



St Patrick's College Jaffna OBA

Melbourne, Australia

P.O.Box 574, Rosanna, Vic 3084



Newsletter 6

December 2008

Dear Fellow Patricians

Once again, I take this opportunity to thank you all immensely for the support you have given us during the year in various ways, particularly towards the great success of the Patrician Nite in September. If not for your encouragement, participation and support, these events could not have been successful. The major highlight of the Patrician Nite was the excellent performance by the young SHAMROCKERS group, which received praise from various people. Well done boys and girls.

Our next major event will be the cricket and BBQ which is due to be held on January 26th, 2009 at Wattle Park. The cricket match is organized to build "Jaffna SPC Cricket Sponsorship Fund". We expect many more Patricians to support the call to build this fund.

The current committee had considered the UK model of forming subcommittees for the purpose of sharing responsibilities. As a result we have identified certain tasks such as membership drive, fund building, communication, cricket match, musical group as well as assisting with college educational programs. We have nominated a committee member for each task, who will seek assistance from other members to work as a sub-committee in achieving the said task. Those of you who are able to help in any particular area are kindly requested to work with the relevant sub-committee to achieve our goals.

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SPC Jaffna OBA—Melbourne

Established : 1992
Current Membership:..... 42
No. of Patricians in Vic : 100 Approx
Annual Membership Fee: \$20.00

Our Objectives:

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

OBA Locker : St Pascal's Church
100, Albion Rd, Box Hill.

Committee— 2008/09

President: Jeevaranjan Fernando
Secretary: Antony Gratian
Asst. Secretary: Angelo Fernando
Treasurer : Philip Ravindraraj
Social Secretary: Nimal Augustine
Committee Members: Cornelius Sebastian
 Jerad Jogaratnam
 Anton Newton
 Guna Arulanantham
 Alfred Reynold
 William Nimalraj

Cricket Team Captains—2008/09

Matthews Team : Ranjan Gunaratnam
Long Team : Isidore .F. Manoraj
Dunne Team : Terry James
Bonjean Team : Dilip Manuelpillai

Merry Christmas

To you all and your loved ones.

May the Prince of Peace dwell amongst our besieged people.



Report of the Destruction Caused by Cyclone Nisha

November 2008

St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, has been serving not only the Tamil community but also the people of other ethnic communities of Sri Lanka for the last 158 years. Its contribution to the society is so vast that it has produced great intellectuals and men of great service both in the secular and religious sphere. The College has been subject to severe destruction and damage due to the ongoing war. On several occasions, the displaced people and people in the neighbourhood sought refuge at the college. And on such situations, with the generous assistance of the N.G.Os and the Old Boys' Associations we were able to safeguard the people and later on, we have refurbished the College and worked with renewed strength.

The Cyclone and pouring rain which befell last week is another disaster for the College. There is severe damage to many sections:

- 1) A very old, huge tree in the Junior Secondary Section fell and completely demolished three classrooms. The furniture in two of those classrooms is beyond repair. We need to rebuild the classroom anew.
- 2) A parapet wall about 110 meters on the eastern side of the college playground had fallen due to flood level rising very high. The wall was a great fortification to the school. Now due to the destruction of the wall all the possessions of the College are exposed to thieves and misuse. Hence we are in urgent need of renovating this wall.
- 3) A section of wall beside the main entrance of the College was damaged by a huge tree on the road side falling on it and it has completely de-

molished the students' saving bank building and the shed at the entrance of the Mathews Block.

4) Several roof sheets in the College Hall, Hostel Dormitory and Study Hall have been blown away due to severe wind and the pouring rain has spoiled books and other materials. Almost all the utensils of the College Hostel have been washed away by the flood. There are 22 hostellers from the Vanni area who have been staying here the whole year due to the closure of the A9 highway. Along with them there are 58 hostellers from other parts of the peninsula.

5) The College Store with 15 bags of rice and other provisions such as flour, sugar and milk powder was completely damaged due to the flood.

6) The stadium in the College playground and the rooms for safeguarding the sports items were flooded and has caused a great loss.

