



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017/2018

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Netaji Silva Weeramanthri

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Manaal Mowlana

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Dinali Karunaratne

Hafiya Azim

Lakshi Ranasinghe

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Nuwanthi Kahandaliyanage

Padmarani De Silva

Michelle Herft

Pumi Meewakkala

Sasheen Arsecularatne

Tharindri Rupesinghe

Ziyana Salie

"Time has a wonderful way of showing us what really matters," we thought as we busily put together this issue of The Shamrock. Six months have indeed flown by since the new committee assumed office. However, it has not been spent in vain.

An old quote states that "Time flies, but Memories last forever." How true those words are! This issue of the Shamrock is packed full of wonderful memories and exciting news.

The year started off with a bit of topsy turvy fun at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party! Amidst all the fun of a tea party in Wonderland and a flying carpet ride on an "Arabian Adventure", our members never failed to respond with urgency to the need of the victims of the recent devastating floods. This issue is filled with Bridgetines past and present keeping the Green and White flying higher than ever as they reach ever increasing heights in fields of medicine, sport and other areas.

It is truly heart-warming and very encouraging to us, the committee, to see our members joining in such an enthusiastic manner to make these events a success, and to see the joy, laughter and great camaraderie that evolves. In true Bridgetine fashion every event is enjoyed to the fullest.

It is wonderful to note that our member base has grown and we look forward to meeting with new and old members at all the other exciting fellowship events planned for the year.

Before signing off I'd like to share this inspirational thought by Maya Angelou.

"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive: and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humour and some style"

Stay safe and blessed until we meet again.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Hafiya Azim

Tharindri Rupesinghe





From the Desk of the Editor



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Past Pupils' Association (PPA) was held on Friday 31st March 2017, at 5.30 pm at the Main Auditorium of St. Bridget's Convent.



Our Strength

The total membership as at 30th September 2017 is 4032



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 who have not obtained their new personalized membership cards are encouraged to apply for one at a nominal cost of Rs.500/-. Please forward a request letter clearly mentioning the name and address to be printed on the new card together with a recently taken stamp size photograph, and a self-addressed registered envelope together with the old card to the Joint Secretary, Past Pupils' Association of St. Bridget's Convent, 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 Web Site

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

The Mad Hatter's Tea Party

The PPA kicked off 2017/18 with an evening full of mayhem and entertainment. Held on 28 May at the Kingsbury Hotel, the Mad Hatter's Tea Party was a tea party with a twist – designed along the theme of the infamous tea party that Alice stumbles into in Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. The evening started off with a dance by the 'Mad Hatter' himself, as the talented Imalka from Robot Dance Studio stormed the dance-floor with an epic, hip-hop rendition of the Hatter Dance done by Johnny Depp in the 2010 movie. Next up, the Bridgetines gave the Hatter a good run for his money as they followed his instructions and danced along with him.

As the event progressed, there was a mini-quiz for the tables, a (scorching hot) tea drinking competition, and of course the fantastic High Tea spread of the Kingsbury Hotel.

The evening ended with a hat parade, with the most creative hats, and the wackiest hatters, parading the room. As the food and music flowed, the Bridgetines danced into the night.

The evening was also a showcase of Bridgetine talent – comperes Michelle and Trudy Herft kept everyone going, while the uber-talented Shé from Flowers by Shé transformed the Kingsbury's Balmoral banquet hall into a Wonderland with her amazing theme décor.



An Arabian Adventure



The 22nd of July dawned bright and clear as Habibis young and old gathered at the gates of their Alma Mater to embark on an adventure dreams are made of. The "Spicy Shawarmas", "Hot Kebabs", "Smooth Hummus" and "Sweet Baklavas" all sizzling in harem pants would have given Princess Jasmine a run for her money! With a prayer in their hearts and smiles on their faces they took the magic carpet to the beautiful hotel of Cinnamon Bey in Beruwala.

Upon arrival, they were warmly greeted in true Arabian style with a splash of rose water. The beats of the Arabian drums and lilting tunes set the pace as they lounged under cool tents sipping a refreshing welcome drink. A cool hip-swinging Arabian dance was the beginning of a wonderfully entertaining day.



The line-up of games were both entertaining to watch as well as to take part in. Whilst some Habibis tried to disentangle themselves from a Jelebi Tangle, others were making a mad dash to complete a daunting Selfie Challenge which included many an imaginative dare, such as building a human pyramid, dancing and even putting their beautiful voices to the test.

