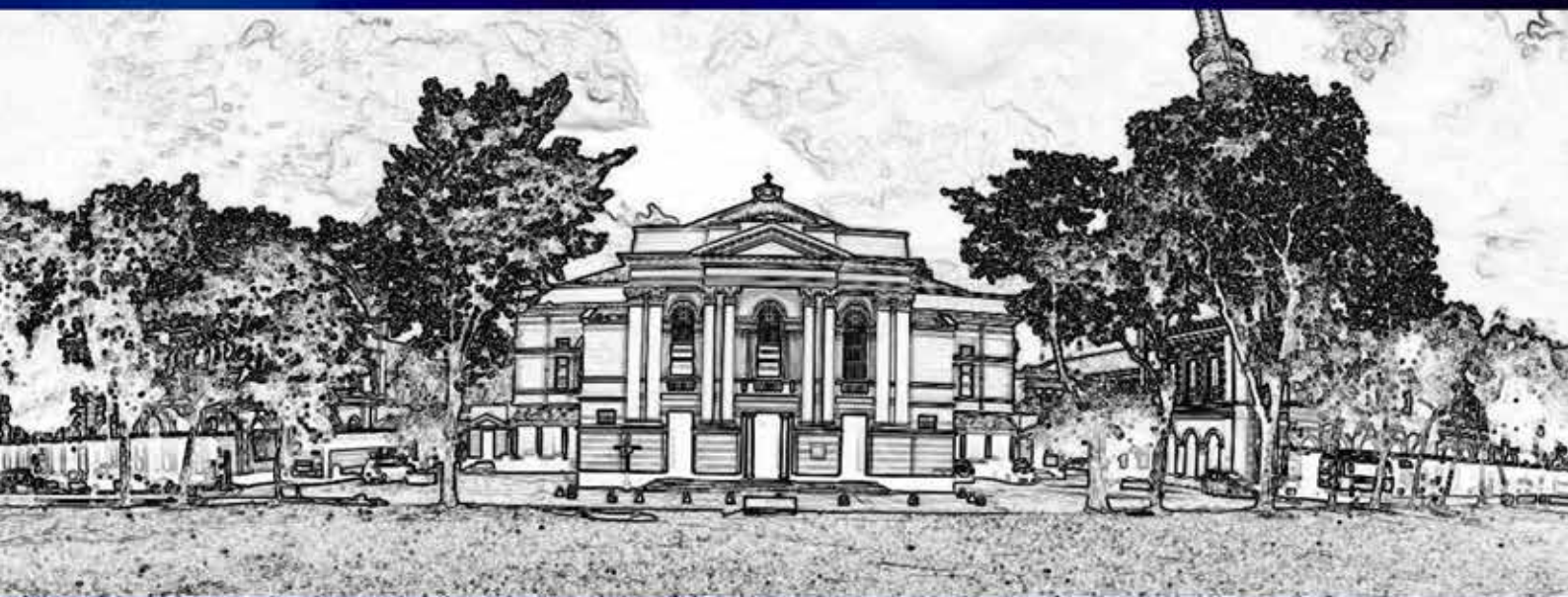


Old Josephians' Club of Australia Inc. Presents



Blue and White Ball
35th Annual Dinner Dance



Saturday 11th August, 2018

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SHOULD HAVE
ASKED.**



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Souvenir Designed by

Emarson Victoria & Merry De La Zilwa



PROGRAM

Your MCs for the evening
Lester Daniels & Darrell de Silva

Welcome to an evening of fun and fraternity at the Blue and White Ball 2018.

7:00 Doors Open

Guests Arrive

7:30 Midnight Mist

Midnight Mist sets the mood for the evening

8:15 Redemption

Get into the groove with Redemption

9:00 President's Address & Anthem

The President speaks & we sing Fruits of Virtue and of Knowledge

Let us pray and give thanks for all that we are privileged to enjoy

GET INTO THE GROOVE

9:20 Dinner is served

Buffet stays open until 10.45pm

9:30 Redemption back on Stage

10:15 Midnight Mist to rock you

11:00 Entrance & Raffle Ticket Draw

11:15 Dessert, Tea & Coffee

DANCE TILL DAWN

11:30 Midnight Mist

Ups the tempo

12:10 Redemption

To dance the night away

THANK YOU

We trust you had a great evening and look forward to seeing you in 2019

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Dear Members,

Welcome to each and everyone present at our Annual Dinner Dance.

It has been my honour and pleasure to be elected and currently to serve as President of the Old Josephians' club of Australia. I take this opportunity to thank the incoming committee for its support to date and members for their ongoing patronage of events to date.

We the Committee are happy to advise that the Club is in the process of installing two Overhead Projectors and Screens in the Auditorium or Sport Complex plus another in the Lecture Theatre (Old Physics Lab) next to Rectors Office. Furthermore, a spare unit will be held by Rector for other use as required by Teaching Staff. The Committee is looking at assisting Teachers and/or a Student's training needs in the near future.

The Old Joes are now contributing to a Soup Kitchen for the needy in Melbourne which is run by our very own Old Boys in the South Eastern Suburbs. Members and their families can volunteer for an opportunity to serve at the kitchen later this year. We have also taken the opportunity of placing immediate past College Cricketers with talent and results to play a season of Premier Cricket and or District Cricket here in Victoria. This invitation has also been extended to the immediate past students of St Benedict's College and St Peter's College.

At home we thank members and their families for patronising the successful Christmas Dinner, Feast Dinner and Members' Night. We have also been successful in winning the Annual Cricket Quadrangular tournament this year and Joe vs Pete over 40s' annual cricket match. I take this opportunity to thank members for participating in these events and especially those who patronised these. Special thanks to their spouses and children.

At Darley Road under the guidance of Rector Rev. Travis Gabriel, we have had great academic results and excelled in sports. Relevant highlights for 2018 are:- 1) College were Rugby 7's Champions; 2) For the Third Year running we were the Under 19 All Island Soccer Champions; 3) We were very competitive in Cricket U19, winning the annual 50 over encounter against St Peters College and 4) for the twelfth (12) consecutive year, College won the Schools Swimming Championships.

As President, I acknowledge and thank the ongoing support given by the committee especially Uditha Vithanage (Secretary), Merry De La Zilwa (Treasurer) and Sheahan Pereira (Social Secretary) and Social Committee Members Emerson Victoria, Chamil Fernando, Jerome Fernando, Alex Fernando (Vice-President), Chris Fernandopulle and the past President Mohan Perera. Without the invaluable and ongoing support of these members we would not be celebrating this event and others throughout year. The Committee is looking forward to seeing you at Club's forthcoming events.

God Bless!

Patrick Dirckze



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RECTOR'S MESSAGE



It seems like it was not so long ago when I penned down my message for the annual dinner dance of the Old Joes Club of Victoria last year. The day has dawned once again for one of the most prestigious events in the Josephian calendar and that too for the 35th time.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your patronage to the club and St Joseph's College over the years. I am sure this year's dance will be a roaring success and help you all rekindle old memories of your time in College.

A very special word of appreciation to the old boys, well-wishers and friends who grace the Josephian events in Australia. The College, its students & teachers benefit greatly from your funding and guidance. The best reflection of this is in the academic & sporting results of St Joseph's during the past few years which has seen a constant upward trend. I hope you continue to support us in the years to come which will enable St Joseph's College to reach even greater heights.

Finally, I wish the President, committee members, old Joes and well-wishers of the Victorian arm of St. Joseph's College all success. Thank you once again for your valuable assistance, thoughts and prayers.

Hope you enjoy tonight's proceedings!

God Bless each of you.

