

1. The AGM of our OBA was held at Gurutalawa on March 02,2002. All members proposed by us were elected to office in the Executive Committee.
2. Amongst them were several eminent Old Boys of an earlier vintage including **Mr.P.S. Duleep Kumar** (1942-1954) brilliant student; versatile cricketer; held a high post at the Department of Inland Revenue; 1st Secretary of the OBA and Secretary for 12 years, youngest person to be appointed to the STC Board of Governors, Managing Director/Chairman, Accounting Systems and Services Ltd; guiding-light of the OBA, considered the person who was closest to Dr.Hayman, as student, Old Boy, Master and later close friend, and confidante.
3. **Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera** (1949-1953), STCG, Winner of Donhorst Memorial Class Prize every year; STC Mt. (1954-1955); University of Ceylon 1956 to 1960 and graduated B.Sc (Eng); Government organizations from 1960-1974 ended as Operations Manager in Fertilizer Corporation; Director (Engineering & Shipping) of Malship Ceylon Ltd 1974-1979; Director East West Properties Ltd since 1988 ; Founder/Vice President of Institute of Management U.K Sri Lanka Branch; Awarded College Colours in Hockey, Squash and Badminton in STC Mt.Lavinia and Captained – College Badminton Team in 1955/56; University colours in Hockey.
4. **Mr.Mervyn Wijesinghe** (1950-1954) Head prefect 1954; School Captain of Athletics; Member of the Society of Engineers. U K and Member of the Institute of Plant Engineers U.K; Chief Engineer Brown & Co 1973-1991; Director/Engineer Pussellawa Plantations Ltd 1992-2000.
5. **Brigadier B. Munasinghe** (1952-1956) Joined the Army as an Officer and rose to the Rank of Brigadier, Presently the Co-ordinating Secretary to the Ministry of Defense.
6. **Mr. G. M. S Samaraweera** (1952-1957) An Attorney-at-Law; worked at the Bribery Commissioners Department;. Joined the Judiciary as a Magistrate and rose to be a District Judge and a High Court Judge. Presently Governor of the North Central Provincial Council.
7. **Mr.Sunil Watawala** – (1956-1962): The Charismatic Team Leader of the 62 Group. Head Prefect in 1962. According to Dr. Hayman, the Best Head Prefect he ever had; Outstanding all round student and all round Sportsman; captained the Hockey & Football Teams; Vice Captain of Squash and Badminton; College colours for Hockey, Football, Squash and Badminton; Represented the Uva Schools Hockey Team in the Hockey Nationals; Chairman/ Managing Director of Siriyangani Desiccated Coconut Mills (Pvt) Ltd, and of Mahaveli Coconut Plantations Ltd; President of the Desiccated Coconut Mills Association for the last 6 years; District Governor of the Lions Club International – District 306B in 1982.

8. **Mr.Sarath Suraweera** (1958-1963) – Head prefect at STPS Bandarawela and College Prefect at Guru; presently Deputy Director of Advance Training, Sri Lanka Police College, Kalutara.
9. **Mr.Nihal Wanniarachchi**- (1959-1964) Consultant Marketing.
10. **Mr.Gamini Fernando** (1959-1962) Business Management; Managing Director of BGC & Co (Pvt) Ltd
11. **Mr.M. B. Ratnayake** – (1958-1963) – Represented College in Swimming, one of 04 Golden Boys of Swimming in Dr.Hayman’s last year; presently Cluster Director J E D B/Planter.
12. **Mr.J. J. Rajakaruna** – (1959-1964) Represented College in Hockey, Attorney-at-Law; Chairman State Mortgage & Investment Bank.

Also elected to the Executive Committee were **Mr.Prabath Jayasundera** (All Round Boy –1984 Head Prefect –1986),**Mr.Rizvi Jalill** (Head Prefect –1988) and **Mr.G.S.S. Perera** (Head Prefect –1989) et al.

13. The election was without any contest. The attendance of members was the highest recorded since the inauguration of the OBA, well over 3 times the normal attendance.
14. We are happy that matters brought to light by us, namely:-
 - a. the unsatisfactory conditions at College,
 - b. the failure of our OBA to identify same and look for solutions and regularize OBA activities and procedures.

generated so much interest. We pay tribute to all those who shared our concern, most of whom could not personally attend the meeting, **BUT WANTED A CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE EX-CO AS IT WAS UNREASONABLY UNCOMPROMISING, UNRELENTING AND UNACCOMMODATING, PERHAPS DUE TO POOR GUIDANCE.**
15. We wish to thank the numerous Old Boys both the Very Senior and Very Junior, for the encouragement and support given to us so that a Committee acceptable to the vast majority and consisting of such **outstanding personalities** with the immediate twin objectives of reorganizing the OBA and through such revitalized OBA resuscitating College could be installed.
16. It is hoped that the new Executive Committee would initially-
 - a. keep the entire Membership informed of its identity, activities and how it hopes to tackle the situation in College.

- b. draw on the membership to contribute with ideas and proposals and encourage and arrange regular informal open discussion about all matters requiring attention, in the OBA and College
 - c. Welcome member participation (by invitation) even at Ex-Co meetings where relevant to share and shoulder responsibilities in the noble task of rebuilding the fabric of life in College.
17. We humbly suggested that the Ex-Co do co-opt to it the 5 additional Members it is entitled to, in such a manner that all vital areas are adequately represented.
18. We also suggested to the Ex-Co to consider the immediate setting up of inter alia the following Sub-Committees to handle the following matters, comprising 2 or 3 from amongst the Ex-Co, together with others drawn from the general membership **who are willing to serve and give the benefit of their knowledge and experience.**
- (a) Membership Drive, Rehabilitation of Members Register, Print Directory of Members, Issue Membership Cards and Newsletters, Arrange Regular Informal Meetings/Discussions in Colombo.
 - (b) Amendment of Rules after open discussion.
 - (c) Improvement of Studies, Sports and Discipline in College together with general welfare of staff and students and maintain high standards.
 - (d) Maintenance, improvement, refurbishment and construction of buildings and infrastructure including Equipment and Fittings.
 - (e) Financial Controls, Administration, Accounting Procedures etc, to eliminate Theft, Pilferage, Wastage and ensure prudent Financial management.
 - (f) Advisory(general) to consider Policy Matters, the Direction of college, Vision for the future taking in necessary changes in the construction, number of student population, increase of fees and the social background of students to whom the College should cater for.
 - (g) Arrange social activities (in addition to the usual Fellowship Dinner), less expensive and more regular informal gatherings meant particularly for Members belonging to the older generation, to interact with younger members etc.

The Head Master should be invited to preside or take an active interest in sub-committees referred to in (c) ,(d), (e) & (f).

19. Our Secretariat is willing to help the Secretary of the OBA in work entrusted to him. We could ensure that the Membership Register, the Directory of Members and Membership Cards are finalized early. We can also help the Secretary to prepare Regular News Letters, if our assistance is solicited, and also provide the logistics to have in operation the other necessary Registers to cover correspondence etc., so that all Applications for admission as Members of the OBA are acknowledged within 07 days, processing finalized at least within 30 days, the member informed of having been admitted to membership, issued with a

membership card and the Register of Members updated all within 45 days at the most.

