



## KARUNA SRI LANKA

### NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2026



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#### OUR BIGGEST PROJECT COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY

#### MORAVINNA GIRLS ORPHANAGE HAS A NEW SHOWER ROOM

In our June newsletter we wrote about the shower room at this orphanage which badly needed renovating. We are pleased to say this big project has now been completed and the girls are extremely happy with the result.

#### THEY NOW HAVE

A weatherproof roof

Showers  
that work  
properly.

Beautiful  
tiled floors  
and walls.

### BEFORE



### AFTER





The roof was fitted first



The back wall has had a coat of paint



New shower heads fitted

### Your donations have funded an eye operation

SATHYA, one of the young ladies living at the safe house has been diagnosed with keratoconus, an eye condition affecting the cornea. This affects the way the eyes focus light and causes distorted vision. Karuna has funded an operation which can stop or slow down the progression of this condition. John and Shashi accompanied Sathya to the eye clinic in Colombo. We are very pleased to say the operation has been a success. Sathya will have an appointment with the eye clinic in Galle for an eye test and new glasses in September.

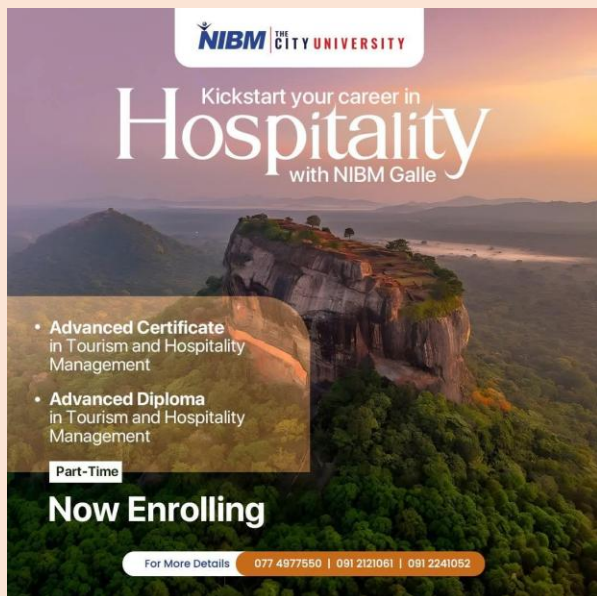


Reception at the eye clinic



Sathya on her way home after the operation.

We are pleased to announce that SATHYA is now enrolled in this Hospitality Course funded by Karuna.



### KARUNA RECEIVES GENEROSITY IN MANY WAYS

*A chance conversation in a caravan park led to a practically brand-new wheelchair being donated to Karuna.*



What an amazing gift this is.

We support an extra day of physiotherapy at Manacare Hopes and Dreams Village in Sri Lanka. Joy is in need of a wheelchair for one of the ladies who lives in a cottage on the property. June will deliver the wheelchair when she visits Sri Lanka in November.

**John Woods, our Vice-President** has retired from working in England and has settled down in his home in Sri Lanka.

John is a great motivator for the girls and they baked him a lovely cake to celebrate his retirement.



### AGEESHA

Ageesha has now successfully completed her university degree and Karuna is sponsoring the next stage of her studies. To be able to gain employment in many countries Ageesha is required to pass the International English Testing System (IELTS). It is an exam that evaluates english language proficiency across four core skills: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. Ageesha is enjoying the 4-month course and we are sure she will do well.

### ISHARA

This is Ishara's 1<sup>st</sup> year at university. We were very pleased to see Ishara's first exam results. They certainly show that she is working hard towards her degree.

**SANDUNI** who lived in the safe house is now living at home with her mother and sister. John and Shashi. One of our co-ordinators, visited Sanduni for her birthday with Ishara, Piyuma and Sathya. They enjoyed a celebration get together and Sanduni was very happy to receive gifts and a cake.





## Karuna takes on the role of sponsor for the Vocational Centre at Sukitha Orphanage

We have been assisting Sukitha Orphanage for a few years now. It is a safe place for those with special needs and disabilities to live with care and support in Sri Lanka.

They have a wonderful vocational training centre for the residents to train and work making products to help fund the main home.

Karuna have now taken on the role of sponsoring the Vocational Centre for its day to day running costs and purchasing materials to continue their great work. This support will allow the centre to continue training and producing handcrafted items for sale which gives the residents a real enjoyment and sense of purpose every day.

We have been purchasing their products for a few years and bringing them back to Australia where we sell them. The profit from the sales is returned to Sukitha, this enables them to purchase more materials and continue their work. (See our fundraising article below)



The ladies enjoy showing off the bath mats they have made.



**ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE** Thanks go to LORRETTA, a lovely lady who regularly joins the craft group at Barn Hill, a caravan park near Broome, Western Australia. She has spent many hours knitting 8 of these special little dolls. Each doll has its own character and Lorretta has very kindly donated them to Karuna. They will be travelling over to Sri Lanka in November where they will find a special home with a special child to look after them. A small gift which will mean so much to the children they will be presented to.

