



Light from Heaven

Bulletin of SACKOBA (Colombo Branch)
March 2021

THEME: "Let's perform outward works of Mercy & render GOD inward & spiritual worship"

SLOGAN: "Be at hand Oh Lord our God"

ASH WEDNESDAY IS THE BEGINNING OF LENT...

let us Repent and pray unceasingly

This year Ash Wednesday was on the 17th of February 2021. It has since St. Gregory the Great, been inaugurated in Rome, as the forty Holy days of Lent. Public penance and fasting began on Ash Wednesday. The tradition is from those ancient times and is carried on annually, up to this day; after the blessings of the Ashes. The ashes blessed on this day were obtained by the burning of all the blest Palms and green palm tree branches of the previous year's Palm Sunday services. What an orderly, Holy and disciplined moment of the one holy Catholic and Apostolic Roman Catholic Church. The Priest wearing a purple color Cape stands at the Altar having near him the vessel of ashes to be blessed, while the Choir sings the relevant verse pertaining to this ceremony done on Ash Wednesday. "Hear us Oh Lord our God, for Thy mercy is kind, according to the multitude of Thy Mercies have regard and pity for us Oh Lord. Save us from the snares of the devil. Amen." The ashes are blessed by the Priest after special prayers are recited by him over the ashes and finally Holy Water is sprinkled on the ashes.



We Antonians are following LENT more religiously this year than most other previous years. Aren't we? We have been shown signs by the Lord our God that HE is far from happy with what is going on in this Country and in the World at large. Manmade power and powerful equipment have already proved powerless against the Mighty power of God. We see the big signs in the most powerful nations crumbling slowly in front of our eyes. Are these the end times?

Let us rally dear friends, dear Antonians, and Join hands and pray to our Redeemer and Savior Jesus Christ for blessings and protection in these dangerous times. Recite Psalm 91 on a daily basis and let's do simple charitable acts and services for persons in difficult conditions during LENT. Amen.

EDITORIAL

It is almost time for our HOLY WEEK the Week of Prayer and fasting. We believe this year's time of being in the Lord's presence will influence the road ahead that He is calling us to travel together as strong Catholics.

Each day during the week, we have a different Scripture theme. Will you pray for the Lord's presence to be upon us and on this very old Roman Catholic College since 1854.

Oh God we come to know Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of all Mankind and our Savior. HE is Your only begotten Son.

Oh, Lord, we can't do this in our own strength, under our own, willpower and wisdom. We must have Your presence with us, and we won't dare to move forward without You. We don't ask You to bless our plans – we ask You to show us Your way and be with us every step and every moment. And we move with YOU. We are so thankful to You Oh Lord for Your protection and blessings.

In this new era, we continue to trust in Him to guide, equip, provide and open doors for us to take the Good News to all our friends, relations and colleagues. We are utterly dependent on Him and only want to go where He goes. And so, we worship, pray, and fast. Old Antonians please join us in this prayer.

LET US PRAY:

Lord, we are thankful to you and we are for You. We are pursuing You – for such a time as this. Give us an enlarged capacity for prolonged times of worship, prayer, and simply tarrying in Your presence. We request The Holy Spirit to move among us and inspire us and guide us as we do the work of spiritual preparation, provision, and equipping. Prepare the way You are calling us to go and how You are leading us to minister this year and beyond. We devote our Holy week as a week of prayer and fasting, as well as our times of worship and prayer every week, to You, knowing You will do exceedingly abundantly more than we ask or think. In the name of Jesus Christ.

Please protect us from the Covid 19 virus and its variants, which has killed about 6 Lakhs in USA alone and 2 and a half million world wide to date. We pray to you Oh Lord protect us and bless us.

As Editor of the SACK OBA Colombo Branch bulletin; My sincere wishes to all our readers, for a HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER.

Shane Balthazaar

(An Antonian - Jan 1962 to May 1974)



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Lakshman Denipitiya

Editor

Shane Balthazaar

E mail

shane_balthazaar@hotmail.com

Phones 0779914839 (M)
0771978551 (M)

www.sackoba.com



**SACK OBA COLOMBO BRANCH
PRESIDENT MR ROHAN WIJESINGHE's
MESSAGE**



Our heartiest congratulations to our first eleven Cricketers who have been performing excellently this 2020-21 cricket season. They have won all their matches except one match vs Richmond by points. Their splendid individual performances and team work have helped tremendously. The team is captained by Gihan Ebert. I send my special wishes to him and his team and to the very good Cricket Coaches we have this season. I will be failing in my Duty if I do not mention the herculean efforts of the Antonian Cricket Wing headed by Chandika Jayawardena. Chandika is also an Ex-Co member of the Colombo Branch among others like Asela Herat. A special note of praise to the following cricketers in the team besides the Captain for his good leadership, like Chaminda Wickramasinghe, Anjala Bandara, Mohamed Kamil, Nimnaka Jayathilake, Chandimal, Yasuru Gamarachchi, Tharindu Hewage, to name a few. Chamindu Wickramasinghe has represented Sri Lanka Schools with distinction. It is most unfortunate that spectators cannot witness these matches this time due to the government restrictions imposed for Covid 19 as precautionary measures.



A word of praise to GANN Ex Co (Global Antonians) for the administrative support and unique back up they give our Cricket. M. Usoof is a name that comes to mind.

The Colombo branch held their 8th Ex Co meeting for the year 2020-21 on the 18th March at the Colts' Cricket Club Colombo. I have made many visits to College with IPP Mr. Wilhelm Brown and met Rev Fr Henry Wijeratne OSB the Principal and discussed a number of matters about College and our future successes. The new Basketball Court project will recommence shortly. The delay was due to the pandemic.

The Colombo branch AGM will be held this year and the date and details will be informed well in advance.

In conclusion I wish you all A PRAYERFUL HOLY WEEK IN LENT AND A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER FOR 4TH APRIL 2021.



