



# St Patrick's College Jaffna OBA

Melbourne, Australia

Established 1992



Newsletter 22

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## Our Objectives

Socialise and share the Patrician spirit with benevolence.

Support our Alma Mater in meaningful ways.

We may make our plans, but God has the last word. You may think everything you do is right, but the Lord judges your motives. Ask the Lord to bless your plans and you will be successful in carrying them out.

Long life is the reward of the righteous; grey hair is the glorious crown.

PROVERBS 16:1-3, 31

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Patricians,

It is my pleasure once again to write a message for the latest edition of our Newsletter. At the AGM held on March 22, 2014, the committee welcomed 2 additional members to the Committee.

Our next function—Patrician Nite 2014—is to be held on Saturday, 13 September, at the Sacred Heart Church Hall, Oakleigh. As this annual event has been gaining in popularity, we needed this bigger venue to accommodate a larger number of Patricians, friends, and families. A member of the Committee will be in contact with you regarding tickets and I look forward to meeting as many Patricians as possible on this occasion, which is the 'showcase' event of the Association.

As advised at the AGM, the Association remitted \$500 to the Thanushan Amalan Assistance Fund to assist the young family of this old boy of the College, who was killed in tragic circumstances at the annual "Battle of the Golds" on 15 March 2014.

Anandarajan James

The following were elected to serve as **Office Bearers, Committee Members, and Advisory & Support Panel Members at the AGM 2014**

**President:** Anandarajan James

**Secretary:** James Joseph

**Treasurer:** William Nimalraj

**Asst. Treasurer:** Philip Ravindraraj

**Committee Members:** Angelo Fernando, Chrys Gunanayagam, Jeyandra Antonipillai, Noel Rajiv, Patrick Rajaratnam, Pillai Mariasegaram, Rukshan Theophilus

**Advisory & Support Panel Members -** Alfred Reynald, Antony Gratian, Anton Newton, Cyril Kulendran, Dr. Anton Mariampillai, Edward Arulnesathasan, Isidore Manoraj, Guanaratnam Arulanatham, Jeevaranjan Fernando, Jerard Jogaratnam, Jerry Anthonypillai, Joseph Vijayaratnam, Reg Cherubim, Vincent Chandran Benedict, Vincent Pius, William Rajendram

**Patrician Nite 2014**

**Saturday, 13 September 2014**

**At Sacred Heart Church Hall, 21 Johnson St, Oakleigh**

# **The Politics of Reconstruction and development in Sri Lanka: Transnational Commitments to Social Change** by *Eva Gerharz*

**Publishers: Routledge**

**Chapter 7—Taking possession of development; diapora engagement in local institutions**

## ***Reconstructing Schools***

The extraordinary significance ascribed to good education is strongly connected to colonial experiences with missionary activities that were constitutive of the collective self-image of Jaffna Tamils. Jaffna residents tried to keep up the ideal of a high level of education but the war affected the educational infrastructure badly. An assessment shows that in July 1998, out of 490 schools, nearly 400 were destroyed. Some schools served as temporary military camps and many were mined. From the late 1990s onwards the central government initiated the reconstruction and repair of schools. Various donor programmes supported the reconstruction of schools, financed de-mining and provided essentials such as school furniture. The German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) with Sri Lanka launched a school sanitation project, which included technical training on sanitation systems. Despite immense efforts, the process of physical reconstruction had not been completed by the time of this research. Small schools, and primary schools in particular, were left behind. In 2004, in the north of Sri Lanka, one could still witness entire classes sitting with their teachers under trees, next to ruined school buildings.

As in many countries, alumni associations have long played a role in Jaffna schools and after the Ceasefire Agreement, the transnational organisation of these quickly gained importance. This was also observed by a Sri Lankan newspaper, which published an article on its website entitled 'Jaffna Booms in Cyber Space'. It tells the story of a new IT laboratory that was installed for the benefit of the highly appreciative students of **St Patrick's**, a Catholic school. The IT laboratory, which was equipped with 27 computers, was supported by the Canadian and Australian alumni organisations. During the time of research, about 200 students were taking computer courses organised at various levels. Diaspora alumni associations were also involved in supporting **St Patrick's** in other aspects, such as financing the reconstruction of classrooms and a cricket ground. **St Patrick's** diaspora alumni associations were organised in Great Britain, Canada, and Australia. A few more old boys were scattered in Germany and Norway and partly known as individual donors. Like other school alumni, the **St Patrick's** association had formed branches in different countries and these branches maintained close contact with both the local alumni associations and the school management. Several alumni associations had established websites that provided an overview of the branches in Jaffna, Colombo and overseas and organised regular meetings on both national and global scales.

