

PETERITES REUNITED

BLUE

THAT

CROWNS

THE

WORLD



PHOTOS: MELBOURNE 2011
PAGES 15-17



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IT gives us great pleasure to see so many Peterites who look forward to and attend the reunions with such enthusiasm.

This is our third reunion in nine years and we are impressed by the number of old boys who have travelled from the US, UK, Sri Lanka, Dubai, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia to join the Victorian community of Peterites at this reunion.

To all your partners, our honorary Peterites, we welcome you to a night of good music, food, fun and laughter.

With evergreen Conrad to take the spotlight on the music stage tonight, we are confident it will be an enjoyable night, confirming yet another truth that the best musicians come from St Peter's!

We hope you will use tonight to rekindle the friendships with school mates, some you may not have met for years. We look forward to the back slapping, the handshakes; the traditional "machang" when the names don't roll off our tongues, and the laughter as we relive the pranks of yesteryear.

To mark this occasion, we have designed and released the Australian version of our college tie, and you can wear it proudly to represent your connections with the Peterite Australian community.

We do hope this event takes you down memory lane to the suburb of Bambalapitiya where we spent our formative years

Let's lift our flag on high and let its glorious colours give a greeting to the sky!

Rienzie, Malcolm, Ainsley, Gerard, Lawry, Kevin, Wilhelm, Murray and Joe
ORGANISING COMMITTEE

PETERITE FAMILY TIES AS STRONG AS EVER

IT gives me great pleasure to send this message to my brother Peterites in Australia, and especially for this wonderful reunion of our Peterite family.

I was informed of this event in April by Shiran Viswasam, and ever since I have been in constant contact with Kevin, Rienzie, Johann, Ramesh, Rohan and many others to make my visit happen.

The Peterite family in Australia is an integral and extremely important part of the "Old Boys Union" in Sri Lanka, as you have always stepped up when college was in a time of need and extended your fullest support whenever the requirement arose.

The many projects for which you have very willingly extended a helping hand to college range from the re-laying of the turf at the grounds,

helping rugby and cricket, extending scholarships to needy students, developing the skills of our tutorial staff and many more.

The ties between us have always been extremely strong, as Australia has been a warm and welcoming nation to the Peterite family, whether we lived in Sri Lanka or Australia.

I am well aware of many Peterites flying in for this event and I congratulate all who have been organising this for the last few years.

I wish you all success, and in true Peterite spirit an absolutely awesome time.

God Bless you all.

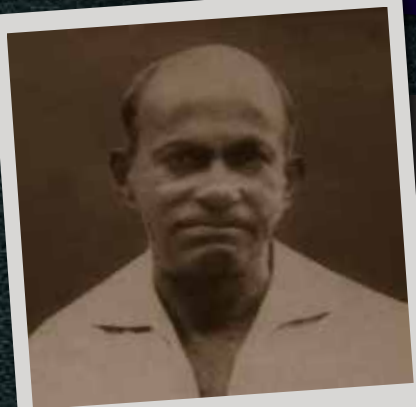
Romeish de Mel

President,

St Peter's College Old Boys Union

Colombo, Sri Lanka

A TRIBUTE TO ARCHIBALD PERERA



To sir, with
much love, from
Frankie Hubert

The great rugby team of St Peter's College, under the magnificent, late, great Jeff de Jong, produced a fitting tribute to this great man, by being crowned unofficial School Champions in 1972.

Even after all these years I can still see "Archie" at the grounds, coaching boys on rugby and preparing us for the world outside college.

To sir, with much love; you will never be forgotten.

FRANKIE HUBERT
St Peter's College
Rugby Captain, 1975



LET'S HAVE A GOOD TIME

THE Peterite reunion is a great opportunity for old boys interstate and across the globe to get together in Melbourne, now the second home to Peterites.

As the evening unfolds, drink in hand, there will be much backslapping as memories come flooding back and one will try to outdo the other with yarns and tales as the clock ticks towards midnight.

The ladies, many of whom are schoolmates or have bonded through this great Peterite family, will indeed enjoy all the fun, whilst sure to be tuned in for some "classics" of their beloved, yet to be discovered.

As the night draws to an end, and everyone

fully invigorated, the camaraderie will peak as we belt out the college anthem to the final cry of P-E-T-E-R-S...

Our thanks to the organisers for meticulously planning this evening, and we look forward to seeing you tomorrow at 2pm at the "clubhouse" for an afternoon packed with fun for the whole family.

Enjoy the evening, be safe and may God bless you all!

