



Burgher Association Australia

Summer

**December 2021
Community Newsletter**



Postal Address: PO Box 75 Clarinda VIC 3169

Web Site: <http://www.burgherassocn.org.au>

ABN -28 890 322 651 ~ INC. REG. NO: A 0007821F



**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
2020/2021**

President

Mr Hermann Loos - 03 9827 4455
hermann_r_loos@yahoo.com.au

Vice President

Mrs Fallon De Zilwa - 0414 096 774
fallonmigaen86@gmail.com

Secretary

Mr Harvey Foenander - 03 8790 1610
bfoenander1@bigpond.com

Assistant Secretary

Mrs Rita Van Geyzel - 03 9503 4841
rvangeyzel@optusnet.com.au

Treasurer

Hans DeZilwa - 0419 292 939
hansdezilwa@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer

Mrs Carol Loos - 9827 4455
gracecloos@yahoo.com.au

Editor

Mel Farrell - 0400 880 336
bugbear6@bigpond.com

Public Relations Manager

Mrs Elaine Jansz - 03 9798 6315
bd8cerjansz@optusnet.com.au

Customer Services Manager

Mrs Breedda Foenander - 03 8790 1610
bfoenander1@bigpond.com

Committee

Mr Terry Backhouse - 0429 987 300
Mrs Helen Backhouse - 9774 7300
Denis Lobo - 0433 915 802
Geoff Farrell - 03 5941 5112



The 2020/21

**Burgher Association Australia
Donations Pledge**

The Burgher Association Australia Incorporated (BAA) is passionate about supporting the community and is proud to be helping make a difference in the area of health and wellbeing. It is our goal to empower wellbeing and healthy lifestyles across Australia and Sri Lanka. The BAA is pleased to have considered charitable contributions, donations and sponsorships to children's education in Sri Lanka and other charitable donations/sponsorship based in Australia

However taking that fund raising events were almost non existence in the past year due to the corona virus pandemic, the BAA has taken the view that all sponsorships/donations excluding the sponsorships of children in their education via the DBU in Sri Lanka will not take place until we get back to normal as before the corona virus pandemic and we can have and raise funds via the fund raising events. As such the BAA has just announced following the January 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) that for the current year donations and sponsorships will be granted only to the following.

**Sponsorship of education to children via the Dutch Burgher
Union of Sri Lanka for up to 25 Children doing year 11 and 12**

We will review again annually the position to set up a budget for new/continued sponsorship to be adopted in the following year.


Australia Day

Celebrate
what's
great!



26 January 2022

Come and join us for

OUR FIRST POST LOCKDOWN FUNCTION

At

THE BAA

358 Haughton Road, Clayton

Catch up with friends for fellowship music and fun

12.00 noon to 5.00 pm

Buffet By **“Cha’s Cabin”**

Roast Beef / Roast Pork / Roast Chicken / Roast Vegies

Scalloped Potato, Tossed Salad

Bread Rolls & Butter

Desert: Caramel Pudding + Pavlova

\$40 pp – BYO

Contact

Breeda & Harvey Foenander - 8790 1610 or 0402 297 394

Hermann & Carol Loos – 9827 4455 or 0417391120

Hans & Fallon De Zilwa – 0419 292 939 or 0414 096 774

Mel Farrell - 0400 880 336

Elaine Jansz – 0417 570 405

Denis Lobo – 0433 915 802

Terry & Helen Backhouse – 0429 987 300 or 9774 7300

Rita VanGeyzel - 9503 4841

OBITUARIES

(E & O.E.)

