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All too soon our year in office is nearing the end. What a busy, fun filled and memorable year it has been for us all. We enjoyed our term in office immensely, and will take with us many warm memories of this eventful time in our lives. This edition of the Shamrock is packed with news of the Dinner Dance – “The Enchanting Odyssey” which was an absolutely bewitching night. A touching service for our Dearly Departed and the ever popular Amante “Indulgence Sunday”. The Hon. Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial event was the first of its kind for the PPA.

The St. Bridget’s Day Mass was followed by a fellowship dinner. Last but not least, was the “Ultimate Rev” providing that adrenaline rush to the participants along with a mini fair.

The PPA was instrumental in conducting a programme by the UNICEF on “Safety online” and a donation of books to the Senior Library. A thought provoking interactive session on Waste Management was delivered to mark Environment Day. The Collegiate School washrooms were upgraded during the Christmas holidays.

As always, the school has had many achievements thus making us extremely proud of our Alma Mater.

As we face the final curtain we “Thank you” for your support and encouragement this past year. Without you we surely would not have had much success. We would like to dedicate this beautiful Irish prayer to the membership as we leave.

May God give you.....

For every storm, a rainbow, For every tear, a smile,
For every care a promise, And a blessing in each trial,
For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh a sweet song, And an answer for each prayer.

Adios, goodbye all – stay safe, stay well and blessings all around

Editorial Committee

Taniya Marshall Muttiah

Hafiya Azim





From the Desk of the Editor

✿ Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Past Pupils' Association (PPA) will be 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 28th February 2017 is 3984

✿ 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 card 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.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

'Enchanting Odyssey'

"Enchanting Odyssey" The dinner dance organized by the PPA was a night to remember with over 400 tickets sold. It was held on 21st October 2016 at the Water's Edge Hotel. This glamorous affair saw past Bridgetines from near and afar gather at the Grand Ballroom to dance the night away.

The Ballroom was uniquely transformed into an enchanting Greek garden. Stunning arrangements of fruit and flowers adorned the tables. The aura and the overall ambience was that of a magical night.

The evening began with the school anthem. The two bands for the evening, "Anno Domini" and "Doctor" took turns working their magic to keep all those present on the dance floor. Amidst the flowing high spirits and the hypnotic rhythm of the music, the guests were constantly kept entertained by the many spot games organized by the committee and the witty humour of the compere, Mr. Dominic Keller. There were many prizes to be won that evening with the raffle and entrance ticket draws offering hotel stays, dinners and air tickets.



The sumptuous dinner buffet catered to the most discerning palette. The energy levels were kept flying high by the fantastic sounds and the spirits that flowed freely. The baila competition was a hotly contested event. The highlight of the night was the crowning of "The Most Enchanting Lady"

The guests danced the night away until the wee hours of the morning and were treated to a mouth watering breakfast.

Amante Indulgence Sunday

The Amante Indulgence Sunday was held on 6th November 2016, at the Amante Boutique at Racecourse Arcade.

Amante and the SBC PPA have had a long relationship since the launch of the brand and Indulgence Sunday which they organize annually is a much anticipated day of retail therapy for the members.

This year was no different as the members braved the rains to come in and enjoy the exclusive offers. The manicure station, the refreshments and the photo booth added to the memories of the day.



Launch of Hon. Sirimavo R.D.Bandaranaike Life Time Achievement Award and " Hall of Fame" for past Bridgetines



In commemoration of Hon. Sirimavo R. D. Bandaranaike's 100th birth anniversary, the PPA was pleased to launch a Life Time Achievement Award termed "Hon. Sirimavo R D Bandaranaike Life Time Achievement Award", as a living monument of her life and contribution to the nation. The "Hall of Fame" for illustrious past pupils of St. Bridget's Convent was also launched at the event. These recognitions were based on merit and given to past pupils who are recognized at the highest level and whose efforts reflect the School's core values. The recognition of such persons, while enhancing the stature of recipients individually, would further strengthen the position of St Bridget's Convent as a premier School in the country and increase the School's stature as an educational institute that has nurtured distinguished daughters of our soil/ nation.

A charming awards ceremony was held at the School Auditorium on 14th December 2016, under the distinguished patronage of the Guests of Honour, Hon. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaranatunge, Sri Lanka's first female President and Ms. Sunethra Bandaranaike, founder and chairperson of the Sunera Foundation and Rev Sr Francine Muthugala, Province Leader – Good Shepherd Congregation (Sri Lanka & Pakistan).

Deshamanya Dr. Radika Coomaraswamy, (Member of



the Sri Lanka Constitutional Council & former United Nations Under- Secretary – General) was the keynote speaker for the evening. She delivered an insightful speech on the life and times of Hon. Sirimavo R.D.Bandaranaike.

The selection of finalists to the Hall of Fame was done by a distinguished external panel of adjudicators who examined the 14 nominations received prior to choosing the most outstanding Bridgetines to be inducted to the 'Hall of Fame.'

