



# Blue Black Night 2011

May 7th 2011  
Trillium Ballroom  
Holiday Inn Toronto International Airport  
S. Thomas' College OBA Canada  
[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)



# S. Thomas' College Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)

## Message from the President of the STC OBA of Canada

President's Message – Blue Black Night 2011

It is once again my privilege and honor as President of the STCOBA – Canada to welcome all you ladies and gentlemen to the Blue Black Night. This is my second year as president, the challenges faced were immense, within a recession and natural disasters.

I have been fortunate to have an Executive Committee, both years, who are energetic, dynamic, robust with a will to win attitude. We had wonderful support from the membership too, your attendance at events and the ever willing assistance extended to us, is very much appreciated. My sincere thanks to all of you for having worked hard, to make each and every event a success.

The dinner dance organized by the STCOBA-Canada has always been a much looked forward to event in the Sri Lankan Community Social Calendar and we promise you that this year will be no exception.

Blue Black Night is also our biggest fund raising event. Over the years since our inception in 1993, we have been able to make donations towards various projects to our old Colleges in Sri Lanka, Mount Lavinia, Gurutalawa and Kollupitiya.

Last year at the request of the Headmaster of STC Gurutalawa, we were able to donate 200 plastic chairs for the Assembly Hall, 10 steel bunk beds for the Hostel and 10 desks and chairs for a Classroom at a cost of Rs.350,000/-.

This year too it is our intention to continue with our assistance to STC Gurutalawa, an institution much in need of continued help.

All of the above would not of course be possible without the encouragement of all those present here tonight and in the years past, who join us to enjoy this evening.

The Dance Committee led once again by our Chairman, Sumith Samarasinghe, has spared no efforts in assuring you all of an evening to remember.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all our advertisers and sponsors for your kind generosity, year after year, we are ever grateful. The entire Dance Committee, Members of the Executive Committee and last but not least the Thomian Ladies and children who always rise to the occasion in making Blue Black Night the success it always is.

**Esto Perpetua**  
**D R Weerasinghe**  
**President**  
**S.Thomas' College Old Boys' Association – Canada**



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# S. Thomas' College

## Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoha-canada.com](http://www.stcoha-canada.com)

### ***Message from the Dance Committee Chairman - 2011***

*Honoured Guests, Fellow Thomians & their spouses.*

*It is my great pleasure in welcoming each and every one of you to our Annual Blue Black Night. Every year we try our best to make positive changes to our dinner dance. This year we are introducing a new band "The New Illusions". I am confident at the end of the night you will want them again next year. DJ Pradeep comes back this year again. He needs no introduction. We have also arranged for a Cultural performance for your enjoyment.*

*I have to thank President DR, who has been a tower of strength to me this year. His unwavering confidence and hard work is the result of tonight's success. The Executive Committee has supported me year in year out. I thank you for the help and confidence placed in me.*

*During a recent visit to S. Thomas' College Gurutalawa, I saw firsthand that the College is in great need of our support to upgrade their facilities. This year the Executive Committee decided to donate all proceeds from the Raffle and part of the Dance proceeds to the betterment of the College.*

*I appeal especially to Old Boys of Gurutalawa to come forward and help the Executive Committee as much as possible to fulfill this undertaking.*

*Enjoy the evening, meet new friends and join us again in 2012.  
Esto Perpetua - The Lord is my Shepherd*

*Sumith Samarasinghe  
Chairman - Dance Committee 2011*



**S. Thomas' College OBA Canada  
2011 Executive Committee**



Standing L-R

Chian De Silva, Sanjay Perera, Balen Rajanathan, Jehan Ahamed, Krishan Waidyaratne, Kaman Thangavelu, Hiran Adihetty, Amila Madulaarachchi

Seated L-R

Daya Ginige, Gerhard Munaweera, Sumith Samarasinghe, D.R. Weerasinghe, Bryan Simon-Rasiah, Kumaru Wijesundera

Absent: Balan Asirwatham,





S. THOMAS' COLLEGE  
MOUNT LAVINIA

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FAX : 737173  
E-MAIL : warden@stcmount.sch.lk

**WARDEN'S MESSAGE**

It is a pleasure to write a few words to send our very best wishes from Mount Lavinia to the Canada OBA on the occasion of their dinner-dance 2011.

Several of you made it over to Sri Lanka for the Royal-Thomian, and what a match it was! Had we the benefit of the twilight that you enjoy in Canada, there is no doubt that we would have won a resounding and well-deserved victory. But as I scarcely need to say, night falls quickly and irreversibly here, and the ICC rules give no leeway to batsmen prepared to risk life and limb for a famous victory.

It would be a pleasure to be able to join you some time, but I fancy it will not be possible this year. However, Susan and I wish you all the very best for a wonderful evening, and indeed for the remainder of the year.

*Esto Perpetua.*

*Revd John C. Puddefoot*  
*Warden*  
*S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia*





# S. Thomas' College

## Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)

### SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

It is with great pride that I welcome you, on behalf of the Executive Committee, to the Annual Blue Black Dinner Dance 2011.

Once again this past year has been a successful one and our Association is growing from strength to strength, since its inception. Due to the hard work and dedication of our Committee and the loyalty of our members, we have seen a fun-filled and progressive year.

I'd like to extend my personal appreciation to our President D.R. Weerasinghe for making my 2<sup>nd</sup> tenure as Secretary a smooth and easy one. We have had a few young Thomians become part of the STC OBA and the future of our Association looks promising with a good mix of experience and young and vibrant faces.

It is our loyalty and fondness for our Alma Mata that keeps our Association strong and a cut above the rest. I thank you all for sharing these same sentiments through your involvement and presence here tonight. Have a fantastic evening.

*Esto Perpetua.*

**Gerhard Munaweera**  
**Secretary STC OBA of Canada**





**Message from the Headmaster S.Thomas' Preparatory School, Kollupitiya**

It gives me unmitigated pleasure yet again to send my annual message to the souvenir being published for the Blue Black Night 2011 organized by the Thomian OBA of Canada.

Fellowship and reunion are integral aspects of ensuring that the Thomian family in Canada remains close, cohesive and vibrant. In the annual calendar of events organized by the OBA, the annual Dinner Dance has firmly established itself as a special event, which is eagerly looked forward to every May by the Old Thomian fraternity.

I have not the slightest doubt that the Organizing Committee would have with their customary zeal spared no pains to guarantee that all attending this evening's function would enjoy themselves with the very best of music, food and drink. Our gratitude and thanks must be accorded to them for their planning and arrangements.

Relive those precious moments of your boyhood either by the sea or in the hills, gather together in a spirit of warmth, joy and conviviality, enjoy the lavish hospitality on offer, whilst cherishing the tie that binds us all by rallying round the College flag the Blue, the Black and Blue!!

Our best wishes are with you as always as you have yourselves a memorable evening.

***Esto Perpetua.***

***N.Y. Casie Chetty  
Headmaster  
S. Thomas' Preparatory School  
Kollupitiya.***







S. THOMAS' COLLEGE  
GURUTALAWA

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MESSAGE FROM S. THOMAS' COLLEGE GURUTALAWA

8<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Dear Fellow  
Old Thomians, Friends and  
Well Wishers of the STC OBA, Canada,

Greetings, once again, from the salubrious climes of Uva and the Gurutalawa Thomian Family.

It is with pleasure that I send greetings to the S. Thomas' College Old Boys' Association of Canada to be published in the souvenir being produced for the annual Dinner Dance.

Over the past year standards at Guru have continued to rise despite the many challenges that we had to face. I am proud to report that we had some very good results at the G C E Ordinary Level of 2010 including one boy with 9 A passes and 2 boys with 8 A passes and a B pass each. In addition our boys achieved great success in Swimming, Athletics, Equestrian Sports and Karate, to name a few, where sports were concerned and also fared well at other competitions such as the National Oriental Dancing and Ballet Competition. The number of students may not have reached the desired target but we are striving to ensure a quality of education that will benefit our boys and girls.

Our Infrastructure Development work continues albeit at a slow pace depending on the availability of funds. Much has been achieved, but there is still so much to be done. Thanks to the Parents' Support Group of the PTA we launched an ambitious Kitchen and Dining Hall Refurbishment Project, Phase 1 of which was completed in January 2011. Phase 2 is still to be completed as is Phase 2 of the Swimming Pool Restoration Project for which funding is still required.

