



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016/2017

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It seems like only the other day that we assumed office in March this year. Time has flown by in a blink of an eye, and here we are, shoulders to the wheel, busy compiling the Shamrock.

Welcome to this edition !

There are indeed many memorable moments and news to report. The adventurous "Pirates in Paradise" which was a fun filled and thoroughly enjoyable day. The overwhelming response to our relief for the flood victims drive. School development projects, and Corpus Christi were some of the highlights of this period. The most recent activity of course was the participation of the PPA and students at the Thomian six a side Cricket Carnival, and Josephian Relay Carnival. Our Cricket team did us proud by clinching the championship. What a remarkable performance that was! Individual articles on each of these are included in the newsletter. Also, as you leaf through, you will read about the many significant achievements of the school in academics, sport, and other extracurricular activities.

It is reassuring to note that members are enthusiastic about participating in all the fellowship events. What a lot of joy and laughter is spread as the young and old meet and greet at these gatherings. It is certainly very encouraging for us, the committee, organizing these events for the membership. Look forward to many interesting events planned as the months roll by.

I would like to share with you an excerpt of beautiful verse written by Helen Steiner Rice on "Meeting old Friends".

Somehow, meeting old friends
And embracing them with your heart
Is like the 'warmth of a home fireside'
and the 'loveliness of a rose garden.'

Until our next issue- stay safe, stay well, love and blessings all around.

Editorial Committee

Taniya Marshall Muttiah

Hafiya Azim





From the Desk of the Executive Committee

✿ Our Strength

We had 50 new members join the Association during the period April to September 2016. The total membership as at end September is 3940 members.

✿ Application for Membership

Application forms could be downloaded from the PPA website or alternatively, a copy could be collected from the Collegiate School gate.

✿ Membership Cards

Members are encouraged to obtain a new personalized membership card at the cost of Rs. 500/- . Please send us a letter requesting a card clearly stating the name and address to be printed along with a passport size photograph, your old card and a self-addressed, registered envelope addressed to the Joint Secretary, Past Pupils Association of St. Bridget's Convent, and Colombo 7.

It is imperative that members update the Secretary with their contact details in order to receive all the current information on the PPA.

✿ PPA Website

All updates and news can be accessed on the website which is – <http://www.sbcppa.org>.

✿ PPA Facebook Page

Browse through the numerous photographs, albums and keep abreast with current and upcoming events on <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St.Bridgets-Convent-PPA>. The site is constantly updated with interesting information. Make sure you don't miss out on any of the happenings!

✿ Our Mission

Endeavoring to promote camaraderie and goodwill amongst fellow past Bridgetines and to continue to uplift and support the school in as many ways as possible.



MEMBER EVENTS

✿ "PIRATES IN PARADISE"- 9th July 2016



An unforgettable Day for the Bridgetines as we boarded our respective Pirate buses with thought provoking names, like "Puffy Pants" and "Big lips"!

We took a moment for prayer and then the journey began to the jolly pirate ship anchored at Citrus, Waskaduwa. Drummers and some cool Pirate brew, along with a refreshing towel served to welcome and freshen up the many dashing pirates present before the swashbuckling action began.

The competitions were those any pirate would have relished. Walking the tight rope for those buccanners who dared, hauling water from the sea to fill up a bottle on the shore, a dueling match on the lawn, where swords flashed and a mighty Tug of War. Choosing the champion pirate was indeed a very difficult task for the judges.

Lots of food and snacks were consumed before the Bridgetine adventurers were escorted to the spectacular pirate mess, adorned with treasure chests laden with goodies, at each table. While the jolly Bridgetine buccaneers were enjoying a sumptuous buffet, the 2016 committee entertained them with a rousing Pirate Dance.

As the day drew to a close and the sun began its descent it was time to round up the Pirates. A few jolly souls decided to become stowaways, but all too soon it was time for all pirates to bid Adieu to their ship and wend their way back to SBC.

The journey back was relaxing as contact details were exchanged and long lost friends and new found friends promised to keep in touch with each other. We arrived at our beloved Alma Mater at sunset. The Pirates disembarked, with unforgettable memories and some carrying away extra booty. What an experience it was, not only for those who organized this jolly event but also for all those who were a part of "Pirates in Paradise".





RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

The Feast of Corpus Christi



The feast Of Corpus Christi was celebrated on the 29th Of June 2016, at St. Bridget's Convent. All Past Pupils of our school were invited to take part in this sacred event through notices which was inserted in the News Papers and by e-mail. The Past Pupils Association together with the Schools Development Society, organised the last half hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 2.30pm to 3.00 pm. The PPA and The SDS as is tradition, jointly decorated the balcony of the parlour which was the last Repository, with fresh flowers in red and white. We are happy to note that the service was well attended by many Past Pupils, who also took part in the Blessed Sacrament Procession around the School. A special 'Thank You ' to all those who took time off their busy schedules to be present at this Sacred event.





CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

The Community



The Past Pupils Association took their place as responsible citizens in answer to a desperate call by victims of the floods that badly affected our nation in May 2016.

The generosity was overwhelming; cash donations, dry rations, baby care items and even pharmaceutical products, poured into the Secretariat, the minute the call went out for help. Thirty-five families in the Makevita Parish were provided with dry rations.

The reward of being able to help these flood victims, in the remote Makevita Parish was indeed a heart-warming one.

On November 21, 1921,
The Past Pupils' Association
then known as the Old
Girls Association (OGA)
was inaugurated under the
patronage of the Superior of
the Convent Rev. Mother Mary
of St. Prosper.

BRIDGETINES AT HOME: BRIDGETINES FROM FAR AND WIDE



Wherever they may be or whatever they may do, Bridgetines always have their Alma Mater at heart. We are grateful for all the support they have offered us in numerous ways.

At Home:

Ms. Crishanthi Hanwella, handed over a contribution of LKR 250,000/- to the PPA towards the restoration of the school chapel roof.



From overseas:

The PPA branch of California donated a sum of US\$ 5000. The President of California PPA requested that US\$ 2500 be utilised for the upgrade of the collegiate school toilets and US\$ 2500 be used for scholarships for Primary School students.

The best years of one's life are those spent in school. Those memories see us through all those rough times.....

Many past pupils visit the school whenever they are in the island, just to relive those times they had when they walked through the gates of this hallowed institution.

UK PPA President Sherene Selvadurai visited the school on the 5th July 2016. She had the pleasure of seeing the new equipment the school laboratory had purchased with the £ 1500 contributed by the PPA UK to the 2015/16 committee.

PPA President California, Harshini Wickramratne also visited the school July. As she walked around the premises she took note of the fact that some facilities needed up grading.

The first issue of the SHAMROCK was initiated and published in 1995 by Mrs. Hiranthi Fernando, the President at that time. She was assisted by a very capable editorial committee.



*In
Loving
Memory*



Remembering those who left us for eternal life - with love.....

- Sr. Vincent Dabara –A former Mother Superior.
- Ms. Nelun Gunaskera, of the Primary School who put in 39 years of loyal service.
- Nabiha Sallie – A vibrant, talented student of Grade 10

Rest in peace, your memory will live forever in our hearts.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS !!! STC, OBA SIX A SIDE CRICKET TOURNAMENT



St. Thomas College, Mt.Lavinia Old Boys Association held their annual 6-a-side Cricket Tournament on the 24th of September, 2016 at the NCC Grounds. Women's teams from OGA's /PPA's were invited for the first time and the PPA of St. Bridget's Convent participated and emerged Champions.

A total of 6 women's teams participated on the day and SBC PPA team played the Museus College OGA team in the qualifying round. We then played the Hillwood College Kandy OGA team at semi-finals, to enter the finals, against the Bishops College OGA team, to win the overall Championship in the Women's Category.

Our Team:

Ruwani Dharmasiri (Captain)
Ashini Pereira (Dep.Captain)
Sonali Pandithasekera
Shyanika Fernando
Ruwani Karunaratne
Geethanjanie Jayasekera
Maljini Wettasinha
Indrachapa Gankande
Renuka Wickramasinghe
Anusha Hettigoda



The PPA began with a membership of 100. The first President was Ms. Winifred Pieris.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND PPA PARTICIPATION



Since its inception, the PPA has been a source of encouragement and support to their Alma Mater.

