



Double Blue Links

Linking the Alumni of Wesley College Colombo across the World

A collaboration between Dr Nihal Amerasekera & Keith de Kretser

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Happy New Year and Welcome to Double Blue Links

Greetings and a Happy New year to each and every one of you. A lot has happened since the first issue which was published in July 2015. We received positive feedback on our first issue and thank you to those that bothered to contact us.

Contrary to our report in the last issue, that Mr Ben Manickam had decided not to take up his position as Principal elect, he has since changed his mind and was inducted in September last year. His induction speech can be seen on the following link (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgp18LcL-KY&sns=em>). The new Vice-Principal – Mr Avanka Fernando and Chaplain – Mr Obeth Ratnesan Thevanesan were inducted on the 25th January 2016. (Photos in this issue).

Wesley lost two of her famous sporting alumni in Mr Edmund Dissanayake(SL) and Mr Normand de la Harpe (Australia) within a week of each other. Tributes are in this issue.

Included in this issue are updates with photos of the refurbishment and upgrades undertaken. The College a gleaming white edifice on the hill at Karlsruhe. A report on the wonderful work and contributions made by the alumni in Colombo are included.

In this issue we feature Santhusht de Silva (USA) in the column "Where are they now?" There is also a full update on Wesley Sport. There are reports and photos from some of the alumni events for good measure.

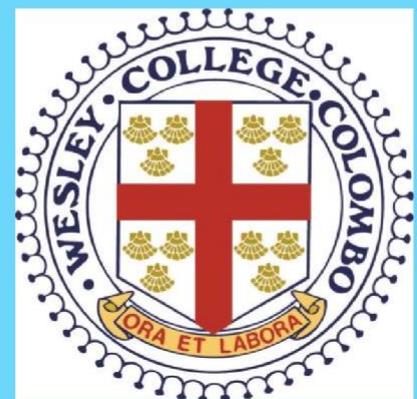
Once again a reminder, please send us contributions for the newsletter on old boys, OBU events, teachers, etc., that capture the rich heritage and traditions of our alma mater.



Fraternally yours

Nihal & Keith

Double Blue Links February 2016



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Editors Website: <http://www.wesleycollegecolombo.info/index.html> Editorial

“Oh when will they ever learn, Oh when will they ever learn?”

It has been more than twelve months since Dr Shanti McLelland finished his term as Principal. Whether one liked him or not, in five years he made a significant contribution to raise the bar at Wesley in every facet of it's being after languishing for more than five decades with very little assistance from the Church financially and with appointed Principals who had no business acumen to match the educational skill sets required for the job and with no vision, drive and synergy to aspire to higher goals. The most significant changes implemented were: to acknowledge that Wesley is not only a College but also operates as a small business to put in place a business plan and budget for the future to take control of all spending and introduce a strict fiscal policy to eliminate the rorts by individuals in many aspects of the College business, particularly the tendering process for work to be done to consolidate the Colleges reserves (now stands at Rs 350 Million) so that in time there will be funds to address the needs of the College and the three campuses in existence. to appoint a Financial Committee to manage the financial affairs of the College with members drawn from Old Boys who were currently on or had sat on the Boards of leading Sri Lankan Companies and had many years of business management experience and accounting qualifications chaired by Richard Ebell former Director of Hayleys. to appoint a Building Committee chaired by experienced Old Boys in Engineering and Architecture who in conjunction with the Finance Committee have undertaken a major refurbishment of the College in the past year. The Committee chaired by Clive de Silva a Director of Commercial Company. to provide the best tutorial staff to give the students the best opportunity to achieve great results (a review of the past five year O/L and A/L results support this) to empower and inspire the students to believe they were valued citizens of Sri Lanka and they had the skills and talent to match it with the best in the land. to provide modern teaching aids and systems to compete with the best

To this end Dr Shanti left Wesley in a stable and financially sound position and is once again being recognised by the education and academic community as a great College, akin to the Cartman and Oorloff era post war.

The appointment of a replacement was met with much anticipation of Mr Ben Manickam an Old Boy. For over twelve months he toyed around with the College, the alumni and well-wishers and kept them guessing as to when he would take office as one minute he was to start on a certain date, then no sign of the man, and it went on and on for months till in September last year he finally arrived. His strongest skill is his eloquence as evidenced by his induction speech. But that is where it ends. He has a new name - *Mr Now you see, me now you don't.*

Alarm bells are ringing far and wide from Colombo and overseas as to his suitability for the position. Here is a man appointed by the Church on an alleged salary in the vicinity of about Rs. 250,000, with a house and motor vehicle provided as a package for the job who is away from the College for most of the time pursuing his interest in public speaking and lectures on the many disciplines he is purported to be an expert in. He has been away since the start of the first term to mid-late February this year. He is again toying with his obligation and responsibilities for the job which must be of concern to the Church as it is to the staff, students, parents and alumni. It appears that he does not have time to engage with staff and also wants to dismantle all the effective financial controls and management of the business aspects of the College that have been working perfectly. If it isn't broke why fix it?

During Dr Shanti's tenure his suitability for the job was under constant attack by those he did not pander to, which resulted in a court challenge by Jadi de Silva and Lassantha Fernando on whether he met the experience and requirements to be a Principal as prescribed by the Sri Lankan Education Department. Based on all this hooahaa, the Church has appointed a Principal who does not meet this criteria as he taught at the Bible College which is not deemed mainstream education of youth but rather young adults/graduates. It is alleged that Mr Manickam's absence from the various positions he has held is no different to that at Wesley because he was away most of the time pursuing other interests. One has to question his commitment to the job of Principal and what

his agenda is for taking on this job. Many are alarmed at his demeanour and are gravely concerned that under his stewardship all the gains the College has made will be eroded. The Church are aware of it but it seems they have turned a blind eye and to date shown no intention of addressing this issue. Typical attitude of the indifference shown by the Church to Wesley for many years. The growing view is that Mr Manickam is unfit for the role of Principal a view expressed by many in Colombo.

The other alarming concern is the appointment by the Church of Avanka Fernando as Vice Principal who is a former student and has been on the tutorial staff. The concern is that he is in his mid to late twenties and lacks the experience of dealing with complex issues with teachers and students and lacks maturity for the role. It is a big gamble and it smells a lot like the “Moratuwa Mafia” grooming one of their favourite sons for the role of Principal so that if Mr Manickam gets the boot, he will likely be appointed as Principal. ““The heir in waiting” one might say!

The Church has only two jewels in its crown - Methodist College and Wesley College, that bear the legacy of the great initiative of the founding missionary fathers in providing education to the masses. It never ceases to amaze me that the Church continues to fail in its duty to perpetuate, honour and maintain these two institutions as leading academic institutions in Sri Lanka. They have this notion that regardless of suitability for the job of Principal, only a Methodist can be appointed as the Principal. Wesley has never received favourable treatment like its sister College - Methodist College which is based at Methodist headquarters. The Church's hierarchy does not have to look very far to see how Dr Shanti (who I believe is an Anglican) resurrected the College from the great ravine it had plunged in to. It needs to acknowledge and maintain the governance and fiscal controls that were set in place by Dr Shanti and maintain the Finance Committee regardless of Mr Manickam's desires. To highlight his lack of responsibility, he promised the staff a Rs 5,000 increase in their salary without consulting the Finance Committee in order to curry favour with the staff. He did not check whether it was affordable and within budget. When he did not get his wish, he conveniently blamed the Finance Committee.

The Church continues to display a “we cannot be bothered” attitude when it comes to Wesley in terms of the appointments it makes as Principal, provision of adequate funding to maintain the quality of teaching and sporting standards, maintenance of teaching aids and infrastructure that is comparable with Colleges that aspire to be the best. It should hang its head in shame for the failure over many years to provide the financial support and merely clings to Wesley College as it is a valuable asset in its portfolio but has no interest in maintaining the infrastructure and improving the standards in teaching, results, etc. which the parents seek for their sons. There are many clergy and principals sons that went to St Thomas's College or Royal because of this. The Church merely goes with the flow leaving the College community, alumni and well-wishers to bear the burden or they are living in hope that a miracle will take place. Wesley is seen as a toy they can play with where they can appoint their favourite sons to the top job regardless of their suitability for the job in order to appease the whims of the “Moratuwa Mafia”. It is a wake-up call to the Church to take a more abiding interest in one of its last remaining jewels in its crown, particularly one that bears the name of the founder of Methodism – John Wesley. In conclusion the Church's attitude to not respond and change its behaviour reminds me of the Peter, Paul and Mary hit of the sixties “Where have all the flowers gone?” which has these meaningful lyrics ***“Oh when will they ever learn, Oh when will they ever learn?”***

Trinity College has expanded their search for a Principal overseas. Perhaps the time has come for the Church to expand her horizons, begin to think outside the square for a change and seriously explore the possibility of an overseas Principal who meets the Department of Education qualification criteria and that of the College. It needs to include performance benchmarks linked to the duties so that at any given time, the Principal's performance can be measured.

The Church and Governing body also has to enact in the management structure of the College a Business Management committee chaired by a qualified person (preferably an Old Boy) and made up of individuals who have excelled in the commercial sector in management, accounting and finance that will oversee and be accountable for

- implementing a five year business plan that is reviewed at selected intervals
- prepare an annual budget forecast that is monitored frequently

- control the commercial business and financial management of the College
- appointment a Fund Raising sub-committee that reports to the Business Management Committee that is solely responsible for fund raising from various sources
- implementing a strict fiscal policy with good controls in place on who can authorise purchases and who can issue and sign cheques.

Ora et labora

Keith de Kretser



ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Old Boys Union Colombo

President: Jeremy Brohier Mobile: 0777393264 Email: jeremybrohier@gmail.com

Secretary: Sri Shammugalingam Mobile: 0777765163 Email: trustsri@slt.net.lk

Treasurer: V. Kamaleshwaran Mobile: 0773356638 Email: kamalesh@combank.net

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Old Wesleyites Sports Club Colombo

President: Fowzil Nawaz Mobile: 0777900808 Email: fowzil.nawaz@gmail.com

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Old Boys Union New South Wales (Sydney)

President: Chris Swan Mobile: +612 0415067110
Email: chrisswan@choicepaperandimaging.com.au

Secretary: Vacant – to be filled

Treasurer: Nizar Sappideen Tel: +612 96298689 Email: desilva6@hotmail.com

Old Boys Union U.K.

At the time of publication, there is no website or any record of the current office bearers and contacts. Details will be gratefully received. Editors.



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CDI

COLOMBO

- 2 March
4 March 142nd Founder's day Assembly (8:00 am)
Past v Present – Hockey and Football (4.30 pm)
5 March Principal's Tea Party (6:00 pm)
Past v Present Water Polo (7:30 pm)
Past v Present basketball (8:00 am)
6 March Past v Present T20 Cricket match(9:00 am)
OBU Lunch (1:00 pm)
2 April OBU AGM (2:30 pm)
29 July Special Thanksgiving Service
8 October
Old Boys Six a Side softball Cricket Carnival
OWSC AGM
Double Blue Ball at Hilton Notes 20

March

May

AUSTRALIA

1 October

Melbourne

9 October

36th AGM

December

Curry Nite

Dec

Double Blue Ball, The Grand

CJ Oorloff Golf Trophy (Wesley v Trinity)

12th March Combined Colleges of Sri Lanka Carol Service

28th May Seniors Lunch

17th

19th New South Wales

4th December Bus picnic to THIRROUL BEACH

Hopper Night

Double Blue Night
Christmas Party AGM

Double Blue Links February 2016

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Wesley College Scholarship Fund

Wesley College is pleased to announce that a new Scholarship Account has been opened by the school, to allow Wesleyites and friends who may wish to contribute towards scholarships at Wesley, to do so. The account will be controlled by the school. The ability of the school to provide scholarships will, understandably, depend entirely on the money available in the account.

Contributions can be made as:

1. Lump sums, the interest on which will be used to meet scholarship needs.
2. Periodic contributions, which will be used to meet scholarship needs.

Donors of lump sums and/or long period of commitment will be entitled to have a particular scholarship or scholarships awarded in a name they specify. The school will provide a report each year to donors, showing lump sum contributions held and interest received on these funds, other contributions received during the year and the manner in which money available has been used during the year.

Types of scholarships envisaged are:

1. Academic scholarships

Grade 5 scholarships: to those who excel at national level or perform particularly well at school level; these may include full scholarships and partial scholarships.

G C E (Ordinary Level): to those who perform particularly well at the exams; these may include full scholarships and partial scholarships.

To those whose academic performance and behaviour have been consistently good and whose parents / guardians require financial support; the scholarships may be a full or partial scholarship and may be subject to being applicable for a prescribed period of time.

2. Sports scholarships:

Candidates need to be endorsed by the Sports Council as excelling in sports or extra-curricular activity and who are in need of financial assistance. They may be full or partial scholarships and may be subject to being applicable for a prescribed period of time.

The criteria above may be made more specific with the passage of time.

COST OF SCHOLARSHIP

- Day Scholar – Academic Rs 35,000/ per year
- Day Scholar – Sports Rs 45,000/ per year
- Hostel Scholar - Academic – Rs 145,000/ per year

Books Wanted for Cartman Library

- Hostel Scholar – Sports – Rs 155,000/ per year

The continuation of scholarships will be contingent on continuing good performance and good behaviour of the student.

All decisions on the granting or discontinuation of scholarships will be at the discretion of the Principal, who is not required to provide any reason for discontinuing the scholarship. As far as possible, donors' contributions will be used to meet costs associated with their selected scholarship.

At this point, the writer will administer the scheme until a person is appointed by the school to manage the scholarship programme.

Account details are:

Wesley College Scholarship
Account Bank of Ceylon Colombo

08. Account No: 77089169

Swift Code: BCEYLK LX Bank Code:
7010

Branch Code: 038

When funds are transferred, please send email to writer Richie.S@lk.emiratesline.com and Secretary to Principal Ms Rose Wong wong27rose@gmail.com

Richie Sappideen

It is not enough to simply teach children to read; we have to give them something worth reading. Something that will stretch their imaginations—something that will help them make sense of their own lives and encourage them to reach out toward people whose lives are quite different from their own. —Katherine Patterson

To enhance the knowledge of the senior students and to improve traffic to the Library, a request has been made by the principal to the alumni and friends of Wesley through the OBU in Colombo for donations of used or new books for the Cartman Library.

The addition of these books will help prepare the students at preferably GCE O/Level and A/level in their research, for their ongoing studies at University and to prepare them for the Corporate world after they leave school.

Please contact the OBU President Mr Jeremy Brohier on 0777393264 for further information.

SUGGESTED PUBLICATIONS ON:

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT BASICS IN AERONAUTICS HUMAN
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PUBLIC RELATIONS
MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS
SALES LEISURE MANAGEMENT
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PHOTOGRAPHY
GRAPHIC DESIGNING ISO STANDARDS
GOOD NOVELS 5 S STANDARDS
BASIC GUIDES TO ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT
BASICS OF ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

WESLEY COLLEGE REFURBISHMENT PROGRAM

ONGOING MAINTENANCE WORK AT WESLEY COLLEGE

This is a summary in respect of the maintenance of the three campuses and the role played by the Management Committee and the Maintenance Officer in this regard.

- (1) A detailed assessment has been made in respect of repairs, renovations and restoration required in all three campuses.
- (2) A budget has been prepared and submitted to the Finance Committee and has received approval.
- (3) Maintenance, which was previously carried out virtually on an adhoc basis is now carried out in a planned prioritized basis.
- (4) All maintenance is carried out after an evaluation of estimates and capabilities of at least three contractors for work in excess of Rs. 50,000/-.
- (5) Havelock Town Campus:
 - a) A planned program of maintenance has been undertaken which includes upgrading or water supply, painting and colour washing of classrooms, rectification of roof leaks, construction and installation of cupboards as required by the Sectional Head. Additionally, proper evaluation and commissioning of the new 5 storied building under our supervision has been completed. A lift installation is now being pursued.
 - b) Planning for the development of the Havelock Town Campus as well as the playground has been initiated and is progressing. a plan for a pavilion and cricket nets is being developed.
 - c) Investigation of the feasibility of demolishing the two old buildings and replacing with a purpose built building to cater for ongoing needs.
- (6) Thampola (Katunayake) Campus:
 - a) Rectification and repairs to the new building initiated and completed.
 - b) New Security Hut – initiated and completed.
 - c) Tube well and water supply system initiated and completed.
 - d) Arresting of soil erosion by constructing a retaining wall is to commence shortly for which tenders have been called. Evaluation and contract award to be carried out under supervision of a CECB Engineer.

e) Construction of front boundary fence to be commenced.

(7) Borella Campus:

Preamble - This is the oldest and original Campus of the School. Even though in the last several years new buildings have been constructed, there has been less attention to the proper maintenance and rehabilitation of the existing buildings and services. A major program has been initiated as follows:

- a) Under the auspices of the old boys (OBU, Colombo as Facilitator), redevelopment of the classrooms project and redevelopment of the Administration Complex including the Principal's office supervised and followed-up by the Maintenance Committee/ Officer.
- b) Restructuring of the electricity supply for the High Field Block, Junior Computer Lab and Maintenance Office Complex under way, partially completed under Maintenance Committee/Officer supervision.
- c) A major project for rehabilitation of all toilets and sewerage system currently under way under Maintenance Committee / Officer Supervision. All concrete slabs over drainage to be reconstructed with steel lids which will be at ground level.
- d) Refurbishment of Vice Principal's bungalow to accommodate the new Principal is under way, supervised by the Maintenance Committee/ Officer. Termite treatment to be completed.
- e) Redevelopment of the Principal's Bungalow – Cost estimates provided. Currently termite treatment has been completed. To be proceeded in stages.
- f) Painting and restoring Main Building – BOQs have been forwarded to contractors and tenders have closed and negotiations with contractors to commence shortly.
- g) Restoration of Hostel Wing – BOQ under preparation. In the interim the Hostel has been reorganized with seven boys currently in occupation.
- h) Painting of boundary wall on Baseline Road. Security roof to be repaired and an additional room provided for the guards.
- i) Painting of High Field Block 90% complete. Quotations for repairs to roofing called for.
- j) Sick room to be reestablished with assistance from the 85-86 batch of Old Boys.
- k) Refurbishment of the Chaplains bungalow will commence shortly to accommodate the Vice Principal. Access to the campus will be provided via. an opening in the boundary wall.
- l) Bus garage to be demolished and area converted into a children's playground.
Dangerous concrete slabs to be replaced.
- m) Security contracts to be scrutinized and CC TV to be installed.
- n) Chapel renovations to commence shortly. Tenders have closed and successful contractor advised.
- o) Investigating the provision of clean drinking water.
- p) Quotations will be called for the painting and repair of:
 - D.H. Perera Building
 - 125th Anniversary Building
 - A.S. Wirasinha Building
 - Labrooy Building
- q) Reconstruction of the campus gardens has commenced.