20. We will also be able to identify that segment of the very young membership (1990-2001) most of whom appear to be resident in close proximity to College, and help to communicate with them, if necessary in Sinhala, so that they all feel that they are an integral part of the force that is geared to bring College back to it's former glory. The present feeling of being left out because of social background or language difficulty etc (which is reasonable) has to be addressed urgently and tactfully. **The very elderly and the very young have both been marginalized, perhaps inadvertently.**
21. The Senior Vice President was able to provide from his Archives immediately before the Commencement of the AGM for the benefit of the Ex-Secretary (and us) a copy of the Amendment to the Rules effected in February 1993. **THIS HAD NOT BEEN AVAILABLE EVEN WITH THE EX-SECRETARY PREVIOUSLY.** We have already prepared a Consolidated(updated) Version of the Rules and have given same for uploading on to our Web Site together with the Composition of our New Ex-Co the Composition of the current Board of Governors, the Rules of the S. Thomas' College Board of Governors etc, etc, etc, **IN CONTINUATION OF OUR COMMITMENT AND CONTRIBUTION TO KEEP THE MEMBERSHIP INFORMED OF WHAT THEY ARE ENTITLED TO KNOW. THEY ARE ALSO INCORPORATED INTO OUR NEWSLETTERS SO FAR AS IS PRACTICABLE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE INTERNET FACILITIES.**
22. **WE WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT RULE 3(2) OF OUR RULES RECOGNISES "GROUPS OF OLD BOYS" WHICH MAY EVEN SEEK "AFFILIATED STATUS".** In fact we have been informed that there have been previous groups affiliated. This gives the lie to the canard that we are a break-away. **IN THIS REGARD, WE REGRET THE INSIDIOUS CHARADE ENACTED BY THE EX-SECRETARY OF READING OUT LETTERS OF EXCUSE AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE AGM (which practice he had not adopted previously), CONTAINING UNFAIR COMMENTS ABOUT OUR GROUP.** That very senior and respected Old Boy Mr.Lucian Fernando spoke for 02 minutes (with the permission of the Head Master before the election of Office Bearers took place. He made us understand that he had been dragged out of bed while recuperating from surgery, perhaps to do a hatchet job on our Group. It ended up turning tables on this sinister design. The vast majority of the participants gave him a standing ovation for the star-class performance which will for ever remain as a testimony how a "Gentlemen" and a "Thomian" should behave. Hats off to him! **HE MENTIONED THAT THERE ARE SO MANY GROUPS AMONGST THE OLD BOYS AND HE HIMSELF BELONGED TO THE 42 GROUP WITH MR.DULEEP KUMAR.** He went on to say all have the right to form Groups and that we are yet all in one Association. **THIS IS WHAT WE HAD BEEN SAYING RIGHT**

ALONG. Old Thomians Centenary Group; Thomian Class of '72; S.Thomas' College Mt.Lavinia – A/L Batch of '86; Old Nalandian Media Forum; Old Anandian Media Circle; Old Anandians '75-80 Group; Royal College 86 Group; 73 Group of Old Royalists; Royal College Group of 91; Royal College Old Hostellers Association; Royal College Group of 87; Maliyadewa College OBA “Colombo Branch”; Dharmaraja College OBA Union ‘Colombo Branch’; The Olive Group of Royal College; Royal College group of '76; Old Anandians Centenary Group; Royal College Class of '72 are some of the Groups of various Schools. **we are aware of, which function with a label, only because of Newspaper Notices.** However the majority operates without a label or much publicity. All these Schools have their OBA's too. Those that function at Guru are all groups within our Association. Gurutalawa Old Boys too have groups like these. The fact that our Group organized a Hotel Fellowship Dinner, issued Membership Cards and a Directory etc all in 02 weeks as a Symbolic gesture to show these can easily be done instead of planning for most of the year should not be construed as a break-away. Enrolling more members in the OBA than any other year, participation at all functions and the AGM etc, are all clear indications of accepting the democratic process available within the association and our commitment.

23. We understand the new Ex-Co has got down to business fast. Alternate Ex-Co Meetings are scheduled to be held at Gurutalawa. This is a good sign. It is encouraging to note the new Ex-Co wanting to work closely with the new Head Master and dispel the fears and brainwashing tactics adopted during the last few months, particularly trying to embarrass him and drag him in to unwanted situations and controversies. This would have necessarily created a reasonable apprehension in his mind of the change that was on the cards. **We must all try to remember and act in such a manner not to embarrass him as he is doing an honest and good job amidst very trying circumstances and has shown results. We have repeatedly said this.**
24. The Senior Vice President had identified broadly the areas for which Sub-Committees should be appointed and such sub-Committees have already been more or less set up with one or two to each of such from the Ex-Co and other Members too, leaving it open for each Sub-Committee to co-opt any Member of the OBA (who is desirous of making a contribution) and for any Member at any stage to make suggestions whether co-opted or not.
25. A member of our Group arranged an Informal Discussion and Fellowship on February 09,2002. There was an open, free and frank discussion which was appreciated particularly by those in the younger age groups, who saw the difference when professionalism finds a place. Several Old Boys have come forward and expressed their willingness to attend to development work of college **immediately.** The following are some of the projects identified and to be initiated shortly with the blessings of the Head Master.

- a. **Mr. Sunil Watawala** (Vice President) and Chairman of Siriyangani Desiccated Coconut Mills (Pvt) Ltd and of Mahaweli Coconut Plantations Ltd will arrange for the complete repair of the 4 senior dorms and all the staff quarters which are a part thereof. This had been undertaken by an Old Boy of our Group who preferred to remain anonymous. This will include attention to the toilets, roof, ceiling, walls, windows and doors, floors, plumbing, electricity, painting etc. We were made to understand last December when we were in College in connection with the painting of the Junior Dorms that the Board of Governors was agreeable to release some funds to attend to a part of the senior dorms. These funds could perhaps now be utilized for development of another area.
- b. **Mr. Don Gazara** Chairman of Trico Terminals (Pvt) Ltd, has taken charge of providing all necessary Equipment Apparatus, etc. for the Science Laboratory and Books for the Library.
- c. **Mr. P.J. Fernando** Vice President and **Mr. Prabath Jayasundera** Member of the Ex-Co have undertaken the complete repair, renovation and up dating of the Squash, Basket ball and Badminton courts. Visits to College have already been made to assess the requirement.
- d. **Mr. P.J. Fernando and Mr. Prabath Jayasundera together with Mr. M. Najeeb and Mr. S. Balaramesh** Members of the Ex-Co will also be responsible for providing all Equipment necessary for Every Sport in College other than swimming. This will include necessary coaching camps particularly for Squash and Hockey.
- e. **Mr. Rizvi Jaleel** Member of the Ex-Co and Sales Manager(Ceylon Weighing Machines Ltd) has undertaken to effect a complete overhaul of the Water Supply system to encompass the wells, overhead tanks, water pumps, piping etc. etc. A complete assessment will be done within 10 days or so.
- f. **Mr. Ruwan Munasinghe**, Member of the Ex-Co and Co-ordinating Secretary to the Chief Minister of the Uva Provincial Council has undertaken a complete re-assessment and development of the Farm, Agriculture; Biogas Project for the kitchen in the new dining hall, new desks and chairs for all the class rooms and tables and chairs for the new Dining Hall. Those have all been set in Motion.
- g. **Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka** will supply a Telephone system which will enable 4 incoming lines and 24 extensions, to cover the entire campus.

Several Old boys both in Sri Lanka and abroad have offered financial support to resuscitate College and a fund for that purpose will probably be set up. One

member alone pledged Rs.100,000/- on March 02,2002 as an initial contribution. We are endeavouring to obtain necessary Tax relief for those donations.

