

Jaffna tsunami victims get houses from Lions

BEVERLEY JANSZ

The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), the funding arm of International Association of Lions Clubs has received donations amounting to US\$ 13.5 million from various Lions Clubs in the world, for the tsunami affected countries, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand and South India for the reconstruction of the affected houses.

The LCIF also donated a sum of US\$ 1.5 million, making a total of US\$ 15 million available for this programme said Grant Administrator for Tsunami Housing Grant Fund and past Council Chairman Lion S. Sivananthan.

He told the Daily News that Lions in Sri Lanka were very lucky that the LCIF allocated a sum of US\$ 7.5 million from the US\$ 15 million, for the reconstruction of houses



Lion Sivananthan

in Sri Lanka. This is the largest amount of a grant ever received by Lions of Sri Lanka. This allocation was made to the Multiple District of 306 which comprises six sub-districts in the Island. The Multiple District 306 undertook to construct houses for the tsunami affected families in all parts of the Island.

Constructions were done in the South, East, North and the South West provinces. The

Multiple Council 306 undertook to construct about 1400 houses in the above provinces. Around 1000 houses will be completed and handed over to the affected by the end of February 2009, Lion Sivananthan said.

The LCIF Chairman and Immediate Past International President Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya will declare open and hand over 136 houses completed in four locations in the North at Alvai North West, Alvai North Centre, Kerudavil Colony and Kerudavil Mandapakadu in Vadamarachchi and Point Pedro on January 19 along with Government Agent of Jaffna K. Ganesh. Another 103 houses are under construction at Sri Murugan Colony, Karkovalam and Samathiyani Colony in Vadamarachchi.

He also handed over 73 houses constructed in Kaltura, Panaadura and Moratura

Mega Project by Lions Club of Wickramasinghepura

A mega service project was held at Jayawadanagama, Wickramasinghepura at which over 1000 patients were treated in three different categories - Eye screening and donation of spectacles to 478 need people. Four doctors treated over 450 patients and free medicines were provided.

In addition the Lions Club of Wickramasinghepura donated 38 pints of blood to the Blood Bank at the blood donation campaign held at the same service project.

The service project benefited a large number of underprivileged people of the area, President, Lions Club of Wickramasinghepura, Lion Vernon Dabara said.

The Project Chairman was Lion Chandra Perera while the chief guest was District Governor, 306C1, Deshabandu, Lion Diresht Hettiarachchi MJF JP. All Lions and Lion Ladies took an active part in the service project.



District Governor 306C1, Deshabandu Lion Diresht Hettiarachchi, MJF JP addressing the gathering. Seated from left are President, Lions Club of Wickramasinghepura, Lion Vernon Dabara, PDG, Lion W.M.A.S. Wijesundera PDG, Lion Amara Dissanayake and Project Chairman, Lion Chandra Perera.



At the Diabetic Testing Centre from left Lion Lady Chandrika de Soysa, PDG, Lion Amara Dissanayake, President, Lion Vernon Dabara, District Governor, 306C1, Deshabandu, Lion Diresht Hettiarachchi MJF, JP and PDG Lion W.M.S. Wijesundera.

Pictures by Beverley Jansz

Blend of the Ocean

Anoorada sings for charity

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The WHO has revealed in recent reports that the incidence of diabetes in Sri Lanka has been on the increase at alarming levels. It has also shown that school children are affected to a degree

unknown to them earlier. As diabetes is a silent killer that leads to various systemic diseases including heart, kidney, liver, eye and brain disease. Urgent steps need to be taken to identify them and educate them on mass scale, to improve the quality of life.

Diabetics could be prevented or delayed and complications of untreated diabetes completely avoided if pre-diabetic individuals are identified early.