## Fundraising Events

During her stay at a caravan park. Barn Hill, near Broome, Western Australia one of our committee members is able to raise funds by holding a raffle and selling items at the market which is held every Sunday. The raffle prizes and items for sale have all been donated therefore all the proceeds raised assist Karuna.



We also purchase shoulder bags, phone bags and bath mats from the Sukitha Vocational Centre in Sri Lanka. All these items are made by the residents of Sukitha, an orphanage caring for children and adults with a disability. All the profit from the sales is donated back to the orphanage which enables them to purchase materials and keep the vocational centre running.

The photo shows 2 very happy customers after purchasing a phone bag and bath mat at the market.

**Thanuja**, one of our young ladies in Sri Lanka has a home sewing business. Karuna purchased these lovely bags which Thanuja makes and, again the profit from the sale of the bags is donated back to her.



These well-made bags are still available for \$20 each plus postage. If anyone wishes to purchase one of these great items, please contact

June – [junefoote48@gmail.com](mailto:junefoote48@gmail.com) or 0417 553 3320 to place your order.

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*We also have a great overseas fundraiser*

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Val, one of our committee members runs a *Michelin-starred* restaurant in London called *Pied A' Terre* with her husband. Val and David very kindly support Karuna by taking a £2 donation from each bill. The purpose of the donations is to support education which is a great bonus for us to fund our young ladies attending university or study courses.

*Our thanks go to Val and David for this very generous fundraiser.*

### Another successful fundraising event – Tastes of Sri Lanka

Tamara, one of our committee members, is fundraising towards replacing the roof on the Frangipani Pre-School. She organised a very successful fundraising event at the end of June.

50 relatives and friends joined Tamara at a Sri Lankan restaurant in Melbourne where they enjoyed a delicious meal. The evening included a raffle, an auction of items which had been donated and a fashion show presented by Karma, a Sri Lankan designer in Galle who is now selling his designs in Australia. A great evening was enjoyed by all and much needed funds were raised.

## FRANGIPANI PRE-SCHOOL

### A GIFT OF FOOD GIVEN EVERY MONTH

Karuna sponsors a different family each month by donating \$75 (16,000 slkr) for food vouchers to a family that is struggling and their child/children attend the Frangipani Pre-School. The headmistress, Chaini suggests a family in need each month.

\$75 does not seem a lot of money, however in Sri Lanka this can give a family the opportunity to be able to put food on the table.



In July Chaini sent this message.

"I handed over the gift vouchers to the family. They were very happy. The child's mother weeping, told me that for lunch she had nothing to feed the children. She had to ask her aunt for some food. She expressed immense gratitude and invoked blessings upon you. Her words moved me to tears as well, and I felt an overwhelming sense of sorrow."

### Another good repair to the pre-school completed



The windows at the school have needed repairing with new hinges and window stays. This work has now been completed. The security of the building has been improved and the teachers are able to open the windows safely.

*If you wish to learn more about the @Frangipani Pre-School Projects, please contact Tamara Speldewinde, who is organising this project, by email: [tamara\\_speldewinde@icloud.com](mailto:tamara_speldewinde@icloud.com)*

## THANK YOU FOR READING OUR NEWSLETTER

If you have any suggestions regarding the content or design of the newsletter, please message June Foote (Treasurer) 0417 553 320.

We enjoy keeping you up to date with some of our work in Sri Lanka, Australia and England. If you wish to chat to us regarding any of the projects in this newsletter, please contact Justin by email [karunasrilanka3@gmail.com](mailto:karunasrilanka3@gmail.com)

*If you feel any of your friends or work colleagues would be interested in supporting our charity please share this newsletter.*

*There are different ways we are able to receive much needed donations.*



### DIRECT TO OUR BANK ACCOUNT:

(Preferred method- donations are received normally by the following day)

Our donors in Australia are able to make payments **direct** to our bank account from their own bank account with no transfer fees attached.

Karuna Sri Lanka Inc. – Westpac Bank

BSB: 036-044 Account No: 339-908

Please email [karunasrilanka3@gmail.com](mailto:karunasrilanka3@gmail.com) or our Treasurer, June Foote [junefoote48@gmail.com](mailto:junefoote48@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0417 553 320 with your name, email address, date sent and donation amount. This will enable June to confirm your donation has been received and forward a receipt to you at the end of the financial year. If you wish to receive a receipt immediately please let June know and she will be happy to send it to you.

**PLEASE NOTE: Donations are tax deductible for Australian tax payers.**



**THE PAYPAL GIFT FUND does not deduct fees from donations therefore all proceeds are received by the charity.**

**Please Note: Donations are not forwarded to Karuna until the following month.**

**Visit our website [www.karunasrilanka.com.au](http://www.karunasrilanka.com.au) for the link.**



**GIVE NOW** has become a very easy and cost-effective way for our overseas donors to process either a one-off or a regular monthly donation. We have included a Give Now donation button on our website which connects directly to their website.

**Please Note: Donations are not forwarded to Karuna until the following month.**

Overseas Donors: Payments from overseas to Give Now can only be made through a *Credit Card* account.