26. Another Sub-Committee has been appointed to study the Rules of the OBA and consider amendments. We have already submitted various suggestions.
27. Yet another Sub-Committee has been set up which will handle the Membership Drive, Members Register, Members Directory, Membership Cards etc. We understand that these matters are already in hand, taking shape and the results should be visible soon.
28. In short it will be clear to the entire Membership that it is a very dynamic and energetic Ex-Co that is in place now and it is one that is accessible to all and responsive to the needs of the OBA and College.
29. In this scenario we appeal to all Old Boys to come forward and submit any proposals, suggestions etc, for the consideration of the Sub-Committees. The Secretary will no doubt issue a Circular letter shortly to **all members** in this connection. Our Mailing List does not extend to the entire membership.
30. Since March 15,2001 we were trying our best to persuade the then Ex-Co to reorganize and re-vitalize the OBA, and to act effectively and constructively in helping the Head Master to pull College out of its mess. We tried for 12 months.
31. Knowing that its Secretary had certain difficulties in carrying out his duties, and with a good heart, in our letter of March 15,2001 we offered some assistance. We pursued our offer. The Ex-Co reacted thus at their Meeting of July 28,2001

*“Mr.C S Ratwatte, Senior Vice President and Mr.Upali Panditharatne Vice President agreeing with the Exco said that it is the discretion of the Hony Secretary. **Also it was mentioned that from the inception of the OBA in the year 1959 the Hony. Secretaries worked from their respective offices, and the need does not warrant for other offices.”***

32. The tone and the rebuff was loud and clear. The interesting and humorous side of this story is that when Mr.S.M. Suraweera Vice President and member of our Group called the Secretary he was informed the Members Register was with another Vice President in the latter’s office and what was given, a printout from a Computer was also from the latter’s office and not from the residence of the Secretary. Further after the AGM in March 2002 when the New Secretary had repeatedly asked for the Registers and books from the Ex-Secretary by telephone and by personal visit etc, it transpires that all the books are being kept in the custody of that Vice President, and the Secretary “**who is supposed to have followed tradition and working from his residence as has been the case since inauguration**” does not in fact have the custody of the books and Registers in his residence at all. Truly how pathetic a tale of so few misleading so many.

33. Our said letter and the several subsequent reminders of 15.03.2001, 19.06.2001, 31.07.2001, 08.08.2001, 29.08.2001, 04.10.2001, 18.10.2001, 01.11.2001, 04.01.2002, & 25.01.2002 none of which were even acknowledged by a Post Card brought only the following responses within the Ex-Co.

At their Meeting of July 23,2001 – “A letter signed by Old boys M/S.S M Suraweera, Rizvi Jalill, T Sundararajah, Jabir Junaid, Luxman Jayatilaka and Nihal Wanniarachchi to attend to all repairs and painting of the Junior Dormitories and Bathrooms were undertaken. **THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO GET A REPORT READY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.”**”

No record is made as to who was going to submit what type of Report etc. Eventually it was the new Head Master who contacted us and the Project completed.

At their Meeting of August 28,2001- “Mr.Luzman Jayatillake’s Letter regarding the proposal for OBA Members Directory. The members appreciated his willingness to complete and print the Directory. **THE COMMITTEE LOOKS FORWARD TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO HIS LETTER.”**”

At their Meeting of September 27,2001 – “The Hony. Secretary brought up the matter with the members as regards to the Old Boys Directory and Mr.Lakshman Jayatillake’s proposal’s. **THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO MEET MR.JAYATILLEKE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND A DATE WILL BE DECIDED ON AND IT WILL BE INTIMATED TO THE MEMBERS”.**”

At their Meeting of October 09,2001 – “The Hony. Secretary brought up the matter as regards the issues raised by Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka. **THE COMMITTEE WAS OF THE VIEW THAT THEY MEET MR.JAYATILLAKE to discuss matter with regard to the issues and the printing and the sale of OBA Membership Register.”**”

34. We received no invitations for discussions. No acknowledgement. No response what so ever. **Thus although the desire of the Ex-Co persisted for 12 months and more it never materialized or manifested itself, except that one week before the AGM emissaries were sent to have discussions, to arrange positions in the New Ex-Co to be elected in March 2002.**
35. We are also aware that the current Senior Vice President advised the Secretary to give us a hearing. HE had agreed. He also informed us that it would be done. Nothing happened. For some queer reason our suggestions, offers of help were spurned. **We say quite boldly that Ex-Co abused their powers and privileges to the detriment of the College and the OBA and they had no right morally or otherwise to behave in that way.**

36. Our Newsletters highlighted this selfish and unreasonable attitude of the Ex-Co. **We were advised by numerous Senior Old Boys that we had no option but to, if need be, contest the election and get in ourselves.** We felt there were those more competent than us who could fit the role. We did not seek office. Even now those of our Group who are in Office will step down if competent and willing persons come forward. Improving procedures and attending to the shortcomings in the OBA is not a difficult task. We can assist from the periphery. If is the College that really matters. A lot of thinking is required. We wish all old boys would participate. It would be appropriate if the Seniors who are in a position to help with their knowledge and expertise come forward at this stage, shedding whatever difference they have of a by gone era and do duty by college without reservation.
37. Our Newsletter No.07 of February 25,2002 carried the following para on Page 03

*“We have repeatedly said **WE are NOT** seeking office. There are so many more competent than even us. Most keep away from the Ex-Co because of persons of the above description. Then what are we clamouring for ? Our campaign has been for a **CAUSE**. The Cause is College. Not for an individual to remain in office for ever to boost his own ego. **The current Ex-Co has not delivered. They must all go. And we say to them in God’s name go.** Let a new team composed of the old and the young, truly representative of the membership assume office and with the valuable advise of all Old Boys work closely with the Head Master and convince the Board of Governors of what needs to be done for Gurutalawa. **We are confident that the new team will be a source of great encouragement and assistance to the Head Master and the Board of Governors who** will be satisfied with the new ideas and concepts of management and administration that are hoped to be suggested and put in place after the widest possible discussions. We give an assurance that we will continue to be vigilant and maintain the pressure on this new Ex-Co if it is elected to office. If it is not so elected, why then, we have the satisfaction that we have carried out a relentless campaign for the benefit of College of the nature that has not been witnessed since 1963 galvanising all from the Ex-Co of our OBA right up to the Bishop who is the Chairman of the Board of Governors, but that our message has been ignored.”*

This Newsletter was sent **BY E.MAIL** to those on our mailing list who had that facility and was **POSTED** to the others. On receipt of that Newsletter Mr.Bradman Weerakoon’s immediate response was as follows”-

"Dear Lakshman

Copy of an e.mail message I posted to you this morning.

SUBJECT: RE. STCG NEWSLETTER 07

This may be the best way to tell you quickly -and before the OBA meeting this weekend- that I am fully with you in spirit in what you are attempting to do for Gurutalawa.

I may not be able to make it for the meeting at 6.00 pm on Saturday but I will be thinking of you all and hoping that you succeed in your goal of restoring Gurutalawa to its pristine glory of being the best school of all.

There are obviously some daunting challenges to be faced by anyone who seeks to improve a situation that has been caused by years of inattention. But I believe your identification of the causes for this state of affairs are the beginning of the reform process. Also critical will be your tremendous enthusiasm and the youthful energy of the 62 Group. Your commendable "political will" - so evident in your incredibly analytical reports- will substitute for any lack of material resources to carry through the rehabilitation process and I along with many others of an earlier vintage wish you and your team every success at this time."

