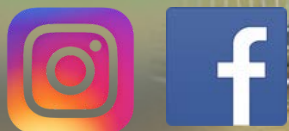




# ST. PETER'S COLLEGE OBSC MELBOURNE



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello Again Everyone. St Peters College has had a big Centenary year with many celebrations around the world to mark the event including our "Peterite Centenary Ball " in Melbourne. It is now time to look to "Year 100+1" and your Committee is looking at how we can best support our membership and College in 2023. So, our first project is the "Autumn Ball 2023", 80% of the proceeds of which will go to support the College Hall renovation project. This is a big project, estimated to cost \$400,000, and is long overdue.

Your Editor has been trying to keep you abreast of all things Peterite through our Facebook Page and our recently introduced Instagram account on a regular basis. I trust you will enjoy reading what we present in this newsletter.



Tino De La Motte



# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Fellow Peterites,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. As we embark on a new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we accomplished together as a club in the past year and look forward to the exciting opportunities and challenges ahead.

I am honoured to serve as your club president and to work with a dedicated and talented group of individuals on the committee. Together, we have formed a Dance Committee comprised of experienced and energetic members, who are working tirelessly to make the annual Dinner Dance "Autumn Ball 2023" a memorable event for our valued members and their families and friends.

I encourage all of us to continue to contribute our time, energy, and ideas to the club, with the goal of making this year even better than the last. I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Asela and our talented cricketers for their outstanding efforts in defending the Quadrangular championship and becoming the 2nd runners-up. Your dedication and passion for the sport are truly inspiring.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our valued sponsors, Pioneer Home Loans, SilCo Facility Management, Facility Co, and Spec Co, for their continuous support towards SPC Melbourne Cricket. Their contribution has made a significant impact on our Cricket group, and we are grateful for their partnership.

I encourage all members who have the ability to become sponsors to support our upcoming event, the Annual Dinner Dance "Autumn Ball 2023." This event not only brings us together to celebrate but also provides us with an opportunity to give back to our college, as 80% of the profits from the event will go towards the D. J. Nicholas Perera Hall renovation project.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Dinner Dance "Autumn Ball 2023." Let's come together to support our Alma Mater and have a great time.

**George Ajith Perera**

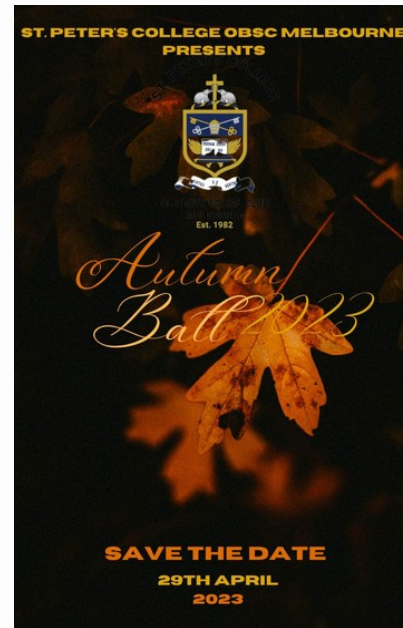


## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THE "AUTUMN BREEZE" BALL (Sat 29/4/2023)

This year we are going to blow you away.....at least your socks off !!! Starting with an Autumn theme complimented by lighting and decor at Cathies Lane receptions in Wantirna, you can enjoy the premium spirits and wine on your table and of course, Silverline caters always deliver. And Music....this time we will have something different to keep you on your toes all evening .....The Baker Boys, a contemporary Melbourne band are currently on tour around Australia.DJ Warren J will very nicely complement the band.

We could not do this without the very generous support of our sponsors whom we acknowledge below



COREX PLASTICS



CHADSTONE TOYOTA



PINNACLE FENCING



For those sponsor's whose Logos were not available in time to meet our publication deadline, we will be including them in the next edition of our Newsletter.

### OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

\*The Annual Melbourne Joe - Pete Big match (Sunday 26th March 2023)

\*Our new initiative the "Members Night"(June 2023)



# THE SPC OBSC 2022 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Xmas Party was hosted at "No 90" In Oakleigh.....A great evening of festive cheer with thanks to Jerome Chandrasekera for Organising the Carol Group and Santa for making an appearance. The Christmas cake was done with loving care and late nights by Valentino and Gina Pereira.....The event was a great team effort by the 2022/23 Committee and I apologise if I have not mentioned everyone who contributed by name...

