



St Patrick's College Jaffna OBA

Melbourne, Australia

P.O.Box 574, Rosanna, Vic 3084



Newsletter 12

December 2010

Dear Fellow Patricians

Once again it is a pleasure and privilege to write this message for the December 2010 edition of the newsletter of St Patrick's College Jaffna, Melbourne OBA.

A Big Thank you to all the members who purchased tickets, attended the function with families and friends and contributed to another great event in the Patrician calendar - Patrician Nite 2010. Forty-seven Patricians took to the stage to sing the "Alma Mater". The "Bollywood" theme was well received, the feedback was very good and we even managed to make a very small surplus to add to the association's funds. Photographs from the event have been published in the website - www.spcaustralia.com

Our next function is the Australia Day Cricket & Barbeque scheduled for Wednesday, 26 January 2011, to be held again at Wattle Park. Two of the Committee members are hard at work organising the cricket teams and the match. The nominal contribution is \$10 for those over 12 years and \$5 for children between 6 and 12. The charge is to pay for the food. We hope to see many Patricians and their families at the event.

This year, 18 members have made contributions to the SPC Cricket Fund and \$1,350 has been sent to the College. The OBA's in Melbourne and Sydney agreed to make annual contributions to the College to support the cricket activities of the College some years ago. As you may know, the under 17 team played in the Third Division in the All Island Cricket Competition. The team finished the year as runners-up (out of a total of over 300 schools) and have been promoted to the Second Division next year.

SPC First XI wicketkeeper-batsman Rishan Tudor is one of the two from Jaffna to be selected for the Sri Lanka Cricket U19 squad for the Asia Cup. The Committee has decided to present \$150 (equivalent of Rs 15,000/=) to Rishan through the Rector to help him purchase some cricket equipment. We also designed a special certificate in recognition of Rishan's achievement.....cont... page 4



"Unto you a Saviour is born"

May we rejoice in His love and walk in His light

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

SPC Jaffna OBA—Melbourne

Established : 1992
Current Membership:..... 46
No. of Patricians in Vic : 113 Approx
Annual Membership Fee: \$20.00

Our Objectives:

- Socialise and share the Patrician spirit with benevolence
- Support our Alma Mater in meaningful ways

Website:

www.spcaustralia.com

Email:

secretary@spcaustralia.com

Committee— 2010/11

President: James Joseph
Secretary: Philip Ravindraraaj
Treasurer : William Nimalraaj
Committee Members: Jeevaranjan Fernando
 Angelo Fernando
 Dr Anton Mariampillai
 Chris Gunanayagam
 Jeyandra Antonipillai
 Dilip Manuelpillai
 Valentine Manuelpillai
 Vincent Pius
 Canisius Gnanasooriar
 Antony Gratian
 Editor — Newsletter: Antony Gratian

Christmas Greetings from the Rector

Dear Patricians,

I am glad to convey my Christmas greetings to you and to your families. Christmas finds us gathered for the customary welcome exchange of good wishes.

“A child is born to us; a son is given to us...” (Is 9:5). These words became the message of Good News, “the Word of Light and joy”. The celebration of Christmas is the sign of hope. You are with us, Emmanuel! O truly admirable! God Almighty in the feebleness of a child. In our brokenness and powerlessness let us experience the mighty hand of the Lord leading us to lasting happiness.

Here in Jaffna, we are closing the academic year with a satisfactory note of some achievements. Students have won Awards of Excellence in academic field and in sports arena. Many Alumni members have come forward to assist the poor, deserving students who came from the Vanni area. These students are able to study well and they are very grateful to all those who have help them in their time of dire need. The encouragement given by the Old boys is very much appreciated.

I wish to thank all the Patricians for the continued support rendered towards the welfare and growth of the College.

May the Lord of Bethlehem bless you in abundance in the coming year.

Rev. Fr. M. Jero Selvanayagam,

Rector

The Second Song of Christmas

The second song of Christmas is the one the lowly shepherds heard with enchanted wonder and awe.



