



Conference of Parties (COP28) 2023

The world is at a pivotal point in its response to climate change caused by increasing man-made greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. 2023 was the warmest year on record and the impacts from climate change are accelerating. While every nation will be affected in some way, the cruel reality is that it is the people of the poorest countries that will suffer the most. Action to reduce emissions to limit temperature rise to internationally agreed 1.5 degrees Celsius to avoid the worst impacts of climate change is now critical.



This was the backdrop to the recent UN Climate Conference, held in Dubai UAE. The fact that it was being hosted by a 'petrostate' and that the official facilitator of the proceedings, Sultan Al Jaber, is also the chief executive of its state oil company, did not bode well for securing agreement to eliminate fossil fuels – the primary cause of GHG emissions. Despite this, history may well record COP28 as achieving a number of important milestones, and potentially setting the world in the right direction to hold to the 1.5 degree C target. Time will tell.

On the plus side, and after much negotiation, nearly every country in the world agreed to 'transition away from fossil fuels' – coal, oil and gas, used in energy systems - the first time such an agreement has been reached in 28 years. While the wording allows the continued use of fossil fuels on the path to achieving 'net zero' emissions, and contains many loopholes, it acknowledges the most important action to combat climate change. Also of significance was the call to triple renewable energy capacity globally and double the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. Agreement was also reached to operationalise the 'loss and damage' fund that would help developing countries - especially small island states that deal with climate disasters, with more than US\$700 million pledged from several rich countries.

However, many developing countries are unhappy with the pace of action given the risks they face. The COP agreement is not legally binding. Funding pledged for loss and damage is a small fraction of what is required. Very little was achieved to secure financing to help developing countries reduce their emissions, and funding to help reduce their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

Australia played an important and constructive role in facilitating agreement – driven by recognition that its economic future lies in becoming a renewable energy superpower, and its bid to host the COP31 climate summit in 2026 (potentially in Brisbane!) will be decided next year.

For now, there is cause for optimism that national leaders will make the often-difficult decisions that are necessary to avoid an uninhabitable planet, but time is short and the clock is ticking.



Sriani Abey Suriya

Sriani Abey Suriya is a Director of Sigma Utility Solutions, a Brisbane based advisory firm working in the energy and carbon sector.

Australia Day

Australia Day is the official national day of Australia. Observed annually on 26 January, it marks the 1788 landing of the First Fleet and raising of the Union Flag by Arthur Phillip at Sydney Cove in New South Wales. In present-day Australia, celebrations aim to reflect the diverse society and landscape of the nation and are marked by community and family events, reflections on Australian history, official community awards and citizenship ceremonies welcoming new members of the Australian community.

It is an official public holiday in every state and territory. With community festivals, concerts and citizenship ceremonies, the day is celebrated in large and small communities and cities around the nation. Australia Day has become the biggest annual civic event in Australia.

Courtesy: <https://en.wikipedia.org/>



Inside this issue:	
Thai Pongal	2
The Middle Eastern Connection	3
Stories Behind Names of Places in Sri Lanka: Maladeniya, සැන්ට් ක්ලෝස්: නන්තල් සීයා, Kelaniya Durutyu Perahera	4
Book Review: Stay with Me, Sinhala Association AGM	5
රුසියාවේ ගෞරව් සහ ලංකාවේ මැගීලින්	6
Radio 4EB - New Board of Directors	7
Event Flyers	8
Public Holidays: Sri Lanka and Queensland, Event Flyers	9
Monthly News Digest: December 2023	10
Sri Lankan Events Calendar-SE Qld, Multicultural Queensland, Program Schedule	11

Thai Pongal

Thai Pongal, an auspicious festival celebrated in Tamil Nadu, South India, Sri Lanka and by the Tamil diaspora worldwide, holds profound cultural and social significance. It marks the commencement of the Tamil month of Thai and is a fervent expression of gratitude to the Sun God for a bountiful harvest.



Culturally, Thai Pongal is a vibrant celebration deeply rooted in agrarian traditions. The festival spans four days, each carrying distinct rituals and customs. The first day, Bhogi Pongal, involves the disposal of old possessions and the welcoming of new beginnings. Homes are cleansed, and bonfires are lit

to symbolise the burning of the past and the anticipation of a fresh start.

The second day, Thai Pongal, is the focal point, where families gather to cook the Pongal dish—a sweet rice pudding made from freshly harvested rice, jaggery, and milk. The act of boiling the Pongal until it overflows signifies prosperity and abundance.

Socially, Thai Pongal fosters familial bonds and community cohesion. Families come together, offering prayers and participating in rituals that reinforce unity and solidarity. Elders pass down cultural values and traditions to younger generations, preserving the rich heritage.

Moreover, the festival transcends borders, welcoming people from diverse backgrounds to partake in its festivities. It symbolises unity and inclusivity, promoting harmony among different communities.

Thai Pongal is not merely a celebration; it's a testament to the interconnectedness of culture, agriculture, and society. It embodies the essence of gratitude, unity, and the celebration of life's abundance, making it a cherished and revered festival among Tamilians worldwide.

Courtesy: Varied internet sources



Trusted People to send Boxes to Sri Lanka

TRICO FREIGHT

Mobile 0416070017 & 07-3879 9081

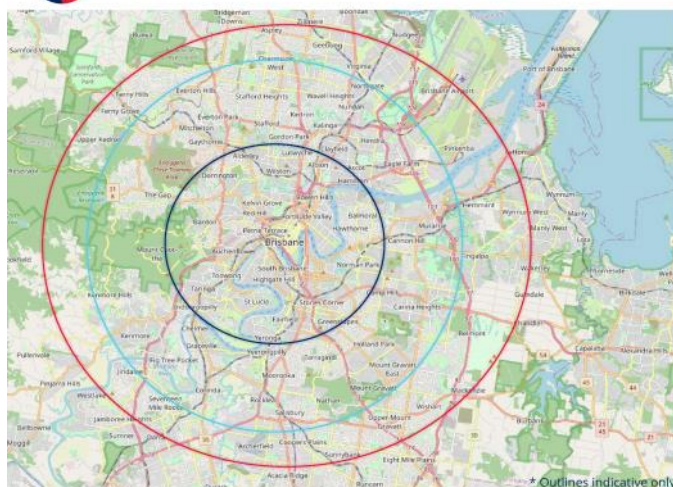
Faster, reliable and hassle free service

