



Burgher Association Australia

Winter Edition

June 2023

Community Newsletter



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

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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

Considering the high cost of living expenses, the BAA General Committee has decided that until such time we are able to bring back the large audiences at our functions, the ticket price will be based on the cost of the function so as not to make a profit.

As such 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 further notice. Accordingly the BAA has just announced following the October 2022 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.



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 the BAA Centre 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. (\$2000 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.



What's Happening At the BAA



16 July 2023

Winter Warmers Lunch

BAA Community Hall - 358 Haughton Road, Clayton 3169

12.00 - 5.00pm

17 September 2023

High Tea

BAA Community Hall - 358 Haughton Road, Clayton 3169

12.00 noon - 5.00pm

15 October 2023

Hopper Lunch

BAA Community Hall - 358 Haughton Road, Clayton
3169

12.00 noon - 5.00pm

26 November 2023

Members & Friends Christmas Party

Details to be advised in next Newsletter.

Please note this Newsletter is also available on the Burgher Association Australia website <http://www.burgherassocn.org.au> and may be downloaded in PDF Format

WINTER WARMERS LUNCH



Sunday 16TH July 2023

Come and join us at

THE BAA

358 Houghton Road, Clayton

Catch up with friends for a fantastic afternoon
Good food, Music, and Dancing

12.00 noon to 5.00 pm

Buffet By "Cha's Cabin"

Roast Beef / Roast Chicken / Roast Potatoes including Vegies
Tossed Salad, Seafood Salad, Bread Rolls and Butter
Desert: Fruit Salad & Ice Cream

\$30.00 pp – BYO

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PHOTOS TAKEN AT THE BAA CURRY LUNCHEON





(Our very own Mr Hans De Zilwa)





The World Heritage Sites of Sri Lanka

Source: Island

Volleyball it is claimed is our national sport. However, there is no doubt that Cricket is the most popular sport in Sri Lanka. That popular West Indies calypso ‘Cricket, lovely cricket.’ will always be ringing in our ears. From the villages where youngsters from around 16 to 26 or maybe even older, use ‘polpithi’ bats, to the towns where more sophisticated young men use willow bats. It is cricket, cricket, and more cricket. Little wonder then that we have been correctly described as ‘a cricket crazy nation.’ And when it comes to grounds for international matches the Galle International Stadium is the most favoured by our cricketers, our coaches, and our spectators. The reason is that as at today (03. 05 .21), 34 Test Matches were played on these grounds of which Sri Lanka won 19 and lost only eight. In addition to this, in a press release datelined June 8, 2020, Yash Mittal an avid lover of cricket has listed five of the most picturesque cricket grounds in the world. And yes – you have guessed it – the Galle cricket grounds, cradled between the Galle Fort and the Indian Ocean, heads the list !

Galle has an ancient and interesting history. In pre-Christian times Galle, called ‘Gimhathitha’ which is derived from the ancient Sinhala script meaning ‘port near the river Gin’ (Gin Ganga) was a major port in our country. As early as 1400 BC cinnamon had been exported and Galle may well have been the main transshipment port in this part of the world, with Persians, Arabs, Greeks, Romans, Malays, Indians, and Chinese doing trade. A trilingual Inscription on stone dated February 14, 1409, in Chinese, Tamil and Persian was erected by the Chinese Admiral, Zheng He, to commemorate his visit to Galle. This is now in the Colombo National Museum. A copy can be found in the Maritime Museum in Galle. So dear reader our country’s friendship with China is a centuries old one. Nothing new in that. Galle is also referred to by the famed Muslim Berber-Moroccan scholar and traveller Ibn Batuta, in his well-

documented book 'Rihlah' (Travels) who visited the island in 1344 CE. He referred to Galle as Quali/ Kali..

No doubt that all these references to the ancient port city of Galle and others as we will read about later on, contributed to UNESCO listing the Old Town of Galle and the Fortifications as a World Heritage Site in 1988. According to an article in the Ceylon Observer datelined November 26, 2017, by Dimuthu Attanayake and Manjula Fernando it is stated that, "The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in its advisory body evaluation has recommended Galle Fort under its criterion IV Code. Galle provides an outstanding example of urban ensemble which illustrates the interaction of European architecture and South Asian tradition from the 16th to the 19th centuries. Among these characteristics that makes this an urban group of exceptional value is the original sewer system from the 17th century which is flushed with sea water and controlled by a pumping station formerly activated by a windmill in the Triton Bastian."

According to the Galle Heritage Foundation the Triton Bastian (which is a projecting part of a fortification) is one of many gun Bastians built on a long rampart. Some having been built by the Portuguese but many by the Dutch. For the Dutch it must be remembered, such fortifications were necessary to defend the western approaches to Galle Fort, from enemy navies. In particular the British navy. In the article referred to above it is also stated that "the most salient feature is the use of European models adapted by local manpower to the geological, climatic, historic, and cultural conditions of Sri Lanka. In the structure of these ramparts' coral was frequently used along with granite. In the ground layout all the measures of length, width and height conform to the regional metrology. The wide streets were planted with grass and shaded with Suriyas and were lined with houses, each in its own garden and an open veranda supported by columns which is another sign of acculturation of an architecture which is European only in its basic design." (AUTHOR'S NOTE: Suriyas were trees usually used for fencing and sometimes grew to a height of 30 feet).