There was never a dull moment as all the ladies, fortified with many a special sweet treat, adorned themselves with beautiful henna designs at the mehendi booth. After an invigorating morning, lunch was a very welcome affair. The spread included many mouth-watering treats including some very special Middle Eastern dishes.



The evening was spent in the beautifully decorated hall where everyone lounged on carpets or chairs. As the hypnotic tunes of Arabia took over, the committee began the afternoon segment with an easy to follow dance. It was lovely to have most joining in. The fun didn't stop there; the line-up of performances left the audience awed and the judges were left with the unenviable task of choosing the three best acts. The Bridgetines took to the floor and danced till it was time to leave the oasis of fun. Among the many treasures these ladies flew away with was a beautiful designer saree designed and gifted by Ms Manaal Mowlana to the best dressed Arabian Princess. It was a wonderful day as we Bridgetines took a fantasy ride away from daily cares and chores to renew old ties of friendship and forge new ones on our Arabian Adventure!





RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated in school on the 23rd June. Holy Mass began at 2.30pm, followed by the procession. Mass was conducted at the school chapel. The procession that followed comprised students, past pupils, teachers, parents and well-wishers. The school was beautifully decorated in red and white. The floral décor, organized by the PPA, was handled by 'Flowers by She', a talented past pupil. The Feast was well attended. It was indeed a spiritually uplifting afternoon for all.



CSR ACTIVITIES

Bridgetines join in
"Yes I Can Walk
with Autism"



Reach Beyond Autism and Child Development Centre organized the "Yes I Can, Walk with Autism" on the 2nd of April 2017. The Walk began outside the Viharamahadevi Park at 7am. This walk was followed up with activities for children with Autism and their parents. This event was organized to create awareness, understanding and acceptance towards children and parents dealing with this condition. In true Bridgetine style of putting others above self, the President and members of the PPA joined in this worthy cause

1333 Bikeathon 2017

A few members of the PPA participated in the Bikeathon organized by the C.C.C. Foundation to mark World Suicide Day. This event was organized to raise funds to help create awareness of a telephone counselling service aimed at suicide prevention and mental wellbeing in the country. The 13-day ride which covered 1333Km concluded at Independence Square on Sunday the 10th of September. There was a beautiful candle-lit ceremony put together to celebrate the many lives lost to suicides.



Past Bridgetines support the Alzheimer's Walk held on 30th September



Flood Relief

The PPA stepped in to assist the victims of the recent devastating floods. PPA members donated medicines, dry rations, hygiene products and water. The medicines were given to the medical camps carried out across the country by the SVERT Initiative. The pictures show the boxes of relief that came pouring in from our PPA members being handed over to Rev Sr. Rohini Mendis for the flood victims of Nayakakanda.

BRIDGETINES FROM HOME

Giving back to their Alma Mater.

Deulette Corea made a cash donation to the school.



NEWS FROM OUR OVERSEAS BRANCHES

Ontario

The annual picnic was held on Saturday, August 12th 2017. It was a well-attended gathering with close to 120 guests.

The day began with a delectable serving of breakfast for those hungry after the drive from Toronto.

DJ Rekha set the tone with her marvellous tunes, with most of the ladies and gents eagerly participating in games, singing, and just dancing along. The cricket fans were happily engaged in a game of cricket. Games like the balloon toss, lime and spoon, sack race, water bucket game, donuts-eating contest, and last but not least, the now famous dress-up game among the four school houses. Lunch was served by Chef Manny and his team.

A sumptuous Sri Lankan tea party followed, complete with everyone's favourite sweets made by the Committee members and close friends.

In true Bridgetine style, there was lots of laughter and camaraderie.





BRIDGETINES KEEP THE GREEN AND WHITE FLYING HIGH

Bridgetine Leads the Way in Cancer Breakthrough

Past pupil and PPA member Dr. Hasini Jayatilaka is the lead author of a recent study documenting the discovery of a biochemical signalling process that causes densely packed cancer cells to break away from a tumour and spread the disease elsewhere in the body – a process known as ‘metastasis’. She and her colleagues are working on trials using various drug combinations that would help to slow the process of the cells breaking away and spreading. Dr. Hasini is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins.

Rohini Jayawardane Wins Gold At The World Masters Games

Veteran badminton star Rohini Jayawardane brought fame to her Alma Mater by clinching gold at the World Masters Games in Auckland, New Zealand. Over 25,000 competitors took part at the World Masters Games. The ten-day sporting extravaganza for masters, included 28 sports at 48 venues.