Festive fare was provided by the venue with DJ Pio keeping the party going

A BIG Thank you to all who attended.





# THE ANNUAL PETERITE GOLF DAY 2023

The Peterite Golf day is back after the Covid hiatus

The weather gods put on a great day for the 28 avid golfers who took to the green.

The following were the winners

\*Overall Winner(Non Peterite)

-Patrick Kariuki

2nd Place - James Umu

\*Overall Peterite Winner

-Phillip Maurice

\*Winner Longest Drive - Brinne Ferdinandus

\*Nearest to the pin

Hole 3 - Peter Moutsias

Hole 13- Brinne Ferdinandus

Hole 14- Denham De Silva

A BIG THANKX to Shane Pietersz and Russell Pereira for organising this event.





# THE SAINTS QUADRANGULAR CRICKET TOURNAMENT 2023

Another fun day of cricket among the 4 brother catholic schools ....

St Peter's was 2nd runner up this year with St Benedict's the overall winners

Peterite Cricket Melbourne is proudly sponsored by Pioneer Home Loans, SilCo facility Management, Facility Co & Spec Co.





# PETERITE RUGBY

## PETERITE RUGBY TEAM 2022



**Captain : Sudesh Jayawickrama**

## PETERITE RUGBY CAPTAINS FROM THE 1960'S

L to R:

Sunil Perera(1969)  
Ronnie Gunaratne(1968)  
Rodney Paternott(1967)  
Hamzie Hameed(19666)



## THE ONLY FATHER AND SON DUO TO CAPTAIN COLLEGE IN RUGBY

Archibald Perera (1933/34/35/36 - Captain in 1936) and Sunil Perera(1967/68/69 - Captain in 1969) have established a unique record in Peterite rugby history being the only father and son duo to captain the Peterites at rugby.

(With thanks to Algi Wijewickrema)



## SCHOOL BOY CRICKET AWARDS 2022

We Congratulate our cricketers for making our Alma mater proud with their achievements at the SLT School Boy Awards 2022.



## RUMESH RATNAYAKE TO COACH SRI LANKA WOMENS T20 TEAM FOR 2023 WOMENS WORLD CUP

Ratnayake was chosen as the coach of the team for the 10-nation championship that will showcase modern women whose technique and style of play is no different from their male counterparts.

Models Senuri Rupasinghe and Dunya Rajasekera showcase the new playing kit of the Sri Lanka women's cricket team for the world cup(See Picture below)

“When someone comes up to you and tells you that we want you to do this for us, it means they have placed their faith in you and I took up the challenge,” said Ratnayake who played senior First Eleven cricket for St. Peter's College at the age of 13, made his mark as an international player for Sri Lanka when standards were extremely demanding in the 1980s and then held on to a historic catch off his own bowling to signal the country's first Test win in 1985 at the Oval in Colombo that happened to be against India.



NOTE: Even though the Sri Lanka team did not make the semi-finals losing out to New Zealand, pundits agree they are a team to watch out for in the future.



# LEST WE FORGET - ROYDEN DE SILVA PETERITE SPORT'S STAR OF THE 1960'S AND 1970'S

Royden de Silva, a gentleman to his fingertips who passed away on December 19, 2021, could be considered one of Sri Lanka's outstanding sportsmen having represented the country in rugby and basketball, two sports that demand the utmost endurance.

He started his sporting career as a 16-year-old at St Peter's College in the two sports and was spotted by Dr. Hubert Aloysius, a Havelocks captain in the '60s who invited him to join the club offering him a place and position in the team.

In a seven-year period from 1966, he was a key member of the Havelocks rugby team which won two Clifford Cups. During that period he represented Orient's Basketball Club and was a member of the National team. He captained Havelocks Sports Club in 1973 before leaving Sri Lanka to further his career in shipping in West Asia.

A particular incident that is worthy of mention was when he represented the Havelocks in a game against their traditional rivals the C.R. & F.C. which was a rugby cup final and then immediately left to play for Orient's in a basketball final the same day!

An unassuming and popular figure, he played hard but clean in the best traditions of the game. He took early retirement to care for his ailing mother. Sadly shortly before her demise fate dealt him a cruel blow with a debilitating illness. He bore it with his characteristic charming smile that tamed many an opponent on the playing field.

The only son of late Mr. and Mrs. Wilson de Silva, he lived in his childhood home in Wellawatte, then a leafy suburb. Gone to a better place but not forgotten.