All the above areas of activity coming under the supervision of the Maintenance Committee is directly supervised by the Maintenance Officer under the guidance of the Committee comprising ;

Clive de Silva

Isuru Gamanayake

Tyrone Amath.

All work is undertaken based on proper procedures which includes detailed BOQs, multiple estimates in respect of the BOQs, evaluation of contractors and close supervision as well as wherever deemed necessary, defects liability periods with retention money being implemented. Any further clarifications can be provided on request.

The presence of Bill Deutrom in College has enormously assisted the Buildings Committee in fasttracking and overseeing many of the above works. We are thankful for Bill's involvement & commitment.

Clive de Silva

The 3rd phase of the Classroom refurbishment has begun and 4 class rooms are being refurbished in the main building.

1 classroom next to the Physics Lab (ground level) adjoining the College office

2 classrooms next to the Science Lab (level1) above the College office

1 classroom in the Commerce section (level1) near the staircase which leads to the Library

The total cost will be around Rs 1.4million will be fully funded by OBU Colombo, Sri Lanka from funds collected at the recent Wesley Walk 2015.

Some pics of the work in progress



Pictures of a simple ceremony at College this morning 20th January 2016,

Blessings from Rev. Asiri Perera (head of the Methodist Church of Sri Lanka) upon the completion of the 1st phase of the College Refurbishment (Exterior) In attendance were the Principal, staff, prefects, students and old boys.



From the Archives



We grew up with it and like the school flag it is an integral part of the school. The school crest is a visual symbol of identity for a school, a rallying cry, a focus of its pupils' pride and loyalty. Emblazoned on a flag, embossed on a metal badge, monogrammed on school blazers and sports jerseys, printed on exercise book covers and certificates, or integrated into official letterheads, the school crest proclaims the school's identity far and wide.

The College Crest- How it evolved by Shelton Peiris



In this note an attempt is made to trace the evolution of the College Crest which has adorned every school boy's exercise books, blazer and nearly every document originating from Wesley College. There appears to be two stages in the development of the crest. The cross and the shells are derived from the Coat of Arms of none other, and indeed quite appropriately from that of John Wesley. On the other hand the origin of the shield of the crest is not known, as it is not featured even in any of the designs of the College of Heraldry. The Motto, "Ora et Labora" which is an integral part of the crest was originated by Rev. Arthur Shipham (1880-1883), and John Dalby, commenting in a later time said Worship & Prayer are the salt of life. There is a generally accepted interpretation of the crest.

The twelve (12) shells are symbolic of the journeying Pilgrim, seeking and searching ahead, with no complacency. One could compare them to the twelve wandering tribes of Israel. Within the Shield of Faith is placed the rugged Cross of Sacrifice. This was the first

arrangement which composed Wesley's crest, and included Shipham's motto. It is not certain when this design of the crest was first introduced, but it is evident on stationery used by Rev. Henry Highfield. In our archival section we feature a document of the 1900, on which this same crest is placed.

History of the School Motto – Ora et Labora

This same crest is incorporated into the art frame of the Farewell Scroll presented to Rev. Henry Highfield by staff and students, on his departure from Wesley in 1925. We have evidence of the continued use of this crest during Rev. Albert Hutchinson's time (1925-1928) when he commissioned the Head Baas - Cornelius - to construct the time hallowed stately chair, used by Wesley's Principals, and on the back head is carved the College crest. This chair still adorns the stage of the hallowed College hall.

It then becomes clear that during the Headship of Rev. John Dalby (1929 - 1934) a further addition was made to the crest, when it was embellished with the scallops circularly fringed around the shield, giving the present form of the shield. Prize books and College exercise books of 1933 have this crest. Thus we see how the crest, a means of readily identifying Wesley has truly a rich inheritance, and Wesleyites of all generations will continue to be inspired by this remarkable crest, and will proudly wear it as the occasion demands.

Researched by Dr Nihal D Amerasekera

Ora et labora is an old Benedictine motto of the monks from AD 480-547. The Rule of Saint Benedict is a book of precepts written by St. Benedict of Nursia for monks living communally under the authority of an abbot. The spirit of St. Benedict's Rule is summed up in the motto. It refers to their ethic of Prayer and Work in the Seminary.

In Christian mysticism, the phrase or the Latin motto Ora et Labora reads in full: "Ora et labora, Deus adest son has". (Pray and work, God is there ie: God helps without delay.) The pray and work (or "pray and labour"), refers to the monastic practice of working and praying, generally associated with its use in the Rule of St. Benedict.



Rev. Arthur Shipham, was the Principal at Wesley College Colombo for three years (1879-83). He had just retired from the active work of the ministry. 'His deep and abiding interest in our work was clearly indicated in the Message that appeared in the Magazine recently ; " I am thankful that God has given me forty-four years in this work, the first eleven of which were spent in Ceylon. My memories of the beautiful Island and the kindness of many friends in Colombo and Matara are very pleasant and precious. Wesley College has still a warm place in my heart, and I have followed its magnificent progress with joy. The only Message I would send is. Ora et Labora the Motto for which I am personally responsible."

In giving so choice a Motto he has bequeathed a priceless legacy. Here is a man with a Vision, who has given us a noble watchword which, if carried out in our daily life, will make our lives nobler and sweeter.

Have we lost an important part of our identity by not representing the Coat of Arms of Wesley College in full colour and as it was meant to be?



The answer to this question is YES. For many generations, one's first impression of the College crest has either been a single



colour image or a two tone blue image. We have lived with this image not knowing that the College Coat of Arms once had a colourful presentation depicting the symbolic elements that had a specific interpretation, Sadly this has been lost and it is a terrible oversight that must be rectified.

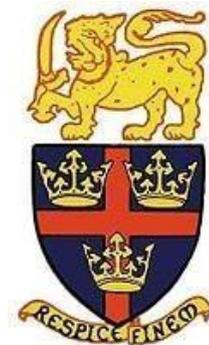


THE OBUA had in it's possession the blazer pocket bearing the Coat of Arms of Wesley College that belonged to the late Henry Duckworth who captained the Wesley cricket team in 1936. It was given to us by his family and I gave it to the president of the OBU Colombo Mr Jeremy Brohier when he visited Australia for the Wesley Archives. It is important to note the colours in the Coat of Arms but they no longer appear on the crest and they have been lost along the way for many years. In heraldic Coats of Arms, colours and symbols are elements that symbolise something associated to the roots of the family or in this

case Wesley College. It says something about our heritage. However this has not been the case and we have failed to acknowledge, respect and retain the actual colours of the Coat of Arms as designed from our inception by our founding fathers. It was good enough during the era of Principals Wilkin, Shipham, Hill, Moscrop, Hillard, Passmore, Highfield, Hutchinson and Dalby and then no more?



To this day St Thomas's College(left) and Trinity College(right) have their College Coat of Arms displayed in full colour in traditional format where as Wesley College no longer represents it in its original form The question I pose is ***why have we forsaken such an important part of our identity and tinkered with altering the Coat of Arms*** which through history is respected and revered and never changed as a rule.



Since receiving the blazer pocket of the late Mr Duckworth I have been puzzled as to why we have ceased displaying the correct Coat of Arms in full colour when the Coat of Arms should represent our very being. Many of the Burgher boys who went to Wesley would have their family Coat of Arms which has not changed over centuries. Take for instance my own family - DE KRETSER. The Coat of Arms goes back to the earliest records of the family from the 1400's in Bavaria before moving to Holland.

In the article on the origins of the College Crest by Shelton Peiris he covers a broad interpretation of the symbolic representation contained in the Crest that has been gathered



over time but sadly missing is the significance of the red cross on a white shield which was in the original Coat of Arms and the colours. There appear to be no records of the true meaning and significance of the colours and neither any records of why Rev John Dalby altered the presentation or for that matter the removal of the colours. In this article I have done my own research and try and provide more explanations for this wonderful Coat of Arms which relates its own story. It is interesting to note that Wesley College being named after John Wesley has as its core the shield, cross and scallop shells as depicted in the Wesley family Coat of Arms in the image on the left. The origin of the shield in the Coat of Arms with the cross whilst

unknown, takes

on a couple of possible interpretation notwithstanding it's link to the Wesley family. We need to bear in mind that the Methodist Missionaries who brought the message of Christianity to the East through Methodism were our founding fathers.

THE CROSS(Red Cross on white shield)

1. The cross represents Christianity and Christ as the focal point of our being which goes along with the Wesley family motto – “God is love”. 1 John chapter 4 verse 8 **...”He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”**
2. The cross represents the four compass points of North, South, East and West – the four corners of the world which cover the spread of the Christian message,
3. The cross represents the cross of sacrifice on which Christ died.
4. The red cross is very important as it is similar to the symbol used in the Crusades by Richard the Lion Heart in battle. In medieval times the Crusades were lead by Christians and if you look at the images of that era, you will see that the shields protecting the Crusaders in battle were white with a red cross.
5. The red cross is also in the origins of the English flag which is represented by a red cross (the Cross of St George) on a white background.

It should be noted that the St Thomas’ and Trinity College Coats of Arms have the red cross, both being Christian schools formed by the Church of England in Sri Lanka. Given that the Methodist Missionaries came across the oceans to spread the Christian message in the East, it is not only symbolic that the College Coat of Arms represented the Wesley family but its Christian and English origins.

THE SCALLOP SHELLS(in Gold)

The explanation of the twelve scallop shells may also have more than one interpretation.

1. The twelve (12) shells are symbolic of the journeying Pilgrim across the seas, seeking and searching ahead, with no complacency.
2. The scallop shells could also represent the twelve wandering tribes of Israel and
3. The scallop shells could also represent the twelve Disciples of Christ spreading the Christian message to the people.

THE MOTTO

1. The words “**ora et labora**” can be attributed to Saint Benedict (500 AD) an ascetic monk who prescribed the rules referred to as “*The rule of Benedict*” which is a set of

precepts. The Rule of Saint Benedict has been used by Benedictines for fifteen centuries, and thus St. Benedict is sometimes regarded as the founder of Western Monasticism. The spirit of St Benedict's Rule is summed up in the motto of the Benedictine Federation which is ***ora et labora*** ("pray and work").

2. The Methodist Missionaries who set sail for the Far East had as their charter to spread the message of Christianity. When one considers the Wesley family motto of "God is Love", the brothers John Wesley and Charles Wesley were both ordained as Anglican Priests like their father and led an evangelic revival within the Anglican Church at the time that came to be known as Methodism. It is only natural that the motto reflects that sense of order and priority prescribed in John Wesley's teachings in how one should conduct one's life, i.e devotion to God and work. Therefore "***ora et labora***" defines man's true function - to pray and to work. Rev Arthur Shipham gave Wesley her motto.

THE CHANGES TO THE CURRENT CREST AS WE KNOW IT

In examining the symbolic elements contained in the College Crest, I find it difficult to accept the need for the embellishment that was proposed by Rev John Dalby (Principal 1929 - 1934) and subsequently implemented. Having no records to support the proposed changes other than that it was commissioned by Rev John Dalby, I have conducted some research in to what possibly made him propose this change. The College Crest as we know it today is represented by the Coat of Arms at the centre surrounded by outer concentric circles bearing the name of Wesley College and contained within an outer circle with a scalloped edge. The Coat of Arms represents Wesley College for over 50 years and is a traditional symbol. It raises the question "***Why did Rev John Dalby who is accredited with the change, modify the Coat of Arms or embellish it if you like?***"

In the period 1920 – 1940, (post World War 1), there was a new trend for stylizing architecture, symbols, fittings and a host of structures. It is referred to as the "Art Deco" era where themes were often classical motifs reduced to geometric stylisations. It was very popular in the period and perhaps as a sign of the times, Rev Dalby felt it was important to translate the College Coat of Arms into an Art Deco style. It has made the Coat of Arms very busy, the scalloped outer circle is typical of the geometric curves (arcs) introduced to embellish things in that period. In modern speak we would refer to it as "Corporatising" the Coat of Arms to effectively a logo. I believe in so doing it has lost the symbolism of what the College Coat of Arms was meant to represent and I would guess that at the same time, the Coat of Arms took on a single colour losing its true identity. I may be wrong but there are no records that refer to this and the reason for the changes.

THE ABSENCE OF THE COLOURS FROM THE COAT OF ARMS

Having spoken to many Old Wesleyites of the "war years" (1939-1945) and beyond, they can recall the "Dalby" crest as being in single colour. Neither does Shelton Peiris who would have been in Junior school in the early 1930's. Perhaps circumstances at the time of the War and recovery from the great depression of that time may have influenced the introduction of a single colour image. The following are possible reasons for the single colour:

1. Availability of coloured threads to embroider the crest in full colour.
2. Cost of materials to embroider the crest in colour.
3. Wesley College campus was used for other purposes at the time of the war and with the many distractions and re-location that was around at the time and the introduction of the embellishments by Rev Dalby to the coat of arms, having the "Dalby" Crest in a single colour may have been practical and cost effective at the time. However it never returned to the colours of the original coat of arms as it was meant to be and has been lost to generations of Wesleyites since then.

WE MUST RETAIN OUR HERITAGE AND ORIGINS

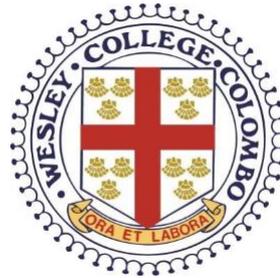
I believe it is important that the symbolism and the colours in the College Coat of Arms are not lost to our history. The Coat of Arms in its original colours and the College Crest with the core (the Coat of Arms) in full colour would look terrific when you consider that the photo of the blazer pocket it is faded having been embroidered over 80 years ago and using threads that lacked lustre and sheen.

I have had the College Coat of Arms and the College Crest re-done by a graphic artist in its original colours. **What do you think?**

SCALLOP SHELLS IN GOLD



SCROLL IN GOLD



College Coat of Arms

College Crest

It is not too late to restore our Coat of Arms to its full colours and maintain our heritage. If we do not it will be lost forever and that would be a terrible tragedy and disrespect for the efforts of founding fathers. Had it not been for Mr Duckworth bequeathing his blazer pocket to the Old Boys Union in Australia, we would never have known this part of our historic identity.

When our founding fathers were considering matters of significance like our Coat of Arms, the College motto and our college colours, they were mindful that they were vested with the responsibility of educating and developing the lives of young boys to turn out to be young men, gentlemen, decent, well educated and upstanding in society. Men of grit and industry as our College song states. Therefore like the Coat of Arms, when picking the College colours, they symbolised a meaningful statement connected with what they were hoping to achieve. The light blue and dark blue were not selected because they were pretty colours.

THE COLLEGE COLOURS

To some of you who may not know, the College colours – Light Blue and Dark Blue may also have symbolic links representing

1. Cambridge University (light blue) and Oxford University (dark blue) the oldest seats of learning in England. You would note that many of the Missionary Principals were either graduates of Oxford (Oxon) or Cambridge (Cantab).
2. The two blues also represent the sky and the ocean - what you would see if you gazed at the horizon. We joined Wesley College and began a journey of learning and development which has no boundaries very much a kin to the horizon which goes on and on as far as our eyes can see. When we joined Wesley College it was the start of a journey of learning and development which presented fresh challenges every day and searching for limitless knowledge. It will be the same tomorrow as it was on our very first day at Wesley, as we journey through our days endeavouring to reach those goals we have set ourselves in our daily life.

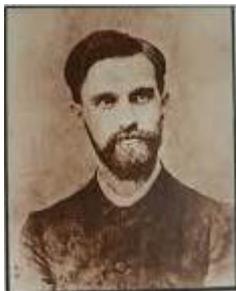
3. Another interpretation is that the colours represent our destiny. The Light Blue the tranquillity of heaven – the sky, celestial space and Dark Blue the tempest, the depths of darkness, despair and hell.

In conclusion, I believe that all of the above interpretations could add credence to what the Wesley Coat of Arms represents and the values they have stood for all these years will remain unchanged regardless of shape, colour or form.

That's Wesley College.

Keith de Kretser

A tribute to a Principal – Rev Thomas Moscrop



This Tribute is an excerpt from the Wesley College Magazine February 1919 (From the archives collected and once held by Edmund Dissanayake).

We have been asked to contribute an appreciation of the late Rev Thomas Moscrop to this Magazine, and most willingly set about it though doubtful of being able to produce anything satisfactory. One thing we trust to bring out whatever else may escape us that he loved the Ceylon Mission and continued to be interested in it to the very end of his life. This is what he wrote to a friend January 31st, 1900. We are leaving with much regret and with very kindly thoughts of Ceylon.' In another letter, fourteen years later, written from Woodfield, Clive Road, Kenarth. July 14th, 1914, he concludes: • We read everything that comes to hand about Ceylon with great interest, and have kindly memories of her and her people. There can be no doubt that the Missionary Society in sending him out to Ceylon conferred upon us a great blessing, and we cannot wish for anything better than that men of his stamp may continue to be sent to us.

