



Wesley Times – November '11

Newsletter of Wesley College Colombo Old Boys Union Australia Branch Inc.

Message from the President



As 2011 draws to a close, it gives me great satisfaction to reflect on yet another great year for the "Wesley Family" in Australia. There have been the usual activities that brought so many of us together during the past 12 months and provided an opportunity for us to enjoy each other's fellowship and add to the good times that we seem to invariably have whenever we meet.

I am very grateful to have had the total support of the terrific committee that we have, whose tireless efforts in organising all activities during the year are

recognised and appreciated. It is simply not what they do to help the organisation, but the competent and enthusiastic way in which they approach whatever the task which is most appreciated. We have attempted to keep all our Old Boys informed of the activities of the Association by way of personal contact as well as the informative and regular newsletter that you would have continued to receive during 2011.

It gives me great pride to report on the progress made by the College, which continues to maintain its position as an outstanding institution in Sri Lanka. It has been an honour for me to have the opportunity to serve as your President and to continue the good work and traditions of previous Presidents and their committees. The support we have been able to provide to the College has been received with sincere thanks and gratitude, and I look forward to being able to support the activities of the Association after the new committee takes over from us.

I trust that 2011 has been a good year for you and your loved ones, and wish to take this opportunity to convey my personal best wishes as well as that of the committee to you and yours for a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. For those of you who may be travelling to Sri Lanka to enjoy the festive season, I hope that you enjoy the reunion with friends and family.

ORA ET LABORA

Norton Abeydeera



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor's desk	2
Swimming Pool project	3
Carol Service Notice	4
Condolences	5
Committee Contacts	5
Membership renewal	5
Message from the Principal	6
Dates to remember	7
UK Branch Report	8
Seniors Lunch Notice	8
Where are they now?	
➤ Amaresh Rajaratnam	9
Memories of Wesley	
The Double Blues and the Blue , Gold and Blue	11
From the archives	
➤ Wesley cricket 50 years ago	13
Articles	
➤ How famous cricketer Sathasivam was charged, tried and acquitted ...	16
➤ Haleem Ishak – a tribute	17
Round the traps & in the News	
➤ Class of 96 refurbish dining room	
➤ School Cricket news	
➤ OWSC Sports news	18
➤ Attack on Dr N J Nonis	
➤ QWSC hosts Upali Perera and Darrell Maye	
➤ The Collette brothers visit College	
Double Blue Ball 2011	22
The Cedric Oorloff Trophy	24
Pool project sponsorship deals Sri Lanka	24

E-mail correspondence

All members who prefer to receive OBU correspondence by email are invited to inform the Editor on editorwcobua@gmail.com. Your email address will then be included on our data base. This means that future OBU Bulletins will also be sent to you email, not by POST. Your co-operation is appreciated.

The Editor

From the Editor's Desk

As the year draws to a close it is a time to reflect on what has been achieved over the past twelve months both from a personal perspective and in the context of this association of alumni of Wesley College and the College itself.

The College has maintained her momentum of striving for higher standards in both academia, sport and extra-curricular activities. The success of Wesley in the G.C.E. O-Levels and G.C.E. A-Levels has shown significant improvement. In the O-Levels a near perfect score with 100% passes in the Tamil medium, Science and Maths along with 100% in English medium Mathematics. English Language - A step up to 98% pass rate which is an increase from 95% last year.

The overall pass rate for GCE O/L candidates an extraordinary 93% compared to 86% last year and 63% National Average. Sport at Wesley has been progressively improving with good representation in all sports and teams developing that competitive edge in all age groups.

However the most significant changes which have taken place are the enhancements of existing infra-structure and the new equipment and facilities to provide the students with the opportunity to improve their learning and development, to be successful in their exams.

Some of the neglected areas over the years have been revitalized like the hostel dormitory, the hostel kitchen facilities, the dining room, the toilets and library. The new conference/meeting room will have the latest audio visual equipment and modern facilities for conducting educational workshops, audio visual productions and meetings.

The old boys have borne the load as well with the Class of 92

refurbishing the pavilion, the Class of 96 refurbishing the dining room and the OBU with the OWSC finally getting the swimming pool up and running. Something that once was a dream will finally come to fruition hopefully next year.

So when alumni associations like ours conduct various functions, they serve a two fold purpose.

To keep the fraternal band of double blue together through a forum of fellowship and fun where Old Wesleyites can meet with their family and friends and have a good time, and. To raise revenue from some functions to help Wesley or her students in a time of need.

This year the OBUA has given

- \$250 to the student suffering from Leukemia to assist with his treatment in India
- \$1,250 towards the rugby jerseys which will be used to buy a new set for season 2012.
- \$3,000 from the Double Blue Trust for the new Training and Development Centre PA system.

Our current challenge is to make a significant donation to the swimming pool project. Wesley needs our help on this significant project as they have to raise Rs 30 Million about AU\$300,000.

Our pledge is to contribute AU\$5,000 in a combined effort between the OBU Australia Branch and individual donations from our members. Please consider this project as our contribution to this historic event which they hope to complete by Founder's Day 2012 – 2 March 2012. Details of the project and how you can help is on the next page.

There is a core group of Old Wesleyites who will attend all

functions and who will proudly stand up and support the alma-mater when a request is made for assistance. As a committee we do not expect the Old Boys to attend every function but at least attending one would be great and provide the encouragement to the Committee to keep going.

However of late there are some old boys who like to support other functions of a similar nature by organizing a table of patrons to attend but when invited to one of our functions come up with a host of lame excuses. They are the very same guys who crow about how proud they are to be Wesleyites.

So next time you see a notice be it for the Annual General Meeting, a Curry Night, the Double Blue ball, the Golf Day versus Trinity OBA or the Seniors Lunch, we would be delighted to see you and welcome your support in any form.

As an alumni association overseas, we are far removed physically from the heart of the action but not so in spirit. For we all bear the unique badge of being Wesleyites.

So be a part Wesley's resurgence by your involvement via this association in the many activities that are organized during the year and responding to the requests for specific fundraising events for Wesley.

This being the last issue fore 2011, I wish you and your family a blessed festive season where ever you may be and I look forward to your support over the next year.

Ora et Labora

Keith de Kretser
editorwcbua@gmail.com

"You see things; and you say, 'Why?' But I dream things that never were; and I say, 'Why not?'" - George Bernard Shaw

For the past 137 years Wesleyites have lamented on not having their own swimming pool on campus to call their own. It has been an item on the wish list of most students as they watched with envy the students of the other major Colleges in Colombo that have had this privilege. The dream of having a swimming pool gathered momentum in recent years with a number of Old Boys who met regularly at the OWSC. The concerns were where it would be located and how much would it cost? Both intimidating factors for a school and alumni community not having the spare capital to invest in such a project. However the dream did not fade away and as more ideas were tossed around and the revival of Wesley under Dr McLelland's stewardship gathered momentum, the first planning steps emerged and serious collaboration between the OBU, OWSC and the alumni community began. As George Bernard Shaw's famous quote expresses so vividly, the alumni picked up the courage and agreed to give it their best shot. The following pictures show the progress that has been made. The site that has been picked is next to the Principal's bungalow on the left hand side when you face the front of the bungalow and is immediately behind the sick rooms near the back gate.

Excavation (Completed)



Base Concrete (Completed)



Steel Framework (Completed)



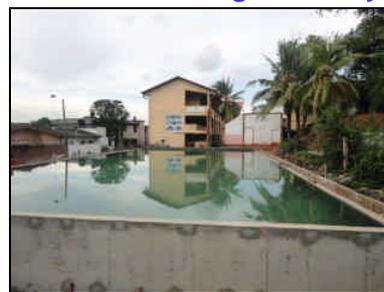
Formwork for the Pool Wall



Surrounding walls completed



Water Testing underway



Major donations received so far have been from Bill Deutrom – SLRs, 1,000,000, Former Tamil students SLRs 1,250,000, Old Wesleyites from the Middle East SLRs 1,000,000, OBU Colombo \$750,000, Class of 91 – SLRs 500,000 plus many more individual donations of Life Membership from Old Boys. So now it is our turn to swell the funds.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO REACH OUR PLEDGE OF \$5,000

Every donation will be gratefully received and acknowledged by receipt. It is up to you as to how much you wish to donate. If you require special recognition you can also contribute directly to Colombo by checking the details on the back page of this issue. There are a number sponsorship packages and memberships being offered. If you wish to donate to the OBU Australia Branch pledge, please complete the slip below and send it with your payment to **The Treasurer, WC OBUA, P O Box 123, Glenway MDC , Mulgrave VIC 3170 or you may bank it direct** BANK: National Australia Bank BSB: 083323 Account No.: 622965907 Account Name: Wesley College Colombo OBUA.

Cut along long line

SWIMMING POOL PROJECT – AUSTRALIAN OBU SPONSORSHIP

NAME(Block letters):

ADDRESS: **POST CODE:**

AMOUNT: \$.....



**The Combined Colleges of
Sri Lanka Choir Inc.**

invite you to join them in

***A Service of Nine
Lessons and Carols***

Sunday 4th December 2011

7.00 p.m.

**Reformed Church Dandenong
Corner Gladstone Road & Outlook Drive, Dandenong
Melway 81 D 6**

*The Offertory taken at the Service is
dedicated to Charities in Australia &
Sri Lanka.*





CONDOLENCES

MILLER. - Brian Henry. Passed away peacefully in Melbourne on July 13, 2011, aged 83 years. Loving and adored husband of Louise. Brother to Mirabel, Connie, Barbara, Cedric (dec.) and Francis. To his family and friends we extend our sincere condolences.

HARVIE – Franklin Passed away peacefully in Melbourne in June 2011. Brother of Rodney(Buster) of Sydney. To his family and friends we extend our sincere condolences.

SAMAHON - Tuan Anver (RAJ) - Passed away after a lengthy illness. He will be sadly missed by his beloved wife Poppisha and loving daughter Aasti, beloved brother of late Seenar Packir, Hajiani Muzeena Oumar, late Zaheer Surahei Wijewardene, Thajudeen, Hajiani Sreema Babanoor (France), Suheera Nazimmuddeen (USA), Zareena Thaha (Canada) and Mohamed Kaim. Funeral took place at Jawatte Muslim burial ground on July 13, 2011. To his family and friends we extend our sincere condolences. (To many of us at Wesley he will fondly be remembered as our friend Baboon. May his soul rest in peace!)