Monthly shipments to Sri Lanka

424 Waterford Road, Ellen Grove, Qld 4078

Email: sales@tricofreight.com.au

POSITION PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



■ 5km radius ■ 10km radius ■ 15km radius

15KM RADIUS FROM CBD

4 OFFICES CHERMSIDE, PADDINGTON WEST END & TENERIFFE

22+ YEARS IN THE INDUSTRY

Let us manage your property



SAMANTHA BEDFORD



NIRAJ THIRANAGAMA



Position

Your Genuine Choice

P. 07 3325 7804

E. pm2@positionproperty.com.au

positionproperty.com.au

PROJECT MARKETING | RESIDENTIAL | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT | INTERNATIONAL

HEALTHCARE DOCTORS

Are you Looking for a Doctor?

- Dr Devika Jayawardena
- Dr Kanchanamala Ranasinghe
- Dr Gihan Gunawardena
- Dr Sujab Ismail
- Dr Sandirasegram Abraham
- Dr Nilmini Thilakarathne
- Dr Rewatha Dasanayaka
- Dr Upul Mahawattha
- Dr Kandana (Lumbini) Perera.
- Dr Wasantha Hettiararchchi
- Dr Anuke Warakaulle
- Dr Widanagama Epa
- Dr Sumedha Amarasinghe
- Dr Gemunu Suresh Ranawake
- Dr Maheshika Weerawardena
- Dr Karu Muthuthamby
- Dr Asanka Wijesinghe

Call Your Nearest Medical Centre

- ☎ 35194666 Healthcare Doctors Indooroopilly
- ☎ 32058118 Lawnton Market Medical Centre
- ☎ 33303233 Eight Mile Plains Family Doctors
- ☎ 31613225 Cannon Hill Family Doctors
- ☎ 32619117 Bald Hills Doctors
- ☎ 32173344 Woolloongabba Medical Centre
- ☎ 32768877 Forest Lake Doctors
- ☎ 31729910 Chapel Hill Family Doctors

BULK BILLING FOR ALL

Overseas Visitors/Parents



We are Looking for GPs | Call Nisal: 0420661676

Refer a Friend and Earn

www.healthcaredoctors.com.au

The Middle Eastern Connection

Sri Lanka has a long and storied connection to the Middle East which continues to exist to this day.

In more recent times, the Middle East has been a prime destination for many Sri Lankans seeking work. However, the Middle East has historically liaised with Sri Lanka for millennia, leaving behind tangible and living historical, gastronomical, cultural, linguistic artifacts.

Many of the Sri Lankan Moorish community descend from ancient Arabian traders throughout Modern day Yemen, Oman, Iran, parts of Eastern and Northern Africa, and Southern Arabia.

Yemen has historically had a thriving Jewish community known as Yemenite Jews. Historical evidence suggests that Yemenite Jewish traders were present in Ceylon. Then there are the Hadhramis, an ethnic group in Southern Arabia who speak a unique form of Arabic and were among the ancient Moorish traders who made Zeilan their home.

Many Sri Lankan Moorish families still hold ancient Middle Eastern names such as Haniffa, Ibrahim, Abdur Rahman, Ibnu Mohammad, Sheikh and so on.

Foods that originate in the Middle East are still consumed in Sri Lanka including Muscat, Falooda, Saruwath, Mandi, amongst others. The daily consumption of these treats is a reminder of the deep connection that Ceylon shared with the Middle East.

Then there are place names such as Moor Street and Old Moor Street in Colombo and Galle as well as the name of the town "Beruwala" originating in the name of a Muslim Scholar. And who can forget the beautiful and ancient mosques of Sri Lanka, which are testament to our connections to the Middle East.

There is the historical combination of Tamil and Arabic, often known as Arabu-Tamil, which is now referred to as Moor Tamil which is amongst the various types of Tamil language found in Sri Lanka.

The historical Moorish community is also responsible for the introduction of the religion of Islam to Ceylon over a thousand years ago, and the unique forms of Islam and ancient mosques continue to remind one of the close relationships between Sri Lanka and the Middle East.

Finally, millennia of ancient Middle Eastern Traders have, like all communities mixed in with Sri Lankans of other communities, giving rise to the mixed ethnicities found all over the island. These ancient connections are now being revealed in light of DNA testing and genetic analyses. Studies indicate that Moorish communities share strong genetic relationships with Sinhalese and Tamil communities suggesting that the connection to the ancient Middle East is written into the DNA of modern Sri Lankans, regardless of their ethnic identification.

Randika and I were both raised in the Middle East and the Sands of Arabia have always been an important part of our lives. It is comforting to know that the ancient Middle East was always part of our lives even before we emigrated.



Randika Jayakody & Jerome Perera
Among Randika and Jerome's many interests is a deep passion to understand Sri Lankan history and culture.



OPEN YOUR DOOR

TO ULTIMATE SECURITY & FLEXIBILITY

5 in 1 Smart lock

MOBILE APP, FINGER PRINT
KEY CARD
PIN & MECHANICAL KEY

Supplied and Installed By:



PHONE : +61402715486
EMAIL : security@aesqld.com



Your Tax REFUNDS to the MAX!



RAINBOW ACCOUNTING

TAX ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED SMSF AUDITORS
ABN 30 659 122 853

Gishanthi Wickramasinghe
BSc (Bus Admin), MSc (Acctg), MIPA, CPA

- All types of tax returns
- Financial reports
- Self Managed Super Funds (SMSF)
- Business Activity Statements (BAS)
- Business setups
- Business planning
- ASIC compliance
- Bookkeeping
- Audit services
- Financial Brokering

Ph: (07) 3198 4120

Email: contact@rainbowaccounting.com.au

Clemwell House, Unit 3, 1155 Wynnum Road, Cannon Hill Qld 4170
PO Box 210 Cannon Hill Qld 4170

www.rainbowaccounting.com.au

Where numbers and knowledge meet

Stories Behind Names of Places in Sri Lanka
MALADENIYA

Most names of places in the world are named on incidents with the rulers of countries for the world had only one system of government in the pre-democratic period and that was the rule by a Monarch. The same situation applies to the names of places in Sri Lanka too.



