

# ECSAT

Equality-based Community  
Support And Training



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2016-2017



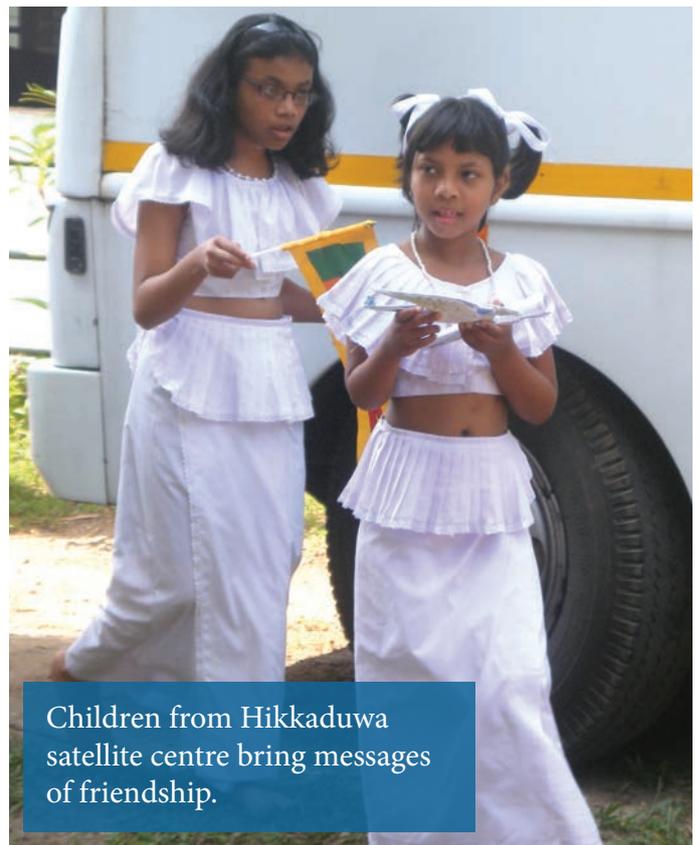
# ECSAT has Open Doors and welcomes visitors from far and wide.



Volunteers from Europe bring a new game to play.



All ages from early years to elders are welcome.



Children from Hikkaduwa satellite centre bring messages of friendship.



## Our Programme Director Roshan was awarded a US Fellowship

Roshan was one of 97 leaders from 37 countries who participated in the prestigious Community Solutions Programme. He was given the opportunity to work with the organisation World Institute on Disability (WID) in California.

During his four-month stay, he learnt many strategies for working with disabled people which are not available in Sri Lanka.

He was especially interested in animal therapy, working with autistic and hyperactive children and improving accessibility for wheelchair users.

It was an opportunity to network with fellows from other countries, attend training and interact with the local community. He was invited to give a presentation about ECSAT to WID and the University of Berkeley in California.



## Senior Citizen's club

This is one of the initiatives Roshan started on his return to Sri Lanka. The senior citizens meet every two weeks at the Galle Centre. There is often at least twenty men and women participating.

*Photo: A Big Thank you to Community Solutions and World Institute on Disability*





## Freida

We received a tuk-tuk thanks to the legacy of Frieda, the mother of one of our 'Friends of ECSAT' trustees.

*Photo: A Big Thank You to Christina Mole for her mother's legacy and Friends of ECSAT.*

