

**The Alumni Award of Distinction**

of the Christian Medical College Alumni Association

for the year **2011**

is given to

**Glenys Ray**

This award is given to a person in recognition of the outstanding contribution to the students and alumni of CMC and the CMC community. It is usually given to a non-alumnus of CMC.

Born in Grimsby in the United Kingdom, Glenys Procter moved with family to Scunthorpe where she did most of her schooling. She joined the War Memorial Hospital in Scunthorpe to train as a nurse and became a State Registered Nurse in 1962. She was awarded the Gold Medal at the Hospital Final Examination. In 1963, she moved to the Saint Mary's Hospital for Women and Children at Manchester where she completed her training in midwifery by 1964. Instead of working on as staff in the same hospital, she opted to work in the Saint Mary's Hospital District Midwifery Service as a district midwife. This led her to work among the poorer neighborhoods where there were a considerable number of immigrants.

In 1966, she married Dr. Debidas Ray and moved to Dudley near Birmingham, working as a Midwifery Sister at the Women's Hospital at Wolverhampton. In 1969, they moved to Delhi. Later, she and their son Deepak followed Dr. Ray to Vellore when he joined the Faculty of CMC in 1972. Though she did not pursue her primary area of training in Nursing, she contributed to the CMC community in several varied capacities.

She began her work in CMC helping to supervise the research and dissertation work of visiting Master's students from overseas in the College of Nursing.

Between 1972 and 1974, she helped with the teaching and improvement of facilities at the Balavihar Nursery School. After serving as a member of the School Committee, she went on to become the Chairperson of the School Committee, helping to organize and expand the Nursery School for another five years.

In 1974, she was accepted the request to serve as part-time honorary assistant Librarian in the Religious Works Department Library on an honorary basis. In the absence of the regular Librarian, she ran the Library independently and continued to offer her services till 1981.

In 1981, she joined the Men's Interns Quarters as a volunteer to supervise and help in the running of the mess. Her inputs were so greatly appreciated that the Resident doctors pleaded with her to continue. The initially planned volunteer work for 3 months has been extended to 30 years and running. She has come to be such an integral part of MIQ mess. The mess which initially catered to about 80 junior medical graduates and post-graduates, today serves 400-500 individuals. Some Faculty who retain their membership continue to use the facilities.

Mrs. Ray has not only taken very good care of the young male doctors who were signed into the mess but also their spouses who moved into MIQ after marriage. She has developed a personal relationship with all of them. She has always found time to have a humorous chat with the mess members. Generations recall her presence in the mess with fondness and respect. It is a matter of joy and pride for her to interact with the "next generation of doctors" (children of earlier members) enrolling in the mess.

She took keen interest in the well-being of her mess workers and threw her energy and effort into making sure that some of them with serious and chronic ailments received the best medical attention. Capable mess-boys were encouraged to enhance their own job prospects and some have even joined paramedical courses. Additionally, she has found time to pursue her hobbies -reading, cookery, knitting, ornithology and classical music.

Mrs. Ray symbolizes a person who has contributed very richly to the CMC community-striving for perfection in all that she has done and continues to do. Generations of doctors remember with gratitude her loving, competent service delivered with a personal touch.

In recognition of her significant contributions to this community, the CMC Alumni Association is proud to present its Award of Distinction for the year 2011 to Mrs. Glenys Ray.

13<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

Vellore

President

CMC Alumni Association