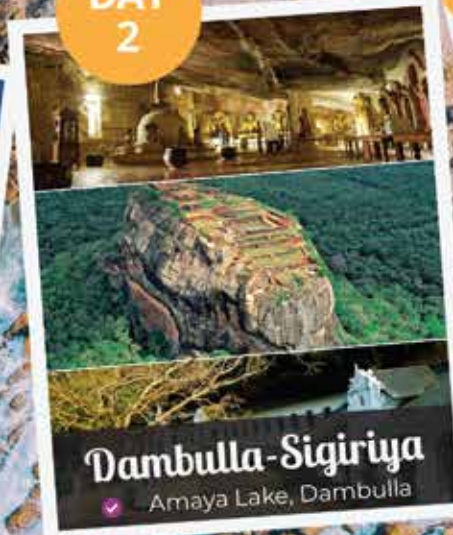
REV. FR. TRAVIS GABRIEL
RECTOR/PRINCIPAL

Sri Lanka

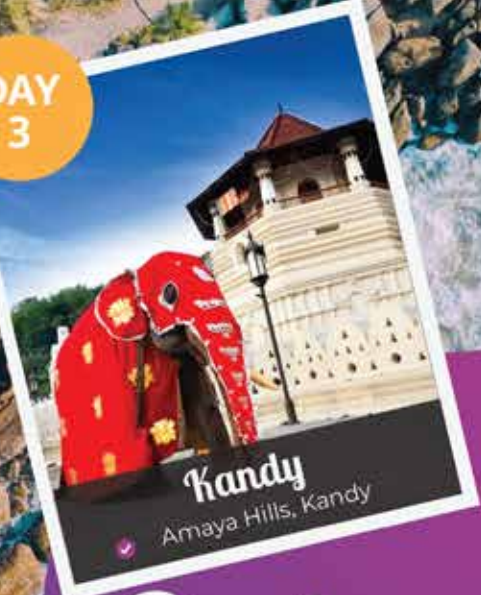
DAY 1



DAY 2

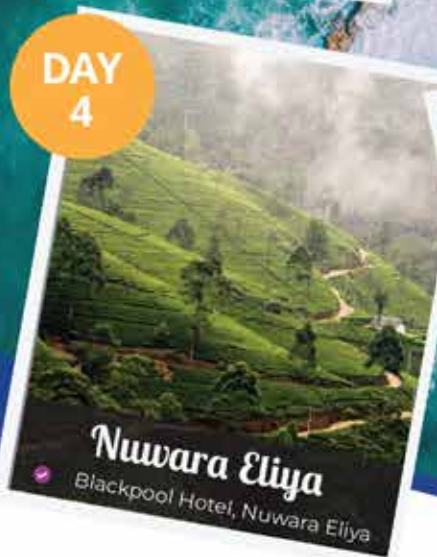


DAY 3



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DAY 4



DAY 5 & 6



DAY 7



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FRUITS OF VIRTUE & OF KNOWLEDGE

The College Anthem was composed by Edgar and J. M. L. Neydorff, and the original manuscript is dated 25 November 1920. The words are by J. M. Lanigan,

Fruits of Virtue and of Knowledge, here we gather Peace and Power,
Symbolised in yonder banner floating o'er St. Joseph's Tower,
White and Blue its mystic colours, harmonising strong and clear,
Stolen from the distant mountains, from the wild waves breaking near.
From the wild waves breaking near, Harmonising, strong and clear,
White and Blue our mystic colours, 'til the mountains disappear.
From the wild waves breaking near, Harmonising, strong and clear,
White and Blue our mystic colours, 'til the mountains disappear.

Where the peerless Pearl of Indies hides its glow on ocean's breast,
White and Blue is nature's setting, To the gem she loves the best;
Closely clasped by silv'ry breakers, Fretted from the flowing tide,
Round it heave the swelling billows - Rolling blue o'er waters wide.
Fretted from the flowing tide, Rolling blue o'er waters wide,
Fretted breakers, swelling billows - White and Blue, the Ocean's pride.

Where the Ard-righ of the mountains, Gaurisanker, proudly reigns,
Round his throne a thousand vassals, Fearless guardians of the plains,
Thunder back their monarch's greeting, 'neath his canopy of blue -
Lightning-darts their quivers keeping, Shining white their armours hue.
'Neath his canopy of blue, shining white their armours hue;
Snow-clad peak and bended heavens, Keep aloft the White and Blue.

Where our Lady, Queen of Heaven, deigned on earth to reappear,
In the grotto o'er the torrent from the mountains rising near,
White and Blue her robe and girdle, Lily white her mantle too -
Then we'll wear Our Lady's colours, Dear St. Joseph's White and Blue.
Then Hurrah for White and Blue, Then Hurrah for White and Blue,
Still we'll wear Our Lady's colours - Dear St. Joseph's White and Blue.



REV. FR LESLIE JOSEPH NOEL PERERA

FR. NOEL

BY DENVER DE ROZAIRO

I was 3 years old when I was admitted to the Nursery of St. Bridgette's Convent, Colombo. I spent two years at the convent and I then left to join St. Joseph's College, Colombo 10. In the Lower School we had wonderful teachers such as Mrs. Stave, better known as Mrs. Slave among the juniors. Then came, Miss. Livera, Miss. Moirera and Martin de Kauwe. Needles to say who the General in charge was, it was none other than Rev. Fr. Noel Perera. He was a family friend of ours.

Like every able General Fr. Noel knew his charge, by their first names. He was an integral part of St. Joseph's College even though he was a product of St. Sebastian' College, Moratuwa. His home town was Moratuwa. The manner in which he administered discipline in the lower school was unmistakable. Nevertheless this was done with thoughtful consideration and not merely for the sake of instilling fear.

Over the long period he was associated with the College any job he undertook was carried out thoroughly and with meticulous perfection. He took pride in doing so. As much as I did, boys in later years, even after they left college, found out that in fact Fr. Noel had a heart of gold, and, his corrections were meant to make all Josephians perfect Christian gentlemen.

The Doyen of St. Joseph's College. He loved St. Joseph's and St. Joseph's loved him. Shortly after his ordination to Priesthood in 1938 he was sent to St. Joseph's College where he was welcomed by the Great Rector. Fr. Maurice Legoc. There was not a single occasion in the life of the College which he missed. He knew all the cricketers by name and also who were the mischief makers. He was at the Josephian-Peterite cricket match year in year out. Yes even the Sports meet and the College prize givings. He made it an occasion for him to renew his friendship with the boys who were now men and whose children were taking part. Above all he was a dedicated humble priest of God. On the 28.10.1988 was the 50th anniversary of his ordination to Priesthood. This, more than anything else is how, he is best remembered. Gentle and understanding he was a much sought after confessor.

He loved and encouraged devotions to St. Joseph and the blessed Virgin Mary. He sometimes lost sight of time when speaking about them. He had a special devotion to our Lady and this was amply borne out of labour he put in whilst being the Director of the Guild of the Immaculate Heart of Mary under the very title Refuge of Sinners. Every month the guild had devotions to Our Lady on the first Saturday and he would personally contact every member and remind them of the devotions. This guild was one of the oldest institutions in the College and this arch Confraternity of the Most Holy and Immaculate Heart of Mary for the conversion of sinners was established by the then Rev. Fr. Rector Emile Nicholas on the 8th December 1913, the feast of the Immaculate conception.

He was away from the College for two brief periods after which he returned during the period Rector Fr. Neville Emmanuel who being a Josephian, himself he realised how helpful Fr. Noel would be. During one these brief periods he became the parish Priest of St. Anthony's Church, Mt Lavinia in which area I resided soon after marriage. Every Sunday, my wife, my three year old son and I attended Mass. When he was new to the parish he recognised me and sent the alter server to inform me that he wanted to speak to us. To my astonishment he addressed me as "Denver" he inquired after my parents, and then spoke to my wife and Son "Shaun". He asked her how she met me and from where she was. She replied that she was from Moratuwa, he then turned to me and said "you better look after this young lady as best you can, because she is from my home town and if it is not so, he then turned to my wife and said "you please contact me"

Throughout his life he laboured faithfully in the Vineyard of the Lord until finally he was called by his Master and maker to receive an imperishable crown which was the fruit of his labours. I join generations of countless Josephians who bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for Fr. Noel who indeed was a Legend. May God grant him peace and the bliss of Heaven which he surely deserves.



