

## **Iona College in Queensland (Australia) co-founded by a Patrician Rev Fr Long OMI**

By Timothy Arulanandam, Vice President of Patricians of Jaffna



Rev Fr Charles Matthews and Rev Fr Timothy Long and others, shaped our St. Patrick's College to its peak, during the time I was a student there. At this school my father had the opportunity to serve these two giants for just over 22 years as a Clerk in the College. As a token gratitude, my father named my late brother Dr. Antony 'Charles' Arulanandam after Rev. Fr. Charles Matthews and I was named 'Timothy', after Rev Fr Timothy Long.

Rev Fr Long, after serving St Patrick's College for over 36 years moved to Australia in 1958 and was instrumental in establishing Iona College in Brisbane (Queensland, Australia) in that year itself. It is noteworthy that the entire family of Rev. Fr. Long is dedicated to the service of God and that all his three brothers became priests and his sister became a nun. After I migrated to Australia in 1985, my late brother Dr. Antony told me the glory of Iona College that was founded by Rev Fr Long. I was interested in learning more details of the College. The more I learned about IONA, the more I became fascinated about this College, especially when I learned our own Rector " Fr. Long of Jaffna' was instrumental in starting this new school called IONA in Lindum, Brisbane, Australia.

This school was established 1958 ,with only 56 students and 4 staff members and within a very short time, it has now grown big to accommodate some 1500 students, with facilities and services, that would only match some of the world's best schools.

Obviously, Fr. Long was at it again, showing his EXCELLENCE in doing things.

I like to share my experience and the knowledge that I gained about Iona College with all Patricians. I researched the Iona College Annual Reports, Prospectus and various Websites and append below some details. I also discussed these with a number of people. None of these are my original material but all these information are available on various reports connected with Iona College for the benefit of the members of the public. I hope you will appreciate to observe the Iona College had reached new heights compared to others schools today. If Rev Fr. Long had remained at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, our school too could have even grown to GREATER heights today. During Fr. Long's era, St. Patrick's was already a leader in the field of education, sports and extracurricular activities. Due to the civil unrest during the last 30 years and the devastation that it caused, I wish and pray that St Patrick's College, Jaffna too will continue to uphold its greatness. Despite the devastation that was caused by the civil unrest in Sri Lanka, our Rectors are continuing to do a magnificent job and they need our continuous prayers and support in every possible way. The success of IONA will also be a continuous source of inspiration to our Patricians as well.

Rev. Fr Matthews was known for his kindness and the introduction of

- Ethics, good Mannerisms and good Moral values.
- Consolidation of all school library facilities to a single place, with the able assistance from Rev. Fr. Long
- Introduction of Carpentry Schools, Fitting and Printing Workshops, with kind assistance from Rev Fr Long
- Sports Teams in Football, Cricket and Athletics
- Retreats, daily prayers opening and closing sessions
- Bringing Fr. Guyomer, to serve our College, who later became the Bishop of Jaffna
- Own school Private Chapel, College Prayer Book and other related school activities

Rev. Fr. Long in addition of significant contribution to the college also contributed socially, especially on the following:

- Establishment of approximately Rs 1 Million Fund Programme for the construction of Jaffna Public Library
- Raising funds from USA and UK for the construction of St Patrick's College buildings, whenever he went overseas with his begging 'cap'.
- Banning of caning, as a 'punishment' for students.
- Worked hard with others and contributed to the extension of Railway to Jaffna and beyond Jaffna
- Worked hard with others for the conversion of Palaly Airport for Civilian use as well
- Encouraging active of participation of Cadets at Diyatalawa Camp.
- Arrival of students of African Chiefs to St Patrick's College

I attach below the information that I obtained from websites directly and indirectly connected with Iona College including websites "[http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Iona\\_College\\_\(Queensland\)&oldid=481504905](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Iona_College_(Queensland)&oldid=481504905)") and [www.iona.qld.edu.au](http://www.iona.qld.edu.au):

Fr Tim Long OMI, founding Rector of Iona College, designed the College Crest from an adaptation of the family crest of his close friend Bishop Patrick Mary O'Donnell, who eventually became Archbishop of Brisbane.

Archbishop O'Donnell's surname was, co-incidentally, that also of the Irish Christian missionary St Columba O'Donnell who came to the Isle of Iona in the 6th Century to establish a monastery, and from which the College takes its name.



**Iona College Crest & Motto**

## ***Origins of the name “Iona”***

Iona's motto *In Hoc Signo Vinces* translates to 'In this sign you will conquer'. This was the message that Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, received in a dream in 312AD, on the eve of his greatest battle. In his vision, Constantine saw an arm holding a cross – the sign of the Christians – and for whom he had some empathy. He was told to put the sign of the true God upon his soldiers' shields before going into battle, as “in this sign you will conquer”.

Though Constantine was not a Christian, this dream turned his empathy with followers into belief. He went into battle as one committed to the cause of Christ. He won, and with the victory ascended to Master of Rome.

The following year at Milan, he issued the edict which gave Christians, for the first time, full equality before the law, marking the end of their bloody persecution at the hands of the Roman Empire.

## ***Basic Details of Iona College***

**Type** Private, Roman Catholic, Single-sex, Day school

**Established** 1958

**Principal** Fr Mark Edwards

**Enrolment** 1,500 students (Class 5 – Class 12 )

**Iona College** is a private, Roman Catholic, day school for boys, located in Wynnum, a suburb of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Founded in 1958, the college currently caters for approximately 1,300 students from years 5 to 12, on a 25–hectare campus [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iona\\_College\\_\(Queensland\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iona_College_(Queensland)) - cite note-0#cite\_note-0 16 km east of the Brisbane central business district.

Iona is operated by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, a religious order that was founded in 1816 by Saint Eugene de Mazenod.

## ***History***

Iona was founded by Fr. Tim Long and Fr. Denis McCarthy in 1958. Iona College is named after the island Iona, which is located in the Inner Hebrides off Scotland.

On 1 October 1957, Father Tim Long and Father Denis McCarthy arrived on the hill at Lindum in an old second-hand Vauxhall, with only five pounds in cash, a gift of blankets, sheets and towels from the Oblate parish of Eagle Junction and a 'Mass Kit' from the Mercy Sisters at All Hallows School. The site, of 32 acres (13 ha), had been given to the Oblates by Archbishop James Duhig to begin a school for boys. <sup>[2]</sup> With the help of local families, the preparing grounds for students, interviews and designing the uniform, College arms and motto and constant quest for finance became easy. On 28 January 1958, 58 students arrived at the school.

In 1961, Father Tim Long suffered a heart attack in London while making his way back to Ireland at the age of 65.

There are two other schools run by the OMI. They are Mazenod College, Victoria and Mazenod College, Western Australia.

## ***Arms, motto and colours***

The College colours are black and white. The College crest consists of a shield on which is depicted an arm holding a cross, while underneath is the Latin phrase "*In Hoc Signo Vinces*", which translates to "*In This Sign You Will Conquer*".

## ***Campus***

The college is situated on 25 hectares and the campus includes such facilities as:

- A performing arts centre (IPAC)
- Indoor basketball / volleyball courts
- 6 cricket / rugby / soccer / athletics ovals
- An Olympic sized swimming pool
- A fully equipped gymnasium and weights room
- 2 squash Courts
- 4 tennis courts

In total the school has 13 different blocks with a chapel, a staff and priests' house.

Iona College has an outdoor education centre called "*Glendalough*" near Peregrine Beach on the Sunshine Coast. Most year levels visit the camp every year. The site has an area of 19 hectares and Glendalough is close to the southern shores of Lake Weyba, one of the large shallow lakes of the region. Double kayaks are provided for use on the lake. Other nearby activities includes climbs of Mt Colum and Mt Peregrine, the environmental walk at Stumer's Creek Reserve and numerous local patrolled surf beaches.

## ***Performing Arts Centre and cultural activities***

The Iona College Performing Arts Centre (IPAC) was opened in 1998, giving the school's cultural activity such Speech & Drama, Music and Art a venue to display their talents.

Iona has a proud tradition in many cultural activities such as drama, music, art, debating and public speaking, titration and mooting.

Every year The Festival of Music, a state wide competition open to all schools is held in the Iona Performing Arts Center (IPAC). Both state and private schools are allowed to enter this competition. Iona's musical, play and band concerts all are performed here. Music at Iona College maintains a good reputation, such as the Symphonic Winds Band, Percussion Ensemble and Big Band receiving great success in their relevant fields of competition.

The school provides over 14 school bands. It can be divided into 5 categories. These include:

- Concert bands
- String orchestras
- Vocal ensembles
- Jazz ensembles
- Percussion ensembles

These categories can divided into three levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced. The bands use IPAC to perform and practice. The school also provides music lessons for students.

Iona has been very successful in public speaking with various regional, state and national representatives. The Carter Shield is an annual public speaking competition between Moreton

Bay College and Iona. 2006 celebrated the tenth year of this competition. Iona has been successful in winning the competition eight times.

## ***Sporting***

The college offers a variety of sports including:

- Rugby union
- Soccer
- Water polo
- Squash
- Cricket
- AFL
- Chess
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Sailing

Iona is a member of the Associated Independent Colleges and competes in this sporting competition against such schools as Marist College Ashgrove and St Patrick's College. Iona College has a reputation of winning the Associated Independent Colleges Cross Country, Athletics and Volleyball aggregates. The Junior School (Yr 5 to 7) is a member of C.I.C. Combined Independent Colleges Association playing against many preparatory schools in the Greater Brisbane Region.