(OCTOBER 2021)

FORBES, Sr Alice (Yolande), daughter of the late Walwin & Lorna Forbes, sister of Christine & Rudy (Calif) and Ralph, Russel, Radcliffe and Robin (all dec), in Melbourne on September 30, 2021. (Contributed)

EDMONDS, Neil (Charlie), husband of Maureen, father of Nicole & John, Renae & John, in Melbourne. (The West Australian, 4.10.2021)

EDMONDS, Mary Evelyn, wife of Francis, mother and mother-in-law of James & Stephanie, Kristy & Richard, Pamela & Airy and Vanessa & Devon. Grandmother of Annabelle, Wren, Phoebe, Frances, Harper, Jackson and Fernie, Perth on September 21, 2021. (The West Australian, 5.10.2021)

STAPLES, Margaret Elizabeth 'Margi', (09.05.1931 – 01.10.2021) wife of Ken (Sam) dec, mother and mother-in-law of Warren & Jane, Robyn (dec), Ean & Leonie, Ian & Lisa and Megan & Peter, grandmother of 14, great grandmother of 11, in Sydney. (Sydney Morning Herald, 5.10.2021)

BUTTERY, Graeme Leslie, husband of Margaret, father, grandfather and great father, in Brisbane, on September 28, 2021, aged 81 years. (Brisbane Courier Mail, 6.10.2021)

ALBRECHT, Neil Douglas, husband of Rae, father of Nicole and Todd, father-in-law of James and Caroline, in Perth on 8 October 2021, aged 67 years. (The West Australian, 9.10.2021)

NEWMAN, Trevor Athol, (09.08.1933 – 03.10.2021), husband of Jan, father of Paul and Stephanie, grandfather of Cristy, David and Kassandra, Annissa, Harley, Teagan and Jarod, in Bunbury, WA. (The West Australian, 9.10.2021)

MULLER, Dr Bede, husband of Thelma (dec), father of Philip, Stephen (dec) and Leon. Grandfather and great grandfather in Sydney on October 5, 2021, aged 96 years. 5, Victoria Avenue, Concord West, NSW 2138. (Sydney Morning Herald, 9.10.2021 & Daily News))

HERFT, Annette Mary Vita, (05.02.1924 – 05.10.2021), wife of Frederick Magnus (dec), mother of Kevin Mangus, in Sydney, Aged 97 years. (Daily Telegraph, Sydney, 9.10.2021)

GOMES, Maureen, wife of the late Dr Colling Gomes, mother of Sriyanee and late Lasantha Fernando and of Chrisantha and Iromie Gomes, grandmother of Eraj and Rebecca, Chandev and Priyanganie, Anisha, Charith and Amrita and great grandmother of Aaron, Ryan, Dominic, Jordan, Daniel, Maya and Zoya, in Sri Lanka. – 19, St Stephen's Road, Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 9.10.2021)

DE KRETZER, Loretta Heather (nee THOMPSON), wife of Graham, daughter of the late Clancy (Tommy) and Marguerita (Rita), daughter-in-law of the late Carlyle and Audrey De Kretzer, sister-in-law of Vaughn and Marcel De Kretzer, in Sri Lanka on 27th September, 2021. (Sunday Observer, 10.10.2021)

LUDOWYK, Peter, (01.09.1937 – 05.10.2021), brother of Fred (dec), Chris, Geoff, Paul, Anne David, Michael (dec) and Jimmy (dec), brother-in-law of Marilyn, Cherie, Anne, Joanne and Marguerite, in Melbourne. (Melbourne Age, 11.10.2021)

WIJESEKERA MARINA (nee JOACHIM), December 15, 1936 - October 9, 2021. Wife of ROB, mother of Eresha (Kevin), Janaka (Yasanti), Rahal, Deepika (Jeff) and Sanjay (Tamara), grandmother to Kenneth, Keara, Annissa, Johann, Djivan, Ayesha, Kiran and Kofi, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 11.10.2021)

KOCH, Dudley Gilbert, husband of Barbara (dec), father and father-in-law of Cathy & Rob, Michael, James & Vanessa, grandfather of Shane, Craig and Ella, Todd, Emily and Braydon, great grandfather of Kade, in Adelaide on October 6, 2021, aged 90 years. (Adelaide Advertiser, 16.10.2021)

DENZIL, GOMEZ, husband of Genevieve, father of Nedra & Tarek, father-in-law of Marc & Sanara, grandfather of Ryan, Rhiana, Avinka, Jessica & Daniel. Brother of Sr. Xaviour, late Manuel & Colette, brother-in-law of Bonnie, Shirani, Damayanthi & Leonie, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 16.10.2021)