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70 YEARS OF MYSTIC COLOURS

BY CHARMAINE AND CHAMANTI FERNANDO



This little 'write up' is in memory of my beloved husband Laksri Benedict Fernando, or Laki, as he was fondly called.

Laki was a true blue Josephian in every possible way, since his first day at school and beyond. He was a proud Josephian boy, always involved with the school, whether it be in sports, debating contests, and of course social events. Even after Laki migrated to Melbourne in 1986, he continued his fond connections with his Alma mater.

Though he was a friend to so many Josephians, who kept in touch with him throughout his life, whether in Sri Lanka or anywhere else around the world, he continued a very close friendship with Denver De Rozairo, Michael Perera, John Fernando and Ronnie Gomez and their families whilst living in Sri Lanka, and would always make the time to meet, somehow or some way, every week.

Be it a movie and dinner on a Friday night or dancing on a Saturday night or even going "south" as they called in those days for the weekend or Sunday lunch. The kids would be so excited when the weekends came around as we all piled up in our cars

and off we went to a resort. The camaraderie that Laki had with these guys was something really special even though, by that time, we wives were a little bored with their never ending school tales, but we laughed along anyway and honestly we enjoyed it too. Most importantly, it was the friendship and mateship that these boys had amongst each other, that was passed onto the kids and even up to this day our kids are all very close and special to each other.

When the 'Big Match' came around, it was so amusing to see these grown men go back in time and turn into school boys, as the excitement swelled. Starting with their 'stag night' when most of them came home a little worse for wear, nothing could stop them from waving the Josephian flag over the next two days of cricket action at the P Sara Stadium. It was like their school boy days came back at full speed and somehow the wives and the kids all got caught up in it too. We had blue and white flags around the house and all the bells and whistles that goes with the big match fever. One year when the Peterites beat the Josephians, we got the kids to fly gold, white and blue flags instead of the blue and white to give the 'old boys' a hard time, needless to say they were not amused.

Since 1986, and by now living in Melbourne, it was as if we had never left Sri Lanka or St Josephs, as so many of his own classmates – Nalin Perera (one of his other very close classmates, who apparently sat next to each other throughout their college days since primary), Denver De Rozairo, Ronnie Gomez, Ralph Kanagasingham, Gehan Ekneligoda, Gerry Rajakulendran, and the late Mahinda Wijeyawickrema, had all also migrated. And, like the old days, it was a case of our families meeting up all the time at some dinner or function, or entertaining another travelling Josephian and their families.

Laki then got thoroughly involved with the Old Joes Club. I remember him playing cricket for the over 40's then the over 50's too. He was so proud to represent his old school and never missed a Josephian/Peterite Cricket encounter if he could. He also supported the other sporting events and, he even managed to get my two nephews to play for the Old Joes seven-a-side Rugby team under the guidance of Errol Amarasekera. Laki was elated when in 1997 the team fought hard to win The Shield.

Then came the memorable years when Laki joined the Old Joes Committee. Starting as a Committee Member, he then went on to become the Social Secretary and ended up as Vice President under the Presidency of his good friend Denver. I say they were definitely memorable, challenging and rewarding years of "Mystic Colours", not only for him but for the family too.

We were so involved with the club for many many years. In fact our daughter Chamanti, along with Denver and Siro's daughter Marielyse, spent their teenage years washing 100's of plates and

glasses, folding 100's of serviettes, lighting 100's of candles and helping in so many other ways, at all the Christmas Parties, Feast Dances and of course Curry Nights. But they were happy doing it for their fathers.



The preparation for these events was not limited to the venue itself, it also took up a lot of space in our own homes. In our family home in Heidelberg, we were fortunate enough to have a large patio where we assembled most of the decor and I can still remember every inch of that space, the furniture the garden even our little doggie had blue and white spray paint all over. On one occasion, when Ajith Jayatilleke was the President, Laki and Chrys Kurera (who was truly the mastermind of all the decor in those years - he was just fabulous - nothing was too difficult for him), drove early one morning to the Dandenong Ranges, dodging the Park Rangers to try and steal ferns and twigs for the decor and spent hours cutting and spray painting them to fit the theme. Many years ago when the dances were held at the Moorabbin Town Hall which boasted of a beautiful caged structure that hung down from the ceiling, we decided to load it up with about 200 odd blue and white balloons and release them when the boys were singing their College Anthem. I had organised for the hall keeper to pull the string at the appropriate time to let the balloons fall amongst them, and oh my God, the damned string broke completely. Laki, Denver, Nalin, Chrys and the Committee members who were prepared for it kept looking towards us and wondering what was going on. It was very disappointing, but the next year and so on we got it right and wow what a glorious sight that was, and truly beautiful to behold.

Looking back now I really treasure those lovely memorable days working alongside the other beautiful ladies - the lovely wives of the Old Joes Committee who also gave up their time whole heartedly, whilst sharing their ideas and talents, with so much fun and laughter and most of all I believe it made our husbands happy and I'm sure it made the "old boys" proud of us too.

Though most of my family members were not Josephians, they all supported Laki and came for as many events they could. The younger ones who were not even born in Sri Lanka really rallied around their Uncle Laki, and brought a lot of laughter and fun into the night and was thoroughly proud of him when he went up to sing the College Anthem. Within those years I swear our daughter and all our nieces and nephews knew every word of Blue and White our Mystic Colours.

And so it continued year after year with so many memorable moments with the Old Joes. We attended every function, Feast Dances, Curry Nights, Christmas Parties and culminating with the Annual Mystic Colours Dinner Dance which was for Laki an event he would not miss for the world - I kept telling him that

was like his "Mecca" visit every year, he had to be there in his full suit and Josephian tie come what may. As time went by and our daughter was able to drive us to these events, it was then that he could let his hair down and really enjoy himself with his college buddies - surely these would have been the best times of his life.

And that's what my Proud Josephian, Beloved Husband loved to do. Even to the last event we would ever go together - it was the Annual Josephian dance on August 12th 2017. The three of us as per usual went all dressed up for the dance, took the family photograph that has been a beautiful complimentary gesture from the Old Joes Committee for the past few years, and prepared ourselves for a lovely night. Which in fact it was, and oh so precious for Chamanti and me now - from the beginning to the end those are the precious memories that we hold in our hearts - of Laki dancing with his daughter ever so proudly, the two of us dancing, waltzing and jiving together which we loved so much - Laki going up and singing the Mystic Colours Anthem looking so proud, mingling with all the Old Joes and generally having a ball.

And when I think back now, I somehow think that on that last occasion when Mohan Perera, the President last year, spotted Laki and came up to him to ask him to give away a prize which was just out of the blue - it was all somehow part of God's divine grace for little did we know that this was the last dance, the last event, the last fellowship, the last family gathering, the last everything in his life, for nobody could ever even imagine that he was so ill and would leave us just in two months.

So, when the compere whilst calling Laki up to give away the prize - said these words - "And now we call upon one of our most long standing distinguished Old Joes - Laki Fernando to give away this prize" - and my daughter and I watched our beloved Laki walk up looking so handsome, tall, smart and debonair (I used to call him my Sri Lankan Cary Grant) without even a trace or a whisper of any terminal illness - this moment will surely be forever etched in our hearts.

Thank you to all of Laki's Beloved Old Joes, and thank you for those beautiful memories and most of all thank you for being present at his memorial service and standing up there in the Church and singing his beloved - "Blue and White our Mystic Colours", whilst harmonizing strong and clear, (which you all did so gloriously) will always remain with us, till the mountains disappear.