## ***House system***

As with most Australian schools, Iona College utilizes a house system. Iona currently has 8 houses, many of which are named after famous Oblates. They are:

- **Albini** (Gold) - named after Fr Charles Albini
- **Anthony** (Mauve) - named after Brother Anthony Kowalczyk
- **Cebula** (White) - named after Fr Jozef Cebula
- **Charlebois** (Orange) - named after Fr Ovide Charlebois
- **Gérard** (Green) - named after Fr Joseph Gérard
- **Grandin** (Red) - named after Fr Vital-Justin Grandin
- **Mackillop** (Maroon) - named after Saint Mary MacKillop
- **Mazenod** (Blue) - named after Saint Eugene de Mazenod

Many inter-house competitions are held throughout the year, such as swimming, athletics and cross-country. Although inter-house sport is an important aspect of inter-house activities, it is by no means the only area. Houses also compete in the arts and academic arenas. The winner of each competition receives points which contribute towards the Oblate Trophy.

## ***Notable alumni***

### **Sport**

- Ashley Callus, Olympic champion relay team in 2000
- Graham Quinn, Australian rugby league team
- Ben Turner, 2006 Commonwealth Games weightlifting Gold Medalist, 2010 Commonwealth Games Silver Medalist

- Chris Hill, Australian triathlon team and World Junior triathlon champion
- Shane Drahm, Australian 7-a-side rugby union and Queensland Reds
- Andrew Johns, Olympic triathlon British representative 2000 and 2004
- Grant McGregor, Australian swimming team
- Luke Doherty, Under 19 and Under 21 Australian rugby union representative, former Queensland Reds and current Western Force player
- Damien MacKenzie, former Queensland cricketer
- Wayne Broad, former Queensland cricketer
- Tony Hackett, former Australian indoor cricketer
- Jared Waerea-Hargreaves, U/19 Australian rugby representative, New Zealand rugby league representative, Sydney Roosters NRL player
- Mitch Felsman, Australian Schoolboys 2009, Australian 7's 2010, QLD Reds A 2011.
- Dan Power USA 7's & 15's Rugby
- David Tyrrell, South Sydney Rabbitohs NRL player
- Mitchell Dodds, Brisbane Broncos NRL player
- Josh Maeder, Current Australian Triathlete (2010)

### **Academic**

- Tom Ward, Rhodes Scholar in 2001

### **Philanthropy**

- John Dougherty, Managing Director of Rosies from 2002-2005

### **Entrepreneurs**

- Joe Andon, founder and CEO of Vuly Trampolines

### **Actors**

- Chris Milligan, recurring/guest actor on Neighbours

## ***Formation details of Iona College***

The great influx of migrants after the war had placed overwhelming pressures on the Catholic Education system and in the mid-1950s the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate received many invitations to open schools in various dioceses throughout Australia.



The oblates had very little money for a venture into education, however Archbishop Sir James Duhig promised them a gift of land if they would establish a boys' college in his diocese.

Cambridge graduate Fr Tim Long OMI had arrived in Australia from, the then, Ceylon where he had been Rector of St Patrick's College (Jaffna). Fr Long had spent thirty-four years as a respected educator and, together with the Oblate Provincial in Australia, Fr Edward (Ned) Ryan OMI, he accepted the Archbishop's offer. The thirty-two acre site at Lindum was favoured because of the growing bayside district, the working-class nature of the area, the lack of any Catholic college for boys nearby and the site's proximity to the railway.

Fr Long was a man of faith and vision, a motivator who fired others with enthusiasm. He believed sincerely that everything was possible and that the impossible took only a little longer. With his colleague, Fr Denis McCarthy OMI, he arrived on the property on 1 October 1957. They had virtually no money and had a mere four months to get the site and its sparse buildings ready for a school to start on 28 January 1958.

The local families gave the Oblates enormous support. The derelict farmhouse on the property was raised from its decaying stumps and relocated on the property on concrete pillars 12 feet above the ground to provide an area for two classrooms underneath and living quarters for the priests. While Fr Long had the vision, it was Fr Denis McCarthy who had the strength and energy to drive it. It was on his broad, young, Irish shoulders that much of the pioneering work was carried. He rallied the local families, raised funds in a myriad of creative ways, dug ditches and drains, carved out the driveway with his own hands, cleared scrub and planted trees. No one worked harder than he to ready the playing fields and classrooms for the boys, and in doing so he established the foundations of community, loyalty and faith that Iona rests upon today.

The name 'Iona' was chosen in recognition of the Isle of Iona off the west coast of Scotland. Irish Christian missionary St Columba O'Donnell, with a group of twelve followers, came to the island in the 6th Century and established a monastery. The Isle of Iona became a venerated seat of learning and prayer from which missionaries were sent out to spread the Good News to all parts of the known world. The vision of Frs. Long and McCarthy was to establish a school that embodied that same legacy of learning and prayer, and so it was that the name 'Iona College' came to being.

Iona College opened its doors on Tuesday 28 January 1958 with an enrolment of 58 students. There were four staff members – founding Rector Fr Tim Long, Fr Denis McCarthy, Fr Tom Shortall and Fr Michael Clarke.

In all, since this time, 49 Oblates have served the Iona community, and nine old boys have been ordained Oblates themselves. Since the humble beginnings, Iona has educated over seven thousand students. The College boasts a Rhodes Scholar, Dr Tom Ward ('96), and many graduates lead successful lives in business, academic, technical, community, sporting and cultural endeavours.

Even after fifty years, some of our earliest families still share their lives with Iona. These families worship at the Iona Chapel on Sundays. They are grandparents and parents. They are old boys. They are staff and former staff.

May God continue to bless Iona College. This story as the years go on, as more and more boys and their families are enfolded into the ethos and the spirit that has made Iona the respected school it is today.

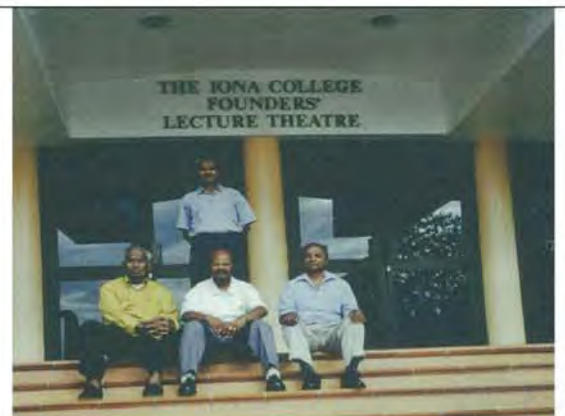
The outstanding College that exists today is the gift from so many. One cannot forget the humble beginnings, the unconditional love and generosity of so many who believed in the vision and worked to make this school a reality – here on the hill at Lindum, Brisbane, Australia.



## PHOTOGRAPHS OF IONA COLLEGE







On 17 December 2001, four Patricians and friends visited Iona College (Queensland, Australia) and paid their high regards to Rev Fr Long, who was one of the founders of Iona College. Those Patricians are Daniel David, Nicholas C Rajanayagam, Edward Thavapragasam and M P Xavier who are seen with a Priest attached to Iona College.

### Notes about the Author:

After a successful career with Department Highways in Sri Lanka, Timothy now held a prestigious position in the Australian Public Service for the last 26 years and has now retired. Timothy is one of the loyal Patricians who was in the Association when it was inaugurated in 1987 and held the positions of Treasurer and later Vice President over a number of years. Timothy is named after Rev Fr Timothy Long, Former Rector of St Patrick's College. Timothy is married to Maria and has two daughters Diana, Dilani and two grand-daughters Isabella and Gabriella.

## St.Patrick's College "The Citadel of Learning"



When I entered the portals of St. Patrick's as a small boy in 1979 in Grade 1, I did not know the great traditions of learning, religious values and sportsmanship, to which I was heir. These were revealed throughout my time at St. Patrick's. It was a journey both of intellectual discovery, and exposure to the multifaceted regime of the College.

In the primary school our batch was taught discipline, moral values, and the development of a rounded personality under the stewardship of the ever green (and gold) Miss. Padmini Patrick. At that point of time we were quite a handful since our young bodies tended to do things more instinctively than rationally. It was the strict control of Miss. Patrick which kept our boisterous class in rein. After this initial induction into St. Patrick's we moved to the middle school as Grade 6 students.

Here we came under the tutelage of Fr. Pilendran (Principal, Middle school). A small man, but with a warm heart and a high sense of justice and fairplay. It was during this period that we started to realise how while studies were important, there were other values like honesty, selflessness and justice which were necessary for the balanced development of our personalities. All these were perceived by us as we got involved in sports along with religious pursuits in addition to our studies. Our day at St. Patrick's invariably started with the rosary in the chapel invoking God's blessings on us. It was only thereafter that we proceeded to our respective classes for our academic sessions. This period also saw us being introduced to retreats, which were to elevate our spiritual lives. These were all to come into full force when we graduated to the upper school.

Although, technically the Rector Fr. Joseph was in overall command of the college, it was Fr. Jesunesan who was our friend, philosopher, and guide. As Prefect of studies he ensured that our preparations for the G.C.E O/L were ahead of schedule. Fr. Jesunesan reinforced the importance of learning Christian values in tandem with the integrated development of our persona. St. Patrick's was always guided by the Greek ideal of "Mensa in Sane Corpore Sano", "A sound mind in a sound body." In the realisation of these ideals we were also helped, apart from those whom I have already mentioned, by teachers of the calibre of Mr. Gnanaratnam, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Navaratnam and others.

The significance of our sojourn at St. Patrick's, and the imbibing of the culture of learning and faith in ourselves was evident during the difficult and turbulent times caused by the civil war which had already begun. Despite the disruptions to our studies consequent upon the advent of the I.P.K.F., and the constant displacements to which we were subject, our batch did remarkably well at the G.C.E O/L. We were able to do so because Patricians have always defied and will continue to defy all odds to attain their goals.