**EASTER MEASSAGE
FROM THE PRINCIPAL
REV. FR. HENRY WIJERATNE OSB**



I send my sincere wishes to the President, the Ex-Co and members of the SACK OBA (Colombo Branch) of St. Anthony's College Kandy for A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER on the 4th of April 2021. Let us also take this opportunity to pray for the 2019 Easter Sunday Martyrs. **FOR THOSE INNOCENT WORSHIPERS** who were killed by Terrorist suicide bombers inside 3 churches whilst following Easter Sunday Holy Mass in 2019.



On the third day after the Crucifixion. "He has risen just as He said." These seven words - the herald of the Resurrection are the core of Roman Catholic Religion, apart from this truth the Christian faith would be deceptive and we would be lost. A world without hopes... 9 Corinthians 15;17-19but because Jesus Christ is Risen, we find peace with God there is new life and a hope that transcends this whole world. Oh Jesus, have mercy and hear us oh Lord our God.

I take this opportunity to thank the Colombo Branch for all that they have been doing down the ages right up to the present day for the Alma Mater.

Please follow AMU (Antonian Media Unit) and GANN (Global Antonian News Network) for all the latest news about the College events. I thank the Editor of this bulletin, for reminiscing on the past history and traditions of St Anthony's College Kandy, since the good old days up to the present.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Let me take this opportunity to also wish you all a Peaceful and Prosperous Sinhala and Tamil New Year for the 14th of April 2021.

BISHOP BEDE BECKMEYER OSB

Bishop Beckmeyer has a clear title to the constant remembrance and the perennial gratitude of Antonians. Our debt to him has been acknowledged more than once; nothing is lost in repeatedly stating it. He was our most distinguished Old Boy and unique even among Bishops. He strained his resources to the utmost to give us a new site and a new home.

Bishop Beckmeyer was a pioneer. He was more than a pioneer—he was a prophet too. A discussion took place some years ago in the press over the relative merits of Colombo and the Dumbara Valley as sites for the future University of Ceylon. One morning Bishop Beckmeyer found himself in the full glare of publicity. He was declared to have had the courage to purchase a property for St. Anthony's not a league from the projected home of the University and could his choice and his wisdom be in any way impugned? He had shown himself a prophet with the right sense of direction.

This was perhaps his only contact with public affairs. When occasion demanded, however, he could be a shrewd critic of policy. Conjointly with the other Bishops he raised the standard of revolt against the attempts of the State to encroach on the free right of the individual to bring his child up in the faith into which it is born. His views were constructive as well. In educational matters he was a nationalist at heart. On speech day, in 1924, when he presided, he said, "the road to national greatness is national intelligence", thereby anticipating a good deal of what our modern statesmen have to say.

The glory that surrounded the prelates of old, the della Roveres and the d'Estes, is now no more. Yet, without the trappings of power and position, Bishop Beckmeyer was magnificent. He did not need a stately palazzo to that he was one, and a worthy one, in the long line of Bishops of the Church; his grand and spacious spirit made up for whatever was lacking in externals. He was truly a Prince Bishop.

The soil that lies over him will always be sweet.

(Reproduced in modified form from "The Antonian" of 1935)



CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON - A DOUBLE EAGLE - AN EXCELLENT SPORTSMAN OF ST. ANTHONYS COLLEGE KANDY



Christopher Anderson besides being a match winning sportsman of the Alma Mater in the 1960's and early 1970's was a Prefect of the College and a very good and popular Orator who won many literary awards.

In Basketball he Captained the College teams in 1971 and 1972. He represented the Central Province Schools and the Sri Lanka Schools Basketball Teams in both these years and was awarded the EAGLE and Basketball Colors. On leaving College he represented the Sri Lanka Police Basketball team from 1975 to 1977 winning Police Basketball colors. He was so dedicated to this great sport that he used to rise at 4 am and go down to the College Basketball court; switch on those good old tube lights and practice till well past sunrise. He was strong, fit and a fighter to the end.

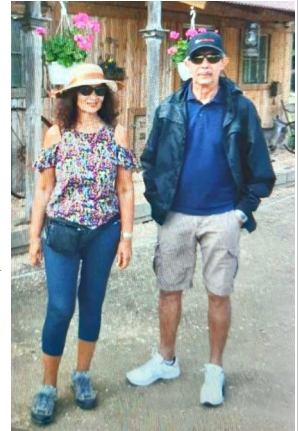
In the field of Athletics, he excelled frequently having being the Champion Athlete of his age group at College every year for eight consecutive years, in due time. That was from under 12 to under 19. In 1972 it was nice to see him walk up to the victory stand after receiving the Under 19 Award of Champion Athlete of the Central Province Athletic Meet in 1972. The Antonians emerged champions that year. Christopher was the best Athlete from the Maroon house that College ever had in those years. Christopher was the very best in Field events no doubt. He won Athletic colors and was rewarded same.

In Rugby, Christopher played for College in the early seventies and won College Colors and the Eagle for Rugby. In 1972 the College team beat Trinity. He represented the Sri Lanka Rugby schools' team in 1972 and 1973 and the S L Rugby Football Union Presidents fifteen in 1973 while still at School. Later on, after leaving College Christopher played Rugby for The Sri Lanka Police from 1975 to 1978.

Christopher Anderson won the College Best All-Round Sportsman Gold Medal in 1972. He was a hard player always on the attack and a player who never backed away or avoided hard play. He was in the forefront of fast-moving attacking Rugby; a line out specialist par excellence and who had many a fight in the scrums every season. Later on, he was employed as a Senior Executive in C W Mackie and company Colombo for two decades on leaving the Police as an Inspector. He is now retired and lives with his wife Ramona at Maharagama. They have two sons. One is married and settled down in Canada and the younger son is in Dubai.