Johann Gunasekara

President

St Peter's College Old Boys Social Club
Uniting Peterites in Melbourne since 1982

DEAR FELLOW PETERITES,

The OBU NSW is privileged to be asked to forward a message on the occasion of the 2014 reunion of Peterites in Melbourne.

We commend the tremendous effort put in by the organising committee to make this momentous event a roaring success.

The OBU NSW members attending the event are looking forward to joining in the camaraderie and catching up with their close friends. Have a great evening!

Randy Pieris

President
SPC OBU
NSW

BROTHERS OF ONE FAMILY

IT is a pleasure to pen a few words to mark the third reunion of Old Peterites, domiciled in Australia, in Melbourne on October 4.

A brief visit to the impressive website peteritereunion.net explains that the first reunion took place in 2008, followed by the second in 2011. From all accounts, the nostalgic reunion events have been truly engaging - from an organisational standpoint and attendance.

We also learn this year will attract many past cricket captains of our alma mater besides a coterie of past sportsmen who excelled in rugby, basketball and hockey. This augurs well for the event in itself and kudos to the organisers who worked tirelessly to put it together.

We wish you well as you create this wonderful opportunity for the Old Peterites to rekindle memories of the glorious days spent in the hallways of our great educational institution - St Peter's College, Bambalapitiya. The three-year reunion concept deserves merit and we encourage you to continue this great tradition.

Coincidentally, our dinner dance clashes with yours this year. Formed in 1984, ours (JPAA Canada) is a joint association of the Josephians and Peterites and we are proud to celebrate our 30th anniversary with a gala event on October 4 in Toronto. Like the saying goes, we are "two brothers of one family" and this is our tag line.

Warm wishes from all of us for a splendid get-together and God bless you all.

Upali A. Obeyesekere

President, JPAA CANADA • www.jpaaCanada.com

1959: VINTAGE YEAR FOR



By Tony Johnson

MY interest in rugby was spurred on in my very early years by Ago Paiva as I lived close to his home. There was a fairly large green available to boys of my age and we were inspired by Ago to make the grade in rugby.

For the record, Ago played both rugby and cricket for college and his halves combination with Mahes Rodrigo at the base of the scrum, was undoubtedly the best both the CR & FC and the Ceylon rugby teams had at the time.

I was selected in the college rugby team in 1957 and it included Jayantha Fernando, Christie Marathalingam, Rus-

sell Duckworth, Desmond Dharmarajah, Brian Seneviratne and Adiel Anghie, who played dual roles of also being outstanding cricketers.

We had a good reputation as a competitive side and we got the better of many schools that year, except Trinity College. As we knew, Trinity was last beaten years earlier by teams in which our legendary coach at the time, Archibald Perera, played.

I must specifically speak about a very outstanding performance we had against the Royal College XV in 1959. Our team was rated far below than that of the very star-studded Royalists, including players such as Maurice Anghie, HS &

Lalin Silva and Tony Rankine.

Royal had beaten a strong Trinity team in the first round of the Bradley Shield and no doubt thought that beating our comparatively inexperienced team was going to be a mere formality. However, we got stuck into Royal from the word go, starting with their talented fly half Maurice Anghie being sidelined with injury following a fairly hard tackle from me and the other wing forward Hatim Dawoodbhoy.

This had a demoralising effect on Royal and was the incentive for us to play as we had never played before. Didacus de Almeida and Donald Dissanayake, our centre-three quarters tackled as they had never

RUGBY

tackled. It was important that they did so since the Royal forwards such as HS and Lalin were undoubtedly taller and bigger than any of us and were able to dominate the line outs.

Tony Rankine replaced Maurice Anghie as fly half and he was given a pretty hard time by Hatim and me, so all told their formidable three-quarters were literally at a standstill. With this impetus we went on to lead Royal until almost the final whistle when they were able to draw the match due to a penalty awarded against us.

This totally unexpected and outstanding overall performance against Royal received plenty of press coverage, and it is a match Fritsz Ohlmus, Dida and I always talked about when we met socially.

On the humorous side our coach, Archibald Perera, had many things to say to us following one game.

Archie addressing Hatim, said: "I say Dawoodbhoy, you are very fond of fowl"! And when asked the reason for this statement, Archie said: "You had that fowl under your arm which you wanted to have for dinner, so although you had a man on the left and the right of you, you just did not get rid of it - which in this instance was really the rugby ball that you had so firmly grasped in both your hands."

POINCIANA 'PUNCH-UP'

By Rienzie Machado

RECENTLY I was holidaying in Fiji, when I came across a Flamboyant, or Poinciana, tree.