The Patricians motto "Fide et labore" stood us in good stead throughout our time at St. Patrick's. In spite of enormous obstacles our batch did exceptionally well. Consequently most of my batch mates along with me did not only enter Universities but also proceeded to do postgraduate studies. Many of us are now highly qualified professionals working in different parts of the world bringing credit and glory to Patrick's. It is not only my batch mates who are dispersed around the world but also Patricians of different generations who have made their mark in many

countries. Despite their being scattered around the globe they are all united in the spirit of Patrick's. During the Roman Empire there was a distinction made between patricians and plebeians. A patrician was deemed to be noble both by birth and upbringing, while a plebeian was considered uncultured and illiterate. We patricians are noble both in mind and body. Consequently wherever we are we conduct ourselves in an impeccable manner. This is the essence of being a true patrician.

I am proud to belong to this elite group. In my personal life all what I have achieved academically and professionally has been the result of the learning and values nurtured in me by my "Alma mater" St. Patrick's. From the time of Fathers Mathews and Long and our indigenous rectors from Fr.Arulnesan to the present rector, St.Patrick's has been transformed into a beacon of learning that continues to shed its light not only on Jaffna and our country but also all over the universe. St. Patrick's is therefore a true reflection of the first stanza of the College Anthem

***"Alma Mater! blest sanctum of learning,  
Where the mind is adorned with rich lore,  
And each tutored faculty's yearning  
Is sated and taught to seek more. "***

May God bless St.Patrick's

**Dr.Sanjeev Alfred  
Sydney, Australia**

#### **Note from the Editor**

Dr. Sanjeev Chrysanthus Alfred holds a Doctoral degree in Biotechnology from the University of Sydney (Australia) (Australian Government Scholarship) a Master's degree in Biotechnology from Griffith University (Australia) (Presidential Scholarship) and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from University of Nagpur (India) (Commonwealth Scholarship). In, 2011, Dr. Sanjeev Alfred was awarded the Business MBA (Master of Business Administration) Foundation Award by the Australian Catholic University, Sydney, Australia, in recognition of his academic, professional achievement and a commitment to making a positive contribution to society.

During his time at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, he was a Deputy head Prefect in the Middle School and 'Board of Prefects' in the Upper School and has represented the college in many interschool English drama and elocution competitions.

He currently works as a Regional Manager for Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands for Prenatal and newborn Genetic screening with PerkinElmer, a Global human and environment Health Company.

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#### **In a war nobody wins, everybody loses and war does not determine who is right, but who is left**

Once upon a time there were two neighbours, who hated each other. Each wanted to have twice of what the other got. One day, Genie appeared to the first man and asked him what he wanted. The first one replied, "Dear Genie, make one of my eyes blind". Genie granted his wish and made his left eye blind. The Genie then appeared to the other man and asked him what he wished for and he replied, "I like to have twice what my neighbour got". The Genie granted his wish and made both eyes blind.

The Genie then went to the first man, and asked him as to why he wanted his one eye go blind. The first man then replied, "I know my neighbour would ask for twice what I got. This way I could make him blind. When he gets both eyes blind, I can then look at him with my one eye and enjoy his suffering". At that moment, the blind neighbour was standing behind him, grabbed his head tight and gorged both his eyes. Now both of them are blind. In a war everybody loses.



## **OUR CURRENT RECTOR REV.FATHER JEROME SELVANAYAGAM – A STORY OF EXCELLENCE**

Compiled by Alfred Arulanandam, Canada

To all us Old boys of our beloved Alma Mater St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, living outside of Jaffna and overseas, we have been hearing nothing but excellent news about the school's activities and its students. At the same time, we are also mindful of the fact that this news are received despite the harsh realities of the state of affairs that Sri Lanka has been in, during the past 30 years or so, not only for the Tamil population, but to the whole Island of Sri Lanka. It has been in a state of civil war that devastated the entire schools, especially in the north & the east. Our brethren, the Tamils, have been equally devastated politically, economically, socially and monetarily, especially emotionally, having been reduced to second class Citizens in our own birth place. But this 'status quo' did not deter the Patrician students in any way to focus on their studies and on their extra-curricular activities. Our student's morale & motivation always remained high to give their best. How was this possible? Who is steering the students in the right direction, given these horrible circumstances that they were forced to go through?

The incoming news tells us that comparatively, our SPC and its students have been fairly successful. What is the secret and who has been behind their success? The success or failure of any institution, commercial, religious or educational, is usually judged by the person at the helm, since he/she bears sole responsibility for whatever that takes place on an ongoing basis. Working at this critical moment in our schools history, the credit obviously goes to our current Rector Rev. Fr. Jerome Selvanayagam. Because the biggest difference between the olden times where St. Patrick's College, which 'reigned supreme' in Studies, Sports, Physical Education, Arts and all other Extra-curricular activities under the great Rector like Fr. Long achieved this GREATNESS was under a different political environment of peace & friendship. The InterSector, via its Directors Ferdinand/Sathiajeevan, disseminates all information to us living overseas, on an ongoing basis, appropriately furnished by our Fr. Jerome on all school activities.

But the Sri Lankan situation, under the previous Rectors like Fr. Long, who was able to achieve his unique success, was totally & fundamentally different now. Herein lies the major difference. To us Patricians, living outside of Jaffna, especially to us living overseas; it was a sure sign of continued 'greatness' of our St. Patrick's College even now, whether there was a war or not. To me personally, it was astonishing to note that the perception of St. Patrick's it was 'business as usual' at SPC as far as greatness goes and that our SPC continued to produce great results. Our students continued to excel in O'Level, A 'Level & University Entrance examinations, often with distinctions.

In sports, recently our SPC School Cricket team emerged as National Champions among schools from all over Sri Lanka, by beating out all the reputable big schools. A Patrician student also made history in being selected as one of the best 'up & coming players' - probably a future 'Murali' in the making. An old outstanding Patrician Cricketer in Anton Benedict, who created an "all time Schools Record capturing 84 wickets, broke Daya Sahabandu's record of 76 wickets, in a season by capturing 83 wickets and represented Ceylon Schools Cricket Team in 1967, but denied being selected for the Sri Lankan team, despite the fact that he captured highest number of wickets in the selection match!. Perhaps, another young player from SPC may be in the making, which will make it in the Sri Lankan team. A young Patrician student also made history in being selected as one of the best 'up & coming players' in the All Ceylon School boy team - probably a future 'Murali' in the making. This is the type of 'Image Building' that is required of our SPC to regain our self-esteem.

It was truly great for St. Patrick's and Fr. Jerome to have done that, on behalf of every one of us. Once again our SPC took the 'initiative' via our current Rector to do this for all of us. Bravo.



This was where I began to admire Fr. Jerome. Fr. Long was influential enough to have brought our country's first PM Hon D.S.Senanayake to St. Patrick's College Jaffna, when the new Mathews block was opened during his time. It was a FIRST for any school in the North. It brought us prestige and elevated our self-esteem. But look at what happened during Fr. Jerome's era. Judging by that standard, our own Fr. Jerome was able to bring the World class Cricketer Sri Lankan Captain Kumar Sangakkara, probably the most popular person in Sri Lanka and to the rest of the World, as an Ambassador of Peace & Goodwill, a very much needed event, in the light of the existing mistrust. At the time of writing this article in September 2012, Kumar Sangakkara, the 34 year old Wicket-keeper bagged the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy after being named Cricketer of the year. He also won the Test Cricketer of the Year and the most prestigious award of all "PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS". This reinforces the fact that Kumar considered our school as the best in the North, and gave his stamp of approval as the best school in the North, worthy of visiting, even if the purpose of his visit was to promote Peace & Goodwill via Cricket. Reading good news of our school via the InterSector, my 'self-esteem' went sky high.

**UNITY THROUGH PEACE IS OUR "NUMBER ONE PRIORITY" IN OUR COUNTRY TO CREATE THE KIND OF ATMOSPHERE THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE GROWTH. Fr. Jerome sensed this URGENCY & took the initiative & leadership to foster that relationship. Here are some samples of "POSITIVE IMAGE BUILDING" HEADLINES AT A NATIONAL LEVEL PUBLISHED IN THE NATIONAL PRESS;**

**"Sangakkara Gets Hero's Welcome On Surprise Visit To Jaffna"**



"The humble captain speaks of **unity as a country** and expresses desire to see more Tamils and Sinhalese play together for the Sri Lankan side. Rev. Fr. Jero Selvanayagam, the Rector of St. Patrick's College, expressed sentiments of happiness and excitement of the staff and students at the surprise visit of the Sri Lanka Captain.

Rev. Fr. Rector said that it is a great moment of encouragement not only for the Cricket of the College but for everyone interested in Cricket. His visit to Jaffna is **an encouragement for the youth and the students are very inspired** by his concerns to his

the College and meets. The Rector commended the Captain for his sterling qualities of leadership that had brought for the outstanding performance for the National Cricket Team

The Sri Lankan Captain, Kumar Sangakkara was moved by the rousing welcome given to him by the students of the North and in his speech appreciated the upcoming talented cricketers from the North.

***"It is high time that we shed our differences and live together as a family belonging to Mother Lanka. I would be most happy to see soon cricketers from the North and East playing in the National Team and this will be a great symbol of unity in the country that could be fostered through the game of cricket. We are all ambassadors of unity and peace. I am really happy to come to Jaffna and to the St. Patrick's College and meet the students of North."***

Sangakkara never lost the opportunity to move around and speak to the students of the College, who were pressing around either to shake hands with him or to get his signature on their books.