7) The whole compound of the College was flooded with many huge and small trees falling down. There are pieces of broken tiles and broken roof sheets everywhere. The two wells in the college compound have been contaminated due to the floods going in. Hence we need to clean the compound and the wells.

We take special care on the hostellers from Vanni who have been here for more than two years not seeing their parents since the closure of the A9 road. While thanking you for accepting our proposals, we hope that you would help us to repair the damages caused by the cyclone and give a facelift for the college for its smooth functioning.

Rev. Fr. M. Jero Selvanayagam

RECTOR

Rev. Fr. A.P. Thirumahan

BURSAR

An Estimate of the Reconstruction and Repair Costs

1. Reconstruction of Classrooms	722,000
2. Furniture for 2 Classrooms – 2 Teachers & 60 students	395,900
3. Roof Work – College Hall, Primary School & Hostel Study Hall	72,900
4. Construction of Parapet Wall, Entrance Wall & Tin Shed	575,000
5. Sports Equipments – Cricket & Athletic	45,000
6. Kitchen Utensils	30,000
7. Labour Charge – Cleaning College Compound & Wells	50,000
Total
	Rs. 1,890,800



We received because those who went before us thought, acted and gave generously. They didn't know our face, still planted the seeds for us. We didn't know their names, yet they kept us in their hearts.



It is now our turn to do the same

so that

Those Patricians whose face we will never know may **continue to receive**



The invaluable services of an indisputably great institution



St Patrick's College, Jaffna

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- St Patrick's College Jaffna OBA Melbourne - Cricket & BBQ — 26 January 2009 (Please note change of date from Sunday to Monday)
- St Patrick's Day Mass , Celebrations & AGM — 21 March 2009

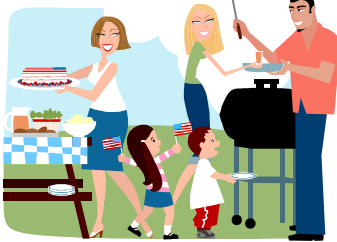
Australia Day Cricket Match and BBQ



Australia Day 2009 Cricket Match and BBQ will be held on Monday, 26 January, at 'Wattle Park', 1012 Riversdale Road, Burwood (Melway: 60J2). Registration of Team members will begin at 8.30 am with the match starting at 9.00 am sharp.

Tennis court and leisure activities are available for children, with BBQ and Singalongs to follow the match.

This will be an exciting family fun day for all of us and will be an opportunity to catch up with Patrician families and friends from near and far. So please turn up in great numbers, BYO, enjoy the food, sit back and relax, and **above all make new friends!**



Please bring your parents also, Patricians or otherwise, for this will be a fantastic outing for them—an opportunity to look back nostalgically on their college days.

Tickets are priced at \$10 for adults and \$25 for a family.

Cheer Leaders & unbiased Commentators are wanted!

This year 30 generous Patricians committed themselves to sponsor the cricket activities of our College on an ongoing basis with an annual contribution of \$100 per head to the Cricket Sponsorship Fund. We are hoping for an increase in the number of contributors next year and look forward to receiving your contributions next year and look forward to receiving your contributions on or before the Australia Day Cricket Match. **Please mark this day on your new diary.**

Notice Board

Have you renewed your membership?

If not, please contact our Treasurer Philip Ravindraraaj on 9551 6918 or Anton Newton on 9440 1960 and help us Help our Alma Mater.

You can also pay your subscription by direct crediting our OBA account number: 063000 11520575 with CBA.

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 that we haven't heard of.

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 revisit the collective memory of the

Glory of our Alma Mater

*Current members, please pass this invitation to all known senior Patricians living in Australia. Thank you.

Cont. from p1...

Most of you would be aware of the damages caused to the college properties by the recent 'Cyclone Nisha'. An appeal was received by the OBAs around the world from the Rector, who has sought urgent financial assistance to repair the damages caused by the cyclone. The damages are estimated to cost nearly A\$28,000. The committee appeals to all members to render your support to this urgent one-off request. Committee members will shortly contact you to collect funds for this purpose. I kindly request you to contribute generously and show that Old Boys in Melbourne are second to none in their loyalty to Alma Mater, particularly when she is in dire need.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas.

Jeevaranjan

President