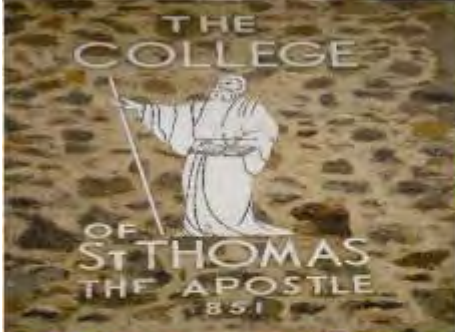
Our links with your Association have been greatly strengthened during the past year and we are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the Old Thomians of Canada under the dynamic leadership of D. R. Weerasinghe. During the latter part of 2010 the STC OBA Canada donated funds for us to purchase 200 chairs for the Canon A. J. Foster Memorial Hall, 10 metal double bunk beds and 50 desks and chairs for the classrooms. In addition we have been sent a valuable consignment of books for the Canon R. S. de Saram Memorial Library of the School. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 Mr Sumith Samarasinghe paid a visit to the School and spent the day walking around and making a note of all that has been done and needs to be done to raise the standards of the School's infrastructure. We have received messages of support from members of your Association as well that have been a tremendous source of encouragement. I must thank Milinda Hettiarachie, (Hony Secretary of the STC Gurutalawa OBA 2010/2011) for his commitment and initiative on our behalf with the old boy network in Canada and other parts of the world.

Thank you for supporting STC at Gurutalawa.

I wish you all a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Esto Perpetua!  
Rev. Marc Billimoria  
Headmaster  
S. Thomas' College at  
Gurutalawa.





# TO BE A THOMIAN

Generations of Thomians have been blessed to have the guidance of Wardens, Teachers and Old Boys who have dedicated their time and talents in the Service of S.Thomas' College. They are too many to be named, but one can only recall some of their legacies and what the School meant to them. Warden Miller, the architect of the OBA in 1886, preached a sermon on Old Boy's day in 1888 which ended with these words: "For what is it which brings you here - men of different ages, pursuits, circumstances? Why have the Old Boys of the College seen fit to form themselves into a society? It is not merely, I believe, a sentimental attraction towards a place where your early years were spent; not merely an affection for those who were your companions in those years; nor merely a wish to renew old associations. Am I wrong in attributing your attachment to this place to something more than this - to your consciousness that you gained something here which has been of priceless value to you through life? You gained some good here. Men with all the responsibilities and cares of life upon them would never come together, as you have done today, unless the memories evoked by the occasion were memories of good received. Something you received when here, which in varying degrees remained with you all through life, however troubles or anxieties of life have tended to obscure it - something which has helped you in your hour of need and care and trial, something which, however much you have lost sight of it yourself, you long that your children should receive."

Warden Stone in his farewell to the O.B.A. had this to say: " I have learnt to love Ceylon and S.Thomas' College. I have learnt to love the boys and even if I do beat them it is because I love them. Many of the boys have justified their ability, some of them have not. I never despair about a Thomian even if he has gone wrong for a year or two, because I believe there is something in them called the Thomian Spirit".

Warden de Saram at his last assembly at S.Thomas left this challenge to the boys: "Wardens come and go , boys come and go, but the School goes on, and that is what matters. You will be here, most of you to carry it on. I know you will. We have something in this school which is good and precious. Guard it well, treasure it and keep it bright. It won't be at all a bad guide for life, if each one of us says "I shall never do anything that will bring shame to S.Thomas' .... Goodbye and good luck you all"

Warden Neville de Alwis' last words to the Thomian community about the spirit in which they should serve the College:

"We all owe the College something, the College owes us nothing. When you do anything for College, please expect nothing in return. College is bigger than us. College will go on with or without you. May we contribute only to her glory".

In July 1953, the Hon. Justice E.F.N.Gratiaen, an old boy, was Chief Guest at the Prize Giving. He made these observations in his speech:

"What I include on behalf of S,Thomas' is that year in, year out, she has sent into every walk of public life so many men not necessarily born with the advantage of wealth and influence, not too well endowed with the enviable gift of superior intellect, but nevertheless decent men, who marry decent wives, and by their own endeavors set up decent homes; men who represent the right kind of public opinion, who will stand up firm against the bogus doctrines which emerge from time to time in the life of every nation; men who stand for common sense, integrity, courage and faith in the traditions of liberty and fair play."

**ESTO PERPETUA**



ESTO PERPETUA  
*Wmmy Sinnatambiy*





# S. Thomas' College

## Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)

### Treasure's Message

Honored Guests and Fellow Thomians, As Treasurer, it is a great honor and privilege to extend a warm welcome to you on behalf of the Executive Committee to the Blue Black Night 2011.

The past year has been financially successful and with your support and encouragement we will try our best to sustain it. Due to your generosity we were able to make a significant contribution to our college at Gurutalawa. We thank our sponsors and advertisers for their continued support and we would greatly appreciate your patronage of their services.

I would like to thank the President, the EXCO and the general membership for their support and kind courtesy extended to me over the past few years that I was privileged to serve.

I wish you all an exhilarating and enjoyable evening and hope to see you at the future events that your EXCO have in store for you.

*Esto Perpetua*  
*Bryan Simon-Rasiah*  
*Treasurer STC OBA of Canada*





# S. Thomas' College Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)

## **SOCIAL SECRETARY'S MESSAGE**

It gives me great pleasure to say that we had another very successful year. The following events were organized and I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to the Executive Committee for a job well done.

### **Children's Christmas Party**

This event was a great success. The children enjoyed it very much, they were thrilled to their core. My sincere thanks to Natalie Jayasekera for taking charge of the children's entertainment and games. Santa was a lot of fun and kept the children amused.

The musical team in attendance with Shantha, Kumaru and the clan was a tremendous hit. The entire crowd joined in for carols and sing along.

The fun was followed by a HOPPER TREAT. It was dished out to the full satisfaction of all those present. There was plenty of snack/finger food brought in by various contributors. Thank you very much for your kind generosity.

### **Stag night**

This was organized to coincide with the Royal Thomian cricket match in Colombo. The attendance was great despite the bad weather and people being away for the World Cup Cricket. The menu of Pittu/Godamba rotti and string hoppers was requested by many and was a hit again.

The music night was arranged by Chamil Welikala. Once again thank you very much for all those who contributed in many ways.

### **Annual Dinner Dance 2011**

The long awaited event is about to start, the dance committee headed by Sumith Samarasinghe has arranged an enthusiastic evening for you all.

Last but not least I would like to request all fellow Thomians and their families to come forward with greater co-operation and contribution to make these events "**Unique**". I wish success to all of them and this OBA Canada at large.

Enjoy the evening, exchange nostalgic memories and the fellowship that bind us all into one alma mater.

I wish you all a wonderful evening.

*Esto Perpetua*

**Balen Rajanathan**  
**Social Secretary STC OBA of Canada**



# Scrabble Tournament



# Scrabble Tournament



## Inaugural Sri Lanka School Alumni Associations – Scrabble Tournament Organized by STOBA Canada

The inaugural schools Scrabble Tournament was played out on Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the UFCW local 175 & 633 premises at Argentia Road, Mississauga. The event germinated from an idea to hold an event for the first time where alumni associations from both Boys and Girls Schools would interact along with their families irrespective of age.

Invitations had been sent out to alumni associations of Royal, St. Joseph's, St. Peter's, Trinity, Methodist, St. Bridget's, Holy Family, Visakha and Jaffna schools. The participants accepting the invitation were teams from the alumni associations of St. Bridget's Convent, Holy Family Convent and STC OBA. Around 30 persons gathered from which 20 participants's commenced play against opposing players on 10 tables at 10.15 am.

At the end of the first round of play, it was evident that the team from St. Bridget's would pose the strongest challenge to emerge winners of this tournament. The 6 members from STC held on gallantly for 5 of them to go on to qualify for the next round of play. The quintessential Thomian, Wimsy Sinnatamby, was unfortunate to lose to a younger and more agile STC team member, Menik Weerasinghe.