Christopher is a long-standing member of the SACK OBA Colombo branch and was a former Secretary of the Ex-Co. As Antonians we will never forget his excellent performances and superb contributions in the field of sports. He put College on the map in Sports, and in those tough years of the 1960's and 1970's it was not easy as we had limited resources and diet unlike nowadays.

Yes, Old Blood and Guts...that was Christo. (by DGSB))



PRIMARY SCHOOL PRIZE GIVING

The Annual Prize Giving of St. Anthony's College Kandy (Primary Department) was held on Tuesday, 23rd February 2021. The Chief Guest was old Antonian Dr. Lansakara Herath (MBBS/ICO), Medical Officer in Ophthalmology, Department of Ophthalmology, Base Hospital, Gampola. A total of 75 students carried away prizes for their academic excellence during the past year. Due to prevailing restrictions, the attendance was limited to the prize winners, teachers of the primary department and Rev Fathers of the College community.

(sent by Mr. Afzal Lafir.)



ANTONIAN ARCHIVES AND GALLERY



It's Official # 4th Year coloursman GIHAN EBERT has been appointed Captain of the "ANTONIA N" Cricket Team for the season-2021. Our Heartiest Congratulations & Best wishes to him & the team



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL WEBINAR

Hosted By

SRI LANKA FOUNDATION MEDICAL

"SCIENTIFIC SESSION ON COVID-19, WHAT WE KNOW NOW"

BY OUTSTANDING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AROUND THE GLOBE FROM

US, UK, SRI LANKA & HONG KONG



DR. PAUL HOLTOM

MD, USC KECK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, USA

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER



DR. MALIK PEIRIS

MBBS, FRCP(Ph), D PHIL (OXON), FHKAM (Path), FRCP, FRS, HONG KONG



DR. DUSHYANTHA JAYAWEEERA

MD, FACP, MRCOG, USA



DR. ANANDA WIJEWICKRAMA

M.B.B.S SRI LANKA



DR. SURANJITH SENEVIRATNE

DPhil(Oxon), MBBS, MD, DPATH, MRCP(Ph), NI RCP, FRCP, FRCP(Ph), FCCP, UK



DR. DEEPTHI JAYASEKERA

MD, FACP, M-IDS, USA

MODERATOR



SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH : 7:00PM US (PST)
SUNDAY, APRIL 25TH : 7:30AM SRI LANKA
SUNDAY, APRIL 25TH : 1:00PM AUSTRALIA
SUNDAY, APRIL 25TH : 10:00AM HONG KONG
SUNDAY, APRIL 25TH : 3:00AM UK



Former CMB Exco member late Claude Amerasinghe & wife Nalini

Former Teacher at St. Anthony's College, Mrs. Yatawarra, passed away recently. Dearly beloved mother of Bandula Yatawara & Amirtha teacher. Funeral took place at General Cemetery Mahiyawa. Address 10, Preethi Mawatha, Watapuluwa. News recd. from Past Teachers Association



RUGBY FOOTBALL FIRST XV 1970 - Captain Peter Coterlin



RUGBY XV 1972 - Captain Tuan Dole



RUGBY XV - 1971 - Captain Steve De Silva



COLLEGE RUGGER XV 1968 - Captain H. M. Kuthdoos



Flash Back to
2004

Mr. Shirley Wickremasinghe, Vice President (on right) hands over a donation of Rs.500,000/- to Mr. Gamini Karunaratne, Past President of OBA (Colombo Branch) of St. Anthony's College, Kandy for the 150th Anniversary Celebrations Fund of St. Anthony's College, Kandy.



A Former Rugby Captain Ashad Dole(seated) donates house near his home

Wing Comander **Nadika Hurigolla**



What a moment. Old Antonian, Air Vice Marshall Janaka Amerasinghe congratulating another proud Antonian, Wing Commander Nadika Hurigolla who was promoted on February 4th 2021. Congratulations & All the Very Best. Keep the College Flag Flying. “Eagles Fly above all”



Our Wishes for a Speedy & Complete Recovery.
Deshabandhu Professor Sheriffdeen



“PROUD
ANTONIAN”

Professor A. Haleem Sheriffdeen is out of danger following Covid



Basil Harley wins prestigious award at Lions Charter Anniversary

Chithral, Sirimevan & Shane with Chief Inspector M. Dharmakeerthi & wife at Kurunegala



Alloy VanCuylenberg and wife in Philippines

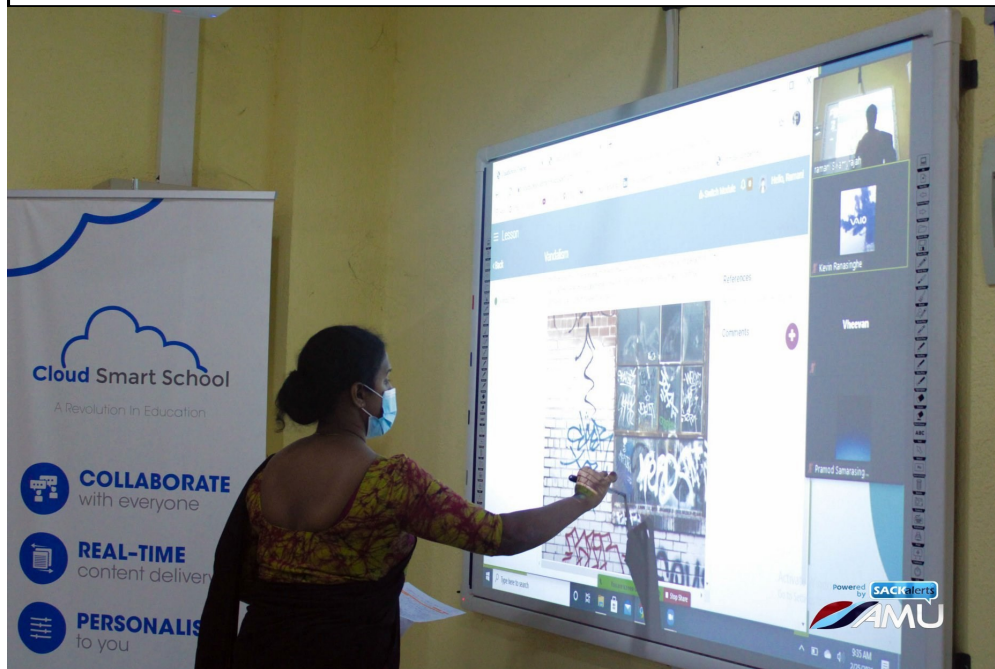
CLOUD SMART CLASSROOM LAUNCHED

(Sent by Mr. Afzal Lafir)