Whilst performing his duties as a Ceylon Missionary, he threw himself into the work heartily whatever it was. He also viewed Missionary work as a concrete whole throughout the world, and this he was permitted to bring out in his important volume: • A Kingdom without Frontiers.' Enthusiasm is necessary for success in any calling, and in none is it so essential as in that of a Missionary. Robert Spence Hardy in some burning words said this in 1864. He Said' Alas what a dead lifeless, dull thing is a Missionary who is not every moment conscious of the burden of souls laid upon him, and does not feel the stupendous importance of the Message entrusted to him to deliver to the unsaved multitudes surrounding him.' This enthusiasm was in Mr. Moscrop, and explains his success in the Mission Field.

Other pens, we trust, will speak at length of his career as the Principal of Wesley College. All that we need say is that the College was vigorously maintained by him when the Principal ship fell on him owing to the sudden and lamented death of the Rev. Samuel Hill. There are many in Colombo and elsewhere who look with gratitude to him as their teacher, and we may be allowed to mention the name of Mr.D. B. Jayatileke as one of his distinguished pupils and pass on.

As a Preacher he was known and appreciated. Here again there was unction, enthusiasm a belief in his message. His preaching shewed careful preparation, and he made very apt and

felicitous quotations from the poets and from the books he had read. We particularly recall a sermon on the "Love of God to man," which he was kind enough to preach again in our hearing at our special request. He said that the beloved disciple found himself unable to define the love of God and so conflated himself by saying that God is love and love is of God.' The theme was a lofty one, and the treatment of it was both reverential and lofty, and the effect on the hearer was deep and abiding. Then just as he had optimistic views as to the Mission of Christianity in the future he had a tender regard for the history of the Church in the Past. It was with interest for example that he shewed us in the Mission House at Kandy an old account book of Mr. Hardy's going back to the 40's, and so in England when preaching in a circuit where one of the Pioneers-the Rev. William Ault had ministered before entering upon the Ceylon Mission he looked up the old sermon entry book and verified the entries of the. Ceylon Missionary. We instance these as characteristic of the man.

Remembering Mrs Elna Wickramasinghe nee Pinto -Jayawardene



Mrs. Elna Wickramasinghe was a pretty and impeccably turned out lady who played the the piano for the singing lessons in the Primary Classes. She worked in tandem with Mrs. S.E.G Perera, another stalwart of that era. I remember with much fondness the kindness she showed us when we were young students. Tiny and fizzing with energy she had the rare gift of patience with us kids some of whom never could sing to tune or hold the rhythm. Miss Elna had to play the piano and repeat the songs over and over again. Most remarkably Miss Elna could do so with a smile. Her dedication to duty was obvious. We sang with gusto the ever popular songs of Sunil Santha and also those of the famous singing duo Chitra and Somapala. Even now when I hear them my mind often goes back to those happy days in peaceful Ceylon.

When Mr Wilfred Wickramasinghe accompanied us to the singing classes Cupid had a field day. Miss Elna married Wilfred Wickremasinghe, my class teacher in the primary school, at the Maradana Methodist Church in 1952. I recall this happy event with much nostalgia. I was present at the wedding being in the choir which was conducted by Mr Maxwell De Alwis. I believe the priest who officiated on this occasion was the school Chaplain, Rev Wilfred Pile. The Couple lived in the Wesley College Flats for many many years. Whenever we saw them together they radiated happiness. They made a lovely couple at work and we often saw them together as they strolled back to their apartment at day's end wending their way along the long corridors of the school. Even after their retirement they continued to work for the Welfare Board which depended largely on their efficiency and hard work.

Their son, Athula, played cricket and hockey for the 1st XI and now lives in Saskatchewan, Canada. Their daughter- Nilmini (9 years younger to Athula) works at Air Lanka. She`s married to an Old boy of Wesley College - Rohan Perera.

The couple had great empathy for the many little kids in the boarding who were away from their parents. We remember their generosity when they invited the junior domitory students for tea on Saturday afternoons to experience their lavish hospitality.

From Athula: She Joined Wesley College as a teacher in the primary school and after serving for a few years she left to join the Teachers Training College at Maharagama. During her brief period at Wesley College she took a very keen interest in the primary school annual concert, prize giving and the sports meet. Even after leaving Wesley College she was very

much involved in the school activities due to my father and also because I was a student. After retiring she came and worked in the school Welfare Office from 1984 to 1988.

After surgery in 1992 she led a happy life and visited Athula in Saskatchewan, Canada. She believed in looking forwards, in keeping an open mind and remaining positive. She shared her enjoyment of life with everyone she met. Her health finally deteriorated and she passed away in Colombo in November 1999. She braved her final illness with great courage and dignity.

*You can shed tears that she is gone or
you can smile because she has lived.*

*You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back
or you can open your eyes and see all she's left. You
can remember her and only that she's gone or you can
cherish her memory and let it live on.*

Memories of a Senior School Teacher – V R Roberts

Mr V R Roberts - A teaching legend at Wesley College

By Keith de Kretser

Memories are still fresh in my mind of VR Roberts. A silver haired gentlemen with a slight stoop reflecting his age who always wore a cream tussore suit which earned him the nick name “parana coat” which means old coat. He was one of the great teachers in the Science stream (English) for many years at Wesley and many alumni who chose the disciplines of Engineering, Science or Medicine owe their success at the General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary Level(O/L) and Advanced level (A/L) to him. He also conducted Maths and Physics tuition from his home and there are many more success stories of students from other schools who had the privilege of improving their Maths under his tutelage.

I was always amazed that a teacher with his highest qualification being the London JSC could command such respect and deliver the subject with such conviction and confidence. As one progressed up the grades to form 8, you knew that if you elected to pursue a course in science you would encounter this teacher in form 9. He was a man of many faces and would either have a sheepish sneer when he was trying to trick you or would easily slip in to a more serious pose with his piercing eyes focussed on you.

I remember my early encounters with Mr Robert’s in form 9. I would bring to class my Durrell’s Geometry, Hall’s Algebra and another local publication on Arithmetic as I had elected to do Biology and Pure Mathematics was a mandatory subject. I also had him for Physics. Those who elected to pursue Engineering also undertook Applied Mathematics which meant a triple dose of Mr Roberts as they studied the world of Kinetics and Dynamics. I found his Maths class entertaining but serious. He was very cognisant that the teenage boys were going through hormonal changes and girls were on the agenda. Also we were at an age where we were allowed to wear long trousers to school. He brought a sense of theatre when he had a geometry class or physics class.

When teaching us a theorem he would draw on the black board and name the various points with the letters V, R and S and follow it with the statement that those letters were sacrosanct. When he had to draw an arc or a circle, he would whip out his hankie, grab them at each and twist the hankie around till it was taut. He would then wrap one end around the chalk and fix the other end steady on the black board and draw the arc or a circle. He would love to tease the boys when he picked up someone's text book and the student not expecting this would let him have the book. Sometimes the text book would be the repository for a love letter from a girl. Mr Robert's face would quickly get that sheepish sneer as he would divulge the contents of the letter and ask the student some embarrassing questions. We enjoyed the fun bursting in to laughter as Mr Roberts teased him. He also discovered one day a note between two students in our class who referred to him as "parana coat". For the rest of their days at Wesley he would insult them in every class they attended and any chance of a Prefectship was dead and buried. Something that would not be tolerated today.

There was another student (a burgher boy) with youthful features and no facial hair who hadn't the luxury of long trousers at the time. He was about 5'9" in height and still wore blue shorts which were barely a span thus exposing his slender hairless legs with a prominent bulge in the front accommodating the crown jewels. This was Mr Robert's favourite target for asking questions. He would then proceed to embarrass the poor bloke. As soon as Mr Roberts asked him a question, the poor fellow would stand up, delicately adjust the crown jewels for comfort and face Mr Roberts. Mr Roberts would stride forward and gently stroke his face and say "*My XXXX what a smooth face you have*". The student would barely splutter a reply in faint high pitched tones that would result in Mr Roberts touching his Adam's apple and then commenting on his maturity, short shorts and smooth legs whilst the student's face would turn red with a furrowed brow. This was a regular scenario each day which kept the rest of the class amused and giggling.

Mr Roberts firmly believed that his method of proving a theorem was the only correct solution and no one deserved 100 per cent for an exam paper. However much to his chagrin he was proved wrong by some of the brighter sparks at the time with reduced steps in the process. He would reluctantly concede. He had a big influence with Mrs Sivasubramaniam in determining which successful students at the GCE O/L's would be awarded a Sub-Prefectship. If you were not one of his favourites with the academic results to match you had no hope. Mr Roberts was the House Master for Passmore House and this was worth a few points when deciding who would get a Sub-Prefectship.

In the late sixties his health was affected and he had his first heart attack of many which kept him away from teaching for few months. When I left for Australia in 1970 he would communicate with me regularly giving me updates on my peers and their progress through school. He would also check how I was faring in my studies in a new environment. He communicated with a number of the burgher students who migrated to Australia. I received a letter one day telling me that one of the students who he picked on for the note referring to him as "parana coat" was also migrating to Melbourne. He recommended that my family and I should leave Melbourne with

haste. Whether it was said in jest I would not know. A few years later I received the sad news that he had passed away. He was still tutoring till his health faded.

Mr V R Roberts in my humble opinion was one of the teaching legends at Wesley. He may not have had the endearing qualities of a David Joseph, Haig Karunaratne or David Ondaatje, but his influence on the lives of many students makes him a legend.

*“Pupils never forget a teacher
Whether good or bad, that's true
But it's with the fondest of affection That
Wesleyites will remember you.”*

With apologies to Jon Bratton © 2004

By Russell Firth UK



Mr V R Roberts taught me Maths and Physics in the 5th Form. My father was very disappointed with my performance, and visited Mr Roberts, who offered to teach me at his Home. He had a room for study lined from floor to ceiling with books!!

He taught me, apart from the subjects mentioned, Latin, English Lit, Chemistry and Advanced Maths. Needless to say I passed with flying colours!! He was truly a Polymath!! And knew everything. By nature, he was a gentle teacher, completely absorbed in his subject.

He never lost his composure. Always dressed in a Starched Cream Coat and Trousers. Every few years when I visited Sri Lanka, I would take him a gift from UK. He was very interested in my Career and progress.

One year on my visit, I was told that his House was set alight during the riots, and all within had perished. I shed tears at the sheer waste of a life of this great teacher!!



Editors Comment: Russell Firth was a boarder at Wesley in the 1950's. He now lives in Yeovil in Somerset, UK. He works for the Civil Service.

By Nihal D Amerasekera

Mr Roberts was a likeable, deeply religious man, with a good intellect. In the course of his duties he made a substantial contribution to the life of the school. He always wore a cream tussore suit with tie. He never taught me but Mr Roberts was a teacher during my years at Wesley. He was a quiet dedicated teacher of the old school with the students' welfare at heart.

He came to school in his rickety old cycle with cycle clips on his trousers. The cycle was his pride and joy and he parked it with great care in the cycle shed. Two pranksters, once deflated both tyres in his bicycle and they watched his reaction from the hostel dormitory upstairs. Mr Roberts accepted his misfortune philosophically and the pranksters later regretted their actions.

Mr Roberts was a kind and generous man and was greatly respected as a teacher. I feel deeply ashamed at the way he was treated in his sunset years. He was caught up in the needless and shameless acts of violence during the infamous ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. No one deserves to die the way he did and I hope the perpetrators were punished with the full force of the law.

Tribute to a Teacher

We held their hands the first day of school. Our hearts were filled with pride.

There was an aura of fear and apprehension
 As we stood close to their side.
 We deposited our children at your door,
 We trusted that you would give them more Our most precious and prized possessions.
 Our unspoken words were, give them self-worth. Then Reading and Writing lessons.
 They are little children, respect their rights.
 Teach them with love and remember compassion. Use a firm hand to break up their fights.
 With your guiding hand and understanding smile. As the years went by, you did us proud
 That was your way, your undeniable style. You gave much more than we expected.
 What higher tribute can we pay a teacher?
 Than to have his students praise his work, To what greater heights can he ascend?
 And to say "He is my friend." - Myrna Beth Lambert

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Santhusht de Silva



The old Wesleyite featured in this issue is Santhusht de Silva. He is the son of Rev Shelton de Silva and related to a long line of de Silva's associated with Wesley College. His Uncle Ivor de Silva taught at Wesley and his cousins Nelson, Tyrone, Arthur, Raymond and Dylan.

- Nickname:** Tusker (probably due to my outsized front teeth. This was mostly used in the hostel.)
- Period at Wesley:** 1954 (nursery class; the Principal was Mr. Oorloff) to 1966 (Form V; Shelton Wirasinha).
- Houses:** Mack house, and then Passmore, briefly, and then Moscrop when I rejoined the boarding in Form II.

Current residence: Pennsylvania, USA.

Number of years

lived in USA: I've lived in the US 39 years, 32 of them in the town of Williamsport (population around 35,000).

Marital Status and

Children: I was married to one Miss Sumana Narangoda while yet at Jaffna Campus, and we had a daughter, Umanga, born in the USA, in Pittsburgh. Umanga attended American schools, and Lycoming College, but soon after she graduated, Sumi and I divorced. Umanga lives in Arizona now, and we all maintain cordial relations all round. Sumi recently remarried a Sri Lankan gentleman called Chang Chin, who had attended Trinity, and played Rugger for them. I remarried recently, in 2011, to a Pennsylvanian woman called Katherine Moller, who had three children: Wendy, Frederick and Pamela, ages 28, 26, 24. The girls are musically talented, and both sing and play guitar. (Umanga does, too; she is a member of two rock bands in Tucson, Arizona.). Pamela died earlier this year from complications from Asthma, and we're still recovering from that shock. Katie is a grants administrator for a neighbouring county, which means that she applies on behalf of the county for Federal grants, and does the reporting and documentation for the continued grant funding.

Parental Links

to Wesley: My father attended Richmond, a sister school, but taught at Wesley for a few years after graduating from Colombo University, after which he went to Theological College in Bangalore, India. He returned and was a minister for more than 30 years, and was at one time Chairman of Central Synod, which put Wesley under his indirect supervision, briefly. More importantly, my Uncle, Ivor de Silva, taught, and was the choirmaster at Wesley for several years, before Haig Karunaratne took it over. Uncle Ivor was also senior hostel master for a couple of years.

Brothers and other family at Wesley: My younger brother, Chinthan, attended Wesley briefly: 59-62, I believe. The family then moved to the Negombo district, and I joined the Hostel, and Chin and my younger brother Renuk joined Trinity.

Current Occupation: I am a professor at Lycoming College. I teach a number of courses, ranging from Pre-Calculus which is trigonometry, logarithms, etc, which a lot of American kids re-learn properly in 'university', all the way to Real Analysis (a more abstract kind of calculus) and even Geometry for Secondary Certifying students, that is, students who will teach geometry in schools when they graduate. US students learn so little geometry in high schools that they need to learn more before they go into the classroom.

The terminology is different here: College means a basic B.A. degreegranting institution. It is possible to get a B.A. at a university, but universities are enormous, around 25,000 students, and most middleclass students prefer a kinder, gentler environment in which to get that first degree, on their first venture away from Mommy. University is a term reserved for an institution that awards at least a few postgraduate degrees. (Peradeniya barely qualifies, because an

MBBS is considered a post-graduate degree.)

Other Interests: I have always been interested in music, and sang in the choir at Wesley. I play the piano (and played at assembly at Wesley, for a year or two, after Ronnie Wijesinghe refused to play). One of the first things I bought in the US was a 12-string guitar, which was subsequently agreed as the worst model that Yamaha ever produced. Now I have a regular weekly radio show on a local community radio station, WXPI 88.5 FM, Williamsport, on Saturday nights from 8-10 p.m. (when nobody is listening to the radio, of course), and I play classical music. You can hear a podcast of it here: <http://archieswxpiarchives.blogspot.com/>, I put the music on as a sound file after the show has aired, because we have such a weak signal that it is unlikely more than 8 listeners can get it! Most of the music I know I learned from Mrs. Manel Wirasinha, Shelton Wirasinha's wife, and the rest I learned from my mother, and Mrs. Raneer Chinappa, who was a serious musician living in Peradeniya, and Mrs. Bridget Halpe.

Sports played: None. In the hostel, of course, we played "Gudu" and "Thaachchi", which probably don't count. I had weak eyes, but nobody believed me, and I couldn't play cricket very well.

Other extra-curricular involvement: Hostel, and of course Choir. I sang from Form II through Form V, and I even played the organ for the last carol service, which was a disaster, because I had to both play and sing. I was completely confused as to why I had to do that; it had to do with some complicated politics between the Principal, Shelton Wirasinha, Haig Karunaratne, and Ronnie Wijesinghe. Briefly in 1964, N.A.B. Fernando did the choir, while Haig K. was studying in Peradeniya, and I thoroughly enjoyed all the J. S. Bach that NAB taught us. To this day, J. S. Bach is my favourite composer. I was in cub scouts and scouts, with Frank Jayasingher the first scoutmaster, and Mr. Dhanapala the last. I attended three jamborees, including the 50th anniversary of scouting of Richmond College. I was also in Drama contests, Do You Know, and Spelling Bee. We (Moscrop House) were runners-up in the Drama Contest for 1966, and our play featured Lassath Algama and Glenn Scharenguivel (with a gun, even), and as a reward, we were allowed to go see "A Hard Day's Night" at the Majestic, after which I became a confirmed Beatles Fan, and am one to this day!

