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Paying tribute to Mr Pradip Datta, MBE MS FRCS



Described as "an outstanding professional, a man of integrity and an unbelievable human being", Mr Datta was keen from an early age to enter the medical profession.

Born in Calcutta (now Kolkata), he arrived in the UK in 1967 with £1 and 10 shillings in his pocket and had spells in various parts of the country before taking a job at the Bignold – despite having no idea where it was when he applied in 1980.

In 2008 he was made an MBE for his work in advancing the careers of doctors throughout the world for which he also received the Farquharson Award from the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh.

In retirement, he continued to teach and gave his fees to Macmillan Cancer Support, Save the Children, and Women in Need.

Mr Datta suffered a life-changing stroke in 2017 at his home in Newton Avenue, Wick. In 2020 he published his memoirs, entitled **The Naked Mountain Lands**, a detailed and often humorous account of his life in the 50-plus years after he left his native India. Sales of the book have raised thousands of pounds for his three chosen charities.

Mr Datta died in March aged of 81, following which tributes have poured in from around the world to honour this remarkable man. In a social media post, the British International Doctors Association referred to Mr Datta as "an outstanding surgeon and educator" whose books and courses had helped thousands of young surgeons pass their exams. In an interview last August for **Wick Voices, the online oral history project of the Wick Society**, Mr Datta spoke with great humility and passion about his admiration for the NHS, "the greatest service given to this country".

We are beyond grateful to Mr Pradip Datta for his incredible generosity in helping Indian women from low-income backgrounds accesses the health care they would otherwise be denied. He, more than most understood the socio-economic barriers that existed in preventing such women from getting the services they deserve.

Our sincere condolences to his family and friends at this very difficult time

Presenting WIN's work at Rotary's Annual Conference



WIN founders and Honorary Rotarians Leah and Usha were guests at this year's Rotary Conference held at the Dalmahoy Hotel in Edinburgh.

Since the charity's inception, the Rotary clubs of district 1030 have supported various WIN initiatives over 22 years.

The conference was a valuable networking opportunity as both women experienced a great deal of interest in proposals to develop and expand WIN's projects.

Our thanks to District Governor Alan Cartwright

Rotary and the fight to eradicate polio in India and across the world

In 1985, Rotary launched its PolioPlus program, the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication through the mass vaccination of children. Rotary has contributed more than \$1.3 billion and countless volunteer hours to immunize more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. In addition, Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by

donor governments to contribute more than \$9 billion to the effort.

For 22 years WIN has volunteered its services in the distribution of the polio vaccine across 400 urban low-income communities in Nagpur. Where some communities view the vaccine with scepticism, it is the charity's time proven rapport in such areas that has built trust and increased the vaccine uptake India's heatwave causes an increase in hospital admissions and Delhi records highest ever temperature of 49 C



India has endured a series of record-breaking heatwaves this year that experts are attributing to climate change. March was the hottest since records began, according to the Indian Meteorology Department (IMD), while north-west and central India also saw their warmest April in history. According to health

experts the soaring temperatures have brought a 20% increase in heat related hospital admissions. The situation has been further exacerbated by forced power cuts or load shedding due to a surge in the use of electricity to operate air cooling devices.

Nagpur is notoriously hot and this year May temperatures hit 47 C. For the women we support life is difficult at the best of times with many suffering from chronic or life limiting conditions - some are vulnerable through old age and infirmity. The summer increases the risk of health-related problems tenfold.

If a woman loses work through ill health, she risks the electricity being cut off due to unpaid bills. In these circumstances WIN pays the debts and restores the supply. With regards to load shedding, we provide off grid battery inverters that offer continuous power for an overhead fan and light.



This year we distributed 110 air coolers, 15 inverters, paid for unpaid electricity bills of 27 women living without family support and ensured that over 300 vulnerable women have access to emergency support



Post Covid rise in cervical cancer makes screening and vaccinating against HPV a pressing issue



Globally cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women

In India, cervical cancer is the third most common cancer and accounts for the second highest number of cancer deaths in the country. In fact, almost a quarter (23%) of cervical cancer cases and deaths around the world are estimated to occur in India. 99% of cases are caused by the human papillomavirus HPV. In many countries people are given the vaccine to prevent HPV at an early age. Recently, ground breaking research proved, for the very first time, that the UK's HPV vaccine programme reduced cervical cancer cases by almost 90% in women in their 20's who were offered the vaccine at age 12 to 13.

Over 10 years WIN's PAP smear screening programmes have targeted women from communities where there is little knowledge of cervical cancer. Prior to screening, social workers conduct a community survey, providing information about the test and gathering information on those with symptoms. Screening is done by trained medical teams and conducted in local community centres on days when the women are available. Constraints of time, a lack of knowledge, and misconceptions about the procedure contribute to a low number of women nationally being screened.