**The above is an extract from a book published on 3 April 2014 in Google Books titled "The Politics of Reconstruction and Development in Sri Lanka: Transnational Commitments to Social Change" written by Eva Gerharz. A synopsis of the book states:** This book presents a comprehensive insight into the politics of reconstruction and development in Sri Lanka, focussing on the period 2002 to 2006. Based on extensive empirical fieldwork, the book provides a unique ethnographic account of this specific historical period. Starting from an interdisciplinary viewpoint, the author integrates findings from development sociology with new perspectives on transnationalization and the migration-development-nexus. Making an innovative contribution by linking the analysis of local reconstruction with contemporary phenomena of transnationalization, diasporization, and globalization, this book will appeal to those with an interest in Sociology, Social Anthropology and Political Science.

## *News Snippets of the College in the media (from various sources)*

- **Jaffna players could be the next big thing in Sri Lankan cricket** - May 15, 2013

The selection of three players from the North and East to participate in the Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) conducted triangular tournament now underway in Pallekele is only an indication of things to come, experts believe. **Rishan Tudor from St. Patrick's College is a 19-year-old wicketkeeper batsman**, while fast bowler Kanakaraja Silojan is a product of Hindu College, Kokuvil. All-rounder Jeayasooriyam Sanjeev is 20-years-old and is a product of Methodist Central College, Batticaloa, and represents the Sri Lanka Combined XI in the on-going tournament.

Former fast bowler Ravindra Pushpakumara, who is in charge of cricket development in the North and East during a **coaching camp held at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna**, told the reporter "When I look at these players from the North and East, I simply marvel at them. Some of these players are so naturally gifted. Some of the actions of these spinners and fast bowlers are so classical. There's nothing that we have to correct. I only update them on the proper technique. I have absolutely no clue as to how they have developed such classic actions. I once asked them whether they watch any television. The answer was no. There's no television as well in most of these places, but somehow they have learned the right way of doing things. The talent available in Jaffna is absolutely unbelievable."

- **St Patrick's College wins Red Ball Tournament at the under-10 Tennis Tournament**

**October 28, 2013**

In the all island inter-school Tennis 10s Tournament concluded at the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) courts, Green Path, over the weekend, Ananda College, Colombo and St. Joseph's College, Negombo won the under-10 boys' and girls' Green ball championships respectively. **St. Patrick's College, Jaffna** and St. Joseph's College, Negombo won the Red ball boys' and girls' shields while Maliyadeva College, Kurunegala and Newstead College clinched the Orange ball championships.

The annual Tennis 10s Tournament has become the most look forward grass roots level event of the SLTA calendar over the years. 800 little boys and girls from 21 schools across the country took part in under seven (Red ball), under eight (Orange ball) and under-10 (Green ball) tournaments this year. The tournament was sponsored by VA Tech-Wabag Hydro Alliance while 'HEAD' 3G sports (Pvt) Ltd supported as the equipment sponsor. This tournament is conducted under the JTI programme of the International Tennis Federation. Suresh Menon, the Development Officer for Asia who was in Sri Lanka last week commended this programme highly and said that the event has set an example to the rest of Asia.

Red ball matches are played on quarter of a court with a bigger sized ball, while the Orange ball is played on a three quarter court and the Green ball on a full court with normal sized tennis balls.