At the very moment the angels sang, in a manger just outside David's town the Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes was glorifying God; Divinity was there where few if any would have expected It.

Christmas is something to sing about, as the angelic choir proved in breaking out into song. But can we sing the Glory Song in the land of exile? Certainly, because the Lord is with us in this exile. Like the angels we should rejoice at His birth. “Let us rejoice, then,” says St. Augustine, “in the grace given us. What greater favour could God bestow on us than to make His only Son a son of man, and every son of man in turn a son of God?”

St. Leo the Great called everyone to joy in a well-known Christmas homily: “Rejoice if you are a saint, for you are drawing nearer to your crown! Rejoice if you are a sinner, for your Saviour offers you pardon! And if you are a pagan, rejoice, for God calls you to life!”

Lord Jesus, may the joy of Your birth and the peace You bring remain with me, that I may share these blessings with others whose lives touch mine.

Excerpt from the book 'Countdown to Christmas' by Florence Wedge

Looking Back



Memorial Mass being said for the repose of the soul of the late Rector Rev Fr Mathuranayagam



Group photograph of the Patricians present at the Patrician Nite 2010



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Australia Day Cricket Match and Barbeque — Wednesday, 26 January 2011

St. Patrick's Day Mass, Celebrations and AGM — Saturday, 19 March 2011

Cont....from page 1

Both the certificate and the prize will be presented to Rishan at the College 2010 Annual Prize giving ceremony which is scheduled to be held on January 11, 2011. The members contributing to the Cricket Fund should feel justifiably proud of having subscribed to the many successes of the College.

As we did last year, enclosed with this newsletter is a nomination form for members to volunteer to serve in the Committee or to nominate to hold a position for the next Patrician year. The names of the members who have volunteered will be published in the February 2011 newsletter. They will be formally elected as Committee members and/or office bearers at the AGM to be held in the weekend following the St Patrick's Day in March 2011.

This year only 25 members paid their subscriptions. The subscriptions are used to fund the stationery, printer cartridge etc for the publication of the newsletters, pay for the P O box and website, and to subsidise the 3 social events we hold annually. We appeal to the unpaid members to proactively renew their subscriptions so that the Association can continue to grow in fulfilment of its objectives.

On behalf of the Committee Members, I wish you all and your families an enjoyable and safe X'Mas and a happy New Year.

James Joseph

President

Senior Patricians

are invited to **Share your Experience, Stories and Memories of the Good Old College.**

You have many fabulous stories of the 40s, 50s & 60s. Write to us or ring us.

It could be a joke, an incident or a great achievement that can add flavour to our newsletter!

Let us share the collective memory of the

Glory of our Alma Mater

The names of the members who have contributed to the College Cricket Fund are published in our website—www.spcaustralia.com

Notice Board

Australia Day Cricket Match and BBQ

'Who will win this time?'

Australia Day Cricket Match and BBQ will be held on Wednesday, 26 Jan 2011, at 'Wattle Park', 1012 Riversdale Road, Burwood (Melway:60J2). Players (and there will be plenty of opportunities for on the spot drafts) are expected to be at the grounds by 9.30 am for a 10.00 O'clock start.

Jeyandra & Dilip are busy organising the 2 cricket teams who will play for the Perpetual Trophy. Those interested in playing—please contact either Jeyandra or Dilip or a Committee member.

This will be an exciting family fun day for all and an opportunity to catch up with old friends and countrymen reviving nostalgic sentiments of our school days.

Tennis court and leisure activities are available for children, with BBQ to follow the match. So, please tell your friends, especially Senior Patricians; BYO, enjoy the food and make new friends.

Patricians committed to the college Cricket Fund can make their donations on this day.

Annual subscription

Have you renewed your membership?

If not, please contact our Treasurer William Nimalraj on 9436 4124 and help us help our Alma Mater.