cut the ribbon to open the Children's Village. Looking on is Ven. Amarasiri Thera.

Andigama and Lankabrook, Netherlands have established a Trust to manage the Children's Village. Architect, J. Brian Pereira who is one of the Trustees, is providing all architectural support and supervision, at his own cost.

DG Nimal Rajapakse said that Lions of Modera/Mattakkuliya will be grateful to receive contributions to this valuable project. All contributions to be made in favour of "Lions Club of Modera/Mattakkuliya" Account No. 123223401 Commem-

Raising Programmes and donations from well-wishers. Friends of Mawbima, a London based Sri Lankan expatriate group is making every endeavour to collect funds for this humanitarian project.

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Colombo Walkers distribute food hampers



Addam Lettbe, Executive Committee members of the Walker Health Club presenting a hamper to a needy person. Looking on from left are Gamini Silva, Past District Governor, Lions District 306 A2, President Colombo Walkers Health Club, Ashroff Husain and Secretary Shirani de Silva.

Wattala Lions mark 40 years' of dedicated Lionistic Service

Lions Club of Wattala has produced great leaders in the past and has been able to successfully complete landmark projects, meeting the needs of the community in the entire district 306 B1.

Lion Mevan Algama, the immediate past President and his team carried away great number of merit awards at the 2008 convention, said.

District Governor 306 B1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse, MJP. He was speaking at the 40th Charter Anniversary of the Lions Club of Wattala, which was held at the Hendala Pradeshiya Sabha banquet hall, Wattala recently.

Speaking further DG Nimal Rajapakse said Immediate Past President Mevan Algama and his team



First Lady Vinodini Algama presenting a token of appreciation to District Governor, Nimal Rajapakse for the services rendered to the needy. Looking on is

projects and undertake activities in all service areas, DG Nimal Rajapakse said. President of the Wattala Lion Mevan Algama, Charter Chairman 2008, Lions Club of Wattala, said that as in the past "We re-dedic-



President Lion Club of Wattala Lion Kusumsiri Mendis presenting to a token of appreciation to DG Nimal Rajapakse. Pix: Beverly Jansz

ourselves to face the challenge of the community, in serving those areas that need our fullest co-operation". President, Lions Club of

Hendala Lions' Service Project

Text & Pix Nimal Perera
Wattala cor.

The Lions Club of Hendala in association with Deepaloka Welfare Society, Balagala and the Lions SightFirst Hospital - Hendala, conducted a mega multi service health camp with the assistance of nine doctors most of whom were Lions, at the Asokarama Temple premises in Balagala Hendala last week.

741 patients from low income groups were treated for various illnesses. 355 patients were screened for low vision by Dr. M. J. Ahmed Jeva and a qualified team of ophthalmists from the Lions SightFirst Hospital, Hendala.

220 brand new spectacles were distributed free whilst 38 patients were referred to the Lions SightFirst Hospital, Hendala for cataract



The Eye clinic in progress.

surgery. A diabetes clinic was conducted where 146 patients were screened, and a lecture conducted by Lion Dr. Jude Gurusinghe.

Medicines were dispensed by courtesy Hendala Lions and M/S Emenchie NB. The doctors who conducted this camp were: Lion Dr. Malcolm Stanislaus, Dr. Ravi Basnayake, Lion Dr. Jude Gurusinghe, Lion Dr. Mrs. Deepa Gurusinghe M.O.H. Ja Ela, Dr. Mrs.

Remuka Gunawardene, Lion Dr. Lalith de Silva, Dr. Mrs. Lakshmi de Silva and Dr. Surin Jayawardene.

Project Chairman was Past District Governor Lion Mohan de Silva and 15 Lions including the club President Lion Romali Abeysekera, President of the Deepaloka Welfare Society Balagala Nimal Perera and the members of the club assisted in conducting the camp.

Colombo YWCA 126th Annual General Meeting

The 126th Annual General Meeting of the Colombo Young Women's Association was held with Justice Shiranee Tilakawardena, Judge of the Supreme Court, as the Chief Guest.

This is a landmark year for the Colombo YWCA as it is celebrating 125 years of committed and dedicated service to society.

The programme commenced with a Chorale by the Colombo YWCA followed by an item by the Choir of the Visually Handicapped.

President YWCA, Manel Abeyssekera welcomed the chief guest and all those present and referred to the Colombo YWCA fund raising for extending the arm of its social service projects in the teaching of English to

underprivileged children in the neighbourhood to enhance their later employment ability. She thanked the Merit J. Fernando Foundation for supporting it and Hope for Children for their support for the activities of the Girl Child Centre, relating to awareness raising on Child Rights, Child Abuse in school at the Mother & Child Unit of the Welikade

Prison. The President then made a Power Point Presentation of how to Accentuate the Positive to Promote an Organisation.

Justice Tilakawardena's speech was also a power presentation in which she gave a short history of the Colombo YWCA referring to it as an Association of women through difference. She spoke about the community's social responsibility, declaring that justice in the community cannot be separated from the personal virtues of caring and compassion, loyalty, and one's sense of honour. She emphasized the need to be relevant in the social context, dynamically embracing change and inclusivity and representation to prevent exclusion and marginalization. Life, she



President, YWCA Manel Abeyssekera delivers the keynote address on her right is chief guest Justice Shiranee Tilakawardena Judge of the Supreme Court.