Favorite Teachers: I loved them all, especially Wilfred Wickremasinghe, Frank Jayasinghe, L.R. (Ronnie) Wijesinghe, Watson Wijewickrema, Felix Premawardhena, Mrs. Fred de Silva (Gagool), Mrs Anderson, Mrs. Lena de Silva, Mr. Cyril Fernando, Mr. Justin de Silva, and lots of others whose names I really don't remember. I was in the Sinhala Medium class (along with Marky Makalanda), so our teachers might not be familiar to you guys in Australia.

Best memories at

Wesley: Choir; Scout Jamborees; life in the hostel, despite Conrad Fernando, especially during the Double Blue Fetes! Those were awesome. I remember Dallas Achilles and another guy singing "Abilene", and I think they won the talent show.

Best friends at Wesley: C. G. Sadanandan, Ahmed Imad, Hussein Shihab, Wilhelm van Geyzel, Nihal Cooray, D. P. Makalanda, lots of classmates and fellows from the Choir (Darrel Bartholemeusz, Horace Walker, Eric Gauder). Many of my classmates, who most of you won't know: David Herat, Nihal Cooray, Gamani Hettithanthri

Journey after leaving Wesley: I went to St. Sylvester's, Kandy, and got admission to Peradeniya from there, and graduated in 1974. After teaching for a while at Peradeniya, as a Demonstrator, I was invited to teach at Jaffna Campus in 1974 as an instructor, and taught mathematics. Then I took the GRE (Graduate Record Exam), and was offered a place at the University of Pittsburgh for 1976. I completed an M.A. in a year - which basically qualifies you to teach a (college-level) class by yourself - and graduated with a PhD in 1983.

I took a variety of subjects in mathematics and physics, including differential equations, differential geometry, complex analysis, algebraic geometry, real analysis, functional analysis, topology, and relativity in the physics department. I also took some computer science, including the first three courses in the computer science major, with the undergraduates, and numerical analysis in the math department, which is sort of mathematical number-crunching.

I got a job in Pennsylvania, at Lycoming College in Williamsport, which used to be a lumber city in the 1800's: it was surrounded by forests, and they logged timber, cut it up in sawmills in Williamsport, and floated them down the Susquehanna. Old homes in town all have beautiful oak, cherry and pine woodwork, including my own, which was built around 1895. It is a humble little home, probably originally occupied by labourers.

Lycoming College (named for Lycoming County, where it is located) is a small Methodist school, 1400 students. The connection with the Methodist Church is nominal; we have a Methodist chaplain, and voluntary services on major feasts, and there is a (now voluntary) graduation service just before graduation ceremonies in the Spring. Nobody really knows that I'm a former Methodist.

Any famous personalities you have met:

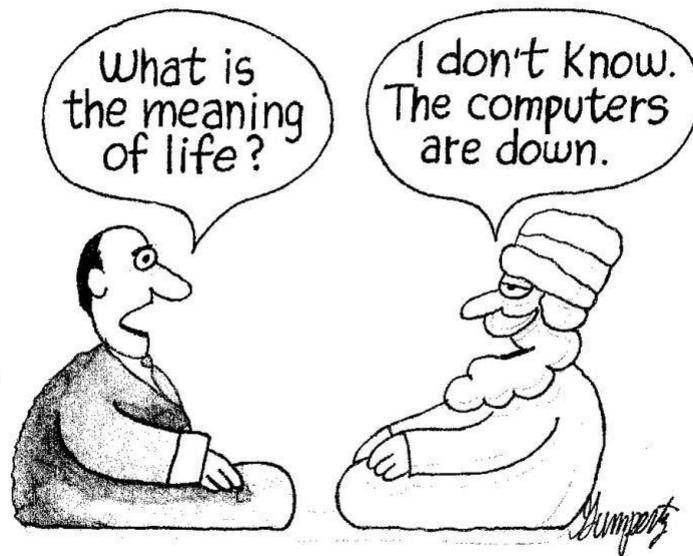
When my Dad was Chaplain to Peradeniya University, there was a Ford Foundation Visiting Professor called Dr. Schickele who was a good friend of my parents, and a benefactor to the chapel. They said that their son was a musician and composer in the USA, which I highly doubted.

Years later, to my surprise, Peter Schickele gave a performance in Williamsport, and I got to meet him afterwards, and we talked about how his parents had lived in Peradeniya. He is a serious composer, but also a sort of musical comedian, and has invented a character

called P. D. Q. Bach, whose music he “discovers” and presents. It is funny music, composed by Schickele.

I also met Joan Baez after a concert, and got her autograph, but I suspect few people know Joan Baez, except for the Woodstock generation.

I just remembered that I also met Eric Idle, of Monty Python.



Alumni share their experiences

*An invitation to alumni to contribute any informative articles for this column
Offensive, Religious, Racial or Political subjects will not be published*

Please send correspondence to doublebluelinks@gmail.com

My 12 days on a Cruise Ship

by Nihal D Amerasekera

Cruising has been a trendy pastime for the rich and famous until as recently as the turn of this century. In the Western world as people became more affluent the tourism industry took off and cruising became affordable for many thousands like myself. We took a Mediterranean Cruise to escape the everyday life and see more of Europe. The ship was like a floating town with carpeted streets, shops, restaurants and hotel accommodation with its own laws, do's and don'ts. There were 2000 passengers served by 900 crew. Serve they did flashing the broadest of smiles.

We flew into Venice to join the ship. You would imagine the embarkation process of a couple of thousand people, some of them quite elderly and some in wheel chairs, to be a nightmare but it happened like greased lightning. They captured a mug-shot of each one of us, took away our passports and got us to sign a blank receipt of our credit cards. Just for a brief moment it felt like the beginning of a 'holiday' in prison for the felony of booking a Cruise. The security personnel gave us terse instructions and showed us the way into our cabins. Thankfully, from there on things got a lot better. The registration for entry to Medical College flashed across my mind.

The air conditioned cabin was 250 sq. ft. of space with a lovely private balcony. It was small but comfortable. The ship had 14 decks or floors. 13 Restaurants, a couple of pools and several bars. I felt there was a need for a Sat Nav to find my way around. The whole process of taking a flight from Heathrow, transfers and embarkation was all too much for a septuagenarian. All I could manage was to find my way to the closest bar for some liquid refreshments and sustenance. That indeed took the edge off a grueling day.

Of the 2000 passengers the majority were from the US and Canada. It was a cosmopolitan crowd with many British and Europeans. The crew were mostly from the Philippines and there were Indians and Indonesians too. They were smartly dressed in their creased uniforms ever willing to help the passengers who struggled to find their way on-board.

I have never encountered such a concentration of obesity and wondered how they managed to get to that state with all the medical advice and help so freely available in the west. I could only imagine the pressure it put on the heart and the joints, even at rest. The ship provided a walk-around promenade but I never saw any of them doing their bit to get rid of the excess. Many just preferred the bars, sun-lounges and restaurants.

Two of the restaurants provided formal dinners with waiter service. There was no need to wear a tuxedo but shorts and jeans were not allowed. The food was plentiful with a good choice. I don't mean to be rude about other's eating habits. I could say that what I saw was sheer gluttony. It was the obese individuals who ate the most taking several servings of the food that really should be avoided if they ever wanted to lose weight. My apologies for allowing my medical training to override people's choice to lead the lives they want. At the restaurants and buffets there is colossal waste of food that seemed a crime when so many millions starved on our planet.

Right from medical school days I have enjoyed a drink and still do. Due to the passage of years there has been a need to cut down on the amber nectar. I just cannot bear the hangovers that are now harsher and more frequent. In the ship the bars were open 24 hours and the ambience was perfect for a drink and a chat. There were several groups of people who had taken permanent residence in the dimly lit bars. They enjoyed the live music and the conversation. I too drifted in on a few occasions and loved its jolly atmosphere that lit up the ship.

The cruise offers you an extraordinary variety of activities and entertainment. Their 800 seat auditorium is superb with fine acoustics. There were 2 shows of entertainment every night. Music, dances, magic shows, current films and musicals filled our evenings with joy. The performances were brilliant and very professional. We were in the auditorium most nights. The live music in the bars that went on until midnight catered for the mature passengers. From the Beatles to Bon Jovi they played it all injecting new life into our tired souls. Some were adequately energized to take to the dance floor and jive the night away.

In the top deck there is an observation lounge with beautiful panoramic views of the sea and the shore. It is also a quiet place to read a book, meditate or even levitate. Many go there for their siesta. The lounge was my refuge from the hustle and bustle of the bars and the ever crowded walkways. Such scenic views of the sea often brings back old stories of ships like the Moby Dick, Beagle and the tragic Titanic. One cannot but admire the bravery of seafarers like Captain Cook, Magellan and Charles Darwin who sailed the treacherous seas in much smaller ships. Their lives depended entirely on a fair wind and a calm sea. It amazes me how much sea travel has changed since. Perhaps something haven't changed as there are the likes of Long John Silver still operating on the seas around Somalia.

The atrium lobby on the 7th and 8th floor is the soul of the ship, a meeting place and a social centre. The atrium is also the management hub dealing with accounts, queries and complaints. This is also a place to sit back and observe the amusing and also the maddening onboard interactions. There are 2 bars adjacent to the atrium frequented by the younger folk for the pulsating rhythms of lively jazz and pop music.

The ship has a well stocked library with internet facilities and also rooms for card games, chess or table tennis. Some played bridge and rummy all day. For those who like a workout, there is a gym. The Casino is popular amongst the Chinese and the occasional straggler like myself who will place a bet to lose. The poolside bars and sun lounges help to top up the tan while sipping a beer. There was a Spa and a sauna to those who wanted those luxuries at a price.

The crew keeps the cabins spotless, wait at the restaurants and serve at the bars. There are chefs, stewards who make the beds and engine room boys who keep the ship running. Speaking with the crew provides a glimpse into the secret world of the 'underclass'. Being from the Far-East they are eager to communicate with us easterners and share their ups and downs and the humorous tales. They all live on the lowest deck and have their own hierarchy, status and privileges. Seemingly the crew have good shared cabins and get good food but work long hours (12-16 hours per day and 7 days a week). I asked what they do when they are off duty and many said they just sleep. All of them support their families. Some are married with families at home. When they complete their 8 month contract they get 2 months paid leave. To me it is a damn hard job which breaks down the body and mind. Many renew their contracts as they need the money. Some speak to their children on Skype when they are free to disembark and get free WiFi. Sadly many miss out on the childrens' milestones. They can only dream of a true family life as we know it. The Wi-Fi on board the ship is prohibitively expensive and miserably slow.

Every passenger has to contribute US\$13/day as tips for the crew. In addition to this there are generous passengers who give extra. I just wonder how much of it reaches the lower decks. I was told cruise lines operate in accordance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) recommendations for minimum wage and working hours!! The wage depends on the nationality. Need I say more about justice and fair-play.

Much has been written about life of the crew, their hard work, poor pay and bad treatment on board the ship. Reading this brings out the socialist in me, just like in my teenage years. We have lived 5000 years on this planet and still have not found a way to distribute wealth equally and have true equality. On board the ship we have the passengers living in ultimate luxury and the crew slaving away to serve passengers their every need working for a pittance. These are the unacceptable inequities of life.

It was wonderful to get to know so many people from all around the globe in such a short time. The Americans as usual are very friendly and will always strike up a conversation.

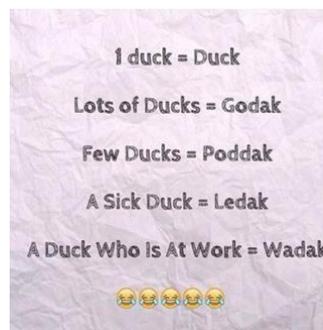
There were many Spanish speaking passengers from Spain, Central and South America and the US. They drank and danced to the rhythmic Cuban music and had a jolly good time. There were many Chinese from the Mainland, Taiwan and the US. They formed their own groups and remained aloof.

One of the great advantages of cruising is the ability to visit a different city everyday and spend a full day seeing the sights. We saw some of the most beautiful iconic sights in Europe and were able to appreciate the history, awe-inspiring scenery, and the compelling local cultures in Venice, Athens, Rome, Naples, Istanbul and several other cities including Barcelona

On the 11th day I felt I was ready to return home to the UK. This was my second cruise and will be my last. Not because I didn't have a good time. It was wonderful visiting several countries and meeting so many interesting and friendly people. It was luxurious living on board the ship. I do not like the restrictions on board and the claustrophobia of the cabin. The plight of the crew will continue to haunt me.

Cruising is not without its perils. The Cruise Ship Costa Concordia ran aground with the loss of 45 lives. Influenza and gastroenteritis can spread like wild fire in that enclosed space and this has happened on many occasions on many cruise ships. Actual fires on board the ship and engine failures have caused great hardship to passengers. Thankfully we survived to return home safely.

I have deliberately avoided giving descriptions of the places I visited. The article is far too long as it is. The internet is a living minefield and one has to tread carefully. Hence the name of the ship will remain a mystery.



News from Sri Lanka

Report on the OBU in Colombo's achievements for the past 10 months.

1. 200 Bibles for the College Chapel were donated by a Vice President of the OBU Value of Rs100,000.00.
2. Brand new cricket covers were sourced through SLC for the wickets at Campbell Park. Value Rs850,000.00
3. A brand new Sound system for the Chapel was donated by a Vice President of the OBU. Value Rs80,000.00

3. Two mikes and stands donated by an ex-co member to the Chapel
4. 19 missing photographs of the 1st X1 were framed and handed over to the School.
5. All the Principals photographs were regularized in size and re-framed and handed over to the school
6. The Wesley Walk and Concert of Grit was organized by the OBU. The income generated from the Walk was Rs 8 million.
7. Furniture for the e-learning centre was sourced from Switzerland through a Vice President of the OBU through Baur & Co. Value around Rs1.5million
8. The head coach for Cricket and Rugby were selected by the Principal consisting a panel of members of the OBU conversant with the game.
9. Refurbishment of 4 class rooms in the main block have already begun. Value Rs1.4 million. Monies from the walk fund. Development work in the pipeline planned from the Walk fund for next year 2016.
10. Development of Katunayake Primary playground and play area
11. Development of Havelock Primary
12. Introduce new furniture for 4 class rooms
13. Contribute towards the re-refurbishment of the existing Pavilion
14. Contribution to be made for the cricket blazers

Just for the record, I would like to inform all of you that old boys in Colombo are doing as much as they can for College. Never before has the old boys rallied around to work for their alma mater with so much passion.....thanks to our former Principal Dr. Shanti McLelland who adopted an open door policy. Although scenario is different now, the enthusiasm and the will to support the school is still very strong.....

- Brand new bus (see pics below) which was delivered to College this morning cost Rs 10.7mil (funds raised through Carnival project)
- The Façade of the College being re-plastered & painted (see pics below) with the help of the Wesley Walk which raised Rs 7.9 million in profit....at least 90% of the funds generated locally.
- Upgrades to the hostel (Year group/OBU support)
- Lightning conductors (Year group support) to Borella and Katunayake campuses
- Re-done book shop now called the College Shop (Welfare Group)
- The new look College office premises (Old boys),
- The new look website www.wesleycollege.lk,
- The sick room (Year Group support)
- Attention to make Campbell Park greener and smart (courtesy Carnival project funds)



We ought to place on record and acknowledge the contributions of people behind the scenes who have made Wesley



College look as majestic as it does

1. Dr. Shanti McLelland, for his determined efforts to build and strengthen the financial standing of the school during his tenure as Principal.

2. Rev. Ebenezer Joseph, for encouraging the Old Boys to commence refurbishment with "classroom projects" 3. The Buildings Committee, headed by Clive de Silva and including Tyrone Amath and Isuru

Gamanayake assisted by amantha Madawanarachchi

4. Bill Deutrom, for his selfless engagement on site, in a voluntary, unremunerated role.

5. Isuru Gamanayake, Chartered Architect, who ensured quality and continues to do that.

6. Mr. Ben Manickam for carrying this project forward and seeing it to a finish

Sports Round-up

For the last 6 months

ATHLETICS

After nearly two decades, Wesley has begun to participate in major athletic meets. It will be recalled that athletics at Wesley was dormant until 6 months ago. Our Athletic team participated in the Sir John Tarbet Junior Athletic Championship held in Anuradhapura from 15th to 18th September 2015. This all island event is highly competitive and equivalent to the Public Schools Athletic Meet.

Competition athletics have just begun at Wesley. It is not surprising therefore, that we were unable to get placings in the finals. Yet it is very creditable that 9 athletes achieved merit levels by bettering standard timings for their respective events.

Under 12 – 80 meters (Merit Level)

1. N. R. Herath
2. S. Heaven
3. V. Devapriya
4. V. B. Rajkumar

Under 14 – 100 meters (Merit Level)

1. Ovin Vinnath

Under 14 – 200 meters (Merit Level)

1. Ovin Vinnath

Under 15 – 100 meters (Merit Level)

1. D. N. K. Wanigasekara
2. Theekshana Vithanage

Under 15 – 200 meters (Merit Level)

1. Theekshana Vithanage
2. W. P. S. Yowash
3. D. N. K. A. Wanigasekara

BADMINTON

Our under 13 team participated in the Sri Lanka Schools Badminton Tournament held over 3 days in Kandy. Our team reached the quarter finals.

Wesley under 13 and under 15 teams beat Isipathana College in a friendly match played over the weekend at Lumbini College Courts

BASKETBALL

Sri Lanka Schools Basketball Association Basketball Tournament

Wesley College Vs. Hejjas International School	28 / 56	Lost
Wesley College Vs. Darmapala Pannipitiya	43 / 44	Lost
Wesley College Vs. Lumbini College	13 / 0	Rain (Wesley Led)

For the first time in many years Wesley College has been identified within the Sri Lanka Schools Basketball Association and will now be eligible to participate in their tournaments starting from the lower divisions.