Built first by the Portuguese in the 16th Century, Galle reached the height of its development during the Dutch colonial rule. Galle, it has been claimed is the best example of a fortified city in South and South – East Asia and is the last remaining fortress in Asia built by European occupiers. Since it was the Dutch that earned for Galle the honour of being listed as a World Heritage Site, it would be relevant to describe what they actually built. Among the heritage monuments there is the Dutch Reformed Church referred to at that time as 'Groote Kerk.' Located at the entrance to the Fort it was built in 1755 and is said to be the oldest Protestant church in Sri Lanka. The floor is paved with large gravestones taken from the old Dutch cemetery. The pulpit is made of calamander wood from Malaysia. This church is still in use.

On Church Road is All Saints Church. This is an Anglican Church built on the site of the former Dutch Courthouse. The Church was consecrated by Bishop Claughton, the

second Bishop of Colombo on February 21, 1871. Prior to this the Anglican congregation used to worship in the earlier mentioned Dutch Reformed Church. Today the faithful still gather here for worship. An interesting fact is that a large bell was installed in the dome of the Church in memory of the first Vicar, Rev Dr. Schrader. However for security reasons this bell was lowered in 1960, and now lies in the premises of the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour in Colombo.

Along Lighthouse Street is what has been described as a 'quaint little' Roman Catholic Church. It was built by the Dutch in 1893 and is claimed to be one of the oldest Roman Catholic Churches in the country where services are held even today. Referring to Churches one cannot overlook another historic landmark, namely the magnificent St Mary's Cathedral located on Prison Road, in the city of Galle. It was built in 1874, but not by the Dutch. It was by the Society of Jesus. There is no doubt that this too would have contributed to the inscription of World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Catering to the religious needs of the Buddhist population there lies along Rampart Street the Sri Sudharmalaya Temple which was built as far back as 1889. In the construction of this temple there is evidence of the impact of Dutch and European architecture. And then we come to the beautifully crafted, majestic, Meeran Mosque, built in 1904, it is located opposite the Galle Lighthouse and was and still is a place of deep veneration and prayer for the Muslims who form the largest religious group within the Fort.

Moving from the religious to the secular, there can be seen as one enters the Galle Fort through the Old Gate, the British Coat of Arms, with the inscription 'Dieu et Mon Droit (God and My Right). In the inner part of this fortified entrance is a 1668 dated inscription with the letters VOC (Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie – meaning Dutch East India Company). Further inside the Fort is the 87 ft. tall, Lighthouse, built by the British in 1939. However, the earlier Lighthouse also built by the British in 1848 was destroyed by fire in 1936. Further into the Fort on Church Street was the old Government House. Built in 1683 it was used for administrative purposes and also served as the residence of the Commander. Regrettably however it is now closed, for visitors.

Near the Old Gate was the Great Warehouse built around 1669 which was used to store spices and ship's equipment. It now houses the National Maritime Museum. One of the oldest buildings within the Fort is the Dutch Hospital built in the 17th Century, referred to as the Old Dutch Hospital, very aptly it is on Hospital Street and close to the harbor for the benefit of Dutch seamen. It was supposed to be built on a location where there was a Portuguese mint. In 1850 the British converted this to a barracks. It is now a shopping and restaurant arcade.

Then on Church Street there is another complex built in 1684 as the headquarters of the Dutch commanders and the staff. In 1865 it was converted to the New Orient Hotel

catering to European passengers travelling between Europe and Galle. Today it is the five-star Amangalla Hotel. Outside the Galle Fort on the southern side of Galle Bay in an island promontory. On it is Cloisenberg Hotel. It is a story of the transformation of an elegant manor to a star-class hotel. Once called Villa Marina, it was built in 1859 by Captain Bayley, who was the local agent for the P & O Shipping Company. It changed ownership in 1889 to Simon Perera Abeywardena who was the son-in-law of one of the country's greatest entrepreneurs and philanthropists, Sir Charles Henry de Soysa. In 1965 this home was reconstructed to be a hotel. It was named Cloisenberg. The name is derived from the Dutch name Klossenburg, which means a small fort on which the sea roars.

Yet another chapter in the colourful history of Galle began in 1796, when the British East India Company entered Ceylon from India where it had its stronghold. Quite naturally they nudged the Dutch out of Galle. Two large Sri Lankan conglomerates which had in those early years been British companies, had their beginning in Galle. One was Chas. P. Hayley and Company which was established in 1878 and much later became Hayleys PLC. The other was Clarke Spence and Company, which was established in 1868 and much later became Aitken Spence PLC.

From buildings and companies let's move on to trees. In fact one particular tree – The breadfruit tree (*Artocarpus incisosus*). Known in Sinhala as 'del.' It was introduced by the Dutch. In an article dated January 10, 2021, titled 'Historical Ancient Trees in Sri Lanka' by Hemi it is stated that this was planted by the Dutch. circa 1721. Located near the Akersloot Bastion. It is still in existence.