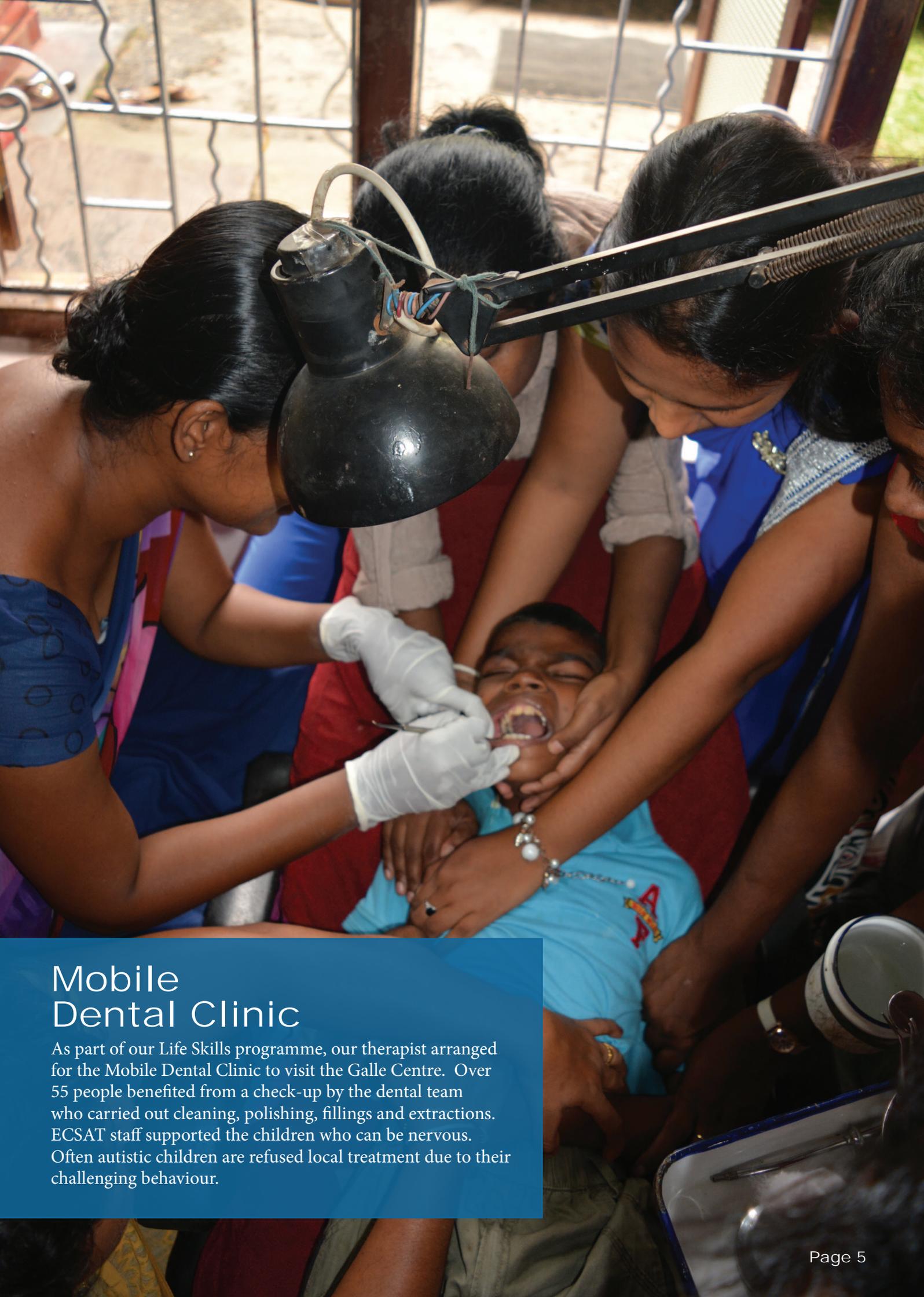


## World Children's Day

ECSAT celebrated World Children's Day on October 3rd. The theme was butterflies which represented the beautiful world in Sri Lanka for children.

Children wore fancy dress, performed in a dancing display, had butterflies painted on their hands and made a group collage. Every child took home a butterfly.

*Left: This beautiful photo is in memory of Fathuma who died suddenly of a fever in December.*



## Mobile Dental Clinic

As part of our Life Skills programme, our therapist arranged for the Mobile Dental Clinic to visit the Galle Centre. Over 55 people benefited from a check-up by the dental team who carried out cleaning, polishing, fillings and extractions. ECSAT staff supported the children who can be nervous. Often autistic children are refused local treatment due to their challenging behaviour.



## Sports meet

On November 3rd over 300 beneficiaries from Galle joined in a Sports Meet at Hikkaduwa.

We opened the event with the lighting of an Olympic torch. Sports on the day included a cricket match, running an obstacle course (above), long jump, shot putt, ball and bucket games and a wheelchair race.

The event sponsors presented the winners with certificates and medals.

The meeting ended with a colourful drill display (right).





## Art and Craft Exhibition

On February 28th, we held an Art and Craft Exhibition at the Galle International Cricket Ground Pavilion. Over 1000 members of the public visited the exhibition.

Children displayed their crafts which demonstrated their fine motor skills with crayons, paintbrushes and glueing.

The Vocational Training group manned the stalls themselves and sold their handicraft items to the public. They gave demonstrations of necklace making, sewing with a treadle machine and fabric painting.

The chief guest was the District Secretariat of Galle.





## Kataragama visit

On March 16th and 17th, ten women from Bonavista, a residential home for women with intellectual impairment, and eight ECSAT staff members stayed overnight at Kataragama, a temple complex 100 miles from Galle.

This visit was the first time they had taken part in anything like this. During the two days, they visited a safari park, self-service restaurants and made offerings at temples.

Everyone smiled all the time and said they had never been happier.

*Thanks to funding from Feminist Review Trust, Raivo Karmas and Roshanara Dias*





ECSAT is reaching out to new communities.

## Galle Centre

The centre services are open Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm and Saturday pm. Local people, government officers and foreign volunteers visit and observe our work.

*Thanks to funding by British Asian Trust*

# Hikkaduwa Satellite Centre

The Hikkaduwa Satellite Centre operates three days a week and has three staff for 27 children.

*Thanks to funding by Saramanda*



# Dorape Satellite Centre

The Dorape Satellite Centre operates two afternoons a week and has four part-time staff for 35 children. The centre focusses on single parent families.

*Thanks to funding by Kindermission*



# Matara Centre

The Matara Centre opened on July 28th. The chief guest was the District Secretariat. The centre operates five days a week with five full-time staff and 45 children. Thirty-five children are on the waiting list.