The small village name we feature here is also linked to the time of King Walagambahu. This King has a key position in the history of the country. He was a King who sacrificed his life to free Sri Lanka from the Indian invaders who ruled Sri Lanka from time to time.

Walagambahu is directly linked to the hero of our Sri Lankan history. He is the youngest son of King Dutugemunu's brother Tissa, later known as Saddhatissa. The time he became King was politically a very complicated period. He fled the city to

save his life with the Queen to the hill country. Thereafter he spent a long period hiding in various parts of the country making plans to regain his Kingdom.

The name behind this story is interesting. King Walagambahu had been hiding in the jungle and grouping forces. It is said that his Queen too had been with him practically participating with the King in these ventures helping him in the difficult hour. There had been a clear water pond in the area they were hiding, and the Queen had taken a liking to bathe in this pond. It became a habit for them to bathe in the pond after work. The Queen had a beautiful necklace, and it was her practice to remove it before the bath. One day when they had the shower and returned to their jungle shelter, the King observed the neckless missing around the Queen's neck.

He inquired "Where is the necklace? She then realised that it had been forgotten in the "Deniya" (the shrub) where they bathed. She replied "MALE DENIYE". That was the origin of the village name "Maladeniya."

By Dr Nimal Sedara

Dr. Nimal Sedara is a journalist, poet, motivational speaker and an author of over 70 books.

The Kelaniya Duruthu Perahera

At the historic Kelaniya Temple, a procession known as The Kelaniya Duruthu Perahera, is held on the full moon day in January each year.

The perahera portrays the old traditional folklore, folk music and the rhythmic dance forms to the beat of the traditional drums.

The first perahera of modern times was held in 1927 pioneered by Don Walter Wijewardene of Sedawatta Walawwa.



At its inception, it comprised only two divisions – the Dhatu Perahera, conducted in homage to the Buddha relics and the Vibhishana Devala Perahera, held in dedication to God Vibhishana, the patron deity of Kelaniya. Later two other divisions were added, the first in 1930, in honour of God Vishnu, the patron deity of Sri Lanka and the second in 1954, in dedication to Skandha Kumara, the war-God and patron deity of Kataragama.

Hence the Duruthu Perahera today is composed of three separate processions that of the Buddha relics and those of the three devalas, Vishnu, Kataragama and Vibhishana.

Courtesy: [https:// kelaniyatemple.lk/](https://kelaniyatemple.lk/)

සැන්ට ක්ලෝස් - නත්තල් සීයා



තැගී බෝග පොදි බැඳගෙන - පොදි කොට කර එල්ලාගෙන සීන සමේ සුරතලුන්ට - තැගී ගෙන එනා -

අපේ නත්තල් සීයා //

අතින් කරින් එල්ලගෙන - තැන තැන රහමින් යන්නා පුරා පොදිය සෙල්ලම් බඩු - බරටම ගෙනෙනා -

අපේ නත්තල් සීයා //

දුටු සැනෙකින් සිහින්තො රැළ - ලංචි උඩපැන රහනා රතු සුදු ආයින්තම් හැඳ - දෙපා ගිගිරි තාලම් පට සිලිසිලි මවනා රුවට කැපෙන හිස් වැස්මක් - පැළඳ පිනන්නා -

අපේ නත්තල් සීයා //

මුව පුරාම දිගැටි රැවුල - සුදෝ සුදින් කැපී ජේන කැරොල් ගීන මැද්දේ සීයා සිනා පාන්නා -

මේ අපගේ නත්තල් සීයා //

දැක ගේනා සෙල්ලම් බඩු - ඉවසිලි නැතුවම ඉන්නා පොඩින්තො නත්තල් සමේදී - දකින්නට කැමතිම සීයා

අපේ නත්තල් සීයා //

සැන්ට ක්ලෝස් නමින් පතල - නත්තල්දේ ලොව හිනහන සීයා වුනමුත් අපහට - ලොවේ පතල ඔහුම තමා ලොව සනසන්නා නිකලස් නම් සාන්තුකුමා - සැන්ට ක්ලෝස් නමින් පැතුරුනා ලොවේ සුරතලුන් - සොය සොය තැගී බෙදන්නා

අපේ නත්තල් සීයා //

ඇල්ලුඩ වටපුළුව



ඇල්ලුඩ වටපුළුව විශ්‍රාමික විදුලි හා යාන්ත්‍රික ඉංජිනේරුවෙකි. කවි හා සාහිත්‍යය කෙරෙහි ඔහු තුළ ඇති ඇල්ම ඔහුගේ විශ්‍රාම ජීවිතය ක්‍රියාශීලී කරයි.

FONSEKA

Turn your idea into reality

with Brisbane's Best Custom Software Team

Tailored App Development

Give us a call:
(07) 3394 8223

www.fonseka.com.au

Book Review: Stay with Me by Ayobami Adebayo

Of late, many writers of non-native English backgrounds have been featuring in English literary awards. Ayobami Adebayo, a Nigerian writer joined this group in 2017 with her debut novel Stay with Me.



Adebayo was born in Lagos but spent most of her childhood in the staff quarters of the University of Obafemi Awolowo University, formerly known as University of Ife. She studied at Obafemi Awolowo University, earning BA and MA degrees in Literature in English and went to study Creative Writing (MA Prose fiction) at the University of East Anglia.

Stay With Me was published in 2017 by Canongate Books to critical acclaim. It was shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize, the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction, and won the 9mobile Prize for Literature in 2019.

Yejide (female) and Akin (male) meet at a movie at the University, fall in love at first sight and get married. Although the social norm is for the male to have many wives, Akin and Yejide agree that polygamy is not for them. Having no children after 4 years of marriage and living in a society that values fertility very highly, they come under immense pressure from the family members.