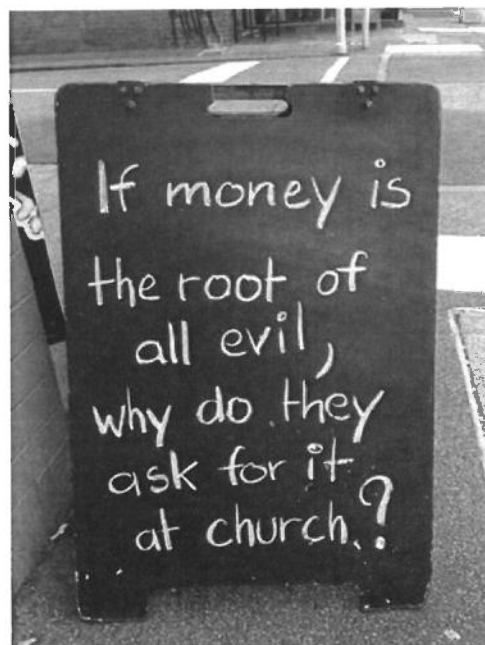
And then Alas! came the Tsunami on December 26, 2004. At 6.28 that morning a mega under-sea earthquake of 9.3 on the Richter scale erupted near Banda Aceh in Sumatra. This sent 100 ft high waves speeding across the Indian Ocean ferociously lashing Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Maldives, Myanmar and even Somalia –in that order. By 9.25 the waves smashed into the southern and south-western coast. Amongst the districts affected was Galle. The walls of the rampart which were built to withstand cannon fire now acted to withstand Nature's fury. They became wave breakers. In addition, the effective drainage system installed by the Dutch drained off the flood waters without much damage within the Fort itself.

To quote Fr. Damian Arakularatne, a highly respected Roman Catholic priest who was the former Director of Caritas which was one of the many organisations that did post-tsunami, reconstruction work "If the Fort had not been there, Oh my God!, I can't even imagine the damage that would have been. It saved us." However, the adjacent Galle International Stadium and grounds suffered severe damage. In fact, the stadium served as a temporary shelter for hundreds of persons who had lost their homes. In Galle town the old vegetable market built by the British in 1890 was in shambles.

Back to cricket. The Galle Cricket Grounds will hold pleasant memories for Sri Lanka's greatest cricketer and gentleman. Muttiah Muralidaran (that's how he wishes his name to be spelt). It was here in 2003 that in the match against England that he weaved his magic spell of spin bowling and claimed seven wickets for 40 runs. But Muralidaran was also a philanthropist. When his Manager, Kushil Gunasekera, who is also a likeminded philanthropist and is the Founder – Chief Trustee of the charitable organization called 'Foundation of Goodness' (FOG) Muralidaran also became an active Trustee. The vision of this charity was supporting local communities through projects such as catering to children's needs, education, health care and psycho-social support. After the tsunami this organisation focused on one of the area's most tragically affected by the tsunami.

This was Seenigama located 14 miles North/West from Galle. It was Kushil's hometown. Muralidaran that icon of cricket got a ready response to his call for funds for post tsunami reconstruction work which came pouring in specially from England and Australia.

Let's revert to the historic cricket grounds. Renovations specially of the Stadium began on May 8, 2006. Out of devastation came development. It became larger, better equipped and more accommodative for cricketers, spectators, and the media. On December 17, 2007, it was opened by President Mahinda Rajapaska . The first test Match played here was against England which ended in a draw. Perhaps we should conclude from where we started. 'Cricket, lovely cricket.' After all we are cricket crazy, aren't we?





JONATHAN CHILLS

Jonathan chills on the lawn of Plantation House, the residence of the governor of St. Helena, in October 2017.

The world's oldest tortoise is celebrating what is believed to be his 190th birthday this year.

Source:-NPR

He's lived through two world wars, eight British monarchs and 40 U.S. presidents. His lifetime has seen the first phone call (1876), the first skyscraper (1885), the first power-driven flight (1903), the first people to walk on the moon (1969).

He was alive when the first photograph of a person was taken (1838); now he **poses for selfies** with adoring tourists. He was born before the creation of the postage stamp (1840), and now appears on them.

He is Jonathan, the world's oldest tortoise. And he's celebrating his 190th birthday.

Jonathan marked the occasion with a three-day birthday party over the weekend at his home on the South Atlantic Island and British overseas territory St. Helena, where he's spent the majority of his long life (minus the first 50 years or so).

Jonathan is believed to have been born in 1832 but could potentially be even older. His **estimated age** is based on the fact that he was fully mature when he was brought to St. Helena from the Seychelles in 1882 as a gift to its then-governor.

And an old photograph of a fully grown Jonathan grazing on grass at the governors' residence — called Plantation House — sometime between 1882 and 1886 further supports that theory, according to **Guinness World Records**. He's lived there ever since, and currently enjoys the company of three giant tortoises named David, Emma and Fred.

Guinness World Records declared Jonathan the **world's oldest chelonian** — a category encompassing tortoises, turtles and terrapins — in January, three years after naming him the **oldest-known land animal alive**.