I was intrigued by the memories that came back to me about 50-plus years ago. Some of the trees were on the college premises though I cannot pinpoint the exact locations. If my memory serves me right there were a couple of trees along the banks of the canal, near the groundsman's shed.

These trees were a source of great enjoyment and offered us another outlet in our ongoing quest to compete with one another. During the school breaks, those who could not find a spot for gudu, marbles, or countless other recreational sport conjured up by fertile young minds, turned their skills to duelling with flowers.

We would hunt for these flamboyant flowers, sometimes in their buds, to play a very simple game called a "cock fight" with the stamens of the flowers that had a tiny head on it. The winner was the owner of the prized stamen with the unbroken head, who would have another

"fight" before it lost its head.

Soon, the trees once laden with flowers would have lost some of their colour and the grass below would be turned into a bright orange carpet of broken "weapons" discarded by the vanquished combatants.

I surfed through Google and Wikipedia to find more information on this shade-bearing tree. Little trivia for me is that this tree is endangered in the wild but has made its way into the sub-continent, Pacific islands and Caribbean islands.

The Poinciana is the national flower of St Kitts and Nevis. It is also found in Queensland and now in some parts of NSW. The Botanic name is *Delonix Regia*, common name Royal Poinciana, Flamboyant. The genus name is derived from the Greek words *Delos* (meaning conspicuous). Further, the tree has nitrogen-fixating and soil-improving properties.

I hope this article evokes memories of those flamboyant days, as I am sure everyone attending today has indulged in this sport. As one of our Peterite stalwarts has said: Being a Peterite is like a birthright.



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FIRST XI'S STRING OF FIRSTS



By Mitchell Rabot

HERE are some of the nostalgic memories of 57 years ago as I was reliving the senior years of college when we were rather fearless and dangerously handsome, living the "cricket dream" off wearing the blue, white and gold striped cap on a cricket field.

It was a memorable year, as most colleges had elite sporting talent, with some players already established in club cricket. St Peter's College was captained by Jayantha Fernando, a brilliant sportsman and one of a rare privileged few to captain the college in four different sports - rugby, tennis, athletics and cricket.

The list of rival captains in 1957 were, Lasantha Rodrigo (Prince of Wales), Michael Tissera (St Thomas'), Ranjit Doranagama (St Anthony's), M. Joonos (Zahira), Anurudha Polonovita (Ananda), Michael

"I am quite sure we were on the cusp of certain defeat..."

#1!

Wille (Royal), L. P. Rayen (St Benedict's), Harold Juriansz (Wesley), C. Weerasinghe (Nalanda), and Kirthi Caldera (St. Joseph's). They were brilliantly talented and formidable leaders and most of them played premier club, Mercantile and later represented All Ceylon teams as well.

I was quite privileged to have played against them and later in club and Mercantile cricket.

The 15 players selected to represent St Peter's College First XI were Jayantha Fernando (Captain), Laksman Serasinghe (Vice-captain), Russell Duckworth, Anton Paulpillai, David Muthumani, Darrell D'Silva, Mitchell Rabot, Christie Marathalingam, Brian Seneviratne, Anton Perera, Nihal Ranasinghe, Nihal Wijesena, Saifu Dawoodbhoj, Premasiri Athukorale and Roy Dissanaikie.

It was a disappointing season, with St Peter's winning one and losing four of the 12 matches.

As I read through the old cricket memorabilia of books, magazines and newspaper clippings, I saw a statistical gem. This was written in The Peterite Monthly Vol. 1 No. 2. of February 1957 and head-

lined "Cricketers on a Record Breaking Spree". These are the records for this season:

- ❶ First Peterite XI to have lost to St Thomas' College.
- ❷ First Peterite XI to have been defeated on home turf.
- ❸ First Peterite XI to have lost three consecutive matches in one season.
- ❹ First Peterite XI to have lost to Zahira College.
- ❺ First Peterite XI to have lost while chasing a total of 78 runs with all wickets intact.
- ❻ First Peterite XI to have been all out at least once below 100 for five consecutive matches.

I am quite sure we were on the cusp of certain defeat against St Joseph's but for a brilliant match-saving innings by Premasiri Athukorale whose cavalier 85 runs was the defining moment in the Big Match. Athukorale and Christie Marathalingam (16 n. o.) plundered 94 precious runs in a record eighth-wicket partnership to ensure a draw.

On a personal note, I feel deeply privileged to have contributed to the 2014 reunion and I sincerely hope you have enjoyed the historical narration.