With covid restrictions now significantly relaxed in India, we have resumed our cervical screening programmes.

The HPV Vaccine in India

India does not have a national HPV vaccination program, but the state governments of Sikkim and Punjab have successfully introduced an HPV vaccination drive for girls under the age of 14 attending school. For those in the rest of the country getting the vaccine is dependant of whether their parents or guardians can afford it or indeed whether they consider the girls future welfare important enough to pay the 2,800 rupees (£30). Misconceptions about the vaccine may also conspire against girls getting protected – for example, as HPV is transmitted sexually there is concern that having the vaccine will lead to promiscuity. Another myth is that the HPV vaccine has been linked to an increased risk of suicide.

The HPV vaccine has made cervical cancer preventable. Girls fortunate enough to get the vaccine have a significantly reduced risk of developing this dreadful disease. With most Indian women avoiding talking about cancer or taking precautionary tests, the HPV vaccine would save millions of lives. **Would you consider sponsoring a girl to have the HPV vaccine?**

WIN really is the only lifeline for women like Saroj



Single mother Saroj Shende is living with a crippling disease that has left her dependant on her children for everything - cooking, cleaning, toileting, and bathing. A year earlier she was earning a small income as a labourer and ran an efficient home where there was plenty of food, love, and laughter.

We met the family in May when their circumstances had deteriorated significantly. The electricity had been disconnected, so there was no escape from the scorching midday temperatures or adequate light in the evening. The house was filthy with little to no provisions of food. We learnt the boys begged for food, leaving no time for school as they cared for their ailing mother.

After developing weakness in her arms and legs Saroj was unable to work. She approached doctors in Nagpur's government hospital and was diagnosed with Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP). Unfortunately, due to a lack of funds she was unable to attend appointments and pay for treatment.

How WIN is helping

- 1. A medical review with a top neurologist has revealed a new diagnosis of System Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) for which treatment is showing promising improvements in Saroj's mobility.
- 2. Saroj and the boys now have electricity and can operate the new air cooler donated by the charity.
- 3. WIN's staff cleaned and decorated their home which has really lifted morale.
- 4. Cooked meals are delivered every day, along with plenty of general supplies.
- 5. The boys have returned to school with new uniforms, books, and a few new items of clothing.

Your donations make such a difference



Thank you



The Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem Grand Commandery of the Castello



Once again, we are indebted to the Grand Commandery of the Castello in Malta who have gifted WIN with a new ambulance.

Although our old ambulance, which was donated by the GCC 12 years ago is going strong, this model is very economical to run and the perfect size for driving in the back alleys of the shanty towns.

From the donation given by the GCC we have provisions for the running cost of this welcome new addition to our fleet.



Thank you



Club of Crook donates new cartridge for our breast screening programme



We are extremely grateful to our friends from the Rotary Club of Crook for their donation of a new cartridge for WIN's breast cancer screening device the iBreastExam. This will enable us to continue screening another 2000 women for abnormalities. The iBE was created to make screening accessible to women from lowincome communities. **Thank you**

For more information visit: https://www.ibreastexam.com/clinicians

JAZBA raises a staggering \$25,000 in their first competition since COVID



ABOUT JAZBA

JAZBA is an Urdu word meaning "Passion". Inspired by the 2012 Delhi gang rape case, JAZBA Entertainment partnered with Women in Need (WIN) to improve the lives of South Asian women. For the last 8 years JAZBA has raised funds for WIN through a Bollywood-fusion dance competition. This annual, inter-collegiate competition is held at the University of Minnesota. The event features top Bollywood-fusion dance teams from across the United States that compete for the championship. JAZBA Entertainment educates the University community about South Asian culture, fosters a sense of community with other universities across the US, and encourages University of Minnesota students to look beyond themselves and help those in need.



member) & Naren Vandyal (At-Large member) Dir), Manisha Mucherla (Hospitality Dir), Thanya Reddy (Co Creative Dir), Akansha Kamineni (At-Large Anisha Sharma (Liaison & Volunteer Dir), Kaumudi Mumaddi (creative Dir), Pavit Kohl (Marketing & PR Varun Agrawal (Exec Dir), Aneesha Andrew (Sponsorship Dir), Tarun Kothandaraman (Finance Dir),

JAZBA members who also donated, making this year's total the largest so far. highlighting the charity's work and raising tunds towards our core costs. We would also like to thank past On behalt of everyone in WIN we are immensely grateful for your efforts throughout the year in an incredible job and all while keeping up with their academic commitments!! that applied, to getting sponsorship, marketing, hosting the participants and selling 2000 tickets - they did amount of pressure on all members to make it a success. From selecting 10 teams out of the hundreds JAZBA's board 2021-2022 excelled in pulling off the first show since COVID. There was an exceptional

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