38. This Newsletter was also sent to Mr.P. S. Duleep Kumar, the current Senior Vice President and several others including very Senior Old Boys.

To construe that we had asked all those recipients "To Go" is to cause violence to the Language as we know it. But this is just what was done. Perhaps some had no answer to our position. So much was made of this Paragraph at Gurutalawa on March 02,2002 and even now. **IT WAS INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT CERTAIN HAND-PICKED INDIVIDUALS WERE ASKED "TO GO"** when they were not even in the Ex-Co simply because they received an E.mail. It was the Ex-Co that was asked to Stand down. In fact the members who complained of being hurt, we repeatedly said, had unselfishly and diligently given of their time, energy and money towards a building project in College which had got stalled for want of funds etc. College and the OBA will always be grateful to them for this work. Furthermore one of them a very quiet and nice person made a very generous contribution of materials for our project to refurbish the Junior Dorms which we openly acknowledged in writing. So, this again was an insidious campaign to show that such generous donors had been treated unkindly. We do not wish to say more about this unfortunate episode but we would like you to be the judge. We are willing at any time, to participate in any discussion which will help to remove any misunderstanding or ill-feeling. On our part, our primary concern is College and the re-vitalisation of the OBA.

39. We reproduce below our letter of March 02,2002 which was distributed at College and which is self explanatory.

“Dear Fellow Thomians,

Please permit me to share these few observations with you,

- 1. This AGM has generated much interest. Many Members are attending for the first time, others after a lapse of several years. Their prime concern is the future of College. All of them have an equal right to participate fully and they should be made welcome.*
- 2. The President of our OBA is the new Head Master. We should extend a warm welcome to him. Our best wishes are with him in the difficult task he has undertaken, to administer and improve the College.*
- 3. This is the First time he is presiding at an AGM. Today it is our duty to assist him to conduct the AGM smoothly and maintain proper decorum. We must conduct ourselves in such a manner as to set an example to the current generation of Thomians.*
- 4. The affairs of College, particularly financial, are in a precarious position. This is borne out by the recent Reports of Head Masters at Prize Givings and AGMs and also remarks made by the Manager of the School at the last AGM. There is no controversy about it.*
- 5. This situation has arisen consequent to neglect in administration and management as well as not having proper planning over a period of time. It is not the fault of anyone or a few individuals, least of all the present Head Master. We must all share in the responsibility for this sad state of affairs and endeavour to help the Head Master, who, we have no doubt, is doing his best under trying circumstances.*
- 6. Together with some of my friends of our era, we have high-lighted certain glaring and obnoxious features that need rectification. We have done so in Reports and letters to the Bishop and also the OBA. Our work has been commended by all.*
- 7. All of us gathered here and a much larger segment of Old Boys who are unable to be with us today, are very concerned and sincerely wish to help in the upliftment of College.*
- 8. We have tried our best within the past 12 months to expedite this process through the OBA and also directly with the Bishop who is the Chairman of the Board of Governors.*
- 9. The Current Ex-Co, for reasons best known to it has unfortunately not entertained our proposals or invited us for any discussion despite numerous letters and personal requests made, even by the Pioneers of our Association. We bear no ill-will for this lapse on its part. **Our focus is only on College.***
- 10. Whilst all of us wish to improve and give a new direction to College, we may perhaps have different methods of approaching the problem. However, we go only far enough to say it is unfair not to accommodate our views and suggestions or of any Old Boy for that matter, who is willing to contribute **financially or otherwise.***

11. *We are firmly of the view that our Ex-Co needs a reorientation of thinking. It needs talented people who can impress upon the Bishop and the Board of Governors that it is high time the step-motherly treatment meted out to Guru comes to an end.*
12. *The message all of us must give the Board of Governors is that we have amongst our Old Boys, sufficient talent and expertise to reformulate the destinies of our College, together with the new Head Master with whom we are prepared to join forces.*
13. *In this effort, we need the co-operation of all sectors of Old Boys of every vintage. There can be no room for disagreement on this score.*
14. *So then, let us not waste any time. Let us all put into office, without any difference of opinion, a team of men of whom we can all be proud.*
15. *Let us entrust to them this task so that with the assistance of identified Sub-Committees to which any Member willing and having special talent could be co-opted.*
16. *We have no doubt that within a few months, we will be able to have a Plan of Action for the most important task of reviving College, after making a full and complete assessment and taking in to consideration all proposals and points of view.*
17. *We are confident that with the Head Master as Chairman of such a Committee, we will be able to convince the Board of Governors of the need for change at Guru. We are also confident that a fair number of Members of the Board (particularly the Old Boys) are fully supportive of our mission as they have promised us all the support.*
18. *We are also gratified that Senior Old Boys holding high office in Government and in all walks of life have expressed their confidence with the manner in which we have made a start.*
19. *We wish to ensure that our Ex-Co is representative of a wide cross-section of the Membership. I do not think any right thinking Member would have any objection to the Ex-Co proposed by us, comprising amongst other persons, younger and more energetic Mr.P S Duleep Kumar the person who was perhaps closest to Dr.Hayman not only as a student, but also as an Old Boy, Master and Friend; Mr.G M S Samaraweera, Retired High Court Judge and Governor of the North-Central Province; Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera, and Mr.Mervyn Wijesinghe all of whom have years of experience.*

Wishing you the best

Esto Perpetua

Lakshman Jayatilaka”

40. That was the spirit of our campaign. We kept our campaign to put in a new Ex-co very clean and gentlemanly. The numbers present at Guru on March 02 vindicated our position. We now ask all Member to close ranks, forget differences and join with us in the tasks ahead. As Mr.Lucian Fernado said, finding fault is easy, giving solutions and correcting the situation is what is difficult.
41. Commencing from March 15,2001 we have given a series of solutions, recommendations and guidance. In our Confidential Report of 80 pages on College of October 10 2001, **WE HAVE DEVOTED 10 PAGES TO RECOMMENDATIONS AND SOLUTIONS** We have consistently mentioned that the doors and windows must be open for fresh air not only in the OBA but also at College. All Old Boys must be invited to participate fully in discussions and the deliberations to re-assess what is wrong, particularly with College, consider the options and thereafter together with the Head Master, work towards the betterment of College. Surely this is our duty towards College, Dr.Hayman and the Donors of Guru.
42. The Head Master in his Report of February 24,2001 presented at our AGM stated thus:
- *“In keeping with the need s of the present society, the parents very rightly demand the ability of their children to converse in English”.*
 - *According to the inquiries we made in October 2001, the standard of English however is very poor. Anyone going through the English Exercise Books of students will be able to make a fair assessment.*
43. On the same day the Head Master also said “ *I cannot be happy about the financial situation of the school. My accountant tells me that we should either have 734 children in our Roll or should increase fees. Expenses rise daily which includes the payment of various allowances on salaries announced by the Government from time to time. The Bank Overdraft has risen to Rupees One Million”*
44. The optimum number the school **should** have, with great respect , is not something the College Accountant with his experience or qualification can advise on. This question goes to the very root of the continued existence of college and needs a wide angled view of very knowledgeable persons with the participation of the general membership. **WE FEEL THE MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE CONSULTED ON THIS VITAL ISSUE.**
45. He also made the following observation as regards the labour force:
“..... The labour force of the school though over-adequate, was not properly motivated, its skills and abilities were not adequately generated or supervises.”

This is a serious problem to be tackled with tact and understanding.

46. The Head Master said at the College Prize Giving on September 10,2001 with regard to the College Farm; “ *The Farm had been running at a loss for a number of years. It has had no permanent Manager for one year.*”

The Farm, happily, since November 2001, is said to be showing a profit. There can be no doubt that the farm could be improved much further. The necessary expertise is available among the Old Boys. Mr.Cecil Habaragoda , Mr.Anilal Algama, the former chairman of NLDB, Mr.Ruwan Munasinghe the Co-ordinating Secretary to the Chief Minister of the Uva Provincial Council are only three from among them who will rise to the occasion.

47. The Head Master in his Report of March 02,2002 at our AGM made the following observations:

“I was keen to find out about the student unrest prevailed in the School. We received information from former prefects, students and the Teachers. Here are some of my findings:

1. *We have reflected on the Hostel to a very good extent. Sometimes, there had not been hardly any Master to look after the children other than closing and opening the dormitories.*
2. *We are not geared towards child-centred education. Still it’s the Teacher-centred education.*
3. *They also mentioned the lack of supervision even in the field of sports.*
4. *Even if there were problems, they said that their voice was not heard properly.*
5. *They also commented on the poor living conditions of the Hostel*

Now we are aware of these problems., Hence, I have discussed with the staff and we have taken steps to remedy the situation as much as possible.”

We respectfully salute the Head Master for his concern and commitment. These are matters that require careful consideration and implementation. We have, adverted to them in our Report and in various Newsletters etc, from time to time.

48. During our “Walk-about” on March 02,2002 whilst visiting the Keble complex, i.e Primary Section,we came across a handful of children of very tender age, one of whom was being bathed by an Ayah at that particular time. On inquiries made, we found that they were the only children to remain in the Hostel as their parents had not collected them. The rest had gone home for the Mid -Term Holidays fixed to coincide with the OBA AGM and Re-Union. If one probed further facts would reveal the extent of children who come from broken families or whose parents do not or cannot find the means to remove the children etc. These matters should also be addressed.

49. The Minutes of the AGM of February 24,2001 state inter alia;
- a. *“Mr.Sri Lal Wickremaratne, member of the OBA said when looking at last years results students have shown poor results in subjects such as English, Sinhala and Religion. Head Master pointed out to look into the matter, and also said that most of the students in these two classes, often had clashes with students of other classes. Head Master said that he had to send some students home to maintain discipline. The Manager supported the move and said that discipline should be maintained at any cost.*
 - b. *Mr.Raj Mohan said that Keble dorm toilets were in a very bad condition and the waste pipes in the wash basin were damaged, because of this students when washing their faces always get their clothes wet. Mr.Upali Panditharatne Manger said that he was doing his best to get them repaired. But at present the College does not have the money. The Manger also said the OBA will help identify those projects and obtain OBA help”*

We have highlighted those same matters over and over again..

50. Attention should also be paid to the role of the Manager of the School. We are of the view that considering the structure spelt out presently by the Board of Governors, he should perhaps be, the Conduit through which the Head Master (who is “assisted” not “dictated to” by the Ex-Co of the OBA) relates to the Board of Governors. He has to be in constant touch with the Head Master. According to the Head Master’s Report of September 10,2001 he had visited the College only on 04 occasions other than the OBA celebration. The current Manager was also a) a Vice President of the OBA for all intents and purposes the person running the Ex-Co and the OBA single handed; b) the Sole Representative of the OBA’s of Gurutalawa, Bandarawela and Kollupitiya on the Board of Governors, c) the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Gurutalawa, (which is apparently now non functional)and by virtue of being the Chairman of the above Advisory Committee; the Manager of the School too. The Advisory Committee is required to be appointed annually by the Board. The Chairman of the Committee must be a member of the Board and nominated by the Bishop. Now, not being in the Ex-Co does pose some problems. Whether he can work in co-operation with the current Ex-Co or offer to resign and make way for another person to be the representative of the OBA on the Board are matters which the Ex-Co will no doubt consider and advise itself. The Representative of the OBA’s of Gurutalawa, Kollupitiya and Bandarawela must be a **MEMBER** of one of the OBA’s. The current Representative of these OBA’s on the Board, we understand, came about by our own OBA transmitting a letter of Consent/Nomination signed by the Senior Vice President and the Secretary to the Secretary of the Board of Governors (and the apparent default of the Kollupitiya and Bandarawela OBA’s to nominate any person to the Electoral College). What ever the factual position may be as a Vice President of our OBA his non election was a vote of no-confidence on him. Although it may be interpreted that his appointment to the Board is for 04 years, the question does arise whether it is morally correct for him to continue as the representative of our OBA. If he decides to continue then the Ex-Co will have to

work closely with him in harmony and the Head Master in the Greater interests of the School. This can be done if the will and good intent is there.

51. A Membership Committee had been appointed by the Ex-Co at a Meeting held on May 22,2001, It would be interesting to find out whether they met at all, when they met, what steps, if any, they have taken and how many Members they have enrolled, who those Members are etc,etc. There is no record of this committee ever reporting back to the Ex-Co.
52. The General impression is that an Old Boy should have been on the Roll of Students of Guru for at least 1 ½ terms or 183 days to qualify to become a Member of the OBA. The Rules do not support this position. **This qualification applies only to those on the Ex-Co.**
53. There is also a general impression created that school leavers should await until the elapse of 2 years before becoming a Member of the OBA. **The Rules once again do not support this position.**
54. These obnoxious provisions which do not appear to be in existence must be discarded as they are very counter-productive to the enrolling of new members as they leave school. The benefits to College and the OBA of enrolling school leavers and infusing fresh blood into the Membership of the OBA cannot be gainsaid. The interaction and the mutual understanding that can be achieved by this operation would be to the advantage of College and the OBA.
55. We also made the following observation at the last AGM and Re-Union on March 2,2002. It would be good to take note of these matters to avoid any future faux pas.
 - a. The Head Master gave an undertaking and promised to participate in all meetings of the Ex-Co henceforth. It appeared he had not been informed by the Old Ex-Co of his role as the President. **IT IS HOPED THE NEW EX-CO WILL BE ABLE TO TREAT HIM WITH MORE RESPECT.**
 - b. The last Ex-Co failed in its duty to keep him informed. In fact, in the Secretary's Report that was tabled on March 02,2002 the President of the Association as at December 31,2001 is reported to be Mr.Alban Fernando, the Ex-Head Master. Everyone knows that the President of the OBA is the current Head Master and the position goes to him Ex-Officio. This "gaffe" could have been avoided if proper guidance was available. In fact although it was the first occasion where the new Head Master presided neither the Secretary nor the Senior Vice President extended a "welcome" to him.
 - c. We also observed that no proper co-ordination had been made with regard to the Fellowship and Re-Union Dinner after the AGM. This aspect needs looking in to as it may be relevant to a transition period. Inviting the Head Master and Chaplain for Dinner, the Dress Code, saying of grace etc, had been overlooked. Participants

were unaware of the form the occasion demanded. Some had almost completed their meal before the Chaplain arrived. The Chaplain who had not been made aware of these formalities, had gone back to his quarters after the AGM, had his dinner and retired to bed. An Old Boy in our Group had to run to his quarters at the other end of the campus and invite him. These are all matters which need attention. **The Programme of Events for the AGM and Re-Union must cover all these areas, and young Old Boys particularly kept advised and informed of these traditions and formalities . It is hoped the new Ex-Co will look in to these matters and take steps to prevent a recurrence.**