In preparation, we took part in an invitation tournament conducted by the Northshore Business School at the Henry Pediris Courts. Our performance was satisfactory in that we won one match and lost 2 matches by narrow margins to more experienced teams. The details are as follows.

Lost to Carey College	29 / 32
Lost to Layden Park	08 / 11
Beat Elizabeth Moir	15 / 09

Wesley will participate in the 9-A-side invitation basketball tournament conducted by the Northshore College of Business and Technology on 17th & 18th September 2015 at Northshore College courts.

CHESS

6 boys each from under 11, 13 and 15 age groups represented Wesley at the Sri Lanka Schools Chess Championship held from 16th to 18th October 2015. Rahal Karunarathne from the under 11 category won all six matches and entered the final round while Birunthaban from the under 15 age group won 5 ½ matches and also qualified for the final. The finals will be held in March 2016.

CRICKET

During the course of the third term our 1st XI team played 4 tournament matches (Division 11) and won three on 1st Innings and the other outright. However they lost their 5th match in early January by trying to force an outright win by making a challenging declaration in the second Innings.

In order to achieve our primary aspiration of getting promoted into the 1st Division, it will necessary for us to win the next 2 matches which will played on our grounds on 4th & 5th of February against St. Thomas' Matara and Asoka Vidyalaya on 7th and 8th February 2016.

We have also played 4 traditional matches. The first 2 against St. Benedicts and Trinity were drawn while we lost our most recent fixtures to St. Josephs and St. Thomas Mount Lavinia.

A summary of all the matches played are tabulated below.

Wesley College Vs St. Anthony's College on 25th & 26th of September 2015 Wesley
1st Innings 63/1

Match called off due to rain

Wesley College vs Karadeniya MMV on 20th & 21st of October 2015 Wesley 1st
Inningss 249/8 dec in 67.3 overs
Zenith Wickramanayaka 61, Thilina Perera 49, Shamod Athulathmudali 69

Karadeniya 1st Inningss 49 all out in 28.4 overs
Yomesh Ranasinghe 1/3, Andrew Paraiss 7/14, Helitha Baberenda 1/11

Karadeniya 2nd Inning (F/O) 111 all out
Yomesh Ranasinghe 9/37, Andrew Paraiss 1/30

Wesley won by an Innings and 80 runs

Wesley College vs St. Benedicts College on 23rd & 24th October 2015

St. Benedicts 1st Innings 107 all out in 46.1 overs

Andrew Parais 1/21, Yomesh Ranasinghe 5/43, Helitha Baberanda 1/10

Wesley 1st Innings 141 all out in 38.4 overs

Zenith Wickramanayake 34, Helitha Baberanda 49

St. Benedicts 2nd Innings 112/7 in 39.5 overs

Andrew Parais 2/34, Yomesh Ranasinghe 4/44, Shanuka Madushan 1/15

Wesley won on 1st Innings

Wesley College vs Trinity College on 30th & 31st October 2015

Trinity 1st Innings 188 all out in 38 overs

Andrew Parais 6/67, Helitha Baberanda 2/44, Zenith Wickramanayake 1/27

Wesley 1st Innings 179 all out in 69.4 overs

Shamod Athulathmudali 31, Zenith Wickramanayake 30

Trinity 2nd Innings 160/6 dec in 31.1 overs

Wesley 2nd Innings 85/5 in 31 overs

Match drawn

Wesley College vs Tissa MMV 26th & 27th November 2015

Wesley 1st Innings 287 all out in 73.5 overs

Jason De Silva 19, Thilina Perera 91, Andrew Parais 81

Tissa MMV 1st Innings 243 all out in 58 overs

Andrew Parais 6/47, Helitha Baberanda 1/45, Zenith Wickramanayake 1/55

Wesley 2nd Innings 171/8 in 48 overs

Shamod Athulathmudali 24, Jason de Silva 64

Wesley won on 1st Innings

Wesley College vs Kegalu Vidyalaya on 28th & 29th December 2015 Kegalu

Vidyalaya 1st Innings 64 all out in 79.1 overs

Andrew Parais 3/34, Shamod Athulathmudali 3/16

Wesley 1st Innings 205/5 in 47.1 overs Jason

de Silva 66, Thilina Perera 75

Wesley won on 1st Innings

Wesley College vs Sri.Jayawardenapura M.V on 30th & 31st December 2015 SJMV

1st Innings 167 all out in 46.3 overs

Helitha Bamberenda 4/53, Sakuntha Liyanage 3/49

Wesley 1st Innings 228 all out in 81 overs

Zenith Wickramanayake 37, Shamod Athulathmudali 49, Jason De Silva 36

SJMV 2nd Innings 138/5 in 38 overs

Shanuka Madushan 2/45, Helitha Bamberenda 1/16

Double Blue Links February 2016

Wesley won on 1st Innings

Wesley College vs Devapathiraja College on 3rd & 4th January 2016

Wesley 1st Innings 145 all out in 41 overs

Shamod Athulathmudali 34, Jason De Silva 18, Thilina Perera 30

Devapathiraja 1st Innings 181 all out in 54 overs

Andrew Parais 5/52, Zenith Wickramanayake 3/38

Wesley 2nd Innings 205/9 dec in 51.5 overs

Thilina Perera 88

Devapathiraja 2nd Innings 173/5 in 33.3 overs

Zenith Wickramanayake 2/45

Devapathiraja won by 5 wickets

Wesley College vs St.Joseph's College on 11th & 12th January 2016

Wesley 1st Innings 106 all out in 29.5 overs

Helitha Bamberenda 45

St.Joseph's 1st Innings 294/8 dec in 62.2 overs

Andrew Parais 4/85, Yomesh Ranasinghe 2/113

Wesley 2nd Innings 198 all out in 71 overs Andrew

Parais 88, Zenith Wickramanayake 36

St.Joseph's 2nd Innings 11/0 in 1.5 overs

St.Joseph's won by 10 wickets

Wesley College vs St.Thomas College 15th & 16th January 2016

St.Thomas 1st Innings 271/9 dec in 70 overs

Helitha Bamberenda 3/35, Yomesh Ranasinghe 3/80

Wesley 1st Innings 133 all out in 33.1 overs

Jason De Silva 26, Thisuraka Akmeemana 22

Wesley 2nd Innings (F/O) 176 all out in 50.2 overs

Thilina Perera 34, Andrew Parais 42

St.Thomas 2nd Innings 39/5 in 14.1 overs

Andrew Parais 3/20, Yomesh Ranasinghe 2/15

St. Thomas won by 5 wickets

Wesley College vs Kingswood College 21st & 22nd January 2016 Kingswood
1st inning 99

Andrew Parais 2 /16, Zenith Wickramanayake 3/23, Shanuka Madushan 4/21

Wesley 1st inning 208

Shanuka Madushan 54, Movin Subasinghe 35, Hasith Perera 27

Kingswood 2nd inning 212

Double Blue Links February 2016

Match drawn

Wesley College vs St Thomas' College matara 4th & 5th February 2016

Wesley 1st Inning 94

Thisuraka Akmeemana 36

St. Thomas' 1st Innings 50 Andrew

Parais 6 for 11

Wesley 2nd Innings 71

Thisuraka Akmeemana 22

St. Thomas' 2nd Innings 66

Shanuka Madushan 5 for 28

Wesley won by 49 runs

Wesley College vs Ashoka Vidyalaya 7th & 8th February 2016

Wesley 1st Innings 333

Zenith Wickramanayake 187, Helitha Bambaranda 48

Ashoka 1st Innings 186

Andrew Parais 5/26, Yomesh Ranasinghe 4/53

Ashoka 2nd Innings 101

Andre Parais 4/39, Yomesh Ranasinghe 3/30

Wesley won by an Innings runs 46 runs

Wesley College vs Royal College 12th & 13th February 2016

Royal 1st innings – 279/8 dec (61.5 overs)

Yomesh Ranasinghe 3/88, Andrew Parais 2/64, Samoda Athulathmudali 1/35)

Wesley College 1st innings – 240 all out (69.1 overs)

Helitha Bambarenda 67, Movin Subasinghe 42, Samoda Athulathmudali 34

Royal College 2nd innings – 173/6 dec (29 overs)

Yomesh Ranasinghe 3/39, Andrew Parais 2/51)

Wesley College 2nd innings - (Target 213) – 192/7 (29 overs)

Thilina Perera 85, Zenith Wickramanayake 47, Andrew Parais 21

Match Drawn

THE ANNUAL WESLEY ROYAL CRICKET ENCOUNTER FOR THE FRANK GUNASEKARA TROPHY WAS PLAYED AT WESLEY COLLEGE GROUNDS LAST FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. THOSE WHO WERE PRIVILEGED TO WITNESS THIS MATCH WERE ENTERTAINED TO A MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY OF HIGH CLASS BATTING BY BOTH SIDES WHICH AMASSED 884 RUNS IN THE 2 DAYS. SET A TARGET OF 212 RUNS TO WIN IN JUST 29 OVERS AT OVER 7 RUNS AN OVER, WESLEY PRODUCED A MASTERPIECE OF AGGRESSIVE BATTING REMINISCENT OF THE GOLDEN YEARS OF WESLEY CRICKET, AND FELL SHORT BY MERE 20 RUNS ENDING THE DAY AT 192 FOR 7 WICKETS. IT WAS EASILY ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING SCHOOL CRICKET MATCHES IN RECENT TIMES. **CLIFFORD RODRIGO, MASTER IN CHARGE**

The first two matches of the current season were washed out due to continuous rain. In the second match Vs. St. Anthony's we were 60 for 1 when rain stopped play.

Our
1st XI

No	Year	Month	Dates	School	
1	2015	September	18 - 19	Ashoka Vidyalaya	Home
2	2015	September	25 - 26	St. Anthony's College	Home
3	2015	October	2 - 3	St. Peter's College	Away
4	2015	October	8 - 9	Tissa Madya Maha Vidyalaya	Away
5	2015	October	14 - 15	Thurstan College	Home
6	2015	October	20 - 21	Karandeniya MMV	Home
7	2015	October	23 - 24	St. Benedicts' College	Away
8	2015	October	30 - 31	Trinity College	Away
9	2015	November	10 - 11	C M S Kotte	Away
10	2015	November	13 - 14	Kagalu Vidyalaya	Home
11	2016	January	3 - 4	Devapathiraja MMV	Away
12	2016	January	8 - 9	Prince of Wales College	Home
13	2016	January	11 - 12	St. Joseph's College	Away
14	2016	January	15 - 16	St. Thomas College	Home
15	2016	January	21 - 22	Kingswood College	Home
16	2016	February	4 - 5	St. Thomas -Matara	Home
17	2016	February	12 - 13	Royal College	Home
18	2016	February	19 - 20	St. Sebastian's College	Away
19	2016	February	26 - 27	Richmond College	Away

squad has begun a rigorous physical training programme in preparation for next season which will begin in the third term. It is envisaged that the team will have to play about 20 matches before end of March 2016. This includes the tournament fixtures in the B division and the traditional matches. All three under 13 teams are also going through their paces in preparation for the forthcoming season which coincides with the 1st XI.

CRICKET – JUNIOR TEAMS

As expected all three under 13 teams entered the second round. On its way to the second round the performance of our “B” team in compiling a mammoth total of 342 for 5 was indeed a remarkable performance for an under 13 team irrespective of the opposition.

A TEAM (DIVISION I)

WESLEY COLLEGE VS MAHANAMA VIDYALAYA PANADURA

Mahanama 40 all out in 25.5 overs

Thenuka Perera,6/1,

Nimantha Induwara 3/12,

Wesley 102 for 3 in 29

Muftee Mysan 50 not out, Anudith Wickramasinghe 1/8, Anudith Wickramasinghe 21 not out

Wesley won on 1st

WESLEY COLLEGE VS DHARMAPALA COLLEGE – KOTTAWA

Wesley 208 for 6 in 57 overs

Muftee Mysan 62, Alsh Hassan 33

1st Innings Dharmapala 92 all out in 23.1 overs Nimanthaka

Induwara 4/51, Thenuka Perera 4/8

2nd Innings Dharmapala 85 for 3

Senuja Dehigaspe 2/29, Muhamed Musharaf 1/31

Wesley won on 1st

Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. DHARMASOKA COLLEGE

Dharmasoka 173 all out

Vindeew jayasinghe 6/36

Wesley 103 for 3

Alash Hassan 43, Thenuka Perera 32 not out

No decision

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. PRINCE OF WALES

Prince of Wales 200 for 9 in 55.0 overs

Akindu

Marasinghe 2 for 19, Nimthaka Induwara 3 for 51

Wesley 140 for 6 in 45.0 overs

Alash Hassen 29, Yohan Anthony 45. Muftee Mysan 19 not out

No result

WESLEY COLLEGE VS ST. SEBESTIANS COLLEGE

St. Sebestians 165 all out in 57 overs

Anudith Wickramasinghe 2 for 11, Nimthaka Induwara 4 for 40

Wesley 70 all out in 36.2 overs

Alash Hassen 20, Muftee Mysan - 19 not

St. Sebastian's 2nd Innings 62 for 03 in 9.0 overs

2 for 25

Akindu Meresinghe

St Sebastian's won on 1st Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS ASHOKA Ashoka 63 all out in 34.4

Nimthaka Induwara 3 /14, Thenuka Perera 4 / 14

Wesley 103 for 5 in 28.0

Muftee Mysan 45

Wesley won on 1st Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. THURSTAN COLLEGE

Wesley 137 all out in 61.5 overs

Thenuka Perera 45, Anudith Wickramasinghe 28

No result

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. ANANDA SHASTRALAYA

Ananda Sastralaya 99 all out in 41.1 overs

M. Sabharathnam 2 for 14, Nadeem Cassim 3 for 16, Akhlaq Qazzali 3 for 30

Wesley College 127 for 5 in 51.0 overs

Heshan Chandula 27, Sudam Perera 36 not out

Wesley won on 1st Innings

B TEAM (DIVISION II)

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. BOMIRIYA CENTRAL COLLEGE

Wesley 343 for 5 in 54.4 overs

Sathnidu Athauda 114 not out, Sudam Perera 83, Akhlaq Gazzali 59

Bomiriya 61 all out

Sandul Lakshan 5 for 8, Rajeewan Jayaseelan 3 for 9

Wesley won on 1st innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. CAREY COLLEGE

Carey 70 all out in 35 overs

Rajeeran Jayaseelan 2 for 8, Akhlaq qazzali 6 for 15

Wesley College 104 for 4 in 37 overs

Athauda 41 not out

Sathnidu

Wesley won on 1st Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. ANANDA COLLEGE

Ananda 79 all out in 54.4 overs

Seth Liyanage 3 for 12, Akhlaq Gazzali , 3 for 22, Nadeem Cassim 3 for 10

Wesley 89 for 4 in 24 overs

Sathnidu Athauda 26, Shannon Gunasekara 24, Akhlaq Gazzali 16

C TEAM (DIVISION III)

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. DHARMAPALA COLLEGE

Dharmapala 107 all out in 50.1overs

Akaz Dawood 5 for 17, Tharusha Randima 2 for 12

Wesley 144 for 7 in 50 overs

Rehan Kavindu 32 (not out), Tharusha Randima 27

Wesley won on 1st Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. ST. LUCIAS COLLEGE

St. Lucia's 105 all out in 27.2 overs

Rehan Perera 4 for 25, Akaz Dawood 4 for 21

Wesley 111 for 6 in 36.3 overs

Thanusa Fernando 22

Wesley won on 1st Innings

WESLEY COLLEGE VS. C. W. W. KANNANGARA

C. W. W. Kannangara 36 all out in 24 overs

Akaz Dawood 4 for 21, Amar Cassim 5 for 13

Wesley 135 all out in 34.3 overs

Ruchith Selitha 23, Sanithu Pehan 35

C. W. W. Kannangara 21 all out in 10 overs

Ruchith Selitha 7 for 11, Akaz Dawood 2 for 4

Wesley won by an innings and 28 runs

FOOTBALL

Under 13

UN 13 (A)

Wesley Vs Hindu College

Won 2 / 0

UN 13 (B)

Wesley Vs Hindu College - Lost 0 / 1

Under 15

Wesley Vs Nalanda Won 2 / 1

Wesley Vs Thurstan

Lost 1 / 2

Wesley Vs Hindu College

Won 1 / 0

Wesley Vs Bangalore team

Won 5 / 1 **Under 17**

Double Blue Links February 2016

Wesley Vs Hindu

Drawn 1/1

Under 19

Wesley College Vs. Holy Cross Kalutara Lost 1 / 5

Zahira Sevens at Zahira Grounds Wesley Shield Championship

Semi Finals

Wesley Vs All Halmsa Won 2 / 0

Final

Wesley Vs Hindu College Won 1 / 0

HOCKEY

In the annual Hockey Sevens Tournament conducted by Royal College, Wesley under 19 team won their group by beating Vidyaloka Galle 3/0 Mari Stella 2/0 and drawing their match against St. Thomas Mount Lavinia 1/1.

In the knock out stage they were unfortunate in losing on penalty strokes, after dominating the match which ended in a draw.

SEETHADEVI 7'S HOCKEY 2015 - AT BOGAMBARA GROUNDS ON 15TH OCTOBER 2015 -

D group

Wesley Vs. Mari Stella Drawn 0/0 - Drawn Wesley

Vs. St. Benedicts Drawn 1/1

D Group – Champs

Quarter final

Wesley Vs. Dharmadutha Lost 0 - 1

ANNUAL WESLEY VS. ROYAL ENCOUNTER

Our 1st XI team had a complete off day when they played against Royal in their Annual encounter for the Dudley K. G. De Silva Challenge Shield at the Astro Turf on 20th October 2015.