It is heartening to see our beloved College is keeping up with Technology! Under the leadership and dynamism of Principal, Rev. Fr. Henry Wijeratne OSB a long-awaited e-learning database was introduced to College through Code Gen (Software Company). During these times of Covid 19, the e-learning industry across the world has seen rapid development in 2020—21. Our College embraced these changes and chances, in a timely manner, meeting new standards while launching the Cloud Smart Classroom and in the process, offering an unique training program for the Academic Staff. The first Smart Class lessons were successfully conducted on the 25th of February, giving the Academic Staff and the Students easy (and Free) access to school work from the comfort of their homes.



CLOUD SMART CLASSROOM LAUNCHED





ST.ANTHONY'S COLLEGE – KANDY

CLOUD SMART CLASSROOM LAUNCH







ANTONIAN ARCHIVES GALLERY PICS



The office-bearers of the BCCSL when Sri Lanka played its first Test match against England in 1982.

Standing (L to R) S.Wickramaratne, R de Silva, R Samarasekera, Dr H.I.K Fernando, Ranjit Fernando, L Mendis and U Mahanama, Seated (L to R) Abu Fuard, K.M.T.Perera, B.R.Heyn, T Murugasar (Vice President), Gamini Dissanayake (President), Nisal Senaratne (Secretary), Nuski Mohamed (Treasurer), Michael de Zoysa (Asst. Secretary), Bertram Perera (Asst. Treasurer) and C.N.D Perera.



Charley Paul in a Winery



CEYLON TEAM, 1958

Photo from the book "The History of Sri Lankan International Cricket 1882 - 1982"

Ceylon team. Standing, from left: Anton Sethupathy, Malcolm Francke, Tony Buhar, Clive Inman, Michael Tissera, A. C. M. Lafir. Seated: Chandra Schaffter, C.I. Gunasekara, Vernon Prins (captain), Channa Gunasekara, H. I. K. Fernando

Rev Fr Aidan De Silva, former Principal



Famous Antonian Old boys domiciled in Australia

Popular Cricketers of Yester Year



Colombo Branch visits Rev Fr Steven Abraham OSB



Flash back - CPSCA 1974 All Island Schools Zonal Champions. (Rohan Pereira of TCK was Capt and Kevin Balthazaar of SACK was Vice Capt.)



Dilip Tambinayagam & wife with Englebert Humperdinck



Late Antonian Wilhelm Milhuisen

In this time of traditional cheer & Good spirits, "Global Antonians" (GANN) looked at bringing joy to some deserving people who are part and parcel of our Beloved school, the non-academic support staff members. Global Antonians arranged a timely distribution of 37 parcels of dry rations among them. Our thanks to each and every individual who came forward at short notice & enabled closure of this Project. A special word of appreciation to Kokul Dev & our evergreen Chandra Mahawattage for spending precious time and seeing it to its successful completion. Another project completed successfully. Thank you



Famous past Cricket Captain Angelo Liyanage



SACK OBA CMB Branch President Rohan Wijesinghe



Rommel, Taylor, Warrick & Patrick in Australia

Maurice de Silva passed away in Brisbane this January. An end to a legendary rugger player who was a treat to watch as a Center three quarter playing for St. Peter's College, Havelocks SC, Kandy Lake Club - (KRFC) and All-Ceylon. Maurice and the backline were synonymous with the scissor pass and his pairing with Nimal Maralande was a joy to watch. They were instrumental in bringing the premier club championship silverware, the Clifford Cup, to the Havelocks on a number of occasions. At Havelocks he was among some of the great players of that time along with Dr. Hubert Aloysius, Nimal Maralande, Dickie Jayatilleke, Y.C. Chang, Ken de Joodt, Mike de Alwis, Jeyer Rodrigues, Conrad Ephram's, Maurice Anggie, Dr. Trevor Anggie, L. Dias, Sumanasekera and Gamini Fernando as well as enjoying the Clifford Cup victory by Havies in 1961. A proud alumnus of St. Peter's College, Maurice represented College in Cricket (1955 under Clive Inman), Boxing at Stubbs Shield level and Rugby. St. Peter's College fielded two sets of brothers in their 1955 team captained by the dynamic Clive Inman - the Duckworth brothers - Kenneth & Russell and the De Silva brothers - Brian & Maurice. This, I believe is a record for the Peterites in their cricketing history.

The De Silva family of 13 members lived down Lauries Road next to St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya. The sporting boys all attended St. Peter's College while the girls were at Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya. Maurice's older brother was a popular cricketer of yesteryear - Brian de Silva, former Peterite wicket-keeper who opened batting and had good scores during the season and at the big match. Brian was later a regular Sara player at Colts Cricket Club where he captained the team at all levels of the various tournaments in due course. His other brothers were Dennis, late Ronnie, late Rex and another legendary ruggerite Len de Silva and now Maurice has departed too. Archibald Perera was Maurice's uncle and idol. Sunil Perera, former Peterite Rugby captain is his cousin while Ravi de Silva and Druvi de Silva of Josephian cricket/rugby fame are his nephews - Brian & Clare de Silva's two sons.