Jonathan is blind and has no sense of smell, but his hearing is great and he loves the company of humans, St. Helena's government told the recordkeeper at the start of 2022.

Jonathan's favourite foods include cabbage, cucumbers, carrots, apples, bananas and lettuce hearts. His vet, Joe Hollins, described his primary interests as sleeping (either in the sun or beneath grass clippings, depending on the temperature), eating and mating.

“In spite of his age, Jonathan still has good libido and is seen frequently to mate with Emma and sometimes Fred — animals are often not particularly gender-sensitive!” Hollins said.

Jonathan has actually been hailed as a gay icon for some time. In 2017, caretakers discovered during a medical procedure that Frederica, his mate of nearly three decades, was **not actually a female** as had been thought since the two were first introduced in 1991 — which explains the name Fred, and their lack of offspring.

It's just one interesting facet of Jonathan's fascinating life (another one is that he had **his first bath** several years ago, at the ripe age of 184), which has far exceeded the typical expectancy of what Hollins says is 150 years.

“Although aware of the responsibility and that, of course, he will die one day, I believe we have greatly enhanced his life expectancy,” he told **Guinness in 2019**. “Like any celebrity we have made advance plans for his demise, but hope not to put them into action yet.”

While Jonathan's exact date of birth is unknown, Governor Nigel Phillips granted him an **official birthday** of Dec. 4, 1832, earlier this year and timed the big bash so it would coincide with the popular annual Christmas market at Plantation House.

People could visit a special **Jonathan stall at the market** to see an animated video of his life, view the winners of an art competition in his honor and buy Jonathan-themed stamps and souvenirs, among other perks.

And the birthday boy was treated to a special salad cake featuring some of his favorite foods, like tomatoes and bananas.

It's held local art and souvenir competitions; sold limited-edition portraits, prints and **postage stamps**; given out certificates to his visitors bearing the first-ever image of his footprint and created crowdsourced photo and video montages celebrating Jonathan's life — including “everything he has lived through, the people who have connected with him and DNA research that could change our understanding of the aging process and of cancer.” He is also depicted on the reverse of the island's 5-pence coin.

St. Helena's tourism website says it's also applying for a national holiday in Jonathan's honor.

Visitors today can still see Jonathan roaming the grounds at Plantation House, though it did implement some restrictions after what Hollins called “mobbing and inappropriate behavior by cruise-ship tours.”

Teeny Lucy, another of Jonathan's caretakers, told the **Canadian Broadcasting Corp.** that there is a strict policy of not doing anything to cause him undue stress — so no more children of visiting dignitaries standing on his shell for photos, for example.

“Tortoises, they don't move fast, and they contemplate everything. When I go up, it definitely reduces the anxiety that you might be feeling, and it's a slower pace of everything,” she said. “He's a charming old gentleman. He really is.”

African elephants are pregnant for a really long time.



Nine months is nothing: African elephants have the longest pregnancy of any mammal, which can last up to two years. Scientists don't really know why it takes so long to grow an elephant, but it could have something to do with their **highly developed brains**— elephants have complex social relationships and cognitive skills.



Koalas have human-like fingerprints.

In 1996, a team of anatomists at the University of Adelaide in Australia discovered that koala and human fingerprints can easily be mistaken for one another, likely due to the fact that koalas are ancestors of primates.

Courtesy: Internet

At the bank, I told
the cashier, "I'd like
to open a joint
account please."
"OK, with whom?"
"Whoever has
lots of money."

SHAKESPERE FUN

Who were the bride and the bridegroom?

Romeo and Juliet.

When did he propose?

Twelfth Night.

What did he say?

As you like it.

From where was the ring obtained?

The Merchant of Venice.

Who were the chief guests?

Antony and Cleopatra, Troilus and Cressida.

Who were the bridegroom's friends?

The Two Gentlemen of Verona.

Who prepared the wedding breakfast?

The Merry Wives of Windsor.

What was the honeymoon like?

A Midsummer Night's Dream.

How would you describe their quarrel?

The Tempest.

What was their married life like?

Comedy of Errors.

What was the bridegroom's chief occupation?

The Taming of the Shrew.

What did she give him?

Measure for Measure.

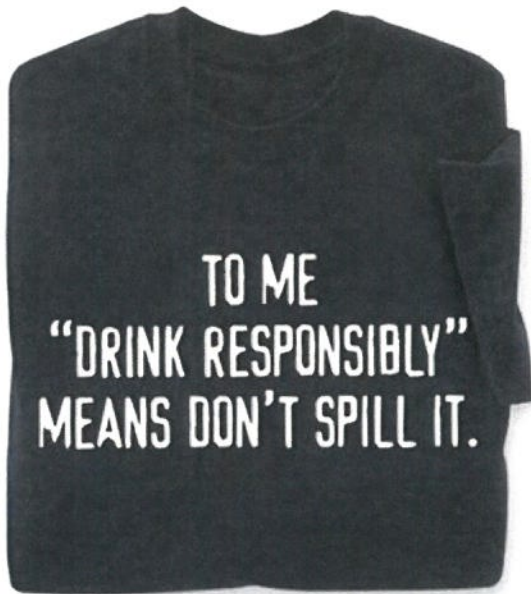
What did their friends say?