Three illustrious alumnae were inducted into the "Hall of Fame" for their immense contribution to their field of work and to society, bringing honour and glory to the country as well as their Alma Mater. They are :

- Dr. Marlene Rosemarie Carmel Abeywardane - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Senior Professor Bernadette Mignonne Rohini Fernandopulle - Clinical Pharmacology
- Sikhamani Dr. Meloryn Joyce Hiranthi Wijemanne - Child Rights Advocacy and Community Health

The recipient of the first Lifetime Achievement Award was none other than the daughter of Hon. Sirimavo Bandaranayake and our first female President - Hon Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga.

In her acceptance speech Hon Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga stated that it was an excellent initiative for a school to recognize its scholars and she also said that the sense of fairness and tolerance towards all was instilled into her at school. She was also taught to be simple, strong and courageous and the grounding she received at school helped her immensely in life and the political arena.



St. Bridget's Day Celebration



The PPA celebrated St. Bridget's Day on 3rd February 2017, with a Thanksgiving Holy Mass at the school chapel. The chief celebrant was Fr. Nihal Ivan Perera who delivered a very appropriate Homily enlightening members on the distinctive characteristics of St. Bridget, our Patron Saint.

The Eucharistic Celebration was followed by a dinner hosted by the PPA. As is tradition, the President Mrs. Dulanganie. R. Jayatilleke welcomed the guests and invited all the Past Presidents present to cut the cake specially made for the occasion.

It was an evening of fun and enjoyment as everyone was happy to be back in school reminiscing days gone by and meeting up with old friends. The Past Bridgetine's choir performed some well-loved songs as the curtain raiser. As the evening progressed the tempo of the music increased and Bridgetines danced their cares away.



"Ultimate Rev" Motor Rally



Being the final event organized for the calendar year the "Ultimate Rev" Motor Rally was an immense success. The fulfilled day which began with the rally consisting of various mental and physical challenges culminated in a mini fair at the primary grounds.

An enthusiastic group of fifty one entrants took part in the "Open" and "Bridgetine" Categories. Past Bridgetines came dressed in the most creative and colourful costumes vying for the Best Dressed Crew and Best Decorated Vehicle.

The motor rally was flagged off from Green Path and covered roughly 40 km. Competitors had to manoeuvre through traffic and complete a questionnaire as well as some challenges which put their skills of speed and coordination to the test. The route covered 8 checkpoints at which officials marked their time, sheets and regulated the challenges.

The mini funfair which was held at the Primary School Grounds began at 11 am and concluded at 6pm with the culmination of the Motor Rally award ceremony. The never-ending stream of Bridgetines young and the young at heart were kept entertained by the cool beats of the DJ and the myriad stalls ranging from merchandise to mouthwatering goodies. The kids play area with the bouncer and games of skill added to the fun ambience. It was a day to mix, mingle and make memories.





RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Mass for the Dearly Departed

Many Bridgetines came together on the 15th November, 2016 to remember and pray for departed Bridgetines, the school community and their loved ones. The service was meaningful and the beautiful voices of the "Contempo" choir enhanced the Eucharistic celebrations.



SCHOOL / TEACHER & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES



Children's Day

To commemorate Children's Day the PPA organized a series of activities for the Collegiate School on 3rd October 2016. A presentation on cyber security titled "HOW TO STAY SAFE ONLINE" was delivered by Ms. Suzanne Wooster – Prematilaka (UNICEF) who shared some key facts and tips for students and teachers on how to be vigilant and stay safe online especially when using chat groups and social media. The presentation was well received by all. The school has requested such similar sessions in the future.

The PPA also made a much needed donation of books to the Collegiate School Library. A part of these books (20 titles) were most generously donated by Ms Ameena Hussain from Perera Hussein Publishing House: A past pupil, author of repute and publisher.



Environmental Day



Environmental Day was held on 28th November 2016, for the Collegiate School.

The program was designed to inculcate the habit of taking responsibility for the waste generated amongst the students. They were also made aware of the magnitude of the waste management problem in Sri Lanka and the possibilities created by recycling.

A very informative and thought provoking presentation, was delivered on this topic by Mr. Ravi de Silva, an Environmental Consultant. This was followed by an interactive session by the Waste Management Authority, where the students were given the opportunity to see and partake, in the development of a keyhole garden at the school premises. The students enjoyed this activity which consisted of a raised bed agriculture system.

Ms. Amanthi Perera a past pupil also assisted in delivering the programme. Recycling bins were presented to the school and the students are now mindful as to how they dispose of their garbage.

A dream come true for the littlest Bridgetines

The Montessori got its own hall on 8th of November 2016, when the "Mother Good Counsel Memorial Hall" was blessed and consecrated for the use of the children of the Montessori. The children celebrated this event together with their teachers and Principal.

Rev Sr. Dulcy was responsible for making this a reality. We congratulate you on a job well done Sister!. The PPA was happy to contribute towards the Montessori Library, which was relocated to the new building.