The next round saw STC's DR Weerasinghe matched against SBC's Robin Ramakrishna, SBC's young player Vimalan Raviraj vs STC's Malik Majeed, STC's Janice Sinnatamby with STC's Jehan Ahamed, SBC's Kaveri Raviraj with STC's Hiran Adhihetty and SBC's Kshamalee Wirakoon against STC's Menik Weerasinghe. The word play and skills of playing Scrabble really came to the forefront with the formation of words, double words, triple words unscrambling at a rapid pace. Some of the combinations produced by several of the SBC players scoring as much as 80 points with one play, and seven letter words on more than one occasion. STC's Hiran Adhihetty and Jehan Majid were totally left far behind on the points board and at the end were left 'mind boggled' and 'wordless' by the speed and finesse of their opponents from SBC. STC's DR Weerasinghe won a very close game from SBC's Robin.

Kshamalee Wirakoon who won her game was left out of the next round as the judges decided to hold the semi-final round next. In the interests of fellowship and sportsmanship, Kshamalee agreed to this suggestion

Now the stage was set for the semi finals with four players left to match their wits and skills in crafting words from the English language. Final scores by this time were reaching the high 300's and even the 400's. This was Scrabble at its best. Observers at the tables were treated to a fabulous experience on how the game should be played.

16 year old Vimalan showed exceptional knowledge and skills and was matched with Janice in one table, with Kaveri against DR in the next. As expected from the word go, the pace was fast and furious. The wordplay reached new heights in triples, doubles, 7 letter words in the art and subtlety of playing to win. Vimalan in this game scored 454 points which was the highest in all games in the tournament to emerge victorious.

Not to be outdone Vimalan's mother, Kaveri, left her opponent DR trailing and looking on with disbelief as she rolled out complete 7 letter words on two occasions to record the highest single word score for the entire tournament.

The finals were a family affair with SBC's Kaveri pitting her wits against son, Vimalan. No quarter was asked for and none given in this battle for supremacy between mother and son. Once again the skills and finesse displayed was a delight to watch by all those who gathered around the table.

The final game was won by Kaveri with 410 points against Vimalan's 345 points.

Kaveri Raviraj emerged the Champion Scrabble Player and St. Bridget's came out as the Champion Team of the inaugural tournament.

All those present were treated to an excellent lunch and other refreshments by the organizing committee from STC in the excellent facilities provided by the UFCW.

The STC OBA now will continue this event next year too by further expanding into a Family Day that will hold competitions for Chess, Carrom, Cards, Checkers and other games in addition to Scrabble.

All in all, a most enjoyable day spent by everyone who graced the occasion.

Hiran Adhihetty





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**A moving Eulogy**  
**delivered by a granddaughter at the funeral service of**  
**Jimmy Rajaratnam (June 16, 1923 – February 7, 2011)**

I am one of the four grandchildren of Jimmy Rajaratnam. My sister Ahila and I always called our grandparents Ga and Ma – childhood names that we never grew out of. Many of you know that my grandfather was an excellent speaker, a tough act to follow, but today I will share with you what my grandfather meant to me.

My grandfather was a central part of my life in the past 18 years, never failing to sing happy birthday over the phone or sit on his rocking chair and listen to what I had to say. To sum up who my grandfather was to me in two words, it would be “role model”. A role model is someone who is worthy of imitation. My grandfather was literally everything I strive to be some day. His family life, his faith, his career, and his overall presence were an inspiration to me and I am sure to many of you as well.

I have grown up hearing my mother tell me that her father would do anything for her and I have heard the way that his children talk about him. Amma, Roshani Akka, Roma Mama, and Rohan Mama – I know that part of the reason why you and your families have turned out so well is because you had him as a father.

Birthday cards were not something that my grandfather took for granted. He always wrote beautifully on those, providing sentimental words and useful advice. He was a man who knew how to communicate and convey a point – whether it was verbally or in writing – in the courtroom or in a conversation. The card he wrote me for my graduation had every spare inch of it filled with advice. There was advice regarding what to know in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, advice his father gave to him, advice on spending free time and more. He signed the card at four different times, as if he had to go back and write more whenever a new piece of advice occurred to him. This is the type of man he was – one that would take time to share whatever he knew.

Every time Ahila and I would sleep over at Ga and Ma’s home, I would wake up to find Ga sitting in his arm chair reading the Bible. I always wondered how a man could sit down and read the Bible in that manner. This encouraged me to work on my own faith. Ga and I always exchanged a Bible verse in each other’s birthday cards. I would highlight these verses in my own Bible – if they were important to Ga, they were important to me too. The last Bible passage he gave me is found in Psalm 91:4 – which states, “He will cover you with his feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.”

Ga was a man of God; he was also an intellect. As many of you know, Ga was an incredibly successful lawyer. My aspirations to study law have always been fuelled by Ga’s knowledge and influence; he never forced me but always encouraged me. When I would do law projects in high school, if I got stuck I would call Ga. He would take down the question and call me back within minutes ready to give an informed and thorough answer. That wouldn’t be the end of it, for months after he would be buying me books and cutting out newspaper articles related to that small question. I have a bookshelf in my room packed with all the books that Ga bought for me. On the opening page of every book, his name is scribed. My favourite part about receiving these books was to open and see that he wrote my name right under his. He took what I was interested in and gave me everything I needed to learn more about the topic. He gave me many of his legal books which I can picture him referencing as he prepared for one of his big court cases that he often told me about. He also gave Ahila and me everything from fairy tale collections when we were young to a *Self-*



*Defense for Women* book last year. He claimed that young women should know how to defend themselves and then proceeded to happily watch us tackle each other in his living room.

My grandfather was always a very charming person, with his beautiful singing voice, his hazel eyes, and his undeniable talent for speaking. Nothing ever mattered more to me than a compliment from him or his praise for my writing when I would print an extra copy of my essays for him to read. No one else's approval meant as much to me and I don't think that will ever change.

Those are only a few of the things that made Ga so special to me. When I heard about what happened on Monday I was destroyed. This was my *biggest* fear during the past two years. When Ga was sick last year that fear increased and I wanted to be at the hospital with him whenever I could. When I left for university this year, I knew that the little control I had over this fear was getting weaker with distance. Even though I was two and a half hours away, I still would think about him often. I know that Ga would not want me to wallow in this forever. He would want me to remember that everything happens for a reason, that people are put in your life for a purpose and everything is in God's time.

The last time I saw Ga was on New Year's Day, he was healthy and joyful; I am glad that was my last memory of him. I had asked him a question and he told me, "Whatever you want is what I want". At that moment I told myself to remember his word. The way he smiled at me and said those words, I felt, it was more than a simple answer. Ga told me that he wanted to be there when I set up my law office one day. He will not be there for that day, but he will be the reason I reached that goal.

Ma, I want you to know that no other woman could have taken care of Ga as well as you have. You are an incredibly strong person and on behalf of the entire family, we want you to know that everyone in this family –all of whom have been strongly influenced by Ga – are more than willing to support you and give back the strength you and Ga provided for all of us. The reason Ga lived for so long as he did, was because he had you beside him.

I am thankful for the family I have today; they have all been influenced and shaped by Ga. They have small parts of his personality tucked into their own. I am grateful that I have 18 years of many memories to cherish and to tell James and Emma, who unfortunately did not have the opportunity Ahila and I had to know Ga. I am grateful to have found a role model in my grandfather. But most of all, I am grateful to know that no matter how long it may take for life to get back to normal, Ga is in a better place – healthy and happy – the way I remember him.

I can only hope that today I have done him justice and made him proud.



***Aruna Vithiananthan***  
Grand Daughter  
February 13, 2011



# STCOBA Christmas Party 2010

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# STCOBA Christmas Party 2010



## DREAM A REALITY

Royal or Thomian cricketer.

When I came to S. Thomas' in 1970 after representing St. Sebastian's Moratuwa (1967 - 69) I was wondering whether I'll be accepted as a worthy cricketer, although I had scored heavily for St. Sebastian's during my last season.

However I was given a warm welcome not only by the Thomian cricketers but by my Warden and especially coach George Ponniah. This was very important for a youngster who was stepping into a highly reputed school like S. Thomas'.

1970 was a superb first year for me scoring heavily in the schools cricket arena and this success gave me great confidence when I walked into my very first Royal - Thomian battle. But it was a disappointing debut. I failed to live up to expectations being dismissed cheaply in both innings. 1971 my second year, this too was a good season for me with the bat. But when the Royal -Thomian came, I was not so confident as my first year, though determined to fulfill the high hopes and aspirations banked on me by my team and my schoolmates.