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JOSEPHIAN SCOUTING

BY JEREMY DE LIMA

delima@bigpond.net.au With grateful thanks to Nanda Corea for the material and his inspiration



The Scouting movement which now spans 216 countries with over 38 million members was started in 1908 by Robert Baden-Powell, (later Lord) a British Military hero in the 1900 South African war.

Under the aegis of one of our greatest Rectors, Rev Fr Peter Pillai OMI, the first Catholic Scout troop in Sri Lanka, began at Darley Road in 1949. Using his God given second-sight, he appointed as our first Group Scout Leader, the Rev. Fr Henk Schram OMI, a Rover Scout back in his home town in Holland. Our fledgling group starts to take wing, ably assisted by Mr Francis Naidu (alias the "Black Panther"), seconded from 1st Port of Colombo. In August 1949 we made our public debut at the Group Scout Camporee and Pageant, held at the Royal Primary Oval in Colombo. The same year we had our first annual camp at Pedro, NuwaraEliya, accompanied by 8 Rovers from 1st Port of Colombo. On 15th December 1950 we had our first Investiture ceremony in our brand new scout den. Numerous other events followed and in 1955 history was created when Mr Quintus Cooray was made our first Queen scout.

This is the highest achievement in scouting and required you to progress from Tender-foot, to Second Class and then to First Class where you were awarded the Scout cord. Much later, after more strenuous leadership tasks, you reached the pinnacle – **QUEEN SCOUT**. In-between this, you learnt to hike great distances, tie numerous knots, set up tents, sweep the ground, kindle fires and

The Promise

*On my honour, I promise to do my best,
To do my duty
To religion and country
To help other people at all times
And to obey the scout law*

The Law

*A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, friendly
and considerate, brother to every other
scout, courageous, kind to animals,
cooperative, cheerful, thrifty, clean in
thought, word & deed*

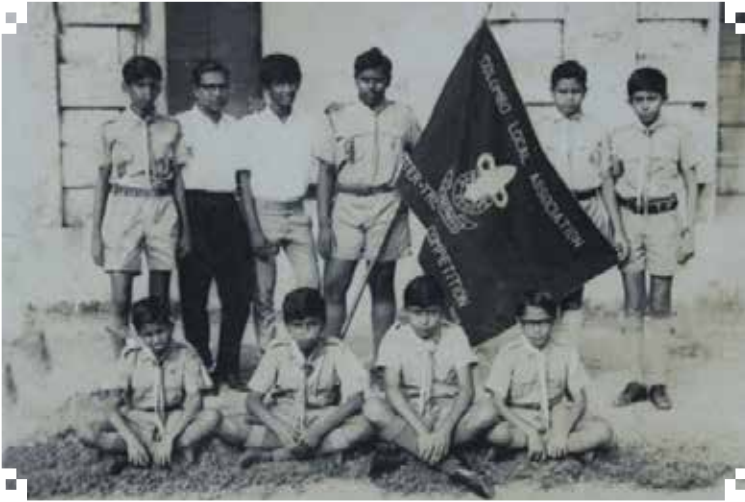
cook, and generally fend for yourself. This is where boys become men and learnt to stand on their own two feet. Our previous president Mr Ajit Jayetileke was one of these, together with two classmates of mine, Captain Mohan Pragasam and Mr Nanda Corea.



Nanda was Assistant Special Commissioner in Scouting for many years, and is now Special Commissioner in Colombo. Another notable Queen Scout is Mr Claude Halpe, whom I was privileged to meet again after 30 years at the AGM in Colombo. Claude visited Australia earlier this year and was suitably hosted by his Scout mates, both in Melbourne and Sydney. Claude and Nanda, since their investiture in 1964 and 1966 respectively, have been very prominent in keeping the College camp-fires alight. Claude travels from the USA for every significant scouting event and is shown here in the 50th Jubilee celebration in Colombo in December 1999, flanking Nanda with the Rector at the time, Rev. Fr Victor Silva. On the right of Claude is another Queen Scout – Mr Patrick Perera, Scout Master of the year.

In 1959 Josephian scouting took on a new leaf when our Mathematics teacher, Mr Siva Lokanathan was appointed as scout master. Mr "Big Fat Tarzan" or Loga, as he is known to all of us, really took his duties to heart. Although, not a scout himself, Mr Lokanathan took to scouting like a fish takes to water. A Hindu by birth, he began to attend

our Chapel Catholic services so that he could relate more to his charges. I have had numerous phone conversations with him in researching this article and his "Joir de vivre" in scouting is still very evident. During his overseas teaching career in Karachi, he continued his devotion to scouting as Scout Master at St Patricks, reviving the Scout movement in Pakistan. He attributes his method of bringing out the best in everyone, while staying in the background as leader. This seed of thought appears to have borne fruit as 21st Colombo won the Mayors flag for 4 consecutive years, starting in



Winner of Mayors Flag Competition in 1969
Standing: Deshapriya Perera, Mr.Lokanathan. Salinda Perera, Nanda Corea, Nihendra Rodrigo, Royden Juriansz
Seated: Ravi Wickremasinghe. Mohan Moraes, Niranjan Saunders, Anil Wijewickrema

Winner of Mayors Flag Competition in 1966
 Johan Soertsz, Kumar De Silva, Salinda Perera, Mr Lokanathan, Lincoln Jilla(Leader)Mr Anandakumaran, S. Sooriyakumar, Roshan Perera, Allan White

1966.This record still holds for Scouting in Sri Lanka.

Here in Australia, our Mr Ajit Jayetileke began a project to honour the great Scout Master Mr Lokanathan. Working with the Old Joes Club of Australia, Ajith put the thought into action by depositing an initial sum of money in Colombo. He then contacted Old Joes and scouts in Australia and the USA and their response was overwhelming. Ajit was able to hand over One million Rupees as shown in the photo below taken at the Scouts Guild AGM on 30th June 2018.The Cash principal has been deposited in a separate bank account in Colombo under the name of the 21st Colombo Scouts Guild. The office bearers of the Guild will administer this account and use the interest each year to select the worthy recipient of the annual Lokanathan award. This fund is an open account and anyone wishing to contribute towards this worthy cause can contact the club or Ajit directly. Since the handing over of the cheque, there have been other indication of donations and this could turn out to be the biggest single contribution from Australia! Of course every donation will be personally acknowledged by the Scout Guild in Colombo.



Mr Ajit Jayetileke with our President Mr Patrick Dirckze in Melbourne



Patrick Perera, Ajit Jayetileke, Mr Lokanathan, Rohan Pandithakorralage (Guild President)

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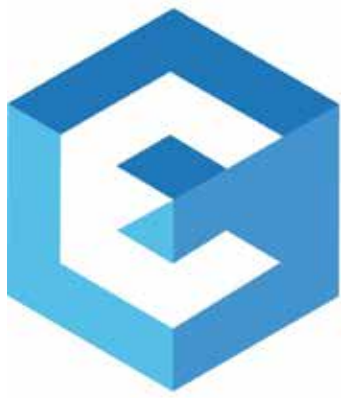
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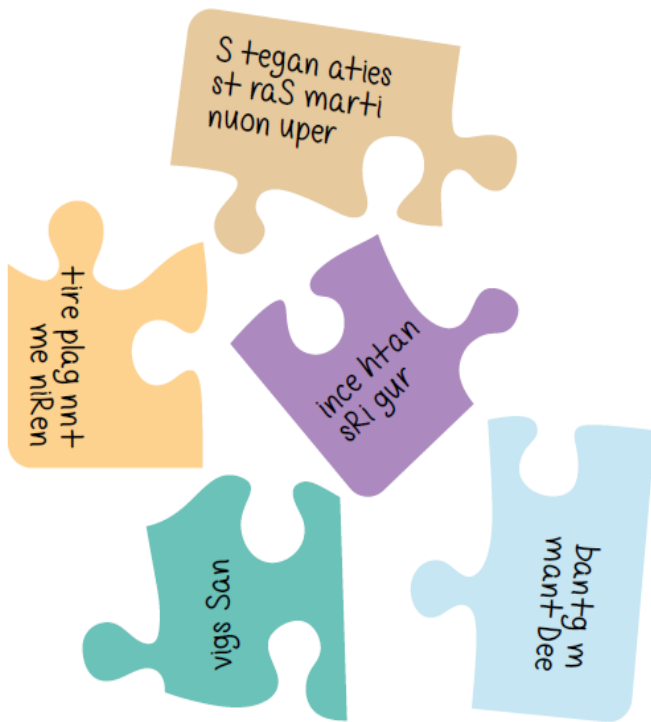


