



Darley News

THE BULLETIN OF THE OLD JOSEPHIANS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW

AUGUST 2020

We sponsor College's Learning Management System



Sri Lanka Mobitel executives with the Rector and select staff at the launch of the Learning Management System in June

AT THE request of the Rector, the Association has agreed to sponsor the College's much awaited Learning Management System. The system is a digital education program developed with the assistance of technology experts. Rector Father Ranjith Andradi plans to introduce other digital devices to make the College the gold standard for digital education in Sri Lanka. The Rector has thanked the Association for sponsoring this program for its initial six months, which will be delivered through Sri Lanka's Mobitel network.

An extract of the Rector's letter reads:

Dear Chrys

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for coming forward with your contribution towards the implementation of Mobitel's Learning Management System for St Joseph's College, Colombo 10. Your contribution will make it possible to roll this important technology during a critical time for the students of St Joseph's College due to the restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID pandemic. Whilst the aspirations

for a Learning Management System was part of the Digital Transformation program planned as part of the 125th anniversary celebrations, the main priority was the procurement and set-up of Smart classes. This priority changed in the month of March as the country and world went into sudden lockdown. . . .

I would again thank you and our boys of New South Wales for coming forward to bridge this initial gap in setting up this all-important solution.

May God bless you and the old boys in New South Wales with God's abundant blessings and may He keep your families safe.

After the initial six months the College's Welfare Association has agreed to support the program. The next stage of the smart class project is the installation of smart boards. A tender process is underway for a supplier. The Welfare Association has pledged 20 boards and will be looking to sponsor some smart boards once a supplier is selected.

The link to the Learning Management System video clip is at the end of this email.

OLD JOSEPHIANS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES Inc



PRESIDENT
Chrys Fernando

VICE PRESIDENT Lalith Grero

SECRETARY George Rupesinghe

TREASURER Nishantha Seneviratne

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ivor Baptiste Shehan Fernando Fidel Moldrich
V. Ranganathan

Golf Day 2020

Sunday 18 October 2020

ROSEVILLE GOLF CLUB
4 Links Avenue Roseville 2069
www.rosevillegolf.com.au



This event will go ahead subject to the current pandemic situation not deteriorating

52 players have registered so far.
\$60 per head. Cart hire \$45

Payment due by Tuesday 1 September. See subscription panel below for payment instructions.

Practice nets and practice putting green will be available for warm up.

1 p. m. Shotgun start.

Trophies/prizes to be awarded:

- Blue & White Golf Open Challenge Cup (Scratch 1st runner-up and best player)
- Josephian Challenge Trophy (Best school team – handicap)

- Candappa Memorial Trophy (1st runner up and best individual player – handicap)
- Best Old Josephian Challenge Trophy (Best individual Josephian – handicap)
- Ladies champion
- Nearest to the pin – 4 awards. Holes TBA
- Longest drive – 2 awards. Holes TBA
- Drive and pitch – 2 awards. Holes TBA

At this stage, the plan is to for all the players to convene at the club around 5 p. m. after finishing. We will then have drinks at the bar and a brief presentation.

If the covid-19 social distancing rules are relaxed we may have the BBQ dinner.



Please pay your 2020 and 2021 subscriptions

Your fees are needed in order to meet the club's routine expenses.

If you have NOT already paid for 2020 and 2021 please do so as soon as possible.

Pay on line to Old Josephians' Association of NSW
BSB 062 000 Account no. 0092 4464 or
send cheque to the President at 88 Highs Road, West Pennant Hills 2125

Editor's note. The following article by the late **Lalin Fernando**, describing the first meeting of NSW Old Joes, was found in my archives by accident a few weeks ago. It apparently appeared in the dance souvenir in October 2000. It is reproduced as is to prove its authenticity. A more legible version is on the next page with names highlighted. – George Rupesinghe

OUR SMALL BEGINNINGS

Lalin Fernando

Old Josephians – wherever in the world they turn up – seem to have a natural affinity for each other's company. It could be the strong sense of loyalty which was instilled in us at SJC, or it could be that we share some kindred spirit which wafted over from the Beira Lake and stayed with us. And so, in January 1989, it was easy to make a few phone calls and pass the word around that a "gathering" was to take place in Sydney to which all Old Joes were invited.

This was more or less how a similar function was organized in London some 30 years before – to be exact in 1960. The venue was the International Catholic Students' Chaplaincy at 41 Holland Park, and the occasion was that an old Josephian, Victor Santiapillai, had just been made the Trade Commissioner for Ceylon in the UK. It was also an opportunity to meet Tony Williams – who had just competed at the Rome Olympics. Among those present were: Peter Perera, Tony Pulle, Michael Nainthy, Manthri Anthonypillai, Ranjit Tillekeratne, Trevor and Gerald D'Silva, Gamini Fernando, Ivan Ratnayake, Michael and Paul Fernando and Nihal Wiratunge. This event could well have been the very first gathering of old Josephians outside of Sri Lanka, and for that matter, past students from any school.

Thirty years later, the arrangements were slightly different – we did not have to get round our female friends to come early and help to cook – we could afford to bring in a caterer – and who better than Ken and Yvonne Ferreira? There were several other notable differences between London in 1960 and Sydney in 1989. In London we were all students - struggling to keep body and soul together while managing to keep on top of lectures and exams; in Sydney, we were all grown men, with careers and salaries put away under our slightly rounded belts! In London, only Victor had a wife; in Sydney, most came with their wives and some even had their grown-up kids. In London, they all came on the Central Line and got off at Holland Park – in Sydney they came in cars – some very flashy! In London, the lunch cost 3 shillings - in Sydney \$15 per head!

But there was much that was the same. Long lost friends saw each other after many years, some old stories were related for the umpteenth time, long-forgotten nick-names were resurrected (much to the horror of the poor victims!). The anthem was sung with the same gusto and (almost) the very same high-notes were off-key! The drinks were perhaps more potent and expensive than in London – but the spirit in which they were shared was the same. And there were the one or two ring-ins from our Wellawatte rivals – in London it was Nihal Wiratunge, in Sydney it was Noel Crusz. Noel was fondly greeted by many who well remembered his stories about Hollywood, Bing Crosby and Linda Christian which were related during Religious Knowledge classes (whether they were true or not still remains a mystery – like those other mysteries he was supposed to be teaching us).

In Sydney, we had representatives from a period spanning some 60 years. There were the seniors like Mano Muttukumar, John St. George and Bede Muller, right down to the "kollars" who came with their dads. The rest of us – well, we were proudly in the middle, somewhere between 1940 and 1970: Lanka and Palitha Wijesena, Hamilton Koelmeyer, Malcolm Berenger, Harold de Sayrah, George Rupesinghe, Trevor Caspersz, Maurice Raymond, Lester Caspersz, Michael Berman, Malcolm Fernando, Tom Silva, Ken Ferreira, Alistair Corner, Emil Van Granberg, Cecil Masefield, Errol Graham, Prasanna Gunewardene, Christopher Payoc, Lalith Fernando, Herbert Kreltsheim, Anthony de Silva, Nada Nadarajah, Ranjan Perera, Rajendra Cooray, Fred de Sousa, Lucian Wijetunge, Kevin Perera, and Nihal Samaranayake to name a few. My apologies to any others that I have missed.

The lunch over, a few words were spoken to try to formalise the group and to meet again, and then we all left with more happy memories. The final act was the forwarding of the small profit derived to the Peter Pillai Scholarship Fund in Colombo. This impromptu gathering at the Concord Scouts Hall in 1989 was the small beginning of our Association in New South Wales.

Our small beginnings

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