- **(An) Australian Cricket Team Visits Jaffna after 42 Years** - July 07, 2014

Jaffna Combined School Team (JCST), in a T 20 match played on Friday (04) trounced the visiting Yarra Valley Cricket Association Team (YVCAT) of Australia. The friendly match organized by Security Force Jaffna in collaboration with Foundation of Goodness was played at Jaffna Central College grounds. Having won the toss, JCST captain Alan Raj decided to bat first and JCST scored 183 for loss of 4 wickets. Their score included 4 sixes. However, YVCAT captained by Tyson Smith only managed 53 runs for 10 wickets in 13 overs. JCST comprised players from Jaffna Central College, Jaffna Hindu College, St. John's College, **St. Patrick's College**, Point Pedro Hartley College and Chunnakam Skanthavarodai College.

## News from the Rector... ..

### Best Results in G.C.E O/L - December 2013

1. M. Mathushan	9A
2. G. Niluxan	9A
3. N. Logaseelan	9A
4. C. R. N. Marin Elroy	8A, B
5. R. R. Kirushanthan	8A, B
6. J. Anton Jenoshan	8A, C
7. V. Bennat Sujeeban	8A, C
8. G. Michael Vinushan	7A, 2B
9. G. H. Anistus	7A, B, C
10. D. Krishanth	7A, B, C
11. R. Sujeeth	6A, B, C
12. G. N. Jeen Luxman	5A, 2B, C, S
13. B. B. Niloshan	5A, 3B, C
14. R. Adsaran	5A, 3B, S
15. K. Jackson	4A, 5B
16. A. B. Antony Noel	4A, B, 4C
17. A. Jerickson	4A, 3B, 2C
18. J. Collins	4A, 3B, 2C
19. A. M. Janu Maximus	4A, 3B, 2C
20. T. Kajamugan	4A, 3B, 2C
21. C. Melchristian	4A, 3B, C, S
22. A. J. Roiston	4A, 2B, 2C, S
23. B. Jude Niranjana	4A, B, 3C, S

### Jubilee Events

#### of some of our priestly Patricians

- ◆ Most Rev. Bishop Thomas Savundranayagam, Bishop of Jaffna, celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination as a priest on December 21, 2013. Bishop Thomas was consecrated as the Bishop of Mannar on July 31, 1981 at the Madhu Church and was appointed as the Bishop of Jaffna in 1992.
- ◆ Rev. Fr. Justin Gnanapragasam, currently the Vicar General of the Diocese of Jaffna and former Rector of the College celebrated 40 years as a priest on April 24, 2014.
- ◆ Rev Fr Eugene Francis, Chaplain of the UK OBA for over 10 years until 2009, celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination on June 19, 2014. Fr Eugene is visiting Melbourne in August 2014.
- ◆ Rev Fr Jero Selvanayagam, current Rector of the College, celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination on August 6, 2010.

## Notice Board

### Patrician Nite 2014

Saturday, 13 September 2014

Venue: Sacred Heart Church Hall

21, Johnson Street, Oakleigh (Mel 69 F8)

(Please Note the change of venue from last year and the correct address. Not to be confused with the School Hall, please.)

Early start at 6.30 pm

Music: DJ VIJAY

Smorgasbord: "GALLE ROAD RESTAURANT"

Wine and Soft Drink provided for each table

BYO liquor

Raffle

Presentation of Australia Day Cricket / Rounders Trophies

Tickets - \$40 (Children 5 - 15 - \$15)

*The members and families attending the Patrician Nite have been increasing every year. The function is held this year in a larger hall to accommodate all requesting tickets and is open to all Patricians, their families and friends. Each table can seat 10 people and members are welcome to invite their friends to come along and spend an enjoyable evening – dining and dancing as well as meeting other Patricians and make new friends. It is a once-an-year occasion for Patricians to celebrate and foster fellowship and network with others. A Committee/Advisory Panel Member will be in touch with every Patrician in Melbourne. If you have not been contacted, please call Anandan on 0431 571 066 to obtain the tickets.*

### SPC Jaffna OBA—Melbourne

Current paid members:..... 26

No. of Patricians in Vic : ..... 140

Annual Membership : .....\$20.00

WEBSITE: [www.spcaustralia.com](http://www.spcaustralia.com)

EMAIL: [secretary@spcaustralia.com](mailto:secretary@spcaustralia.com)

Please pay your annual subscription into the Association's bank account - CBA A/c 063 000 / 1152 075 - Jaffna St Patrick's College Old Boys' Association