



LHCF NEWSLETTER

December 2011

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
from all at LAMB

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Christmas at LAMB

Christmas at LAMB in Bangladesh, is definitely rather different to a typical UK Christmas. For a start there's no ice or snow, and the shops are not crammed full of chocolates, Santa Clauses, crackers and wrapping paper!



small snippet of what Christmas is really all about.

Next, the new year is welcomed in with another church service, and a march around the compound with dancing, drums and singing. Please pray for the pastor at LAMB, Pastor Albert, as he prepares for all the Christmas activities, and leads the church in sharing the story of Jesus with the community this Christmas.

Across the LAMB compound, over every Christian home, a large red star is lit and erected on a bamboo pole. As night falls the red stars can be seen for many miles joining with the myriad of tiny multicoloured lights that drape the large trees at the front of the hospital. The church and hospital are extravagantly decorated with balloons and paper chains, and the atmosphere is electric; but step out of the LAMB gates, and Christmas no longer exists.

“Every church home is then open....to share the joy of Jesus’ birth together”

sari's and beautiful outfits. Following the service, all are welcome to gather under a tent in the hot sun, and enjoy a traditional curry! A giant iced cake is cut to celebrate the greatest Birthday of all. Every church home is then open for friends and family to visit, eat, drink, and share the joy of Jesus' birth together.



The church celebrates in style, with singing, dancing, and misti (sweets!). Glorious colours are displayed in

Each patient that comes to LAMB hospital in this season, experiences a

LAMB's Nurse Training Institute

Please continue to pray for LAMB's Nurse Training Institute for which planning is currently under way. The Institute will provide an onsite training facility for nurses to become skilled health professionals who can assist in improving the quality of health care provided in Bangladesh. This is a great opportunity to strive for national clinical excellence and support Bangladesh's advance towards the Millennium Goals.

Surgery doesn't stop for Christmas!

Three operating theatres are always maintained and kept ready for action. Most operations are routine but



when emergencies arise readiness is essential. The most common operation in these theatres, is a caesarean section which is carried out when the life of the baby or mother is at risk. In 2010, 850 caesarean sections were completed,

as part of the 5000 safe deliveries that took place throughout LAMB.

Doctors are 'on call' all hours of the day and night and the team of doctors and nurses often reach the end of shifts wearied by the demands of the various needs of their patients. The medical care is of a high standard and LAMB has an excellent reputation in the local community.

Christians also believe in healing by God's power. Sometimes doctors pray for those they are helping, and other staff such as the chaplains also give spiritual support.

James, a UK doctor who has been working at LAMB says, 'praying for patients is one way of giving them

special attention; and for them to know that they are in God's hands.' However, because of relentless pressures it is sometimes hard for James to step back and make time for prayer. Please pray for James and the other doctors; and that through their work people may experience the love of Christ.



Getting married?

Ruth worked as a doctor at LAMB several years ago. This November she got married and asked guests to give donations for LAMB, as wedding presents. So far we know that 29 wedding guests have done this - and £1100 has been raised. Thank you. Do any of our other supporters want to get married?! Please contact us for further details.



Glostavent® AMAZING news!

Dr. Karen Greene's has recently received a grant of £5,200 towards the cost of a Glostavent® machine, which would provide safe anaesthesia and easy to use oxygen ventilation. This means we now have enough

money to purchase and ship out the machine, which will hopefully reach them before Christmas. Praise God. Thanks to all those who have contributed in some way.



2010

In 2010, LAMB treated over 9,000 in-patients, nearly 60,000 outpatients, and 70,000 people were seen in the Community clinics. This is a significant increase on the number of patients seen in 2009. In 2010, LAMB employed 652 staff and 480 volunteers.

Last year, LAMB expenditure was £1.5 million, 27% of which came from patients fees, 6% from training fees, 38% from institutional donors, and 19% from private donations (that's LHCF!). About half of the LHCF money went to the Poor Fund.

Let's remember to pray for LAMB as they too prepare for a new year, and the new challenges that 2012 will bring.

Christmas Shopping!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

If you do your Christmas shopping this year through the website above, a percentage of your spend will come to us! Retailers involved include M&S, Vodafone and many more. Just register your details and search for LAMB as the charity you would like to support.