With mixed feelings, I walked into bat at Representing our school in the "Battle of the Blues" no doubt is a cherished dream of any the number three after and early Thomian wicket fell. Despite being nervous in the first few overs, I settled down well to push the score along smoothly and guiding my personal contribution too, towards the nervous nineties. My inner instincts prompted me to attack without getting restricted in the nineties, the usual practice of many a willow - wielders when nearing their centuries. This paid rich dividends. Thus I achieved my dream, a century in the "Battle of the Blues".

1972 was a memorable year. As captain of S. Thomas' I had scored 1000 runs before the "Big Match". I called correctly and elected to take the first lease on the placid Oval wicket. This time too I was a bit nervous when I strode to the middle to face the Royal music after the fall of an early Thomian wicket. In my usual flamboyant fashion, I inched my way towards my second consecutive century in a Royal - Thomian and reached it with a boundary.

At this point I had my cool not loosing concentration and succeeded in scoring 184 which was my last innings for a school I would love playing for many more years.

Representing the National team, scoring many innings will never match the 184 at the Oval in the "Battle of the Blues" which takes top billing in my cricketing career spanning 21 years (1967-1988).

I thank god for blessing me with talent to reach greater heights as a cricketer. My elder son Niru played up to the U-17 age group in college and left to further his studies abroad. Niru and my daughter Meneka's fervent wish is to see their brother Sanjeev eclipse the father's record as every year I go down memory lane boasting to them about the best innings ever played in all my life.

I sincerely hope my dream will be a reality to see my second son Sanjeev score a century at the "Battle of the Blues", BUT not surpass 184 runs for the simple reason that I'll have to listen to him each year boasting about how he broke my record!

Long Live the Traditions Of S. Thomas'.

ESTO PERPETUA!

Duleep Mendis



**S. Thomas' College Old Boys Associations of Canada  
AGM 2010**



## 'A SCHOOL LIKE NO OTHER...'

### S. THOMAS' COLLEGE AT GURUTALAWA

Although it is part of the Thomian Family of Schools, S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa is a school like no other. It is unique in its location, environment and ethos. S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa, came to birth in 1942 due to the crisis of World War II that threatened Sri Lanka in that year and completed 65 years of existence in 2007. The STCG Old Boys' Association celebrated its 50th anniversary in February 2009. The School owes its reputation and the Old Boys' Association its existence, at least in part, to the efforts of one man – the legendary Dr R. L. Hayman. Dr Hayman together with Mr. W. T. Keble, the founder of S. Thomas' Preparatory Schools in Kollupitiya in 1938 and at Bandarawela in 1942 came out from England to be Assistant Masters at S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia at the invitation of Warden the Ven. Kenneth McPherson in the 1920s.

Dr Hayman and his wife Mary together with their friend and colleague Canon A. J. Foster were legends in their time and strengthened the foundations of S. Thomas' College laid at Gurutalawa by Warden Canon R. S. De Saram after the majority of exiled Thomians had returned to Mount Lavinia at the end of the War in 1945. The Haymans retired to England in 1964 and Canon Foster died soon thereafter leaving the School bereft of their visionary leadership but the School grew and evolved under a line of successive eminent Headmasters of the calibre of Frank Jayasinghe, E. L. Perera and Lyn Illangakoon, among others.

There is a misconception in the minds of many Old Thomians, particularly those of the parent School at Mount Lavinia that S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa is just another satellite school. This is not so. Unlike the Preparatory School at Kollupitiya and the School (later Collegiate School and now College) at Bandarawela founded by Mr. Keble, S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa (STCG) was from the inception part of the parent school at Mount Lavinia (STCML). The two schools are joined at the hip! STCG shares the same heritage with STCML – the same motto, the same crest, the same song, the same traditions, the same Thomian Spirit. In fact for many years into the 1960s the two Schools had the same College Magazine et al. Dr Hayman, the longest serving of STCG's Headmasters, was simultaneously Sub-Warden of STCML and boys would pass out of STCG in to the higher forms of STCML. This latter feature was reintroduced in 2006 in full and is today an important element in the survival of STCG for it affords the opportunity for boys who would never be able to enter STCML to do so by virtue of having been at Gurutalawa, provided they qualify at the GCE Ordinary Level Examination.

How and why the connection was broken in the late 1970s and 1980s is not important for it was a tragic breach that in one sense sealed STCG's fate and hastened her decline. It would be tenuous to try and analyse the causes. However, suffice to say that the connection was always meant to be. Mr. C. H. L. Davidson, Acting Headmaster of STCG and later Warden of STC Mount Lavinia, at the first Prize Giving at Gurutalawa quoted William Wordsworth to show what the connection between STCG and STCML was akin to:

'Two voices are there; one of the sea one of the mountains; Each a mighty voice.'

Thus STCG was and is 'S. Thomas' College AT Gurutalawa' – not just a satellite or a branch school but part and parcel of the same Thomian system that existed at Mount Lavinia since 1918 and that prevailed at Mutwal before that from 1851. This is why it is anomalous to refer to Dr Hayman as the Founder of S. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa in the way that Mr. Keble is remembered as Founder of the other two Schools. STCG is but a transplantation of the same tree that was planted by Bishop James Chapman at Mutwal and it is his vision that Guru continues to strive to bring to fruition.

However, today this reality is held in a fine balance and tension. The identity of STC Gurutalawa is that of an independent, fee-levying, government approved private school governed by the same Board of Governors as the schools at Mount Lavinia, Kollupitiya and Bandarawela. It may no longer considered 'one School' by the Department of Education and over the past thirty years may have evolved an identity of its own – BUT it is no less a part of the original. Two areas that differ significantly between STCG and STCML are geography and ethos. The 'School by the Sea' and the 'School in the Hills' each has its own distinct environment conducive to the type





of education offered. At STCG we try to offer the same type of all-round, integrated education that is on offer at STCML, but we offer it in the nature friendly, unspoilt environment in the salubrious climes of Uva. Our setting enables us to develop the Thomian system to include eco friendly outdoor activities and in fact STCG pioneered 'Outward Bound' courses under Dr Hayman. Furthermore as per Leslie de Saram's wish the College Farm is still an integral part of life at STCG.

In ethos too there is a difference and this is aided by our unique setting. While the Thomian Spirit is fostered and while all the quintessential features of Thomianism – diversity, pluralism, harmony et al are encouraged, STCG has something more to offer. Bishop Chapman founded the original School at Mutwal on the lines of his *alma mater* Eton College. The Wardens after him were inspired by the liberal education systems advocated and promoted by Butler of Shrewsbury and Arnold of Rugby. Warden W. A. Stone who transplanted S. Thomas' from Mutwal to Mount Lavinia in 1918 was a student of a brand of liberal education not dissimilar to that. Dr Hayman and Fr. Foster went one step further and blended the traditional Thomian ethos with a philosophy of education derived, at least in part, from that of ancient Greece, of Plato whose dictum, it is said to have been, that education was not so much about 'the filling of a pail' than about 'lighting a fire.' Dr Hayman was inspired by Kurt Hahn, the legendary founder of Gordonstoun School in the north of Scotland who was undeniably influenced by the Greek system, and this was most notably recognisable in the daily routine of life at STCG that has been unashamedly spartan since 1942. Just as Hahn placed a high emphasis on militaristic discipline and physical education, particularly outdoor activities such as sailing and trekking, so Dr. Hayman emphasised similar outward bound activities as well as swimming and horse riding in an atmosphere befitting the formation of boys into robust manliness. Unlike Gordonstoun, that has since relaxed some of its more spartan features, STCG still maintains its reputation for conditions that could be considered harsh in the Uva hills, with cold showers and morning runs as a matter of routine. While corporal punishments are no longer permitted alternate forms of reparative punishments in the form of supervised runs around the campus, community service activities et al may be options for the future.

STCG, in keeping with the Thomian ethos, also has a reputation for not placing an over-emphasis on studies and examinations, the view being that this tends to lead to a lopsided education with a lack of time and freedom for a true, imaginative and humane engagement with life or the formation of a fully integrated character and personality as well as a training in responsible independence that comes from living in a Boarding School. This philosophy of education has certainly not hindered most of our products achieving places both in Sri Lanka and international universities and all over the world excelling in nearly all fields of academic achievement.