HENDERLING - Barbara Enid (nee Nugara) Beloved Wife of Bertram (Cricket Capt 1942) and mother of Peter, loving grandmother of Jordan, Chelsea and Benjamin. sister of Minette Wise, Carlo Nugara (London) and Ronnie Nugara (Sri Lanka). sister-in law of Tazma and Glyn Lappen, Olga de Zilwa and Zeila Tambimuttu (Melbourne). To her family and friends we extend our sincere condolences

MALONEY - Leonard Percival. Passed away peacefully at Southport Nursing Home, Queensland. aged 92 Survived by his wife Lillian, his children Maureen and Bart Zant, Haig and Jill, Patrick and Glennis, Bryan and Denise Maloney and his beloved grandchildren, great grandchildren and stepchildren. To Haig, Patrick and Bryan we extend our sincere condolences.

JANSZ – Maxwell Noel. Passed away peacefully in the UK on 25/06/11, aged 67 years. Noel was the eldest of the six Jansz brothers that attended Wesley College. Noel completed his Schooling at Arethusa College Wellawatte. Noel is the Brother of Allan, Emile (Chris), Travice (deceased in Sri Lanka 1972), Ray and Tyrone and sisters Dawn and Romanie. To his family and friends we extend our sincere condolences.

RAJAMANTRI - June Dawn (nee Buultjens) Passed away unexpectedly on October 16, 2011 in Colombo. Beloved wife of the late Marcus Rajamantri, loving daughter of James and the late Grace Buultjens, stepdaughter of Marie Buultjens, mother of Thilini Dias and Malinda Rajamantri, sister of Marie Herft, James Buultjens, Angela Herft and John Buultjens(President OBU NSW), sister-in-law of Robin Herft (Patron OBU NSW), Maeve Buultjens, Fred Herft and Roseanne Buultjens, To her family and friends we extend our sincere condolences.

*“Death leaves a heartache
No one can heal;
Love leaves a memory
No one can steal.”*

Irish Tombstone

Your Committee 2011

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MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Your membership subscription is now due and payable. The annual fee is \$20 and if you have not paid for this year - 2010, please make payment as soon as possible. All cheques should be made out in favour of Wesley College Colombo OBUA and posted to

The Treasurer
Wesley College Colombo OBUA
P O Box 123
Glenway MDC
MULGRAVE VIC 3170.

A Message from the Principal

Principal's Report - Prize Giving 2011

"An education system isn't worth a great deal if it teaches young people how to make a living but doesn't teach them how to make a life" Mark Twain

Dr. Frank Jayasinghe, Rev. H. S. Thambirajah, Members of the Governing Board, Welfare Society, Parent Teacher Association, Old Boys Union, Past Teachers, and Well Wishers. On behalf of the staff and students of Wesley College, I extend a warm welcome to you all to our Annual Prize Giving of the 137th Anniversary, especially to our Chief Guest Dr. Frank Jayasinghe.

Dr. Jayasinghe, we thank you for accepting our invitation and honouring us with your presence today. We thank all of the other distinguished guests who have accepted our invitation to grace this occasion. We thank all old Wesleyites and ardent supporters of Wesley for their presence today. Honoured guests, your presence are an encouragement to all our Award winners who will walk up to the stage this evening.

Dr. Frank Jayasinghe, I wish to share a few hallmarks of your illustrious career as an example, especially for the young and curious minds. He was a teacher and hostel master at Wesley College from 1953 to 1962. He taught mathematics, science while being the Warden of the College Hostel. As I remember Dr. Jayasinghe, he was an extraordinary teacher, particularly in mathematics. I remember Dr. Frank Jayasinghe as an extraordinary teacher and an exemplary leader who was able to motivate, to develop a passion for mathematics. He was able to present mathematics in a very simple form. He was loved by all students as he was a very amiable teacher, but was a strict disciplinarian and expected students to exceed expectations. He was a tower of strength to all hostellers who treated him as father as he was a very considerate Warden and tolerated some of the pranks of innocent and playful students. Dr. Jayasinghe was a passionate tennis player and was seen energetically playing on the college courts where the current Labrooy and A.S. Wirasinha blocks are standing majestically today.

After leaving Wesley, Dr. Jayasinghe was the Principal of St. Thomas' Gurutalawa for a period of 5 years and helped to develop the school into one of the best residential secondary schools in Sri Lanka. Later he served as the Sub Warden of St. Thomas' Mt. Lavana from 1968 to 1971. Dr. Jayasinghe was one of the first to introduce the International school concept in Sri Lanka after returning having lead the Kodaikanal International School in India from 1972 to 1983. At Kodaikanal Dr. Jayasinghe was instrumental in introducing the highly acclaimed International Baccalaurate (IB) Program.

Dr. Jayasinghe, Wesley College has embarked on an exciting new journey that would give teachers, students, and parents a better environment to impart, receive, and celebrate success at examinations and extra-curricular activities. Unlike in the previous times of heavy corporal punishment, now we follow a no punishment no tolerance policy to maintain discipline. We have a special team to help students who need counselling and financial assistance. We reach out to parents to help them in time of need. At Wesley, with the help of parents, old boys and teachers we believe in helping students who are less fortunate as well those with learning disabilities to excel.

In 2010, our GCE (Ordinary Level) results showed an extraordinary improvement from the 69% in 2009 to 93%. English Language pass rate surpassed expectations with 98% success, along with 95% success rate mathematics and a 100% achievement rate in the English and Tamil streams. Comparatively the results were significantly outstanding in relation to 63% rate nationally. Two students obtained distinctions in all subjects and 8 students obtained 8 distinctions. Five of our Students entered University from 73 students who passed the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination in 2010.

The new teaching and learning strategies seems to have paid dividends. 18 students are expected to be selected to national universities from the 73 that passed the examination to qualify for university admission. This is about a 12% increase from last year. This year we expect to exceed these performances with the implementation of monthly tests and parents meeting supported by formative monthly assessments, subject seminars by experts in the field, learning to learn programs and motivational meetings. Records show that Teacher-Student ratios and motivational metrics are more favourable than in the previous years.

In the field of sports Wesley fared well in the President's Cup Rugby Division "A" League championships beating some of the more fancied teams. We have significantly done better than last year in Cricket, Hockey, Table Tennis, Badminton, Tennis, Soccer, and Athletics. We continue perform well in Basket Ball, Chess, and Swimming. Aesthetics studies, is becoming a preferred subject and students are offering this subject for public examinations with the increase of qualified and dedicated teachers in this field. Wesley College is becoming a Center for Performing arts that has won the recognition of the Ministry of Education. Our boys have performed excellently well in Art, Music, and Dancing in all three media, specializing in Eastern, Western and Karantic sections. Our Hewisi Band and the Brass

Bands, junior and senior were invited by many schools and organizations due to their high standard of performance. We are proud of our College Band and College Choir who emerged Second at the Winter Carols Competition. The school debating team excelled winning the Inter-school debating championships, as well as, winning the Law Faculty debating team championships. The Drama group emerged Third in the Shakespeare Drama Competition. Three of the debaters participated at the prestigious Asian Championships in Philippines. The Junior Speech-craft program for the development of public speaking skills in English proved to be a total success. The Partnership with Rotrac Club of Colombo North was a successful venture helping all students in the primary school to develop speech and language skills in English.

As in the past, a select number of you – Past and Present Wesleyites – would have had the privileged of experiencing the rich tradition of Wesley in the past 137 years guided by the connotation of our motto “Ora et Labora”. Wesley College has now introduced a totally refreshing experience of teaching and learning at Karlsruhe. Wesley is continuing to provide new opportunities in “Mart or Hall”, on the playing fields of Campbell Park, inside the hallowed halls of Wesley and the Cartman Library, and even at the “Park in The City” environment of Wesley’s lush green sports grounds. The magnificent hostel buildings decked with Burma Teak and high ceilings with polished timber, along with state of the art washrooms upgraded having a distinctive modern appeal and contemporary outlook to promote holistic and healthy life styles. These teaching and learning opportunities give hope and promise to those who love and cherish the rich traditions of Wesley. Wesley College gives the teachers and students the assurance of a total “Teaching, Learning, and Performing” experience at the Double Blue! At the Annual Prize Giving, “Proud to be Wesleyites” who are persistent, determined and consistently desire to exceed academic achievement will be awarded the converted “Hill Medal” and the class and special prizes honoured by the Wesley Community through the “Scholarships and Awards Trust Fund”. Wesley boys who perform on stage and electrify the audiences, outperform their opponents in debating and public speaking contests, as well as students who excel in Mart or Hall, or in Art, Dance, Music, and Drama will proudly don the “College Colours”. The winners of “College Colours” will have the honour of displaying Wesley’s iconic crest of twelve shells and the rugged cross. The modern pedagogy of tutorial staff of Wesley will promote a proud sense of excellence, efficiency and loyalty with a kinder and warmer smiles replacing the unpleasant “Corporal Punishment” of the past decades.

The effectiveness, efficiency, elegance and grace of the Double Blue will be accentuated and traditions will be preserved by hundreds of empathetic teachers and illustrious students at Wesley who will be “Ready when the Call shall Sound” to endure this transformation in the 137th year of Wesley’s tradition for excellence in education. The Wesley students discipline is at its best

surpassing all other schools portraying the “Best of Men of Grit”. The Double Blue colour palette with the elegant turquoise light blue blended with iridescent shade of dark blue splashed in the centre on the robust “College Crest” glorifying the vision of “Rev. John Wesley” the founder of Methodism in 1814, and of “Rev. D. H. Pereira” the founder of Wesley College in 1874.

Wesley has struggled to stay on course during the past few years. In the process the school did not do anything new and revolutionary. In fact, Wesley appeared to be sometimes thought to have lost focus of our tradition of excellence. Nevertheless, with many new strategies and wide ranging and sweeping changes Wesley now reassures our stakeholders that we are certainly back to basics and to our focus. We are changing the teaching and learning experience in a new-dimensional manner and stretching the boundaries of excellence in teaching and learning. Wesley College will continue this journey of new discovery with comfortable classrooms, better teaching and learning facilities have been upgraded to give a completely new look and feel to the experience of learning at Wesley College, which aims to be one of the best in the region.

At this moment, I wish to refresh the memories of all those who are interested in the success of Wesley, the words of former Principal, Mr. A.S. Wirasinha on 15th January 1962. “This is the moment of rededication in my life. It is my hope and prayer that this school will be allowed to function by the state in an atmosphere of freedom. Education does not end with the gaining of jobs; it is much more than that. Education is the training and discipline of the entire person”.