KERMIT SCORES A RUN AT ST PETER'S

By Lawrence Heyn

THE primary aim of sport is to develop mind and body and of course thrash the opposition if you can.

But sport is not all about winning, it also gives you a keen sense of humour and helps you see the lighter side even in times of fierce competition. At least, this is what cricket did for me, first as a player and then as a journalist for many years.

I have been witness to many tragi-comedies, bloopers and funny situations, some of these as part of the Peterite cricket team. The most amusing incidents were the gags pulled off by a teammate at the expense of another.

I have been on a receiving end of a few and fortunately I do have a sense of humour.

I remember as a fresh-faced under-sixteen player I had opened the batting with David "Kippax" Stuart for Peter House against Nicholas. At the drinks break I tossed my bat and gloves on the ground and took some refreshments. When play was called I hurriedly tried to wear my gloves but found it difficult to fully pull on my right glove. By this time the bowler was getting edgy and pawing the ground like an

enraged bull so I took guard and, as I did, I saw one of the Paternott boys and another fielder, I think Sunil Perera, grinning at me.

I managed to nudge the ball past point for a single and raced to the other end to see what was in my glove. I yanked it off and out popped a frog – Paternott and his partner in crime had found "Kermit" in the water tap manhole near the pitch and played this prank on me. All I could do was look across at Rodney and laugh (also because he was so much bigger than me).

The humble abdominal guard or box is probably the most vital piece of gear a batsman

can have. It is the final barrier between disaster and preservation of one's manhood. The tale is told of how during practices a batsman was hit on the box and everyone could hear the sickening crunch. The stricken batsman let out a cry, "Mother of God", and collapsed in a heap. After medical attention and while lurching to the pavilion he was told by an unsympathetic "mate" to rub liniment on the swollen bits. Needless to say, the hapless player was missing from practice for a few days after that.

The gold medal for pranks must surely go to Ian Chappell's Aussies in a World Cup match in 1975. Sri Lanka was

making a good fist of chasing Australia's total of 328 when, at 2 for 150, Chappell, in desperation, threw Jeff Thomson the ball with the words: "Brain 'em, bowl 'em out, but whatever you do we've got to win."

Thommo took to his task earnestly, whacking Duleep Mendis between the eyes, sending him to hospital. He followed this by hitting Sunil Wettimuny on the chest and then on the foot with a sandshoe crusher. In his next over, Thommo hit Wettimuny on the foot again, and the batsman was hopping in pain around the crease. The ball had gone straight back to Thommo and his teammates yelled at him to throw down the stumps.

Despite his reservations, Thommo did and appealed but none of the other Aussies had moved a muscle and Thommo knew they had played a dirty trick on him. He later said: "They all sat or stood there with their arms folded. They'd done me stone cold on purpose." Wettimuny was given not out and retired hurt instead, and Sri Lanka lost momentum to lose that match by 52 runs.

Another comedy classic making the rounds in the '70s was the story about a representative player being fooled by his teammates. When his side

was batting this player, who was to bat at number three, always put on his gear and promptly went to sleep on the bench in the dressing room. He was suddenly awoken by a teammate saying a wicket had fallen. The batsman jumped up grabbed his bat and gloves and strode out, looking at the sky to acclimatise his eyes. He was almost to the middle when he discovered the openers were still batting and the game was in progress. He had to turn and hurry sheepishly back to the dressing room.

I remember we were playing St Anthony's at Katugastota in 1970 and the Antonian wicket-keeper batsman Mahes Goonetilleke was in full flight. We were trying out a new wicket-keeper, who we will call KA, and to his chagrin he dropped Mahes twice behind the stumps. Aided by his good fortune, Goonetilleke worked his way into the nineties and the crowd started gathering in anticipation of seeing their favourite son get his century. But at 99, Goonetilleke played at a ball which appeared to miss the edge and went through to KA who caught it and leapt in the air appealing. Up went the umpire's finger and Goonetilleke had to go.

The crowd was not happy with this wrong decision and made it known to us.

At tea time, KA tucked into the sponge cakes and other treats and promptly felt quite unwell, and would not take the field. We were convinced he was faking it as he did not want to face the hostile crowd. As far as I can recall, substitute keeper Chrysantha de Alwis took three catches and effected a stumping – a fair day's work.