Despite Akin's objections, Yejide seeks the help of traditional doctors and healers to get pregnant with no success. Both successful in their own careers, Yejide thinks she has time on her hands, but her husband's family has other plans. The family arrives at her door with another woman they introduce as Akin's second wife.

Furious, shocked and livid with jealousy, Yejide knows that the only way to save her marriage is to get pregnant. Eventually she does at a cost far greater than she could have ever imagined.

Taking the reader through twists and turns of their relationship and that of the family, Stay with Me is a study of the Nigerian society, modern in some ways, but steeped in tradition in many other ways. The complexities of old societal expectations clash with the modern view of the world of the educated young. Private lives of the young nuclear families clash with the "everyone knows what is happening in the village" view of the old.

While it is more on the emotional toll on females, it gives voice to both the male and the female.

Having lived in Western Nigeria very close to the location of this novel, Ilesa and University of Ife for a number of years, I could relate to the complexities of the society in which the story is based. Quite apart from that it is an absorbing novel that can be enjoyed by anyone.

It is available in the Brisbane City Council Library.

Wimal Kannangara

Sinhala Association of Queensland Annual General Meeting 2024

Date	Saturday, 25 February 2024
Time	10.00 am
Venue	Mount Ommaney Library 171 Dandenong Road, Mount Ommaney

Refreshments will be served after the meeting

3 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR SALE

Golden Arc Residencies,
Railway Avenue,
Nugegoda,
Sri Lanka



Apartment on Level 1 in a four-level block of units with four apartments per floor. A 20-minute drive from the Colombo city centre, and a 5-minute drive to supermarket, medical, shopping, and other facilities. Ideally suited for temporary stays during holidays or for rental to professionals.

**US\$ 100,000
Negotiable.**

Legal Fees and stamp duty may apply.

The current owner resides in Trinidad and Tobago. Please contact Orr by telephone or WhatsApp (+1 868 620 8129) Email: morrilly@gmail.com

Interior

- Master Bedroom with Ensuite and Air-Conditioning
- 2 Bedrooms with Shared Bathroom
- Living and Dining Area
- Kitchen
- 2 Dedicated Car Parks
- Maid's Room with Bathroom

Facilities

- Standby Generator for Apartment Complex
- 24-hour Security
- Swimming Pool
- Gymnasium
- Elevator
- Manager on the Ground Floor
- Visitors Car Park Area

Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood

*The world
awaits you*

- 📦 Package Tours
- 🚢 River Cruising
- 🚢 Luxury Cruises
- 🌐 Domestic Travel
- ✈️ Flights

Our experts ensure you travel with confidence.
Contact Lalani and Margaret for pricing and bookings.

2017 - helloworld Gold & Silver High Sales Achievement Award in Queensland
2016 & 2018 - Winner of Trafalgar Tours Champion Agency in Queensland
2016 - Best 10 Offices in Australia for Premium - Luxury - Insight Journey Tours

Redeem your reward points for travel

Tel: (07) 3808 2299

Email: travel@ctcspringwood.com.au
Web: www.ctcspringwood.com.au



Lalani & Jayantha Pathikirikorale
Directors



Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood

helloworld
TRAVEL

TRAVEL

Unit 9, Dennis Court
8 Dennis Road, Springwood, Qld 4127
ABN: 63 011 067 477 • Licence No: TAG 889

වෙදිකාව, රිදී නිරය, පුංචි නිරය, එහෙම නැත්නම් කවියක්, ගීතයක්, කෙටි කතාවක්, නව කතාවක් වැනි කලා කෘතියක් නිර්මාණකරණයේදී හමුවන විවිධාකාරවූ රසවත් සිද්ධීන් එමටයි. මෙම කතා බහ අහ දැනගන්න, බෙදා හදාගන්න, මං දන්නවා කලාකෘතී අපි හැමෝම කැමැත්තක්, රුචිකත්වයක් දක්වනවා කියලා. කෙලින්ම නොකීවට, අපි කවුරු කවුරුත් gossip අහන්නත් මනාපයි නේ.

ඔබ දන්නා, අපි නොදන්න, නිරය පිටිපස්සේ ඇතිවන රසවත් සිද්ධීන්, බෙදා හදා ගැනීමේ උත්සාහයක් හැටියට මෙම කොලම ඔබට විවෘතයි. සමහර වෙලාවට මේ අතරේ ඉතා අනුවේදනීයවූ, දුක්මුසු කතා බහත් තියෙනවා. කතාවේ මුණ ගැහෙන, ඒ කාටවත් උපහාසයක්, අපහාසයක් නොවන විධියට, අපි ලියමු.



රුසියාවේ ගගාරින් සහ ලංකාවේ මැගිලින්

රට, ජාතිය වෙනුවෙන් තම දිවි පරදුවට තබා ක්‍රියාත්මකවූ, සුර, වීර ශ්‍රී ලාංකීය දූ පුතණුවෝ, තම වීරත්වය වෙනුවෙන් පැසසුම් ලද්දෝ, අපේ ඉතිහාසයේ, ඇත අතීතයේ රජදවස පටන්ම, අපට අහන්නට දකින්නට ලැබෙනවා. ඉතිං, එවන් අතීත, ලොවම සසල කළ වීර ක්‍රියාවන් වෙනුවෙන් එකම වසරක් ඇතුලත, අප රට තුළදී, මහජන ගෞරවයට, පැසසුමට පත්වූ විරුවන් දෙදෙනකු පිළිබඳව අපුර්ව කතාවක් තමයි, අද 'රස භා' කොලමට එකතුවෙන්නේ. මේ අතරින්, අයෙක් ශ්‍රී ලාංකිකයෙකු වන අතර අනෙක් විරුවා අන්‍ය ජාතිකයෙක් වීම මෙහි විශේෂත්වය වෙනව.