All's Well That Ends Well.

What's the moral of this story?

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. 😊😊😊😊

ORDER YOUR T-SHIRTS



PLANNED PARENTING!!!

UNPREPARED PARENTING!!

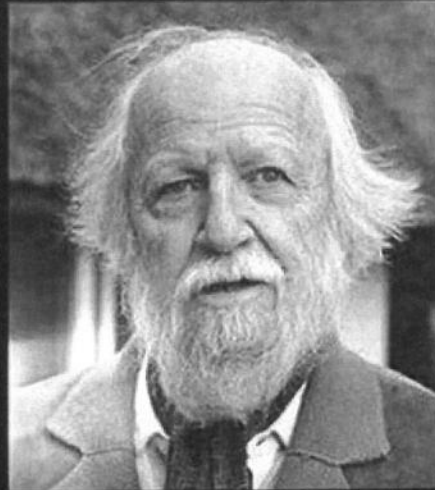


Source : Facebook

One for the ladies

Sir William Golding

regarding women



Lessons Taught
By LIFE

I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men, they are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a woman, she will make it greater. If you give her sperm, she'll give you a baby. If you give her a house, she'll give you a home. If you give her groceries, she'll give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she'll give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit!

Still on the topic of Ladies

Fantastic lines by Mother Teresa:

“If your eyes are Positive, you will love the world. But if your tongue is Positive, the world will love you. “

“A woman’s love is in action. She looks with her heart and feels with her eyes. A woman is the bank where her family deposits all anger, worries and hurt. A woman is the cement that keeps her family together and her love lasts a lifetime.”

One day, I asked old Maud how she lost her husband. She told me her sad story: “Well, he needed a blood transfusion, but his blood type was not on record, so the doctors asked me if I knew what it was, as they urgently needed to know, in order to save my Norman’s life.



Tragically, I’ve never known his blood type, so I only had time to sit beside him and say goodbye. I’ll never forget how supportive my Norman was. Even as he was fading away, he kept on whispering to me, “Be positive, be positive!”

“That was my Norman! Always thinking of others.”



Anxiety



Anxiety Disorder

Anxiety symptoms can include a racing heart, tight chest, shortness of breath, sweaty palms, nausea and, of course, worried thoughts together with a feeling of “something bad is going to happen”. We all feel anxious about an exam or a deadline and once the stress passes you feel OK again. We say anxiety disorder exists when symptoms of anxiety persist for six months or longer.

Additional symptoms can be tiredness, feeling irritable, headaches or muscle pain and an inability to stop worrying.

Anxiety can be debilitating. Some with social phobia can struggle to leave the house while others seem prevented from enjoying life. Panic attacks can occur for no apparent reason.

As there is no blood test or scan to diagnose anxiety, most tests are done by your doctor to rule out other causes (e.g., overactive thyroid).

Treatment depends on the severity and type of anxiety. It is "horses for courses". There are medications, psychological counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), and "desensitisation" programs to get you used to what you fear. Support groups where people with anxiety can meet and support each other and share tips are very helpful. Online therapies (e-therapies) are a new innovation and can be as effective as face-to-face services.

From a doctor's newsletter



Most likely to disappear beneath the waves - Maldives

With all the talks of global warming and rising sea levels, it is the residents of the Maldives that have the greatest reason to fear. With

an average height of around 1.8 meters above sea level their nation is the lowest on Earth.

Most overweight population - Nauru

With over 95% of its population being overweight, the small island nation of Nauru is by far the fattest country on Earth. Its obesity epidemic is primarily attributed to the importation of western fast food that coincided with an increased standard of living in the 20th century due to the global popularity of its phosphate exports.



Courtesy: Internet

SL among best places to travel around the World in 2023- Forbes



Source:[Dailymirror](#)

Sri Lanka is among 23 best places to travel around the World in 2023, according to the Forbes.

The Forbes said that Sri Lanka was chosen by Juliana Broste, a 12x Heartland Emmy Award-winning travel filmmaker and host, showcasing adventures and fun things to do around the world.

“It’s no secret, Sri Lanka has had a hard time,” says Juliana Broste. “Even with inflation, visitors will find Sri Lanka a spectacular, affordable destination worth the long haul. Loop around the island and you’ll see why this land will keep you guessing—from the hustle and bustle of capital city Colombo to beautiful beaches, rice fields, waterfalls, plains, and mountains,” Broste said.

There’s a lot to see in a relatively short distance, so have your camera at the ready. “Spotting the wildlife in Sri Lanka is really special,” says Broste, who explored the country on a photo tour. “You can go on safari to an Elephant Sanctuary, go whale watching on the Indian ocean and spy on birds, lizards, jellyfish and monkeys in a mangrove.” On Broste’s bucket list for next time: spotting leopards at Yala National Park.