ARUNACHALAM, Dr Kandasamy, husband of Astrid. Son of Sockalingam Pillai Supiah Pillai Kandasamy & Pakkiyam. Father of Tilak, Malik, Janak (dec), Lukshmi & Sonali., in Brisbane aged 101 on the 11th of October 2021. (Courier Mail, Brisbane, 16.10.2021)

LABROOY, Trevor, (17.01.1929 – 20.10.2021), in Adelaide. (Brisbane Courier Mail, 22.10.2021)

BUTTERY, Patricia June "Pat", wife of late Dean, Mother and mother-in-law of David & Sandra, Paul & Jill, Cheryl & Tony, Kym and Tony & Sally, in Adelaide on October 20, 2021, aged 95 years. (Adelaide Advertiser, 23.10.2021)

DON, Berthe Marie, in Adelaide. (Adelaide Advertiser, 23.10.2021)

MAAS, Avril, in Adelaide on October 13, 2021. (Adelaide Advertiser, 23.10.2021)

KOELMEYER, Ives, husband of Lygia, father of Christoble (Dubai), Hestia, Ives (Oman) and Aurilia. father-in-law of Carlos - Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 27.10.2021)

STEPHEN, Ronald George (Ronny), husband of Ira, father of Lal, Ananda, Anura (dec) and Osmund, father-in-law of Shermini, Sujeevani and Chandi., in Sri Lanka, on October 25, 2021.. (Daily News, 28.10.2021)

DE SOUZA, Olga, Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother, in Perth, on October 28, 2021, aged 100 years. Charles (dec), Douglas, Ana and families. (The West Australian, 30.10.2021)

MACK, Ronald Stuart, husband of Dawn, father of Heather, Ian and Andrew, grandfather of Sarah and Stephen, in Melbourne, on October 27. (The Age, 30.10.2021)

DE JONG, Joyce – Wife of Cecil (dec) Mother of Keith, Sister of the Rev. Geoffrey Misso, Clifford (dec), Rev. Karol Misso, Hortense Duce & Ralston Misso. Passed away in Brisbane on 28 August 2021

TISSERA, Marlene (nee KRASSE), wife of Vernon, mother of Andre, Jan and Sharon, in Sri Lanka. (Contributed)

FORSTER, Cedric, (03.07.1933 – 02.09.2021), husband of Yvonne, father of David, Michelle, the late Stuart and Martin. Brother of Maurice Forster and Jennifer Gomes. (Contributed by Maurice Forster)

DORIS DE ZILVA (Vanderwert) Wife of Edward de Zilva. Daughter of late Edward & Mona Vanderwert. Mother of late Gary and Jude. Mother-in-law of Sandy. Grandmother of Reece and Jarred. Passed away peacefully in Newcastle, NSW on 27th October, 2021. Funeral details will be notified later.

MILROY PASSE DE SILVA passed away in Dandenong hospital. (28.10.2021)

TYRONNE PEREIRA, husband of June Ferdinands, passed away peacefully 28/10/2021

RONALD GEORGE STEPHEN passed away peacefully on 25th October 2021. Beloved husband of Ira, father of Lal, Ananda, Anura (deceased) & Osmand.

KOELMEYER - IVES (Retired Lt. Sri Lanka Navy), loving husband of Lygia, beloved father of Christoble, Hestia, Ives & Aurilia – passed away October 2021

FOENANDER, Dr Clarence Oscar (Larry) husband of Yvonne (dec) Father of John (dec) and Sabrina. Passed away 12.11.2021

.....
ADVERTISE WITH US.

THE BAA NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY QUARTER PRICES ARE BASED ON A PER QUARTER BASIS.

Full Colour page - \$100

Full B/W page - \$70

Half Colour page - \$70

Half B/W page - \$35

We are happy to use originals or create an advertisement to suit your business based on your instructions – subject to approval

Contact: Hermann – 0488 027 558

Email: hermann_r_loos@yahoo.com .au

How many hugs do we need?

