



Serendip Children's Home.

<http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com>

NO. 9

SERENDIP ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE A GREAT SUCCESS!

Serendip's third annual Christmas Dinner & Dance held at our usual prestigious venue in Chingford, Essex was a great success.

Around 250 people attended and were entertained by a number of musical and dance acts. A raffle was held, including an Xperian mobile (worth £600!), superior hampers, Disneyland tickets and much much more! It naturally attracted a great deal of interest and there were many happy winners faces at the end of the evening!

Attendees were kept well fed with a 'hot' buffet and gratis bottles of wine on all the tables. At the end of the evening DJ 'Harry' entertained everyone with a mix of banga and popular tunes.

For Serendip however, the realisation that we had raised over £10,000 (a profit of nearly £9,000) for our ongoing work in Sri

Lanka was a wonderful bonus! We were also approached by number of potential sponsors to support orphaned children and their carers. Because we don't employ anyone almost everything is spent directly on orphans and widows!

A special thank you must also be given to everyone who helped out on the night and to all the restaurants, shops & businesses who donated their services and goods for free

A spokesperson said *"We were delighted with the event, many regular attendees said it was our best yet! Raising so much money via ticket sales, the marvellous raffle, and individual donations made it a very successful evening. Everyone's generosity will give us the funds needed to provide our orphans and widows a fresh start in life: an education, a livelihood. Thanks to all those who made it a success and offer our most vulnerable kith n' kin*



in Sri Lanka."

Serendip also sends a thank you to the many donors and supporters that couldn't make the event but help the charity throughout the whole year.

Anyone wishing to help by a donation should go to <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome/Donate> or by helping out our admin by e-mailing us at info@serendipchildrenshome.com.

SOME OF THE WORK THAT WE DO!

Our core purpose is to help parentless children by sponsoring scholarships and their general educational welfare and assisting widows to become economically self-reliant by funding start-up businesses as sole traders, partnerships or cooperatives.

We presently look after children across the whole of northern Sri Lanka in our Care in the Community scheme, many of them with individual sponsors (who can contact each other directly). We are also about to help a further 100 children in a new Scholarship scheme (costing around £6/month /child) covering,



Batticaloa, Mullaitivu, Mannar and Vauvuiya (a district in the Wann). From time to time we also supply educational materials to the

most vulnerable orphans e.g. those afflicted with physical impairments such as blindness. We are looking to fund further cooperatives after the success of the Valvoo Meendum candle making business and also have a number of small business start-up projects in the pipeline in Mullaitivu and Mannar (starting in February).

We have also helped children that have special needs such as those suffering from cancer or blindness. We are also able to allow individual sponsors to help children directly. Recently, a child was able to have an operation to regain their sight due to the generosity of a sponsor who donated a birthday gift (£350). Another paid for a day out for mentally handicapped children. If anyone is interested in also sponsoring a day out or an eye operation please contact us at info@serendipchildrenshome.com.

Anyone wishing to help out with any of these projects with a donation should go to <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome/Donate>, if you wish to sponsor a child please complete one of our bank mandates, but if you simply wish to help out in our admin then e-mail us at info@serendipchildrenshome.com.

SPECIAL
THANK YOU!

Thank you to shop owners who put money boxes in their store as it helps orphaned children to continue their education. Our old friend Johannes Shanmugam raised £2,285 in last year's H2H walk from Birmingham to London. A cheque was presented this month in Gloucester to one of our trustees and will fund a specific project. Bharathi Pirashanna raised thousands of pounds for the charity from her bank employer by running various events for us in 2011. Supporter Vidhya Maheswaran raised

£375 by climbing the three mountains in the UK in 24 hours! She set up a Justgiving page and simply advertised it amongst friends. Mr Siva kindly sponsored last year the cancerous children's one-off project. We will be repeating that again. Interested? contact us at info@serendipchildrenshome.com for help.

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HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you would like to **help us** in our charitable work why not **join** our facebook group on

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/serendipchildrenshome/>

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

Or why not give us a **donation** via <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome>