Late Maurice was an excellent rugby coach at Isipathana and later at St Anthony's College Kandy. It was he who made the Antonians believe in themselves and play hard rugby and beat their opponents. He was their coach from 1968 to late 1971. after which late Mr. Lucky Witharna a Trinity Lion took over. The Antonians were excellent during those 5 years that Maurice coached.. What a difference Maurice made of the Katugastota lads after being invited to Coach college by late Rev Fr Aidan De Silva the dynamic Principal and the late Rev Fr Alred Samarakoon OSB a hard-working POG who wanted to win all the time! These two wonderful Priests were at college at the right time that took Antonians to great all-round levels.

The turning point of our rugby was Maurice indeed, and in 1968 College led by Koothdus drew with Trinity at the Peradeniya rugby grounds 3 all. The teams of 1970, 1971 were also superior sides among the schools. Maurice De Silva's great efforts turned heads of the Rugby world in the direction of the Antonians after 1968. In 1972 the Antonian historic win over Trinity at Nittawela under Tuan Doles excellent captaincy was the icing on the cake. In Tuan Dole's own words "It was Maurice who molded us from our under fourteen days".

Maurice left for Australia with his wife Moira in 1973 and made Brisbane his home.



Maurice sadly passed away on 28th January 2021 at 0130 hours at his home in Brisbane surrounded by his family members peacefully. May he rest in peace with the Lord our God.

Message from Late Mr .Maurice De Silva's daughter:

Receiving the ball at the 50m line the legend Maurice de Silva sold a scissor and fooled his opposing backline. He palmed a fullback and then the skilled center, ducking and weaving made a dash to the try line, grounding the ball under the posts for the last time. My wonderful father died peacefully at 0155 this morning (27th Jan 2021). He was surrounded by

OUR COLLEGE GROUNDS LOOK EXCELLENT AFTER A BIG FACE LIFT

Reported By : Gamini Dharmapala and Ladis Ghanapragasam of the Colombo Branch

It gives us great satisfaction, that what began as a small project to re plant grass in front of the College Terraces where rocks and stones were exposed and looked dangerous. If children or cricketers fell in that area while playing and practicing, injuries would have been severe. Therefore, we progressed to cover all brown patches and make the entire Ground look Green and beautiful, once again, drawing almost Rs.399,500/- in total contributions on the initiative of Ladis who is from the Colombo Branch.

It started with contributions of Rs.50,000/- from Ladis's colleagues Ranjan Peiris, Samantha de Silva, M.N.Samarathunga, Saman Hulangamuwa and Ladis himself, to break the exposed rocks near the terraces and level and re plant grass. Then Ranjith Peiris and Chandika Jayawardana President Cricket Wing supported with a further Rs.37,000/- to complete the full stretch of the terraces area.

Rev Fr. Henry Wijeratne OSB our Principal's initiative prompted Usoof and GANN to contribute Rs.100,000/- to lay grass from the Old Club up to the scoreboard end and to stop the soil erosions. With all this work done, still the ground was exposed with large stretches of brown patches.

When work stopped due to lack of funds to progress further, Ladislaus Gnanapragasam of Colombo OBA came forward to raise some funds. He raised another Rs.192,500/- and such Contributions have come from Asanka Ratnayake, Shantha Jayawardana, Palitha Anthony, totaling Rs.42,500/-. Then Wijeyapalan, Shanmuganathan, S. Sundararajah, K.Sundaramoorthy, S.Vasudhevan, V.N.Sivendran, contributed along with the 1971, 1981 and 1982 batches a total sum of Rs.50,000/-. Ladislaus of the Colombo branch and his classmates Anton Marcus, Mohamed Naleef, Muralidharan, Azard Faleel, M Simbil, M.Ismath (of the 1985 batch) contribute a total of Rs.75,000/-, and Rs.25,000/- came from the Group of 2009 coordinated by Tharindu Hettithantrige with his twenty-four batch mates.

We wish to thank Usoof and GANN and all contributors as mentioned above for all financial contributions and helping in a timely manner, to make Our College grounds look Green, well levelled, safe and beautiful once again.

We wish to thank Rev Fr. Principal specially for supporting and encouraging us from day one and personally following the work being done until its completion. We thank Fr. Principal for contributing Rs.20,000/- to cover the shortfall in order to make the final payment to the Contractor and for getting the ground staff to water the re planted area as required and making all payments officially.

Both of us are happy that we were able to complete a worthwhile project in a special way. If not for all the support, we got, it would not have been a reality.

Photographs printed in our last two or three bulletins on this project initiated by the Colombo Branch speak for themselves.

We hope and pray that the Water Sprinkler system promised by Sri Lanka Cricket President Mr. Shammi Silva during his visit to College, while this work was at its last stages, will materialize and will be a facilitator to maintain the investment made by all our contributors as stated above. God Bless you all.



Famous Antonian ...Major General (Retd) Priyantha Jayasundera VSV USP NDC USACGSC IG

Priyantha Jayasundera was educated at St Anthony's College, Kandy from 1974 to 1982. Whilst in College he excelled in Cricket, Basketball and Athletics and was a Prefect of the College. Some of his major achievements during his School days are as follows:

Cricket

Won Colours for three consecutive years in 1980, 1981 and 1982

He played in the 1st XI Cricket Team against Trinity on the Asgiriya grounds that broke the "hoodoo of Asgiriya" winning the Big Match there in 1981.

He won "Antonian Wing" for excellence in Junior Cricket.

Athletics

He Won Colours for Athletics for four consecutive years from 1979 to 1982.

Won places in Public Schools Athletics Championship meets and Amateur Athletics Association Championships, taking part in both Track and Field events, which were Discuss Throw, Javelin Throw and Relays in particular.