After 137 years innovative changes at Wesley are geared to combine to evoke Wesley’s time-tested values to reminisce the nostalgia of a bygone era and the tradition of excellence in education, yet portraying a vibrant school with a proud but humble brand identity. Indeed ... we are changing the way we teach, learn and play! Undeniably the aim of the holistic education at Wesley is to churn out great citizens who could be outstanding leaders in their chosen fields.

Ora et Labora
Dr. Shanti McLelland
Principal, Wesley College



DATES TO REMEMBER

W.O. and Tita Nathanielsz Trophy
20/20 Cricket Quadrangular 2012
Sunday 19th February 2012
Mulgrave Cricket Club
Contact Ben Nathanielsz for a game
9799 0365



THE OBU UK REPORT

By Azahim Mohammed

We in the United Kingdom are into the festive mood. With the Wesley OBU UK and Methodist PPA UK will jointly hold the 15th Annual Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 4 December 2011. This year it's the turn of Wesley to host the event which will be held at Chelsea Methodist Church London SW3.

In July we were able to take part in the 23rd Annual Festival of Cricket 2011. Our team was captained by Roshan Perera. We were able to beat Maris Stella OBA (last year's Champions) in round one but lost to Zahira OBA by just 3 runs. We were in a commanding position with Zahira 3 runs for 4 wickets. But in the last two overs Zahira made 46 runs. Our boys did all they could but fell short by 3 runs.

The Touch Rugby Carnival 2011 was held on 8th August. Our team fared well to win its group but lost in the semis.

The 19th Annual Double Blue Ball 2011 was held on 28th October 2011 and the venue this year was The Grange City Hotel, London EC3. The Dinner Dance was a success and we are hoping to donate a part of the proceeds towards the Wesley Swimming pool project. Dr Shanthy McLelland Principal of Wesley College was hosted to dinner by the Union. And we were proud of

the tremendous work that Dr McLelland is doing to improve the standard at Wesley. The Wesley OBU UK will continue to support the Principal as he takes Our Alma mater to another level. The Union also hosted a dinner in honour of Reggie Batholomeusz one of Wesley's great sportsman and member of the OBU Australia Branch.

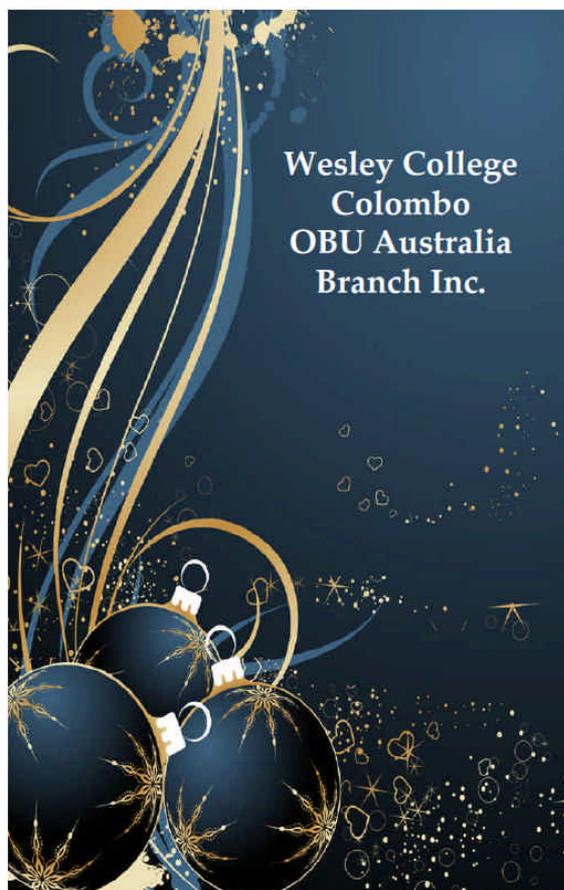
This year we have donated to Wesley College, Colombo a total of £3000.00 to cover the pavilion project and to help in the refurbishment of Rajah (Groundsman's) home and to cover expenses to the College Western Band as the band celebrates its 25th Year.

The 20th Annual General Meeting of the Wesley College OBU UK will be held on Sunday 29 January 2012. Apart from the Union's website

www.wesleycollege.org/obuk we also, have a face book page, [Facebook.com/pages/Wesley](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wesley-College-OBUK) College OBU UK.

Wesley OBU UK takes this opportunity of Wishing Wesleyites in Australia and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year..

ORA ET LABORA!



Wesley College
Colombo
OBU Australia
Branch Inc.

You are invited to join our very
special Senior Members
at our
Senior Members Lunch

Date: Sunday 18th December 2011
Time: 12 p.m. onwards
Where: Cha's Cabin
Shop 10 Spring Square
Hallam VIC 3803
Dress: Neat Casual

Senior Members
will receive personal invites in the mail
Members and partners
most welcome to join in the fun.

Cost: \$20 per head includes meal and drinks
There will be Carol Singing and
Christmas festivities.

For reservations contact:
Brian Wijeyekoon 9763 7783
Darryl Koch 8707 5817
Keith de Kretser 9560 0074

Where are they now?

AMARESH RAJARATNAM



Our featured Old Wesleyite in this issue made a name for himself with his cricketing prowess, one of many such talents Wesley has produced over the years. An opening bowler who troubled the batsmen with his swing and pace, he will be best remembered for captaining the Wesley

First Eleven in 1969 to be voted the Lifebouy Shield Best Schoolboy Cricket Team in the Island and for that stunning victory over Royal College in the last delivery of the match at Campbell Park. He is none other than **Amaresh Rajaratnam** affectionately referred to as "Loku Raja".

Amaresh grew up and played his cricket in the deep South in the town of Kalutara, Joining Wesley in 1966, in four short years he carved out a stellar cricket career. The link with Wesley College was strong with his brothers Diyanesh(deceased) (The Wesley/Thurstan rugby encounter is played for his memorial trophy), Mahesh and Buvanesh all attending Wesley. Through marriage he has surrounded himself with the fraternal band of Double Blue with his father-in-law the late R L de Silva (A former Registrar of Companies of Sri Lanka) and brothers in law Chandima(Jardi) (Captained the College rugby First 15 in 1962) and Lal de Silva. His sister's husband is another Wesleyite, D. Kanendran.

Another Wesley connection was Amaresh's older brother Suresh Chandra who was a staff member at Wesley for a short while during Mr Wirasinha's tenure. He taught in the Junior school and was also Master in Charge of Under 13 cricket. He tutored Wesley's current Principal Dr. Shanthi McLelland when he was taking up the LLB exam. His brother currently sits on the bench of the Supreme Court in Sri Lanka. Dr Mclelland and Amaresh are close friends as both have been living in Canada for many years. His father well known law educationist Late S.S. Rajaratnam was a president of the Welfare Society in the early 70's.

Now domiciled in Toronto, Canada for twenty two years, Amaresh is married (wife Saroja) and has two grown up children (daughter Shyamila and son Nuwan). He works as an area manager for L. S.Travel Retail North America located in the Toronto airport, His interests include watching all kinds of sports, providing cricket commentaries at local cricketing events such as the annual Royal - Thomian in Toronto and the Toronto Mayor's Cup Cricket festival organized by CIMA. He is also keen on Karaoke singing.

Whilst cricket is his first love he was an active member and a House Captain of Wilkin House and represented the House in Athletics, Hockey and Rugby. He represented Wesley in the "Do you know" team (Sinhala) taking part in the inter-school competition. He also acted in plays and won the best actor award in the inter-house drama competition demonstrating his keen interest and involvement in extra-curricular activities whilst a student.

His stellar cricket career at Wesley led to many successes. As mentioned previously he captained Wesley for 2 years(1968/69)(1969/70) leading them to be winners of the Lifebouy Shield for best school team in Sri Lanka, He was presented with College colours for cricket in 1967. He was awarded the Best Bowler under 18 Sri Lanka schools in the inter-Zonal tournament 1968. He was appointed as Vice Captain Ceylon Schools team in 1969. He Captained Colombo North schools 1969 where in these teams future Sri Lankan stars such as Duleep Mendis, Bandula Warnapura, Lalith Kaluperuma, Sritharan Jeganathan, Amitha de Costa and many other top notch players were team mates. He went on to Captain the Tamil Union Cricket Club in the P Sara Trophy, He also Captained The Mercantile Cricket team in the Robert Senanayake Trophy as well as Captaining Ceylon Tobacco in the Mercantile A Division leading them to victory in all competitions . These teams also included many Sri Lankan stars. He played for the Ceylon Board XI vs Hong Kong in which he opened the bowling with fellow Wesleyite Nihal Seneviratne. In those days Sri Lanka was not an International Test playing nation and Amaresh was invited to national trials on many occasions.

Amaresh demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and he was made a Prefect in recognition of his talent.

When asked who were his favourite teachers, they were Mrs. Enid Sivasubramaniam, Haig Karunaratne, Felix Premawardena, L C R Wijesinghe (who did a short stint in the late sixties), Miss Dulcie de Alwis and of course the Principal at the time Mr Shelton Wirasinha and Edmund Dissanayake, Master in charge of cricket and coach for a while.

His fondest memories of his time at Wesley are many. Although it was not a very long stint at Wesley, he recalls three instances which as one would expect relate to cricket.

1. The first time he was picked to play in the 1st Eleven in the 3rd term versus Prince of Wales College, Moratuwa, Ray Jansz now living in Sydney (Tyrone' older brother) challenged him to prove his worth in the team. Amaresh ended

up taking 10 wickets, 5 in each innings and he was also the second highest scorer going in as last man. The performance sealed his place in the team and he never looked back.

2. The next memory is when Edmund Dissanayke took him to the Principal's office and Mr. Wirasinha announced that he was being appointed the Captaincy of the 1st Eleven for 1968. He accepted the honour with humility and though nervous at first he was elated at the honour of Captaining this great cricketing College and thinking how far he had come from playing cricket in the city of Kalutara. The current Sri Lankan Captain Tillekeratne Dilshan is also from Kalutara.
3. The third most memorable event is the win off the last ball in 1969 against Royal College at home to win the inaugural Frank Gunasekera Trophy. "I do not think that anyone in that team will ever forget the thriller of a game" said Amaresh. "I may not be wrong in saying that our team was not only the best but also one of the most popular teams among cricket fans that year" as he reflected on that memorable game. It was a game played in great spirits by both teams and the winner being the game of cricket. He concluded quoting Grantland Rice's famous words
"For when the One Great Scorer comes
To mark against your name,
He writes - not that you won or lost -
But how you played the Game."