The School at Gurutalawa experienced mixed fortunes throughout the 1990s, a decade that began with the murder of the then Headmaster and his wife and by the turn of the century was in a critical state of decline for more than one reason, not least of all the changing socio-economic patterns of Sri Lanka and the political upheavals that accompanied these changes. By the end of 2006 despite the valiant efforts of the decent men who served as Headmaster, the School's future was bleak with student numbers dropping to less than 200, teachers and staff becoming indifferent and frustrated and the infrastructure on the verge of total collapse. It was the timely intervention of Jacques Huyghebaert that saved the School from closure. Huyghebaert took over the School in January 2007 and a gradual reversal of fortunes began with proper administrative systems and strict financial control being introduced. Since June 2007 an old Thomian and Anglican Priest, has been in charge and much has continued to happen. Jacques Huyghebaert stayed on to render great service as Advisor to the Board on Gurutalawa, Coordinator of Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Financial Controller until the end of 2008.

Today it is beyond disputation that standards have risen; facilities have been improved; and traditional Thomian features such as the House and Prefects systems been re-introduced in full.

Despite the fact that STCG one of the first Schools in Sri Lanka to have a swimming pool and Squash courts, today we can boast of only very basic facilities for nearly all other sports and extra curricular activities on offer for a School within the Thomian family. Today STCG is also one of the only Schools to have Horse Riding and Equestrian Sports as a serious activity. Our boys have done well to achieve success in a number of Athletics, Rugby Football, Swimming, Equestrian and Karate tournaments over the past year. This is



testimony to the fact that hardship does not necessarily stunt progress. Yet if boys can do well under such circumstances what can't they do with better facilities?

Academic and disciplinary standards have also risen and the GCE Ordinary Level results of the past four years bear testimony to this fact. Gone are the days of violent clashes between students and wanton acts of vandalism. Hostel facilities are rising to a standard that will soon be far superior to any other hostel in our private schools' network. With the Kitchen and Dining Hall Project launched by the parents in 2009 a modern, clean and cost effective catering department is now in place providing wholesome food that is enjoyed by all. The College Farm continues to supply sufficient fresh milk, eggs, chicken and vegetables to feed our community.

Most importantly perhaps, in the context of our national situation, the community of STCG boasts a culture of coexistence – a healthy mix of all communities living together in an atmosphere in which differences of ethnicity, caste, class, creed and even gender do not matter. Since its foundation STCG has been justly proud of this breadth of the background of its students who have hailed from all parts of the island, of differing intellects and practical abilities and reflecting the wide range of socio- religious backgrounds that make up Sri Lanka.

The long and hard road towards full rehabilitation of the infrastructure to undergird the work of the School is still ahead. We are also still to reach the right numbers i.e. at least 500 students that will ensure the financial breaking even with operational expenses covered by school fees. However, it is vital that we concurrently increase our endowments substantially to continue to offer the holistic and integrated education STCG is famous for.

To be able to continue offering this type of education that STCG has prided itself on for nearly seventy years is something all interested in the School's future desire. While the continuity of the School is now assured there are many ways for old boys, benefactors and friends to contribute towards the development of infrastructure. The quality of life that STCG is currently able to offer its students has been made possible only by the generosity of old boys, parents and guardians and friends of the School. Indeed such generosity and solidarity have been the lifeblood of S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa since the beginning, starting with the generous gift of the School property by Leslie de Saram and indeed the inspiring generosity of the Haymans who spent much of their own money on building the School after 1945. This type of benefactor is all the more necessary today as we continue to revive the School as the long term stability and development of the school is dependent on such endowments.

It was with this objective that we launched 'The Hayman Foundation' in 2009 to raise our endowments to a level that will enable the School to provide for scholarships and bursaries to deserving needy students, new and improved infrastructure and enhancement of staff welfare.

Membership of the Foundation is open to all those who have signified their intention to make a donation to the Trust Fund of not less than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the total sum bequeathed to the School by the late Mrs Mary Hayman in as per the terms of her Last Will [i.e. Rs 300,000/-] upon her death in 2007, an indication that Guru was very much in her thoughts despite the years of separation. The Trust Fund is administered by a Board of Trustees comprising the Headmaster, three serving members of the Board of Governors and two members of the STCG OBA nominated by the Headmaster. The Fund itself is invested with the Incorporated Trustees of the Church of Ceylon. Generosity by way of support to the Foundation or by other grants and donations will be a legacy that can enhance the general endowment of STCG or support a particular project from a list that can be made available on request.

For further details please contact

The Headmaster

S. Thomas' College

Gurutalawa Tel./Fax: 057 2280000 Hotline: 0773876060 Email: hmstcguru@gmail.com



Cricket 2010



Cricket 2010



## The Mount Lavinia - Gurutalawa Thomian Nexus and the Big Match

The College of Saint Thomas the Apostle, was founded at Mutwal by Dr James Chapman , the first Anglican Bishop of Colombo . He himself was a product of Eton College and King's College Cambridge . The foundation stone was laid on St Thomas Day , the 21 st December 1849 and declared open on 3rd February 1851 in Mutwal . The College motto *Esto Perpetua* and the College colours Blue, black and blue are Etonian legends and the naming of forms and classes at STC were set to be based on the prestigious English Public School pattern . We are indeed privileged to have our present Warden Rev John. C Puddefoot , who is also a renown product of Eton College and Oxford . In 1886 the STC Mt Lavinia Old Boys Association was formed , which is the oldest OBA in the world , untarnished and unimpaired and is 125 years old now ..

After having been at Mutwal for 66 years , the 1st term of 1918 saw S.Thomas' settling down in Mt Lavinia. In 1924 the legendary Big Club Grounds was declared open by Warden McPherson as a Memorial to those who sacrificed their lives in the First World War . The Small Club ground were laid in 1928 . Also in 1928 by an Act of Parliament the Board of Governors was founded and incorporated .

In 1932 Canon R S De Saram the Sub Warden was elevated as The Warden in Mt Lavinia, at a relatively young age , having had a distinguished record at Keble and Cuddestone, Oxford. He is remembered for the high levels of discipline that he strictly maintained , apart from all the development at Mt Lavinia in many fields . His "*spare the rod and spoil the child*" philosophy frowned by modern reformists , was appreciated by the Old Thomians , who revere him even today . Warden De Saram once remarked at a Big Match to a VVIP that Thomians are never dead till their buried when we were in a tight spot . True to his wisdom , STC had come out of it with flying colours at the end .

The Second World War disrupted life at STC Mt Lavinia and the school had to vacate the premises on 9th April 1942, to make way for the 35th British General Hospital for Armed Services in the College premises. Notably, Old Thomian Lt Basil Horsefall was awarded the highest recognition with the Victoria Cross in 1918 for his bravery in World War One . The Thomian grit, guts and glory is also International and Historical .

STC at Gurutalawa was born on **12th May 1942** with the revered Dr R L Hayman as the Headmaster . STC Mount was relocated in Guru during the World War Two . The life and time spent by Dr Hayman at Gurutalawa from 1942 to 1963 is exceptional . He spent his personal wealth to establish the school and bequeathed his wealth to Guru at the end . He bestrode the affairs of the school like a colossus . Dr Hayman was the longest standing Sub Warden at STC Mount from 1937 to 1959 and the Headmaster STC at Gurutalawa, which is unique .One cannot forget genial Mrs Mary Hayman who carried high standards at Mt Lavinia and later at Guru as the Sick Room Matron .

In spite of the rivalry, Royal and STC have often contributed to each others growth . In April 1916 , Royalist Edmund de Livera wrote the five versus of our present Thomian College Song , that was set to the music by Warden Stone . In lighter vein , he might have been inspired seeing the obvious grandeur at STC ! The Gurutalawa Estate was donated by Leslie De Saram a Royalist to build the school . The Thomian fraternity is grateful to Mr Leslie De Saram ( *a close relative of Warden Canon De Saram* ) and Mr Edmund de Livera .



There was **no** distinction between Mt Lavinia and Gurutalawa as said by Warden De Saram . In 1947 he addressed the Education Dept of Ceylon and later the STCML OBA AGM that both STC Mount and STC at Gurutalawa was to be considered one and the same school . Warden C H Davidson in verse quoting Two Voices by Wordsworth did refer to " *the voice from the sea and the voice from the mountains - two great voices* " , with ref to Mount and Guru .The College shifted back to Mount again after 1945, with the conclusion of the War.

