

Senior Citizen's Club February 22nd

On Wednesday February 22nd, ECSAT held its third meeting for the Senior Citizen's Club. Twenty-two people attended, including beneficiaries, who were due to receive donations of 5 wheelchairs, 5 tricycles, and 2 elbow crutches from the Disability Organisation Joint Front. This had been organised by our therapist, Kumari, for the beneficiaries she visits on the Outreach programme.

A Social Service Officer gave a talk about services for the elderly and said how lucky elders are to have the support of ECSAT. Their services are very valuable and a big support to people. The officers explained that the government cannot always help everyone, particularly since the new government came into office two years ago and rules have been changed.

A male nurse who is the Head of Nurses at Maliban hospital in Galle gave an awareness raising talk about paralysis. He explained some of the symptoms such as a headache which can be a sign of blocking blood to the brain and it was important to phone the hospital as soon as this occurred. Also he emphasised a healthy diet of fresh fruit and vegetables and controlling the consumption of alcohol and oily foods.

It was a happy afternoon for many people and their families and the equipment would help make their lives more accessible. Mr Darmadasa will use his tricycle to sell lottery tickets to the public. Two elbow crutches and one wheelchair were taken to Bonavista, a residential home in Galle for women with intellectual impairments. G.G. Ganawathi and Jasinona Amarasinha received elbow crutches. Previously they used wooden sticks but needed more support for their mobility. K.I. Achini received a wheelchair. She is severely disabled and had to be carried everywhere.

A Big Thank You to Disability Organisation Joint Front



Figure 1: A collage of photos at the Senior Citizen's Club Meeting.