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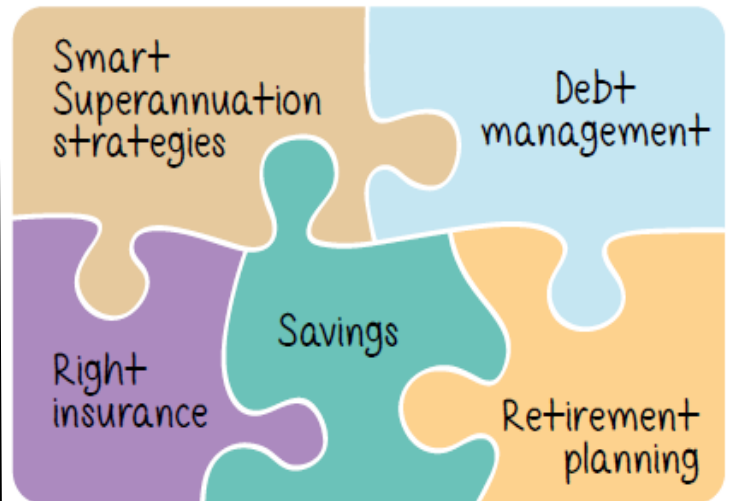
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THOSE FLYING JOES

MEMORIES ON JOSEPHIAN ATHLETICS AND ATHLETES

BY NEIL WIJERATNE

We were awaiting the arrival of those flying runners. They will outclass all other competitors, as we were told, and would bring glory to our school. Unbelievable.

I had a hurried lunch, a few slices of “seeni sambol” bread, a piece of rose coloured “pol toffee” and a glass of “lime juice” at the College “tuck shop” and ran back to the grounds, even before the “Tucky” sorted out the balance. The fliers were yet to mark their arrival. The primary school office assistants, Marceleenu and Sarpeenu told us to line up under the Maara tree, near Father Noel Perera’s office, if we were keen to watch our athletes flying. We obliged. There was an inter-school athletic meet at the College grounds and it was the sprint events that marvelled us as our College athletes ran fast and emerged winners. We, being primary school students went on cheering continuously. Later-on, the seniors informed us, that we were the Colombo North Group Meet Champs. That’s all. My classmates were thrilled and happy. But I was expecting something different; something extra-ordinary. I was expecting someone to emerge like a phoenix, from the far end behind the school and that he would hop on to the Beira grounds, step on the middle grounds and jump over the main grounds. But it never happened!



A couple of years later when I saw our athletic captain Adolf Silva at his best on the field, I realised what Marceleenu and Sarpeenu meant the other day. He was a flyer; a complete athlete. Like Priya Perera, Rajah de Silva, Peter Samarasinghe, Ploycarp Wijesekera and Lalit de S. Wijeyeratne in cricket, Hiranjan Perera, Graham Ludowyke and Tyronne Holdenbottle in rugby football, Adolf became my hero in athletics. In 1960, I saw him carrying away the “Leigh Smith Cup” at the Inter House meet for the best individual performance and was the winner in 200 meter sprint event and second in 100 meters in the A.A.A. junior championship meet. As stated in the “Blue and White” magazine, Adolf Silva “ran in the third laps of two relays turning each race into a victory for the Josephians at the Public Schools Meet” and “has played a heroic part in helping us to win one Junior Championship (1958) and three consecutive Senior Tarbat victories and numerous relay triumphs in the victories of Daily News and Jeaffreson trophies”.

Astonishingly, even before the college athletic wing was formed, St. Joseph’s established itself as a force to be reckoned with in the athletic sphere. One classic example for this is the gallant performance of long distance runner Norman Mathews in 1930.

Date: October 4, 1930. Venue: Police grounds, Bambalapitiya. It was the second day of the first ever public schools athletic meet organised by the Ceylon AAA. Events for the day started at 3.30 p.m. with 4 x 100 relay and ended with the one-mile race, before the prize distribution. So the glamour event in front of the chief guest the Governor General of Ceylon and the other distinguish gathering and spectators turned out to be the one mile race.

And as per newspaper reports: “Norman Mathews, a 15 year old from St. Joseph’s ran an astonishing race to win the mile in 5 mt. 6 secs.” Certainly, this was the earliest instance where St. Joseph’s College engraved its name in the annals of school athletic history in the island.

History reveals that the Josephians played their first ever inter collegiate cricket match just two seasons after the



inauguration of the school in 1896. They played soccer too. And also had the annual sports meet almost since inception.

The inaugural issue of the College magazine (1905) carried the following account about the "Athletic Sports Meet" held in January 1905. "There was a special pavilion to accommodate His Grace the Archbishop, and the other Bishops who were present; and here the prizes were tastefully arranged and displayed. There was a fashionable and brilliant assemblage to witness the proceedings, while the Volunteer Band was in attendance and played a charming selection of music. The grounds presented quite a festive appearance; being decorated with greens, flags etc".

In 1927 the Josephians were fortunate to have a galaxy of well known sports personalities in the country volunteering as 'Judges' of the College meet and amongst them were Col. E.H. Joseph (who is considered as 'father of Ceylonese rugby' and former president of NCC and first president of CR & FC), Dr. V. Schokman (All-Ceylon cricketer, ruggerte and former President of A.A.A.), Dr. C.H. Gunasekera (former skipper of All-Ceylon cricket team), Dr. A. Raffel, P.J. Parsons and C.T. Van Geyzel (being the first Ceylonese to clear six-foot barrier in high jump and former President of the Ceylon Amateur Athletic Association from 1952 to 1966, a period of 15 years!). It shows the importance and acceptance of the Josephian 'athletic meet' amongst other sporting activities of the island at the time.

Although the running and jumping athletic events were very much popular amongst the students and the sports meet was held annually, athletic spirit was yet to reach

the organizational level of cricket and football activities in the school. Thereby in 1932, during the tenure of Rev. Fr. T.L. Victor Fernando as Prefect of Games, saw the formation of St. Joseph's Athletic Club. Greg Roszkowski, being a Put Shot champion was appointed as the first captain of St. Joseph's athletics.

It was only in 1935, nearly four decades after the opening of the school, that the "Athletic Sports Meet" which was an annual feature of the school calendar by then, was re-named "Inter House Athletic Meet". The first athletic meet conducted on the House system was held on the 20th September 1935.

At the end of the 1935 sports meet, Bonjean House emerged first winner of the Inter House championship with 49 points, closely followed by Coudert House with 46 points. The College magazine (1935) whilst giving a detailed account on the individual performances stated that "the best performance of the meet however came from the star athletes of Marque House - S.A. Edwards, A.C. Dep and M. Spittel". Edwards won the High Jump event, Spittel won the Pole Vault whilst Dep carried off the Long Jump title.

Interestingly, in the Public Schools Meet of 1935 A.C. Dep and Malcolm Spittel performed brilliantly to secure record breaking first and the second places respectively in the Pole Vault event. High Jump champ S.A. Edwards also won his event comfortably with another stunning record leap. According to the 'Blue & White' magazine (1935): "A.C. Dep broke the schools record with a vault of 10 ft. 7 7/10 ins., and narrowly missed setting up a new Ceylon record. Spittel did remarkably well in going up to 10 ft. 5 ins. with little or no training!"