Four hugs a day for survival,

Eight hugs a day for maintenance,

Twelve hugs a day for growth

2021/22 Subscription Reminder

Dear Member

If you have not paid your subscriptions for the previous or current year Financial Year, we will not worry you with further reminders except to say that you are a valued member of the Burgher cultural identity and we, through this Association, endeavour to maintain a focal point for the continuity of our cultural community traditions and unique identity. Please consider renewing your Membership.

Please refer to the address label and if the "Paid to Date" is a prior financial year we would appreciate your continued support of the Burgher Association. The Annual Subscription is \$20 and is payable on 1st July of each year. If you prefer you may make payments in advance for a future year's subscription. Please send your remittance to:

The President

Burgher Association (Australia) Inc
No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142

OR, pay by Direct Deposit at the nearest National Australia Bank quoting your Membership Number & Surname:

BANK: National Australia Bank
BSB: 083 297
A/c No: 51 547 7094

Please detach & enclose the payment slip below if paying by Post

<input type="checkbox"/>
MEMBER NO:
FROM:
..... Please find attached remittance for \$20 being Member Fees due for the Financial Year: 2021/22 <input type="checkbox"/> 2022/23 <input type="checkbox"/> other
MAIL TO: The President, Burgher Association (Australia) Inc. No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142.
COMMENTS:
.....

Just for a chuckle –

My friend is in love with two women, one makes incredible pancakes, the other writes beautiful poetry, now he can't decide whether to marry for 'batter' or for 'verse'

Could a librarian be called a bookkeeper? ... referee be a game warden? ... dairyman be a cowboy? ... cabinetmaker be the president?

A perfectionist walked into a bar...apparently, the bar wasn't set high enough.

Jack, a Collingwood fan, looks through some old junk and discovers a lamp. He rubs the lamp and a genie appears. The genie grants him three wishes on the basis that everything he wishes for, Carlton fans would get double the amount

Jack accepts the condition.

His first wish is for \$1,000,000. He gets it and, in return, Blues fans worldwide receive \$2,000,000 each.

His second wish is for a Ferrari, and lo and behold, Blues fans get two Ferraris each ...For his last wish, he says: "You know, I've always wanted to donate a kidney!"

A preacher visits an elderly woman from his congregation. As he sits on the couch, he notices a large bowl of peanuts on coffee table. "Mind if I have a few?" he asks. "Not at all!" replies the woman. They chat for an hour or so and as the preacher stands to leave, he realises that he has emptied most of the bowl.

"I am terribly sorry for eating all your peanuts," he says. "Oh, that's alright," the woman says. "Ever since I lost my teeth, all I can do is suck the chocolate off them."

THE PRESIDENT AND THE GENERAL
COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO WISH OUR
MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A
JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND
HAPPY 2022

VICTOR MELDER SRI LANKA LIBRARY

7, Benambra Street, Broadmeadows, Vic 3047, Australia.

Telephone + 61 3 9309 4040

E-mail: melder.rjvm1935@bigpond.com

Website: www.vmsl-library.com

Those wishing to donate books and other publications to the library, may contact Victor Melder at any of the addresses provided above.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new editor - My name is Melanie Farrell (I prefer Mel). My parents migrated to Brisbane in the early 60's, but my dad, Father Geoffrey Misso missed his ministry in Sri Lanka so we returned home after a couple of years.

I did the bulk of my schooling at Bishops College in Colombo where my mum Evelyn was a teacher. My parents, along with my brother and myself returned to Australia in 1972, this time settling in Western Australia

My husband Geoff & I came to Melbourne on a working holiday in 1998 for 6 months but 23 years later here we still are!!!

My 2 daughters and my 4-year-old granddaughter live in Perth as do my brother Neil and his family.

It is with some trepidation that I take over as editor; I realise I have big shoes to fill so I hope I can do the position justice!

I would also like to encourage you to contribute to the newsletter, news of yourselves, your families, stories about Sri Lanka etc can be emailed to me at bugbear6@bigpond.com

Life - A Continuous Cycle of Learning. (Noor Rahim - Nov 10, 2014)

Life and Learning go hand in glove starting from the day you are born continuing until to the good Lord you are drawn, an experience that spans a person's life and love

Learning starts the day you are born with face aglow nestled in your mother's arms; fed with tender care and adoration groping for the source that sustains - thus commences your first lesson in life and love.

