



We wish you a very happy and joyous Christmas Season & many Blessings in 2012.

We thank all our volunteers and donors who clothed individual children and donated gifts toward the 'special Christmas parcel'.

A total of 1000 gift packs were made up this year. 600 of these will be distributed to children attending the Bethlehem Creche, Children in Plantations, Orphanages and many disadvantaged groups. Among them are 180 children from the Selvanagar Junior School in the former war zone.

Thank You—your gifts are very special and mean a lot to the children and their families.



Pictured above ~ a little boy who attends the Bethlehem Creche holding his parcel of goodies.

'Ripples' Network Heaven News

Children at the Bethlehem Creche .. love their Aussie friends

These kiddies attend the Bethlehem Creche run by the Carmelite Sisters in Sri Lanka. The Creche provides a service to poor women in the nearby slum area of Wanathamulla, a suburb of the capital, Colombo.

These Mums drop off their children early in the morning and then head off to a hard days labour. Most are single parents and the sole bread winner. Some of these Mums work as domestics in homes, some on building sites and some are street sweepers or day labourers.

Each child pictured here is wearing the new set of clothes they have just received and has some goodies packed into their library bag. These include soap, a face washer, duplo, coloured pencils, a small toy and a

lolly bag etc. The library bags they are holding were decorated by year 8 girls from Mercy College Chatswood . This year many of the staff at the Creche and people resident in the surrounding areas

suffered from denghi fever. This mosquito borne disease is due to the water logged marshy area they live in.

Sadly, many cannot afford to live anywhere else since they are urban dwellers and need to live where they can find work.

As a result it was necessary to close the Creche and only open for some half days due to lack of staff.

These are the hurdles that people in the third world face on a regular basis. Your gifts will indeed bring some relief and joy to these poor families.



Bethlehem Creche Happy Birthday Sonali. We wish you an awesome 50th Year

♥ With love .. the staff and kiddies at Bethlehem Creche

The Creche is funded totally on donations from well wishers and feeding the hungry kids is a challenge for Sister Florella.

For many of the children attending this Day Centre the only hot meal they receive each day is the one provided by the Creche. Providing a nutritious meal is important for these 'growing' littlies. Chicken and Eggs are only provided once or twice per month. Can you believe it? Yes, its true!

This year a friend 'Sonali' cele-

brated her 50th birthday bash and asked friends to bring a donation for the Bethlehem Creche instead of a gift. A total of \$1,000 was collected and will fund some meals, school shoes & bags for 35 boys and girls who will leave the Creche and start school in January 2012. None of the kids has ever owned a pair of shoes or sandals prior to this (check the photos its true!).

Contact Anne if you would like to celebrate your birthday at the Creche in this way. The cost to feed the staff and kids is around A\$130(includes bank transfer).



Need more information?



Contact **Winsome** on 02 9451 6097 or **Anne** on 02 9451 0906, M 040 932 9096 after 7pm or by e-mail at anne_salvador@yahoo.com

Quilled cards— available for sale plus postage. These are hand made in Sri Lanka and of a good standard. You can write your own message in it. They help support widows with dry rations. You can order them from Anne.

Can you Sew? Volunteers make this happen ..

We need more sewers to join our friendly team of volunteers in 2012, Fabric and pattern together with sample dress is supplied. Contact Anne on 02 9451 0906 after 7pm week days



This year 2 groups of high school students volunteered their time to sort, wrap & pack gifts. 24 girls from North Sydney Girls High attended our first packing day together with 3 teachers. Their aim being to qualify for the NSW Premier's Award in 2011. A second group of 5 girls from Mater Maria College, Manly gave 15 hours of their time on day 2 and 3 of the packing week. Two groups from the Corporate world from the Commonwealth Bank gave a days service, We cant forget our regular volunteers who have helped over many years. Most are senior citizens. How can we but not include the

small group of ladies who sew clothes for the girls, others make scrunchies, marble bags, hankies, library bags etc.

There is a lot of love put into the work that takes place over many months in the year.

A lot is achieved and helps make a better world for the less fortunate that we touch in Sri Lanka. Thank You, we hope to see you again in 2012.

Pictured below is the group from North Sydney Girls High with Mrs Sarah Cameron Year Co-ordinator.



A success story ...

Network Heaven celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2010.

To celebrate this milestone Anne Salvador-Dunlop travelled to Sri Lanka with Irene Price, a retired hair dresser from Sydney to provide free 'barber shop training' to poor women in rural areas.

This was in an effort to increase the earning capacity of women and provide additional income to sup-

port their families. A tool kit was provided with the free training. Pictured here is Noeline, a Mother of 3 daughters, who is able to supplement her income when her services are required by the Van Reeth Home for Elders in Galle. She cuts the hair of the elderly residents and earns approximately \$5 for time spent at the Home.

Well done Noeline, keep up the good work!



Every bit counts ...

Your gifts will arrive in Sri Lanka in early December and be distributed by our Local Partners in the weeks leading to Christmas. Donations to cover cost of this shipment is welcome.

Cheques should be made payable to:

'Network Heaven'
C/ - Frenchs Forest Baptist Church
P O Box 198
Frenchs Forst NSW 1640

'We can do no great things, Only small things with Great love'
~ Mother Theresa ~