Although it was a short stint at Wesley, due to his cricketing career he was popular with most students and had many friends, too many to mention. He was also a hero to many of the junior boys who would chant from the boundary "c'mon Amaresh bowl him out!". In those days friendships transcended all three streams, English, Sinhala and Tamil. Amaresh was in the Sinhala stream. "What a united bunch of boys we were in those glorious days when race meant no differences" says Amaresh. He still keeps in touch with Laksiri de Silva who is like a brother to him. Patrick Edema was another very good friend although he used to get him in to trouble with his pranks. There were two crazy but genuine friends named Kapila and Premasiri. Kapila would invite his friends to his house and treat them to afternoon tea. His prank was to lace the tea with a laxative as everyone scurried to use the toilet as he quietly watched the scramble amused by the turn of events. He also mentioned Gehan Gunasekera now living in Sydney who was his very first friend at Wesley. They shared the same double desk/bench in class. He is still amused when he reflects back to his wild romantic episodes where Hollywood could not have come up with such a script. "Ah!!! those schoolboy antics" says Amaresh.

His journey after leaving Wesley has been interesting. After completing his A – Levels he joined Ceylon Tobacco as an accounts clerk and then went onto become a Marketing rep. After some time he went to

England and obtained a Diploma in Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing, London. He then returned and worked at James Finlays in the Rentokil Division as a Senior Executive. He moved on and joined Richard Pieris and Co.(ARPICO) as the Marketing Manager (New Products) from where he migrated to Canada with his family. He is presently with L. S. Travel Retail North America as an Area Manager.

When asked about any famous people he had met over his journey through life he modestly mentioned while in England he had met Sir Richard Attenborough a few times, the singers Cat Stevens and Leo Sayer. In Canada Amaresh works at the Toronto International airport and he has had the opportunity to meet many leading North American baseball, basketball and ice hockey players who are considered celebrities as well as actors in Hollywood. As a commentator at the Mayor's Trophy Cricket Festival for many years he has met some of the political identities in Canada.

When asked who would he like to meet up with or contact from his school days at Wesley who he had not met for years, his initial response was "to meet all my cricketing buddies from school for one last hurrah", Whilst this may be an impossible wish he would like to meet up with Tyrone Jansz his new ball bowling partner. He recalls with admiration his first game as Captain of Wesley in the third term versus a strong Zahira College team, It was Tyrone's first game, Zahira needed only 70 to win in ample time. "Tyrone opened the bowling with me and we crashed through their batting line up and Wesley won the game by 10 runs". Tyrone made a stunning debut taking 8 wickets and that was the first time he states that he witnessed batsmen running out of harms way from a fast bowler. Glowing in his praise for Tyrone, he credits Tyrone's contribution as setting the tone for Wesley's ride to be the best schools team in 1969. However, he bettered Tyrone's performance in the first term game against an experienced Issipathana team with Wesley's best ever bowling performance of 9 wickets for 10 runs Including a hat-trick.. Humility was always one of Amaresh's attributes and he concluded by saying "I still reckon Tyrone bowled a much grittier and a more fearsome spell."

I recall his feats as a cricketer and was a spectator at most of Wesley's games during Amaresh's career at Wesley. I can still remember the nail biting finish to that great last ball win in 1969 against Royal and Amaresh's great team that year which was loaded with stars (*refer article in this issue titled "the Double Blues and the Blue Gold and Blue"*). He has been delightful and co-operative in giving of his time and sharing his experiences. The lad with the heavy black framed spectacles came to Wesley as he says – "a rural lad and left a well rounded and confident youth." and might I also add as a stellar schoolboy cricketer of his time. I wish to thank Amaresh for accepting the invitation to be featured in this issue and wish him well in his endeavours. *Keith de Kretser, Editor*

Memories of Life at Wesley College

Article from the "Floreat" – the Newsletter of Royal College OBA Australia, 2005

The Double Blues and the Blue Gold and Blue **By Keith de Kretser**

When I was invited to submit an article for the Floreat by the Editor, it was indeed an unusual request given that I went to Wesley and not Royal. However after elaborating on his invitation, I agreed to send Maurice Thomasz an item. What should I write about? What would be of interest that I could write about that linked our two great schools. Whilst each school was unique in the traditions handed down over the years, the mutual respect for each other was inculcated by the keen rivalry between the two schools as combatants in sport. Royal College has been pivotal in its significant contribution to school sport in Sri Lanka and still continues this rich heritage today.

Wesley's link with Royal College goes back a long time with "Cricket" being the key. Wesley's cricket history dates back to 1893 when the inaugural Wesley – Royal cricket series, the second oldest series in Sri Lanka after the Royal –Thomian began. Royal was captained by M D Cockburn and Wesley by Percy de Bruin with the Principal of Royal, Mr John Harward officiating as one of the umpires. The game was played at San Sebastian Hill, Pettah the home of Royal at that time. C.E. Perera, a great right hand bat at that time played for Wesley and later went on to skipper the side in 1899. Wesley has never had a big match in its 130 year history, a strange phenomenon indeed. Therefore for many Wesleyites, the Royal fixture fulfilled this sense of importance but with a lot less emotion and the associated carnival atmosphere and pageantry that has symbolised the "big matches" between schools in Sri Lanka.

It may be of interest to readers, that C.E. Perera captained the famous Combined Colleges Team in 1899 made up of players from Wesley, Royal, St Joseph's and St Thomas' that had 11 Sinhalese cricketers. The side lost by 1 run to Colts C.C. after chasing a modest total of 196 runs. After this game a gathering of young Sinhalese cricketers including those that played in the game met with distinguished Senior Members of the Sinhalese community on 28th March 1899 at the Wesley College Hall in Dam Street, Pettah. The convenor of the meeting was distinguished Wesley Old Boy, Scholar, Bard and Legal Luminary H.J.V.I Ekanayake and the meeting was chaired by

Wesleyite D B Jayathilake later known to many as Sir Baron Jayathilake. The mood of the meeting was to form a cricket club along ethnic lines and the Sinhalese Sports Club(SSC) was formed. Sir Harry Dias was the first President. As we now know, the SSC is a Test Cricket venue and the headquarters for the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka.

This year was the 112th encounter between the schools with Royal very much in the lead in the number of games won. Old Boys of varying eras will remember the stars of their time which are too numerous to mention. Some may have vivid memories of these encounters. Whilst Reid Avenue offered a full size ground and turf wicket, Campbell Park was a batsman's delight with matting wicket and a very short boundary on the Campbell Place side of the ground. The surface was also rock hard and the gentlest of strokes if timed well would scamper to the boundary rapidly.

I vividly recall one of the finest games between our two schools in my era which was in the 1969 season. The Wesley team in that year approached their cricket in a cavalier fashion but ended the season being the fourth post-war team at Wesley to be unbeaten in a season. The most exciting game of the season was the game against Royal at Campbell Park a traditional two day fixture in those days between two unbeaten sides that season and traditional rivals. Wesley batted first and amassed 260 for 9 with solid batting from Sridharan Jeganathan 65, Patrick Jansz 51 and Jayantha Wijemanne making 37. In reply Royal was lucky to avoid the follow-on with Eardley Lieversz the skipper putting on a dogged display at the crease to get Royal to 207 for 7. Sridharan Jeganathan took 3/84. Wesley suffered a rude shock in the second innings losing 7 wickets for 45 runs. A gutsy performance by Delmer Achilles 31 and Ivan Van Dort 29 steadied the innings. With ample time left on day two, a Royal victory was imminent. Thanks to a great salvage effort for the 8th wicket partnership, Wesley declared at the fall of the 8th wicket with the score at 105 runs, leaving Royal to make 159 runs for victory in 70 minutes.

Royal sportingly accepted the challenge and with stylish opener Jagath Fernando in a swashbuckling mood, belted the bowlers to all corners of the field with the short boundary being a major disadvantage to Wesley. Despite losing a few wickets, Royal continued the hectic run chase, getting to 50 in eighteen minutes and 100 in forty minutes. At 5.35 p.m., Royal had to make 40 runs with 6 wickets in hand. The crowds were starting to build to witness this great contest between bat and ball. The game had swung very much in favour of the boys from Reid Avenue. As the boys chanted for their heroes, Royal lost two quick wickets with Lieversz the saviour of the Royal first innings caught brilliantly in a running catch at long on just inches from the boundary in front of the sight screen by Haridharan Jeganathan off the bowling of his twin brother Sridharan. So elated was Hari at getting this prized wicket that he kept on running around the boundary with his arm outstretched with the ball in hand gesturing to the crowd in the pavilion.

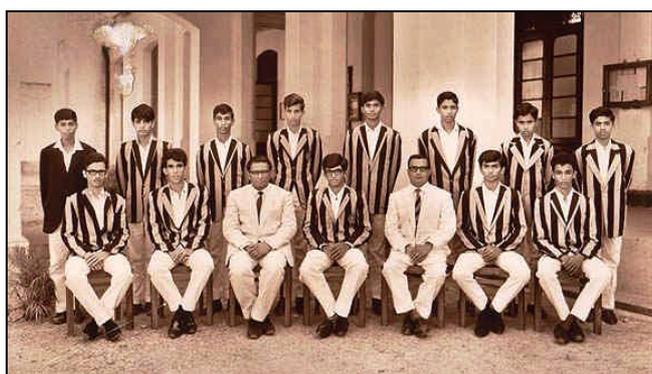
This was the turning point in the game and with 15 minutes left, Royal needed 20 runs with four wickets remaining. Two more wickets fell rapidly with the score at 148, just eleven more runs required. With two overs to go, Royal lost their ninth wicket. Amidst the tension and mayhem the supporters of both schools were on the edge of their seats. There was a hush around the ground when the Wesley skipper Amaresh Rajaratnam in a bold move took the ball to bowl the last over from the Baseline Road end in a gesture that would have made him a villain or hero. A penetrating swing bowler, could he deliver the wicket to give Wesley victory? The last pair for Royal were now looking at fending off defeat and the first five deliveries were gently played back. Rajaratnam appeared to have run out of all the tricks in his bag. As he approached the end of his run up he took a deep breath, then he gathered up all his energy and he ran up to deliver the final delivery for the game. It was a full toss and the Royal batsman was caught plum in front shuffling across his wicket. "Howzat" was the cry from the bowler, the fielders and the many Wesley supporters. With no hesitation the umpire raised his finger. What an end to an enthralling game. Royal were gallant losers – defeated but not disgraced. Cricket was the big winner. For the record Tyrone Jansz took 4/47.