*Sangakkara's visit St. Patrick's College, Jaffna*

Rev. Fr. Jerome Selvanayagam, the Rector of St. Patrick's College, expressed sentiments of happiness and excitement of the staff and students at the surprise visit of the Sri Lanka Captain. Rev. Fr. Rector said that it is a great moment of encouragement not only for the Cricket of the College but for everyone interested in Cricket. His visit to Jaffna is an encouragement for the youth and the students are very inspired by his concerns to his the College and meets. The Rector commended the Captain for his sterling qualities of leadership that had brought for the outstanding performance for the National Cricket Team.

### ***India-SL Foundation facilitates Jaffna Students a New Delhi tour***

*"Aug 20, 2011 2:09:31 AM - news.lk*

***A 10-member group of school boys of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, visited India. The tour was sponsored by the Student Exchange Programme of the India-Sri Lanka Foundation. The team was accompanied by Rev. Fr. M. Jerome Selvanayagam, Rector of the school and Berty Bannister, a teacher."***

### ***St. Patrick's and Bandaranaike meet in historic cricket match today***

***"St. Patrick's College, Jaffna and Bandaranaike College, Gampaha will make history when they meet in the Inter-School Under-19 Division II two day tournaments Group D fixture here in Jaffna today.***

***It's the first time, a Jaffna District team is drawn in the Under-19 two day tournament in as many as two and half decades and it's also the first time a team from the southern part of the country braved the tiresome 10 hour journey in more than two and half decades to reach the Jaffna peninsula by A9 road to play cricket.***

***Cricket passed probably its hardest passage of time in the peninsula during the last two and half decades. Playing only among schools within the district and moving out seldom to adjacent districts for Under-15 and Under-17 lower division matches, the talents of the cricketers of war ravaged districts were known only to them.***

***The war and the transportation difficulties held the cricketers of Jaffna from coming to the southern part of the country and vice versa. There had been instances when combined teams from Jaffna visited south for matches but they were arranged largely for peace promotion activities. This will be the first time teams from south and north meet in a two day tournament match after two and half decades.***

***The St. Patrick's College officials said that they played friendly two day matches (home and away) with Ibbagamuwa Central way back in mid 80s but it stopped after war broke out.***

***St. Patrick's earned a division II promotion last year when they did well in the Limited Overs tournament and in their Division III two day tournament in the 2008/09 season as they reached Colombo by air for the first time in many decades to interact in sports activities. "***

When I started reading about Fr. Jerome and his excellent work with his students at SPC, I saw glimpses of the Greatness of the yesteryears SPC under the likes of Fr. Long, the greatest Rector SPC has ever produced.

I was so lucky & blessed when I got my chance to meet another great Rector Bergen in July/August 2011, for 4 full days, on the eve of our First ever Global Get-together at Bergen, Norway and few days later at Our Lady of Lourdes, France. What a wonderful human being he is; He had an aura of Spiritualism with a general dose of Intellectualism; yet Simple & Unassuming, Sincere, Genuine with a great sportsmanlike attitude, always mingling freely with everyone he came across, with a likeable physical magnetism in him; taking part Sports in

friendly manner yet competitive in nature to give his best; took part in singing the popular pop song 'ennadi rakkamma' at the Bergen Evening Gala Entertainment, exhibiting his vocal talent. Perhaps the greatest thrill for Aneclete (who travelled from Australia) and Alex (UK) & I (Canada) was receiving Holy Communion from our own School's Rector in Fr. Jerome, but from a different era, saying a Holy Mass for Patricians in Bergen, Norway.

He showed us that he was a 'man for all seasons' Most of us never got to know his full background all these days until I did some research on Fr. Jerome.

On 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010, Fr. Jerome celebrated he had already celebrated his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee. He was born on January 25<sup>th</sup> 1958 to his loving parents Mr.Nicholapillai Manuelpillai and Mrs.Rajendram Gertrude Rasamma Nicholapillai of Karampon, Kayts. He initially studied at St.Antony's College, Kayts and thereafter joined St. Patrick's College Jaffna for his secondary education. In 1978, he entered the Jaffna University in Arts Stream and graduated himself. After graduation, he pursued his theological studies and obtained his B.Th ( Rome) Degree in 1985. In 1996, he proceeded to the United Kingdom for Higher Studies and completed the Masters Degree in Education Management and Administration from the University of London.

Fr. Jerome was ordained a priest on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1985.He served the churches in the North tirelessly and selflessly for several years, bearing many hardships along the way, notably during the time of three decades of war. Over the years he WON not only the respect and admiration of his 'beloved' faithful, but also, their love and deep gratitude. Fr. Jerome's contribution to St. Patrick's, so far, has been a magnificent one. I understand that SPC now is a Government run school and consequently it is governed by its rules and regulations as far as retirements of Rectors are concerned. Under its rules, the Service of Rector/Principal of a government funded educational institution is limited to certain number of years. Let us pray that a miracle should happen in his case, to enable him to continue his yeomen services to more than the allowable time period. The Good Lord has given us a Rector Par excellence to guide & nurture all Patrician students to become worthy citizens of tomorrow. We sincerely and earnestly pray for this extension, when the necessity arises.

Just as much as a Silver Jubilee is an important significant event in the life of an individual like Fr. Jerome in the service of God and his people; the Jubilee celebration in an association of a past student members such as the "SPC OBA Sydney, Australia" is an important milestone event, in continuing to serve our old boys and support our current students in Sri Lanka, by providing assistance in any form that is required by SPC, while 'singing the praises of our great beloved St. Patrick's College of Jaffna Sri Lanka. Congratulations on the eve to your Silver Jubilee Celebrations and May the God continue to bless Father Jerome.

**ALFRED ARULANANDAM CMA, ACMA, CGMA, CSC**

### **Note from the Editor**

Alfred is a Patrician and has dedicated himself to serve his Alma Mater from behind the scenes. So far he has edited three very successful Patrician Souvenirs – the recent 2012 was Silver Jubilee Celebration bumper edition of the Canadian OBA; and just 11 months prior to that, edited the Bergen, Norway Souvenir, when Bergen Committee organized the 1st ever Global get together of Patricians in the Beautiful City of Bergen. Also, edited the Souvenir published by the private committee of the 'Class of 1972-1973' which organized a 'mini-global Reunion in 2006 in Canada'. He is a regular contributor to our Internet publication –the "InterSector". A Management Accountant by Profession, he became its first President, of a 3300 members student body where the rest of the Committee were comprised of Sinhala Buddhists, Tamils, Muslims, Malays, Eurasians proving that 'excellence' can come out of a dedicated, unified body of individuals, regardless of race, religion or colour. Today this 'dynamic' body, which has a 'branch status' of a very leading & respectable global UK Accounting body, boasts that it has the largest membership, outside of UK. As a Patrician, Alfred is proud of these achievements.

## Extract from St Patrick's College Annual Report 1949

(Gratefully received from Dr Ernest McIntyre this extract Patrician Annual Report 1949)

### Dramatics at St. Patrick's (1928-1949)

WE have a long stretch to cover in this section and the editor has pronounced views about the amount of space he can allot us; inevitably we have to telescope the years and their achievements.

It is safe to begin with the generalization that the Jaffna boy has a natural aptitude for dramatics. The drama plays a big part in his social and religious life and if he is fortunate enough to come to us *via* the Holy Family Convent, he has been given plenty of scope and confidence and he is well trained. Foundations have been well and truly laid.

In the class-room he has dramatic readings; in the hostel any celebration inevitably includes if it does not completely centre round a play often written *ad hoc* by a hosteller or a group. A prize-giving is inconceivable without a play and one suspects that prize-donors give all the more cheerfully for feeling that what they give for a prize will be rewarded by a play that normally supplies the staple of town conversation for the Christmas holidays. The incentive for the actors is that not merely do they play before crowded houses but that praise from such an exacting audience is praise indeed. The heroes of the playing field give way to the heroes of the stage. They have their crowded hour of glorious life.

And what a range of plays has been covered! We have had even Latin plays written normally by fourth-formers, abounding in topicality, smattering, if you will, of bog-Latin but proving a success by the very energy put into the acting. Non-Jaffnese readers will be intrigued to learn that from the Jaffna point of view, the most daring experiment was the 1947 pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*. But we got away with it.

We have had Moliere almost *ad nauseam*

one would be inclined to say but there is something in Moliere's astringent wit and social criticism that goes straight to the heart of the Jaffna playgoer. That is why, we are convinced, St. Patrick's own specially written or adapted dramas such as *The Lord Mayor* and *The Popular Ponnudurai* made such a hit. There was, in addition, the superb acting of 'the Lord Mayor' by Stanislaus Xavier, now Rev. Dr. X. S. Thaninayagam who in his American tour is happy to reply 'at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna' to the question 'where did you learn to speak English with such facility and fluency?' The late Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasagra, K.C., 'happy Sandrasagra,' it will be remembered gave the same answer in England when he went there with the Reforms Commission. In *The Popular Ponnudurai*, Mr. F. J. Armstrong in the title-role was irresistible. Strangely enough we had always hesitated about staging Shakespeare. We were not going to risk desecration. We felt safe with anything but Shakespeare. We put on *The Bishop's Candlesticks*—incidentally how few realize that there is good reason for the view that the bishop is the saintly Bishop de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate! There was no end to plays like *The Poetasters of Ispahan*.

Shakespeare was out: so were Gilbert and Sullivan. True, there was a flash in the pan in the thirties, when Mr. Walton, one might almost call him a rabid Shakespearean, broke down all our inhibitions and staged *Julius Caesar*. A tremendous success it was but too good to be repeated or to be risked again!