*Thanks to funding by Australia High Commission*

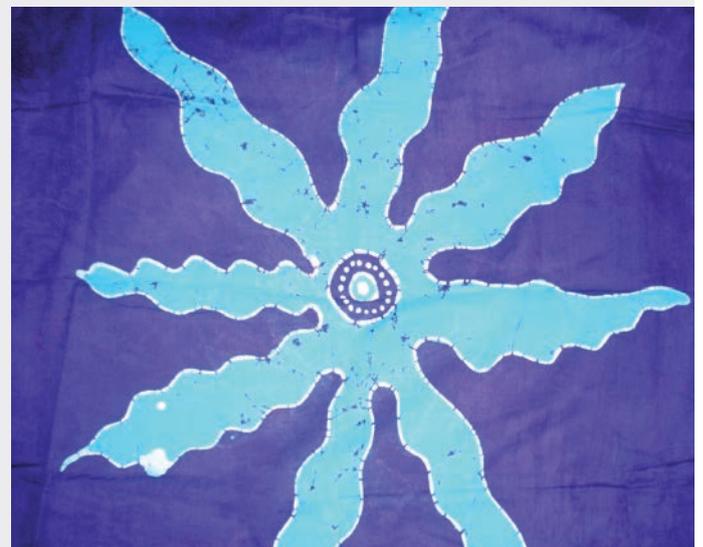
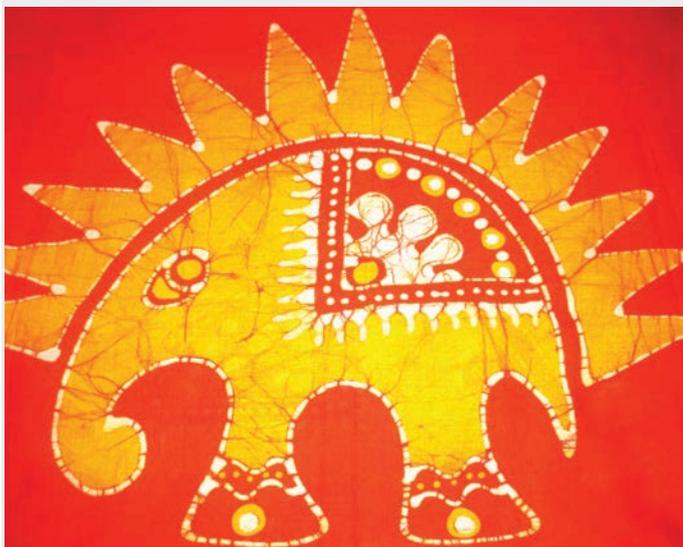


# We market handicrafts by artisans working at home

Our cushion covers furnish the Hangtime Hostel in Weligama Bay. Our tie-dye pants and products with cultural pattern designs are popular in our Australian outlet. We sell internationally via our website and are currently looking for stores in USA and UK.

Visit our website to see our stunning new range and buy unique, fair-trade presents for Christmas. [www.ecsatcraft.com](http://www.ecsatcraft.com).

*Thanks to Maddy*





Sinhala and Hindu New Year celebration

## International volunteers from Volunteer Sri Lanka

ECSAT has developed a 'Teaching English Module' for use by volunteers for basic literacy classes with people benefiting through interactive games, songs and craft activities.

Volunteers provide valuable support at our social events. This support has led to long-term links with young people overseas.

We use our volunteer's skills to add to the training sessions with our staff and increase our expertise with professions such as Occupational Therapy, which are under-represented in Sri Lanka.



# Pre-school

One of our success stories is the referral of six Pre-School children to government schools. We started our Pre-School in January 2016 in response to requests from parents whose disabled children were rejected from local Pre-Schools. Without this referral, the children would have no access to government schooling.

*Photo: clapping to songs*





## ECSAT is introduced to Arizona

Roshan was invited to a Thanksgiving celebration in Arizona and had the opportunity to introduce ECSAT to a group of friends. He displayed ECSAT's handicrafts and talked about the history of ECSAT and the development of different projects. He shared many success stories about individual beneficiaries and community events. His audience expressed their interest by asking numerous questions.

*Thanks to Chandra and Mangala*



## Annual General Meeting

ECSAT's Annual General Meeting was held in January and we elected new office bearers. We also invited two new people to become board members.

## Thank you to our funders

We give a special Big Thank You to Swiss Ladies in Colombo who have supported us since 2011.



## How you can help

### **Donate now**

Your donations make a huge difference to the lives of poor and vulnerable people in Sri Lanka. Please support our work by making a one-off or regular donation. Find out how at: [www.ecsatlanka.org/donate](http://www.ecsatlanka.org/donate)

### **Volunteer**

Our amazing volunteers bring their passion and energy to our work. Find out more: [www.ecsatlanka.org/get\\_involved](http://www.ecsatlanka.org/get_involved)

### **Follow us on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/ecsat](http://www.facebook.com/ecsat)

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### **Registration:**

with Ministry of Defense and Urban  
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