අප වාසය කරණ පෘතුවි වායුගෝලය පසුකරමින්, ඉන් ඔබ්බට ගමන් කරමින්, අභ්‍යවකාශයට පිවිසි ප්‍රථම මානවයා වීමේ ගෞරවය ලද යුරි ඇලෙක්සේවි ගගාරින් (Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin), අභ්‍යවකාශ තරණයේ සුවිශේෂී වීර වර්තයකි. වර්ෂ 1960 අප්‍රේල් 12 වැනිදා වොස්ටෝක් (Vostok) යානාවෙන් අභ්‍යවකාශය වෙත පියනැඟු රුසියානු ජාතික ගගාරින්, එවැනි දස්කමක් කල පළමුවැනියා බවට පත්වී, නැවතත් නිරූපදිව පෘතුවියට ළඟාවීමේ වීර ක්‍රියාව, මානව අභ්‍යවකාශ තරණයේ සහ නවීන විද්‍යාවේ නව පරිච්ඡේදයක ඇරඹුම විය.



වීර පදක්කම පැළඳවීම

ඔහුට උපහාර පැවැත්වීම සඳහා පිළියෙළ වූ රාජ්‍යය උත්සවය වෙනුවෙන්, හරියටම මීට වසර 62කට පෙර, 1961 දෙසැම්බර් 7 වැනිදා, යුරි ගගාරින් විරුවා මුල් වරට ශ්‍රී ලංකාවට සැපත් වූයේ, එවකට ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ අගමාත්‍ය සිරිමාවෝ බණ්ඩාරනායක මැතිනියගේ ඇරයුමට ප්‍රතිචාර දක්වමිණි. එදා ගගාරින් පිළිගැනීමට, රත්මලාන ගුවන් තොටුපලට එක්වූ රාජ්‍ය අමාත්‍ය, නිලධාරී, සම්භාවනීය පිරිස අතර

ගගන වීරයා සහ පිරිස පිළිගැනීම සඳහා තවත් වීරවරියක් මහ බලා සිටියාය. ඇය නමින් වීරමලගේ මැගිලින් නෝනා විය. එවකට ඇය 'වීර මැගිලින්' යන නාමයෙන් රටපුරා ජනප්‍රියත්වයට පත්ව සිටියාය.

විශ්වය ජයගත් වීරයා පිළිගැනීමට, හරියට අද කාලේ වගේ දේශපාලකයන් ඉස්සරට පනින්නේ නැතිව, සැබෑ ලාංකීය වීරවරියක් යොදාගැනීම, එවකට අවුරුදු 14ක තරම්වූ පාසල් සිසුවියක්, ළමා වීරවරියක් තෝරා ගැනීම, කාගෙන් පැසසුමට ලක්විය.

මැගිලින් යෞවනිය වීරවරියක ලෙස සම්මානයට පාත්‍රවීමට හේතුවූ සිදුවීම සිදුවන්නේ 1961 වසරේ ජූලි 07 දිනයේදී. එවකට ඇය පදිංචිව සිටියේ හෝමාගම ප්‍රදේශයේ දියගම, තෝරමුල්ල ගම්මානයේ. දියගම ඔය හින්දා මේ ගම කොටස් දෙකකට බෙදිලාවගෙයි තිබුණි. ගමේ පන්සල වගේම, මැගිලින් අධ්‍යාපනය ලබමින් සිටි දියගම කණිටු විදුහල තිබුණි ඔයෙන් එගොඩ. ගම් වැසියන් හැමදෙනාටම වගේ එගොඩ මෙගොඩ ගමන් කරන්න තිබුණේ, දියගම ඔය හරහට දාලා තිබුණු පොල් කොටත් දෙකක් තියන ඒදණ්ඩකින්.

මැගිලින් දියගම තෝරමුල්ලේ සිට පාසලට දිනපතා ගමන් කළේ, ඔය හරහා තිබුණ මේ පොල් කොට ඒ දණ්ඩ උඩින් තමයි.

මේ කියපු දවස, නවසිය හැට එකේ ජූලි හත්වෙනිදා, තද වැසි දිනයක්. දියගම ඔය පිරි ඉතිරි යන මට්ටමට වැසිදිය පිටාර ගලනව. උදේ පාසල්

යන්න මැගිලින් හා තවත් පාසල් දැරියන් පිරිසක් ඔයෙන් එගොඩවීමට ඒදණ්ඩට ගොඩවුණා. පිරිස දහතුන් දෙනෙක්. වෙනත් දිනවලට ඒදණ්ඩෙන් මෙම දරු පිරිස ගමන් කරනුයේ පෝලිමේ. ඉතිං මෙදාත්, මෙම පිරිස ඒදණ්ඩ දිගේ සුපුරුදු ලෙස පෝලිමේ පැමිණෙද්දී, ඒදණ්ඩ මැදදේදී වගේ, එකවරමම වාගේ ඒදණ්ඩ කැඩිලා ගිහිල්ල, සියලුම දෙනා ඔයට වැටිල තියෙනවා.

ඔයට වැටිවීම මෙම කණ්ඩායමෙන් පිහිනීමට හැකියාව තිබී ඇත්තේ මැගිලින් ශිෂ්‍යාවට පමණයි. ඇය කෙසේ හෝ පිනලා, ඔය ඉවුරට ගොඩවෙලා, වටපිට බලනවිට දැකල තියෙන්නේ අනෙක් දොළොස් දෙනාම ඔයේ දිය පාරට ගසා යන අයුරු. ඉතිං, දෙවරක් හිතන්නේ නැතිව, වහාම ක්‍රියාත්මක වූ මැගිලින් නෝනා, ඒ සැණින් සැඩ පහරට පැනලා, ඒ මේ අත පිහිනමින්, වරකට දෙදෙනා බැගින් කොණ්ඩවලින් ඇදගෙන, විටින් විට ඔයේ ඉවුරට ගෙනැල්ලා තියෙනව. එදා, ඒ 14 හැවිරිදි මැගිලින් පාසල් සිසුවිය, දියේ ගිලෙන්ට යන මිනිස් ජීවිතයන් බේරාගන්න, සිය ජීවිතය පරදුවට තියල එසේ ඉදිරිපත් නොවූයේ නම්, දොළොස් දෙනෙකුගේ ජීවිත මෙලොව හැර යන්නට ඉඩ තිබුණි.