So we kept on with everything else. Those who saw, for instance, Tony Gabriel as Cattermole in *The Private Secretary* will have talked about his acting for many a long day.



Came the forties and Mr. Motha. New science devices, new lighting effects, a new technique in acting.

Now with a new House System, House Masters and above all a live-wire Dramatic Club—all as keen as mustard, something had to happen.

It did. *Macbeth* was staged. There's only

one word for it, the R.A.F. word, 'wizard.' The costumes—thanks to the nuns—can we ever thank them enough?—the lighting effects, the superb acting of MacIntyre as Lady Macbeth, of Guy Alwines as Macbeth—to mention only two out of an outstanding cast, all were memorable. The general public and the schools could not get enough of it. Four crowded houses we had. And we're staging it again this year plus '*Julius Caesar*.' Here is God's plenty.



The Dramatic Club.

Herewith—for it must go on permanent record—the list of the  
Dramatis Personae.

<i>Duncan, King of Scotland</i>	...	...	...	S. Anthonypillai	
<i>Malcolm</i>	} his sons	...	...	W. Gnanaretnam	
<i>Donalbain</i>		...	...	R. Mahroof	
<i>Macbeth</i>	} Generals of King's Army	...	...	G. Alwines	
<i>Banquo</i>		...	...	P. R. Nicholas	
<i>Macduff</i>	...	...	...	J. P. Jegasothy	
<i>Lennox</i>	...	...	...	G. Kannangara	
<i>Ross</i>	...	...	...	A. S. Joseph	} Noblemen of Scotland
<i>Menteith</i>	...	...	...	J. Bartholomew	
<i>Angus</i>	...	...	...	R. Vanigasooriar	
<i>Caithness</i>	...	...	...	Eric Joseph	
<i>Fleance</i>	...	...	...	W. N. Canagaretnam	
<i>Siward—General of the English Forces</i>	...	...	...	R. Lingarajah	
<i>Young Siward—his son</i>	...	...	...	S. Retnadurai	
<i>Seyton—Officer attending on Macbeth</i>	...	...	...	C. F. Swampillai	
<i>Boy Macduff</i>	...	...	...	C. N. MacIntyre	
<i>Scotch Doctor</i>	...	...	...	A. Sathanandam	

## DRAMATICS AT ST. PATRICK'S

<i>Sergeant</i> ... ..	A. J. C. Pillai
<i>Lady Macbeth</i> ... ..	E. T. MacIntyre
<i>Lady Macduff</i> ... ..	H. Vanigasooriar
<i>Gentlewoman attending on Lady Macbeth</i> ...	G. A. Xavier
<i>1st Witch</i> ... ..	S. Peter
<i>2nd Witch</i> ... ..	B. P. M. Thasan
<i>3rd Witch</i> ... ..	P. Veeravagu
<i>1st Murderer</i> ... ..	P. Sivapatham
<i>2nd Murderer</i> ... ..	C. C. Mayavan
<i>Apparition (armed head)</i> ... ..	R. Lingarajah
<i>Apparition (bloody child)</i> ... ..	S. R. Spencer
<i>Apparition (crowned child)</i> ... ..	R. B. Xavier
<i>Attendant</i> ... ..	A. J. C. Pillai
<i>Messenger</i> ... ..	S. R. Emmanuel

## TABLEAU

In the Easter Term this year we decided on a most daring innovation. There would be an Inter-House Dramatic Competition. The items would be mainly from Shakespearean tragedy. Thus we had

Coriolanus before the Walls of Rome.

The Fall of Wolsey (Henry VIII).

The quarrel scene from *Julius Caesar*.

The trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice* (the winner).

The result may be assessed best from the charming appreciation sent us by Professor Ludowyk, Professor of English and Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University. To him and to his brother judges, Dr. W. Holmes and Mr. J. Slack go our warmest thanks. We would remind them that from the material unearthed at the Inter-House Competition, this year's *Macbeth* should be better than ever.

Over to Professor Ludowyk.

University of Ceylon,  
Colombo, 9-8-49.

"I remember Professor D. M. Hussey making what seemed to be a malicious remark if its context were forgotten, when he said, after correcting sheaves of scripts in English Literature: "The trouble with these students is that they write in English, they feel in Sinhalese and they don't think at all." As a witticism it has the recommendation of containing a small core of truth, and I use it—the more gratefully

as Professor Hussey remarked that he claimed no copyright for it—to illustrate the point I'd like to make about how English might be taught in the school.

"I don't wish to deal in either attitudes or platitudes, but I should like to say that most of us would agree that not only English, but many other things too, are taught indifferently in our schools. I'd like to think that you who read what I write will agree with me, that if you "learn" a modern spoken language, you would insist on learning it so that you can speak it, so that you will be able to feel and think in it. I don't agree that inability to control the language used for most of our purposes in school is a guarantee or even a pledge of proficiency in other subjects. It seems to me therefore that if you wish to handle the material of your working hours in school, you ought to be able to handle English. A useful and easy way of doing this is to acquaint yourself with the literature of the language, and while you are engaged in this activity, if you are securing a greater control of the language as a vehicle of feeling and thought, then yours is a double profit. The reading out aloud of plays—play-reading as it is called—and the acting of plays are as good a method of obtaining this profit as any I know.

"For that reason I was particularly glad to be at your Inter-House Dramatic Competition, and to see demonstrated on the stage what I had always believed about the usefulness of drama in the school curri-

culum. There were so many things to remember about the show—good examples of ‘timing,’ of trying to present the short scene as a well composed unit (*The Merchant of Venice* showed that), and of the dramatic effectiveness of the well-spoken word when it is supported by the creation of atmosphere (*The Henry VIII*)—that whatever shortcomings there were are of little consequence now. I think you have good reason to be pleased and proud of your work, proud because so few schools do such things, even if they could. Drama in schools is not exactly fashionable; it may be that putting Shakespeare on the stage is a conservative tradition and so it flourishes in Jaffna. If that is so one can be a conservative without any feelings of self-reproach.

“I hope you will go on. Shakespeare had some hard things to say about plays and players, but he was a player and a writer of plays himself. His most often

quoted remark about plays, as it is remembered today, is really judgment upon him for all the bitter things he wrote about the poor player. We remember it only as “The play’s the thing.” He went on to write “Wherein I’ll catch the conscience of the King.” It is not only the conscience of Kings that is caught, the schoolboy with that shining morning face of his is trapped too.”

E. F. C. LUDOWYK.

Thank you Professor. We may now tackle Eliot’s *Murder in the Cathedral* and if the choir master can screw his courage to the sticking-point, even Gilbert and Sullivan.

And the Rector has a plan for an open-air theatre! Excelsior, St. Patrick’s. The best is yet to be.

PLAYGOER.

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## Glorious St. Patrick's - Our Alma Mater

The European missionaries who laboured in Jaffna during the Portuguese era in the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, testify that the Jaffna children were studious and the parents were interested in their children having the best possible education. The Franciscan and the Jesuits who were doing missionary work in the North had well attended schools in their respective missions.

There was a set back for Catholic Education since the Catholic Schools were shut down from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century till the end of 18<sup>th</sup> century, when the Calvinist Dutch was in power. It was only from the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century, during the time of the more tolerant British, the Oratorians were able to start vernacular schools in Jaffna.

When Rome started sending European missionaries a new chapter on Catholic education, began to be written. The first such institution in Jaffna to have been started 158 years ago by Rt. Rev Dr. Orazio Bettachini, is today's St. Patrick's College.

Founded in 1850 as the first Catholic Schools in Jaffna and later in 1881 upgraded as the first Catholic College in the Island. When George Anderson was the Governor of Ceylon, Bishop Orazio. Bettachini, the Vicar Apostolic of Jaffna, founded this great Institution as an English School for Catholic Boys in Jaffna. Rev. Fr. Charles Mauroit O.M.I. was the First Manager of the School and Mr. Patrick Foy, an Irish Catholic layman was the First Principal.



*Rt. Rev Dr. Orazio Bettachini  
Bishop of Jaffna 1846-1857*

In the 1862, the Government named the school as "Jaffna Boys' Seminary" and the school received a grant of 100 sterling pounds (Rs 1000.00) a year. Even as early as 1862, the school had fared well at the first 'Local Examinations' ever to be held in Ceylon. Barely 16 years old, with 86 pupils, the school gained the reputation of being one of the best schools in the Island. In 1878, there was an agitation for higher education by the leading Catholics in Jaffna. As a result, Bishop Bonjean amalgamated the Preparatory Ecclesiastical Seminary and the Jaffna Boys' Seminary under the title of 'St. Patrick's College. On the 10<sup>th</sup> January 1881, Bishop Bonjean inaugurated St. Patrick's College and soon registered as a complete High School with the Department of Public Instruction.

As a Catholic College, St. Patrick's gradually built up its own organizational culture, image and heritage. In 1888 the College first entered candidates of the Cambridge Senior Examination and started securing Highly Commendable results in the following years.



*Rev. Fr. Charles Matthews  
Rector 1906-1921, 1924-1936*

Rev Fr. Charles Matthews took over the College as the 13<sup>th</sup> Rector in 1906. He remained in office till 1936, except for a break of short period. Advancements of the school during his time are too numerous to mention. Studies and games were systematised and became popular. In 1922, the College was placed First in the London Matriculation in the whole of the British Empire with several place in the Honours Division. This place was secured for Three years in succession. In sports the college won championships in Soccer, Cricket and Athletics for many years in succession. During his time 50% of the present Matthews Block had been completed. The Statue of Our Lady of the Patricians, was installed in the college quadrangle by Rev. Fr. Matthews. The Progress of St. Patrick's College was thus considered a cause and symbol of the development of Ceylon. The school was thus serving the interests of the nation and that of the local Church.