Sri Lanka has plenty of interesting cultural attractions to explore, including the ancient cities of Anuradhapura and Kandy. “Be sure to pack an all-white outfit that covers your shoulders and legs when visiting religious sites,” says Broste. “Catching a traditional Kandyan dance performance is a highlight, seeing men and women in traditional dress telling stories through dance.” Tucked away in hill country, Nuwara Eliya, known as “Little England,” is a cool climate escape where a famous Sri Lankan export, ceylon tea, is produced. “Winding roads reveal rows and rows of tea bushes on the hillside—be sure to stop in for a cup of tea on your visit to a tea factory and plantation,” says Broste. “Equally as fun: sampling a king coconut on the side of the road along your adventure.”

For an incredible view of Colombo, head to the top of the shimmering pink Lotus Tower for a bird’s eye view of the city. “It’s a symbol of the city and just a touch taller than the Eiffel Tower,” says Broste. “Another famous viewpoint worth the hike is the ancient city of Sigiriya known as Lion’s Rock, with the ruins of an ancient stronghold located atop a dramatic rock outcrop. It’s wild to think how an entire civilization lived here centuries ago.”

The Dutch Reformed Church (Christian Reformed Church) WOLFENDHAL –

Photos taken on Good Friday, 2023

Submitted by: Helene de Rosayro



OBITUARIES

(E & O.E.)
(MAY 2023)

EDEMA, Neliya, (1936 – 2023), wife of Noel, mother of Dale and Dave, mother-in-law of Zoe and Robyn, grandmother of Phoebe, Mitchell, Max, Lilly and Tom, on April 8, 2023, in Melbourne. (Old Aloysian Newsletter, April 2023)

PEREIRA, Venetia, (14.01.1929 – 25.4.2023), in Adelaide (Bethel Funerals)

HALANGODA, Marianne (nee MACKY), daughter of George Macky, sister of Therese, Dicky (dec), Louis (dec) and Michael, in Queensland. (Contributed)

KELLAR, Randolph Collin (18.5.1944 – 28.4.2023), husband of Janet, father, grandfather and great grandfather in Sydney. (Contributed)

KELLY, Desmond Anthony Carl (02.07.1936 – 29.04.2023), father of Mike, Douglas, Michelle and Warran, grandfather and great grandfather, in Melbourne. (Contributed)

BALDSING, Earl Camillus, (03.08.1932 – 28.4.2023), husband of Yvette, Father of Marcelle Young (Aust). Jude Baldsing (SL), Kevin Baldsing (Aust). Grandfather of Alan Young, Christina Young, Jacqueline Baldsing-Young, Aaron Baldsing, Deane, Alvear, Chantalle Baldsing, Noah Baldsing. Great Grandfather. Brother of Germaine Baldsing (decd) Sri Lanka, Gordon Baldsing (Aust- dec), Gerald Baldsing (dec) Sri Lanka, Maurice Baldsing (dec) Sri Lanka, Dagmar Abraham (Can), Christobel Arunalandan (SL), Mary Perera (SL). Margaret DE Witt (Aust), Wilma Siriwardene (SL) and Margaret DE Witt (Australia), in Melbourne. (Contributed)

DE SILVA, Arden Anthon, in Melbourne on May 1, 2023, aged 77 years. (Contributed)

HENRY, Rita Joyce Claudia, wife of the late Merle Henry, mother of Sheran & Sharnila, Prasantha & Nirukshi, Sharmila & Andy, grandma of Tamzie, Lara, Marc, Aneesha, Dinil, Randil, Tiana, Sandul, Amaya & Vinul. Sister of Maisie, Edgar, Myra, Celine, Nihal & Lalith, (Daily News, 4.5.2023)

MURCOTT, Oliver, husband of the late Sheila, father of Vyllette and late Walter Dias, Carlo & Laurie Murcott, Charmaine and Patrick Selvakumaraswamy, Jenny and Rowan Gerreyn, grandfather of Richard and Kristen Chervon, Andreena and Mathew. (Daily News, 3.5.2023)

MASEFIELD, Jini (Sarojini), in Melbourne. (Daily News, 5.5.2023)

FERNANDO, Lt. Colonel Rex (Retd.), husband of Sarojini, father of Rajeev and Romesh, father-in-law of Maxine, grandfather of Hector, Malaika, Flavia and Chester. Brother of Curly, Sherine Corwell and Dorothy Jayaweera in, Perth, Australia. (Daily News, 9.5.2023)

VISVANATHAN, Dr Anusha, (11.01.1960 – 08.05.23), wife of S.K. Vishvanathan, mother of Keshini and Navin. (Adelaide Advertiser, 9.5.2023)

JURIE, Therese Freeda, wife of Anthony Bonnie Jurie, mother of Lorraine Francke (U.K.), Harvie Jurie (Italy), Ivy Jurie (U.K.), Aloma Amaratunga (U.S.A.), Charmaine Nanayakkara, mother-in-law of Johnny Francke (U.K.), Iris Jurie (Italy), Ralph Amaratunga (U.S.A.), Arjuna Nanayakkara (Maldives), grandmother of Anita Welikala, Aloma Phillips (U.K.), Ayesha Jurie Perera (Canada), Amanthi Jurie (Canada), Achini Ratnayake (U.K.), Sachini Amarasekera (U.S.A.), Ken Sumanadasa (U.K.), Ryan Amaratunga, (U.S.A.), Shamelle Amaratunga, (U.S.A.), Aneeca Nanayakkara, (SL) and Avan Nanayakkara (SL), aged 80 years. - "Bonniefred", 16/ 1, Church Road, Kandana, Sri Lanka (Daily News, 12.5.2023) aged 80,