St Peter's College Old Boys Social Club

Australia Incorporated

Uniting Peterites in Melbourne Since 1982

Objectives:

- Promoting fellowship among Peterites in Melbourne
- Giving back to our Alma Mater
- Lending a hand to Peterites in Melbourne
- Linking with the OBU in Colombo
- A fair go, respect and equality to all

Events Calendar 2014-15

- Reunion family fun day
- Sunday 5th October 2014
- Seniors Christmas Lunch
- Sunday 7th December 2014
- Stag Night and Joe - Pete Cricket Match
- March 2015
- Golf Day
- April 2015
- Night of the Petes 2015, Dinner Dance
- 2nd May 2015
- AGM and Dinner
- 17th July 2015

Recent Donations to St Peter's College:

- Scrum Machine (2009)
- Renovation of Toilet Block \$5,000 (2010)
- 4 x 4 Academic Fund \$4,000 (2011-2014)
- Relaying of the cricket pitch \$1,000 (2013)
- Establishing the Medical Clinic \$500 (2014)
- Teacher incentive program committed
\$9,000 (2015-17)

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Tyronne Le Mercier
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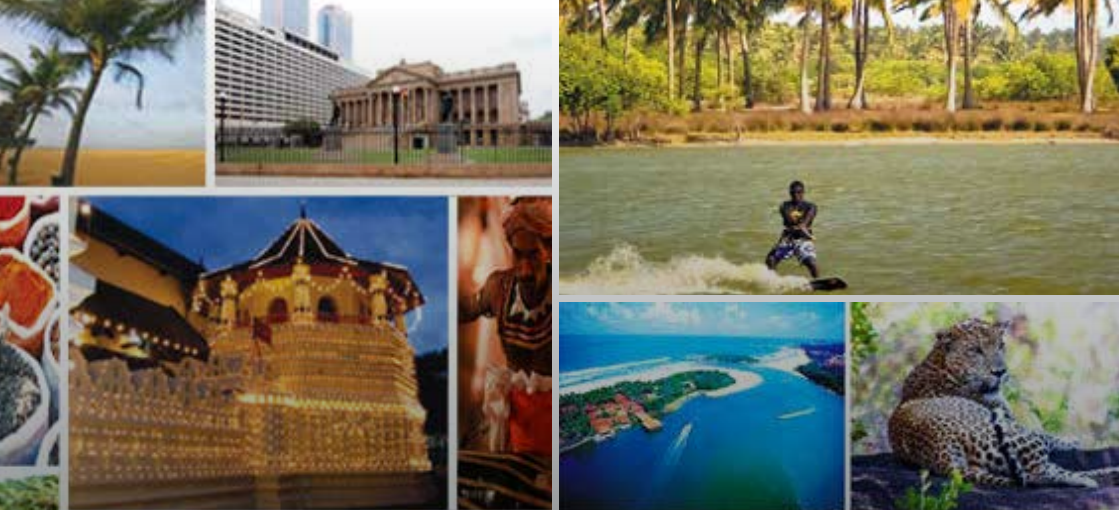
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SUCH JOYS WERE OURS...

FR Rector, Nas Polla, Silence Bell, skits and re-enactments of those schoolboy days were experienced by Old Peterites, their partners and friends when they connected at the Blue That Crowns the World reunion in Melbourne on October 1, 2011.





MENU

CANAPÉS SERVED AT
PRE-EVENT DRINKS
6.45-7.15PM

DINNER SMORGASBORD

Chicken Biryani with deep-fried egg and mint chutney
Red and white stringhoppers and white rice

KOTHU ROTI

Roti station, adding to the kothu roti, gothamba (garlic and cheese), and pol roti

LAMB CURRY • CHICKEN CURRY

Pepper pork with roast potato

Devilled calamari and prawns

AMBUL THIYAL • EGGPLANT MOJU

SPICY POTATO

Lentils with spinach

Dry fish stir-fry

CASHEW CURRY WITH GREEN BEANS

Condiments

Our thanks to **Cinnamons Restaurant & Bar**, for their wonderful catering, and **Brew-it** for providing the beer.

DESSERT

Wattalappan

CHOCOLATE
BISCUIT
PUDDING

Coconut panna
cotta (with mango
puree-like topping)

FRESH FRUIT
PLATTER

TEA & COFFEE

PROGRAMME



6.15-6.30

6.30-7.30

7.30-7.40

7.45-7.55

8.00-8.05

8.05-8.35

8.35-8.45

8.45-9.00

9.00-9.30

9.30-10.30

10.30-10.45

10.45-11.15

11.15-11.45

11.45-12.15

12.15-12.30

Peterites sign in
Happy Hour for fellowship
Bell rings. Prefects/teachers escort students to their tables