He Won the Best Performance Award for 'Track and Field' Athletics at the College Sports meet.

He Establish a Record in Discuss Throw in the under 17 category at the Central Province Athletic Meet.

He was Awarded the much coveted Antonian Eagle for Athletics at the Colours Nite.

Priyantha was the Vice Captain of the College Senior Athletic Team.

Basket Ball

Won Colours in 1981 and 1982

He was the Captain of the College Basket Ball Team 1981.

Other Achievements

Priyantha won the prestigious Award of Best All Round Sportsman of the College in the year 1981.

He won the 'Curtesy' Prize awarded to the boy who has brought honour and Credit to the College through excellent behaviour, in 1981 at the College Annual Prize Giving.

Has won the Senior Zoology Prize in Grade 11 and 12 at the Annual Prize Giving in 1980 and 1981.



Military Service for the Nation.

Priyantha Jayasundara having qualified the GCE Advanced Level in Bio Science at College, joined the Sri Lanka Army Military Academy, as an Officer Cadet in 1984 and was Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on the 16th November 1985. He was the winner of the unique and prestigious 'Sword of Honour' which is traditionally awarded to the Best All-Round Officer Cadet of the Batch and the Military Tactics Award at the Passing out parade in Sri Lanka Military Academy Diyatalawa.

Having received a Presidents Commission at the passing out parade, he was posted to the Artillery Regiment as a 2nd Lieutenant. Since then he has held many important appointments in the Regiment of Artillery and Sri Lanka Army. Some of the appointments held are Commanding Officer of a Field Artillery Regiment, Colonel General Staff of an Infantry Division, Military Assistant to the Commander of the Army, Officer Instructor at Army Command and Staff College, Infantry Brigade Commander, Artillery Brigade Commander, Deputy Division Commander, Infantry Division Commander, Director Plans of the Sri Lanka Army, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Military Academy, Master General Ordnance and Military Secretary.

During his Career of 35 years, he has had the opportunity of following overseas courses in Pakistan (Young Officers Course, Officers Locating Course and Mid Carrier Course), India (Long Gunnery Staff Course and National Defence Course), China (Locating Radar Course) and USA (Advanced Artillery Course and Staff Course). He has also participated in overseas military seminars, workshops and visited India, Pakistan, Indonesia, China, Sudan, Tanzania, Nepal, Belarus, UAE, Netherlands, Singapore, Portugal, France, Italy, Switzerland, USA and Chile.

He is an alumnus of the Army Command and Staff College Sri Lanka and Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, USA and National Defense College, New Delhi, India and holds a Masters Degree in Defence Studies from the University of Kelaniya and M Phil in Strategic Studies from the University of Madras (Chennai)

For his exceptional, distinguished and loyal service to the Army and Nation, he has been awarded the 'Vishista Seva Vibushanaya' Service Medal and the 'Uthamaseva Padakkama' Medal.

He retired from the Sri Lanka Army on 27th April 2018 after a distinguished service of 35 long years.

After retirement from the Army in 2018, he was employed in the Private sector for over 2 years as a Senior Manager.

In 2021 Major General (Retd.) Priyantha Jayasundera was appointed as the Director National Cadet Corps of Sri Lanka. He is an exceptional Senior officer of the Army and a distinguished Old Boy of St Anthony's College Kandy who has brought honour and glory to his Alma Mater.

HOLIDAYING IN AUSTRALIA. *By Premalal De Silva*

An interesting Cycling Trio visited me at my son's place in Perth, in a suburb named Mandurah 65 km from Perth. They had made a brief stop halfway for refreshments. They were my good buddies at College and I thank them very much for visiting me. The trio were Alistair Mackenzie in red cycling gear, Rodney Taylor in the center and Michael Driberg. The climatic conditions were very pleasant that day in March 2021 for cycling. We had a great re union. I have been in Australia with my wife visiting my Daughter's family in Sydney and at my son's family in Perth ever since the pandemic broke out, we have been here in lovely Australia. It Is also extremely safe, excellently managed and controlled where covid 19 is concerned. I have met many Old Antonians and their families in Sydney Melbourne and now Perth.

Next Saturday in Melbourne is the most looked forward to Cricket Match . It is The Trinity Antonian Big match Australian style, and Jackie Robertson will be the Chief Guest . Michael Driberg is going for this match from Perth. In the picture are Red shirt - Alistair Mackenzie , Center Rodney Taylor and Michael Driberg (Old Antonians of the 60's and early 70's).



SACK OBA COLOMBO BRANCH LADIES CLUB

RECIPE CORNER

BEEF STEAK RECIPE FROM SACK OBA CMB BR LADIES CLUB

Sent By: Ramona Anderson

YIELDS: 2 SERVINGS

PREP TIME: 0 HOURS 10 MINS

TOTAL TIME: 0 HOURS 45 MINS

INGREDIENTS

4 tbsp. butter, softened
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 tsp. freshly chopped parsley
1 tsp. freshly chopped chives
1 tsp. freshly chopped thyme
1 tsp. freshly chopped rosemary
1 (2 lb.) bone-in ribeye
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl, combine butter and herbs. Place in center of a piece of plastic wrap and roll into a log. Twist ends together to keep tight and refrigerate until hardened, 20 minutes.

Season steak on both sides with salt and pepper.

Place steak in basket of air fryer and cook at 400° for 12 to 14 minutes, for medium, depending on thickness of steak, flipping halfway through.

Top steak with a slice of herb butter to serve.