The learning curve continues with much parental love thrilling your parents when you crawl, walk and run soon learning to utter words, sing and doing things that are fun under the watchful eyes of your parents who will cherish and adore.

The next step is attending school that is close, with a satchel of books and uniform to adorn the first few days are lot of fun, games and making friends soon to be followed by serious studies and more.

On graduation you will seek a job with a future. A career that is to your satisfaction and once established with time; and you have settled in you find that it is time to retire.

Reaching the age of retirement, you think you are free but you will soon find that the requirement to learn returns - no sugar; no salt; no spices is what the doctor recommends and this is the first step in learning to eat; to survive.

Learning to walk with the assistance of a cane comes to the fore as your body weakens and your movements worsen learning to use eyeglasses/contact lenses is a must for vision. Other bodily faculties that need to be learned; to be used with care.

Always remember that in life - "Learning is like the ring on your finger - It has no end"

THE TOWEL

At first glance, it is easy to look at a towel as a most ordinary object. Have you ever stopped to think that for thousands of years, the towel has been used for many wonderful purposes?

For example, the mother who wipes the tears of a child, the physician who binds the wounds of a patient or the woman in her home wiping her hands as she moves from task to task.

Perhaps the most significant use of the towel happened nearly two thousand years ago when our Saviour, only hours before He hung on the cross, took an ordinary towel in His loving hands and dried the feet of His disciples.

This simple, loving act personifies the selflessness and loving service we seek to give during our lives. It illustrates that an ordinary thing like a towel, in the right hands, and with a giving heart, can lighten another's load. As with every action performed by the Saviour on this earth, His act of service reminds us that simple day-to-day kindnesses are the Saviour's way to bless and comfort.

This towel is given with love and with the hope you will do works of goodness with it as the Saviour did so many years ago.

May the absorbing spirit of the season blot out our problems, soak up our sorrows, wipe away difficulties and may your Christmas be shining and bright.

Burgher Association (Australia)

358 Houghton Road, Clayton VIC 3168

HALL



HIRE



The Burgher Association of Australia Centre is available for private hire (**Dances, Birthday parties, Anniversaries etc**). The BAA Centre is located within a short walk from Clayton railway station. The hall is licensed to hold 150 people. Tables and chairs for this number of attendees are provided. There is usually plenty of parking across the road and a few spaces on the property. Disabled access via ramps is available to both the front and rear doors and a disabled parking space is available. There is also a 'horseshoe' driveway permitting the dropping off of attendees under cover.

Commercial kitchen facilities are available including stainless steel splash walls, a commercial glass washer, dishwasher, stove, oven, hot water boiler, large freezer, refrigerator and a bain-marie. There also is an alfresco area at the back that can be used for making the famous Sri Lankan Hoppers, BBQs or other activity that requires a shielded outdoor space. There are multiple reverse-cycle heating and cooling units servicing the main hall and kitchen. There are separate male, female and disabled toilets. More pictures are available on our website <http://burgherassocn.org.au/baa-centre/>

How to make a booking: Call Breeda Foenander on 0423 844 101 to enquire whether the date, you wish to hire the hall for is available. If you are a member of the BAA, the price of hiring the Centre costs \$350 per day; Non-members \$400 per day. Minimum booking is 5 hours \$300. Hours of operation Friday/Saturday 11AM to 12 Midnight, other days 10AM to 10PM. All bookings require a bond of \$250 that is refunded if the centre is handed back to management clean and undamaged. (\$1000 for age 21+ and under). A payment of \$100.00 will be deducted from the Security Fee deposit for cleaning of the premises, for the next day's Events. Hiring Agreement. *NB: To book the hall, payment has to be made via the BAA Bank Account – details available on request. Depending on whether you are a member or non-member the full fee plus the deposit of \$250 must be paid to secure the date booked.*



THE TALE OF TAYLOR-MADE TEA

The Scotsman, James Taylor with a few tea seedlings planted on a bare hill-side on Loolecondera estate, Hewaheta, in 1866, also sowed the seeds for an economic and social revolution that eventually reshaped the landscape of this remote island that he had made his home. With that inconspicuous beginning he unwittingly wrote the first page of a long and fascinating history as well. Finally, the great industry Taylor birthed, sculpted the contours of this country and, today, positions it globally.