KAYAKING AND CANOEING

For the very first time in Sri Lanka, The National Association for Canoeing and Kayaking conducted a Regatta for schools at Bolgoda Lake. Four under 14 lads from Wesley Under went training for five consecutive weekends and were among the pioneers in participating in this competition along with 5 major schools. The wonderful news is that our boys won the second and third place in their age group. The four boys who created history are Kevin Fernando, Nisheda Alwis, Ruwanka De Silva and Mikael Lye. This has created a lot of interest among youngsters in the School.

SWIMMING

In the Primary School Swimming Gala 2015 held at Bishops College. Our 4 x 25 medly relay team were invited to participate. This team consisting of Ramika R. Perera, Sanjana Marasinghe, Nuwanka Perera and Adeeb Yusuf were placed third among the best.

Our Swimmers took part in the National Age Group Swimming Championship 2015 held from 10th to 12th September 2015.

The following swimmers qualified to participate at national level swimming meets within their respective age groups.

Under 11

Ramika R. Perera	Grade 4A	50 meters	Free Style
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Under 13

Akash Kamereson	Grade 7A	50 Meters	Free Style
		50 Meters	Breast Stroke
4 X 50 Meters Individual		50 Meters	Back stroke
		100 meters	Free Style

Under 15

Aquib Thahir	Grade 9A	50 Meters	Breast Stroke
		50 Meters	Butterfly Stroke
100 Meters Breast Stroke			

Savindu Dayarathne	Grade 8G	50 Meters	Breast Stroke
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Tariq Drahim	Grade 9A	50 Meters	Breast Stroke
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Under 20

Shamod Athulathmudali -	Grade A/L	50 Meters	Back Stroke
		50 Meters	Butterfly
100 Meters Back Stroke			

TABLE TENNIS

Ten students from our primary tennis squad participated in the All Island Schools Tournament in the red ball category. Red ball category is played in a 36' foot court. They beat Zahira College in the tournament. As time goes these boys will advance in to the orange ball and green ball categories which are played in larger court.

TENNIS

Nothing to report

RUGBY UNION

RUGGER - Milo Trophy – 2015 results Under

– 18

1. Wesley College beat Siri Piyarathna Vidyalaya 56 / 00
2. Wesley College beat Piliyandala Central College 54 / 00

3. Wesley College beat Thurstan College

47 / 00

Cup quarter finals

4. St. Peters College beat Wesley College 11 / 05

Plate semi final

5. Wesley College beat St. Anthony's College 26 / 00

Plate finals

6. Wesley College beat Science College 17 / 00

Wesley College won the Plate Championship 2015

Under 16

On 22nd & 23rd August 2015 at Kandy

1. Wesley College beat Nalanda College 19 / 0

2. Wesley College beat D.S. Senanayake College 10 / 7

Cup quarter finals - Lost

3. Isipathana College beat Wesley College 5 / 0

Plate Semi Finals

4. Trinity College beat Wesley College 5 / 0

Under 14

On 8th and 9th of August 2015 at Royal grounds

Group matches

1. Wesley College beat St. Johns College 17 / 0

2. Wesley College Vs. Nugawela Central Walk over

3. Trinity College beat Wesley College 21 / 0

Bowl Quarter finals (group runners up)

4. Wesley College beat St. Anthony's College 17 / 0

Bowl Semi finals

5. Wesley College beat Vidyarthi MMV 15 / 0

Bowl Final

6. Wesley College beat Dharmaraja Vidyalaya 12 / 7

Wesley College UN 14 team won the Bowl Championship 2015

Under 12 and under 13

Our under 12 and under 13 teams also participated in the Milo tournament came runners up in their respective groups. The format of this tournament is such that matches are played within the group only.

The results are as follows:

Under 12

Beat Vidyartha	20 / 0
Beat Piliyandala Central	45 / 0

Beat Prince of Wales

5 / Nil

Lost to St. Peters	5 / Nil
Beat St. Anthony's	5 / Nil
Vs. Kingswood	W / O

Wesley became the Bowl Champions.
The results are as follows:

QUARTER FINALS - Wesley beat St. Anthony's Katugastota 17/0,

SEMI FINALS - Wesley beat Vidyartha 10/0.

FINALS - Wesley beat Dharmaraja 10/7.

Under 13

Beat Royal College Panadura	54 / 0
Lost to Royal College Colombo	14 / 19
Beat Lumbini	21 / 14
Drew with Dharmaraja College	19 / 19
Beat Zahira College	19 / Nil



WESLEY COLLEGE SPORTS REPORT

1ST JANUARY TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2015

WE ARE OBLIGED TO REPRODUCE THE TEXT OF THE SPORTS REPORT THAT WAS PRESENTED AT THE COLOURS AND AWARDS CEREMONY WHICH WAS HELD IN THE COLLEGE HALL ON FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2015. THIS REPORT PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND THE PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PERIOD 1ST JANUARY TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2015.

BEFORE WE WIND UP THE SPORTS PROGRAMME IN RESPECT OF THE CURRENT YEAR, WE MUST NOT ONLY RECOGNIZE BUT ALSO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION FOR THE TREMENDOUS SERVICE RENDERED BY A FEW OLD BOYS WHO LOOKED AFTER THE INTERESTS AND WELFARE AND ALSO ENSURED THE CONTINUITY OF COLLEGE CRICKET AND RUGBY FOR SEVERAL YEARS WHEN WE BADLY NEEDED THEIR SERVICES BEFORE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE RECENT CHANGES.

IN CRICKET DHARSHANA LIYANAGE ALMOST SINGLE HANDEDLY SHOULDERED THE BURDEN OF RUNNING CRICKET WHILE FARMAN CASSIM AND MOHAMMED NIZAM PASSIONATELY LOOKED AFTER THE INTERESTS OF RUGGER.

WE NEED ALSO TO EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION TO PRASAD AMARASEKARA OUR JUNIOR HEAD COACH WHO TOOK OVER THE REINS AND DID A SPLENDID JOB NURTURING OUR 1ST XI CRICKET TEAM WHEN WE SUDDENLY LOST THE SERVICES OF OUR HEAD COACH, AND TO SHIRAZ LYE FOR STEPPING INTO NIZAM'S SHOES WHEN THE LATTER WAS COMPELLED TO FULFILL SOME RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH WARRANTED HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION.

AS THE NEW YEAR DAWNS, WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH THE SPORT LOVING WESLEY FRATERNITY BOTH HERE AND ABROAD. A BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2016!

In recent times Wesley Sports underwent a lean period where we had little or nothing to be proud of other than the grand display by our

rugger boys when they clinched the Singer Knock Out trophy in 2013. A radical change was warranted as a matter of urgency.

In the first six months of the current year this change was brought about through the introduction of a series of measures which in essence consisted of:

1. Establishing proper structures for every sport
2. Elimination of ineffective coaches
3. Filling of vacancies for coaches with competent people
4. Introduction of systems and procedures
5. Placing greater emphasis on the development of sports at junior level

The concentration on the Junior teams began to pay rich dividends in that our under 15 Cricket team recorded 6 consecutive wins before bowing out when they had rare failure resulting in being knocked out. All 3 under 13 teams are presently having a wonderful season by qualifying for the second round.

Meanwhile our under 13 hockey team bagged the "Gold Star" by being the only unbeaten team in the All Island School Hockey Tournament held in Kandy in May 2015.

The following is an overview of the salient features relating to the performance of each sport. It is evident from its content that Wesley has made steady progress during the period under review.

CRICKET

It is imperative that Wesley does well in cricket, it we are to maintain our image and rich heritage as a leading sports entity. In order to do this we must erase from our memory the catastrophe that we faced last season and continue to build on the progress we are making especially in mustering and developing the Junior teams whose performance this year has been encouraging.

Our 1st XI team has begun the new season in the third term and our performance to date looks promising. In the five games we played so far we have won both tournament games, drawn two and lost one.

As mentioned earlier, the greatest emphasis is on developing the Juniors. We revived the academy on a more professional basis though much is yet to be done. We must extend the academy to accommodate the Havelocks and Thampola Primaries where the potential is yet to be exploited.

The appointment of an experienced head coach and the passionate involvement of 3 old boys with excellent track records will help to boost, cricket and create the platform to develop cricket in the new season.

In this respect it is necessary make special mention of Mr. K. Dayaparan who was been a tremendous inspiration in fulfilling our aspirations to put Wesley cricket where it belongs.

RUGGER

When the rugger season commenced early this year, none expected or predicted our 1st XV team to figure among the cream of rugger playing schools as our team was young and inexperienced. Although we were not among the best our team did well by winning the Plate on offer. The under 18 team too did well in winning the Plate in the All Island Schools Tournament during the latter part of the year.

A rugger committee led by Captain Navin de Silva began in earnest to bring about a transformation with the assistance of a handpicked team of committed old boys to take charge of important tasks. This together with the appointment of a highly competent rugger coach and a talented set of players backed by a professional physiotherapist and a medical specialist have laid the foundation for Wesley to be among the best rugger playing schools in the Island in the next season which begins early next year. Numerous related facilities are also being upgraded to ensure that nothing is lacking when the New Year begins.

SWIMMING

Considering the fact that swimming is a relatively new sport at Wesley, our swimmers brought credit to the school by winning as many as 25 medals in the very first meet that they competed in. Many of our Junior swimmers have begun to reach qualifying times in subsequent competitions. The latest result being 2 out of the 3 relay teams which participated in the relay carnival qualified for the final round. We need to continue nurturing our swimmers and also enhance the numbers that take to swimming.

While the improvement shown by our Swimmers in general, is satisfactory, true recognition at inter school level is measured by our performance in major competitions where the cream from all schools participate. It is in this respect that the performance of Wahid Hossen who won the Silver medal in the under 13, 50m breast stroke in the Sri Lanka Schools Swimming Championship can be considered as the best swimming performance by a Wesleyite in the current year.

FOOTBALL

Football is a sport in which individuals have excelled and earned recognition not only in the past but also in recent times. Several players have won honours at national level. Yet it is of vital importance that we perform consistently well as a team. With this factor in mind, we engaged the service of 2 coaches, one from the forces, during the early part of this year. One of the primary drawbacks has been our inability to attract and retain an adequate pool among the seniors. This problem does not exist among the juniors. Another constraint where both football and also Hockey are concerned is our inability to provide a full sized ground for practices on a regular basis due to the heavy demands for use of our grounds. This handicap has been surmounted to an extent by the hire of the York grounds when available and the frequent arrangement of friendly matches.

Notwithstanding the foregoing our football team had managed to be within the best 24 teams in the Island which qualifies them to remain in the premier division.

Our junior team did exceptionally well by defeating more fancied teams, in winning the All Island Schools 7-a-side tournament a couple of months ago.

HOCKEY

THIS IS A SPORT in which Wesley has remained among the top teams in schools for a considerable period of time. The nonavailability of the full ground for practices at least twice a week and the increasing difficulty of hiring the Astro Turf has caused problems. This shortcoming will need to be addressed as a matter of urgency as the adverse repercussions are becoming more and more visible. Upgrading of the grounds at the Havelock's Primary can be considered as a costly alternative. The redeeming factor is that our junior teams continue to impress though their future development is a matter that must receive attention.

BADMINTON

It will be recalled that Badminton as an entity was totally revamped during the early part of this year, and Mr. Ajith Wijayasinghe a household name in the badminton circles voluntarily undertook to guide its destiny. We have since made tremendous strides, due to the enthusiasm shown by the young lads who gather in numbers for practices and more importantly the sacrificial commitment and dedication of those in charge. If this trend can be sustained over the next couple of years it is not difficult to predict that Wesley will produce champions in the calibre players we produced years ago, when Wesley won all the trophies on offer.

The under 13 and under 14 teams were exposed to 3 all Island tournaments during the period under review. Despite the very brief engagement in the game one of the teams became runners up in one of the lower divisions.

BASKET BALL

During the year under review Wesley has started to take the game seriously and has commenced to participate in competitions. The basketball court is expected to be resurfaced soon to make it safe and acceptable for participation at competition level.

Our under 13 team were runners up in the invitation basketball tournament conducted by Vidura College. They lost to St. Joseph's College Maradana in the finals.

TABLE TENNIS

The table tennis team has shown satisfactory progress in recent times. The performance of 15 year old Lithmini Mahanama in particular, has been exemplary. Not only has he performed exceptionally well in the competitions we participate in, but also became the under 15 champion in the recent Rating Tournament. He was selected to participate in a tournament held in Thailand in May 2015.

CHESS

Chess is very popular among the kids in that about 80 participate. We entered one competition in which 4 boys reached the final round.

ATHLETICS

After many years an effort was made to create some interest and enthusiasm for Athletics which had nearly reached extinction. Athletics at Wesley began in earnest during the 1st quarter of 2015 with the engagement of 2 coaches. The school was also able to conduct a colourful sports meet with the cooperation of teachers.

Special mention must be made of our long distance runner S. Sajithyaraj who took part in the National marathon achieving 37th place out of 700 runners. He was also placed 7th out of 400 athletes in a 10 kilometer event.

MINI TENNIS

In Memoriam

About 2 months ago we introduced mini tennis to our Havelock's branch and as many as 120 boys attend practice. Approximately 40 of



these children who have shown potential graduated recently and are being gradually introduced to playing the game on normal courts. Tennis will be introduced shortly to the Borella Campus in the first tens term.

KAYAKING, CANOEING AND ROWING

We introduced Wesley to these prestigious water sports. 4 of our lads between the ages of 12 and 16 are attending a training programme at Bolgoda Lake. This programme has been organized by the Canoeing and Kayaking Association which has commenced introducing these sports to schools. We are among the first to participate.

Clifford Rodrigo
Master-in-Charge of Sport

DISSANAYAKE - EDMUND - Beloved husband of Amara nee Weeratunga. Precious father of Gaithri, Danesh (US) and Eyanthi (UK), father-in-law of Prasantha de Silva, Kanchana Jayasuriya (US) and Ambridge Samarakoon (UK), brother of Chandra, Donald, Graham, Menik and of late Bertrum, Agnes, Pearlyn and Wijaya, passed away peacefully on 8th September, 2015. Cremation took place on 9th September, 2015 according to his wishes

Remembering Mr Edmund Dissanayake by Nihal D Amerasekera

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." — William Arthur Ward

It is with deep sadness I write this note. Mr Edmund Dissanayake was my teacher, uncle and friend for 63 years. In all my years of association with the school I cannot think of a more loyal Wesleyite. I had the great privilege of meeting him with his bosom pal Shelton Peiris at the Grand Reunion of 2012. I will always cherish those memories.

As the Wesley cricket captain in 1948 he was renowned for his elegant stroke play and also for being an astute tactician. I am reliably informed he was essentially a front-foot player and his cover drive, executed from a high back-lift and with perfect timing, was a special delight. He was determined to enjoy the game and, in doing so, he gave enjoyment to others.

Mr Edmund Dissanayake coached the 1st XI cricket team in the 1950's and 60's. He inspired, coached, cajoled and encouraged a generation of cricketers at Wesley with his impish charm, enthusiastic personality and outstanding ability. He realised the importance of the Under 14 and Under 16 cricket to have a good 1st XI team and worked tirelessly to improve standards. "Catches and good fielding win matches" was his manthra.

Mr Dissanayake Loved cricket and loved to talk about the game. He was a gentleman



cricketer and taught Wesleyites good old fashion values and discipline on the cricket field. He wanted cricketers to respect the rules of the game. He wanted the players to accept umpires decisions without question and respect members of the visiting teams. But there was no question he always encouraged his team to play to win. Although wounded, Mr Dissanayake received the bad results with all the same honesty and dignity as the good results. There was a relentless drive for improvement and an abiding belief in hard work during cricket practices at Campbell Park. Good fielding was his passion. Above all he had a remarkable ability to engender confidence among his team members to bring out the best in them. As a player, master-in-charge and coach he upheld the traditional values of the game and served Wesley with great distinction. The range of his involvement in the game made him a unique figure, one who brought vast reserves of energy to his roles as master-in-Charge and Coach.

He loved teaching. Even in those days when corporal punishment was used to correct and discipline students, he never used the cane. He cared for those who did not thrive at school – the wayward, the bored, the damaged and late developers. He was kind to pupils, especially to those who were struggling with school work. As a teacher he was patient but questioning and firm. At the same time he never tolerated any nonsense. He had the rare gift of analysing a topic in a way that revealed its essential nature in simple terms. For him punctuality, discipline, due preparation and full attention at class were essential qualities. He taught us mathematics to a useful level which helped us enormously in later life.

During his years as a teacher, in the realm of teaching, university degrees and high personal profile seemed to be the only things that impressed the school management. It is indeed easy to overlook the more solid virtues of natural teaching ability, compelling sense of duty and the capability and skill to lead by unselfish example which Mr Dissanayake had in great abundance. Mr Edmund Dissanayake was an outstanding teacher and spent more than 25 years in the staff at Wesley. He often said those were his happiest years.

In later years Mr Dissanayake developed an interest in the intricacies of the justice system and qualified as a lawyer. Persuasive and articulate he built up a lucrative practice at Hultsdorf Courts. Despite his busy schedule he held various important positions as a Governor, in the School Welfare Board and the Old Boys Union. He played a significant role in helping to tide over Wesley's many financial crises. The school benefited greatly from his wisdom and determination.

During those turbulent years of in-fighting in the OBU, although exasperated Mr Dissanayake remained the voice of reason. The intrigue, skulduggery and the feuding was a shattering experience for many associated with the school. Even during those awkwardly fractious times people appreciated his frank, fair and firm attempts to end the hostilities. He played a key personal role in reshaping and restoring the brotherhood at Wesley.