## COLLEGE NEWS

### TEACHERS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS SERVICE IN 2022

**SILVER JUBILARIANS**  
OF ST. PETER'S COLLEGE COLOMBO 4 FOR THE YEAR 2022

100 YEARS OF  
ST. PETER'S COLLEGE COLOMBO 4



Mr. P. Asiri Chandana Fernando



Mr. Chandana Cooray



Mrs. Thusitha Nelangani Dissanayake



Mrs. Sunimallee Antasia Peiris



Mrs. Nilusha Rupasinghe

**SILVER JUBILARIANS**  
OF ST. PETER'S COLLEGE COLOMBO 4 FOR THE YEAR 2022

100 YEARS OF  
ST. PETER'S COLLEGE COLOMBO 4



Mrs. Rasika Niranjala De Silva



Mrs. Marian Thiagie Perera



Mrs. Shavanthi Roshini Gunaratne



Mrs. Nirmala Rathnayake



## PROFILE OF A PETERITE FILM DIRECTOR - LESTER JAMES PERIES

Lester James Peries was a Sri Lankan film director, screenwriter, and film producer. Considered as the father of Sri Lankan cinema, Lester worked as a filmmaker from 1949 to 2006 and was involved in over 28 films, including shorts and documentaries.

He received critical acclaim for directing *Rekava*, *Gamperaliya*, *Nidhanaya*, *Golu Hadawatha*, *Kaliyugaya*, *Awaragira*, and *Yuganthaya*. His movie *Wekande Walauwa*, starring Ravindra Randeniya and Malini Fonseka, was Sri Lanka's first ever submission for the Academy Awards and the film *Nidhanaya* was included among the top 100 films of the century by Cinémathèque Française. Peries' films often dealt with Sri Lankan family life in rural settings and conflicted characters. He helped create an authentic expression of Sinhala Cinema.



He attended St Peter's College in Colombo as a teenager before dropping out to pursue a career in journalism at the age of 17. He found his first work with the Daily News writing for the blue pages which was an arts supplementation. In 1939 he joined The Times of Ceylon. He also reviewed books on Radio Ceylon for a short period. Peries' first real work with production came when he joined a theatre group called Drama Circle.

In 1947, Peries travelled to England on his mother's advice to join his brother Ivan Peries who was there on an art scholarship. Peries' passion for the cinema was developing and he met another Sri Lankan with similar interests, Hereward Jansz. The two youngsters decided to make a film together despite Hereward having his doubts about competing with established, well-funded clubs. They began with Peries writing the script and directing while Hereward did the filming with their limited camera equipment. Their first effort 'Soliloquy' (1949), a short film, won the Mini Cinema Cup for displaying the best technical proficiency. This work was followed by three other experimental films.

In 1952 Peries returned to Ceylon and joined the Government Film Unit. Two major documentaries he helped make were "Heritage of Lanka" and "Nelungama." At this time, a relative of Peries' suggested he start a company to produce Sinhala films. Peries left the Government Film Unit in 1955 and created Chitra Lanka Limited.

In 1956, Peries made his entry into national cinema with the globally acclaimed *Rekava*, which was a story based on village life. It was nominated for the Palme d'Or at the 1957 Cannes Film Festival. With this film he revolutionised Ceylonese cinema, giving it a unique identity. It was the first Ceylonese movie to be shot outdoors. Although it was acclaimed internationally it was not a commercial success. Afterward he made many award-winning films such as *Gamperaliya* in 1964 based on Martin Wickramasinghe's famous novel which received the Golden Peacock at the International Film Festival of India; "Delowak Athara" in 1966; "Golu Hadawatha" in 1968 based on the novel by Karunasena Jayalath; "Nidhanaya" in 1970 which was chosen as the best film of the first 50 years of Sri Lankan cinema and was included among the top 100 films of the century by the Cinémathèque Française. "Yuganthaya" in 1983; and *Wekande Walauwa* in 2002 which received the UNESCO Fellini award.

Peries met his wife, Sumitra, who is also a film director, in Paris at the home of a mutual friend and married in 1964 at All Saints Church in Borella. Peries' brother was artist Ivan Peries. Peries died on 29 April 2018 at the age of 99.