A few years later Arthur C. Dep became the first Sri Lankan athlete to go over “eleven-foot” barrier and then the “twelve-foot” barrier in Pole-Vaulting event. And Malcolm Spittel went on to represent the All-Ceylon team in cricket!

Josephian participation in the Tarbat Cup competition was to follow.

It was in 1937 that the Josephians first touched the Tarbat Challenge Cup. They became the Public Schools champs by totalling 24 points. Following year – 1938 they had to share the school athletic supremacy when they tied with St. Thomas’ Mount Lavinia (20 pts. each). The “Ceylon Daily News” stated: “At a meeting of the Sports sub-committee of the Ceylon AAA held early this week (October 1938), it was agreed that another replica purchased and awarded to St. Thomas’, who tied with St. Joseph’s for the Championship at the recent schools Athletic meet.”

During my years in the primary school and middle school at St. Joseph’s, I must say, the glamour sport of the school was not cricket, it was athletics.

In between the years 1960 to 67, we were privileged to witness some outstanding runners leading the College athletic team, who brought fame and glamour to the sport. We saw how Adolf Silva, Neomal Basnayake, Srian and Janaka Perera, Shantilal Fernando, Joseph de Soysa and Constantine Wickramasinghe among many others stole the limelight in the athletic sphere.

When Adolf Silva’s team won the Tarbat Cup and C.C. Dissanayake Cup in 1960, it created a carnival atmosphere in the school. Loads of stories on their heroic display were told and re-told. We listened to our class masters and seniors, as if we are listening to a Fairy Tale. It was all about courage and determination. And of Josephian grit.

They illustrated before us, how Sam Lovell, our goal-keeper in soccer came first in the 120 yards hurdles; how Samuel Joseph threw the Javelin and Discus; Adolf Silva’s performances in the relays; and importantly how our “flying sprinters” created a record in the 4x110 relay to make sure of the title.

To recapture that memorable run in the 4x110 relay,

according to the “Blue and White” Magazine: (In the first Lap) “B. Sangaradasan made a comparatively slow start, but fought away courageously and handed the baton in third position to Neomal Basnayake. (Second Lap) Neomal Basnayake forged into second place with an incredible burst of speed amidst a storm of cheering and handed the baton still ten yards behind the leader to Adolf. (Third Lap) “The lead Adolf (Silva) gave to Brian Buultjens running in the last lap could not be an inch less than a conservative twelve yards. (Fourth Lap) Then Darrel Liversz of Royal made a gallant bid for the lead, the challenge was strictly heartedly accepted and Brian Buultjens drove on doggedly to victory and glory. St. Joseph’s had made a record!”

Apart from the achievements in the Public Schools athletic meet, another wonderful scenario was witnessed at the annual Relay Carnival. The way that St. Joseph’s emerged champs year after year for seven long years in-a-row from the inaugural Relay Carnival in 1961 is one of the most colourful chapters in Josephian history.

It was during Adolf Silva’s year that the Josephians won the inaugural Public schools’ Relay Carnival championship. Recording overall 54 points (Royal 49, S.T.C. 38), they achieved the honour of being the first ever recipient of the “Daily News” Challenge Cup. And on the following Monday, Rev. Fr. Rector called the students for “Assembly” at the Bonjean Hall in honour of our flying heroes.

In the following year too our athletes dominated the “Relay Carnival”. The “Blue and White” magazine carried a lengthy, vivid and a comprehensive account on the rainbows of the meet. According to the College magazine, “Just before the Inter House Meet we fared quite well at the Second Relay Carnival winning the trophy again. Neville Perera, Suraj Perera, Srian Perera and Naomal Basnayake were second in the 4 x 200 metres and the same runners were winners in the 4 x 100 metres Seniors. In the 4 x 400 metres Randolph Mendis, Joy de Alwis, Terence Kuruppu and Naomal Basnayake ran fourth and in the 4 x 800 metres Randolph Mendis, Joy de Alwis, Terence Kuruppu and Naomal Basnayake were third. We also won the 4 x 100 metres Seniors with the same team as in the 4 x 200 metres Seniors. The under 14 Juniors ran a fair third in the 4 x 100 metres and the Under sixteens comprised S. K. de Alwis, S. Perera, S. Athukorale and Shanti Fernando easily won the 4 x 200 metres. The

total points scored by us were (SJC) 56 points to 42, 41 and 35, scored by St. Peters, St. Thomas’ and Royal respectively”.

Frankly, for me the most stylish sprinter I have seen during my schooldays at St. Joseph’s was none other than former athletic captain Neomal Basnayake. His style of running was of copy book perfect and rhythmic too.

How Melvin Machado dominated the Josephian sports



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scene in 1964 is another unforgettable piece of history. He was not only the 'architect of victory' when SJC defeated St. Benedict's by 4 goals to nil to lay hands on the Chevalier John Rodrigo shield presented for the first time in 1964, but also showed his athletic prowess by winning the long jump event at the pubs. He was also a member of the record breaking 4x400 metre relay team.

The flying saga continued year after year as we were moving from class room to class room end of each year; becoming students of new class teachers and masters. "To have won the Relay Championship year after year for seven years without a break, right from the first year of inception of the Relay Carnival, is a unique achievement in the history of Ceylon Athletics, an achievement of which all Josephians may well be proud. It is one more brilliant record added to the long list of outstanding achievements to the credit of St. Joseph's" reported the College Magazine in its Diamond Jubilee Issue, published in 1969.

Another memorable sporting year to remember during my schooldays was 1966; the year that the Josephians became triple champs! Led by Joseph de Soysa, the Joes won both the Senior and Junior Tarbat trophies and also the C.C. Dissanayake trophy for field events in the "Pubs", and Relay Carnival trophy.

To name some of the athletes in the 1966 SJC Athletic team: Joseph de Soysa (Captain), Graham Ludowyke, Constantine Wickremasinghe, Tuan Kitchell, Brian Obeysekera, Sunil Hettiarachchi, Rohan de Alwis, Arthur Hakel, Domma Ranasinghe, Asoka Wickremasinghe, J. Fernandopulle and Priyanga de Alwis. Anthony Abeysinghe (Coach), Cyril Fernando (Master-in-Charge), Ben Ockersz (Sports Secretary).

More memories on 1966 Public Schools Meet: "Having arrived from Madras after representing the country in a basketball tournament, Graham Ludowyke dashed straightaway to the grounds to throw 12 pound put-shot 41 feet away to win the first place of the event."

The 1966 SJC athletic team was a rare combination of star studded all-rounders in sport. Skipper Joseph de Soysa, Graham Ludowyke, Brian Obeysekera and Rohan de Alwis were outstanding ruggers; Brian Obeysekera was a dashing batsman (remember his 161 against St. Thomas' in 1969) who went on to represent the country in cricket; Arthur Hakel's 5 for 29 in the 2nd innings of Josephian - Benedictine match in 1969 is still haunting my memory; Rohan de Alwis showed his cricketing prowess at junior level but as a senior player opted to concentrate on rugby and athletics; Sunil Hettiarachchi was the goal-keeper of the football team at the time and later represented Ratnam Football club in 'A' division football tournament.



And then there was another fine sportsman Tuan Kitchell who clinched title in sprint double at the Public schools meet. Two years earlier, in 1964, he was the fastest runner in the country at junior category, wherein he established a new "Public Schools" record in the 100 metre event by timing 12.3 secs. Importantly, he gave a new dimension to Josephian rugby with his sudden-burst of match winning drop-kicks. I could still picture in my memory of his marvellous and decisive drop goals against St. Thomas' at our own Darley Road grounds.

In a preview on 1967 Relay Carnival, "Ceylon Daily News" predicted "St. Joseph's will go out to retain 'Ceylon Daily News' trophy for boys schools at the 7th annual relay carnival at Police grounds. With athletes like Tuan Kitchell, Constantine Wickremasinghe and Rohan de Alwis in the ranks, Josephians likely to win again." And they did so, recording 53 points as against 40 points scored by the second placed Thomians.