Rev. Fr. Timothy Long succeeded Fr. Mathews as the Rector in 1936 till 1954. The 'Golden Era' of the college with the magical word '*Fr. Long*'. Under his guidance the college rose to a height of glory academically as well as in sports and in almost every sphere of educational and social development. The Matthews block will be a constant reminder of his hard work. He was the architect of an excellent library at St. Patrick's College and the driving force behind the Jaffna Public Library scheme. Revised grant regulations came into effect in October 1945, with the introduction of Free Education Scheme. St. Patrick's joined the free education scheme and became a non fee levying assisted school. When Ceylon became an independent state in 1948 more emphasis was laid on improving education as a means towards social change.



*Rev. F. Timothy Long  
Rector 1936-1954*



*Part of the Matthews Block*

The Education (Amendment) Act No. 5 of 1951 provided for a reclassification of grants given to the Assisted schools. This Act laid down conditions on assisted schools. This widened the state's responsibility for education and brought all Unaided, Assisted and Government schools under one system, and the Assisted schools should adhere to the state's policy regarding the medium of instruction. While accepting the policy of the Government regarding the medium of instruction, St. Patrick's objected that its sudden implementation would result in some ill-effects. The college gradually gave a new orientation in education towards self-reliance and practical work.

Following years the State Education Policy came under severe criticism. The opinion had become very widespread that "The Christian Community enjoyed a social and economic advantages through schools managed by their respective denomination, which the state paid for". The Buddhist committee set up in 1954 by All Ceylon Buddhist Congress, pointed out that the social and economic life of the Buddhists was very badly affected and the fundamental cause was the dual control in education. The committee urgently recommended that all Assisted Schools should be taken over by the Government..



*Our Lady of the Patricians*

When Sri Lanka, India and many other Asian countries achieved political freedom and independence, the Catholic Church decided that it was time for a native son to be made the Rector of St. Patrick's College and appointed Rev. Fr. S. N. Arulnesan (1954 - 1960). He has been described as a forerunner of a new age. During his time there were many changes in the sphere of education in Sri Lanka. '*Swabhasha*' came to its own when the medium of instruction changed from English to Tamil.

In view of the unified system of National education, the Government enacted two laws; Act No: 5 of 1960 and No: 8 of 1961. The First Act gave option for Assisted schools to become Private without any State Aid and remain out of the State Control. By the Second Act, all Schools and Training Colleges came under the State. By the implementation of the Acts of 1960 and 1961, St. Patrick's and other unaided schools had to function under enormous strains. By their inimitable

competence Rev. Fr. Jeevaratnam OMI (1960-65), Rev. Fr. T.A.J. Mathuranayagam (1965-1976) and Rev. Fr. Johan A. Francis O.M.I.(1976-79) as Rectors of St. Patrick's steered the College to its prime glory.

In 1960 when Fr. Arulnesan left the College, Rev. Fr. P.J. Jeevaratnam was appointed Rector of the College (1960-1966). He had to face all the problems when St. Patrick's opted to become a Private Non-Fee-Levying school in 1961. He had to find the financial resources to run the College without sacrificing the quality of Education and Sports. His rich experience and mature judgement were the qualities needed at that challenging period in college's History.

St. Patrick's was fortunate to have Rev. Fr. T.A.J. Mathuranayagam as its Rector from 1966-1976. He set an example of dedicated labour and inspiration for generations of Patricians. In order to foster greater interest and involvement of students in college activities, he introduced the celebration of St. Patrick's Day with the novelty of classroom breakfast. This practice is continued even today. The 'Long's Institute of Techno-Engineering' started by him offered practical training with a job orientation to unemployed men. St. Patrick's College Soccer team maintained an invincible record due to the encouragement and incentive given by Fr. Mathuram. During Fr. Mathuram's time Four students (M. Francis and A.S. Gonzales-Soccer; Chitrnanjan-Basket ball and Frank Sebaratnam – Tennis) made their Alma Mater proud by being selected to represent the National Teams. After retirement in 1976, he had been the director of Long's Institute and Boys' Town in Kilinochchi. Even now he is active in Pastoral Ministry in the war torn Vanni at the age of 93.

Rev. Fr. John Francis who had been a Vice Rector and then Rector of St. Henry's College Illavalai, succeeded Fr. Mathuram as Rector in 1976. He held office for a short but rigorous period of three years. He had to shoulder the great responsibility of the school, after the demise of Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Emilianus Pillai, while St. Patrick's remaining the only Catholic school in Jaffna opting to continue private. Loving God as he did, he was able to love others especially the poor. He took keen interest in the growth of poor students and gave them guidance, encouragement and assistance.

Rev. Fr. G.A. Francis Joseph who spent 20 years of his early life at the college as Prefect of studies of Middle School, Warden and Prefect of games succeeded Fr. John Francis in 1980. Under the Cabinet Order 298 of June 1979, the Government started providing Grant for the unaided schools from January 1980. This assisted the Rector venture out on new projects successfully. Under his direction the college became more systematized. Rules and regulations were frame, discipline more strictly enforced and more all round education was envisaged. He was called the "*Architect of Modern St. Patrick's*" Old buildings were re-structured, new ones erected. Mathuram square open air stage, Science Laboratory, Primary block, Hostel Staff Room Cricket Score Board were some of them. This helped St. Patrick's to rejuvenate and consolidate itself strongly, with its own culture and tradition in the best interest of the community and the Nation. He started the Patrician diary to remind the agenda of the year in advance. He was an excellent musician and gifted as he was with a good voice. Being a many sided personality, he had agile alertness, meticulous devotion to details and constructive ideas. After his retirement in 1992 he dedicated his services for the suffering people in Vanni District

When Fr. G. A. F. Joseph retired in June 1992, Rev. Fr. A.I. Bernard succeeded him. He introduced many new innovations to the college in music, academic and sports. Fr. Bernard stood as a strong administrator and strict disciplinarian. The percussion band is one of his contributions to the Lower School. During his time the school faced destruction and displacements. When war clouds hung over the horizon of Jaffna peninsula, he has with all the tact in his command manoeuvred the school. St. Patrick's lost several classrooms and other buildings like the Chapel and Hostel had been damaged. During the mass displacement in



Upper School Buildings damaged by Bombing



1995, the college has to function at Varany. The college became the “Home for Thousands of abandoned People” in Jaffna. The class rooms were damaged, classroom furniture were burnt as firewood. When the college returned back to Jaffna Fr. Bernard, in the midst of political disturbances, acted bravely confronting many challenges in re-building St. Patrick’s College with the assistance from NGOs and Old Boys around the globe. He will be remembered for planning and laying foundation stone for the LONG BLOCK in January 1998.



*Long Block during construction*

Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanapragasam, former Rector of St Henry’s College Illavalai, succeeded Fr. Bernard when he retired in June 2002. Fr. Justin is a very distinguished Educationist and an Administrator with heavy heart and mixed emotions. He is a born leader and has autographed his work with great excellence. He is a man of God with a vision, compassion, commitment, intelligence and integrity. His name will be ever enshrined in the history of this great institution because of his track record and visionary ideas.

The completion of Father Longs Block, which is a three story building consists of 25 classrooms, a mini lab, a conference room, a theatre room, Rectors office and residence, a record room and the main office of the college is a monument for his hard work and dedication. We are also delighted that the Irish Government was able to make a modest contributions towards the important reconstruction work during Fr Justin’s era as Rector. His invaluable contributions will continue to benefit the college and the community. Father Justin will be remembered for all the positive changes he brought for the upliftment in the field of Education, Sports and other extracurricular activities to our college, especially being instrumental in setting up the Perpetual Trust Fund for the future survival of our beloved Alma Mater. He communicated very well with the Old Boys around the globe and brought everyone together assisting the Alma mater’s development. Fr. Justine could have continued as the Rector for few more years, but had to hand over the College to Rev. Fr. Jero Selvanayagam in January 2008 to take up his position as the Vicar General of the Jaffna Diocese.

We are privileged to have Rev. Fr. Jero Selvanayagam appointed to serve as the 25<sup>th</sup> Rector of the college in January 2008 where he was nurtured for 24 years. He was a classmate of mine and began his Teaching Service as Teacher and Warden at St. Patrick’s in 1989. He served as vice Rector for Fr. Bernard and Fr. Justin and was a pillar of strength for Fr. Bernard during two major displacements of our Jaffna population, severe destruction and disruptions of schooling and share in the pain and suffering of everyone.

We hope and pray that God’s unfailing love and grace will be showered upon him to fulfil the responsibility entrusted on to him at this moment of our history.

**Jovan Soosaipillai Titus**  
*Secretary of the Patricians of Jaffna, Sydney*  
*(Student at the Collge 1967-1977)*



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***The Helmsmen in the Patrician Heritage: St. Patrick’s College 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Souvenir*** by Mrs. C.Y.Ramakrishnan.

***A Heroic Survival: St. Patrick’s College 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Souvenir*** by Rev. Fr. Jero Selvanayagam.

Note from the Editor: Jovan Titus was the former President of Patricians of Jaffna (2010 – 2012) and engages himself with social service including organising charity events to collect funds for the welfare of St Patrick’s College, Jaffna.

## ERNEST MACINTYRE'S LONG JOURNEY IN DRAMA FROM ST. PATRICK'S TO AUSTRALIA



Where does one first get to like the taste of something and then become “addicted” to it? The obvious answer is: When one first happened to taste it and then found it available afterwards. Sunday School religious dramas were my first experiences, followed by plays at St. Patrick’s College, Jaffna, under the influence of Father T. M. F. Long whose ethnicity carried one of the world’s great modern dramatic traditions, that of Ireland. He cast me as Lady Macbeth, for the same reason that Shakespeare could not cast women in women’s roles. Women could not go on stage in 16<sup>th</sup>. Century England and Holy Family College, Jaffna girls could not act in St. Patrick’s

College plays!