World Masters Games gold medalist Rohini Jayawardane said she started playing badminton to ‘kill time’ after dropping her only daughter at St. Bridget’s Convent Montessori a couple of decades ago. It was an extraordinary feat by Rohini who had never indulged in badminton during her school career at St. Bridget’s Convent, to turn her pastime towards becoming a champion at world level.



SCHOOL / TEACHER & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES



School Events and PPA Participation

Since its inception, the PPA has been a source of encouragement and support to its Alma Mater. The President and Committee members attended the following events by invitation during the past six months.

Date	Event
26th May 2017	Annual General Meeting of the School Development Society
17th June 2017	Scintillare Entertainment Evening - Collegiate School
5th July 2017	Annual Prize Giving - Collegiate School
22nd September 2017	Annual Inter House Swimming Meet - Collegiate School
23rd September 2017	Prefect’s Day - Collegiate School



ACTIVITIES WITH THE SCHOOL

Donating T- shirts to the Under 13 & Under 15 Netball Teams

The PPA donated school T-shirts to the students of the Under-13 and Under-15 Netball teams. Ms. Hemanthi De Zilwa and teacher in-charge are seen here accepting the T-shirts from PPA President Dulanganie Jayatilleke and committee Member Lakshi Ranasinghe.



Chairs for the Montessori



500 new chairs were donated by the PPA to the St. Bridget’s Montessori for the newly built “Mother of Good Counsel Memorial Hall”.



Netball

The year 2017 has proven to be a good year for St. Bridget's Netball. The under 15 team emerged runners up at the Borella Circuit Tournament.

The St. Bridget's Under 15 team continued with their winning streak by clinching the "All Island Under 15 Championship" at the All Island "Eva" tournament conducted by the Western Province Netball Association.

Young Bridgetine Sneha Dissanayake was judged 'Best Player'

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS SPORTS



Swimming

Swimming - Our swimmers have proved once again that Bridgetines are made of stronger mettle. St. Bridget's clinched 3rd place at the Ambalangoda Sea Swim this year.

The Mt. Lavinia sea swim proved to be an easy hurdle as they emerged 2nd runners up for the very first time.

St. Bridget's were placed 5th at the Novices Aquatic Meet.

At the 44th Sri Lanka Schools Age group Aquatic Championships, the Bridgetine swim team clinched the 8th place overall. While the diving team came in 2nd Place.

Mr. Ruwan Manawadu the School coach foresees a bright future for the sport.



Badminton



The school's under-17 Badminton team emerged 'D' Division All Island runners-up at the recently concluded tournament.

Not to be outdone by their seniors, the under-15 team too emerged 'D' Division All Island runners up at the tournament.

The teams are ably coached by Mr. Dushan Arundika.

Interact

The Interact Club of St. Bridget's Convent brought honour to the school by clinching the Overall Interaction Championship Trophy.

Int. Sanuki Perera was awarded the "Best Interactor Citation"

Int. Past President Daariya Azim was awarded the 'Best President Citation'

Project Awards:

IIMAC – Winner Most Outstanding Club Service Project.

SPECTRUM – Runners-up Most Outstanding Finance Project

SMILE FOR LIFE – Runners-up Most Outstanding Community Service Project

Citation Awards - • Green Life, • Finance, • Club Service, • Community Service, • Club Revival



Academic

Ordinary Level Examination Results – 2016

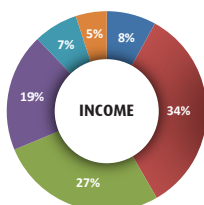
The school is proud to announce that 48 students achieved 9 A's. 28 students received 8A's. St. Bridget's Convent was ranked 31st at All Island Level and ranked 1st among the Catholic Schools in Sri Lanka.

Well done to all our young Bridgetines for aspiring to such great heights!

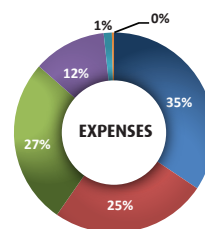


FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

• Membership	8%
• Net Income from Activities	34%
• Picnic	27%
• Income Interest	19%
• Donations	7%
• Merchandising	5%



• Mad Hatter's	35%
• Chairs for Montessori	25%
• Picnic	27%
• Merchandising	12%
• Corpus Christie	1%
• Computer HDD	0%



Save the Date!

*Mass for the
dear departed*



For Further Details

Contact Pumi - 0777 3000116,
Natasha - 0777 384513,
Michelle - 0772 388066

**GOODBYES ARE NOT
FOREVER.**

**GOODBYES ARE NOT
THE END.**

**THEY SIMPLY MEAN,
UNTIL WE MEET
AGAIN!**