Welcome to the Blue That Crowns the World
Reunion 2014

MC outlines programme
Unwind on the dance floor

Skit on stage

Table prizes

Music and dancing

Dinner

Sportsmen's quiz

Peterites on Parade –
entertainment for dancing

College Anthem followed by music for dancing;
group photographs

Music for dancing

Closing dance session

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The reunion committee thanks all our guests tonight, our MC Stephen de Niese, all contributors of articles and messages for the souvenir program, our generous advertisers, musicians Chris & Lozaine, Conrad de Silva, Ceramics N Glass for the glass printing, Adrian Serpanchy for the stickers and bags for the beer glasses, DS Photos, souvenir editors Lawrence & Robert Heyn, Kwik Kopy Stafford for the printing, scriptwriter Malcolm Schokman & his band of actors - Tony Martin, Ramesh Navaratne, Adrian Young, Kevin Gomez and Pierre Lawrence. Your patronage and support has made this reunion one to be remembered.

THE COMMITTEE

Rienzie Machado
rienziemachado@gmail.com

Ainsley Corteling
ainsley@aapt.net.au

Malcolm Schokman
Malcom.schokman@innovara.com

Murray Moldrich
cmoldrich@bigpond.com

Joe Schokman
joe.schokman@anz.com

Kevin Gomez
gomezfam@optusnet.com.au

Wilhelm Ohlmus
cheryl.ohlmus@gmail.com

Gerard Velayuthen
E: gvelayuthen@gmail.com

Lawrence Heyn
E: lhey52@bigpond.com

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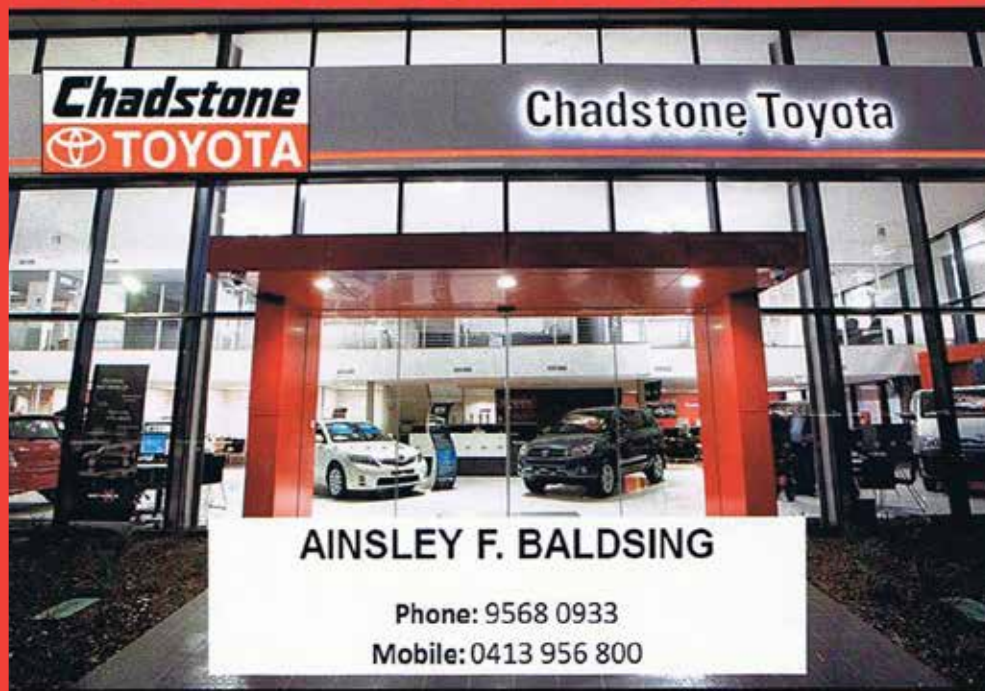
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GATES TO ACHCHARU HEAVEN

By Lawrence Heyn

One of the great joys of being at St Peter's was the opportunity it gave young and impressionable minds many avenues to explore and experience.

While academia was the main game in the hallowed halls of this illustrious college in Bambalapitiya, schoolboy days were certainly happy ones, and the simplest of pleasures are the ones best remembered as time marches on unhalting.

For the many seeking instant pleasures, the canal banks were a fun zone.

One could spend hours searching for guppies or swinging on the dangling tree vines like Tarzan, all with one wary eye out for the kabaragoyas and thalagoyas that infested the murky green-brown water.

As my thoughts turned to the myriad ways we enjoyed ourselves, well over four decades ago, I could not but think of the vendors outside the gates of college, on the Galle Rd pavement, who were part of our lives in so many ways.