56. There are some Old Boys who wish to help College in various ways. We have found them in Sri Lanka and outside. It is a pity that this fund of good-will has not been tackled all this time. Most take the view that we i.e all Old Boys are to blame. It is best if the Sub-Committee to be appointed to deal with Development work etc., harnesses all this goodwill in a systematic and uniform manner with a master plan in mind instead of piece meal or ad hoc projects undertaken in a haphazard way. It is suggested that all Old Boys be informed of the various projects once they are identified so that they could all contribute. At the AGM of February 2001, the Senior Vice President when requested to inform the Membership of these Projects, undertook to do so immediately after the 1st Meeting of their Ex-co. 12 months elapsed. The Membership was kept in the dark. The only communication for the entirety of the 12 months was the two page October Dinner Bulletin inter alia, asking for further funds. The Member who raised this matter in March 2002 once again asked the Senior Vice President why this has been overlooked. The Senior Vice President was non-plussed and at a loss for words. The President indicated that the matter would be taken up by the new Ex-Co. We point these out not to find fault but to ensure that mistakes like these are not repeated and to help the OBA and its Ex-Co to **perform better for the sake of College.** Let not the present Ex-Co give out signals that it is a "Private Club". As everybody knows, all our endeavours of the last 12 months did not bring any tangible results in the OBA or the College. Therefore, let us now get together forget the past, forget witch-hunting and as members of one family put all our heads together and decide which way College should go.

57. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND THE ELECTION OF THE NEW OFFICE BEARERS TO THE EX-CO IS NOW OVER. LET THE PAST BE FORGOTTEN AND BE BURIED. WE SINCERELY INVITE ALL CONCERNED OLD BOYS OF WHATEVER VINTAGE INCLUDING THOSE WHO WERE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN BUILDING DEVELOPMENT WORK IN COLLEGE DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS WITH A SENSE OF DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT NEVER BEFORE WITNESSED AT GURUTALAWA, TO JOIN WITH US AS ONE AND WORK TOWARDS IMPROVING COLLEGE AS MEMBER OF ONE FAMILY.

March 19,2002
Colombo

For- Co-ordinating Secretariat

S.THOMAS' COLLEGE, GURUTALAWA,

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED ON 21ST FEBRUARY 1959

RULES

1. *The Association shall be known as the S.Thomas' College Gurutalawa, Old Boys' Association (hereinafter in these rules referred to as "the Association")*
2. *The Objects of the Association shall be-*
 - (a) *to rally round the College all old boys and well wishers of the College who desire to uphold and assist the College in every way they can;*
 - (b) *to enable old boys to keep in touch with the College and with one another; and*
 - (c) *to afford guidance and encouragement to the younger generation*
3. (1) *The Association shall consist of life members and Honorary Members.*

(2) *The Association may accord affiliated status to any Groups of Old Boys who are constituted in to a Body of not less than 25 members provided that:- The Rules by which they are constituted as a body are approved by a Special General Meeting of the Association in terms of Rule 11 of the Rules; and the members of such body are individually members of the Association.*

The status of affiliation shall enable the Body so affiliated to nominate two of its body for membership of the Committee and they shall be co-opted to the Committee as provided for in Rule 8 (1)(C)
4. *Old boys of S.Thomas' College, Gurutalawa (in these rules referred to as "the College"), Old Boys of S.Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia and past and present members of the staff of the College may become life members of the Association on payment of a subscription of rupees one hundred (Rs.100/-)*
5. *Any person may become an Honorary member of the Association on his being elected as such member at any annual general meeting of the Association on the nomination of the Executive Committee. The number of Honorary Members so elected shall not at any time exceed fifteen.*
6. *The Warden of S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia, shall, by virtue of his office, be the Patron and a life member of the Association.*
7. *The Headmaster of the College shall, by virtue of his office, be the President and a life member of the Association.*
8. (1) *The Management and Administration of the Association shall be vested in*

an Executive Committee consisting of the following:-

- (a) The President*
- (b) Five Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association/and*
- (c) Twenty other members of the Association of which fifteen shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting of the Association and 5 co-opted by the Committee at its first meeting provided that:-
Of the fifteen members elected at least 3 members shall be from Old Boys who have left the College within a period of 15 years prior to their election, and also provided that:-*

Not more than one of the elected members may be from among members of the Association who being eligible for membership have not been students of the college or members of the staff.

- (2) The Executive Committee may fill any vacancy that may occur in the office of a member of the Committee.*
 - (3) The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be five.*
 - (4) Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings of the Association shall ipso facto cease to be a member thereof.*
9. *(1) An annual general meeting of the Association shall be held in every year on such date as may be fixed by the Executive Committee after due consideration to the convenience of the majority of members.*
- (2) The business to be transacted at the annual general meeting shall be the election of three Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the Committee members referred to in Rule 8 (1) (C), the consideration of the accounts and any other business of which due notice has been given.*
 - (3) The quorum for the annual general meeting shall be twenty.*
 - (4) The Honorary Secretary shall give members at least 21 days notice of the annual general meeting and of the business to be transacted at such meeting.*
10. *Members who desire to move any motion or resolution at the annual general meeting must give the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days notice of such motion or resolution.*
11. *(1) Special General Meetings of the Association may be summoned by the Executive Committee of its own motion.*
- (2) Any member may make a written request to the Executive Committee to summon a Special General Meeting of the Association for such reasons as shall be stated in such request. Such request need only be acceded to by the Committee if it considers desirable that such a meeting shall be held.*
 - (3) The Honorary Secretary shall give members at least 7 days notice of Special General Meetings and of the business to be transacted at such meetings.*
 - (4) The quorum for a Special General Meeting shall be the same as*

that for an Annual General Meeting.

12. *The executive committee shall keep the accounts of the Association and shall present a statement of accounts at every Annual General Meeting.*
13. (1) *The Executive Committee shall open an account in the name of the Association at a bank and shall authorize any member or members of the Committee to operate on that account. All moneys received by the Association shall be credited to that account.*

(2) *The Executive Committee shall cause Bank Accounts of the Association to be opened as may be required for any special Projects and permit the operation of such Accounts by the sponsors of such projects provided that at least one of the signatories to this Account be either the secretary, treasurer or ass. secretary for the time being the holder of such office in the Association and the annual accounts of the such project be submitted to the AGM of the Association duly audited.*
14. *The Association shall hold a reunion of old boys at Gurutalawa on a suitable day as decided upon by the Executive Committee in every year.*
15. *These rules may only be amended by a motion or resolution moved at an Annual General Meeting and passed by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.*

Revised February 1993

Note: *The copy of the Rules of the OBA available with the Secretary in March 2001 has been updated incorporating the amendments said to have been made at the Annual General Meeting in February 1993. This consolidated version has been prepared by us.*

*March 19, 2002
Colombo*

*For-Co-ordinating Secretariat
62 Group*

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, GURUTALAWA

OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED ON FEBRUARY 21, 1959

Patron: Dr David Ponniah
(Ex- Officio) Warden, S. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia
Telephone: 712270

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Elected on March 02,2002)

2002/2003

President
(Ex-Officio)

Mr Geethal Mendis
Headmaster – S. Thomas College, Gurutalawa
(o) 057-45202 ® 057-45362

Senior Vice President

Mr P.S.DuleepKumar
No.172/8A,Polhengoda Road,
Colombo 05
(o) 574484 , 573696 ® 812736, 853667