Next it was Peradeniya University, and it was flowering age. Ludowyk and English theatre, Sarachchandra and Sinhala theatre, Vithiananthan and Tamil theatre, all in the years I was an undergraduate taking it all in and influenced to be active in drama.

This is the theory which says that what you become is what your environment makes you. So, it seems all this explains my fixation with drama.

There is also the genetic theory. It is recorded in my father’s brother’s memoirs that my great- great-grand mother, one Valliamma, in about 1860, in the village of Vaddokoddai, used drama one night to frighten a thief who was trying to enter her house. “*She put to flight a thief who was attempting to break into her house one night when she was all alone. She started calling out aloud the names of fictitious servants to wake up and rally round her for a counter attack. Thambiraja! Kandaswamy! Pakiamuttu! Periaswamay, elumbada!! The thief saw he was outnumbered, and fled* “. So the technique of drama seems to have been in the family centuries ago. Seriously though, my grandfather Dr. Edward Thambiah Macintyre wrote and staged the first Tamil dramas for the Tamil Methodist Church in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 1924.

Whatever it was, environment or heredity, it was the 60s and 70s in Colombo that provided the environment for my theatre work to develop and I continued it in Australia, still keeping in touch with the old locations of Sri Lanka. In 2011 and 2011 I conducted seminars and workshops at the University of Jaffna’s Drama Department. In September 2012 the book of my latest play, *Irangani*, was launched in Colombo. It has already been translated to Sinhala by the award winning writer Vijita Fernando and to Tamil by Dr. Shanmugalingam, better known as Kulanthai Shanmugalingam, the leading playwright of Jaffna in recent times. The Tamil and Sinhala books will be released at the end of this year.

Half a century of theatre has now been completed, and I was interviewed in September 2012 by Sri Lankan journalist Thulasi Muttulingam, of Ceylon Today. Let her continue the story I have told.

Ernest Macintyre is one of the names in Sri Lanka’s golden era of theatre but having immigrated to Australia in 1973 to provide a better education for his children, he might not be so familiar a name to the generations that have come after. Acting and directing plays since his student days at the Peradeniya University, Macintyre has been into theatre for well over 50 years.

As is the case for most creative artistes of Sri Lanka, Macintyre had to sideline his passion to a hobby as he had to earn his daily bread. However, with a varying career including seven years in the Sri Lankan Air force, at a time it was all air and no force, and four in the United Nations, he has managed to contribute substantially to Sri Lankan theatre, both in Sri Lanka and Australia.

He claims that theatre and drama are two different things; drama he says is the exploration of emotions and relations between the characters, both intellectually and emotionally while theatre is the vehicle used to transport the human relationships emotional and intellectual, to an audience. The parts of the vehicle are choreography, dance, music, and lighting.

While exploring in depth the context and meaning of the plays he had written, he also said that many Sri Lankans assumed that there had to be a message in a play. Which he made clear was not a view he shared. “There is an American saying; ‘If you want to send a message, go to the



post office.' The arts are not post offices. We don't necessarily have to relay messages.

I believe in the ancient Hindu idea of Natya (drama) and Loka (world), where drama and theatre are intertwined with and inspired by the world, but I don't believe in sending out explicit messages. Speaking to Ceylon Today, he further elaborates when asked what inspires him to write plays;

"Natya and Loka of course. The ancient Sanskritists used these words in conjunction because for them, theatre was a part of the world, not part of entertainment."

"I too draw my inspiration from what is happening around me. The first successful play I wrote, 'The Education of Miss Asia', was directly a result of the JVP insurrection. So Loka led to Natya."

The play, a text in the local G.C.E O'Level syllabus for over ten years, while exploring youth ideas, perceptions and identities, does not have an explicit message at the end of it. The world does not necessarily deliver clear messages through its circumstances or events and so, neither do Macintyre's Natyas, inspired by Loka.

Thus, he might not believe in writing 'bad plays' with 'clear messages' but he believes in presenting the world they live in to people in the form of drama and theatre, for them to form their own conclusions. For example, the play he staged in Australia; 'Let's Give Them Curry', explored issues of a Sri Lankan family that had migrated to Australia. Although having migrated to a new country they were solid in holding onto the beliefs and culture of the old country which led to many problems. Crisis hits when the daughter of the family falls in love with an Australian and the parents are outraged that she has not waited for them to select a bridegroom for her from their own country, region, ethnicity, class and caste.

In his exploration of this Sri Lankan family and their prejudices, a clearer picture would have emerged to the Australians of the Sri Lankans living amongst them. Does not this representation of Loka as Natya then lead to accusations from his own community of 'washing dirty linen in public?'

"Of Course" he replies. "I get that response a lot, but with some plays, more than others. 'Let's Give Them Curry' for example didn't draw as much inner-community criticism as *Irangani* - my latest play. It was very difficult to find Sri Lankan cast members for the play when I staged *Irangani* in Australia. I had to depend on close friends and relatives."

The fictional play, explores in depth the issues of war, peace and political solutions in contemporary Sri Lanka. The book launch held in Colombo however saw a number of prominent Sri Lankan theatre artistes supporting him with readings of excerpts from the play.

He also mentioned that the Australian audiences' response to 'Let's Give Them Curry' was that they simply enjoyed the play, while the Sri Lankan Australians rooted for the parents' cause of bringing their daughter round somehow to their way of thinking, and getting her to marry a bridegroom from back home. They had apparently been disappointed when in the end she married her White Australian boyfriend, but on the whole, Sri Lankans took it rather well.

Macintyre meanwhile, still battling strong in his late seventies, has been a regular visitor over the last few years to the country; the Jaffna peninsula in particular. He wants to build up drama and theatre relationships and is thus dedicating a lot of effort and time towards it.

"Tamil drama as a whole has not moved in the way Sinhala drama has," he explains. "He conjectures that the huge dominance of South India is probably a reason why. The Sinhalese have no such heritage in drama to fall back on and so they have had to create from scratch, borrowing even from the Koothu, their own drama."

"There are also other circumstances which dampened the dramatic arts in Jaffna, such as the frowning of Armugar Navalar on the castes that performed the Koothu. Batticaloa did not have

the same problems.

He also believes in the reconciliation process and reaching out to the youth, to facilitate that reconciliation but says that a lot of work remains to be done.

"I find that the young people of Jaffna are willing to reach out across the racial divide. But at the same time, they have a deeply felt intrinsic need to be recognized as equal citizens of this country. That equality cannot come from well-meaning people simply telling them, 'You are equal to us and you will have equal economic development.' Equality has to be recognized constitutionally. Even in a case as simple as romantic love, unless it is recognised constitutionally as marriage, neither partner has any rights. Marriage protects the rights of both parties. In that sense, the Sinhalese and the Tamils need to be 'married' to each other and for that, they need to constitutionally recognize each other's rights." Loka is always a part of Natya, you can't separate them, and that is why such thoughts come to his head.

In 2009 Macintyre's plays, listed below, were the material of a Ph.D. thesis:

*A Mad And Grotesque Comedy, The Loneliness Of The Short Distance Traveller, The President Of The OBA*

*The Education Of Miss Asia, Let's Give Them Curry, Rasanayagam's Last Riot, He Still Comes From Jaffna*

*The UN Inspector Is A Sri Lankan, How The Gods And The Demons Learned to Play Together Growing Up, At The Gates To Heaven, The Government Of Baddegama, The Devil In Sri Lanka Sixty Years Of The Tamil People, Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Alive And Well, The Bench*

*Let's Give Them Theatre, Irangani*

"Though there is variety in the thematic concerns of the playwright, one can discern two common threads that run through most of his plays: resistance, and a persistent return to the problems of his homeland as an immigrant writer in Australia. It is interesting to note that Macintyre cannot be situated as a writer who relates himself only to one particular kind of resistance mode, thereby contributing to resistance literature in a simplistic sense. In the case of Macintyre it is the changing contours of resistance, as seen in his chosen plays that add to the depth and profundity of his works."

**- Diasporic Longing and The Changing Contours of Resistance in the Plays Of Ernest Thalayasingham Macintyre, Ph.D. thesis of Dr. Thamizhachi Thangapandian – University of Madras 2009**

**Editor's comments on Ernest McIntyre:**

***The "McIntyres", are a Tamilian dynasty in the world of theatre, drama, arts & entertainment. Four of the brothers are also PATRICIANS, which includes the well known brothers Ernest & Gandhi. No other Lankans has contributed to the world of Theatre, than these two in the whole of Sri Lanka and Australia. Here is a true story that took place in Colombo 7. – A good friend of Alfred Arulanandam & room mate Somasiri Alakolange, a popular actor in the Sinhalese Cinema and Henry Manel Jayasena's troupe, met Ernest, who was then Director of the Sri Lanka's most prestigious LIONEL WENDT THEATRE, for the first time and was stunned & surprised to learn that Ernest studied in Jaffna and got his acting training at St Patrick's College, Jaffna. For over two decades, Ernest & Gandhi appeared in the entertainment pages of Sri Lanka Press almost on a daily basis. The McIntyres continue to bring respect, power & prestige, not only to themselves, but to all Patricians.***

## **A list Eminent Patricians for ongoing updates**

The following Patricians excelled in various fields indicated accordingly and became iconic figures, thus brought name, fame and inspirations to fellow Patricians and others. This list is composed specifically to indicate heights achieved by Patricians which will also motivate younger Patricians as well as others.