After the game old Royalist Dr Lucien Gunasekera presented a trophy in memory of Sir Frank Gunasekera another old Royalist who was a great benefactor for Wesley. This trophy is played for each year between Royal and Wesley.

It is sad to see that the great camaraderie and sportsmanship that prevailed in those teams of the past no longer appears to be of importance to the students in this day and age. In a sense it reflects the loss of interest in the old school tie and the holistic approach to education which transcended the classroom. As the traditions of the bygone days are progressively eroded by the changing demands of modern society, the tendency is to embrace the new and neglect the past.

As an item of interest to former Royal cricketers, the ground at Campbell Park has undergone major change and development. Wesley acquired the land belonging to All Saints Church on the opposite side to the cricket ground which was divided by the unsealed road linking Baseline Road (from the Children's Hospital) to the Church and a culvert that ran parallel to the road. This was a major coup as it gave Wesley the opportunity to expand the cricket ground. With Sri Lanka gaining Test status, the need for turf wickets was also important. Until the nineties the pavilion was directly behind the wicket. This has since changed with the pavilion being on the square boundary (say cover point direction) as the wickets were relocated being rotated ninety degrees to the original set up. There are four turf wickets in the centre square and the boundaries are equidistant between 65 -70 metres. Adjacent to the pavilion is the Old Wesleyites Sports Club which is a great place to wine, dine and watch a game.

Wesley College 1st XI team 1969



Standing: Rene Devadason, Patrick Jansz, Hariharan Jeganathan, Tyrone Jansz, Jayantha Wijemanne, Oscar Dissanayake, Gethal Peiris, Rohan Wickremaratne

Seated: Roger Hesse, Ivan Van Dort, The Principal –Shelton Wirasinha, Amaresh Rajaratnam (Capt.), Edmund Dissanayake(MIC), Delmer Achilles, Sridharan Jeganathan.
Absent: Reza Sinnen

Wesley cricket 50 years ago *A spectators view by Dr. N. D. Amerasekera*

In those days without television, mobile phones and video games cricket provided the entertainment and pumped up the adrenaline. We played softball cricket before school started, during the intervals, after school and at weekends. When there were no proper wickets-tree trunks, suitcases or black lines scribbled on a wall became perfect substitutes. Any space became our oval. We kept the ball low most of the time but occasionally hit a six and broke the neighbours window. When we were not playing cricket we talked and dreamed about it. Such was the strength of feeling for the game.

I joined the boarding in 1952. Then in the hostel everyone played cricket. Watching the school matches at Campbell Park was a ritual never to be missed. Although 50 years have passed I have vivid memories of some of those matches and the stresses and strain that accompanied them. Campbell Park is named after Sir GWR Campbell who was responsible for starting a modern Police Force in Ceylon in 1844. He retired in 1891. This was later the grounds of the Tamil Union Sports Club until 1943 when Mr. PH Nonis acquired it for Wesley College. Campbell Park is divided into 4 quadrants by 2 cycle paths. Wesley lay claim to the north-western quadrant. The south-western quadrant became the grounds of the popular Bloomfield Cricket Club. Campbell Park was our amphitheatre. The Wesleyites, old boys and well wishes line up on the Campbell Place side and the visitors were on the opposite side by the cycle path. We had the old pavilion with the metal railings. The entire pavilion had the unmistakable smell of linseed oil. That was Wilbert's domain and us little boys were promptly and ruthlessly escorted out of the building. We had a matting wicket then and a small score board maintained by students. The tennis and basket ball courts and the sand pit for high jump were all part of the scene. Our metal sight screen was unusual as most school had cloth screens that ballooned in the breeze. The Principals CJ Oorloff / PH Nonis were seen seated in the pavilion on a Saturday afternoon with prominent Old Boys like DS Wijemanne and Terence De Zilwa enjoying the game and taking part in the tea and cakes. It was Mr. Oorloff who decreed we close early on a Friday afternoon to encourage students to support the school. The tall 'Andara' hedge that separated Campbell Place from the park had a well used passage to creep through. On a visit to the Park in the year 2000 the changes to the scenery since my time was obvious. I will always remember it as it was in the 50s.

In January we could buy from the school bookstall a blue folding card of cricket fixtures for 10 cents (without any advertisements!!). In the 1st Term (Lent Term) we played St. Thomas', Royal, St. Joseph's, St. Peter's,

Trinity, Ananda, Richmond and Kingswood and in the Christmas Term we played Prince of Wales, St. Benedict's, Maris Stella Negombo and Carey College. The school matches started at 12 noon on both Fridays and Saturdays when each side played 2 innings. The ritual began when the team was announced at Friday assembly and we sang the College song. The season started in January with the so called easier matches against Kingswood and Richmond. To watch the games we assembled in large numbers under the massive trees that surrounded the grounds. Singing and chanting waving the school flag was part of the fun. Zam Zam Zaky and the school song broke out spontaneously. When the going was good drums appeared with the more rhythmic tunes like the bailas were in full swing. Mr. LA Fernando often rallied the troops to sing and support the school. When wickets fell we sang "What's the matter minor matter". Often as the afternoon wore on the concentration was intense and the stress levels high. To take a break we sometimes walked back to the hostel for some refreshments. I can still remember the tall, dark, slim figure of Mr. Eric Gunasekera then in the evening of his life and partially blind waiting at his gate for news of the matches. We always stopped to greet and relay the events at Campbell Park. Aleric's and Piccadilly Ice cream vans, with their engines humming, did good business on those days as well as the Achcharu ladies and Gram sellers (a paper cone of roasted peanuts cost 5 cents).

To be a 1st eleven cricketer at Wesley was a great honour. They were placed on a pedestal and were greatly respected by all. Despite their teenage years they received this adulation with poise and dignity. Much can be said about the discipline and training at Wesley which helped to produce such men of modesty and valour.

Cricket in those days was played by gentleman. Umpires word was law. We congratulated the opponents' achievements in the field. We walked away when we felt it was out though the umpires did not see. The spectators dissent and applause was confined to areas beyond the boundary. No streakers, foul language or efforts to intimidate the batsman at the crease. When we lost though crest fallen and frustrated clapped the opponents back to the pavilion. Those injured in the heat of battle were comforted by the opponents. My generation grew up with peace. This gentlemanly behavior on the pitch merely reflected the peaceful and chivalrous times of our youth. In the 21st century these seem rather tame as the cricketers have given up being gentleman for the high stakes they play for,

The 1950's were the vintage years of cricket at Wesley. 1950-51 DBC Mack captained the team. I was a day scholar then and being 7 years old had no opportunity to see the cricket. 1952 and 53 were the Claessen years when Radley and then Bryan captained the teams. The hostile bowling of MN Samsudeen and the Claessen brothers and the aggressive batting of Bryan C and Patrick Schockman brought us tremendous success. In those days the barometer of success was the performance against St. Thomas', Royal and St. Joseph's. It is my impression that in 1951 and 52 we were placed 2nd in the league table and were unbeaten. The team was as follows: L.Abeywardene, N. Gallaher S.Musafer D.Mack L.Adhihetty, D.Ebert, G.Abeysooriya B.Perera H.Felsingar, M.Samsudeen, S.Allalasunderam R.Claessen A.Batuwitage Abu Fuard N.Fernando V.Adhihetty, S. Mack, A. Chapman, George Jayatunga, D.Range, P.Schokman A.Casiechetty M Jurampathy R.M. de Silva H.Claessen Ansar Fuard G. Nanayakkara and Bryan Claessen. Most of us regard heroes of our youth as the greatest we have seen. I have never seen a better schoolboy batsman than Lou Adhihetty. But I do not think there was anyone in that period more exciting than Bryan Claessen, or a finer all-rounder than Ansar Fuard. There were very few better fast bowlers than LR Goonetilleke. I must say it was exceedingly difficult for me to select these cricketers from the vast galaxy of exceptional talent we have had over the years.

When successful against St Thomas or Royal at home we marched in a large group to the Principal's porch chanting "Monday holiday" and it was usually granted to our utter delight. When matches were played away in Colombo we never missed them. When we played St. Thomas' away it was a long trek to Mt. Lavinia. The red Leyland double deckers of the CTB had a direct route to Ratmalana via Buller's Road and Galle Road. We caught the bus opposite our school gate and got off at the beginning of Hotel Road walking the short distance to the school. St Thomas' was established in 1862 and had the most impressive buildings with large tall grey Greco-Roman columns. They had beautifully laid out gardens. I couldn't say the same for their breezy turf wicket by the sea which was a graveyard for visiting teams. They have always had good cricketers and strong teams. Royal College came into being in January 1835 as a private school christened "The Hill Street Academy" and was situated at Hill Street Wolfendhal. They moved to the present site next door to the University in 1923. It was a shorter journey to the Reid Avenue turf which was the Royal College grounds. On many occasions I had preferred to watch from beyond Reid Avenue fence which gave a panoramic view of the red brick school, the pavilion and the action in the middle. St. Peters grounds at Bambalapitiya was again a turf pitch. They had an elegant Pavilion built on a hill overlooking the turf. The "Bambalawatte boys" gathered in their hundreds with their Brylcreemed Elvis Presley hair, speaking their own brand of pigeon English. The Wellawatte canal wasn't far away and the smell of stagnant water was ever present. We could see in the distance the tall chimney of the Wellawatte

Spinning and Weaving Mills bellowing thick black smoke. St. Joseph's College was started in 1896. Their matting at Darley Road has been the site of many battles between our 2 schools. I recall the swimming pool end and the pavilion end. The school had impressive large buildings built around the grounds. The high dome of their Chapel is breathtakingly beautiful. Whenever we won at Darley Road we had to evade the hostile Maradana crowd for whom it was more than a game of cricket. Many stories existed why we didn't play Ananda. I do not know the basis for the story of skulduggery and poor sportsmanship but they have always been formidable opponents. This match was resumed in 1956 and was played at the Nalanda grounds just next door to us. This made the contest rather fierce both for the cricketers and spectators. It was the personal pride at stake and we didn't want to lose to our neighbours. Our hostellers just crossed the small park and jumped the fence running down the steep hill to the Nalanda grounds. The match against Kingswood was played at Randles Hill, Trinity at Asgiriya and Richmond at the Galle Esplanade. Bespectacled Mr. AV Fernando our coach and Edmund Dissanayake, the master in charge were familiar figures in the pavilion planning our strategy. Bryan Claessen was a hero and I still remember him acknowledging the adulation of the boys. He went on to represent Ceylon as a schoolboy. His gyratory bowling action and the vicious spin brought us exceedingly good results. The team also had two hosteller Arthlow Chapman and Neil Gallagher both stylish batsman who provided some fine entertainment for the spectators putting the opponents to the sword. Ansar Fuard captained in 1954. His aggressive batting and accurate bowling helped to turn matches round in our favour. Ansar and Abu followed the footsteps of their father who captained in 1915. Ansar was an astute captain and was ably assisted by his brothers fine off spin bowling to complete a very successful year. Abu later went on to play for Ceylon and also became an influential member of the Selection Committee. The tragic death of Hermon Claessen in a motor cycle accident was the biggest blow to Wesley cricket during my time. He was a fine all round cricketer. 1955-56 were the Lou Adhihetty years. He was a great all-rounder who brought honour to himself and the school. Lou's name appeared in the national papers regularly for his fine performances with the bat and ball. Wesley was fortunate to have an old boy- Christie Seneviratne as a sports journalist who wrote under the pseudonym Wrong'un. He gave us good exposure when we deserved it. The cricket coverage in the daily papers were full of cliches. "Rain stops play", "Benedictines skittled for 65 runs", "Tame Draw at Darley Road". "Royal routed for 89 runs". Any Tournament was called a Tourney!! We are fortunate to have Richard Dwight as a Sports Journalist to help keep our flag flying. Cricket in Sri Lanka is played in the dry season January to April being so dependent on good weather. I recall the many times watching the game in the blistering heat of the mid day sun with perspiration dripping from every pore. There have been times when the whole game has got washed off by a sudden burst of bad weather. This

was indeed a great disappointment for us all. I remember the times when I have prayed for rain when our team was losing !! There is nothing more heartbreaking than to see a winning team robbed of victory by a quirk of nature. To have the better team isn't enough to win matches but good fortune must shine on them too.

Wesley never had a big match. Seeing the fun at the Royal -Thomian , Josephian-Peterite and Ananda - Nalanda matches we felt left out. I remember asking Mr. LA Fernando why we don't have one and he said with a murky smile "all our matches are big matches". There is some truth in it in the way we approach them. Once when A Peterite cricketer Vittachi was hit on the face by a Lou Adihetty bouncer it dislodge a front tooth. I remember the confusion in the middle and his rapid exit to the General Hospital Colombo. Lou is presently in retirement in Switzerland. 1957 HL Juriansz, a hosteller captained cricket. I remember him as a thoroughly decent Wesleyite and a very popular captain. 1958-59 team was lead by Nalendra Abesuriya . He too was a hosteller with a large fan club. Being an alrounder Wesley had 2 very successful years under his leadership. He left school and entered 'Planting' but ill health made him retire early. I was deeply saddened to hear that Abey, passed away in his early 40s leaving a young family. 1960 was captained by SR Sinniah another a cricketer of great ability and a hosteller from Moscrop House. He presently lives in the UK and plays for our summer tournaments with the OBU. LR Goonetilleke must be our best bowler ever. His accurate left arm fast bowling broke the back of many school teams. He was subsequently selected to play for Sri Lanka. 1961 was D.Kodituwakku's year as captain. This was the year of my University Entrance examination. I was busy putting in the hard work which prevented me from supporting our team with my usual enthusiasm. 1962 was captained by LCR Wijesinghe coached by BJH Bahar. It was a successful year and was one of our best years since the time of Lou Adihetty. LCR was my classmate in the 6th form. After many decades I located him in The Emirates where he now works as a Metallurgist . He is unassuming, modest and immensely sensible. Kenneth De Silva who was a hosteller had his beginnings as a softball cricketer with us in the small park. He became a match winning all rounder in 1962. I still wonder how he managed to spin the ball so viciously with his tubby short fingers. He was the prefect of Games at Wesley for some years. Rodney Perera's 101 against Richmond was a match winning performance. Sadly Rodney is with us no more. Milroy Bulner who was a valued member of the 1961 team too passed away in his 30's .

The enchantment of the cricket matches of my childhood still haunts me. At school Cricket was not only a game but a way of life. My lasting memory of cricket at Campbell Park is the sight of the setting sun behind All Saints Church and its lengthening shadows. As the bails were lifted we all departed discussing the ups and downs of the days play. Losing a match in

those days was like the end of the world but we always bounced back. It was certainly a good training to face the peaks and troughs of our own lives. The songs we sang and the friends I made are etched deeply in my memory. After leaving school in April 1962- I went for some matches in the following year. The magic and the aura of this extraordinary spectacle seem to have gone not being an integral part of it anymore. Thereafter life got too complicated building my career and raising a family. I never saw any matches at Wesley again. Ah! Those were the days.

I dedicate these notes to the many Wesleyites who entertained us at cricket 1950-62 but have now departed this world. They have done us proud. Our heartfelt thanks posthumously to Wilbert, Cricket Coaches and the Masters in Charge of cricket in those years who made it all happen in the background while we sang and beat the drums beyond the boundary. May God Bless them all.

Some photos from the OBU UK Double Blue Ball 31 October 2011



Exceed Band and the Wesley college Log in the back ground...



Wesley OBU UK - Young Wesleyites...Anuradha Mudaliga, B.P. Praba, Ashley Milroy, Altaf Jawfar, Steve Minor, Tharanga jayasinghe, Niroz ahamed, Nilinda Perera, Roshan perera, Ghazanfar Hamid, Dillan Camball, M Gomez, Shiraz Pathirana, Janakan Solomons, Imran Faiz



College Song!

How Famous cricketer Sathasivam was charged, tried and acquitted of murdering his wife 60 years ago

by K.K.S.Perera



The sun shone brightly with the fresh ocean breeze cleansing the morning air across 'Jayamangalam' at No. 7, St. Alban's Place. It was Tuesday, 9th October in 1951, exactly 60 years ago.

The gravel lane off the busy Galle Road, sloped towards the beach at Bambalapitiya. A few yards away from the Police Station to the north was 'Jayamangalam' where the most sensational murder of the 20th century where the

famous cricketer, M. Sathasivam stood accused of killing his wife, had been committed.

What followed was an investigation and a sensational trial that held national attention. Sathasivam who was committed to stand trial before a special jury at the Western Assizes presided over by Mr. Justice E.F.N. Gratiaen was acquitted by a unanimous verdict with three prosecution witnesses sentenced to jail for perjury. The famous cricketer, defended by Dr. Colvin. R. de Silva, left court a free man after 20 months in remand.

It was a gripping and a sad tale from the beginning to its gruesome end, filled with drama, intrigue and love. Did Sathasivam, raised his right foot up one & a half feet and stamp it down on his wife's neck as testified by the domestic, William, who turned crown witness? Did He trample the throat of the lady, already strangled and breathing her last on the floor of their bedroom? Their two small daughters, two and four years of age, were the only other occupants of the house at the time was reported to have told a neighbour that "Mummy is not well and is sleeping in the garage".

She rushed there immediately to witness a dreadful sight; Mrs. Sathasivam was lying face upwards with a mortar placed on her neck. Their loyal domestic, Podihamy, who came home around that time in the afternoon accompanying the two older girls aged six and nine from St. Bridget's, took the mortar away, checked the pulse and broke-down near the lifeless body of her mistress.

In a strange turn of events the IGP, Sir Richard Aluvihare, who himself got involved in the investigation ignored norm and appointed Professor de Saram, Head of Forensic Medicine, Peradeniya, to conduct the post mortem by-passing the JMO, Dr. P S Gunawardene. Prof. de Saram refusing any assistance from the JMO, declared the cause of death as strangulation and that

the victim had been in a standing position while the strangler had been behind her.

This version favored the theory that William the 18 year old domestic servant had committed the crime inside the kitchen. However, the girl of four years told Podihamy that daddy carried mummy and put her in the garage, quite natural for her age but, failed to repeat same at the next day's inquest.

In the late 1940's long before Sri Lanka (or Ceylon) got test status, international cricket was played against visiting teams from England, Australia and West Indies, whenever they stopped over in Colombo, on their way to and from Australia. When the all conquering Australians arrived here led by the legendary Sir Donald Bradman in 1949, Ceylon was captained by Sathasivam who had been considered to be among the finest batsmen in the world of that time by renowned cricketers including Sir Donald himself.

The defence argued that, when Mrs. Sathasivam came to the kitchen, William was scraping coconut. The lady had bent down to pick a few scrapings of coconut and commented that it was coarse Her husband, the cavalier batsman had just left in a 'Quickshaw' taxi. The time was around 10.30. The taxi driver in his evidence said that Mrs. Sathasivam came to the door to see her husband off.

According to the reconstruction of the crime by the eminent forensic scientist Sir Sydney Smith, specially flown down from England by the defence and who happened to be the teacher of Professor de Saram at Edinburgh, William, a resident of Matara employed only 11 days earlier without any references, had got sexually excited on seeing her in flimsy clothes (she had wrapped a saree over a petticoat) and attacked her. She was wearing her 'thalikodi,' the gold necklace of seven sovereigns. He would have thought 'there will be valuable jewellery in the house and cash too... a good opportunity for me, and was impelled by the demon within his soul to act immediately. Did he grasp the lady from behind, strangle her with both hands and then pull the body into the garage through the narrow door-way connecting the kitchen and the garage and finally trample her neck and place the heavy wooden mortar over her face before running away with the loot? Or was it her husband, one of the most renowned cricketers ever produced by Sri Lanka, the Captain of the Ceylon cricket team and the father of her four children, who failing to persuade her to withdraw the divorce case she had filed, had decided to kill her inside their bedroom around 9.30 on that fateful morning? Both, the husband and William were arrested on suspicion. The husband was taken in the same evening and the servant nine days later at his home town off Matara. Forensic experts say in most strangling cases,

invariably they would find scratch marks and minor wounds in the hands and sometimes in the face of the assassin. On William's hands and face they found such marks 10 to 12 days later. There were no such tell-tale marks on Sathasivam.

Paripoornam Anandam Rajendra, the granddaughter of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, the national freedom fighter, married Sathasivam in 1941. She inherited valuable property. However, her married life was not happy with her filing divorce action after the birth of her eldest daughter. However this action was later withdrawn on intervention of family members. Satha, although a fine cricketer, did not earn the kind of big bucks cricketers of his ability now do; nor was he seriously employed in any job or profession. He was totally dependent on his mother and his wife for his extravagant life style.

A few months before, while Sathasivam was holidaying in England, she wrote two letters to him which revealed her miserable position, a few experts say, but through sheer desperation and bitterness I put my pen....You are not going to be 'henpecked', but why torture me ?. . I will release you from the bond. . .because you want something better than me to take about, that you leave me at home and. . .You want gaiety and variety. . . Silver Fawn, dancing, playing cards, 'giving lifts', drinking, playing mixed games, I cannot bear." . . "four walls and money will build a house,..but it needs a loving and happy wife to make home. ...

Sathasivam was constantly under pressure from his partner in a clandestine affair, beautiful Yvonne Stevenson, to divorce his wife and marry her. But when Anandam's lawyers Mack & Mack sent summons, the previous day i.e. on October 8, in a divorce action, he realized that he will be compelled to pay alimony and maintenance for the children apart from losing his share of her estate. In a final attempt on reconciliation Satha went into 'Jayamangalam' late in the night and spent the night there.

Unlike today, in those days sports was a privilege of the elite and was confined to Colombo. Top sportsmen belonged to a powerful 'clubbing' class. In cricketing parlance, Satha was endowed with a plenty of top class 'players' to advise him.

There were marked gaps in the strength of the defence and the prosecution at the trial. In a remarkable parallel, 'the physically fit and strong six-foot Satha's might overpower the weak and 'undernourished' wife Anandam. As per William's evidence under oath, when she lay helpless face upwards on the floor of their bedroom, Satha's left knee pressed hard against the right side of her chest, right arm and shoulder. He squeezed her neck in a tight grip using both hands with the right and left thumbs pressing deeply into her throat, Responding to his command, "Allapan yakko" (hold it you devil) William said he held down the body of the struggling woman, leaving only her right hand free,

which she used to scratch the arm and face of William in her pathetic defense during the first two or three minutes of the tragedy that lasted only a few minutes as re-enacted in the open court in a physical demonstration by William.

When William was arrested in Matara and taken to the Police station, a senior officer convinced William to accept responsibility for the crime. His first statement to the police was on those lines. William later became a crown witness, under a conditional pardon. In his address to the jury, the learned Judge used his skill to point out vital 'doubt' factors.

Only the two eminent surgeons, Professors Paul and Pieris, maintained their professional dignity, but they had little say; their findings which favoured the prosecution were dispatched to boundary with ease. Dr. Colvin R de Silva, who led the defence paid a political price for Sathasivam's acquittal when he contested his Wellawatte-Galkissa seat at a general election a few months after the acquittal. The popular and charismatic LSSPer was canvassing down Auburnside, Dehiwala, when a lady told him, "at this rate, none of us will be safe in our beds." Colvin's rejoinder was "madam, that is an indictment on your husband." Dr Colvin won the case but lost the seat!

The defence used medical opinion to prove that the death occurred after 10.30 am. If it was before, then Satha was in the house, otherwise it was William who had killed her. Next was to determine the place of murder; was it in the bedroom or in the kitchen? And lastly, how were the injuries caused? All this added to the element of doubt.

Author of a book on famous murder cases, Justice A C Alles, in his book, under the chapter, 'Sathasivam murder...', referring to Sir Sydney Smith says, ". . . There appears to be some serious difficulties in accepting his reconstruction of crime which was based chiefly on non-medical grounds".

Prof Sydney Smith was on the losing side in the famous 'Sydney Fox Case' in England. Sir Bernard Spilsbury, the forensic expert, successfully challenged him, when Smith declared that the death was due to heart failure and not due to strangulation. The jury rejecting his opinion found the accused guilty of murdering his mother.

Sir Sydney gave many pages in his autobiography, "Mostly Murder" to the Sathasivam Case, reiterating the fact that she died around 11.30 and William was the murderer.

William, in his evidence stated, It was not the lady but Sathasivam who after an argument upstairs, (William said he heard the sound of a commotion), who came down into the kitchen around 9 o'clock and wanted the boy to help him work out his plan. Did Sathasivam hold the frightened William by his hand and lead him up to

the bedroom upstairs, briefing him about his plans and why he intended committing the crime.

William pleaded with the master to release him; he was even prepared to forego the salary of 11 days and run away. Sathasivam tightened the grip on his wrist, promised him jewelry worth a lot and some cash. According to William, As they entered the bedroom the lady was seated on the bed; in a flash Sathasivam grabbed her by the hair with his left hand and held the throat by the right hand, dragging her down to the floor. The master removed the thalikody, two bangles and the diamond studded ring and gave them as promised along with a few rupee notes taken from the wife's hand bag. Did Sathasivam deliberately get William's help in executing his plan, to create that vital element of doubt that ultimately helped him to be free?

Sathasivam who became legal heir to one-half of his murdered wife's estate, migrated abroad, married his long time sweet-heart Yvonne and continued his cricket, setting another world record, captaining three countries, Ceylon, Malaysia and Singapore.

Delivering the key note address at annual Medico-Legal Society's meeting at New Town Hall in 1984, Dr Colvin R de Silva emphasized the theory that it was 'William who killed the lady'. He was speaking On "Circumstantial Evidence" (the writer was in the audience).

References:

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3. Law reports
4. Ceylon Daily News-10/10/1951 to 26/6/1953
5. Times of Ceylon-do
6. Mostly Murder-1959-Sir Sydney Smith-Prof in Forensic Medicine-Edinburgh-UK

(Editor's note: To the younger generation of Wesleyites, Sathasivam was a Wesleyite, played for College in the 1930's and was one of Sri Lanka's finest batsmen sometimes referred to as the "Black Bradman")

HC for the Maldives visit to Melbourne

Old boy of Wesley, Hussain Shihab one of the many Maldivian students who were educated at Wesley College and now the High Commissioner for the Maldives in Sri Lanka visited Melbourne with his wife to see his daughters who are students at University in Melbourne. A dinner was held in his honour by his former schoolmates at the Kotaraya Restaurant.



For names of persons in photo see bottom of next column.

A leader to all he empathized with and served the poor

(From the Times of SL 9th October 2011)
Mohamed Haleem Ishak by A.H.G. Ameen



He was an old boy of Wesley College and a former President of the Old Boys Union. September 24 marked the eighth death anniversary of a respected leader of the Muslim community who served his people and the country for over half a century.

He was a gentleman in politics loved by all, serving mainly the poor and the oppressed, a respected municipal councillor and parliamentarian. The kind of politics he was engaged in should be a lesson to politicians of today.

Like the respected Sir Razik Fareed he worked without racial, religious and communal differences promoting his famous slogan, "Sinhala-Yonaka Ekamuthukama", the Sinhala - Moor Unity in Sri Lanka. He was the grand-son of the philanthropist the late A.M. Nagoor Meera whose sons were the late N.M. M. Ishak (1901 - 1965) and late N.M.M. Haniffa (1893 - 1949), the father of M.H.Mohamed.

He was born on December 9, 1929 at N.M.M.Ishak Mawatha, named after his father for his services. The Ketawalamulla Lane, the road adjoining this was named recently after him as "M. Haleem Ishak Mawatha" for his services to the community.

Haleem Ishak joined the SLFP in 1955 and became its vice president. He successfully contested the Maradana Municipal Ward in the CMC and represented the Kuppiawatta- East Ward. He was not only popular among the Muslims of Sri Lanka but also the Buddhists. Kuppiawatta - East Ward consists of a population of 80% Buddhists and the largest number of temples in the City of Colombo is found in this Ward.

His honesty, and simplicity were well known and his gentleman politics was emulated by others. In July 1977 the Sri Lanka Freedom Party was routed badly but Haleem Ishak was elected to Parliament to the Colombo Central Constituency as the third member. He was a parliamentarian for nearly two decades. The SLFP government that was in power before his death offered him a diplomatic post which he declined, saying he wanted to remain in the country and serve the poor until his death.

Left to right: Jeremy Kreltszheim, Keith de Kretser, Bryan Wijeyekoon, Hussain Shihab, Kenny Mahamooth, Tissa Abeydeera, Delmer Achilles, Binhur Sappideen and Arden Joseph

Around the traps & in the News

A CLASSY ACT BY THE CLASS OF 96 - a solid team effort by the Class of 96 refurbish the dilapidated Dining Hall beneath the boarding. A fresh, modern room for regular dining or any event.



Under 17 (Div 1) Schools Cricket Tournament

Wesley College remained unbeaten in the 1st round matches. The results of the 2nd round matches below

Ashail guides Wesley to semis

In form Ashel Kariyawasam steered Wesley to the semi finals of the Under 17 Division One cricket tournament with a six wicket haul. The effort enabled his side record a convincing six wicket win over Royal in the quarter final encounter played at the CCC grounds yesterday.

Royal 119 in 42.1 overs (Ronatha Ahangama 36, Gihan Kalhara 18, Isuru Gunatileke 18: Ashel Kariyawasam 6 for 18, Sachin Jayawardena 2 for 19)

Wesley 123 for 4 in 40.2 overs (Dinuka Jayasinghe 48, Tharindu Karunaratne 28, Ashel Kariyawasam 21 n.o.: Hasitha Samarasinghe 3 for 12)

Ashail and Sachin guides Wesley

All-round performances by Ashail Kariyawasam and Sachin Jayawardena helped Wesley record a 38 runs win over Prince of Wales in the under 17 Division I pre-quarter final encounter played at Campbell Park.

Ashail continued his batting form when he cracked another 89 while Sachin made an unbeaten 71 as Wesley taking first lease of the wicket to make a formidable score of 276.

Later Ashail and Sachin shared six wickets between them to restrict Prince of Wales to a score of 238.

Wesley 276 in 50 overs (Ashail Kariyawasam 89, Migara Wickramasinghe 37, Basith Muzammil 26, Dinuka Jayasinghe 22, Sachin Jayawardena 71 n.o.: S. Kumara 2 for 26, S. Withanawasam 2 for 37)

Prince of Wales 238 in 47.4 overs (S. Withanawasam 63, C. Fernando 35, B. Mendis 34, M. Aponso 25: Sachin Jayawardena 3 for 34, Ashail Kariyawasam 3 for Migara Wickramasinghe 2 for 12)

Ashail's 180 steers Wesley

Ashail Kariyawasam slammed a career best knock of 180 to steer Wesley to comfortable `39 runs win over Rahula College Matara in the second round match of the Under 17 Division One cricket tournament played at Campbell Park.