INMAN, George Henry, husband of June (dec), father and father-in-law of Howard & Mary and Julie and Ken, grandfather and great grandfather, on May 5, aged 92 years. (Adelaide Advertiser, 13.5.2023)

LEWIS, Priscilla (nee DE SILVA), 01.12.1935 – 05.05.2023, wife of late Rupert, mother of Michealine & Glenn Roche, Patricia & Darek Siemieniak and Phyllis & Dushan Wickramasuriya, grandmother of Gareth, Roshenka, Alisha, Renesha & Rehann, great grandmother of Brooklyn, in Melbourne. (Contributed)

SCHUMACHER, Murray Clifford, (28.02.1948 – 11.05.2023), husband of Marylon, father and father-in-law of Kristyn & Adrian, Scott & Kelly and Matthew, grandfather of Danielle, Reece, Drew, Ben and Jorja, great

grandfather of Malakai and Murray, on May 11, 2023. (Adelaide Advertiser, 13.5.2023)

RANKINE, TONY (13.02.1941 – 11.05.2023), husband of Melanie, father of Michele, grandfather of Arjuna, in Sydney. (Sydney Morning Herald, 17.5.2023& Contributed).

NIMALKA, W.D. Rosmery, (02.12.1957 – 13.05.2023), wife of Patrick Gunasekera, mother of Priyesh, Sudesh and Himesh, mother-in-law of Rebecca, Navodi and Vindya, grandmother of Preheli, Atara, Adithra and Amanti, in Sydney. (Contributed)

AVORY, Therese Virginia (nee LUDOWYK), wife of late Rodney. Sister of late Desmond, late Noel, Merlene (U.K.), June, in Sri Lanka, on 12th May 2023. (Sunday Observer, 14.5.2023)

BROHIER, Mavis (nee BROWN), wife of the late Cecil Brohier. Interment of Ashes to be held on 19 May 2023 at 11.00 a.m. General Cemetery, Borella (Anglican Section). (Sunday Times, 14.5.2023)

DE SILVA, Roma (nee RUDD), wife of late Ivor Rode and late Darlton De Silva, mother of Arline (Can), Esther (Aust), Ivan (Aust), Denzil, Vivien, Jonathan and Ralston. Sister of late Rodney (UK), Henry (Aust), Winston (UK) and Vernon, (Aust), on May 17, 2023. (Daily News 19.5.2026)

DICKMAN, Alan Maurice (Maurie), husband of Hilda, father of Diane, Jennifer, Carolyn and Leslie, on May 16, 2023. (The West Australian, 20.5.2023)

DANIELS, Delores Heather, (07.03.1936 – 15.05.2023), wife of Brian, mother of Victoria, Chris and Andrew, mother-in-law of Sandy and Denise, grandmother of Genevieve, Jamie & Bec, Will & Elle, Chris & Casey and Sam & Alex, great grandmother of Harrison, (Adelaide Advertiser, 20.5.2023)

de LIVERA, Carmella Desiree (nee DENDER), 25.05.1936 – 08.05.2023, wife of the late Deva de Livera, mother of Maritana and Carmela, mother-in-law of Rohan Richards, grandmother of Sashika, Tanika and Kevin Cameron, great grandmother of Katherine. Daughter of the late Dollly & Avenal Dender, sister of late Adrian Dender, Aloma Amerasekera and of the late Yasmin (Gypsy) Wade. (Adelaide Advertiser, 20.5.2023)

GERLACH, Darryl Jeffrey(26.10.1951 – 12.05.2023), father of Simon, Matt and Ivy. Son of Norman & Joan (both dec), aged 71 years. (Adelaide Advertiser, 20.5.20-23)

IQBAL, Jean Irene, husband of Mohamed, mother of Zan and Zak, mother-in-law of Clara, grandmother of Zara and Aiden in New Zealand, on May 19, 2023. (Contributed)

CLAESSEN, Jeffry, husband of Ramona Claessen, father of Julian Claessen and Reno Claessen, father-in-law of Carnella Claessen. Brother of Jerome, Jenavieve, Rebecca, Delrine, Aloma, Jeannine, Melanie, Tania and Jude, in Sri Lanka on May 20, 2023. (Daily News, 22.5.2023)

FERNANDO, Kamala Therese Selena, wife of the late Dr. Earl Fernando, mother of Ramani, Radha, Manju and Gaithri, mother-in-law of Deva, Manil and Darren, grandmother of Anushka, Devaka, Janaka, Milindha, Amindha, Devindha, Rajindha, Maneera, Jeevan, Manekha and Ischaak, great-grandmother of Anika, Natalia, Zachary, Kristian, Gabrielle, Christian, Rania, Tarique, Anique, Savian, Sason, Ayla and Alyssa and great-great-grandmother of Ezekiel, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News 24.5.2023 & Contributed)