With this in view, Lions and Lion Ladies of Lions International District 306B-1, Sri Lanka launched a project towards building and equipping a Diabetic

Screening Centre in Negombo city. For this purpose and for other Diabetic Screening Service projects in Lions District 306B-1, which covers Colombo through Chilaw, Puttalam, Mannar to Jaffna, a Fundraiser in the form of a Musical Extraganza was organised by District 306B-1, under the guid-

ance and leadership of District Governor, 306B-1 Lion Nimal Rajapakse, under his Lionistic theme, "With Love - Look to the Needy". World renowned Indian Artist, Anoorada Sriram and one of Sri Lanka's leading musical groups, "Marians" entertained a packed house at the BMICH recent-



Lighting the oil lamp to inaugurate "Blend of the Ocean" are, from left District Governor, 306B-1, Lion Nimal Rajapakse, Region Chairman, Lion Dr. Seba Jayamaha and Vice District Governor, 306B-1 Lion Lakshman Wijesekera.



Charming Anoorada sings for charity.



Anoorada Sriram

Modern Dental Unit for Wolfendhal Girls' School

A project of Lions District 306B2

A fully equipped modern dental unit built at a cost of over Rs. one million will be donated to Wolfendhal Girls' School, Colombo 13, on January 17.

This will be handed over at a ceremony to be held at the school, by District Governor,

Chevron Lubricants join Colombo Orient Lions on Mega Service Project

A mega health camp was held for the Bus Community in Kaltura which was organised by the Lions Club of Colombo Orient District - 306 B2 with a generous sponsorship by

Chevron Lanka Lubricants PLC. It was yet another successful project with 746 patients being treated including donation of 326 calibrated spectacles, and screening of 220 patients for

diabetes. Eight cataract patients were identified who will be directed to the Lions Club Eye Hospital at Watala for surgery.

The Vice District Governor Lion Kingsley Bernard, Region Chairperson Lion

Graetion Fernando, MFJ & Zone Chairperson Lion Devarajan Suresh visited the project & jointly thanked both Lions Club of Colombo Orient & Chevron Lubricant Lanka PLC for their joint efforts



Some of the Colombo Orient Members with the members of the sponsors Chevron Lubricants Lanka PLC. In the picture from left are Shan, Kushil, Fredone (Chevron distributors) PAB Lion Graetion Gunawardena, Sumith Hewawithara (Chevron), Lion Amal Samararatna (President Colombo Orient), Lion Sarath Wickramanathrige, Lion Shirosha Gunatilake, Lion Ajith Wanigasekera, Lion Lady Priyanthi Samararatna.



Triplets of Millennium who came for treatment greeted by PACC Lion Dr. Fahmy Ismail. In the background are Lion Lady Priyanthi Samararatna, Lion Lady Razana Ismail and Lion Sarath Wickramanathrige.

Kalubowila Lions open Mithuru Mithuro at Kesbewa

Lion Rear Admiral Harsha Mayadunne along with members of Lions Club of Kalubowila district 306-A-2 constructed a three storied building at Kesbewa for treatment and rehabilitation of women addicted to hard drugs.

This project is a landmark in the field of treatment and rehabilitation in Sri Lanka as it is one and only centre which caters to the needs of

women who have been victimised by the evils of drug abuse and addiction.

This centre is named as 'Liyaniwila'. The rehabilitation programme is conducted by the 'Mithuru Mithuro Movement' under the guidance and leadership of Ven. Kuppuyawatte Bodhananda Thera.

Rear Admiral Mayadunne opened the building and handed over the complex to Ven. Bodhananda.



Ven. Kuppuyawatte Bodhananda Thera, Rear Admiral Harsha Mayadunne and Past District Governor Kamal Seneviratne opening the Mithuru Mithuro Rehabilitation Centre for drug addicted women of various ages, at Liyaniwila, Kesbewa.

Every end is a beginning for Toastmasters

ROMAYNE DIAZ
PR Convener Toastmasters

An old proverb states, "Every end is a new beginning." This is certainly true in Toastmasters. 2008 has come to an end and for Toastmasters chances of accomplishing

all unfinished goals., 2009 brings a new beginning, a promise of hundreds more new chance to complete all unfinished goals and an opportunity to set and accomplish additional goals. Looking back; Toastmasters District 82 had 125 education and leadership awards with a promise of hundreds more to come.

In addition, Toastmasters had the great fortune of chartering 19 new clubs bringing in more new members. In addition, Toastmasters had the great fortune of chartering 19 new clubs and bringing hundreds of new members in to the Toastmaster family.

These new members represent many of whom will become future Toastmaster leaders and will, in time, bring in more new members.