Vice Presidents

(1) *Mr.B.Munasinghe*
No. 80/1, Kuruppu Road,
Colombo 08
(o) 430440 ® 695468

(2) *Mr.Sunil Watawala*
452/12, Main Street,
Negombo
(o) 031- 40306 ® 031-38360

(3) *Mr Sarath Suraweera*
Deputy Director
Advance Training
Sri Lanka Police College,
Kalutara.
(o) 034-22698 (F) 034-22423

(4) *Mr.P J Fernando*
No.64/4, Chakindarama Road,
Ratmalana
(R) 730104

Hony. Secretary

Mr Nihal Wanniarachchi
No.21, Sumanarama Road, Mt.Lavinia
(o) 692631, 698032, 693328 ® 722624

Asst. Secretary

Mr M B Ratnayake
29/2, Bodhiyangana Mawatha,
Kandy

(o)08-467225 ® 08-227226

Hony. Treasurer

Mr Gamini Fernando
No.1 Gamini Place, Kawdana, Dehiwela
(o) 715811 ® 739896, © 071-733859

Members

(1) *Mr Prabath Jayasundera*
No.75, Maya Avenue,
Colombo 06
© 077-343064

(2) *Mr Rizvi Jalill*
No. 2, Pink Row, Mattegoda
(R) 074-205850 © 071-748548
© 077-418806 (O) 502291-3 Ext 223

(3) *Mr.A N R Munasinghe*
“Chamika”,
Pannalawela
Lunuwatte
(o) 055-22801 ® 055-22622

(4) *Mr.Shervon Fernando*
No.35/23, Obawatte Road,
Madiwela.
(o) 075-353017 ® 074-405858, © 077-320676

(5) *Mr.A.Pietersz*
Kanda Udawatta, Dunkannawa,
Nattandiya
(R) 032- 53007

(6) *Mr.Chandana De Silva*
(o) 325201-5 © 077-700999

(7) *Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera*
No.85/18, Jawatta Gardens,
Colombo 05
(o) :500424 ® 500424 / 585865

(8)*Mr.G.S.M. Samaraweera*
Samaraweewawatta,
Watawandanapara,
Anuradhapura
(o) 025-24090 ® 025-35291, 854686
© 071-712271

- (9) *Mr.Mervyn Wijesinghe*
No.4/87, Thalakotuwa Gardens,
Colombo 05
(R) 853414
- (10) *Mr.J. J. Rajakaruna*
No.51, Deanstone Place,
Colombo 03
(R) 574688, 301109
- (11) *Mr.Milton Fernando*
“Gaya” Nalluruwa
Panadura
- (12) *Mr.Mohamed Najeeb*
No.73, Modera Street,
Colombo 15
(o) 075-354553 © 077-877479
- (13) *Mr.S. Balaramesh*
No.48/5, St.Marys Road, Colombo 15
(o) 332955,433936 ® 074-721233 © 077-327758
- (14) *Mr.G.S.S. Perera*
192/5, Bokundara, Piliyandela
(o) 712483 ® 708170 © 071-215762
- (15) *Mr.Lasantha Perera*
No.141, Sri Dharmarama Road,
Walauwatta, Ratmalana
(o) 635151 ® 728418

RULES OF S.THOMAS' COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

(as approved on 27.11.1995 under Section 10 of the S.Thomas' College Board of Governors Ordinance No.7 of 1930)

1. *Constitution of the Board*

The Board shall consist of fifteen (15) members, that is to say

- 1.1 *The Lord Bishop of Colombo, or in his absence his Commissary, who shall be the Visitor and ex-officio member and the Chairman of the Board.*
- 1.2 *A representative nominated by the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, who shall be ex-officio a member of the Board.*
- 1.3 *Two representatives of the S.Thomas' College Old Boys' Association, Mt.Lavinia, elected from among its members.*
- 1.4 *One Representative from the Old Boys' Association of the Branch Schools at Gurutalawa, Bandarawela and Kollupitiya elected by those Associations from among their members in the following manner.*

The Presidents and Secretaries of the Old Boys' Associations of each of the Branch Schools will meet together as an Electoral College under the Chairmanship of the Hony. Secretary of the Board of Governors to elect a single member to represent the Old Boys' Associations of the Branch Schools.

Where the Head of the School is also the President of the Old Boys' Association, the Senior Vice President will serve on the electoral college in place of the President.

- 1.5.1 *One person elected by the tutorial and administrative Staff of S.Thomas College Mt.Lavinia.*
- 1.5.2 *One person elected by an electoral college under the Chairmanship of the Hony. Secretary of the Board of Governors consisting of representatives of the Staff made up as follows:
Two from the tutorial and administrative staffs of each of the Branch schools at Gurutalawa, Bandarawela and Kollupitiya*
- 1.5.3 *The following conditions shall be applicable to the aforesaid elections referred to in 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.*
 - (a) *The election shall be by secret ballot*
 - (b) *The persons nominated for election shall be members of the respective Old Boys' Associations.*
 - (c) *The members of the staffs of the four schools shall not be eligible for nomination or election.*
 - (d) *The candidates for election shall be members of the Church of Ceylon or of a Church in communion with that church.*
- 1.6 *One representative of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Colombo, elected by that Committee from among its members for as long as such person continues to be a member of the Standing Committee.*
- 1.7 *One person who shall be a member of the Church of Ceylon or of a Church in communion with that church nominated by the Lord Bishop of Colombo from among the Officers and Teachers of the Universities or other Higher Educational Institutions.*
- 1.8 *Two persons nominated by the Lord Bishop of Colombo who shall be members of the Church of Ceylon or of a Church in communion with that Church.*

- 1.9 *Such other persons not exceeding four in number who shall be co-opted by resolution of the Board ensuring that at least eighty percent of the members shall be members of the Church of Ceylon or of a church in communion with that church as required by Section 3 (1) (b) of the S.Thomas' College Board of Governors Ordinance No. 7 of 1930.*
2. *No member of the staff of any of the four schools shall be eligible for election, nomination or co-option as a member of the Board.*
3. *No vacancy on the Board shall render invalid or ineffectual any action taken or any decision made by the Board at a time when such vacancy or vacancies exist.*
4. *Chairman when Bishop or his Commissary is absent*
- 4.1 *In the event of the See of Colombo being vacant, the person officiating for the Bishop shall preside over meetings of the Board.*
- 4.2 *In the absence of the Bishop or his Commissary or such persons as may be officiating for the Bishop, from any meeting of the Board, the Bishop or his Commissary or such persons as may be officiating for the Bishop, shall be entitled to **nominate** a member of the Board to act as Chairman for that meeting on his behalf. In the absence of such a nomination the members present shall be free to elect a Chairman for that meeting.*
5. *The Seal*
- 5.1 *The seal of the Board shall be kept in a locked box to be deposited with the Chairman of the Board and the keys of the box shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary.*
- 5.2 *The Seal of the Board shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two of the members of the Board who shall sign their names to the instrument in token of their presence, and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.*
- 5.3 *The use of the Seal shall be recorded in the Minute Book of the Board.*
6. *Term of Office*
- 6.1 *Every person who is elected, nominated or co-opted shall hold office until the end of the fourth year after his election, nomination or co-option as the case may be.*
- 6.2 *Whenever any vacancy occurs by reason of the death or resignation of any member of the Board, the Board shall call upon the person or the body by whom such person was nominated or elected to nominate or elect another member in his place, or if such member was a co-opted member, shall co-opt another member in his place, and any such member so elected, nominated or co-opted to fill the vacancy shall hold office for such time only, as the member in whose place he was elected, nominated or co-opted would have held office if the vacancy had not occurred.*
7. *Re election etc,*
- Any member of the Board may again be elected, nominated or co-opted after the expiry of his term of office.*

8. *Board Officers*

The Board shall appoint annually at the Annual General Meeting an Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer from among its own members.

