



# NEWS

AND CURRENT EVENTS

CHARITY NO.1133461

NEWSLETTER NO.25



## AUTISM

Many autistic children in Sri Lanka, especially in the north, remain undiagnosed. Because of this many don't receive the help they need, whether at school or in the home. Indeed, they are often treated as 'mentally challenged' and put to the back of the class and saddled with low expectations. Serendip hopes shed light on this problem.

A research team has visited the Island and gathered information remotely. There is interest and support from the education and health departments and those limited practitioners operating in the Northern Province. The project will be launched next year and will entail:

1. Training special education teachers (possibly in India) and parents (in Sri Lanka too).
2. Assist the health service to create a policy for diagnosis and early intervention.
3. Produce a booklet in Tamil explaining the problem and solutions.
4. Assist the existing Autism Centre (Maathavam) in Jaffna to improve their services.
5. Create a Tamil Parents network/forum, connecting parents globally to share their knowledge and experience.

If you want to support by physically helping or donating to this Autism Project please contact us via [trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com](mailto:trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com).



## COMPUTERS 4 SCHOOLS

This is an ongoing project. Started from the funds raised by supporter Johannes Shanmugam from 2012.

Originally we purchased a number of computers in Sri Lanka and also shipped over 200 from the UK.

We realised that, despite the equipment, there was little available education in IT. We are now funding teachers' salaries for six schools in the Vanni.



Sponsor students books & educational material on any of your special occasions

**ANY AMOUNT YOU WISH!**



## EXTERNAL DONORS

The Aathi Pharashakti Manram-Wimbledon raised £7,000 in October after hosting a Cultural show in Merton. The monies were given to Serendip to dig out ten tube wells for ten pre-schools in the north and for fifteen bicycles for vulnerable girls in the same area.

We will also be using some funds for support the opening of five after-school tuition classes.

We would like to thank for their support which they have carried out for three consecutive years.



## CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

This first ever project has been very successful with over 200 children receiving monthly financial support from individual sponsors. This will continue until they leave full-time education. Because of an almost unlimited need for help we are always in need of regular sponsors. This could be as little as £5/month.

Do you want to join this 'honoured' list? We would love to hear from you. Please write to [trisha@serendipchildren.com](mailto:trisha@serendipchildren.com).



Sponsor a child... food & educational material for as little as

**£5 ON WARDS...**



## NUTRITION PROJECT

Serendip was approached by ten pre-schools in the Mullaithivu via the Education Dept. of the Northern Provincial Council. Many of their pre-school children come to school with little or no breakfast. This effects their concentration levels. They suggested that a 'Nutrition' Breakfast for all their pupils (275) would greatly assist their focus as well as their general health. This consists of grinded pulses.

Serendip has agreed to fund this provided we can find sponsors to cover the monthly cost (£650). If anyone would like to part sponsor this project (it is 10p/child/day) however small please contact [trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com](mailto:trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com) to receive a proposal.



Sponsor one-off  
livelihood small business project

**£250 EACH**



## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Serendip is launching a pilot programme in conjunction with a local student organisation, the Tamil Students Initiative, next year to connect fifteen mainly young Tamil under-graduate and post-graduate students with local students in Sri Lanka.

The students from the UK will be visiting the Island for three-four weeks where they will work and share their skills to local schools and medical centres. To find out more please contact us.



## THE FUTURE

Serendip was formed in 2009 in response to the desperate need of innocent yet destitute people in northern & eastern Sri Lanka that had suffered from war. The most vulnerable and deserving were orphans (80,000) and widows (90,000). We are proud to have helped both groups through difficult times through welfare programmes or start up small businesses.

Although there has been no war for seven years the need for assistance is as great as ever. We are here to protect the vulnerable and destitute in Sri Lanka but we can only do so with your help, your sponsorship. Help us to help the vulnerable. You can do so by contacting us at our usual address.



## HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you would like to HELP us in our charitable work why not JOIN our facebook group on

<https://www.serendipchildrenshome?fref=ts>

VISIT our website on <http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com/>

or why not give us a DONATION via <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome>