



අනන්දය ANANDAYA

2012 ඔක්තෝබර්

2012 September

අනන්ද අභිමන් 2012 - ප්‍රදර්ශනය, වෙළඳ සහ සංස්කෘතික සංදර්ශනය සාර්ථකව නිමකෙරේ.

ආනන්ද විදුහලට වසර 125 ක් පිරීම නිමිත්තෙන් කතරගොඩවත් ආදි සිසුන් සහ විදුහලේ සහභාගිත්වයෙන් පවත්වන්නට යෙදුන සංවත්සර උළෙලේ අවසාන අංගය වූ 'අනන්ද අභිමන් 2012' ප්‍රදර්ශනය, වෙළඳ හා සංස්කෘතික සංදර්ශනය අතිසාර්ථක ලෙස 2012 මාර්තු 26 - 31 දක්වා විද්‍යාලයීය භූමියේදී පවත්වන ලදී.

125 වැනි සංවත්සර උළෙලේ අතිකුත් අංගයන් 2012 නොවැම්බර් මාසයේදී නිමකල නමුත් ප්‍රදර්ශනය සහ සංස්කෘතික දැක්ම ශිෂ්‍ය සහභාගිත්වයෙන් සිදුවිය යුතු හෙයින් ද අ.පො.ස. (සාමාන්‍ය පෙළ) විභාගයට පෙනී සිටින සිසුන්ට බල නොපෑ යුතු හෙයින් ද, 2012 මාර්තු මස අග භාගයේදී පැවැත්වීමට විද්‍යාල පරිපාලකයන්ද, පාසල් සංවර්ධන මණ්ඩලය ද ආදි ශිෂ්‍ය සංගමයද ඒකමතිකව තීරණය කරන ලදී.

වරින් වර පතිත වූ වර්ෂාවෙන් බාධක සිදු වුවද රටේ අනෙකුත් ප්‍රදේශවලින් ආ ශිෂ්‍ය ප්‍රවාහය අනන්ද අභිමන් 2012 හේ සාර්ථකත්වයට සාක්ෂි දුරැයි. මෙම උත්සවයෙන් විශාල ලාභයක් මුදලින් අත්කරගෙන ඇති අතර විද්‍යාලයේ පරිගණක තාක්ෂණයේ උන්නතිය උදෙසා ලාභයෙන් වැඩි කොටසක් වැය කිරීමට විද්‍යාල පරිපාලකයන් අදහස් කරයි.

මෙම ප්‍රදර්ශනය සහ සංදර්ශනය පැවැත්වීමට පෙරමුණගත් විද්‍යාලයාධිපති වල්. එම්. ඩී. ධර්මසේන මහතාටත්, ගුරු මණ්ඩලයටත් අපගේ හෘදයාංගම ස්තූතිය පිදිය යුතුවේ.



ප්‍රදර්ශනය විවෘත කල ආදි ආනන්දීය, අමාත්‍ය බැඳිල් රාජපක්ෂ මැතිතුමා විදහා අංගයේ නිපැයුමක් නිරීක්ෂණය කරන අවස්ථාව

Ananda-Jaffna Hindu Inaugural Cricket encounter held at Ananda Mawatha

History was created when the inauguration of Ananda-Jaffna Hindu Cricket encounter for V.T.S. Sivagurunathan trophy got off to a fine start, amidst rain, at Ananda Mawatha in Colombo, on 7th September, 2012, at 9.00am , with the participation of many distinguished Old Boys from both schools.



Chief Guest, Justice K. Sripavan Flanked by Mr. Tilak Karunaratne (President - Ananda OBA) and Mr. Lal Kurukulasuriya (An Old Anandian and a Diplomat now serving in UNEP)

The Chief Guest of the occasion was the Senior Minister, Dr.Tissa Witharana who is an Old Anandian and a past colorsman in Cricket. Late Mr. Sivagurunathan was an Old Boy of Jaffna Hindu College and later served in the tutorial staff of Ananda for 25 years as a brilliant teacher, mostly during Kularatne era. To mark the occasion, a grand dinner was held at the Upper Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Taj Samudra on Friday the 7th September. Invitations were extended to a few prominent Old Boys of Jaffna Hindu with the pride of place given to Justice K. Sripavan, a senior Supreme Court Judge and a fine product of Jaffna Hindu College. Justice Sripavan was the Chief Guest at the dinner. The other invitees were JHC Principal, Mr.V.Ganesharajah, the Principal of Ananda College, Mr.L.M.D.Dharmasena and the Coaches, Masters in charge of Cricket and cricketers from the two schools. A few Anandian National Cricketers, Thilana Samaraweera, Dinesh Chandimal, Thilina Kandamby and Sachitra Senanayake as well as former National player and Secretary Sri Lanka Cricket Nishantha Ranatunga graced the occasion, as special invitees

Editorial

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A long felt need that could not be realised to date, in Ananda's 125 years history of existence, as the country's foremost seat of learning was the lack of a separate ground and sports stadium to alienate Rugger & Hockey from the main sport Cricket. The expectations are very high and the speculation is that it may not remain a dream anymore and Ananda may get this facility, at a picturesque location at close proximity to Colombo. It was a known fact that Anandians were greatly handicapped in the past without a proper place to practice popular sports like Rugby and Hockey. One should not have any doubt that Anandians in their typical flamboyant style may henceforth show their prowess in these two sports events as well . They may not only make their presence felt to other schools in the not too distant future but may produce greats of the caliber of Arjuna Ranatunga, to lead the country towards success in respective sports events at International level. Rowing, an Olympic sports event, in which Anandians are already in the forefront, may see Sri Lanka producing great Oarsmen, after the launching of new sports complex.

Day in, day out, the Old Boys' Association, under the able leadership of incumbent President and Deputies is sparing no time in bringing back the glory it held, as the undisputed leader in producing greats in all sectors whether it is sports, Academic, Politics, Science & Research, Business & Investments or Arts & Drama. It was their untiring efforts that drew the attention of relevant authorities to imminently look for a suitable location.

Anada Abiman 2012 Exhibition & Trade Fare, the last leg of Ananda 125 celebrations but conducted by the Principal led school's administration was only held from 26th March 2012 until 31st March , 2012 at the College premises to give students a recess, before the GCE-[-O/L-] examination. It recorded a high visitor turnout of over the 5 days, though interrupted by rain and bad weather. It was a superb platform for the students to come out with their talents reminiscing what the greats of Ananda have done in the past.

Flash Back 1951- memoirs sketched by Principal Wjayatillake to Anandaya Magazine

Tamil Literary Union - This Union (President, Mr. T. Sivapathasundaram) has had a very successful year, during which several meetings were held, two of which were devoted to debates and the rest to programmes of prepared speeches. The change-over to Sinhalese as the medium of instruction in the College right up to Form III last year and Form IV this year has meant that the only Tamil pupils in the College are the few concentrated in the Senior and the University Entrance Forms. When these few leave (as they will in the near future, with the Sinhalese language medium being progressively introduced into the highest Forms, the College will have neither a Tamil Literary Union nor a single Tamil pupil. This will be a great pity, for Ananda College counts among its most loyal sons substantial numbers of Tamil and Muslim Old Boys. If only the cordial and harmonious relations which have always prevailed between the Sinhalese and the Tamil pupils of Ananda College could be reproduced between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority in the country what a pleasant place Ceylon would be to live in !

Buddha Jayanti - Today the entire Buddhist world is preparing to celebrate the 2,500th anniversary of the Lord Buddha's *parinibbana*. In our own country plans are afoot to rebuild the Dalada Maligawa, to complete the restoration of Mahiyangana Dagoba, to erect statues and monuments to the pioneers of the modern Buddhist revival, to translate the *Tripitaka* into Sinhalese, to publish a Buddhist Encyclopaedia, to organise processions, pageants, ceremonies, and the like. All these will be sponsored and financed by the Lanka Baudha Mandalaya, and will cost many millions of rupees. There is, however, a Buddha Jayanti which everyone, be he labelled Buddhist or not, can celebrate more fittingly. To my mind the idea of celebrating Buddha Jayanti is incongruous if the ideals for which the Buddha lived and laboured are ignored whether in our personal lives or in our life as a nation. If we could stamp out bribery and corruption, perjury, murder and other forms of violence, if we could realise that as we love our religion, language, culture and customs, so do others love theirs, if we could, instead of prating about the Buddhist spirit of social service that actuated an Asoka, a Buddhadasa, or a Dutugemunu, actively practise some social service ourselves, if, instead of proudly pointing out that the Buddha emancipated the outcast, we could rid ourselves of caste prejudices - if, in short, we could in howsoever small a degree re-orient our minds, hearts, and lives in accordance with the teaching of the Enlightened One, that would be a form of Buddha Jayanti which would be of incalculable value.

Fritz Kunz Challenge Cup- Mr. D. N. W. de Silva, M.B.E., J.P., an Old Boy of the Kunz regime, has just created a new award, the Fritz Kunz Challenge Cup, to be annually awarded to Ananda's Best Young Citizen. It was a happy inspiration that prompted Mr. De Silva to choose this way of honouring Principal Kunz, who never tired of instilling into the minds of his pupils at Ananda the loftiest ideas and ideals of good citizenship.

Mr. K.D.de LANEROLLE a highly Venerated Teacher (By An Old Anandian)

The 110th birth Anniversary of Mr. K.D. de Lanerolle, an educationist, eminent scholar and a highly venerated teacher who was attached to the teaching staff of Ananda College for a continuous period of 32 years was celebrated in February 2012. Besides being an eminent educationist he was also an author, journalist and a poet.

He was the fourth in the well known family of Lanerolle brothers, respected in this country for their contributions to journalism, education, literature and poetry.

Mr. Lanerolle had his early education at the Government Schools of Bomiriya and Hatharaliyadde. His mother was the Headmistress of the Hatharaliyadde and the Hendeniya government schools. Thereafter he was admitted to Dharmaraja College Kandy and continued his secondary education at Ananda College, Colombo. He joined the Government Teachers training College and earned the First-Class English Trained Teachers Certificate, an esteemed and much coveted professional qualification at the time.

He served as Acting Principal of Teacher Training College, Nittambuwa at the age of 25. He gave up his lucrative government job to serve his alma mater Ananda College, Colombo which was at the time under the management of the Buddhist Theosophical Society. His services as the Headmaster of the Primary and the Middle Schools at Ananda College lasted 32 years. During this period he not only confined himself to the classroom and administration as a head but also devoted his time in tutoring and coaching children and young Buddhist monks

particularly in inculcating a knowledge of English language, dictation and speech. This was done without accepting any fee or reward, which is rare today.

Kulasinghe Duke de Lanerolle was the personification of kindness and understanding. His gentle manner, calmness and general behaviour were an example to his students. He was regarded and justifiably referred to by his colleagues as the gentleman of the staff and thereby won the goodwill and respect of the parents as well.

He was a very conscientious teacher and a strict disciplinarian with a desire to instill into his students a sense of correctness and decorum. When an Anandian leaves the portals of the school he will be blessed with a well balanced personality and will be fully equipped to face the hardships of life. De Lanerolle could be considered as one of many for making Ananda College a key symbol of our culture and heritage. He was a pious Buddhist and led his life in conformity to the five precepts, until the end of his life.

He served on the Sinhala and English Curriculum Committee for Junior Schools and was a member of the Commission appointed by the UNESCO in the teaching of Asian and African Languages in schools.

Due to his commitment and dedication to teaching at Ananda College towards the end of his 32 year career, he would have experienced the Supreme joy that he has not strained himself in vain, when he saw his former pupils occupying places of eminence as professionals, and administrators both here and abroad, emulating the example of their teacher, renowned for his spirit of exemplary services.

Special recognitions and successes achieved by Old Anandians at National and International level

1. CEO of Microimage, **Harsha Purasinghe**, an Old Boy of Ananda College, made his alma mater proud by programming the first ever and the only e-Book Hub/Store that was officially opened to readers all over the world on 26th March, 2012, reaching a milestone in Sri Lanka's publishing history. This project was spearheaded by Etisalat, Microimage and M.D Gunasena. The official opening was held at the Hilton Residencies in the presence of Mr. Lalith Weeraratne, Secretary to the President
2. **Vajira Kulatileka**, the Head of Investment banking at NDB Group has been presented with an award by the Asian Institute of Technology Alumni Association [-AITAA -]. According to NDB, he has led teams that completed breaking deals, which propelled NDB Investment Bank to a top position. He has also introduced a new model for securitization in the country. He has helped set up NDB Capital Ltd, NDB's investment banking arm in Bangladesh. Vajira was presented the AITTA distinguished alumni award for business and professional achievements. He is an Engineering Graduate from the University of Moratuwa and is also a recipient of a Masters degree in industrial Engineering and Management from Bangkok based AIT. He is a fellow member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants UK [FCMA] and a CFA Charter holder.
3. **Dr. Anil Jasinghe** was appointed as the Director of National Hospitals of Sri Lanka [NHSL]
4. **Mr. Yuanjan Wijayatilleke**, a President's Counsel and the most senior Additional Solicitor General has been appointed as Solicitor General with effect from 9th July, 2012. He hails from a distinguished family of Old Anandians, including his father, late S.R. Wijayatilleke, a former

Supreme Court Judge, and uncle, late Mr. S.A. Wijayatilleke, who was the Principal of Ananda from 1955 to 1961

5. **Mr. Samantha Rajapaksa**, a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of UK, a Member of the Chartered Institute of Marketing of UK and holder of a MBA from the University of Sri Jayawardenepura has been appointed as the Group Managing Director of Associated Motrorways PLC.

A past Head Prefect of Ananda Samantha began his career at Ernst and Young and then went onto serve as Director / GM at Informatics International, Director / CEO at CF Venture Fund, Group Director of Central Finance Company, Senior Project Manager at AT & T Inc. USA, a Group Director of Kshatriya Holdings and in his last assignment as a Group Director of the Softlogic Group, a Director / CEO of Softlogic Communications Ltd, Chairman of Softlogic Credit Ltd and a Board Director of Softlogic Capital and Softlogic Finance. However, Samantha will continue serving on the Boards of Asiri Hospitals Holdings and Asiri Surgical Hospital, according to a Press release by the blue chip company AMW, where he will spearhead the aggressive expansion.

6. **Mr. Sidath Wettimuny** of cricketing fame has achieved yet another Milestone in Golf when he won Mark Bostock Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Victoria Golf and Country Resort
7. **Mr. Nalaka Godahewa** has been appointed as the Chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] to fill in the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Thilak Karunaratne, another Old Anandian and the Incumbent President of the OBA. Mr. Godahewa is the third Old Anandian to be appointed to this position.

Affiliated Groups help diversify OBA activities

82 Group

- Awarded scholarships to 4 [four] A/L students, who topped the results in four streams from the district of Trincomalee. This was on a request made by the then Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces in Trincomalee district, Brig. Dharshana Hettiarachchi who is an active 82 Group member and presently the Commissioner General of Rehabilitation. The scholarships will cover students' sustenance during their entire University career and the 82 Gp will infuse funds monthly to their accounts.
- The Group collected approximately Rs.500,000/= for the benefit of former veteran Maths teacher [Grade 9 and 10], Mr. Nimalaratne who is in poor health. The main benefactors were the OBA Florida branch [USA] and OAAV Melbourne, Australia. This is a brainchild of Secretary 82 group, Kusal Mendis. Another Group member, Kithsiri Gunasekera donated a Notebook [Laptop] worth Rs.60,000/= and Chandana Gunasekera, a Wheel Chair.
- A 3 day pilgrimage to Katharagama and Sithulpauwa was organized by the group for the benefit of past teachers, during 13th to 15th July, 2012. A total of 84 teachers from the Past Teachers' Association participated in this event. Religious observances were held at the Sithulpauwa rock temple and physically weak teachers were taken on Wheel chairs supported by Group members. On 14th morning all teachers observed Sil and partook on Dawal Dhana offered by the group members. Prominent dhamma scholar, Ven. Mawarale Baddhiya and a few other Monks conducted the religious activities. The day's proceedings ended with visits to Tissamaharama Sandagiri Chaithya and Magampura Mahinda Rajapakse Port, courtesy of Defense Secretary, Gotabhaya Rajapakse who, with the support of Navy Commander, Vice Admiral, D.W.A.S Dissanayake offered a grand lunch at Tangalle Navy base.

85 Group

- The annual get together of the group was held on 20th May, 2012, at G.H. Buddhadasa stadium Pelawatte, amidst a large gathering with the participation of 83 members, mostly accompanied by their spouses and children. A six-a-side cricket tournament was held to add color to other events which the spouses and children participated. Principal, L.M.D. Dharmasena graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while OBA's Jt. Secretary, Samitha Seneviratne was present as Guest of Honour
- A Bodhi Pooja was held at Kelaniya temple to invoke blessings on ailing group member, Priyantha Wanigaratne, who is in the Ex-Co of the main OBA too. Having survived the worst part of his illness, gladly Priyantha is now recuperating at home.

97 Group

- A benevolent fund was established through contributions of group members to financially support the family of late Hasantha Hirosha, an active group member whose sudden death made it difficult for the family to make ends meet. The total funds collected is Rs.371232.00 and Rs.10,000.00 is paid monthly to the family.
- Anande Ape Avuruddha [AAA- 2012] was held again this year on 29th April at BMICH under the patronage of Principal, L.M.D. Dharmasena and attended by many students and Old Boys.
- The group members participated in a project to clean up the College Museum and managed to bring it back to its original condition. The group also handed over a project proposal to Principal Dharmasena, pledging to upkeep and maintain the museum in future.

- The group launched the Athwela Scholarship program to commemorate their 10th anniversary and a sum of Rs.127,000.00 was donated to the main OBA for this purpose
- With the blessings of the main OBA, the 97 group composed lyrics and made a superb presentation of the Theme Song titled "Anande Puththu" at "Yugayaka Anandaya", Ananda 125th Anniversary Celebrations which was graced by His Excellency, the President Mahinda Rajapakse

Centenary Group

- There was active participation by group members in the Anada Abhiman, 2012 Exhibition & Trade Fair, held in March, 2012 as the last leg of Ananda's 125th Anniversary Celebrations. Group President played a useful role in the main OBA stall, group Secretary Prasanna Arampath and Ex-co member Manjula Makolage served in the Exhibition Organising committee.
 - On a request made by the Principal to find a sponsor to purchase necessary equipment for the FM Radio transmission unit, the group decided to undertake the job by themselves, through personal contributions of its members, amounting to roughly Rs.400,000.00. The studio was constructed in grand style and was ready before Anada Abhiman exhibition
 - Through the sale of Mugs, T-shirts, Souvenirs and Caps in the main OBA stall, the group accounted for roughly Rs.800,000.00 profits for the coffers of the exhibition.
 - Sponsored a Light Board for the Portrait of one of the past Principals, at a cost of Rs.75,000.00
 - Sponsored the hostel fees of two needy students who come from rural background, as part of group's scholarship program.
 - Arrangements are underway to sponsor 20 scholarships for students, as part of group's contribution to the main OBA's Scholarship scheme. The group's commitment is not only to sponsor but to monitor the progress of the students as well.
 - Donated Rs.15,000.00 to the Table Tennis Association for organizing the Inter House Table tennis tournament that was held at the Sugathadasa Indoor stadium
 - The refurbishment of the Dental Clinic was effected costing approximately Rs.300,000.00. It included addition of some Therapists' chairs and the cost was borne by group member, Aruna Shantha Bandara.
 - Group member, Ananda Aloka Bandara undertook to sponsor the requisites of a talented Grade 10 Athlete up to a maximum of Rs.30,000.00 per year.
 - The group organized a mass Bodhi Pooja to invoke blessings on Mrs. Dulcy Fernando, the Head Mistress of the primary school, who is retiring after a marathon 23 years service at Ananda
- ## 99 Group
- A comprehensive website for the group under the domain www.ananda99.org was re-launched
 - The group donated Rs.15,000.00 for the T-shirts project, the proceeds of which is going towards rehabilitating misguided youth in the North-East who have been liberated from the strangle hold of the LTTE terrorists
 - On 4th of August the group organized a cricket carnival for members and spouses with the primary motive of enhancing the interaction among members

Cont.

Affiliated Groups Continued...

92 Group

- With the blessings of the main OBA and OASC the group carried on with a project to offer Lunch and tea for both the present teachers and past teachers of Ananda, including their spouses and children. Being a concept of our own, this year's project cost us around Rs.300,000.00
- Since 2009, the group has sponsored the "Dhana Paarami" book donation programme organized by the Old Anandians' Buddhist Association. Their contribution is Rs.45,000.00 per year
- The group undertook sponsorship of several key events at Ananda Abhiman, 2012 in March, 2012 and the total amounted to Rs.721,000.00
- The group undertook to bear 50% of the salary bill, amounting to Rs.120,000.00 per year of the tutor who teaches Chinese language in the school. We have already paid Rs.60, 000.00 upfront for this year.

Thilak as SEC Chairman donated his salary to the OBA

There were instructions from Mr. Thilak Karunaratne, the former Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission to remit his entire remuneration to the Ananda College OBA, from the day he assumed office. This was probably the first such gesture of a donation, on an ongoing basis and would have exceeded Rs. One Million, within ten months. Regrettably, due to unforeseen circumstances Thilak decided to relinquish duties as Chairman SEC with effect from 17th August, 2012.

Thilak is the second Anandian to be appointed SEC Chairman; the first being Gamini Wickremasinghe, presently the Chairman of Bank of Ceylon.

As the President of the OBA, Thilak has already left an indelible imprint as an outstanding leader, highly competent organizer and benefactor. He has on numerous occasions paid out of his funds to send teachers and students on overseas tours arranged by local and foreign organizations promoting co-curricular activities, to gift silver coins minted by the Central Bank to commemorate the 125 years anniversary of the school, to host a number of meetings of sub committees of the OBA at 80 Club and to support school development projects. His most recent gesture should encourage Old Anandians to make similar donations and endowments in favour of the OBA.

Ananda-Jaffna Hindu Continued...

The success of organizing an annual cricket encounter between these two schools from far ends of the country is due to the untiring efforts of OBA President-Thilak Karunaratne, Deputy President- Deva Rodrigo and Sanjiva Senanayake, a past cricket captain of Ananda. Incidentally, it was Sanjiva who has brought this idea of organizing a cricket encounter between the two schools. From JHC side the main architects were the President of their OBA Colombo branch, Mr.S. Raghavan and Ex-Co member, Mr.M.N. Asokan. This event will be recorded in the annals of this country as another first achieved by Old Anandians in strengthening the bonds of friendship between the Sri Lankans in the North and South of the country and thus ushering in peace and harmony.

The arrival of Col. Olcott saw a parallel revival of Buddhists and Hindus of Ceylon, the two main oppressed religious sectors, to secure the rightful place for their children through a good English education, which was then only made available to Christian Missionary schools. Both Ananda and Jaffna Hindu are beneficiaries of this revival process and the continuation of this friendly relations may help strengthen the bond between the two races.

In spite of rains cutting off a few playing hours on the day one, the match ended with a victory for Ananda on first Innings' points and hence they carried away the trophy for the first year.

Qatar branch of Ananda OBA holds its inaugural meeting

Past pupils of Ananda College, mostly professionals employed in Qatar have through consensus formed a branch of the Old Boys' Association with the objective of nurturing comradeship amongst fellow Old Anandians living in Qatar and to support their alma Mater, in its endeavours for glory. This Group will also assist Old Anandians who are new to Qatar, to integrate effectively into Qatari society.

The inaugural AGM of this latest overseas affiliation of the main OBA was held on May 25, 2012 with the participation of around 50 members and their families and the Office bearers for the year 2012/13 were elected. Mr Sujeewa Rathmahal of the main OBA's Management Committee graced the occasion as special Invitee/Guest with the blessings of the Ex-Co, main OBA. Mr Thilak Karunaratne, President of the main OBA sent a special message through this emissary to be read at the event. Old Anandians' Qatar branch is now affiliated to the main OBA and also to the Sri Lanka Coordinating Committee (SLCC) in Qatar, which is under the auspices of the Sri Lankan Embassy.

The members of the association has already participated in some community service activities in Qatar by providing gifts at the Sinhala/Tamil New Year celebrations held in April 2012 and providing refreshments to the participants at a blood donation campaign, carried out by SLCC, in July 2012.

Committee Members

Erantha Madawala (Treasurer-95), Rohitha Hettiarachchi (President-78), Sujeewa Rathmahal (Editor Main OBA), Sumedha De Silva (Secretary-79), Ananda Keppitipola (For Past President-79)

Mihira Somaratna (Asst. Treasurer-2001), Nuwan Ubayanarayana (Asst. Secretary-88) Asela Indika (Chief Organiser-93), Marinda Wijethilake (Vice President-84), Viddya Sri Shanthikumara (Committee member-88), Nirosh Amath (Committee Member-86), Dilshan Perera (Committee Member-95), Absent Dinuk Wahalawattage (Committee Member-2004) Auditor Chnitaka Kariyawasam (1995)



Members of OBA Qatar branch posing for a photograph with main OBA's representative Sujeewa Rathmahal on the day of inauguration



An Ananda Batsman playing a defensive stroke watched by the Wicket keeper of Jaffna Hindu College

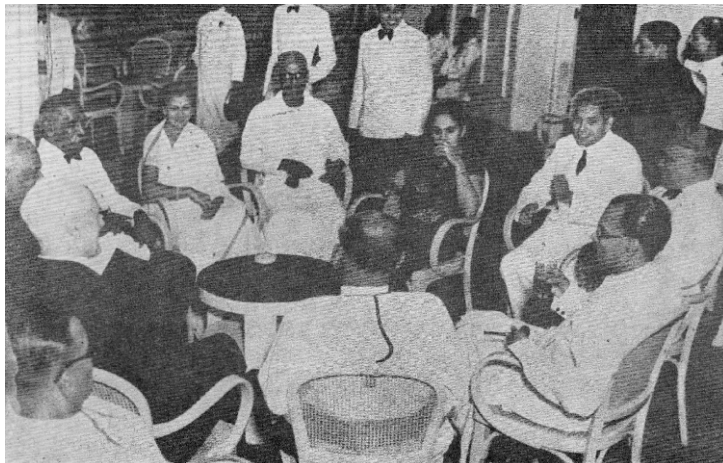
Historical significance of OBA Dinner

ACOBA Banquet 2012

The OBA dinner will be held on Saturday 24 November, this year at the Oak Room of Hotel Cinnamon Grand.

A team led by OBA Vice President Chaminda Egodawatte and the former Jt. Secretary Dushmantha Karannagoda will organize the event. They hope to make the 2012 Banquet a social event, where Anandians could gather with their families, reminisce their time at Ananda, strengthen the fraternal network of Old Boys and stay connected with their Alma Mater.

The first OBA dinner has been held in 1916 at the College Hall. Since the Olcott Hall construction was completed in 1914 it is safe to assume that it was the venue of the dinner held two years later. Fritz Kunz as the Principal would have been the ex-officio President of the Old Boys' Association and it may have been one of his ideas to organize such an event. Kunz was a visionary and a resourceful American. He introduced the teaching of science at Ananda and most likely started the tradition of Old Boys' Dinners.



OBA Dinner held in 1949 - Guests included Prime Minister D.S. Senanayake, Minister of Local Government S.W.R.D. Bandaranayake, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranayake and Principal L.H. Mettananda

There is more about him in the Ananda 125 Year Commemorative Journal now being written. Much of the data about Kunz was sent by Sumith Matugama who dug deep into the records at the archives of the Wisconsin University from which Kunz graduated.

Writing the book has unearthed a goldmine of information of historical interest. A news item on the 1949 OBA dinner published in the Ceylon Daily News with a photograph taken of the guests shows Principal L H Mettananda flanked by the Prime Minister D S Senanayake, the Principal of Visaka Mrs. Motwani, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Minister of Local Government S W R D Bandaranaike, Minister of Labour and founder of Zahira College T B Jayah (who was a teacher at Ananda before that), Senator A M A Azis who succeeded Jayah at Zahira, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ceylon (and later the University of Cambridge) Sir Ivor Jennings, Prof. C Sunderalingam, Reverend Father Peter Pillai and Sam Wijesinghe. This event was held at the Galle Face Hotel.

A news paper cutting on the 1935 OBA dinner records the distinguished personalities present; L H Mettananda as Acting Principal, Dr. and Mrs. G P Malasekera, Mr. & Mrs E A Pakeman, Reverend Father M J Legoc, Mr. & Mrs. J A Tarbet, Mudaliyar T W Gunawardena, Mr. & Mrs. J N Jinendradasa, T B Jayah, Mr. & Mrs. W A De Silva and Dr. Milroy Paul.

That year there had been an array of speakers. The toast of the college and the OBA had been proposed by C W W Kannangara. L H Mettananda had replied as the Acting Principal and K D De Lanerolle had responded on behalf of the OBA.

W H D Perera proposed the toast of the guests. Dr. N M Perera proposed the toast of the sister colleges. Reverend Father Legoc replied.

P De S Kularatne who was on a four year secondment to Dharmaraja College, Kandy had made an impromptu speech due to cries from Old Boys 'We want Kularatne'.

The effort to write the book has been rewarding. Its publication is late, by eight months but the enthusiasm to include information of historical interest newly unearthed and rewrite some articles to bring them to the standard set by Sanjiva Senanayake, who wrote the first four chapters could not be curbed by those who clamored for an early launch of the book. Once published it will raise the image of the school and fill our minds with a sense of pride because the book shows that we belong to a unique institution that had fought with courage and self confidence to overcome adversity and many an obstacle. That story is still being written. Await its 'Eli Dekma'.

Compiled by: Deva Rodrigo

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Tennis:

- (a) A duo of Ananda have bagged under 12 National Doubles championship [Boys] in 2012
- (b) Ananda College Under-19 [Senior] tennis team emerged champions in the Inter schools Tennis Championship, after a lapse of 16 years. They beat D.S.Senanayake Vidyalaya in the semis and St. Peter's College in the finals, after defeating St. Sebastians College, Trinity, Kandy, Maliyadeva Kurunegala, Lyceum Int and St. Thomas College Mt. Lavinia convincingly in the group stages. Madusha Wijesuriya won the singles title, beating Chinthaka Shaveen. Navin Liyanarachchi and Supun Pathirage won the first Doubles match & Yashitha Rangana de Silva and Narain Weerasinghe won the second doubles match. The team was coached by head Coach Anupa Mattemagoda and Under-19 Coach Dinusha Wijesuriya, supervised by Teacher-in-charge Ms. Ramya Samaradivakara. Ananda's tennis is another success story this year and we wish continued success in the years ahead.
- (c) Ananda Under-13 Tennis team emerged Inter school Champions for 2012

2. Cricket :

- (A) Pasindu Madhushan won awards for Best Bowler, Best Fielder and runner-up to the Best Bata/Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the year contest in 2012.
- (B) At the Cricket awards ceremony sponsored by Mobitel, Pasindu Madhushan received awards for best Bowler and best Schoolboy Cricketer
- (C) Sammu Ashan represented the National Schools' Cricket team in a tri-Nation tournament in Malaysia

3. Rowing:

- (A) Represented the Colombo Rowing Club at Annual Colombo Madras Regatta for the first time
- (B) Beat Asian International School for the third successive year in the annual Competition.
- (C) represented Colombo Rowing Club at this year's ARAE competition held in India

4. Swimming:

Our swimming team became second Runner-up at the Inter School Swimming Championship held in 2012

5. Rugger:

Having won the Inter School Division C Championship in 2012 Ananda Ruggerites qualified to enter Division B



Ananda under 19 Tennis Team lead by Navendra Liyanaarachchi won the Inter School Championship 2012

Literary Prowess of Anandians

At an Asian Schools's Debating competition held in Malaysia, in June, 2012, Ananda's "B" team won Novices Championship by beating Singapore. Sandaru Jayaratne won best Orator's award.

Wins the All Island Sisu Udana Deyata Pipena Mal, 2011 Quiz Competition conducted by People's Bank

OBITUARIES

- Mrs. Pubudu Wickremasinghe, the beloved wife of Mr. Jayantha Wickremasinghe, who is a past Joint Secretary and a past Vice President of the main OBA, passed away on 13th April, 2012 and the funeral was held on 14th April at Borella Kanatta. Mrs. Wickremasinghe has contributed immensely to many OBA sponsored activities, as an active member of Old Anandians' Women's Club
- The death occurred of the beloved mother of Mr. Harsha Munasinghe, the President of Ananda College 83 Group, on 19th April, 2012 and the funeral was held in his native place, Matugama.
- Death occurred of Mr. Mohan Senaratne, who was an active member of OBA's 70-75 Group.
- Dr. Geethanjana Mendis, a prominent Consultant Neurologist who has served in the Neurology unit of the National Hospital for a considerable period and later headed the Sports Medicine unit of the Sports Ministry, passed away on 8th July, 2012. At the time of his death he was serving in the Education Ministry. A specialist on injuries suffered by Sportsmen and Sportswomen, he has cured many of them from such ailments that affected their careers.
- The death occurred of Mr. Chandra Mettananda, a senior Life Member of the OBA and the eldest son of Late Mr. L.H Mettananda, a former Principal of Ananda, during whose period the school saw a resurgence in Academic achievements, Sports and enlistment of school leavers to security forces. He was senior Prefect and he has played for both Cricket and Football teams. He has served as a Vice President of the OBA too. His two sons Lankika and Lakdas are members of the OBA too.
- The death occurred of Mrs. Leela Galappaththi, who was in the tutorial staff of Ananda [From 75-92], prior to her retirement and joining the Open University. She was the beloved wife of former Deputy Principal, Mr. B.S.E (Bandula) Galappaththi.
- The death occurred on 10th September of Mr. E.D. Nimalaratne, a former veteran Mathematics teacher at Ananda for nearly two decades [70-80s]. He was a venerated teacher, who rejected private tuition for a living.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

1. GCE(A/L), 2011- Sinhala medium

	No of applicants	Those who got 3 "A"s	No. qualified	Percentage
Commerce-First Attempt.	160	18	116	73%
Second Attempt	45	1	17	
Maths section -First Attempt	243	23	179	74.5%
Second Attempt	172	3	127	
Biological section-First attempt	141	9	110	80%
Second Attempt	129	9	100	
Arts Section -First Attempt	89	4	57	66%
Second Attempt	42	4	21	

Ananda Rowers on course to popularise Rowing as a National Sport

History created at Diyawanna Lake on 28th April, 2012

It was the first rowing event to be conducted at Diyawanna Oya, which borders Sri Jayawardanapura Mawatha, the main roadway to the Parliament and the highly affluent suburbs of Battaramulla, Hokandara, and Athurugiriya.

For the first time in Sri Lanka's rowing history, we were able to truly bring out rowing to the level of a spectator sport. The start, the finish and the track were within spectators' viewing range and no other location in Sri Lanka affords such panoramic view. Passers-by and the eager crowds took up position along the grass verge by the road side, for a grand view.

The venue happened to be a green field site and every bit of rowing infrastructure had to be provided including that of eight jetties, changing rooms, refreshment stalls and spectator tents. A unique feature was the eight floating piers, fabricated and installed at a material cost of Rs 381,000/-. The fully enclosed 500 meter, eight lane buoyed track was laid to FISA standard. This was the first occasion in Sri Lanka's rowing history that such a track of FISA standard was laid with eight fully enclosed lanes. The material cost alone for setting up the lanes was Rs 140,000/-. The labour cost for setting up of piers and lanes amounted to Rs 210,000/-

Pontoons were installed at the start lines, in keeping with FISA racing requirements and two safety boats with lifesavers and divers were placed on duty in addition to the umpire's boat.

Events, Rowers and Institutions

The events consisted of a total of 31 races covering single sculls, doubles, pairs and fours. A unique feature, once again seen for the first time in Sri Lanka was the "live" relay event, where the boats took off, like in a baton change, instead of individual up and down runs.

Over 130 rowers [male and female athletes] from 14 institutions participated in this inaugural event. The three services [Security Forces], the Kotelawala Defence University, Moratuwa and Colombo Universities, Sri Lanka's two known rowing clubs, Bolgoda and Colombo Rowing Clubs and Schools, Royal, St Thomas', Prince of Wales, St Josephs, Musaeus, and Ladies College joined in with boats and rowers, while AIS contributed with only boats, due to ongoing examinations.

The entire regatta was conducted under the aegis of the ARASL [Amateur Rowing Association of Sri Lanka] with a Jury of four ARASL officials headed by the ARASL principal Juror. The ten race officials consisted of senior rowing personalities.

All participants were underwritten with a personal accident cover up to Rs 500,000/- and the eighteen boats were insured to a value of Rs 20,000,000/-. Two Safety Boats and a team from the St Johns Ambulance Brigade with Paramedics stood by, throughout the regatta.

Another first achieved was the invitation extended to the newly formed National Association of Canoeing & Kayaking in Sri Lanka. Two Kayak events were incorporated more in the form of an exhibition to introduce the sport.

Guests

The Chief Guest was the Secretary to the Ministry of Defense Mr. Gotabhaya Rajapakse and the Guest of Honour was Mr Thilak Karunaratne, the incumbent President of Ananda OBA.

All the Heads of participating institutions, President of the ARASL, Chief of Staff Sri Lanka Navy, Principal Ananda College, Principals of all the participating schools and parents were invited, as guests with Ananda Rowing playing hosts, as organizers of the event, with the able support and blessings of Ananda College Old Boys' Association [ACOB A] and Old Anandians' Sports Club [OASC] in support.

Sponsors

The Regatta was co-sponsored by Janashakthi Insurance PLC, CIC Holdings PLC, David Pieris Motor Company Limited and the Standard Chartered Bank, Sri Lanka branch. The ACOBA lent the funds to ensure a smooth and stress free start up. The Regatta cost the organizers Rs. 1.3 million and the earnings amounted to approximately Rs 1.7 million, ending up with a net gain of roughly Rs.400,000/=

Conclusion

The regatta was organised by Ananda Rowing with the able support of the Coach and Ananda Rowers, past and present.

The event was unique and more so, as it consisted of many firsts in the Sri Lankan regatta history. It gave added recognition to Ananda rowers, as a rowing institution. This was the first rowing event of this magnitude to be conducted in Sri Lanka with adherence to all FISA racing standards, while contributing immensely to open up this hitherto exclusive Olympic sport to the ordinary public.

The organising of this Diyawanna Regatta by Ananda College came in for praise from the Sri Lankan Rowing fraternity, who are now urging us to make this event an annual affair.

Compiled by: Ravi Jayaratne/ Kumar Jayasuriya



Photographs taken at Diyawanna Sprints 2012. In the second photo the Chief Guest Gotabaya Rajapakse flanked by OBA President Thilak Karunaratne and Principal L.M.D. Dharmasena



A statue of Col. Olcott was Unveiled in USA to coincide with Ananda 125 Anniversary Celebrations