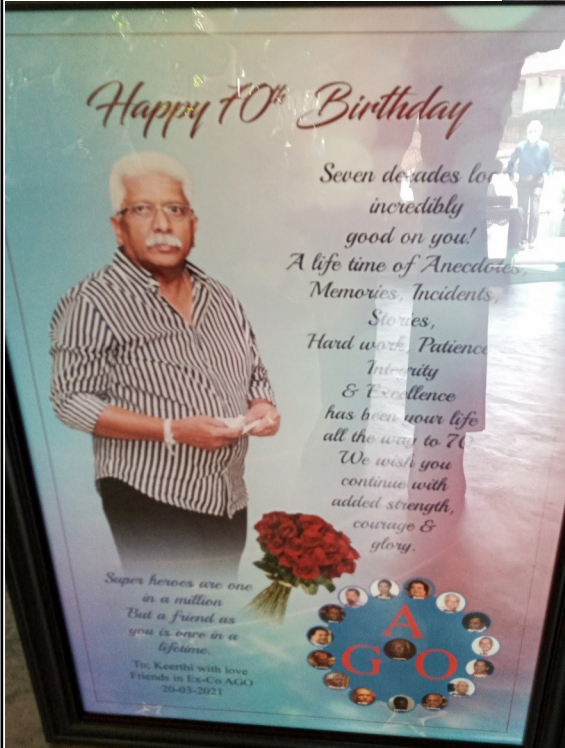


"Antonian Golden Oldies of the 60s" Vice President—Keerthi Weerasinghe celebrates his 70th Birthday



Mrs. Dilini Weerasinghe surprised her husband Keerthi, with a birthday bash par excellence at their lovely residence adjacent to their Cinema Hall - "The New Sigiri" at Gohagoda Road, Katugastota on the 20th March 2021 from 11 am to 6 pm .

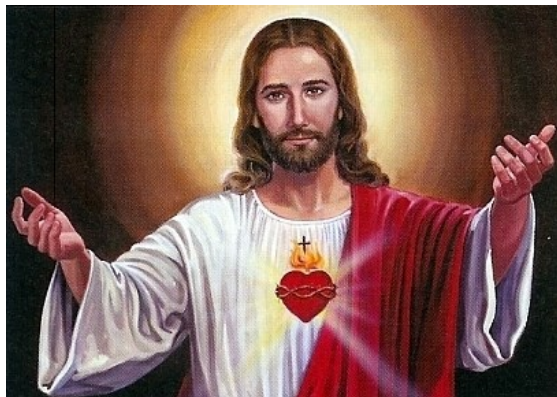
Jayantha Udukumbura the President of the Antonian Golden oldies of the 60s , with following AGO 60s EX CO members attended the gala event. They were, Gamini Bernard Fernando, Max Taylor, Gamini Tillakaratne, Leo Kurukularachi , Sirimevan Perera, Shane Balthazaar, Nihal De Silva, Egerton Rajakaruna, Mangala Waidyaratne and Relations, family friends, and Colleagues attended. A band in attendance provided good music for song and dance. What a memorable event with sumptuous food and a lovely specially ordered Cake. Leo and Nihal arranged the Medalion, Garland and Plaque.



The Lord Jesus Christ Himself goes before us

sent by Alloy Van CuyLenburg

While I was clearing out the garden in preparation for planting some beautiful new plants that i had got from a friend, I pulled up a large clump of wild grass and weeds . . . but just then leapt into the air ! A venomous snake - a Cobra lay hidden in the undergrowth just below my hand ; an inch or two lower and I would have accidentally touched it by mistake and the Cobra would have stung me. I saw its colorful markings as soon as I lifted the clump of weeds ; the rest of it was coiled between my feet. When my feet hit the ground two feet away, I thanked God I hadn't been stung by the Cobra. And I wondered how many other times JESUS had kept me safe from dangers I never knew were there. God watches over His people Oh yes, HE does. Moses told the Israelites as they prepared to enter the promised land , "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged" (Deuteronomy 31:8). They couldn't see God, but He was with them nonetheless.



Sometimes difficult things happen that we may not understand, but we can also reflect on the number of times God has preserved us protected us and delivered us from acute danger and high risks without our ever being aware ! Scripture reminds us that His perfect, providential care remains over His people every day. HE is always with us (Matthew 28:20). Have Faith and believe in HIM.

Do not do wicked dastardly things in life to your neighbors. Do not murder. How does the Biblical truth that God watches over His people comfort you? Who can you tell about His faithfulness today?

Heavenly Father, thank You for constantly watching over us and loving us and in through all of life's difficult moments. We pray that when we're in the midst of these times, you would remind us of Your faithfulness and in so doing strengthen our trust and renew our hope in You. Give me the grace to walk closely with You My LORD JESUS in everything I do today. Let us remember all the useful, valuable Roman Catholic lessons, mannerisms and good examples, we learnt at our Alma Mater St. Anthony's College Kandy that was established way back in 1854.

Thankyou Lord ! In Jesus Name we Pray. Amen.

MUNAWEERA ARATCHIGE CHITHRAL HILARIAN MUNAWEERA

J.P. (ALL ISLAND) - B.S.C. PLANT. MGT (WU-SL), MBA (WU-SL), MASTER IN AGRI ENTERPRISE & TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT (HONS), PG DIP. BUSINESS ADMIN. DIP. AGRI (AQUINAS), DIP PLANTATION PLANT. MGT (NIPM), DIP HUMAN RIGHTS (IHSL)

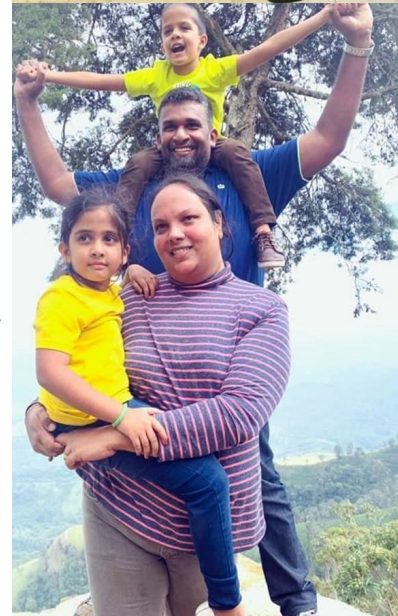


An Agriculturist by profession specialized in livestock integrated activity-based plantations, with a wide range of work experience spanning over three decades being attached to the semi-Government and Corporate sector. Specialized in intensive systems on Animal Husbandry and Coconut plantation management. Was educated at St. Anthony's College, Katugastota, a premier