In 1946 all but two players in the Thomian team were from Guru and the post war Thomian cricket captains 1947, 48 and 49 were from Guru . In 1943 the last wicket partnership for the Royal Thomian was broken with a Gurutalawa connection and in 1945 a Guru bowler trained by the coach Rev A J Foster ( later Headmaster ), took a hat trick in the encounter . There has been many cricketers produced by STC at Guru for Mount apart from other sportsmen and scholars too . The list is endless . STC despite in new surroundings and colder climatic conditions in Guru , adopted and performed well . The unique Obstacle Course initiated by Dr Hayman made tough Thomians on a tougher terrain . It is no surprise that the " *Thomian Grit* " prevails at crucial times from the inception , well known, respected and feared by the Royalists in particular, over many decades !

I take this opportunity to wish debonair Duleep Mendis the very best as he concluded his innings with the Sri Lanka Cricket Board . To us he remains *not out* for ever . We will remember him for his superlative batting display , leadership and the honour he brought to STC and Sri Lanka . Between us there will never be good byes Duleep ~ we will keep in touch as you touch our hearts genuinely at all times . Grateful thanks for the unsurpassed performances on the field , still remembered and cherished here and abroad .

The " *Thomianness* " is the resilience of the high quality value for which it stands and for which we are renowned and of which forever we have reasons to be justifiably proud .

Our best wishes to the gallant Thomian Cricket team and remember , " *you are playing for the honour of the best school of all* " .



**Esto Perpetua** ~ *for all we have and are* .

**Milinda Hettiarachchi**  
**Hony Secretary - STC at Gurutalawa OBA**



# 2010 Rugby Seven's



# Dinner Dance 2010





# Dinner Dance 2010



# STCOBA Dinner Dance 2010



Warden's of S. Thomas' College  
Educationalist - Disciplinarians - Visionaries



Warden Miller  
Our Founder



Revd. W.A. Stone  
Warden at Mutwal  
& Mt. Lavinia



Warden Ven. K.C.  
Mcpherson



Rev. Canon. R.S. De Saram  
Warden (longest period)



Mr. C.H.L. Davidson  
Warden (1st layman)



Rev. A.J.C. Selvaratnam  
Warden



Mr. S.J. Anandanayagam  
Warden



Mr. M.L.C. Ilangakoon  
Warden



Mr. W.M.N. de Alwis  
Warden



Sub - Warden's of S. Thomas' College



Rev. Canon P.L. Jansz



Rev. G.M. Withers



Dr. R.L. Hayman  
(longest serving)



Mr. F.J. Senaratne



Mr. Frank Jayasinghe



Mr. E.ST.P. Gunawardene



Mr. O.A. Abeynaike  
(Cricket coach)



Revd. D.De. Chickera



Mr. D.A. Pakianathan



**Head Masters of S. Thomas' College  
Upper School**



**Mr. C.R. Wise**



**Rev. A.S.P. Goonetilleke**



**Mr. Q.S.N. Israel**  
**(Most successful Rugby Coach)**



**Mr. G.J. Arulananthan**



**Mr. S. Edirisinghe**



**Mr. A.R. Manoharan**

**Head Masters of S. Thomas' College  
Middle School**



**Mr. V.P. Cooke**



**Mr. C.S. Weerasinghe**



**Mr. K.J.L. de Silva**



**Head Masters of S. Thomas' College  
Lower School**



**Mr. O.P. Gooneratne**



**Mr. J.H.S. Peiris**



**Mr. D.F. David**



**Mr. D.S. Jayasekera**



**Mr. W.T. Keble**  
**Founder of S. Thomas' preparatory School Colpetty and Bandarawela**  
**Author of the History of S.Thomas' College.**



# Jimmy Rajaratnam – Eminent Lawyer and Loyal Friend

David Jayaweera

Kumarar Wijesundera

*"In certain years in Calcutta, birds strange to the city used to come and build in our banyan tree. They would be off again almost before I had learnt to recognize the dance of their wings, but they brought with them a strange lovely music from their distant jungle homes. So, in the course of our life's journey, some angel from a strange and unexpected quarter may cross our path, speaking of the language of our own soul, and enlarging the boundaries of the heart's possessions. She comes unbidden, and when at last we call for her she is no longer there. But as she goes, she leaves on the drab web of our lives a border of embroidered flowers, and our night and day are for ever enriched."* Rabridranath Tagore

Even so, in the course of our life's journey, many individuals will cross our path. Some of them would be strange to us. Other's will be familiar. Few among them will lead exemplary lives and make a difference to their peers; And almost before we have learned to recognize the significance of their lives and the value of their friendship they are no longer there. But as they go, they leave behind, in our dull monotonous hearts, a cluster of beautiful flowers, transcending a new meaning to our existence, and thereby enriching our days beyond forever.

Many of us in our association as well as those who knew Jimmy Rajaratnam, would, I am sure, share this impression of him, the eminent lawyer from Jaffna, the sportsman, husband, father, grandfather, brother, social worker, mentor and above all, friend.

I first met Jimmy in the month of May in 1998 when I attended the Annual General Meeting of S. Thomas' College OBA of Canada. When I saw him I experienced a feeling of comfort which gave me the impression that I had met a friend. In later years, I realized that my first impression was correct. An upright man both physically and in character; he proved himself to be a man of principles. He did not do anything expecting praise or seeking special distinction but rather as something that was expected of him to do. His honesty and integrity, coupled with humility and charming manner, endeared him to all those who came to know him. He was a charismatic man who always carried himself with poise, dignity and charm. Be it a crowded room or an association meeting, his entry always electrified the gathering.

Jimmy was born to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Rajaratnam, an illustrious family in Jaffna. His father was the Assistant Government Agent during the Colonial rule. He had four brothers and two sisters but sadly, they lost their mother early in their lives. Jimmy later married Ratna and found in her an excellent life partner and a devoted mother to his four children.

Jimmy had his early education at St John's College in Jaffna. At the age of 13 he was sent to S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia. When the school premises were requisitioned for a military hospital during the Second World War and the school was temporarily relocated, his father preferred him to go back to safer grounds at St John's, thus ending his career at S. Thomas'. He later joined Ceylon Law College and was admitted to the Bar as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Ceylon. While at S. Thomas', in addition to being a scholar, he was very much interested in sports and excelled in Cricket, Athletics and Tennis. He played for the under-14 cricket team. He later went on to be vice-captain of the under-16 cricket team which was captained by Vernon Prins (who later captained Ceylon). Had he remained at S. Thomas', he could have played for college as well as for Ceylon. At St John's he continued to represent the school in Cricket, Football and Athletics. After becoming a lawyer, he practiced in Gampola Courts for a short while and then moved to Jaffna. He served the people of Chundikulam both in courts as well as outside. He served in almost all the organizations and coached the S. John's cricket team.

When trouble broke out in Sri Lanka, he moved to Canada and brought with him a lifetime of experience as a lawyer, having associated with eminent criminal lawyers in the calibre of the late G.G. Ponnambalam Senior, K. Shinya, George Rajapakse, Peter Edirappulli and the like. *He was of invaluable assistance to both young and old of the Sri Lankan community in Canada*, offering them legal advice and representing them at Immigration Tribunals and traffic courts etc.

His deep respect for Courts, excellent command of the English language, clarity in speech, coupled with his calm charismatic disposition at all times, enabled him to bring home success to his clients. There had been times when judges were so impressed by his demeanour in court that they called him to the chambers to commend him and to learn more about him.

He was a law abiding citizen. He had the utmost respect for authority. In fact, he always addressed our mutual friend who is a police officer as "officer" when he was in uniform, and never by his first name in spite of him being insisted upon. He believed that friendship apart, when in uniform, one must respect his authority. Such was Jimmy's humility.

Jimmy had extraordinary leadership ability. He was our Vice President, the architect of our constitution and continued to be the association's constitution expert. Though in later years he shunned public office he was in the forefront in resolving issues. He had, almost always, the last word in bringing about a resolution to an issue.