There was the kadalay man dealing out his boiled gram in perfectly formed paper cones, with bits of



coconut and alluringly hot fried chilli poking out of the top of the "goththa"; there was the exotic fruit vendor who appeared with his seasonal fare of golden, sweet pineapple, rambutans, mangosteens, guavas and the like; and, my favourite, the Achcharu Amme.

I can picture this middle-aged lady, seated with her husband, her round wicker basket in front of her, waiting for the school bell to ring for the breaks and her clientele to roll up to the gate.

If my memory serves me right the gates were closed for the short breaks and we would have to proffer our coins through the steel bars.

Our eyes would be fixed

on what the wicker basket had that day and we were often in a pickle (pun intended) deciding what delight we would have today.

There was the dimbul sambol - unripened wood apple minced with spices - spooned into cup-shaped leaves, delivering a taste sensation like no other to the palate.

As the food aficionados would say, the mango achcharu was "to die for" and perhaps we did take our lives in our hands buying street food. But having lived to tell this tale, I would say amme's mango achcharu was the best.

The perfect blend of sweet and sour from the half-ripe mango slices, salt and hot chilli powder put the brain into gear for



a release of endorphins which spread happiness throughout the body, and left the tongue tingling. This was fast-food like no other and we could not get enough of it.

Come to think of it, this was our staple fare Monday to Friday, and bolstered by seeni sambol paan from the tuckshop, it kept us going through lessons and sport.

Sadly, the magic of the street vendor outside college is an era long past.

But if you close your eyes and picture the school gates, I dare say you might see the cluster of vendors and even taste the unique and wonderful flavours conjured up by the Achcharu Amme.

Ah, the memories!

"...the gates were closed for the short breaks and we would have to proffer our coins through the steel bars."

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REGGIE LENT A HEART AND HAND ...

A generous and kind act by a true Peterite more than 40 years ago has left a lasting impression on Charinde Perera, who has flown in from California with his wife, Tania, for the reunion.

Charinde, the 1977 cricket captain, picks up the tale:

"When I was very little our family was not doing very well and my parents were struggling to put three meals on the table. One day, my mum took me to Fort; it was about one in the af-

ternoon and we were walking down Chatham Street.

"At the time there were only two sports stores - Diana's and Chands. While we were walking past Diana's I noticed a brand new, shining red leather ball in the showcase. I stopped and started staring at the window while my mum was trying to drag me away. She knew I wanted the ball but she did not have the money to buy it for me. She told me later she did not even have

money to buy me anything to eat, but I was not complaining I was hungry; I only wanted the 'leather ball'.

"While I was staring at the ball from outside Diana's, along comes Reggie Serpachy (Everard's dad). He knew my parents. Reggie asked what we were doing and my mum told him that she needed to get home but I would not move from the window because I wanted the ball.

"Without a word, Mr Serpachy went into



the store, bought the ball, brought it out and handed it to me.

"He then turned to my mum and said: 'Someday I like to see this kid play for St Peter's'.

"Sure enough, I did play and the year I captained, in 1977, I went with Kitto Fernandopulle to the Serpachys' residence and handed over two tickets to watch the Joe-Pete Big Match."

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Best wishes to all my
classmates and friends

Pierre Lawrence



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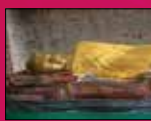
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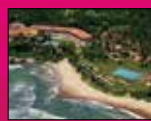
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MASTER RUN MACHINE

By Lawrence Heyn

Cricket at St Peter's has evolved in eras, with individual brilliance shining through in each of them.

There was the brilliant Joe Misso in the 1930s, the magical bowler Dion Wallis in the '40s, Herbert Fernando and Clive Inman in the '50s, sublime stylist Roy Dias in the '60s and the gifted natural Rohan Buultjens in the '70s.

Rohan Philip Buultjens commands a special place in the annals of Joe-Pete matches and also as one of the best batsmen to come out of St Peter's.

This is attested by his outstanding Big Match performances, where he holds the record for the highest aggregate of 491 runs in five matches. The only other batsmen to top 400 runs were Clive Inman (451) and Joe Misso (408).

In 1979, Buultjens performed a feat as rare as Halley's Comet, scoring 109 and 100 not out in the same match. I had the privilege of



witnessing these innings as I was covering it for the press.

Buultjens showed such exquisite timing and stroke play that seem to come so easy to left-handers. He was simply majestic, scoring his runs all around the ground with some dazzling footwork that countered anything the Josephians threw at him.