# ST.PETERS COLLEGE SITE PLAN

Only for illustration



## "DOWN MEMORY LANE" - EXTRACT FROM CENTENARY SOUVENIR

### *Off to the Movies or was it Movers?*

*By Ronald Ranasinghe and Maurice Cook (1972-73)*

Roti's version: A memory I treasure very much is that of one of my best mates jumping over the school wall to watch a movie at Savoy theatre after the morning interval. The plan was all set; once the interval bell rang, we were walking back to our classes when I got the signal, "Machang now give me a hoist". So, one foot on my palm then the other foot on my shoulder, then both feet on my shoulders and over the wall went Maurice Cook onto Fareed Place. I was quite happy the mission was successful until I saw Maurice moving along parallel to the school wall for everyone to see. Yes, while trying to make a quick escape he jumped over the wall and landed on the roof of a moving school van!

Maurice's version: Once I jumped over the wall to cut school, in the fear of being caught, I did not look to see where I was going to fall, and it so happened that I fell on top of a van travelling at a slow speed on the narrow road leading to the girls' school next door. The van stopped after a few meters on hearing the thud! "Roti", observing me from the college side saw me floating in the air adjacent to the wall and wondered how I could I have been floating like that. Next to jump was "Roti,"



## PETERITES GO BACK TO SCHOOL.....IN 2022



## .....AND IN 1972 (50 YEARS AGO)





# THE NOSTALGIA PAGE

## WONDER HOW MANY KNOW THIS?

The Prime Minister of the Maldives from 1972 to 1975 was an Alumni of the College. Ahmed Zaki (16 April 1931 – 15 November 1996) served as the speaker of People's Majlis from 1959 to 1972. In 1972, he was appointed as Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives. However, in March 1975, newly elected Prime Minister Zaki was arrested in a bloodless coup and was banished to a remote atoll. During the administration of Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Zaki held different cabinet positions, and also again the position of the speaker of People's Majlis from 1990 to 1993.



## PETERITE MUSCICIAN JOEY LEWIS REMINISCES

"I remember this Jetliners lineup like it was yesterday..

L2R: Joey Lewis (Bass & Vocals) , Tony Fernando (RIP) Manager, Mignonne Fernando (Vocals & Keyboards) Dylan Lye (Lead guitar & Vocals), Hassan Musafer (RIP) Drums, Desmond De Silva (RIP) Vocals"

This photo was taken Approx March/April 1973 at The Taj



This lineup has two Peterite musicians .....Joey Lewis and Desmond De Silva

## THE OXFORD MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENT SET ...

I remember using this for grade 6 - 8 geometry. There were other uses too - self defence in fights, as a drum during class singsong, darts to throw at the blackboard, and to etch our initials on the desk !!!!



## THE COLLEGE BASKETBALL COURT BEFORE DUPLICATION ROAD EXTENSION





# SOME COLLEGE PICTURES FROM THE DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR 1982



*Visit of His Excellency President J.R. Jayawardene of Sri Lanka to the College at the prize giving of 1982*



*Visit of the first Old boy Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Henry Gunawardena OMI to College 29th July 1982*



*Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 18th January 1982. Concelebrated high mass presided over by His Lordship Bishop Oswald Gomis.*



*Large gathering at the diamond jubilee Mass*



*Opening of the New Science Laboratory - 1982*



*A view of the grand Corridor leading to the Administrative departments of the College.*



## THE OLDEST KNOWN PETERITE IN AUSTRALIA TURNS 97

4th January 2023 marked the 97th Birthday of Yves Kelaart, the oldest known Peterite in Australia.

Yves, who recently joined the Melbourne OBSC attended the 1970s group luncheon in October 2022 and was very happy to catch up with old Peterites after a lapse of decades, especially Stanmore Caspersz who he knew in College.

At 97 years, Yves is mentally acute and takes a keen interest in world affairs, especially military issues. The Military has always been of interest to him (he talks about different types of aircraft and ships). He has an enthusiasm for life and trying new things – at 90 years he bought a drum set and had a crack at becoming Gene Krupa!!!

Yves Joined St Peters in 1936 (He Left in Dec 1943 to attend St Benedict's) but Rejoined St Peters in Jan 1945 (and Left at the end of 1945)

He remembers the second world war years when St Peters was shifted to St Marys church, Dehiwela. Frazier avenue green was used for sports. Yves talks about how St Peters was made into a hospital.