Jimmy did not shy away from responsibility if he became aware of something happening which he believed to be bad. He used all his power and persuasive abilities to remedy such situation, which reminded us of Lord Miller who said: *"If we believe a thing to be bad and we have a duty to prevent it; it is our duty to try and prevent it and damn the consequences."*

As a lover of cricket, Jimmy wrote an article in the 2003 Thomian Dance souvenir based on the historic Royal Thomian cricket match of 1943. Apart from the thrilling victory, the article sets out a clear example of Thomian Grit. Excerpt from his article runs like this:



*“Royal batted first and scored hundred and fifty-eight runs. Thomians did well to restrict the Royalists to a moderate total. The Thomians spiralled into a tailspin as soon as their batting commenced. Eight of the batsmen failed to reach double figures...it was at this particular juncture Sir Geoffrey Layton, acting governor and commander-in-chief of the island, who was present, while leaving remarked “I’m sorry, Warden. You are in for a leathering I fear.” In his typical characteristic manner, the Warden replied “Sir Geoffrey, Thomians are never dead until they are buried.” The next day witnessed cricket, lovely cricket, with those pals of mine, Sam Elepatha and K.L.M. Perera. They raised the score from 86 for 9 to 200. Royal collapsed for 75 runs in 2<sup>nd</sup> innings with H. S. Coomaraswamy taking 6 wickets for 25 runs. The Thomians had to make 35 runs to win, which the openers made. We won by ten wickets. From the jaws of defeat, the Thomians had snatched a remarkable victory.”*

Jimmy was a unique soul; yet he was a human being, just like the rest of us. But the manner in which he lived his life is an example to us all. In life we are all exposed to ups and downs, sickness and health, joys and sorrows, good days and bad days, winters and summers. Jimmy faced all forces of nature with courage and as a winner. He lived a complete and successful life making his mark in the minds of the people who crossed his path. Jimmy did, surely, earn his place in heaven.

*Fear no more the heat o’ the sun,  
Nor the furious winter’s rages;  
Thou thy worldly task hast done,  
home art gone, and ta’en thy wages:  
Golden lads and lasses all must,  
As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.”*

William Shakespeare

*“Good night sweet friend; And the flights of angels sing to thee in thy rest”*

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# Royal Thomian Cricket Party 2010



# Royal Thomian Cricket Party 2010



## MIRACLE DOCTOR

In 2008, bowling sensation Lasith Malinga thought his life in cricket was over. During a tour in Australia he was suffering from a searing pain in his knee. Despite seeking the best treatment the medical world had to offer, he could not be cured. His ardent fans around the world were no longer able to see the spectacle of his golden locks bouncing towards the pitch, to unleash a thunderbolt at the terrified batsman, an action that earned him the nickname ‘Slinga Malinga.’ At the age of 25, he was on the verge of fading into history. And then he met Dr. Eliyantha White. After a few days of treatment, Malinga was able to fully recover. And we all saw him at this World Cup as he is back in his explosive form.

It was not only Malinga who received ‘miracle’ treatment from Dr. White. A string of international cricketers, including Sanath Jayasuriya, Muthiah Muralitharan, Sachin Tendulkar, Gautham Gambhir and Ashish Nehra received treatment from him.

But who is he, this miracle doctor?



**By Vindya Amaranayake**

First, it is his name that throws you off guard, with its European affiliation. Then it is his appearance. He looks more like a north Indian actor, with his tall fair frame towering over an average Sri Lankan.

But, Dr. Eliyantha Lindsay White is neither. He is Sri Lankan to the core. Although fluent in several languages, he only uses Sinhala when conversing with his fellow Sri Lankans. His ancestry, however, has a strong link to

the country’s last colonial rulers, the British.

His grandfather, G. W. Lindsay White, was a Britisher hailing from a family that settled in Ceylon in the early 19th century. Twentieth Century Impressions of Ceylon, also known as the Red Book, has an entry on G. W. Lindsay White on page 834.

But, that is not why Dr. Eliyantha White is of immense interest, and importance to us. Apart from being the personal physician of President Mahinda Rajapaksa, he has cured a number of patients, deemed incurable by world-renowned physicians, quite miraculously.

“I met Lasith Malinga at Temple Trees. The President had brought him there after hearing of his ailment. He had his head bowed. With tears brimming in his eyes, he said he now had to live off his hair, having no longer able to engage in the sport that was the love of his life,” Dr White recalled his first encounter with the spectacular bowler.



G W Lindsey White,  
grandfather

With his miraculous medicine and treatment, the physician was able to cure Malinga. It was after that the cricketing world became aware of Dr. White, and a number of international cricketers started seeking his intervention.

“I first met Sachin Tendulkar when he came to me with a knee problem. I gave him medicine in front of the President. I wanted to give him the assurance that the medicine was safe. The second time was when he had injured his fingers during the final stages of the Indian Premier League



matches last year. He could not even hold the bat properly. He flew here in his private jet and I attended to him. He was very grateful after I cured him,” the doctor said.

Tendulkar was not the only Indian super cricketer to receive Dr. White’s special care. On an earlier occasion, Gautham Gambhir and Ashish Nehra too sought his services.

But, what is his secret? How was he able to ‘miraculously’ cure patients in record time? What kind of secret medicine he uses?

“It all started when I was about 10-12 years old. It is a kind of calling. I was able to cure a family member who was gravely sick. Then I started studying traditional Ayurveda,” he delved into the past. A student of S Thomas’ College, Mount Lavinia, he grew up in a family of devout Buddhists. Despite his British ancestry, the men in the family always married Sinhalese women. They also adopted the island’s religion, Buddhism. “When I was little, I used to go to the Bellanwila Temple every day with my parents, as we lived in Kalubowila and Nugegoda. There was a priest at the temple who was quite knowledgeable in traditional medicine. I studied under him for nine years,” he recalled.

Then he had also started mastering kundalini yoga, the ancient art of channelling corporeal energy resting coiled at the base of the spine, to seek lost wisdom. His medical practice is neither Western nor strictly Ayurvedic. He uses herbs, blended according to ancient recipes. His treatments are mostly spiritual. “You are suffering from ailments due to the bad deeds done in past lives. To cure such illnesses, we must erase those sins from your plate,” he explained.

Many shy away from traditional practices in these highly modernised days, but those who received treatment from Dr. White stand in testimony to his miraculous abilities. And one of the highlights in his stint as a doctor is his treatment of Thilan Samaraweera.

When the bus carrying the Sri Lankan cricket team was attacked by a group of terrorists in the Pakistani city of Lahore, several of our players were injured. It was Thilan Samaraweera who received the gravest injuries. A chunk of flesh from his thigh muscle was missing. He was flown back home and warded at Nawaloka Hospital. The doctors said he could be treated, but he would not be able to play cricket again, as his thigh would experience restricted movement due to the injury. He was to undergo surgery in 19 hours.

“Dr. Pinto, who was in charge of Thilan, was gracious enough to let me treat him. I tended to him and in 18 hours, just one hour short of scheduled time for surgery, I managed to fix his thigh. Now he is able to play cricket again,” Dr. White said, recalling one of the most challenging and dangerous cases he had to undertake in his career.

The latest cricketing sensation to receive Dr White’s attention is former Australian skipper and cricket commentator Ian Chappell, who has been suffering from leg and arm pain for a long period. A session with our miracle doctor has rid him of the pain.

His herbs and medicines were tested by scientists of international repute to test whether they contain any substances that sports personalities are prohibited from taking. And his medicine passed each and every one these tests.

The doctor believes he has the answers to any medical complication, and he is able to deliver results in record time. However, the most difficult aspect in his treatment is obtaining rare medicine that are essential for the concoctions and the cost that has to be borne when procuring the ingredients. “It was my encounter with the President that made it possible for me to extend the services further, which were otherwise restricted by those two factors.”

Among the famous personalities who were awed by Dr. White’s services is Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of the Reliance Group, one of the richest men in the world, who sent his private jet here to invite the miracle doctor to his Mumbai home for dinner.

He also confided that he is the secret behind Bollywood heartthrob Salman Khan’s recently acquired youthful looks. Cinema prodigy Shah Rukh Khan too is due to visit this month to receive treatment from him.

Also, the fourth instalment of the IPL tournament starts next week and Dr. Eliyantha White is to look after the many injuries that the players will sustain during the highly paced T20 games.

And, any of those players, or anybody else who requires his services, has to visit Sri Lanka to be benefited from his services. “I deliver my treatments only on this soil. This is my motherland, and my



treatments are based here. All 10 IPL teams have private jets. They can come here in no time,” Dr. White said, revealing another facet of his unique personality.

His treatments are desired the world over. And the demand for his attention is quite high. But, this young doctor, who is only 38 years old, can be consulted only by writing to the President. “I’m the President’s personal physician. I’m bound by service to him. So, I cannot treat anyone without his express permission. There is a special service set up at the Presidential Secretariat, where all the requests are processed and appointments are given. Everybody who writes gets a reply. So far, there are 12 million letters, and there are appointments running to 2017!” he said.