මෙම වීරක්‍රියාව පිළිබඳ සිදුවීම, එවකට ලේක් හවුස් ආයතනයේ අධිපතිතුමා වෙත දන්වන ලදුව, එම ප්‍රවෘත්තිය ඡායාරූප සහිතව

'ජනතා' පුවත් පතේ මුල් පුවත ලෙස ප්‍රකාශයට පත්කරන ලදී. මෙම ප්‍රවෘත්තිය පළවීමත් සමඟ මේ ගැන රටවිම අවධානය යොමු විය. පුවත්පත ඇය හඳුන්වා තිබුණේ 'වීර මැගිලින්' ලෙසිනි. ඒ අනුව, ඇයට වීර පදක්කමක් ලබාදීමට වගේම ඇයගේ එම වීර ක්‍රියාව අගයන්නට එවකට අගමැතිනිය වූ සිරිමාවෝ බණ්ඩාරනායක මැතිණිය ප්‍රමුඛ රජය තීරණය කළාය.



යුරි ගගාරින් පිළිගැනීම

අවුරුදු 14 දී ජීවිත 12ක් බේරාගෙන වීර මාතෘ පදක්කමින් පිදුම් ලැබූ මෙම යෞවනියගේ මානුෂික වටිනාකම අමතක නොවන සේ ඉතිහාසයට එකතු කරලන්නට මේ අයුරින් කටයුතු සැකසිණි. අභ්‍යවකාශයට ගමන් කළ ලොව පළමු මිනිසා, රුසියානු ජනරජයේ මහා වීරයා, යුරි ගගාරින් තමන්ගේ ආරාධනාවක් මත ලංකාවට පැමිණි මොහොතේ, ඔහුට පිළිගන්නට රජය විසින් තෝරා ගන්නේ එවකට 14 හැවිරිදි මැගිලින්ය. මේ පිළිබඳව අගමැතිතුමිය පවසා තිබුණේ ලොව දිනු විරුවෙක් පිළිගැනීමට සිරිලක අප දිනු වීරවරියක් යොදනවා යනුවෙනි.

මෙම සිදුවීම සිදුවූ ස්ථානයේ වර්තමානයේ ඉදිකර ඇති පාලම 'වීර මැගිලින් පාලම' ලෙස නම්කර ඇත.

සමන්මල් ගුණරත්න



මෙම සමහන, ප්‍රසිද්ධ පුවත්පත, අන්තර්ජාලය තුලින් ලබා ගත ලිපි ඇසුරින් නිමැවූ බව කරුණාවෙන් සළකන්න

Veteran Actor Suminda Sirisena Passes Away

Veteran cinema, theatre and television actor Suminda Sirisena passed away on 4 December at the age of 75. Sirisena has played a wide range of starring or supporting roles and is a recipient of Best Actor award in many award festivals.



Courtesy: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/>

Radio 4EB - New Board of Directors

It is an honour to announce that two of Sri Lankan group members have been elected to the Radio 4EB Board of Directors during Radio 4EB AGM held on November 26th. Driving with their unique talents, both Wimal and Thisara add great value to the board. Below is a snippet from Wimal and Thisara Nominee statements.

Wimal Kannangara



Wimal is a seasoned finance professional with extensive experience in accounting and finance. He is a Chartered Management Accountant (UK) and a Fellow of the Certified Practising Accountants Australia. Wimal earned a degree in Engineering and practiced as an Engineer for 10 years before becoming an accountant.

He has served Radio 4EB in various capacities for the past twenty years and currently serving as a member of the Finance Sub Committee. He continues to serve the Sri Lankan Group as the Co-Editor of the monthly eNewsletter, Daehaena. He has also served with a variety of clubs and associations in various capacities.

Thisara Pathirannehelage



Thisara joined Radio 4EB nearly 25 years ago in 1999 and became Group Secretary in 2012 and Group Convenor in 2016. Thisara has undertaken various responsibilities within the Sri Lankan Group such as the Youth Coordinator and it assisted the Group to increase youth involvement and he initiated designing and delivering of group's digital media platforms. Under his con-

venorship, the committee revised and updated policy documents in collaboration with the Radio 4EB station and these materials are now being used as a guideline by broadcasters and panel operators.

Thisara is a Software Engineer by profession with over 15 year's professional experience with demonstrated knowledge, experience and skills in graphic design, digital media, data management and other IT functions. With his IT knowledge and skills, he can assist the Radio 4EB to update and upgrade the station's ICT function.

We wish both Thisara and Wimal all the best to guide Radio 4EB with their visionary directorship.

"These individuals bring a fresh perspective and boundless enthusiasm to guide us through the exciting journey ahead. So, let's collectively say hi and extend a warm welcome to the dynamic new board members – Alex Nagl, Dr. Ehsan Dehghan, Thisara Pathirannehelage, and Wimal Kannangara, the driving force behind the next chapter of 4EB - Multicultural Monthly | December 2023"

Radio 4EB Board of Directors

Faiza El-Higzi	Chairperson
Alex Nagl	Company Secretary
Ehsan Dehghan	Director
Lelava Tommy Fuifui	Director
Aparna Hebbani	Director
Ka Chun (Michael) Lau	Director
Ying (Sarah) Pan	Director
Gayatri Ramnath	Director
Ju-Shan (Elsa) Shuay	Director
Wimal Kannangara	Director
Thisara Pathirannehelage	Director

Kasun Karunaratne, Convenor - Radio 4EB Sri Lankan Group

Sri Lankan Cartoonist Camillus Perera Passes Away



Veteran Sri Lankan cartoonist Camillus Perera, the creator of the iconic cartoon character 'Gajaman' passed away on 17 December. He was 84 years old at the time of passing.

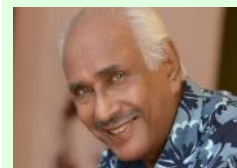
Perera began work as a cartoonist in 1966 developing characters for the Observer and "Dekkoth Pathmawathi" for Lake House's film magazine.

In 1972 he created "Gajaman", his most popular character. Gajaman created history as it was released as a Sri Lankan Sinhala 3D animation comedy film earlier this year.

Courtesy: <https://www.adaderana.lk/>

Veteran Actor Rex Kodippili Passes Away

Sri Lankan cinema mourns the loss of an iconic figure as Rex Kodippili, renowned actor and film director, passed away on 24 December at the age of 85.