Catholic School in the hill country city of Kandy and later joined the Aquinas University College, Colombo for higher studies in Agriculture. Commenced occupation career as a field trainee with the Ceylon Tobacco Company and shifted to the National Livestock Development Board in the latter part of the 1970's as a trainee Assistant Manager. Rose through all ranks as a field executive in the NLDB and finally promoted to the position of CEO/ General Manager in 2012 until mid 2015, wherein after relinquishing duties, joined Lanka Milk Foods (CWE) PLC and worked up to 2018 as their residential CEO of the Ambewela Dairy Complex consisting of three intensively managed Dairy farms and a state-of-the-art dairy products processing factory with popular 'Ambewela' brand name. These entities were registered under three separate companies for functional purposes. At present, is the General Manager / Consultant of the Sri Lanka All Island Dairy Association, a member of the Global Dairy Platform which is affiliated to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. Apart from same, also functions as an independent Director / Agriculture Advisor of the Mahaweli Plantations PLC. The Thrinithika Nikhaya of Sri Lanka, a prestigious Historical Buddhist organization, conferred the Deshamanaya award in recognition of the contribution made towards the countries development process and individual contribution towards the Dairy industry. The contribution to the Livestock, Plantation sector in the island is a passion in life, and continuous update on Education remains a priority process to date. The aim and ambition is to serve the nation's Development process utilizing wealth of practical experience and knowledge gained. Chithral Munaweera is a pride to his Alma mater.



Chithral & Surangi



Their Son & his family



Old Antonian Mr. Dicky Dunuwila

Old Antonian and former SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) member Mr. Claude Amarasinghe

Old Antonian Mr. Kapila Punchihewa

Old Antonian Mr. Jayampathy Weerasekera

Beloved son of Old Antonian and SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) Former President Mr. Nishanta Seneviratne

Beloved wife of Old Antonian & SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) member Mr. Ranjith Samaranayake

Beloved Mother of Old Antonian Mr. Jayantha De Silva

Beloved Mother of Old Antonians Mr. Ranjith and Lionel Peiris

Beloved Mother of Old Antonian & SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) Member Mr. Mahesh Nanayakkara

Beloved Father-in-Law of Old Antonian and SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) Executive Committee Member Mr. Bandula Ekanayake

Beloved Mother-in-Law of Old Antonian and SACKOBA (Colombo Branch) Executive Committee Member Mr. Ranjan Peiris

Former Teacher at SACK Mrs. Yatawara

Beloved Mother of Old Antonians Jayantha Peiris (Australian Branch) and Prasanna Peiris (USA)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANADEMIC

O Mary, you shine continuously along our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman people, know what we need, and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that, as at Cana of Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and took up our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Pope Francis

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PROFESSOR LAKSHMAN DENEPITIYA FAMOUS ANTONIAN A PRIDE TO HIS ALMA MATER

Lakshman Denepitiya was a student of St Anthony's College, Kandy from 1955 to 1970. He was a boarder in College - in the Rainbow, Pre Mansion, Mansion, Junior Villa, Senior Villa and Journey's End. He was an excellent sportsman. In 1967, 1968, and 1969 he represented College in Cricket. He was a First XI Cricket third year's colors man and was the Vice Captain in 1969. In Athletics he was an automatic choice in the 4 x 100 meters relay at fewer than 16 and under 19 levels, and broke the public Schools record in this event. Lakshman represented the first eleven college Soccer team in 1966 and 1967. He won College colors in Cricket, Athletics and Soccer. Lakshman Denepitiya was the SENIOR PREFECT of College in 1969. He won the rare award of the college - THE BEDE MEMORIAL GOLD MEDAL for The Best ALL Round Boy of College in 1968. He was an example of an unique personality and had excellent gentleman qualities with superior leadership talent and was an example to all his juniors at College in the sixties. His command and control was above average as a much respected Prefect. His high standard of personal discipline at College was a fitting and shining example to us, his juniors.



In 1969 he left College and entered the Dental Faculty of the Peradeniya University and graduated in 1973 with first class honors. In 1974 he was an assistant lecturer in the dental Faculty at Peradeniya University. In 1976 Lakshman migrated to the USA. There in New York USA he furthered his career by obtaining and qualifying as a Ph D in ORAC BIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY. He became a DDS – Doctor of Dental Surgery having qualified in New York USA.

Presently, Professor Lakshman Denepitiya does private practice at Long Island New York. He is a Professor at New York University and is a visiting lecturer to Dental Faculties in Stony Brook New York while rendering noble dental surgery and services.

He is married to Shanth and they have two children Tiffany and Brian. Lakshman visits his Alma Mater during a Big Match and never misses the annual sing along organized by the "Antonians Golden Oldies of The Sixties" which is a very popular group of Old Antonians which has a membership of 160.



St. Anthony's College Kandy Old Boys Association (Colombo Branch)

"The Sponge", 347, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka
E-mail: sackobacolsec@gmail.com
www.sackoba.com

ST. ANTHONY'S COLLEGE KANDY OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION (COLOMBO BRANCH) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2019/'20

Patron:	Rt.Rev.Dr.Vianney Fernando (Bishop of Kandy)
Vice Patrons:	Principal, St. Anthony's College, Kandy President, SACKOBA -Parent Body Justice Asoka De Silva Gamini Karunaratne Shirley Wickramasinghe Spencer Dias M. S. Fernando
Immediate Past President:	Wilhelm Brown
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Senior Vice President:	Jude Pillai
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