Tea is an industry traditionally defined by the statistics that it generates; extents under cultivation, yield per hectare, price per kilogram, annual national production volumes, export earnings, are some of the numbers that are constantly placed in the public eye.

However, this overpowering mass of commercial intelligence does not reflect the humane side of the industry, the stories of the individuals who have made those numbers possible, and the various actors who have, over the decades, played such decisive roles on a fascinating stage. Nor does it reflect, even faintly, the romance, the mystery, the charm and the legend that is tea.

And that is exactly what the Dilmah, History of Ceylon Tea sets out to do; to meet that need, to fill a yawning vacuum in the history of Ceylon of the industrial age, so that the initiated can both refresh and expand their knowledge base whilst the novice is introduced to a new and fascinating theatre.

Why this preoccupation with tea? What is its allure? To billions of people the world over it is represented by a simple but refreshing brew, drunk in street corners, hole-in-the-wall eateries and upscale restaurants, in hovels and palaces, sometimes with ceremony but most often as an unconditioned reflex to an inner compulsion.

The truth of the splendour of tea lies in the legend of the brew. When we speak of herbalist Chinese emperor Shen Nung's discovery of tea, supposedly in 2732 BCE, it is difficult to discern between myth and history. The mystery behind its cultivation in China, the exclusivity of its ritualistic consumption, and being confined as it were to the elite of a fabled empire enhanced its lustre. The story of its surreptitious transmission to other lands in a genuine 'cloak and dagger' operation and its early history in the West as a beverage of the nobility invests tea, yet again, with a mantle of singularity and superiority. And so, it persists, to this day.

Coffee first, briefly, but then, primarily, tea, was the catalyst for the modernisation of Ceylon. With the advent of tea, the bullock cart and the jungle -fringed, rutted, village paths gave way to the railroad, the steam train and the lorry.

Plantation activity fuelled the growth of remote villages in to towns and the expansion of towns in to cities. The needs of the plantations generated an intricate network of motorable roads crisscrossing the island, connecting hitherto isolated communities. Fishing harbours became great ports. The support services to the plantations such as shipping, material supply, packaging, engineering services, and so on evolved in to separate industries with their own dynamism.

It produced wealth in the country and within the local society gave rise to a new class of the affluent. Schools, offices, hospitals and other public service centres proliferated along with banks to serve a new generation of entrepreneurs. Tea propelled the expansion of commerce in the country. The industry represented development, unplanned perhaps but vital to the making of the new Ceylon.

The plantation industry also changed the ethnic demography of plantation regions and ushered in a new socio-political dimension with lasting impact on electoral outcomes. It also enabled sustainable economic growth in a country, hitherto without governable industries and provided a steady contribution to the gross domestic product, for over a century unmatched by any other industry sector.

In the course of its evolution in the country it also created its own fascinating history. Thousands of men and women, of all classes, many ethnicities, and diverse races - a few prominent enough to go down in history but the many unknown and unnamed contributed in both small and large ways to the story of tea in this country. Some of these were larger than life figures, around whom narratives and legends have been woven.

In their stories there is sadness and joy, failure and success, and accolade and rejection, the latter as demonstrated in the final chapter of the life of the founding father; a disillusioned James Taylor, dismissed by his employer, dies of dysentery and his body is unceremoniously and laboriously hauled down from the estate to Kandy, by the simple estate workers who toiled for him. It took another century for him to be recognised publicly for his contribution, to both the industry and the country.

If Undelivered, return to:

The Editor

22C Ahern Road

Pakenham VIC 3810

**PRINT
POST
100018493**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

To:

[Empty rectangular box for recipient details]