There are some who con innocent patients by promising them appointments with Dr. White, for quite high sums. He asks the public not to fall into such traps. “My treatments are absolutely free. I do not want to put a price on this gift I have. I want to do a service to this country. I want to show to the world, what our miracle island can do. Some people think the President pays me a big salary, and that he has given me luxury vehicles, fuel, etc. That is not true. All that I have, I got from the income I earn through our family business. We have always lived comfortably. My family owns quite a lot of businesses. The only thing the President has given is the security. My life could be in danger because of what I can do,” he said.



Thilan Samaraweera receiving treatment.



Blessing Salman Khan



With Mukesh Ambani



Inside Sachin Tendulkar's jet



With Bollywood star Anupam Kher

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We wish you a wonderful evening at the 2011 Blue Black Dinner

[www.ufcw175.com](http://www.ufcw175.com)

Shawn Haggerty - President  
Teresa Magee - Secretary-Treasurer  
Betty Pardy - Recorder

 **UFCW**  
Locals 175 & 633  
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***Our Appreciations***

*The Executive Committee of S. Thomas' College OBA Canada sincerely thank our guests for being here tonight, your kind presence & participation has helped us achieve our goals for 2011.*

*We take this opportunity to thank all our advertisers for their generosity year in year out.*

***A special THANK YOU to our main sponsors:***

***The Cole Group of Companies***

***Meleni David for sponsoring the Wine this evening***

***Yoga Warren – BMW for sponsoring DJ Pradeep***

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***Our donors for the Raffle, Entrance ticket prizes & donations***

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*A fellow Thomian for his donation*

***A Thank You to:***

*The New Illusions band & DJ Pradeep Thomas for the Music –*

*Holiday Inn Toronto International Airport*

*Ravi Niles for his dedicated service - Gerhard & his crew for the deco - Chian De Silva for graphic designs –  
Daya Ginige for table arrangements & his untiring efforts year in year out.*

*Jehan Ahamed for use of his UFCW175 office premises for Dance Committee meetings*

*Moshin Askari our friendly printer - Krishan Waidyaratne for all his efforts in selecting the menu, the sweet table & Cheese platters*

*President DR for his untiring efforts in putting together the Souvenir, his words of encouragement and dedication!*

***Until we meet again – THANK YOU to our guests and fellow Thomians for your support***





# Blue Black Night 2011



## Raffle Prizes

Grand Prize:

**\$ 1000** Cash



Donated by Canadian Capital Commodities Ltd.

2nd Prize:

**\$ 500** Cash



Compliments of York Foreign Exchange

3rd Prize:

**\$ 250** Cash



4th Prize:

**Jack LaLanne  
Power Juicer**

Compliments of The Shopping Channel



5th Prize:

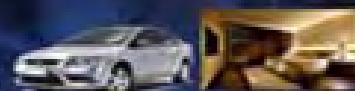
**Wolfgang Puck  
Waffle Plate**

Compliments of The Shopping Channel



6th Prize:

**Car Rental &  
Hotel stay for a weekend**



7th Prize:

**Hotel Stay +  
Dinner for 2 at Rich Tree Restaurant**



**Tickets: \$10 Each**

Actual prizes may be different to the one in the picture

























# S. Thomas' College

## Old Boys' Association of Canada

[www.stcoba-canada.com](http://www.stcoba-canada.com)

Spring was in the air on the evening of May 7<sup>th</sup> and what better way to celebrate than with the biggest event in the STC OBA Canada calendar – Dinner Dance 2011.

The guests gathered by 6:30 pm at the Holiday Inn, Toronto International Airport where each lady was welcomed with a long stemmed Blue Rose. Everyone present then proceeded to the foyer of the hotel to enjoy Wine and Cheese and mingle with and greet each other. Many heads were turning to admire the ladies who were in their colourful and elegant evening dresses.

The doors to the ballroom were opened at 7:00 pm where the evening's proceedings commenced with the parading of the College flag led by Naomal de Silva. All Thomians present stood around the perimeter of the dance floor to sing the College song ..... 'The Blue Black and Blue forever'.

A bevy of damsels then entered the dance floor swaying to the sounds of traditional drums and a conch shell giving those gathered an inkling of the entertainment in store for them. The ambience and décor at the tables were drapes of blue & black which were further accentuated by a beautiful centerpiece glass jar at each table of a glowing fluorescence in blue with an array of white flowers on top. The setting was perfect for a night fellowship and entertainment.

President D.R. Weerasinghe welcomed all those present which then was followed by DJ Pradeep getting the older Thomians and their partners loosening up to the elegance of the Waltz.

8:00 pm and it was time for dinner. A most meticulously planned out 4 course dinner was the fare for the night which was spelled out with individualized menus for each person present. A nightmare in planning but executed to perfection. Dinner time was once again accompanied by the lissome young ladies now dressed in swathes of blue and black choreographed to light Latin music. Dinner was washed down with both Red and White Wine served with the compliments of sponsor – Attorney at Law, Meleni David.

Thomian Ravi Niles and guest artist Flo picked up where the dancers left off to entertain the diners with a beautiful rendition of music on the Saxophone with accompaniment on the keyboards.

On cue at 9:30 pm the live band in attendance, "New Illusions" got most present onto the dance floor with a session of dancing to those popular sounds of the 60's and 70's. By 10:30 pm DJ Pradeep then immediately picked up where New Illusions left off. There was hardly a chair left occupied around the tables with both young and old gyrating on the dance floor.

With midnight now approaching the various ticket draws for the raffle and other prizes got underway. The raffle gave away cash prizes of \$250, \$500 and \$ 1,000. Several other gifts too were given out to lucky winners of the evening. The President then took the opportunity to give out some gifts in



recognition to Thomian ladies and selected members of the STC OBA for outstanding assistance given over the years.

The time had now come to invite those present to partake in another feature arranged for their enjoyment. A sweet table along with kiribath, sambol, coconut rock, tea and coffee was laid out.

As with all enjoyable events the evening had to wind down. The New Illusions got everyone dancing on the floor again which was immediately followed by DJ Pradeep adding a baila session until 2 am.

With the experience of working with and assisting STC Gurutalawa in 2010, it was decided that this year's Dinner Dance and part of the proceeds be dedicated to further helping Gurutalawa in a more substantial manner. The Executive Committee has made an expressed desire to raise as much funds as possible this year towards making a meaningful contribution towards uplifting the infrastructure at Gurutalawa.

Towards achieving this end, Thomians across the world are requested to join in with our efforts and make their donations and contributions. We reach out to all the STC OBA's around the world to partake in this cause.

**Any amount is not too small, every dollar counts, as STC Guru, needs a valiant effort by Thomians' near and far.**

**A special appeal to all Old Guru Thomians, this is where you learnt your ABCD, those in charge of this institution through the years have sacrificed to the utmost, to ensure stable, confident, educated young men were churned out.**

**Those who can donate funds in SL Rs, please do so, write the cheques in favor of STC GURUTALAWA – and kindly mail it to the under mentioned address in Canada. We will consolidate the fund, a time period of 3 months until end August is open, after which we will announce the total, every donor will receive a personalized thank you from STC OBA – Canada.**

**It would be appreciated that cheques in any currency drawn in favor of, STC -GURUTALAWA, be mailed to:**

**STC OBA Canada  
4165, Fieldgate Drive #66  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L4W 2M9  
Canada**

All donations received will be added to the contribution from the STC OBA Canada and remitted to the Head Master, STC Gurutalawa on a programme of work that will be decided on in association with him.

**Hiran Adhietty  
D R Weerasinghe**



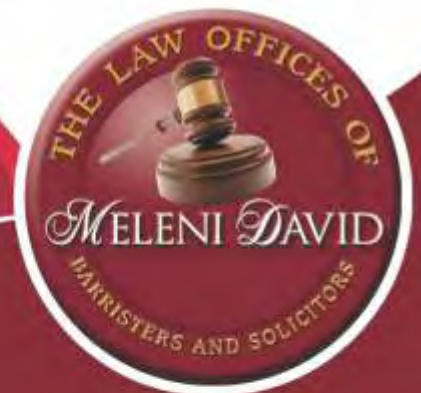
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