PAGE, Lucy, wife of the late Albert Page, mother of Therese, Anthony, Louis, Cecilia, Jeanne, Joseph, Ranjith and Marianne. - 11/1, Barnes Place, Colombo 7, (Daily Mirror, 24.5.2023)

D'SYLVA, Dalton, husband of Phillipa, father of Rebecca, Paul. Jonathan, Jeremy, Elisabeth and Jess. Grandfather. (West Australian, 27.5.2023)

VISSER, Peter John, (02.01.1941 – 22.05.2023), husband of Ann, father and grandfather. (Adelaide Advertiser, 27.5.2023)

SCHOKMAN, Vincent, (24.05.1933 – 23.05.2023), husband of Carol Shockman, father of Mischelle and Janine, grandfather of Kiera and Danie. Son of the late Walter and Constance Schokman, brother of late Patricia, late Joyce, late Antionette, late Godwin and Felix (Australia), in Melbourne. (Contributed)

VELUPILLAI, Gloria Lourdes Bernadette (nee DE SILVA), (23.11.1934 – 22.95.2023), wife of late Raman, mother of Lakshman, Ajit and Gerard, grandmother of Shehani and Gihan, in Melbourne. (Contributed)

MADAWELA, Arlene, companion to Emil van der Poorten, (Wife of late Major General Mano Madawela), mother of Shehan and Druvinka, mother-in-law of Pinki Kumari, grandmother of Tashi and Drona. Sister of Lorette Weeraratna and Leonie Dias Wanigasekera, in Sri Lanka. - Halgolla 50 Acre Estate, Galagedera, Sri Lanka (Daily Mirror, 27.5.2023)

AMARASINGHE, Camelia Daphne (nee REDLICH), wife of Harindra, mother of Rosharn and Nirosharn. (Sunday Observer, 28.5.2023)

LEWIS, Beatrice Premalatha, wife of .R. H. G. Lewis, mother of Keisha (Australia), Ethan and Mark (Canada) .Sister of late Hilda, Bertie and Grace, survived by Pearl and Winifred (Canada)., in Ottawa, Canada on May 25, 2023. (Sunday Observer, 28.5.2023)

DE ZILVA, Eunice “Una”, (nee Brown), wife of late Edmund, mother of Moira and late Maurice De Silva and of Tania and late Gnana Ponniah and Malcolm and Chrizadelle, grandmother and Sister. <|ponniah@bigpond.net.au > (Daily News, 29.5.2023)

DHANAPALA, Jayantha, (30.12.1934 – 27.05.2023), husband of Maureen, father of Kiran and Sivanka, Brother of Dr. S.B.Dhanapala (Daily News, 29.5.2023 & Contributed)

ROSAIRO, CARMELYNNE (nee ANDERSON), wife of the late Elgin Rosairo, mother of Kevin, Noel, Esther, Gerard and Delrine, mother-in-law of Madri, Sandya, Darrel, Lourdes and Athula, grandmother of Yoshane, Sean, Oshini, Rebecca, Deon, Nirmalene and Jason. - 72/6/34, Ranmuthugala, Kadawatha, Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 30.5.2023)

Note: Spelling of most names as taken from newspapers

Rodent Repellent

Rats are not allowed to enter the province of Alberta in Canada, not even as pets. They're considered a pest that destroys crops and spread disease, and a rat-control programme has kept them at bay since the 1950's.

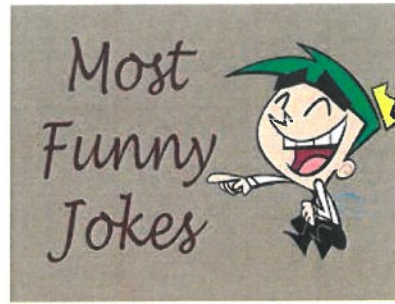


A pelican befriended a stray dog who was often spotted hanging out all alone along the boat docks. The man who photographed this has adopted him but brings him back every day to see his friend, Petey The Pelican.



Cheeta and Doggo stayed best friends from the start





A Second Language

A family of mice were surprised by a big cat.

Father Mouse jumped and said, "Bow-wow!"

The cat ran away.

"What was that Father?" asked Baby Mouse.

"Well, son, that's why it's important to learn a second language.



Only An Aussie Can Make You Feel Like a Woman



A plane passed through a severe storm. The turbulence was awful, and things went from bad to worse when one wing was struck by lightning.

One woman lost it completely.

She stood up in the front of the plane and screamed, 'I'm too young to die,' she cried.

Then she yelled, 'If I'm going to die, I want my last minutes on earth to be memorable! Is there anyone on

this plane who can make me feel like a WOMAN?'

For a moment, there was silence. Everyone stared at the desperate woman in the front of the plane. Then the man from Australia stood up in the rear of the plane.

He was handsome, tall, well built, with dark brown hair and hazel eyes.

Slowly, he started to walk up the aisle, unbuttoning his shirt as he went, one button at a time. No one moved. He removed his shirt. Muscles rippled across his chest.

She gasped...

Then, he spoke... ***"Iron this and then get me a beer!!!"***

2023/24 Subscription Reminder

Dear Member

If you have not paid your subscriptions for the previous or current 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

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Please find attached remittance for \$20 being member fees for the financial year

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