UPCOMING PROJECTS

An engaging programme on life skills and gender sensitization has been scheduled for the young students of the primary school. This interactive session which will be conducted by Ms Onalie Ariyabandhu Perera, a past pupil of St.Bridget's Convent.

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.

It is with great pleasure that we wish to mention that Dulanganie R. Jayatilleke the President of the PPA was invited to grace the Annual Inter House Athletic Meet of the collegiate school as the chief guest. A few of the committee members were also present at the event.

Date	Event
1st October, 2016	Prefects Day of the Collegiate School
11th October, 2016	Inter house Aquatic Meet of the Collegiate School
8th November, 2016	Opening of the Montessori Hall
1st December, 2016	Carol Service of the Montessori School
5th December, 2016	Carol Service of the Primary School
8th December, 2016	Carol Service of the Collegiate School
26th January, 2017	Inter House Athletic Meet of the Collegiate School
17th February, 2017	Inter House Athletic Meet of the Primary School,



In Loving Memory

Ms. Hippolita Saverimuththu who was a dedicated Maths teacher to many of us passed away at the age of 100.



CSR ACTIVITIES

Bridgetines join "TRAIL 2016"

"Trail 2016"- the walk made along the length of Sri Lanka, from Point Pedro to Dondra Head in support of all those fighting cancer. The funds raised through the campaign was in aid of extending the treatment and research centre of the cancer wing at the Karapitiya Hospital Galle. In true Bridgetine spirit the PPA joined in this worthy cause. Tills were placed in school for contributions and many Bridgetines showed their solidarity by joining in the Colombo Leg of the journey as day trekkers.



St. Agnes Orphanage

The committee renovated and constructed a toilet at St. Agnes's Convent Matale, which is run by the Good Shepherd Sisters. The toilet was a dire need for the convent.



St. Joseph's School for the Hearing Impaired, Kuliyaipitiya

Four steel cupboards were presented to the school by the committee.

St. Joseph's School for the Hearing Impaired is a charitable institution run by the Sisters of Perpetual Help.

Athletics



The Junior athletic team of St.Bridget's Convent emerged overall runners up at the Junior John Tarbot Meet which was held in Embilipitiya from the 22nd - 25th October 2016, with a total of 41 points. They also bagged the overall relay championship as well as the Under 14 Overall Championship.

The following athletes were outstanding:

UNDER 14

1. Chamodya Mahaliyana
- 200m – 3rd Place and 400m – 3rd Place.
2. Yenuli Fernando
- 80m hurdles – 3rd place
3. Ashlene Kodippliy
- Under 15 putt shot – 3rd place.
(Bettered the record that was previously held)

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS



Basketball



The Under 15 Basketball team emerged champions at the Zonal Championships held in November 2016.

Shyami Perera won the best defensive player and Ashlene Kodippliy was awarded the trophy for the Most valuable Player trophy.

Photography

The Royal College Photographic Society organized an Inter School Photographic Competition and exhibition named "FOCUS" in October 2016. St. Bridget's Convent participated in this event and the following students were awarded places.

Shenaya Perera and Dinithi Rajakaruna – Merits

Nayanthara Perera – 1st place for the "Monochrome" category.

Academic

Advanced Level Results - 2016

The school is proud to announce that seven students had achieved 3 A's.

Six students were from the Commerce Stream and one student was from the Science Stream.

Well done to all our young aspiring Bridgetines !



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Total Income from Membership Subscription for 11 months, ending 28th February stands at Rs. 493,500/=.

Income from Interest stands at Rs.1.6 M

The California Branch of the PPA made a generous contribution of Rs. 351,836.84 toward the repair and refurbishment of the School toilets

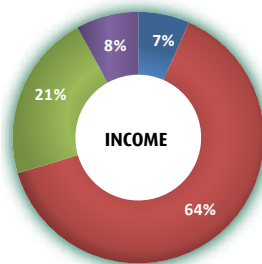
Net income from membership activities is Rs. 4.8 M. Most of this was generated through sponsorships from the "Enchanting Odyssey" Dinner Dance.

The expenditure on membership activities was Rs. 1.3M

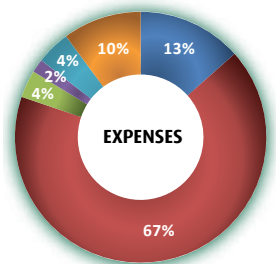
Rs. 1M had been set aside for the school, to be utilised for storm water and drainage repairs.

Rs.1.2 M will be donated to the Montessori school towards the purchasing of chairs for the new hall.

Membership	7%
Net Income from Activities	64%
Interest Income	21%
Donations	8%



Chapel Roof Repair	13%
Expenditure on Membership Activities	67%
Religious Activities	4%
School-Activities and Contributions	2%
CSR	4%
Printing Post and Maintenance	10%



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"