And that was the time when athletics beat cricket in popularity at St. Joseph's.

(Neil Wijeratne holds a degree in Law and is a practising lawyer. He had his debut novel published in 1968 whilst a schoolboy at St. Josephs. Being a bi-lingual writer he has so far authored 19 books, ranging from fiction to travelogue and sports history. His travelogue titled "Kerala Nalangana" won the best book award at the Sri Jayawardenapura University Literary Awards Ceremony. He is also the author of "Rugby Across the Straits - Rugby Football links between India & Sri Lanka", "Sevens Saga - A history of seven-a-side rugby in Sri Lanka" and "Batting on a Matting Wicket". At present he is the Chairman of the Appeal Board of Sri Lanka Rugby.)



Best Wishes from

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“It was a privilege for me to be a part of the Joes Masquerade Ball held on 12 August 2017 at the Springvale Town Hall organized by Old Joes in Melbourne. As in other years, it was a fantastic and memorable night. It was so memorable, that I was the winner of the 1st Prize of two (02) return Economy Class air tickets courtesy Emirates in Melbourne plus a Sri Lanka tour voucher valued at AUD 500 donated by Alex Fernando of Travel Glen.

My wife Jeanne and I availed ourselves of this opportunity to travel to Sri Lanka on 12 May 2018 and returned to Melbourne on 25 May 2018. Thanks to the Old Joes Association, Emirates and Travel Glen we had a wonderful holiday in Sri Lanka. The highlight of our tour was a 2 day stay in Mirissa.

I must emphasize the professionalism and the courteous service extended to me by Emirates in Melbourne in particular Krishnan Nair. It was great dealing with Alex.”

Lal De Silva

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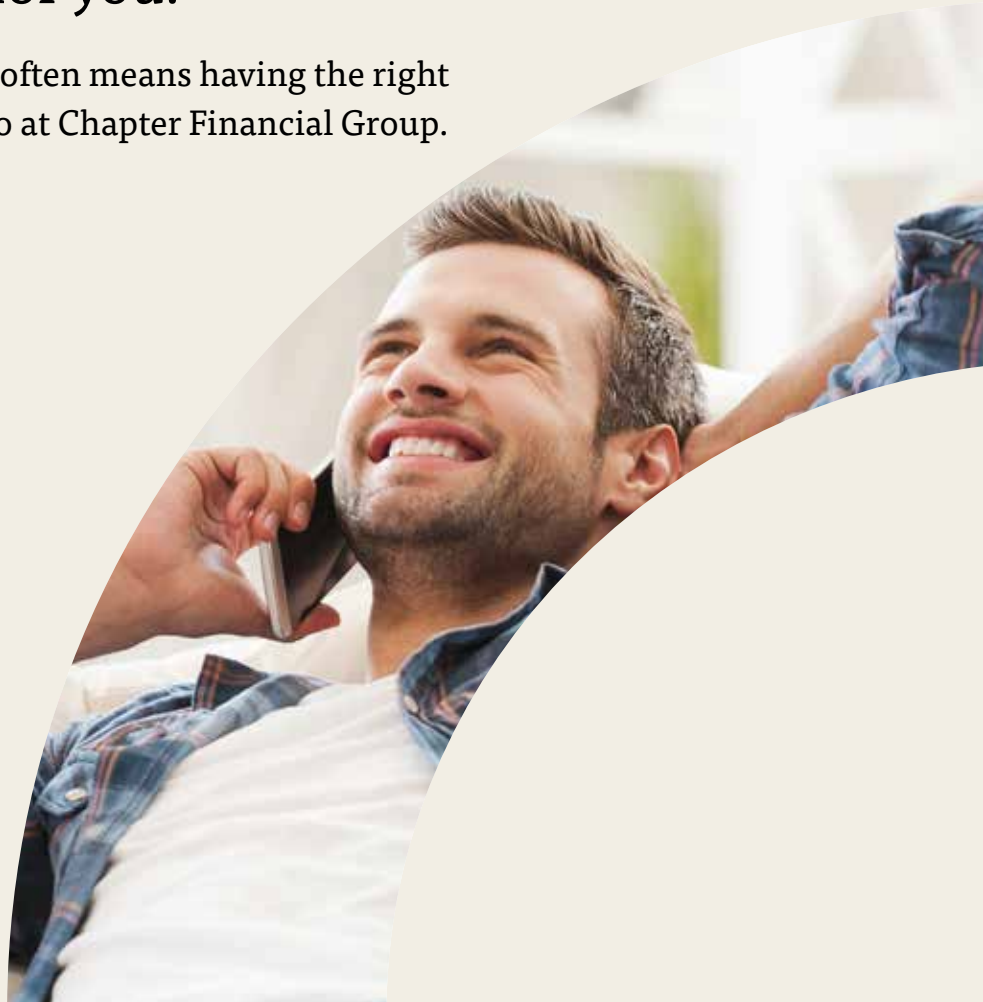
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THE HISTORY OF THE OLD JOSEPHIAN CLUB OF AUSTRALIA INC.

(BY EROL AMERESEKERA AND DENVER DE ROZAIRO - 1976.

1980 ONWARDS BY AJITH JAYATILLEKE, DARRELL DE SILVA, AND PATRICK DIRCKZE AND
EDITED BY KEITH OCKERSZ)

Migration to the continent was very restricted under the white Australian Policy. It was relaxed after World War two, when in 1948 Ceylon received Independence, the Burghers and some Ceylonese with unique qualifications decided to make this continent downunder their permanent home. In 1956 many left the shores of Ceylon. In 1960 the Ceylonese population in Victoria was 3000 and by 1976 under a relaxed migration policy it rose to 9000 beginning the exodus. Before long, in these numbers were Josephians and Peterites, thus increasing the Cricketing Rivalry. Consequently, there was a need to revive the Josephian/Peterite Big match atmosphere and fever.

Before long the cricketing rivals were ready to form an association, therefore in 1973 Radcliffe Nelson (SJC)(SPC) and Ronald Forbes (SPC) put their heads together and formed an organisation, Peterite/Josephian Assn. for old boys. It was held in Radcliffe Nelson's Garage. The flames were thus rekindled with the old rivalries. The initial Josephian/Peterite Match was played at Koornang Park in Melbourne. It was an occasion for eating and drinking with heavy boozing. Carmen Nelson who was a splendid cook began a catering venture. Consequently, the first dinner dance was held at St. Kilda Hall which was well attended. In 1978 the Josephian/Peterite club was formally underway under the Presidency of Brindley Jansz. The committee consisted of Tony Buhar, Ivor Bagot and the Nelson brothers (SJC) cricketers from the 50's and 60's and the De Niese Brothers and the Patternott Brothers. This arrangement continued until 1980. From 1980 to 1984 Ronald Forbes and Bede de Zilwa held a joint presidency as everything went on as usual, with enjoyable social events filled with fun, rivalry on the field and a great atmosphere of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and friendship thereafter.

At the beginning of 1984 the former Rector Rev. Fr. Neville Emmanuel visited Melbourne and highlighted the need to have

our own identity and have an Old Josephians' Club. Being a loyal Josephian himself he did not hesitate to make a splendid effort to uplift Josephians and their spirits. All Josephians always wish to maintain strong bonds with their Alma Mater and so were these stalwarts named below. Thus in 1984, the Old Josephians Club of Victoria was established with Radcliffe Nelson as President. The names of the supporting committee are detailed later on in this article.

Radcliff and Carmen Nelson being caterers, were instrumental in the inaugural Old Josephians' Dinner dance in 1984. It was held at the Migrants Centre, Prahran. This became the highlight of the Social Calender. The Members night and the Christmas Party were also eagerly anticipated. Today is the 35th Annual Dinner Dance 2018 and we thank all past committees for making this happen.