Ashail's blistering knock came off just 127 balls which included 27 boundaries and four sixes and was supported by a knock of 65 by Sharika Ediriweera which helped Wesley amass a score of 360.for 8 in their allotted 50 overs. Rahula in their run chase was able to muster only 221. With this win the Wesleyites ended their second round with an unbeaten record to come out as group champions and in the process qualified to the knockout stage.

Wesley – 360 for 8 in 50 overs (Ashail Kariyawasam 180, Shalika Ediridheera 65, Migara Wickramasinghe 28, Basith Mazamil 27: N. Kasun 3 for 25)

Rahula – 221 for 9 in 50 overs (Lasindu Nimsara 44, Harsha Rajapaksha 38, Mayura Galappaththi 37: Basith Mazamil 3 for 28, Dinuk Jayasinghe 2 for 40, Sachin Jayawardane 2 for 54)

HOCKEY

Nineteen teams for Andriesz, Pioneer hockey

Six teams will vie for the Andriesz Shield, while 13 will contest the Pioneer when the Colombo HA hockey tournament which will commence on Tuesday, August 2 with Old Senanayakians SC taking on Kotalawela Defence University at the Padang in a Pioneer match.

The following teams will line up for the Andriesz Shield: CH and FC 'A', Old Anandians SC, Old Nalandians SC, Old Bens, Old Peterites and BRC 'A.'

For the Pioneer Shield, the teams will comprise – Old Senanayakians SC, Old Thomians, Matale (Colombo Branch), Malay SC, Royal College Hockey Club, Colts, Kotalawela Defence University, University of Moratuwa, University of Colombo, University of Sri Jaywardenepura, Old Wesleyites SC, CH and FC 'B', Gymkhana SC and BRC 'B.' (BM)

Old Wesleyites Sports Club is fielding a team at Hockey after a lapse of over 25 years. Ex-Sri Lanka player and Former International Hockey Umpire – Rohan Amerasinghe supported by Captain Usama Samsudeen and a few others are enthusiastic and keen to get OWSC back to the fold. The OWSC team has so far played 3 matches and won all of them.

OWSC beat D.S.Senanayake Old Boys 4 -1

OWSC beat Old Royal SC 2-1

OWSC beat BRC "B" 4-1

RUGBY

The OWSC rugby team has so far fared exceptionally well with big wins and only a solitary loss to a good Army team. The team captained by Saliman Buckman is well supported by a support staff managed by Shiraz Lye. It's great to see many old boys turning out for the team.

Congratulations to them all for a super performance to date.

Results of the matches played so far

30-JUL : OWSC Vs. University of Moratuwa	Won 18-7
07-AUG: OWSC Vs Katunayake Kfirs	Won 52-19
14-AUG: OWSC Vs Ekala Dakotas	Won 75-03
21-AUG: OWSC Vs Ratmalana Avros	Walk over (points to OWSC)
28-AUG: OWSC Vs Army Four Wings	Lost 7-13
04-SEP : OWSC Vs Army Maroons	Won 56-0

SOCCER

The OWSC Soccer team has been performing consistently at various tournaments. Currently they are participating in the Colombo League football tournament.

OWSC beat Eveready SC 1 - 0 in a Colombo league football match. Goal scorer Umesh Rasanjanna

Attack on Dr. N J Nonis sparks huge protests

By *Olindhi Jayasundere*

The assault of Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) Registrar N.J. Nonis triggered a fresh round of protests by the Government Medical Officers Association (GMOA) which launched a countrywide token strike urging President Mahinda Rajapaksa to investigate the matter and punish those responsible.

The GMOA said the attack against Dr. Nonis was not only a threat to the medical professionals in Sri Lanka but also to the rest of the country as such attempts to harm eminent medical professionals could severely damage the medical sector in Sri Lanka. "The SLMC is a government institution responsible for medicine and health education in Sri Lanka. Any threat made to SLMC officials is a threat to the country's health sector.

"Dr Nihal Jayasinghe Nonis was my classmate at Wesley College from the 5th Form upwards and was in the Medical College with me. He was an intelligent, kind and quiet student who got on with the work at school without any fuss or bother to anyone. Although he never partook in the mischief and the riotous behaviour Nihal Nonis remained an innocent onlooker and not a "sneaker". As I recall he came to Wesley from Prince of Wales College Moratuwa during the Principalship of Mr PH Nonis. He qualified as a Physician in the UK and served the Health Service as a eminent Consultant Physician until his retirement when he was appointed to the prestigious position of Registrar of the Sri Lanka Medical Council. He is immensely respected for his integrity and honesty and brings great honour to Wesley College" – Dr Nihal Amerasekera..

OWSC Get-together for Upali Perera and Darrell Maye

By Lalith (LCR) Wijesinghe

The **15th October 2011** was a special day. A few of us were playing host to Upali Perera and Darrel Maye who were on holiday in Sri Lanka. Both of them are domiciled in Australia. I was so looking forward to meet Darrel. I had not met him since he migrated to Australia over forty years ago. The Old Wesleyites Sports Club was the venue for our get together. Lucky Goonetilleke had made all arrangements with the Club Manager and a long table & chairs were laid out in the lawn with light blue and dark blue table decor. It was a fairly cool evening with all the heavy rains experienced in Colombo during the week. We were hoping that the weather Gods will not spoil our outdoor function.

Those gathered that evening were Upali Perera, Darrel Maye our guests with Fred Abeysekera and Haig Karunaratne our former teachers together with Lucky Goonetilleke, Neville Perera, Dharmaratne Kodithuwakku, Milroy Muthuveloe, Sarath Wickramaratne, Clifford Rodrigo(CT), OK Hemachandra, Ralph De Silva, Lucky Kottachchi, Afghar Mohideen, Navin De Silva, Kenneth De Silva and myself.

It was a joyous occasion where our mutual bonds of friendship were being renewed and anecdotes from the nineteen fifties and early sixties were recalled with gusto. Our memories were being taxed and tested to the maximum, each one trying to outdo the other with some tale privy to only a few.

Personally I was delighted to meet Darrel after so many years. We were Cricket Team Mates who had a great respect to each other. Australia seems to have provided an "elixir of youth" to both Darrel and Upali who did not seem to have aged and still maintained their good looks.

As we were settling down a heavy drizzle started and all had to run for cover. Proceedings continued indoors. Of course our gatherings are not complete without the spirit that cheers. Many finger licking dishes were on offer with the drinks. The dinner on the menu were string hoppers and hoppers prepared via a "live" station. A pleasant evening was had by all and it was the unanimous view of those present that such get togethers be arranged at regular intervals in future. A word of thanks to Lucky Goonetilleke and Milroy Muthuvaloe for making the Club arrangements and getting those present to attend.



BROTHERS VISIT COLLEGE IN JULY



Brothers Trevor and Ronnie Collette visited Sri Lanka in July. It was the first time back to Sri Lanka for Ronnie after years. He was taken on an extensive tour by Trevor to the North, South, East and Central Districts of Sri Lanka and found the time to visit his beloved alma mater.

The photo shows Ronnie on the left with the Principal, Dr Shanti McLelland and Trevor.

Double Blue Ball 2011

The Double Blue Ball 2011 was held on 1 October at the Grand on Cathies Lane. The current global economic crisis did impact on the numbers as it did with similar functions this year for some of the other past pupil associations based in Melbourne. However 300 revellers made up of old boys and their partners and friends once again supported the event.

The music for the night was provided by Ben Nathanielsz (old Wesleyite) and his band "Midnight Mist" who played a wonderful selection of music for all ages. The floor was packed for each bracket as the revellers got into the swing of things. A delicious and beautifully presented three course sit down meal, washed down with one's favourite drop of wine, ale, Johnny Walker Black Label or soft drinks for the gentler types complimented the meal. Victor de Silva and family who run the Grand on Cathies Lane must be complimented for once again providing a wonderful ballroom, attentive service, good food and a beautiful ambience for another year.

Bouquets to the Dance Committee of Bryan Wijeyekoon, Darryl Koch, Reg Bartholomeusz. The Ball was a great success and for the cost of \$75 per head which included the food, unlimited supply of alcohol and drinks, great music and a fun filled evening of fellowship it is good value for a night out.

The great patronage by the alumni this year in these difficult times was an encouraging sign and it was most evident when the Old Wesleyites gathered at the front of the stage to sing the College Song and War Cry. With "Zum, Zum, Zaki..." echoing in our ears the Ball was over for another year as the contented revellers made their way out in to balmy spring night and headed home.





Photo guide

Norton Abeydeera	Edjoy Sinnen	Sharil Azoor	
Anton Selvadurai	Tissa Fernando	Tony Careem	
Jerry Dickson	Trevi Morrison	Sanjeev Wijaysinghe	Jerry ?
Lassath Algama	Ananda Perera	Darryl Koch	
Brian Azoor	Jeno Azoor	Duminda Nissanka	
Glyn Lappen	Beverly de Niese	Cecil Wijesinghe	
Ganesh Mylvaganam	Prassanna Abeysiri	The boys of 1980 and friends	



THE CEDRIC OORLOFF TROPHY



Wesley versus Trinity ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The eleventh Annual Golf Encounter between Wesley College and Trinity College Old Boys was held on Sunday the 30th October 2011 at the Morack Golf Course. Each of the teams had nine players, the inclement weather on the day might explain the poor field.

As is usual at these encounters the game was played in a spirit of friendly (if that's possible) competitiveness, with but a hint of gamesmanship easily overlooked by the now familiar faces we see each year, and the friendships cemented at these and the foregoing Friday night get-togethers.

The final adding up of the best six Stableford scores of each team side, revealed a difference of one point. Wesley 182, Trinity 183.

"Trinity College winning the CEDRIC J OORLOFF for 2011"

Other winners on the day.

- Martin Siebel Memorial (best Wesley Score): George Siebel, 37 stableford points.
- Trophy for best Trinity score: Ravi Ratnayake and Romesh - 34 stableford points.
- Both Nearest The Pins won by Derek Mottau.

This was Trinity's turn to organise the Friday Night Out and Sunday Golf, both conducted well. Of special note was the quality meal of Maspaan, Beef pan rolls and Vadais washed down with local and imported Beer from Lucky's fridge after the Golf. Wesley was represented by Norton Abeydeera, George Siebel, Reg Bartholomeusz, Arden Joseph, Bin Sappideen, Carl Solomons, Andrew Bartholomeusz, Derrick Mottau,

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