Known for playing bad guys in more than 130 movies and making two films of his own, Kodippili received the Janabhimani Honorary Award in 2019 for his contributions to the film industry.

He started his film career in 1971 with "Kathuru Muwath" and became well-known for characters like 'Kadira' in "Muwan Pelessa," 'Daanu' in "Raktha," 'Ratne Ayya' in "Sagarika," and 'Sergeant Silva' in "Koti Waligaya."

Courtesy: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/>

Your Local Real Estate Agent

Selling? **1% + GST**

Commission
No Upfront Marketing Cost
No Sale No Commission

Management ?

5% + GST

+ One week letting fees + GST

**NO other fixed fees
Yes that's right**

**NO monthly admin fees
NO advertising fees
NO yearly statement fees
NO renewal fees**

For a NO obligation



Free Appraisal

**Nalin Silva
0403 716 237**



G'day Carers

WE ARE A DISABILITY SERVICE PROVIDER REGISTERED WITH THE NDIS

We offer both long and short term care regarding a multitude of tasks and services. Including but not limited to, assistance with personal tasks, daily household tasks/maintenance of home and garden, personal activities and assistance for those requiring high intensity care, assistance and services provided by a registered nurse, and necessary assistance with travel to and from your residence.

0400894252 ☎
 gdaycarers@gmail.com ✉
 facebook.com/g'daycarers 📱
 19 Kiewa Pl, Kuraby 4112 QLD 📍

tpil.com.au

TPD, වාහන අනතුරු, තෝ වැඩිපලේ අනතුරු නිමිකම් ලබාගැනීම සඳහා උදව්



For experienced help with TPD, motor vehicle or work accident claims, contact Sanath Hettiarachchi at TPIL Lawyers on **1800 958 498** or help@tpil.com.au



6 Logan Road, Woolloongabba, 4102 / L6, 33 Elkhorn Ave Surfers Paradise 4217

STELLARIO REALTY GROUP

SALES • RENTALS • ASSET MANAGEMENT

Looking for an agent who will get you the best results?
It's what I do.



Agent of the Year
WISHART
 Multiple Years



Ramya TENNEKOON
 Owner | Lead Agent
04 1827 1827
info@stellario.com.au

stellario.com.au

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
 Matthew 11:28



Healing Retreats

with Fr Antony Parankimalil VC in Brisbane

Dates: 30th Jan, 31st Jan & 1st Feb
Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm

These retreats are a great opportunity to come into the Lord's presence and offer up all our worries, sicknesses and family burdens. You are welcome to bring those who are sick to experience His mercy and healing.
 Come along with your family and friends and experience the healing touch of our Mighty God.

Holy Cross Church,
 110 Nottingham St, Kippa Ring, QLD, 4021

Admission is FREE, No registrations needed
 Contacts: Gabrielle 0432 833 439, Steve 0435 590 630

When in Sydney, please visit



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
 Tel: 02 4372 1598, email drcsydney@gmail.com
 • www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

Monthly News Digest: December 2023

01	Cabinet approves decision to hike VAT to 18%	https://www.dailymirror.lk/top-story/Cabinet-approves-decision-to-hike-VAT-to-18/155-270276
01	Government imposes special commodity levy on various goods	https://www.dailymirror.lk/top-story/Government-imposes-special-commodity-levy-on-various-goods/155-272417
03	Govt. simplifies visa policy to attract investors, tourists	https://www.sundaytimes.lk/231203/news/govt-simplifies-visa-policy-to-attract-investors-tourists-541079.html
03	Over 900 MTs of plastic generated in Sri Lanka per day: Committee reveals	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Over-900-MTs-of-plastic-generated-in-Sri-Lanka-per-day-Committee-reveals/108-272462
07	Sri Lanka Named top 5 tourist destinations 2024	https://www.newswire.lk/2023/12/05/sri-lanka-named-among-five-fastest-growing-tourism-destinations-for-2024/
07	Sri Lanka artefacts: Dutch government returns stolen treasures	https://youtu.be/-6s_Ydr1H4c?si=Ttzn8ODHR0nB7QHc
12	Sports Minister appoints new members led by Upul Tharanga to SLC Selection Committee	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sports-Minister-appoints-new-members-led-by-Upul-Tharanga-to-SLC-Selection-Committee/108-273035
13	IMF finalizes first review; Sri Lanka gets US\$337mn	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/IMF-finalizes-first-review-Sri-Lanka-gets-US-337mn/108-273129
14	Sanath Jayasuriya appointed as Cricket Consultant to SLC	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sanath-Jayasuriya-appointed-as-Cricket-Consultant-to-SLC/108-273241
17	Foreign jobs: growing mismatch between SL supply and global demand: World Bank	https://island.lk/foreign-jobs-growing-mismatch-between-sl-supply-and-global-demand-world-bank/
17	D E M O'Cracy obituary notice 50 years on	https://island.lk/d-e-m-ocracy-obituary-notice-50-years-on/
18	Economy signals rebound	https://www.ft.lk/top-story/Economy-signals-rebound/26-756467
20	Sri Lanka to convert Bandaranaike quay into passenger terminal to facilitate cruise ships	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sri-Lanka-to-convert-Bandaranaike-quay-into-passenger-terminal-to-facilitate-cruise-ships/108-273574
20	WB releases \$ 500 Mn 2nd tranche	https://www.themorning.lk/articles/qsfvls7bbsOlnYaY6Tq
23	New Indian High Commissioner takes charge	https://www.dailymirror.lk/print/front-page/New-Indian-High-Commissioner-takes-charge/238-273774
23	Dengue menace looms as Sri Lanka reports 50 Dengue deaths	https://www.dailymirror.lk/print/front-page/Dengue-menace-looms-as-Sri-Lanka-reports-50-Dengue-deaths/238-273779
24	Newly found COVID sub variant in Sri Lanka?	https://www.dailymirror.lk/top-story/Newly-found-COVID-sub-variant-in-Sri-Lanka/155-273731
24	Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka surpass 1.4 million this year	https://www.adaderana.lk/news/95887/tourist-arrivals-to-sri-lanka-surpass-14-million-this-year
25	Sri Pada Pilgrim season starts tomorrow	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sri-Pada-Pilgrim-season-starts-tomorrow/108-273850
26	Sports Minister dissolves five National sports bodies	https://www.dailynews.lk/2023/12/26/sports/313893/sports-minister-dissolves-five-national-sports-bodies/
26	New COVID variant spreading in Sri Lanka minimal: Health Ministry	https://www.dailymirror.lk/top-story/New-COVID-variant-spreading-in-Sri-Lanka-minimal-Health-Ministry/155-273865
27	Cost of Living crisis rises to a crescendo	https://www.ft.lk/top-story/Cost-of-crisis-rises-to-a-crescendo/26-756687
28	Popular Tamil Cinema Actor and DMDK Party Founder -Leader Vijayakanth Known as 'Captain' and "Black MGR" passes away at the age of 71.	https://dbsjeyaraj.com/dbsj/?p=83344
28	New aircraft to the SriLankan fleet	https://www.themorning.lk/articles/oXYcU9pzraY2UOSJryiY
29	Only certified, trained safari jeep drivers allowed into Yala National Park from Jan.1	https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Only-certified-trained-safari-jeep-drivers-allowed-into-Yala-National-Park-from-Jan-1/108-274027
29	IMF agreement must be continued under any government – CBSL Governor	https://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=95991