In 1986, having established the Old Josephians' Club, the first changing of guards took place when Radcliffe Nelson stood down and Darnley de Souza took over the rein. During this period with Darnley's Public service experience and personal expertise a modern constitution was drafted. He was assisted by his Secretary Errol Amaresekera and a few others. The membership began to gain momentum as a result. The Committee decided to go National due to several requests from other States. On 9th July, 1987 the Old Josephians' Club of Australia Inc. was formally registered in Victoria. The popular sports activities were Josephian/ Peterite cricket, open and over 40s, Basketball at the league status, Rugby and Netball by the wives and partners. All members participated with enthusiasm thus beginning of another era. These visionaries had fond memories of their school days and wished to maintain strong ties with their ALMA MATER and their school mates. As the Club began to grow we had a change of President every 2 years which ensured fresh ideas and constant development of the club. At the end of Darnley's term as President, successive leaders Carl Aldons and Dr. Carlyle Perera made several changes strengthening the purpose and culture of the club. Since then our organisation has had the tradition of having a new President every two years and this has fostered its progression from Strength to Strength, resulting in the powerful and admirable unit it is today.

The Saints Quadrangle tournament, another notable event in our Social Calendar was inaugurated in 1995, by Denver de Rozairo, Tony Schrader, Rodney Patternot and Malcolm Adaman.

Under Ajith Jayatillake's Presidency, there was an infusion of dynamic New Members into the committee; such as Shantilal Jayamanne, Gale De Kauwe, Roger Surpanchy, and Damien Wickramasinghe. The enthusiasm was such that the Annual Dinner Dance in August was a sell out with 740 satisfied guests. The Sri Lanka High Commissioner, Major General Janaka Perera being an old Josephian, was the Chief Guest &





the Guest of Honour was Senator Nick Minchen, the Finance Minister in the Howard Government. The next year the guest of Honour was Ken Surpanchy; a former Cricket Captain who was visiting from USA.

On the Sporting Scene; with the guidance of Vernon Davidson, Gale de Kauwe, Charles Jansz, Walter Perumal, and Roger Surpanchy, the Old Joes were the Champions in Baseket Ball & Cricket. During this time the Old Joes were also able to catch up with visiting Josephian Cricketing Star Chaminda Vass and music Maestro Sohan Peiris of Jetliners Fame. The Finances of the Club were of a very sound footing

due to many Financially Successful Events; that a large Donation was made by the club to Rector Fr. Victor Silva.

Since 2007 or the tenures of Radley De Silva's and Darrell De Silva's as successive Presidents, The Old Joes Club has continued to grow from those early days with membership increasing to over 250 and the annual dinner dance listed as one of the main events on the Sri Lankan events calendar. The popularity of the event saw it move from the local halls to venues that could accommodate over 560 guests with the dance held at the Moorabbin Town Hall for many years and then at the Springvale Town Hall for the last ten years. This function has helped raise funds to support various projects in college including infrastructure, education and sporting activities. This investment has borne fruit, particularly in the sporting arena with many Josephians representing the country in various sporting activities.

In May 2008 the Club hosted the victorious College Cricket Team after their big match win over St Peter's. This was their reward for winning this particular game after a 36-year drought. This visit was also an opportunity for Fr. Sylvester Ranasinghe, Rector to visit Victorian Colleges (Mazenod College) and look at the education facilities and teaching strategies which could be replicated back at St Joseph's and subsequent construction of the A Level building and New three storey Building which now houses year 6, 7 and 8 students with a staff room on each level. In the same year the Club assisted the head cricket coach in gaining his Level 3 accreditation in Australia. 2008 also marked the 25th year of the annual dinner dance.

In May 2011 SL cricketer and 'old boy' Angelo Matthews was honoured with a felicitation dinner hosted by the Club.

Locally, in 2010 the club introduced a members' night to bring together members old and new from a range of age groups to get to know each other and uphold those great Josephian values we were taught at our dear alma mater.

During this period the club invested in upgrading some of the infrastructure at College, namely the clock tower, teacher's room, toilet facilities and IT equipment.

In the period of Lester Daniels as President, the committee decided that the club's annual contribution should be allocated towards "Teachers or Teaching Aids" as it was felt they were being neglected. Fr. Sylvester Ranasinghe was presented with eight Laptops & two Video Cameras to assist Teachers to prepare lectures and their overhead presentations. The Video Cameras were given to assist them to document everyday College Life and Drama Classes. This was in addition to sponsoring of sports such as soccer, swimming and basketball.

During the term of Gary Gunesekera, a Cricket Bowling Machine was donated and the Rugby Coach was brought to Melbourne for training and he accordingly attained his accreditation. We further took on the task of refurbishing the Senior Female Staff Room, adjacent to the Old Beria Tuck shop. This included replacement of the roof and we saw this project completed during the term of Mohan Perera as President in 2015-2016. Mohan's period also saw the introduction of Teachers Health Checks under Fr. Sylvester Ranasinghe.



The New Sick Room was relocated and furnished with a Five (5) treatment beds and full contingent of medical devices including an ECG. A sister was in charge, who was also a qualified nurse, instigated monthly checks for teachers and staff. Resulting from this, treatment was scheduled where necessary with appropriate Doctors under the sponsorship of the Class of 1980.

Currently Funds totalling \$16,000 have been accrued to facilitate a project relating to staff needs. This year a contractor will install an Overhead Projector in the Old Physics Lab, now a Lecture Theatre plus two in the Auditorium to provide better vision for all present. We will also be handing to Rector, Fr Travis Gaberial, two additional overhead projectors that he could assign to staff members to be used as required. We hope to accomplish these tasks by September 2018.

Locally this year in Melbourne's South Eastern Suburbs, the Club has contributed monetarily to a soup kitchen run for the needy. In addition, members of the Old Joes Club on a totally voluntary basis, hope to maintain and support the needy this year and in years to come. We also hope to schedule dates to assist in serving food to the needy. Furthermore, we are also looking forward to bringing immediate Past Students with cricketing talent and outstanding Sri Lankan results to play a season of Australia Premier / District Club in Victoria. To date we have nominations from St Benedict's, St Peters, and St Joseph's for appropriate consideration. Further on the subject, a previous Sri Lankan A Side Cricket Captain, Ian Daniels has nominated and requested Cricket Coach Stan Nell to assist a student from Malidavage College, Kurunegala.

There is consideration at present to bring out a Teacher for a Leadership Skills Course or sponsor a student who will visit a Catholic College in Melbourne. It is anticipated that these persons will ultimately inspire others at St Joseph's to excel accordingly and make a difference.

The above discussed projects will take effect under the stewardship of the Old Josephians' Club of Australia and we are currently evaluating the various options and cost effectiveness of delivery.



PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE OLD JOSEPHIAN CLUB OF AUSTRALIA Inc.

IN THE PRESENCE OF AND WITH THE BLESSING OF RECTOR. REV.FR.NEVILLE EMMANUEL

1984-1986	Mr. Radcliffe Nelson
1986-1988	Mr. Darnley de Souza
1988-1990	Mr. Carl Aldons
1990-1992	Dr. Carlyle Perera
1992-1994	Mr. Anton De Costa
1994-1996	Mr. Denver de Rozairo
1996-1998	Mr. Phil Lobendhan
1998-1999	Mr. Vernon de Alwis
1999-2001	Mr. Bill Van Rye
2001-2003	Mr. David Jayatillake
2003-2005	Mr. Damian Wickremasinghe
2005-2007	Mr. Cedric Simmons
2007-2009	Mr. Radley de Siva
2009-2011	Mr. Darryl de Silva
2011-2013	Mr. Lester Daniels
2013-2015	Mr. Gary Gunsekera
2015-2017	Mr. Mohan Perera
2017-2018	Mr. Patrick Dirckze

Josephian Christmas Party
8 DECEMBER 2018
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OLD JOSEPHIAN'S CLUB OF AUSTRALIA
SJC OBA AGM
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