It is unlikely Buultjens' twin hundreds and record aggregate will be matched.

Now, 35 years later, Buultjens fondly remembers that weekend in March 1979. Speaking to me last week he said: "The Joe-Pete always brings a sense of excitement and the last thing you want to do

is "get out" cheaply. Once I got the chance to bat I was determined to build an inning, five runs at a time.

"It all came together that day and made me keep going. But I was lucky to have good partners batting with me, which was very important. Those two innings were among my best in the sense of determination.

"I consider it a privilege to be in the company of Clive Inman and Joe Misso. All this was only possible because of the team spirit that existed, we had a dedicated coach in Dr H I K Fernando and a school that fostered a culture of camaraderie and respect."

NO LAUGHS WITH CHARLIE



By Stephen de Niese

St Peter's had a teacher whose general demeanour reminded the boys of Charlie Chaplin. You guessed it – Charlie was his nickname.

Charlie had a novel way of getting the boys to pay attention to their work.

Anyone making a nuisance of himself was brought to the front of the class and asked to get on his haunches under one of the double desks and then forced to lift the desk on his back – a fairly tough task for a young boy.

Charlie would help the offender lift the desk by placing a piece of chalk behind his ear, and with index finger and thumb on either side of the chalk and ear lobe he would squeeze, gradually increasing the pressure with the intention of crushing the piece of chalk.

The double desk would go up real quick. The boys who suffered this excruciating pain certainly paid attention after that.

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*To all my class friends,
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Best regards always,

Mario Misso

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OUR LESSONS WELL LEARNED

By Lawrence Machado

ST Peter's College evokes varied memories for many students - some good and some bad.

Many of us have had teachers and staff who we thought were downright tough and cruel, especially in the days when the cane and ruler were not spared when it came to punishing students.

Funnily, though, when we left college, we hardly took that anger against them even though we may still talk about the bad experiences and recollect the harsh punishments when chat-

ting to classmates. The good and kind teachers were blessings to us and others, while strict but fair, also came into our good books.

At the end of the day, it is what was taught and instilled in us we took out to the world and, call it what you may, most Peterites have excelled in their careers and have had the ability to bounce back on their feet in spite of adversity.

Many of our contemporaries have reached the highest levels in their respective careers and this is a source of pride to us wherever we may be.

We may be surprised but glad to hear a so-called under-achieving classmate or batch mate hit the jackpot in terms of a career and is highly regarded in his field.

Today as we relive our memories in this wonderful reunion, let us not forget the roots and solid foundation we received at our Alma Mater, where the good surely outweighs the bad experiences. I may be wrong but our values in education and spirituality we learnt continue to hold us in good stead.

One example is when my good friend

Ranjan Perera and I heard the song, *We Stand for God*, sung at a church service in Sydney recently, our thoughts immediately went back to the college chapel where we would sing this hymn with gusto while Fr Claver's choir gave it their best shot.

"Whenever I hear this hymn, I think of college," Ranjan told me and I agreed because it also happens to me every time this hymn is played.

It is little things like this which make our connection with St Peter's College even stronger, and the envy of other schools.

THE DAY AUSTIN WAS RUN OUT

By Stephen de Niese

IN 1965, the Big Match against St Joseph's was played on the Peterite grounds and, as usual, the players' parents were in the pavilion area in close proximity to the dressing rooms.

We were batting, requiring quick runs in an effort to declare and put the Josephians in to bat and wrap up the game - which we did. However, just as Everard

Hoffman was walking out to bat, an ardent old Peterite yelled out "Ten bucks for every six Everard".

Everard was renowned for his big hitting and in trying to get quick runs, or easy money - I'm not sure which - he was dismissed fairly cheaply.

Well, all hell broke loose. Everard's father (a wonderful gentleman) who by mid-afternoon had sunk quite a few sherbets

(arracks) lost his cool and was quite upset that his son had got out going for a six.

Assuming that Austin Fernando, master-in-charge of sport, was responsible, Mr Hoffman stood shouting "Where's that bugger Austin?" and walked towards Mr Fernando, seated next to me, and said: "You're the 'B' who offered my son ten bucks for every six, aren't you? You're Austin Fernando aren't you? I'm go-

ing to beat the hell out of you!"

Austin tried to stay calm; only I could see the terror in his eyes. He quickly assessed that Mr Hoffman had not quite recognised him and pointed to the dressing room and said, "Austin is in there."

As Mr Hoffman headed inside, Austin did a perfect impersonation of the Scarlet Pimpernel and vanished, much to everyone's delight.

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