Sri Lankan Events - Brisbane and SE Qld

January 2024

27 Paduru Sajje	SPUR Qld
30 Healing Retreats	Holy Cross Church

February 2024

04 Picnic/ Car Rally	Silver Fawn Club
17 Wayo Tour of Australia	Bloomfield Ent.
24 Infinity + Wasthi Brisbane Food Festival	Yes Entertainment
25 SAQ Annual General Meeting	SAQ

March 2024

02 Concert: Sasara Wasanathuru	Sathsara Entertainment
03 Stage Drama	Radio 4EB SL Group
08 Black Dinner Dance	Aradhana Entertainment
09 Annual General Meeting	Silver Fawn Club
09 FSOQ Musical show	FSOQ
16 Billy 242 Concert	Sathsara Entertainment
23 Prathibha Concert	Forest Lake Temple

April 2024

6 New Year Festival Music Concert	Sathsara Entertainment
14 New Year Festival	SAQ

May 2024

11 Chamara and Damith	Sathsara Entertainment
25 Vesak Celebration at Acacia Ridge State School	Goodna Temple

June 2024

08 Dance Night: Sarith & Surith	Sathsara Entertainment
---------------------------------	------------------------

July 2024

20 Deshabhimanee	Forest Lake Temple
------------------	--------------------

September 2024

15 Sri Lanka Day	FSOQ
28 Saralanga 2024	SAQ

October 2024

12 Swarna Swara Concert	Sathsara Entertainment
-------------------------	------------------------

Listen to Radio 4EB On-Demand

Arunella

<https://www.4eb.org.au/shows/aronella/>

Sandella

<https://www.4eb.org.au/shows/sandella/>

Dæhæna (Newsletter) Archives

Past copies of Dæhæna are found at the following location

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1PS0kFSXRCXSga-FrdtDMH_WpeReaT1Sn

Please email "DæhænaEditor@gmail.com" if you encounter access issues.

Multicultural Queensland



Lifeline Bookfest Brisbane is back, with a million pre-loved books on sale over nine massive days – that's a million stories in which to lose yourself.

With free entry and book prices starting at \$2.50, you'll find all kinds of fiction, non-fiction, biographies, textbooks, magazines, comics, sic-fi, games, CDs, DVDs and special rare finds.

Plus, you'll save with every book – not only are there great prices, but every book you buy helps support the 24-hour 13 11 14 Lifeline Crisis Support Line so we can answer more phone calls from Queenslanders in need. Books really can save lives!

Saturday January 13 - 7.30 am to 6.00 pm

Sunday to Sunday 14 - 21 8.30 am 6.00 pm

Entry is Free - Books from \$ 2.50

Radio 4EB - Sri Lankan Program Schedule

Arunella - Sunday 9.00am - 10.00am FM 98.1

Date	Producer/Panel Operator
07 Jan	Programming Group/ Kasun Karunaratne
14 Jan	Jayantha Weerasekera, Seetha Vithana/ Jayantha Weerasekera
21 Jan	Darshika Koggalahewa & Chathurika Wickramage/ Dhanushka Bandara
28 Jan	Ananda & Nayana Samaratinga/ Mihika Samaratinga
04 Feb	Sam Fernando & Nadeeka/ Sam Fernando

Sandella - Wednesday 9.00pm - 10.00pm FM 98.1

Date	Producer/Panel Operator
03 Jan	Yovun Sandella/ Dinesh Kumara
10 Jan	Lalith Keerthirathne/ Niraj Kariyawasam
17 Jan	Kumara Dissanayake, Samanola Wijeratne/ Sandun de Silva
24 Jan	Dushan, Janaka & Randima/ Tharaka Hewage
31 Jan	Thisara Pathirennehelage & Kanchana/ Thisara Pathirennehelage
04 Feb	Yovun Sandella/ Dinesh Kumara

DISCLAIMER: All material in this E-newsletter is circulated in good faith and is distributed as an information source only. The Sri Lankan Group, Radio 4EB and the editors of the E-newsletter disclaim all responsibility and all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages and costs you might incur as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way for any reason. Your use of E-newsletter is at your sole risk. E-newsletter is not liable for any loss resulting from any action or decision made by you in reliance on the information on E-newsletter, any interruption, delay in operation or transmission, virus, communications failure, internet access difficulties or malfunction in hardware or software. E-newsletter may include third party content which is subject to that third party's terms and conditions of use. Users of E-newsletter will not use the material contained in it for any purpose or in any way which is unlawful.

Editors : Wimal Kannangara and Jayantha Ameratunga

Advisory Committee : Vasanthe Vithanage, Jayantha Weerasekera, Thisara Pathirannehelage, Kasun Karunaratne and Himaya Siddhanta Wickramahewage