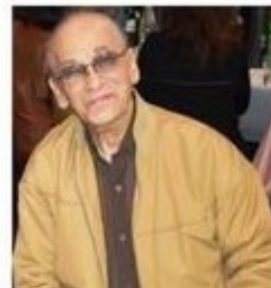
Yves Joined the All Ceylon Cadet Battalion in July 1945 (open to all schools). His Platoon won the prestigious Hermann Loos challenge cup for the best cadet Platoon islandwide. Attached is a Photograph of the award-winning platoon published in the 1945 college magazine. To our knowledge, the last time college won this trophy was in 1945.

Yves, who has been married to Philomena for 74 years has 12 children, 7 being boys of whom 5 attended St Peters college. When Yves and Mina migrated to Australia in 1968 with their 12 children they were greeted by the press at the airport as they were the single largest family to migrate to Australia from Sri Lanka at the time.

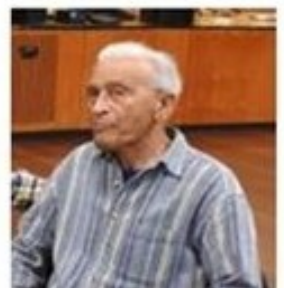
We wish Yves all the best



YVES KELAART



STANMORE CASPERSZ



Winners of the Herman Loos Trophy (Most Efficient Platoon) 1945

### Note:

The Oldest known Peterite in the World is Jaya Peiris who celebrated his 98th Birthday on 25th January 2023.

## AND WE SAY GOODBYE.....BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

### MR. KINGSLEY JAYASINGHE (TEACHER AT ST PETERS FROM 1958 TO 1979)

He started his illustrious career at St. Peter's College, and served the school teaching Chemistry and thereafter as the Sectional Head of the Advanced Level Section.

From 1980 to 1984 he was attached to Borno College of Basic Studies in Maidugiri, Nigeria while working as a visiting lecturer at the University of Maidugiri.

When Wycherley International School was founded in 1995 with Dr. Frank Jayasinghe as its Principal, Mr. Kingsley Jayasinghe joined its tutorial staff as a tutor in Chemistry and the Head of High School.

Later he served as the Principal of Wycherley International School for 29 years before retiring in 2021.

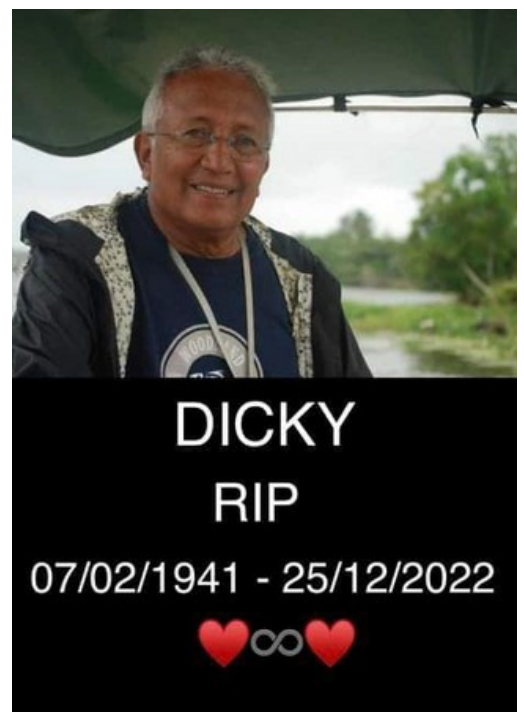


### RIP DICKY DELPECHITRA 1941 -2022

A Top Peterite sportsman of yesteryear, Dicky was a Stubbs Shield boxer, athlete, and top swimmer in his day representing his alma mater. He was a regular in the famous 2-mile swim as a schoolboy and later in the sixties. His late father was Station Master, Bambalapitiya (CGR).

After leaving school Dicky joined the Sri Lanka Air Force and was also a well-known swimming coach. He loved the outdoors, camping & fishing.

May he Rest In Peace!





# THIS IS YOUR CLUB

## Have Your Say: What do you think of this newsletter?

Please email your views, anecdotes, stories, and trips down memory lane to the Editor at "tino.delamotte@gmail.com "

You can also find us on Facebook & Instagram at "Spc\_Melbourne"

### Membership & Committee

Inquiries regarding membership or your financial status can be emailed to Gavin Godlieb (Membership Secretary) at "membership.spcmelbourne@gmail.com"

Current membership is just \$10 per annum.  
You can pay up your subscription for life and avoid the annual hassle of renewing your membership at the following rates; Over 60 yrs. \$100, 40-60 yrs. \$200 and Under 40 yrs. \$350.

## KEEP THAT FLAG WAVING HIGH BOYS