Photo - The Author and Mr Dissanayake in happier times

Like in the film "Goodbye Mr Chips" Mr Dissanayake was so much a part of the old school. As a master he was devoted to his boys as they were to him. For many years even after he left teaching he kept in touch with cricketers and students from many different generations. Bryan Claessen who emigrated to Australia in 1957 was one such person who sent him a calendar every

Christmas for nearly 50 years until ill health put a stop to it. Mr Dissanayake took a generous interest in the welfare of the school community. Of the boys whom he taught or played cricket for Wesley he knew of their careers and also about their lives. This was one of his most endearing qualities. He treated everyone with dignity and without malice and wished them well. He was a kind, gentle and deeply thoughtful man - but at the same time he had huge courage and resolve

Even after he retired from all work he continued to attend the functions at Wesley. He made an effort to

meet and greet old boys at the school and at the OWSC. Loyal old boys from all parts of the world when they arrived at Wesley always asked for Mr Dissanayake wanting to meet him and he did. He remained the well-loved, silver haired avuncular figure until the very end.

His life beyond Wesley and cricket was rich: He adored his wife Amara and his children Gaithri, Danesh and Eyanthi. They meant the world to him.

Amusing and affable he was a most remarkable person. I remember his fine memory and the ability to recall events with such great clarity and accuracy. Cricket scores and results seemed to be imprinted in his brain. When he was around humorous anecdotes from life, teaching and cricket flowed freely. He had the great gift to hold an audience spellbound with his stories. With his quiet charm and gentleness he made friends easily. All through the years he remained a gifted communicator and a prolific writer. He wrote about cricket and the school. Many of his articles were published in the Daily Newspapers and school publications.

It was indeed a great pleasure to meet him after he had fully retired. With his slim frame and thinned hair he was a repository of the school's history and traditions. Mr Dissanayake, despite his increasing physical frailty, maintained a thoughtful serious manner and his ideas were always well-articulated. He discussed issues like a lawyer. His insistence on the Unity amongst Old Boys still rings in my ears. Wherever he went he was recognised to the point of adulation.

He was a student at Wesley since 1933. He captained the 1st XI Cricket Team in 1948, the same year he was appointed Senior Prefect. We thank him for his enormous contribution to the life of the school as a student and a teacher.

Mr Dissanayake lived a full life and was adored by his family, friends and the thousands of students who respected him beyond measure. During his lifetime he received the recognition, honour and respect he richly deserved.

A large number of people turned out to pay their respects at his funeral which was a celebration of his outstanding achievements in life. Clifford (CT) Rodrigo paid tribute on behalf of the old boys. NSW De Silva expressed his appreciation and gratitude representing the College staff. Premasara Epasinghe the former Nalanda cricketer and writer conveyed most eloquently Mr Dissanayake's contribution to society on behalf of the cricketing fraternity and the general public. Many who gathered at the cemetery paid silent homage to a wonderful life.

His first wife Beatrice (nee Weerasekera) predeceased him in 1962. She was my maternal aunt.

Wesley has lost the most loyal Old Boy of the post war period. He is gone but will be fondly remembered by the many who knew him.

As we say for cricketers "May the turf lay lightly on him"
May he find the Ultimate Bliss of Nirvana

Mr. Edmund Dissanayake by LCR Wijesinghe

Mr Edmund Dissanayake of Wesley is no more. He was a legend at Wesley and was one person whom I held in high esteem. I came in close contact with him when I started playing 1st XI Cricket at

Wesley in 1959. He was the Coach cum Master in Charge of 1st XI Cricket. Mr. Dissanayake overall was a very fair person and recognized ability and talent at Cricket when he spotted it. He virtually ran Cricket at Wesley during this period though Mr Nonis and latterly Mr Wirasinha were Principals at Wesley with Cricket pedigrees.



per Mr Dissanayake lived in the Wesley Flats and hence was an ever

present figure at Campbell Park. He was a brave and fearless personality. I distinctly remember an incident which occurred during a cricket practice session during that time. Unlike now Wesley did not have exclusive use of Campbell Park and the ground had to be shared with the footballers of the area who used to commence their practices around 5pm. Though they were supposed to use a corner of the ground many were the occasions when they encroached into the cricket practice area. This particular day I recall Mr Dissanayake instructing us to be near the Pavilion vicinity when he strode across the ground to confront the footballers totalling about 15. They were quite a rough and intimidating lot. We did not hear the words exchanged but only saw him gesticulating to them to leave. To our amazement all of them left the ground without any fuss. It was a fearless act where he showed much bravery and leadership. It could have ended in an ugly incident if not handled with tact.

Mr. Dissanayake had much foresight and made sound cricketing decisions. Many are the times when he alone, had to decide on timely declarations. During our era it was the responsibility of the coach to make decisions on who would bat first after the toss, batting orders and their changes and declarations. Mr Dissanayake handled all these with great aplomb. I also recall this incident after Wesley's victory against St Josephs' College at Darley Road in 1961. It was an unpredicted victory made possible by St Josephs' untimely declaration. During this period cricket matches of leading schools were well patronized and the crowds and fans were many and some from unimagined quarters. St Josephs' too had their supporters, many who were ordinary folk from Maradana who used to take wagers backing their favourite team. After Wesley's victory there had been an imminent threat to the safety of the Wesley players by the dejected St Joseph's supporters. Cricketers during these times were provided transport for away matches by loyal Old Boys who had motor cars and Messers J.C.P Wickramanayake, Paul Senaratne and Dannister De Silva were three who volunteered for such duties on a regular basis. As soon as the match was over Mr Dissanayake organized Mr Wickramanayake's car and one other vehicle (I cannot remember whose) and bundled all the cricketers into these vehicles and made a quick getaway through the Darley Road Grounds gate near the Pavilion into safety. Thus a potentially dangerous situation was avoided due to his quick thinking.

Mr Dissanayake was an excellent raconteur and had an extra-ordinary memory of past events. Having left school I joined the tutorial staff in 1966 and succeeded Mr Dissanayake as the Master in Charge of Cricket in 1973 and had to accompany the Cricket Team to Galle for the Richmond fixture. Mr Dissanayake and Prasan Wijesinghe too accompanied the team on this outing. I still recall how Mr Dissanayake kept us awake till 4 am with his anecdotes. That is how he could keep his audience spellbound!!

Mr Dissanayakes loyalty to Wesley saw no bounds. He was above all the politics and factions that did emerge from time to time within the Wesley fraternity. He attended most Wesley functions even subsequent to the unfortunate accident he had, which resulted in a badly injured leg. He was a Guest of Honour at the reunion of Past Wesleyites held in 2008 in which he participated with great relish and delivered a stirring speech at the Assembly held in the Highfield Hall and was prominent at the gala dinner at the Galle Face Hotel. He also attended get-togethers when both Radley Claessen and Arthlow Chapman were in Sri Lanka on holiday. He was always accompanied by Amara his devoted and loving wife who was a tower of strength to him especially during his later years.

I had the great fortune of spending some time with him before he was hospitalized and lost his ability to speak. Mr Dissanayake was a true gentleman and an icon of Wesley. We truly will miss him. May he attain Nibbana.

More tributes <http://www.wesleycollege.biz/memoram1.html#m191b>

From Peter Peiris son of Shelton Peiris

Indeed it was very sad to see ED go, I knew him from birth and he was with me every step of the way in my life, Dad and ED's relationship spanned over 80 years, more years than a married couple would have spent together!!! Dad was needless to say devastated. We had to give him sedatives to calm him down as he was so restless and disoriented, that's life, at least now ED is free from the suffering he was going thru with all the tubes stuck in to him. Dad was Senior Prefect for two years 1945 to 1946 and ED was his loyal deputy, who went on to be Senior Prefect from 1947 to 1948.



Edmund and Shelton in happier times



Edmund's dearest friend Shelton Peiris says farewell to a friend for 83 years

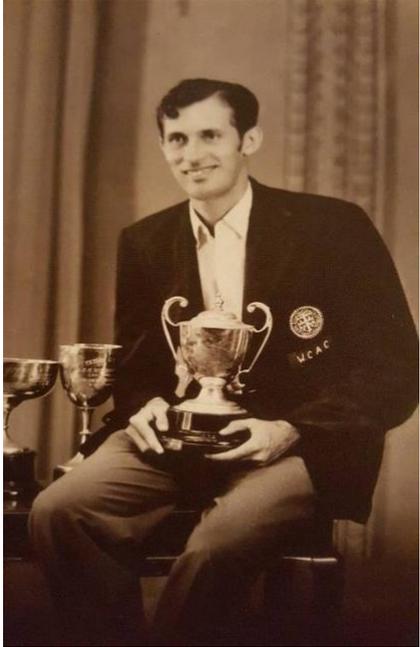


Justus Norman Richard de la Harpe – a giant among men

By Keith de Kretser, Melbourne

I first met Norman in 1970 when I migrated to Australia. He was my brother's neighbour and I met him quite often. My first impressions was of this giant fellow who told me he attended Wesley College and he was keen to find out how the College was doing and mentioned some of his cricketing achievements. He was still playing Sub-District Cricket in Melbourne at the time. His stature was complimented by an engaging personality and he was up to date on the goings on in the ex-pat Sri Lankan community in Melbourne and always had a joke or two to lighten the conversation at the time. He still retained a remarkable fluency in Sinhalese and a form of "Pidgeon English" which a few people spoke back in Sri Lanka. That first meeting led to many more though he was much senior we enjoyed each other's company socially, on the golf course and Wesley College functions.

Norman was one of many Burgher boys from families working for the railways who lived in



Mount Mary that attended Wesley College. He had a brother Beltram who also attended Wesley.

He joined Wesley in 1935 and had a glorious sporting career at Wesley by the time he left in 1948. He played cricket for Wesley in the champion side of 1948. As an athlete, Norman was placed first in the High Jump and Putt Shot events at the Public Schools meet in 1948. He was a member of the great Wesley athletic team that included Mohammed Sheriff (Hop-Step & Long Jump) Harold

Matthysz (Pole Vault / Javelin) Trevor Van Rooyen

(Hurdles) and Ian Campbell (High Jump). He excelled in

Cricket and in particular Athletics where he won the Wilton Bartlett Challenge Cup for the outstanding performance in the AAA meet of 1951/52 and later that year also won the prestigious G. K. Thornhill and C. C. Dissanayake trophies as the outstanding athlete of the Government Service Athletic Meet. He was selected to represent Ceylon at the Asian Games in 1953, in New Delhi, in the High Jump event.

(source school records, Alistair Bartholomeusz)

He played cricket on leaving school with the Colts Cricket Club where he and fellow Wesleyite Tita Nathanielsz spearheaded their pace attack. He was also selected to represent the CCA in India. He also represented the Railways where his bowling feats were many. He was not a bad late order bat, where his height advantage meant that he could step forward to meet the ball on the full or half volley and then despatch it to the boundary for a four or a six.

Many a six landed on Baseline Road I gather when he played at the railway ground in Dematagoda. On arriving in Melbourne Norman played for South Melbourne in the District Competition and Malvern at Sub-District level. A number of the champion team of 1947 and 1948 – Harold Matthysz, Alan Ratnarajah, Clive Bartholomeusz and Natty Prins were also domiciled in Melbourne. It was inevitable that they would meet and reminisce of the good times at Wesley. In the late seventies a quadrangular cricket tournament was held in

Melbourne which involved a combined Joe-Pete, Trinity-St Anthony's, Royal- Thomian and a Wesley-Kingswood team. Norman who had hung up his boots took the field in his crisp flannels and off a short run-up bowled good line and length. He had not lost the flair to move the ball around.

Norman's other great sporting passion was golf which he relished and had a single figure handicap. Golf was his main interest particularly after he retired and it gave him much pleasure until his illness prevented him from playing. He was a member of the prestigious Huntingdale Golf Club where the Australian Masters is played. Before the golf tournament for C J Oorloff Trophy between Wesley and Trinity, the Wesleyites played St Thomas' in golf. Norman turned out for Wesley in those fixtures.

On leaving school it was a natural progression that he should join the Ceylon Government Railways (CGR) as his father Bunny was a Guard at the time. Norman was a diesel Engine Driver till he migrated to Australia in 1958. Norman joined General Motors Holden and worked for them till he retired.

Norman married and had two daughters Michelle and Linda whom he adored. The daughters on

completing their education chose the freedom to pursue their own careers in Queensland which resulted in Norman moving to Queensland to be nearer to the girls and their families. Norman adored his grandchildren and spoke about them whenever we met.

Norman had many strings to his bow. He was a great cook and would turn out tasty curries and sambols when he entertained. His love cake was delicious and many sought his recipes as the food prepared by Norman was so tasty. He also could play the piano and read music. Though not regularly playing, from time to time he would find solace playing in private or for a sing song around the piano.

He was involved with many of the local Sri Lankan Associations – The Australia Ceylon Fellowship, The Burgher Association, the Silver Fawn Club and the Ceylon Masons in Australia. He joined Free Masonry in 1963 with Lord Carrington Lodge No. 111 where he was a member for fifty two years and rose to the rank of Past Junior Grand Warden. Wherever Norman went he left an indelible impression. He was straight forward and did not suffer fools easily. He would be the life of the party with his jokes in English, Pidgeon English and in Sinhalese. He was well travelled and had a good memory for remembering things. He would relate stories of his exploits on his visits to Sri Lanka where the locals thought he was a foreigner. Little did they know of Norman's command of Sinhalese which shocked them leaving them squirming in embarrassment.

Norman was a proud Wesleyite and was Secretary of the Old Boy's Union Australia Branch. Meetings were interesting as Norman would relate many anecdotes about Wesley, former teachers and former students which kept us entertained. He was forthright and if there was something he did not agree with he would say so and go to the extent of saying "*over my dead body*". He patronised most of our events till he moved to Queensland.

On a personal note, my children adored Norman when they were small as he would pick each one up over his head and they thought they were on top of the world when they touched the ceiling. To this day they have fond memories of those happy days. When he was in Melbourne last year on seeing the kids he stated "...*come and give uncle Normie a kiss or I will give you a kannay and two kicks to the pukay*". Norman was king of the kids where ever he went. His stature did not intimidate them as Norman would quickly gain their confidence with little tricks or comments and then they would all be at ease.

Norman's battle with cancer began many years ago and after quite some time in remission flared up again recently. When he came for lunch to my home in November last year, he was not looking the best and shortly thereafter began a number of health issues which punctuated the last 10 months finally resulting in his demise. When I would ring him in Brisbane, he would always answer with warmth "How are you Sonno?" The vagaries of his illness had taken its toll on this giant of a man and the once statuesque figure was now only a shadow of himself.

Norman had a wide circle of friends and those who met him for the first time would have a lasting impression of him. He was engaging and his personality was one you could never forget matched by his physical presence. He was kind and caring and was a true friend. He had an active mind till his demise which was the repository of many anecdotes, jokes and historic events of Wesley, Sri Lanka, his friends and his life which made him such an interesting and special character.

Norman's time at the crease has come to an end. Norman will be sadly missed. He lived a simple, active and exciting life and he is now resting peacefully.

Not how did he die, but how did he live?

Not what did he gain, but what did he give? These are the units to measure the

worth Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

Not, what was his church, nor what was his creed?

But had he befriended those really in need?

*Was he ever ready, with word of good cheer, To bring back a smile, to banish a
tear?*

*Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say,
But how many were sorry when he passed away.*

Requiescant in pace Norman.

Note: At the Public Schools Meet 1948, Wesley just missed out winning the Tarbat Challenge Cup. Our 4 x 400 Relay team was disqualified for dropping the baton in the final leg of this event. Norman was placed first in the High Jump and Putt Shot events at this meet.

To his partner Toni, daughters Michelle and Linda and their families my thoughts and prayers and those of many who knew him are with you at this sad time.

Norman's remains were laid to rest on Friday 4 September 2015 in Brisbane. One of his last requests was that his coffin be draped with the Wesley College flag. A Wesleyite to the fore! A good gathering of Wesleyites residing in Brisbane attended the funeral and farewelled Norman's remains with the singing of the College war cry.

Dad's Eulogy

Our dad who you all knew as 'Norman' was born Justus Norman Richard de la Harpe. He was also referred to as, Papa, Grandpa, Uncle Norman and Pootha.

He was born in Ceylon, now known as Sri Lanka to Clarence and Mildred de la Harpe. Dad had a younger brother Beltram and for a short while had a foster brother Peter, a Singhalese boy who tragically died as a teenager. Dad grew up in an area of Colombo known as Mount Mary, he always spoke very fondly of his childhood in Mount Mary.

Our Nanna and Papa sent dad to Wesley College to be educated. He often spoke of the adventures he had when he was a student. As many of you know as do my sister and myself, once a Wesleyite, always a Wesleyite. His bond to his school lasted throughout the rest of his life, even the distance across the Indian Ocean didn't affect this relationship. Whilst at school dad was an all-round sportsman, excelling in all the sports he competed in. He held the public school record in high jump and was also an excellent hurdler but his first love was cricket. Dad joined the Colts Cricket Club and had great success as a fast bowler, he played in the Gopalan Trophy which was a leading cricket tournament where the team toured internationally.

His Captain and life-long friend, Pat Kelly, had this to say about dad's cricket, "I first met

Norman in 1953 in Colombo at the Colt's Cricket Club. He was one of the two fast bowlers we had. He was the more aggressive one. He would always bowl his heart out for his team and possessed a very competitive streak. He was the ideal fast bowler with an uncanny ability to read batsmen and produce the sublimely unplayable ball to the very best of batsmen. Quite a few batsmen were rather scared of his bouncers and were only too happy to get out quickly, usually rather abjectly. He was astute and analytical, an asset to any captain. He was the epitome of the loyal team member. He was a joy to play with and I was very lucky to have him as a member of my teams at the Colt's and later at South Melbourne. At the latter club he headed the bowling averages quite often."