The President and Committee members attended the following events by invitation during the past six months -

Date	Event
9th June 2016	Tamil Day – Collegiate School
24th June	Talent Search – Collegiate School
8th July 2016	Collegiate School Prize Giving
12th July 2016	Primary School Prize Giving
16th August 2016	Food Republic UN Club of SBC
17th and 18th September	Ablaze with Compassion – A presentation by the Choir of the School
2nd September 2016	Interact Installation

In 1992, the
1st PPA
walk was organized
by the
then President
Mrs. Sunethra Ranasinghe.



WELL DONE – RELAY TEAMS!

St. Joseph's College Athletic Advisory Committee organized their first ever Relay Carnival on the 24th of September 2016 at the Sport Ministry Grounds, Torrington. School teams and Past Pupil teams were invited to participate. The PPA of St. Bridget's Convent sent three teams for this event; under 25, under 35 and over 35.

Results:

1. Under 25 team: Placed 3rd in the Medley Relay
2. Over 35 team: 1st in the Mixed 4x100 (Joint team with SJC) 2nd in the 4x100





SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Collegiate school



SPORTS

Netball – After a lapse of many years the St. Bridget's Convent under 14 team did remarkably well at the ALL Island Milo Tournament in August 2016. Rochelle Fernando was adjudged the best under 14 player of the tournament

Swimming – A senior swimmer and two divers from the school were selected to represent Sri Lanka after their performance at the South Asian Aquatic Championships held in Sri Lanka recently.



They are:

Shenaalie Dias (senior swimmer)

Leianka Perera - Diver

Senuri Wettasinghe- Junior diver

Shenaalie Dias was placed 3rd in the girls over 18-50m (LC) freestyle, 200m (LC) free style individual events.

Senuri won the 5m platform and was placed 3rd in the 3m spring board event.

St. Bridget's Convent was placed 2nd in the under 18 4 x 200m relay.

They also emerged 2nd in the girls over 18 4 x 100m freestyle relay.

They obtained 2nd place in the under 18 mixed 4 x 100m freestyle relay.



ACADEMIC

At the G.C. E Ordinary level Examination - December 2015, 44 students obtained 9 A's.

At the G.C.E Advanced Level Examination - August 2015, 11 students obtained 3 A's

G.C.E. (A/L) Edexcel London Exam 2015 - It is with great pride that we record that Fathima Sarah Zuhair received the World Prize for Accounting (A*).

What an achievement!

CHOIR - The Bridgetine School Choir's Show "Ablaze with Compassion" held on the 17th and 18th of September was a project in response to the Extra Ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. The choir shared their talents, skills and the gift of music to collect funds to help the less fortunate.

The show was a sell out on both days and won many accolades for its high standard of performance. The Senior Choir performed popular hits by star artistes while the Junior Choir drew items from famous Musicals and also performed two Acapella Items. The Show was produced and directed by a Past Bridgetine - Priyanthi Seneviratne VanDort.

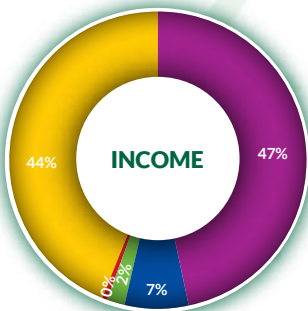
The entire proceeds of the show was donated to the underprivileged and the Minor Staff of the school.



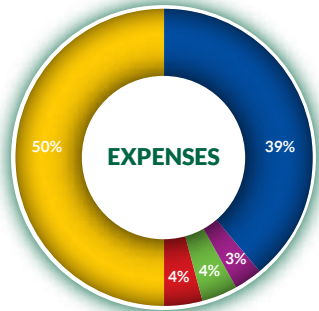


FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Membership	47%
Net Income From Activities	7%
Interest Available for allocation	2%
Merchandise	0%
Donation	44%



Chapel Roof Repair	39%
Playground repair	3%
Corpus Christi	4%
Printing and Maintenance	4%
Donation	50%



Until next time:

May all your days be filled with
sunshine and laughter.

Where ever you are, remember to
"Wave the green and white
forever,
and float its message far and
wide"



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDER

Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial Event - 14th December 2016

Motor Rally - Sunday, March 5th 2017

St Bridget's Day Mass and fellowship - 3rd February 2017

Annual General Meeting - 31st March, 2017

The first Bridgetine
Sports and Fun Day
was held in 1999 during
the tenure of President,
Mrs. Marcelline Jansz
and her efficient team