9. *Meetings, Quorum, Proceedings*

9.1 *The Board shall meet at least once in every six months.*

Ordinary/Special Meetings: *At least ten clear days notice shall be given for holding an Ordinary or a special meeting of the Board.*

Requisitions: *A special meeting shall at any time be summoned by the Secretary on the requisition of any six members of the Board provided that he gives at least ten clear days notice to the other members of the Board setting out the matters to be discussed at the meeting.*

Notwithstanding the above, the Chairman shall have the power to summon emergency meetings at short notice whenever the occasion demands. Meetings of the Board shall be held either at S.Thomas College, Mt.Lavinia, or at any of the Branch Schools or elsewhere as decided by the Board.

9.2 *The Annual General Meeting of the Board shall be held between the first day of March and the thirtieth day of June in each year and at such place as the Chairman shall determine. At least ten days clear notice thereof and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be given to each member of the Board. At the Annual General Meeting, the Honorary Treasurer shall present a statement of accounts of the Board for the preceding year.*

9.3 *Five members of the Board shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Board. Every matter shall be determined by a majority of members present and voting on the matter. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.*

9.4 *The proceedings of meetings of the Board shall be duly recorded in a Minutes Book.*

9.5 *It shall be competent for the Chairman to decide what business may be transacted by the Board by the circulation of papers without calling a meeting of the Board.*

10. *S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia and the Branch Schools shall be day and boarding schools for boys and shall be maintained and managed in suitable buildings provided and approved by the Board.*

11. *Staff.*

The Warden, and Sub-Warden of S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall be appointed by the Board subject to the approval of the Bishop, and shall be graduates of a recognized University or shall have such other academic qualifications as may be approved by the Board. They shall be members of the Church of Ceylon or of any Church in communion with the same, unless, in any particular instance, the Board with the approval of the Bishop shall determine otherwise.

12. *Agreement*

The Warden, and Sub-Warden of S.Thomas College, Mt.Lavinia, the Head Masters of Branch Schools and every Assistant Master shall be employed under an agreement in writing with the Board.

13. *Residence*

The Warden, Sub-Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall ordinarily reside in the premises of their respective Colleges/schools but the Board may for special reasons permit them or any of them to reside elsewhere.

14. *Staff not to engage in other jobs.*

The Warden, Sub-Warden, Headmasters of Branch Schools and members of the Staffs shall give their personal attention to their respective Colleges/Schools and shall not undertake any other office or employment without the prior approval of the Board.

15. *Remuneration*

The Warden, Sub-Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall receive such salaries and allowances as the Board may decide in accordance with the rate or scale fixed by the Board.

16. *Selection, Suspension, Dismissal*

The Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall have the power to select , suspend and dismiss the Assistant Masters and other employees of their respective Colleges/Schools. In case of dismissal there shall be a right of appeal to the Board.

17. *Duties of Heads*

The Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall, subject to statutory regulations, prescribe the general subjects of instruction and shall be responsible for the entire internal organization, management and discipline in their respective Colleges/Branch Schools.

18. *Fees*

The scale of fees payable by boarders and day scholars may be altered by Heads of Schools with the approval of the Board.

19.1 *Control and Management of School*

The Board shall be responsible for the control and management of S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia, and the Branch Schools, and for the erection and maintenance of suitable buildings, and in all such matters consult the Heads of Schools in such manner as to give them full opportunity for the expression of their views.

19.2 *Functions of Heads*

It shall be the responsibility of the Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools to devote their energy and attention to

- (a) improving academic standards*
 - (b) reviewing educational policy*
 - (c) implementing Board decisions*
 - (d) maintaining discipline*
 - (e) ensuring the welfare of the staff and the student community, and*
 - (f) attending to public relation functions vis-à-vis parents and others.*
- In their respective Colleges/Schools*

20. *Advisory Committee*

There shall be an Advisory Committee for each College/Branch School appointed annually by the Board. The Chairman of the Committee who shall be a member of the Board, shall be nominated by his Lordship the Bishop, and shall also function as the Manager of the College/School. The Advisory Committee, which shall be responsible to the Board, shall perform such functions as may be delegated to it by the Board from time to time

21. *Presence at Meetings*

The Board may require the Warden and Head Masters of Branch Schools to be present at any meeting of the Board, and shall be entitled to receive from them any assistance that it may require.

22. *Nature of instruction*

The education imparted at S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia, and the Branch Schools shall be in such subjects as are proper to be taught in a public school for boys and shall include religious instruction consonant with the doctrines of the Church of Ceylon.

23. *Books, Monies and Papers*

The Warden and Headmasters of Branch Schools shall be responsible for the safe custody of all official books, monies and papers belonging to the Board which shall be entrusted to them, and no person not being a member of the Board shall be allowed to inspect or be furnished with extracts from any such books or papers without the prior approval of the Board,

24. *The Board may amend these Rules at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting provided that at least 10 clear days notice of such amendment has been given to all members of the Board. The Board may amend these rules by a simple majority of members present and voting.*

25. *General Powers of the Board*

It shall be lawful for the Board in all cases not provided for by the Ordinance No.7 of 1930 or these rules, to act in such manner as shall promote the welfare of S.Thomas' College, Mt.Lavinia and its Branch Schools.

26. *These Rules are published in terms of Section 10 (3) of the S.Thomas' College Board of Governors Ordinance No.7 of 1930 and shall supersede all previous Rules made under Section 10 (1) and 10 (2)*

Sgd 27.5.96

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

1. *Rt. Rev. Duleep de Chikera* - *Bishop of Colombo* (*Ex Officio*)
(*Rule No: 1.1*)
2. *Dr. Thistle Jayawardena* - *United Society for Propagation of Gospel*
(*Ex Officio*)
(*Rule No. 1.2*)
3. *Mr. Aritha Wickremanayake* - *OBA Mt. Lavana* (*From among Members*)
Mr. Ajith Jayasekera (*Rule No. 1.3*)
4. *Mr. Upali Panditaratne* - *OBA s of Kollupitiya, Bandarawela &*
Gurotalawa (*From among Members*)
(*Rule No. 1.4*)
5. *Mr. M R Aluwihare* - *Tutorial & Administrative Staff of*
STC Mt. Lavana (*Rule No. 1.5.1*)
6. *Mr. Anomal de Soysa* - *Tutorial & Administrative Staff of STC*
Kollupitiya , Bandarawela & Gurotalawa
(*Rule No. 1.5.2*)
7. *Rev. C B Mendis* - *Standing Committee of Diocese of Colombo*
(*Rule No. 1.6*)
8. *Prof. Dayasiri Fernando* - *Member of Church of Ceylon – Nominated by*
Bishop from officers or Teachers of Universities
or Higher Educational Institutions
(*Rule No. 1.7*)
9. *Mr. Frank De Silva* - *Members of Church of Ceylon*
Mr. Rohan Perera (*Nominated by Bishop*)
(*Rule No. 1.8*)
10. *Prof. G.L Peiris* - *Co-opted by Board so that 80% of the Board is*
Mr. Gerald de Alwis *Church of Ceylon*
Mr. N Asirvadan
Major M R C Peiris (*Rule No. 1.9*)