

# CMC Pullse

December 2018

Newsletter for Friends of CMC Vellore: For Private Circulation Only

# One Hundred Years of Medical Education in Vellore



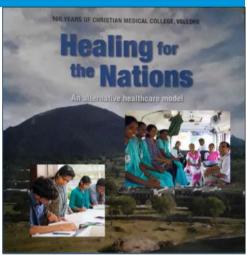
A century has now passed since Dr. Ida Sophia Scudder, the founder of the Christian Medical C o 1 1 e g e Vellore, opened the Union Missionary School for Women

with her very first batch of students.

To mark this historic occasion, the institution organised various events throughout the year, including the *Luminary Lecture* series delivered by eminent personalities in various fields, and two national conferences with medical education as the theme.

The President of India inaugurated the Centenary Year, and released a coffee table book by CMC Vellore—
Healing of the Nations - which tells the story of CMC from its humble beginnings through spectacular growth to what the future holds.

During their annual reunion, the Medical Alumni Association organised a photo-exhibition—'Precious Memories', and released two books: a compilation of stories about campus and community life, and another celebrating the musical tradition of CMC. Dr. Reena George, released *One Step at a Time*, a history of medical education at CMC.



To order your copy, write to the Development Office, CMC Vellore. The book costs Rs. 3000 plus 100 for packing and postage within India.



# CMC Patient Portal (Android) Mobile App

CMC has introduced a mobile app which you can use to book appointments, pay for lab tests, pharmacy bills and IP bills in a fast, secure and easy way. We hope that the option of paying through netbanking, UPI, debit or credit card using the mobile app

will cut queuing time and the need to carry large amounts of cash.

# Inside & back

- New Campus updates
- Director's eye view
- ♦ Cutting edge
- ♦ RUHSA Community College
- New donation webpage
- ♦ *Double your gift for the poor!*



Christian Medical College Vellore Association is registered under the Societies Act, 1860, (No.5 of 1947). Registered Address: CMC Hospital, Ida Scudder Road, Vellore – 632 004, TN, India. Donations to CMC Vellore attract relief under Section 80G of the IT Act. Donations can be made at givecmcv.org



For the latest news, photos and videos of CMC Vellore, take a look at our website: www.cmcvellore.ac.in (also for online appointments)

# **CMC in Andhra Pradesh: Our Chittoor Campus**



As the hospital grows, so does the need for human resources. The ideal is to train the people we need ourselves. We have applied to start a Nursing College, and plans are being drawn up for the buildings. But we hope to launch at once from leased premises in a local educational institution.

Specialists from the main CMC hospital visit Chittoor for clinics every week, and the hospital has facilities for X-rays, ultrasound and most blood tests. Community Health programmes are underway in the local villages and schools, led by Dr. Abraham Joseph, formerly head of CMC's Community Health and CHAD Department.

The Chittoor Campus boasts a busy 130 bedded secondary level hospital, with four state of the art operating theatres. Attracting an average of 550 patients each day, it is helping to reduce the pressure on the main hospital, while providing quality affordable healthcare to Chittoor and surrounding villages.

This year the team, led by the energetic Dr. Nihal Thomas, completed a master plan and carried out an environmental survey for the whole 640 acres of the campus.



# **Kannigapuram Campus**

Anyone who has visited CMC knows that the patients and staff face enormous difficulties because of the lack of space on our Vellore town campus. Our main response has been to build a new hospital at Kannigapuram, on the outskirts of Vellore. The external construction of phase 1 of the hospital and associated staff housing is nearing completion, but it will take another nine months or so to finish all the internal work and services. After installation of equipment and transition we hope that the first patients

will be seen there early in 2020.

Phase 1 focuses on non-infectious diseases such as cancer and heart problems. But eventually all specialities will be made available there.



**Above: Construction underway** 

Left: architect's impression of an operating theatre in the new Trauma centre

Above: Architects impression of hospital

We are creating a state of the art **Trauma Centre**. Ideally placed, on the Bangalore-Chennai highway, this is a much needed response to the plight of accident victims within a 50km radius. If you can contribute to the cost of equipping the trauma centre, or can help us meet the treatment costs of disadvantaged accident victims, please contact the Development Office.

# Director's Eye view: Dr. J.V. Peter

God has been good to us this year. We faced major challenges, especially over the admissions to medical courses, God has brought us through. And we have enjoyed many unexpected blessings and encouragements along the way.

We celebrated one hundred years of medical education at CMC and welcomed a host of distinguished guests for this, including Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India.





The pressure, from sheer numbers, on our main campus facilities is one of our greatest issues. Outpatient numbers continue to increase. Apart from the new campus initiatives at Chittoor and Kannigapuram, we are also creating more space for operation theatres, clinical and diagnostic services in the main campus. We hope to open up a separate cardiac care centre aimed at local residents.

Meanwhile we continue to try to improve services for all wherever we can. Children undergoing treatment for cancer can now make use of a free facility near the hospital thanks to St. Jude India Childcare.

