

# Friends of Jagadhri

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FIFTIETH NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2012

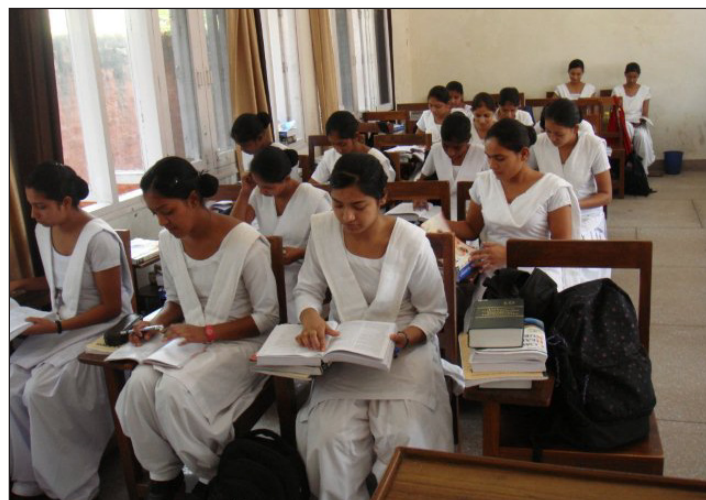
## Nursing School Continues to Flourish

**Since 2002 Christian Hospital has admitted 60 young women each year to the School of Nursing for the three-and-a-half year Diploma Course in General Nursing and Midwifery. Just imagine 60 young people graduating each year with good prospects of employment in India or abroad!**

Nursing training for women was introduced in the Jagadhri Hospital with Sister Lorna Aberley as Tutor in 1953. Previously training had been provided to only male nurses. From some time in the early sixties male students were not accepted at all. The number in the annual intake of young women gradually increased to 32 and finally to 60 in 2002.

Nursing students from Christian Hospital receive practical experience in some of the many other hospitals in the Jagadhri Yamunanagar area. This thriving city is now a major centre for higher education and specialised medical care. The student nurses and their tutors are conveyed to their duties in the two hospital mini buses.

At our September meeting Friends of Jagadhri agreed to offer half fee scholarships to two deserving young women annually. Poonam Patras and Sonika Samuel are both Christian girls from needy families



ABOVE: Some of the new students checking out their textbooks.

BELOW LEFT: Some of the new nursing students.

and will receive half fee scholarships throughout their three-and-a-half year course. Each year two more women will be selected so that ultimately at any given time we will be helping 6 young women.



Looking ahead, Christian Hospital hopes to introduce an eighteen-month Auxillary Nurse Midwife Course (ANM), also known as Multipurpose Worker (MWF), in 2013. The Nursing Council of India will inspect the facilities later this year before granting approval. Plans are being prepared to renovate the two classrooms and three practical laboratories and a list of additional equipment required is being drawn up. Friends of Jagadhri have offered assistance with these expenses once estimates of costs and quotations are received.





Scholarship holders Poonam Patras (left) and Sonika Samuels with their Principal Tutor Mrs Asha Singh.

## School of Medical Laboratory Technology

This school is now firmly established and affiliated to the Punjab Technical University. So far 5 students have graduated from the degree course (currently 2 enrolled) and 7 graduated from the Diploma Course (currently 6 enrolled). All have found good employment.

Christian Hospital also offers the opportunity for students to train as X-ray technicians and Operating Room Assistants.

## St Thomas School

We would like to thank supporters very much for their help for St Thomas School over the past 46 years. The school has helped hundreds of needy students enabling many young people to have an excellent education and continue on to vocational training or degree courses. The school is firmly established and recent changes in its governance mean that it is now administered directly by the Diocese of Delhi. Help is still given to some needy students but the Bishop has indicated that financial assistance for the school is no longer required. [See next column under Thanks for your Donations.]

In terms of education, Friends of Jagadhri is currently focussing on the training schools for nurses and medical technologists within Christian Hospital.

## FOJ and Global Mission

Over the past six years Friends of Jagadhri has been working very closely with Global Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. The appointment of the Very Rev Pamela Tankersley ended in August. We look forward to meeting the new Coordinator, the Rev Phil King, in November as we consider our future in view of the transitions and changes that are taking place in the PCANZ mission structures.

## Thanks for your Donations

Thank you very much for your very generous continuing support. The staff at Christian Hospital are thrilled with the performance of the Haematology Analyser which we donated in August 2011.

This October we sent \$4,186 to purchase an Na/K Analyser for the laboratory. Further funds will be remitted to Christian Hospital towards the renovation of the Nursing School facilities once plans and quotations for needed equipment are received.

**Please note that financial assistance for St Thomas School is no longer required. Please do not give further donations for the school.**

This year we have decided to use the interest on the Scholarship Trust Fund to help needy nursing students and have changed the name to The Doreen Riddell Scholarship Trust Fund. We have remitted \$2379 from this fund to Christian Hospital to provide half fee scholarships to two needy first year students in the Nursing School. This help will be continued each year so that after 3 years we will be supporting 6 needy nursing students annually to complete their training.

Dr Cecil Harrison and all the staff of Christian Hospital and the Nursing School thank you most sincerely for your prayerful remembrance and financial support.

**Please note that all donations should be remitted through Global Mission, PCANZ, PO Box 9049, Wellington 6141. Your receipts will enable you to claim a tax rebate. Friends of Jagadhri will continue to disburse the funds.**

## Light and Love

A few copies of the book *Light and Love – One Hundred Years in North India*, published in 2008 to mark the centennial of our work in North India, are still available. This attractive A4 sized coffee table book is a most interesting pictorial account of the missionary work of the PCANZ in the Punjab in NW India. Buy one for your coffee table or to give as a gift or for your church library.

Available for \$15.00 including postage from Doreen Riddell, House 50, 4 Admiral Cres, Hamilton 3210. All proceeds to FOJ funds.

## Is Your Address Correct?

We have changed our mailing list to a new system and also identified correct postal codes. In this process a little information has been lost. If your address is still incomplete or wrong or you know of someone who would like to receive a newsletter please write to Doreen Riddell, 50/4 Admiral Cres, Hamilton 3210 and include the incorrect label along with your correct address. Thank you for your help and your patience.

## Prayer Circle

We invite all readers to join a prayer circle every morning for the people of Jagadhri and Yamunanagar. Please pray especially for the Bishop of Delhi Diocese, the Rt Rev Sunil Kumar Singh, and all at St Thomas School. Pray also for Drs Cecil and Nayana Harrison and all the staff at Christian Hospital, the Rev George Lazar at Jagadhri and the Rev Victor Samuel at Yamunanagar in all their varied responsibilities.

## Publishers

This, the fiftieth newsletter of Friends of Jagadhri, is published by the trustees: Margaret Bear, Richard Lawrence, Alan Leadley, Peter Mirams, Doreen Riddell, Elaine Riddell and June Welten.