



Darley News

THE BULLETIN OF THE OLD JOSEPHIANS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW DECEMBER 2023

Festive season kicks off with carols, food and dancing

THE ANNUAL Christmas gathering of the Old Joes and their families and friends took off at the Thornleigh Community Centre in Sydney on 2 December. As usual Santa Claus distributed gifts for the children, many a glass was raised in fellowship and camaraderie, the food was sumptuous and the music by Cazcade with Pius kept the dance floor rocking and rolling.

The occasion was graced by Rev Father Treseen Silva, the chaplain to the Sri Lankan community in New South Wales, who addressed the gathering. The College Anthem was rendered with the traditional zeal and fervour by the Old Joes.

This was the first Christmas event organised by the current committee led by President Lalith Gero with strong support from Gihan de Silva, Fidel Moldrich, Reyaz Jeffrey and V. Ranganathan.

The raffle prizes brought smiles and delights from the winners.

A great night of enjoyment to kick off the festive season. Thank you to the donors of the raffle prizes and Reyaz Jeffrey for the photos.





OJA NSW

OLD JOSEPHIANS' ASSOCIATION
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

PRESIDENT
Lalith Gero

VICE PRESIDENT Fidel Moldrich

SECRETARY Shehan Fernando TREASURER Gihan de Silva

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Delan Daniels, Reyaz Jeffrey, Upeka Perera, George Rupesinghe,
Nishantha Seneviratne, Pradeep Wijesooriya

President's report

Delivered at the Annual General Meeting on 29 November 2023

Dear Fellow Old Josephians

It has been my humble privilege to serve you as your President this year.

We had a few focus areas for the year. They included a membership drive to attract young members, collaboration with other Catholic schools and to carry on with our regular events.

Celebrating **St Joseph's Feast with a Holy Mass** was a fitting start for this year. Apart from having a concelebrated mass conducted by Fr Shansana and our new Chaplain Fr Treesen Silva, we had a full house both for the Holy Mass and the social that followed. During the next few months, we concentrated on youth activities by participating in a six-a-side **Touch Footy Tournament** and the **Cricket Friendship Cup**. The daytime **Hopper Lunch with Trivia** held in August was another sellout event and provided an opportunity for the members who preferred a day event.

In a year focused on collaboration with other schools, we were able to put together a **Josephian-Peterite cricket match** for the first time. This was highly publicised in the social media. In spite of the traditional rivalry between the schools the game was played in a spirit of friendship and goodwill which was patronised by the Old Joes, Old Peterites and their families. This event was closely followed by the regular **Golf Tournament** which was held at a premier location. Our traditional Christmas event will be held on the second of December.

We have been able to complete several events this year. Although all the committee members supported me, I need to express my thanks to Fidel Moldrich, Gihan de Silva and Reyaz Jeffrey for helping at the events, George Rupesinghe for continuing to support us with flyers for the events and being the Editor of our bulletin **Darley News**. In spite of our expenses with the sporting events our finances are strong and my thanks to our Treasurer Gihan de Silva for keeping the financial records in order. Our Secretary Shehan Fernando,



apart from performing his secretarial duties, maintained the OJA Facebook page together with Reyaz. This helped us to connect with our members and reach out to the younger Old Josephians. Their effort on social media provided excellent publicity on our events. Other committee members Miles Anderiesz and V. Ranganathan were around to provide us support.

One of the goals for this year was to have sub-committees to focus on some of the events and obtain the support of non-committee members to co-ordinate events.

I am happy that our immediate past President Chrys Fernando volunteered to organise our signature golf event which was a great success. Upeka Perera was a joint-event coordinator for the Josephian-Peterite cricket match, as well as our representative for the Friendship Cup.

We helped our Alma Mater by supporting the

reconstruction of the Scouts Den with a financial contribution.

My thanks to the members and families of our OJA who supported us right throughout the year mainly by attending our events.

Active and committed members are the strength of any Association. With more participation from members, especially younger members, and with God's blessings, we can look forward to a more vibrant OJA. □

Our new Committee members



Delan Daniels



Upeka Perera



Pradeep Wijesooriya

At the Association's Annual General Meeting held on Zoom on 29 November, three new members were elected to the Committee. Delan Daniels, Upeka Perera and Pradeep Wijesooriya bring a fresh outlook and younger blood to make the Association more vibrant and relevant.

Planned events for 2024

Feast Mass and Social, 16 March 2024

Hoppers and Trivia

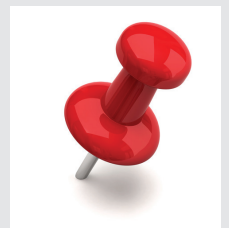
Golf Day, October 2024

Cricket fixtures

Annual General Meeting

Carols Night and buffet dinner

More information will be announced closer to the events



YOUR FEES and DONATIONS WANTED

Please pay your 2024 subscriptions and support the Association

Family \$20. Single \$10. Pensioner family \$10

The funds are needed to meet the club's routine expenses and stage the events

Pay on line to Old Josephians' Association of NSW
BSB 062 000 Account no. 0092 4464 or
send cheque to the President at 17 Wimbledon Court,
Wattle Grove NSW 2173



Raffle winners

The prizes were presented by past presidents Nalin Perera, Kenneth Ferreira and member Rohan Wijesinghe





The kids were all smiles when receiving their gifts from Santa







A wider range of photos can be seen on <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551681494458&mibextid=LQQJ4d> AND <https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21AITBy%5FBZKH1itbw&id=432F93C90FD5C64C%2190366&cid=432F93C90FD5C64C>

JOY TO THE WORLD



PRESIDENT LALITH GRERO

and the Committee of the
**OLD JOSEPHIANS' ASSOCIATION OF
NSW**

wish all Old Josephians and their families
a very happy and holy

CHRISTMAS

and may

2024

be a year of peace, blessings and good health