Dad discovered he possessed extraordinary culinary skills whilst on a shooting trip in the Jungle. A deer had been shot and dad wanted a venison curry, we believe this was the first meal he cooked and he obviously rated it very highly as for the rest of his life he preferred his cooking to everyone else's, everything dad cooked was 'bloody beautiful'. We will miss his curries, his lime pickle but most of all his Love Cake, sorry if I insult anyone here but our father made the best Love Cake in the world.

Dad's family were railway men and dad joined the railway as a driver, he remained as a driver until he moved to Melbourne Australia with his mum and dad in 1959. Dad had several jobs in Melbourne, he was an accounts clerk at BP and General Motors Holden, he even had a part time job doing security to help make ends meet when we were very young. Dad met and married our mum, Jean in 1962, I was born in 1964 and my younger, more beautiful sister Linda was born in 1966.

Mum and dad were both immigrants to Australia and initially struggled financially. Dad held down two jobs to assist the family. In dad's early years in Melbourne he joined the South Melbourne Cricket club and played with international cricketers a lot younger than himself. That in itself is a testimony to his skills.

After dad realised that his body was getting too tired for cricket he found a new sporting love, golf. Dad was a member of Huntingdale Golf Club in Melbourne and when he moved to Brisbane in 2002 became a member of Keperra Golf Club. In fact only less than one month ago, dad was in the newspaper for being the runner up in his Division for the Keperra Monthly Medal.

Dad always loved the social side of life, his commitments just didn't end with his sporting clubs. He was a staunch Freemason in the Ceylon Lodge, the Melbourne Grand Lodge as well as the Ceylon Masonic Lodge in Melbourne. We remember many mornings waiting for dad to leave the bathroom as this was where he would rehearse and practice his masonic prayers and affirmations. Dad was also a Member of the Australian Ceylon Fellowship, Regularly attended charity events and in Brisbane joined the Silver Fawn Club, a social and sporting club. Dad also won the golfing trophy for many years at the Silver Fawn Club. In 2002 dad moved from Melbourne to Brisbane to be near his immediate family and to be able to spend time with his grandchildren whom he smothered with love and affection. Whenever he visited, he we would regularly have to chastise him for sneaking chocolate frogs to the children but it never worked and we gave up.

During the past week my sister was spending time with dad's dear friend Lesley Ephraims fondly known to us as Uncle Letcho, Uncle Letcho pointed out that dad was a walking genealogist for the Sri Lankan community. He not only seemed to know everyone, he would also know their grandparents names, uncles, aunts, cousins, neighbours and their neighbours relations. Uncle Letcho also wanted to emphasise what a wonderful joke teller dad was. He not only told wonderful jokes in English, but the jokes he recited in Sinhalese were also

brilliant and risqué. In fact as children we always knew a dirty joke was coming as he would default to Singhalese which was greeted with great gusto and laughter.

Six years ago Dad met a lovely lady named Toni, who became a dear friend and companion to our father. Toni and Dad travelled together and shared a great love of golf, cricket, music and dancing. We would like to say thank you to Toni for always being there for Dad and bringing love and happiness into his life.

NEWS & PHOTO GALLERY

Dad was a big man in every sense of the word, quick tempered but generous to a fault. He



had a fierce loyalty to his family and friends. This was accompanied by enormous warmth, love and concern for his family, friends and loved ones. He was always helping friends. A true Master Mason to who service to others came naturally.

Over the years he had many illnesses. He bore them all with stoicism and courage and would always look toward tomorrow and another game of golf.

The matches are all over but the team is no longer the same without our dad. A good man a great dad and an exceptional grandfather.

Rest gently dad and know you will always be loved and never forgotten.

Linda Mulder (nee de la Harpe)

Please send your photos to: doublebluelinks@gmail.com

COLOMBO

Toastmaster Arfath earns finalist place at world champion event in Malaysia

Arfath Saleem follows in the footsteps of Dananjaya Hettiarachchi, who brought fame to Sri Lanka last year by becoming the World Champion of Public Speaking at the 2014 Toastmasters International Convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Arfath, who was mentored by Danajaya, placed in the Top 10 (from a pool of 30,000 applicant speakers) at this year's competition at the Toastmasters International Convention at Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas last month.

The 26-year-old began speaking at a young age as a student of Wesley College, although he wasn't genuinely interested until he started taking part in the All Island Best Speaker competition. He was placed runner up in 2011 for his speech 'The Wall', but stumbled the next year.

"I let it go to my head," he laughs. "In the end, I didn't even make it to the finals." The competition taught him the value of being placed second however, he notes. "When you make it to the top you can become too comfortable there. The person who comes second or third is always striving to do better."

Arfath joined the Ralph Toastmasters Club in Colombo in 2013. He was inspired by the passion his fellow club members had for public speaking, and was soon rubbing shoulders with the best of them. In 2013 he took part in his club's Humorous Speech competition. "I was very nervous," he remembers. "The first person who laughed was my mother when I told her I was taking part!" Nevertheless Arfath persevered, going on to the district level-in 2014 he was placed second runner up at the District 82 Humorous Speech Contest.

In 2013 Arfath attended his first World Champion Public Speaker contest where he didn't



place but was inspired to try again. At Vegas, where this year's competition was held, Arfath represented Toastmasters District 82 comprising clubs in Chennai, India and all clubs in Sri Lanka. His prepared speech 'Orchestra', about not losing sight of your goal in the razzle dazzle of life, got him through to the convention in Vegas. His speech at the event, the one that placed him in the Top 10-was titled 'To Be a Legend'.

Arfath credits several people for his success - at the top of the list is his family, including dad and "inspiration" Zameen Saleem. Danajaya Hettiarachchi, Dr. Dilip Abayasekara, A. Balraj and Niranjana De Silva are also credited, "especially for helping me understand that humility was a strength, not a weakness."

WESLEY WALK 2015



One of the biggest gatherings of the Wesley Community. Estimated 4000 participated
The parade was at least 2.5 kms long

BEST LEGGIE IN SRI LANKA

Jeffrey Vandersay

Full name Jeffrey Dexter Francis Vandersay

Born February 5, 1990, Wattala Height 5 ft 7 in

Current age 27 years 6 days

Major teams Sri Lanka, Moors Sports Club, Seeduwa Raddoluwa Cricket Club, Sinhalese Sports Club, Sri Lanka Cricket Development XI

Playing role Bowler

Batting style Right-hand bat **Bowling style** Leg breaks **Education** Wesley College, Colombo

Hussain Jiffry, Grammy Award Winner 2014 visits his alma mater

Sri Lankan Born, educated at Wesley College, Colombo

ELECTRIC BASS. KEYBOARDS. VOCALS. COMPOSER. ARRANGER. ENGINEER.
PRODUCER

Hussain graduated from the Musician's Institute in California in 1989, and while playing in random ensembles, it was his sheer talent that brought many worthwhile offers to this dedicated bassist.

In 2014 Sri Lankan born bassist, Hussain Jiffry, won a Grammy. The honor was bestowed upon Jiffry, who is a part of bass legend Herb Alpert and wife Lani Hall's quintet, when the



Instrumental Album Award for their



album Steppin' Out at 2014 Grammy Awards

"The bass is such a fun instrument - it's the foundation. It's harmonically and rhythmically fun cos I'm kind of like a drummer with pitch," says Sri Lankan born bassist Hussain Jiffry (who has worked with well-known names in the international music industry) describing of his love affair with the bass guitar. This most sought after musician based in Los Angeles, California was recently on a private visit in Sri Lanka with his wife Neluka.

Hussain Jiffry was keen to visit his Alma Mater and share his success story with the students of Wesley College where he studied from Grade 2 right up to A'Levels. He didn't complete his A/L's as his passion for music was so strong that he decided to head to USA to pursue his dream. Hussain's visit to College was coordinated by Richie Sappideen, classmate and a past president of the OBU.

At assembly on Monday 15th February 2016, Jiffry quoted a few names who inspired him and believed in him...Podi Sir (Mr. Gaya Wickremasinghe), late Mr. Shelton Wirasinha – the Principal during his time and his favourite teacher Mr. Haig Karunaratne who identified Jiffry's talent and encouraged him all through his years in College. Jiffry also made special mention to grade 5 class teacher the late Mrs. Gnaniah who during her time made sure Jiffry concentrated on his studies instead of music and that year he came 3rd in the class.

His message to the students of Wesley was to believe in one's ability and pursue your dream with "Passion".

Associate Principal Mr, Upali Ratnayake and Vice Principal Mr. Avanka Fernando paid glowing tributes to Hussain Jiffry who has brought honor to the country and his alma mater.

After Assembly, a cluster of his student fans took autographs and photos before he was whisked away for a TV interview with a leading TV Channel. Brief as it may have been, the students were enthralled by his presence and it is hope that Hussain Jiffry will return to Sri Lanka soon and visit his beloved Wesley College to spend more time with staff and students sharing his success story.

His wife Neluka, a musician in her own right, whom her adoring husband describes as an inspiration and a rock, is a talented keyboardist and singer who confesses to having relocated her piano in the bedroom, as that is the only way she gets to play it!

OBU SYDNEY, NSW

Double Blue Spring Ball September 6th, 2015 – By Nizar Sappideen

The past pupils of Wesley College, Colombo in NSW and their friends gathered at The

Epping Club, Epping, on Saturday 26th September 2015 to celebrate their 'DOUBLE BLUE SPRING BALL 2015.'

On arrival guests were met by the Committee and old friends happily greeted each other, as some had not met although living in close neighbourhoods. The tone for the evening was one of fellowship, as the school song goes 'Bound by one fraternal band, band of Double Blue.' Before the close, the Wesleyites gathered to sing the College song remembering the Institution that gave them their education and character. This was followed by the Wesley war cry "Zum Zum Zake..." led by Nizar Sappideen that made the attendees roar in laughter. The event was well handled by compere Lalith Fernando, a past President of the OBA.

The NSW Old Wesleyites did their College proud as the guests and past students left after a pleasant evening, all remarking that they had attended one of the best dances for the year.

The following attended the dance: Chris Swan, John Buultjens, Noel Saravanamuthu, Nizar Sappideen, Keith Grenier, Ganesh Mylvaganan, Lalith Fernando, Ray Jansz, Jaye Winslow, Suren Rasiah, Shirley Samuel, Mel Mottau, Bashur Musafar, Asoka Kularatne, Frank Baptist, Seenar Sappideen, Nimal Weerasinghe, Jeremy Classen, Gamini Kulasuriya, Kugan Thiru, Roger Hesse, Rodney Harvie, Stan Niles, Samil Suhood and Godfrey Abel.



Photo - L to R: Ganesh Mylvaganan, Lalith Fernando, Ray Jansz, Jaye Winslow, Suren Rasiah(hidden), Nizar Sappideen Keith Grenier(hidden), Shirley Samuel, John Buultjens, Mel Mottau, Bashur Musafar, Asoka Kularatne, Frank Baptist, Seenar, Sappideen, Nimal Weerasinghe, Noel Saravanamuthu, Jeremy Classen, Gamini de Silva Kulasuriya
On the floor - L to R: Kugan Thiru, Roger Hesse, Chris Swan, Rodney(Buster) Harvie



Nizar Sappideen & wife

Seenar Sappideen & wife

Darrell Maye & wife

Shirley Samuel & wife



CHRISTMAS PARTY

The past pupils of Wesley College, Colombo in NSW, their families and close friends gathered in Sydney on 28th Nov. 2015 to celebrate their annual Christmas party. The following old boys graced the occasion:-

Christopher Swan, Nizar Sappideen, John Buultjens, Noel Saravanamuthu, Darrel Maye, Lalith Fernando, Nimal Weerasinghe, Jaya Winslow, Ray Jansz, Keith Grenier, Braden Koch, Gamini Kulasuriya, Frank Baptist, Chitta Mylvaganam, Rohan Thevarajah, Shantha Kulasingham and Mohan David.

The event was a 'low key' affair. Music was provided by a two piece band lead by Lalith Fernando, a past President. As usual at Christmas parties, all the popular Christmas carols were sung, joined by both Christians and non-Christians. A true Wesley fellowship bond. Dinner a grand roast, was prepared by John Buultjens, another past President. The food was much appreciated by all.

Before close, the Wesleyites sang the College song, followed by "Zum Zum Zake..." It was a very pleasant evening enjoyed by all.



L-R Keith Grenier, Braden Koch, Noel Saravanamuthu, Frank Baptist, Nizar Sappideen, Ray Jansz(hidden), Chris Swan, Jaya Winslow(partly hidden), Lalith Fernando(completely hidden),Darrel Maye, John Buultjens, Chitta Mylvaganam, Gamini Kulasuriya(hidden), Nimal Weerasinghe



L to R Chitta Mylvaganam, Shantha Kulasingham, Rohan Thevarajah, Noel Saravanamuthu, Ray Jansz,

DBU MELBOURNE



A grand old lady, Helen Bartholomeusz (former music teacher) celebrated her 95th birthday on Wednesday 24th. June, 2015 surrounded by her children, her brother Langston Joseph and their families and friends at the Allambee Nursing Home, Moorabbin.

1 Kings 3:14 "And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments ... I will lengthen thy days."

DOUBLE BLUE BALL – 3rd October 2015

The Annual Double Blue Ball was a success with over three hundred patrons dancing the night away to the music of the "Next generation" with the dance floor packed for each bracket of music. The hall was lit up in blue hues with a laser light show emitting beams of light and images that sparkled on the surrounding walls. As per usual there were a number of old boys (in excess of 50) from Melbourne and Inter-State that attended. From Queensland Bill Deutrom, Luxman James. Ray Anthonisz and partners and from Sydney Chris Swan, Noel Saravanamuttu and partners graced the occasion. The President of our sister school Methodist College alumni association was also present. During dinner an exotic Latin Dancing Cabaret Act entertained the gathering and had the crowd spell bound with their sexy gyrations on the floor. The function was well sponsored and there were many prizes handed out to the patrons on the night. Congratulations to the dance committee for organizing another terrific night. Refer Photo collage.

CEDRIC OORLOFF GOLF DAY - 8TH November 2015

The 16th Annual Cedric Oorloff Golf Tournament between the alumni associations of Wesley College and Trinity College resulted in a very close victory to Trinity by 200 points to 198 to regain the trophy after two years points. The competition is played over 18 holes of Stableford.

The best individual score was by former Sri Lankan Test player Ravi Ratnayake with 39 points. The best Wesley score was from Lloyd Siebel 36 points on a countback from Sri Kanagasabapathy.

The Longest Drive for the Martin Siebel Memorial Trophy was won by Imran Jumar

Trinity who hosted the tournament this year, provided a hearty barbeque and plenty of beverages following the trophy presentation.

COMBINED COLLEGES OF SRI LANKA CHOIR – 6th December 2015

Wesleyites Felix Berman, Reg Bartholomeusz, Keith de Kretser, Marky Makalanda, Haig Maloney, Lorensz Stork and Brindley Vanderwert participated in the Choir's Christmas Cantata by Russell Mauldin titled Noel.

SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH – 13TH December 2015

The Seniors Christmas Lunch shifted to a new venue and was also open to members who



wished to attend for the first time. The new venue was able to seat more people and the change was in order to accommodate the increased demand. There were a number of new faces who qualified to attend as Seniors - Howard Nathanielsz and Hans Jonklaas and also a number of widows who had not attended since their loved one had passed away. Hemaka Jayasekera who was visiting from Sri Lanka and his wife were special guests. Music was provided by one-man band Desmond White and Cha's Cabin that had been hosts for many years did the catering and provided a sumptuous meal once again. It never ceases to amaze the younger members when they see the fellowship and camaraderie between these senior legends, particularly Anton Blacker (95), Glynn Lappen (93), Langston Joseph (91) who are the last remaining old boys from the pre-war years. Langston Joseph was invited to say grace before lunch and following lunch a small choir of former choristers led the Carol singing. As the afternoon progressed, each Senior and their partner and the widows received a Christmas Gift. A great afternoon was had by all. Refer Photo collage)

QUEENSLAND ALUMNI

Wesley's main benefactor celebrates three score and ten with family and friends

A surprise birthday party was held on 28th November 2015 by the Deutrom sisters in honour of their father. Bill who has been spending much time in Colombo with his varied business interests, charity work and in particular the upgrade and refurbishment of Wesley College, returned home to Brisbane in time for his birthday. Little did he know what a splendid job his daughters had done in organizing the party and contacting his many friends to attend. Bill was absolutely

taken aback when he entered the hall where he was supposed to be dropping off something for this charity and was amazed to see so many friends and family that were there to celebrate this momentous occasion. Many Wesley alumni were also in attendance to celebrate with Bill. Photo of Bill with two of his daughters and Carlyle Wells-Peris



Ranjith James, Dion Heft, Trevor Ebert, Loxley Dickson, Carlyle Wells-Peris, Bill Deutrom, Terry Loos,

Garrick O'Neil, Sunil Shantha, Neil Harvie

Double Blue Ball Melbourne 2015



Seniors Lunch Melbourne 2015



Put a smile on your face

What Confucius **did not** say....words of wisdom that the great man **did not** utter...!



CONFUCIUS **DID NOT** SAY...

Man who wants pretty nurse, must be **patient**.

Passionate kiss, like spider web, leads to undoing of **fly**.

Squirrel who runs up woman's leg will not find **nuts**.

Man who leaps off cliff jumps to **conclusion**.

Man who runs in front of car gets tired. Man who runs behind car gets **exhausted**.

Man who eats many prunes get **good run** for money.

War does not determine who is right, it determines **who is left**.

Man who fight with wife all day get no **piece** at night.

It takes many nails to build a crib but only **one screw** to fill it.

Man who drives like **hell** is bound to get there.

Man who stands on toilet is high **on pot**.

Man who live in glass house should **change clothes** in basement.

Man who fish in other man's well often catch crabs.

A lion will not cheat on his wife, but a Tiger Wood!

Foolish man gives wife grand piano, wise man gives wife upright organ