

FRIENDS OF SERAMPORE

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Serampore College (and University), India
Founded by Carey, Marshman and Ward, 1818
www.seramporecollege.org

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Dear Friends,

Members of the Friends of Serampore have been quiet! I wouldn't have had much to write to you, apart from the fact that Steve and I visited in March, so here are some up to date photos.



The beautiful Danish gates on the river front..... leading to the Main College building

We unfortunately mis-timed our stay for the end of exams, so most students had gone.

Thankfully there were some staff around, so we spent time with a few of them.



Dr. Gine and Prof. Banerjee, with Jenny



Dr. Gine



Dr. and Mrs Sircar

Prof. Tapan Banerjee was in the Maths Dept in Serampore from 1965-98 and on retirement became Curator of the Carey Library and Research Centre. He gave Friends of Serampore a copy of his latest book 'The Mission of Danes from Tranquebar to Serampore'.

Dr. Mr Gine (middle photo) is currently Vice Principal, but he and his wife (left photo) are retiring this year. Mr Gine told me his very moving story of fleeing from his village in old East Pakistan because his family and village were Christian. Most were killed.

Dr. Sircar has been in the States completing his doctorate and is now back at Serampore with his wife, but their children have stayed. The photo is taken in their home in Mack House.



Looking to the Carey Library and the new build



Carey House

The new building going up next to the Carey Library is the Department of Research for The Council of Serampore College. This had been located in Bangalore, but has now moved to Serampore. It enlarges the courses offered by the College.

We spent an evening with the Principal Dr Kiangte and his wife. He is on secondment for 4 years, from his post as Professor of Literature in Mizoram. Please pray for him and his wife- they feel it is a huge honour to be there, but there are sacrifices that come with it.

Family news for members

Those of you who know Rosemary Williams (my mother) will want to know that she is currently on a course of chemotherapy tablets. Please keep her and Edward in your prayers. They are coping, dealing with all the 'processes' and making the most of a few benefits, such as Blue Badge status.

Financial news

We have received an email from the Treasurer of Broadmead Baptist Church as follows:
"I am sorry to let you know that we have been advised by our Independent Examiners that we should no longer claim Tax on these amounts for adding to the donations. I regret this, but can only suggest that Friends of Serampore become a registered charity in its own right. I am sure that Broadmead would support you financially as much as we could."

We will need to look into the pre-requisites for becoming a registered charity but, whatever happens, it seems likely that we will need to ask those of you who have Standing Orders in favour of Broadmead to change them to pay into the Friends of Serampore account - **however, please do not change anything at the moment!**

Accounts for the year

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2013			
	INCOME		
Balance b/f: 01/01/2013	Current a/c	130.25	
	Deposit a/c	40.71	170.96
Donations and Subscriptions			1236.35
Bank Interest			0.04
			1407.35
	EXPENDITURE		
Journal Subscriptions		61.68	
Web Site Hosting		66.00	
Expenses (postage, etc.)		40.14	
International Bank Transfer Fee		30.00	197.82
To Serampore College			1000.00
Balance c/f: 31/12/2013	Current a/c	168.78	
	Deposit a/c	40.75	209.53
			1407.35
Donations and subscriptions received via Broadmead Baptist Church			1770.00

Final thoughts

Apologies for the lateness of this newsletter. We had been wanting to hear from Broadmead for more clarification on the Gift Aid scheme that they currently claim for us. We are not sure how to proceed at the moment - should we become a registered charity or is that process just too involved? If you have any thoughts, experience, advice, please do get in touch with Andrew or me.

Do keep praying for Serampore College, the students and staff and for the continuing Christian witness that is nurtured, watered and fed and then goes out all over India and beyond.

Thank you,

Jenny