We depend on the support we receive from Friends in India and abroad, and I want to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped us with a donation, a word of encouragement, through prayer, or recommending us to friends and family. Let me also send you warm Christmas greetings from everyone here at CMC.

Dr. J.V. Peter, Director, CMC Vellore

# RUHSA Community College—an inspiring story

CMC's Rural Unit for Health and Social Affairs (RUHSA) aims to improve the economic and educational wellbeing as well as the health of the K.V. Kuppam Block. Their community college has been a source of blessing for many. Courses include vehicle maintenance, AC and refrigerator mechanism, tailoring and beautician. These have been a springboard for hundreds of young people to employment, some with well-known hotels. Murugan, from Neelagandapalayam, completed the Two Wheeler Mechanism course in 1997, giving him a platform to gain further experience in the field. In 2018 he opened his own two wheeler showroom. RUHSA is proud to have been a companion in his journey.

# At the Cutting Edge

Medical science continues to leap forward, sometimes in ways that were undreamed of just a few years ago. CMC has always tried to keep abreast of the latest developments and invest in advanced technology.

Genetic medicine is one such area potentially yielding many benefits. Research is now showing that a person's individual genetic makeup can help design the optimum therapy for them, reducing costs and side effects. Sequencing the genome of a cancer can help identify which drugs it is vulnerable to.

In July 2008 the Department of Clinical Microbiology dedicated the new state of the art "MinIon" Whole Genome Sequencer. This pocket-sized portable device is being used to sequence the genome of bacteria and will enable us to conduct research and develop expertise in this emerging area.



# **Accolades**

- CMC awarded certification of Nursing Excellence by NABH.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development placed CMC third best medical college in 'India Rankings 2018'.
- The Week Magazine ranked CMC No.2 in the Best Hospitals in India ranking, and best private hospital.
- Distance Education Department received the 'Leadership in Health Care' award at the 15th WONCA World Rural Healthcare Conference, by the Health Minister to the Government of India.

# Donate to CMC through the website: givecmcv.org



Now there's an easier way for internet users to donate to CMC. Just type **givecmcv.org** into your browser, and visit our giving page. You can choose a project that you want to support, or just click "Donate" and on the payment form type in how much you would like to donate and how we should use your gift. We'll be trying to improve this web page and add more options and projects regularly, but do let us have your feedback about it or any problems you face: email dev.office@cmcvellore.ac.in. At the moment only Indian citizens can give through this payment gateway.

# Oration 2018 and LCECU Matched Giving Campaign

Dr. Robert H. Fish, from the US delivered the Seventh Dr. Ida S. Scudder Humanitarian Oration at CMC on 9th August 2018. Dr Fish is the great nephew and closest living relative of Dr. Ida Sophia Scudder, our founder. A retired dentist, he now provides free services to the homeless and deprived.

His theme was 'honouring Dr. Ida Belle Scudder", the niece of Ida Sophia Scudder, and Dr. Fish's aunt. He gave a moving account of her life and immense contribution in many fields at CMC. She founded Radiology, Radiotherapy and (indirectly) Nuclear Medicine at CMC. Dr Fish remembered her as full of boundless energy and joy, yet humble and liking to stay in the background. She was always ready to step in and help whatever the need. Her kindness and compassion towards the patients was legendary.



Rob Fish receives the Citation honouring his aunt Ida B

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# Your Gift to LCECU Doubled!

Rob Fish accompanied Ida B Scudder to Vellore on her last visit to Vellore, and she encouraged him to support CMC's Low Cost Effective Care Unit (LCECU), that serves the poorest of the poor in the slum areas of the city. He has been a generous benefactor ever since. At the end of his Oration, Rob Fish generously offered to double any gift to the LCECU up to a total of US\$50,000. The LCECU is seeking to expand its work, setting up new peripheral clinics and employing more community workers. If you would like to help them please send a gift mentioning LCECU and Rob Fish will match your donation!

## **Themes & Variations Concert**

Themes and Variations, led by pianist Pratibha Williams Santwan gave a beautiful concert at CMC of classical instrumentals and vocal selections, excerpts from musicals and haunting arrangements of popular songs. They gave their time and talents freely on behalf of CMC's Centenary Scholarship for women.



# Join in and Help: Membership and Contact Details

Friends of CMC Vellore is free to join and keeps you in touch with our activities and developments. Just send us a letter or email with your name and postal address. Friends support us as they can by prayer, giving and suggestions.

If you'd like to donate towards any charitable needs of CMC, please send a DD or Cheque, payable to CMC Vellore Association, to Development Office

Development Office, CMC, Vellore – 632 004, India. Phone: +91 416 228 3509 You can also donate by NEFT/bank transfer: SBI Vellore Town, Account No.3033 2718 726 IFS/IBAN Code: SBIN0001618 Swift Number: SBININBB473. Please send transaction details to: dev.office@cmcvellore.ac.in