

FRIENDS OF SERAMPORE

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

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Dear Friends,

It is high time for a newsletter.....

There are a few reasons why I've been quiet - Serampore has been quiet, and for the last 2 years I have spent as much time as possible with mum and dad, Rosemary and Edward Williams. I think you will know that Rosemary died in October 2015 and Edward in July 2016 - I did try to contact all of the Friends of Serampore, so hope this does not come as fresh news to you. Thank you to all those who have been in touch and for your kind messages.

Serampore Bicentenary news

2018 will be the Bi-Centenary year of the founding of Serampore College. I have recently been in touch and had the following news and request -

The main celebration is likely to be held by end of 2018. The celebration committee is due to meet by end of April 2017 and draw the tentative programme of the celebration. We will let you know the exact date for the grand celebrations and hope that you would join us for the same.

We are extremely glad to hear your love and concern for the ministry of Serampore College. Thank you so much for your willingness to help in the bicentenary projects of the College. We understand your strong attachment and love for the college. Indeed, we are always comforted by your kind deeds and the moral support you have been providing till today.

More importantly, Bicentenary project is the major concern for us now. We have two big projects for the department of theology to mark the 200 years. This project not only aim to improve the infrastructure of the theology department. The main purpose is to enhanced the different ministerial programmes under the theology department and through this projects, we are also aiming to improve the financial position of the department.

It really is a challenging task for us to gather the required fund for the projects. It really is a high time to start the projects, however, due to paucity of fund we are unable to start the project till date. Kindly uphold us in prayers and if there could be any well-wishers for this project from your end, kindly let us know.

As you may be aware, it is difficult to raise the required fund in India alone as the churches have many other commitments and also churches are financially weak.

The College is taking initiatives by contacting overseas ecumenical partners and recently our Principal also visited United States. However, it is difficult to convince the overseas churches and institution as some are not aware of Serampore mission and ministry. Requesting you to kindly uphold us in your prayers.

****I do have one query about the possibility of raising fund in UK. Will there be any scope of promotional programme/ plan in U.K if Principal and one faculty member come to visit and share about the ministry of Serampore College and the bicentenary projects to churches and well-wishers? Will the Friends of Serampore able to prepare the ground for the visit and make appointments for the meetings of well-wishers and churches if such possibility arise?*****

For your kind and detail information about the said projects, I hereby attached the bicentenary project. (I will attach this document to the email.)

We are extremely glad with the Friends of Serampore for the constant support and concern shown towards the ministry of Serampore College.

May God bless you all abundantly.

Lalruatkima,
Asst. Professor of Theology
& Promotional Secretary,
Serampore College

I wonder if anyone out there feels able to respond to their request, which I've highlighted in red? Or maybe you could pass the information on to someone, a church or organisation that you think may be interested.

Booklist

I have made up a booklist of all the books I now have relating to Serampore. I will attach it for those who receive this letter by email. If anyone who receives this newsletter by post would like a copy of the booklist, please get in touch with me and I will print a copy for you.

I'm not sure what to do with all these books! If you have any inspiring thoughts, please let me know. If anyone would like to borrow any, please get in touch.

Finances

We have sent a total of £8,300 to Serampore over the last four years - this comes from regular subscriptions, plus a gift of £1,000 and £3,000 legacy from Maureen Sleeman.

BBC Radio 3 The Essay

Dr. Catherine Fletcher, daughter of Rosemary Fletcher nee Hudson, was recently on BBC Radio 3's programme 'The Essay', speaking about her grandfather, Don Hudson and his time in India. It was called 'Faith, Fire and the Family'. Here is a link to it <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08j9xk7> (I don't know how long the link will be live). She was happy for me to let you have a look at it, so I will attach it to this email.

Finally

Please do get in touch if you have any news for us.

Please let us know if there's anyone you know of who would like to join us.

Please let me know if you would rather receive this newsletter by email.

Thank you for your continuing support.

God bless,

Jenny Bunning