### **Rev. Fr. Thaninayagam**

- Born 2 August 1913, Karampon, kayts
- From 1953-1961 – Lecturer University of Ceylon, 1961 – 1969 Prof University of Malaya
- First time Tamil Conference in 1966, second at Madras in 1970 and third in Jaffna in 1970
- Author of a number books on Tamil language, culture and literature
- Best known for organising the first World Tamil Conference

### **Rev. Fr. David**

- Born on 28 June 1907 at Thumpalai, Vadamarachi in the Jaffna peninsula
- Language teacher at St Patrick's College for 36 years
- PhD in 1953 from University of London
- Research work into the origin of the Tamil language and its link with other languages. This work in continuation of the work done by Nallur Swami Gnanapragasar. Fr David Published 6 volumes of the lexicon.
- Published a 700 page on ancient Tamil Grammar of Tolhapium
- First scholar who proved that Singhalese is a sister language of Tamil
- Twelve articles on Tamil culture
- Best known for proving Singhalese is a sister language of Tamil

### **Rev Fr Gnanpragasar**

- Born on 30 August 1875
- Author of a number of books on Tamil Language, Literature and Culture
- Studied several languages and established links between Tamil and a number of other languages
- Achieved a heroic status and was honoured by Sri Lankan Government
- A stamp was issued by Sri Lankan Government on 22 May 1981
- Best known in East and West for establishing links between Tamil and a number of east and western languages

### **Swami Vipulananda**

- Born in 1882 and died in 1947
- Was a teacher at St Patricks College from 1917 for a number of years
- Service to Tamil language, Hinduism as well as Rammakrishna Missions
- Responsible for the creation University at Chidamparam, Tamil Nadu
- Sri Lankan Government issued a Stamp on 18 November 1979 to honour his service to Tamil as well as mankind
- First Prof of Tamil at Annamalai University and Ceylon University
- Best known for his contribution to Tamil language and his social service

**Patrician Honoured as National Heroes by Sri Lankan Government with the issue of Stamps in their honour**

Rev Fr Gnanapragasar  
Rev Fr T M F Long  
Swami Vipulananda

**Patrician Knights**

**State**

Sir Kandiah Vaithianathan KBE BSc CCS  
Sir Sangarapillai Pararajasingham RBE  
Sir Chittampalam A Gardener KSG KSS

**Church**

Chevalier S Arulanandam KSG  
Chevalier v Francis Thampoe KCSS  
Chevalier Saverimuttu Mudaliyar KSG  
Chevalier P Moses KSG  
Chevalier Chittampalam A Gardener KSG KSS  
Chevalier L B Emmanuel  
Chevalier Dr John Puvirajasinghe KSG

**Patrician Ministers**

Sir Kandiah Vaithianathan Ex. Minister of Industries and Social Service)  
Hon G G Ponnampalam (Ex. Minister of Industries and Fisheries)  
Hon E L B Hurulle (Ex Minister of Education and Transport)  
Hon C Kumarasurier (Ex Minister of Posta and Telecommunication)

**Patrician Senators**

Senator Chevalier Gardener  
Senator Mudaliyar Rajendra MBE  
Senator Nalliah  
Senator Chelliah Kumarasurier

**Patrician Members of Parliament**

G G Ponnampalam MP  
A L Thambiayah MP  
V Tharmalingam MP  
V A Alagacone MP  
E L B Hurulle MP  
C X Martin MP  
X Sellathambu MP  
C .Kumarasurier MP  
M C Subramanian MP  
R Sambanthan MP

**Patrician Bishops**

Rt Rev Dr Kingsley Swampillai - Bishop of Trinco-Batticaloa  
Rt Rev Dr Rayappu Joseph – Bishop of Mannar  
Rt Rev Dr L R Antony – Bishop Emeritus of Trinco – Batticaloa



Rt Rev Dr Thomas Soundaranayagam – Bishop of Jaffna  
Late Rt Rev Dr A Paul Perera – Former Bishop of Kandy  
Late Rt Rev Dr J Emilianuspillai OMI – Former Bishop of Jaffna  
Rt Rev Dr Dominic Vendargon – Archbishop Emeritus of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Rt Rev Dr Antony Selvanayagam – Bishop of Penang, Malaysia  
Rt Rev Dr B Deogupillai – Bishop Emeritus of Jaffna

### **Patricians distinguished in specific areas**

#### **Dr Michael Thambinayagam PH.D**

American Scientist, over 25 years experience in oil and gas industry, Research - Recipient of the prestigious 2011 R.R.Hawkins Award, one of the highest recognition in the world of professional and scholarly publishing. He is also a recipient of number of patents in chemical & petroleum engineering. He is best known, however, for his work on the mathematics of linear diffusion. A compilation of his work, over one thousand analytic solutions to important practical industrial problems, was published in April 2011. His 2000 page book 'The Diffusion Handbook received a total of 3 awards; R.R. Hawkins Award, the PROSE Award for Excellence in physical Sciences & Mathematics, and the Engineering & Technology category Award. He was Director of Schlumberger Cambridge Research, England. In 1985, he was elected Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, U.K. (Courtesy of Google website).

#### **Dr Alfred Christy**

Professor of Chemistry, Agder University, Norway. He was appointed in the "Research Proposal Reviewer for the National Science Foundation – Division of Earth Sciences, Instrumentation & Facilities Program, and USA. He was included in the "Marquis who's who in the world", "Man of the Year Award 1994, 20th Century Achievement Award (1995) and classified as 500 leaders of Influence in the World". He has published over 100 papers in Scientific Journals, Books and reports on the applications of Spectroscopy at World conferences; designed & produced a variety of equipments while researching in FT-JR spectroscopy; Advisor to the University of Petroleum in Beijing; University of Jaffna; Consultant & Co-ordinator for students in Norway, Uganda & Pakistan

#### **Dr Anton Arulanandam**

Approx 50 years of teaching in Christian and Catholic Schools in Sri Lanka, Maldives and Australia. He was commended for his expert knowledge on Shakespeare's Works and his thesis on, "Shakespeare's Revenge". Founder Secretary of Patricians of Jaffna (Sydney Branch) in 1987 and was President from 1998 until 2004. Recipient of the rare 'Edmund Rice National Award 'in Australia for his meritorious service to the Christian Brothers Community. In 2002. Anton Annan was the proud recipient of the Edmund Rice Education Bicentenary Medal (Australia) for Meritorious Service in 2002 in appreciation of his extraordinary support given to the Mission of the Christian Brothers by his exceptional contribution to education at Christian Brothers High School, as editor of the School Annual for over 25 years, as Athletic Coach and for painting the portrait of Brother Ambrose Tracy (Founder of the Christian Brothers in Australia). The Provincial Team Leader of the Christian Bros., Brother Julian McDonald cfc in presenting the Medal to Anton Annan concluded, " Anton was the living symbol of Edmund Rice."

#### **Brig Anthony David BBA**

Sri Lankan Army, Retired, originally trained in the Royal Academy Sandhurst UK, Recipient of the Vishita Seva Vibushana, awarded by J.R.Jayewardene, for the most outstanding & meritorious service rendered to the country – the highest honour the country awards, which is on par with Britain's KCB & KSMG ( Knighthoods).

#### **Brigadier (Dr.) H.L.David**

The Military Officer, Lecturer, Motivational speaker and a Trainer. Like his famous uncle Reverend Father David, the 'intellectual prowess' seemed to have been rubbed on to his nephew as well. Brigadier (Dr) Hermanagild Lakshman David holds the unique distinction of

being the first Doctorate in Business Administration while in service in the Sri Lanka Army and obtained two Master's degrees; the Master of Science [MSc] on Defense and Strategic Studies at the University of Madras and the Master of Business Administration [MBA] from Post Graduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and a Fellow of the Institute of Management Studies [UK].

He is the President of the Colombo OBA, and Colombo OBA's representative for the Patrician Perpetual Trust Fund. Recently he was the Chief Guest of the Holy Family Convent's Prize giving day celebrations.

### **Senator Mudaliyar Rajendra MBE**

Head of Education Department. Public service. In 1948, he was appointed a Senator in the first Parliament of Ceylon. He raised his sons to become an Engineer, Doctor and a Lawyer respectively and the eldest daughter became a Teacher after graduating from the University of Colombo. All the children like their father carried out extensive community service. His Daughter became first University graduate in Kotahena in the 1950's and taught throughout at Good Shepherd Convent and started the Good Shepherd Convent Kotahena's Old Girls Association in Canada, and became its First President.

### **J.D.Aseervatham**

Lawyer/Advocate, Social service. General Secretary of ACUT – All Ceylon Union of Teachers, Ceylon. He was a brilliant student during the 'glory days' of St. Patrick's and brought great honour to our Alma Mater, in providing extra ordinary service in aiding the country in setting up the educational policy of the country, joining the ranks of other Patrician heavy weights such as E.L.B. Hurulle, then Minister of Education, Sir Chittampalam Gardiner, Mudaliyar Rajendra MBE, the former head of the Education department in Colombo, prior to him being elected a Senator in Ceylon's first Parliament and A.S.Arulanandam JP as a Vice President of All Ceylon English Teachers Association and President of Northern Province English Teachers Association. The Bottled Sunshine featured Aseervatham as a special student using Fr. Long's time.

### **Ernest Macintyre**

Director, Playwright, Actor - is one of the most famous names in Sri Lanka's golden era of theatre but having immigrated to Australia in 1973 to provide a better education for his children, he might not be so familiar a name to the generations that have come after. Acting and directing plays since his student days at the Peradeniya University, Macintyre has been into theatre for well over 50 years. As is the case for most creative artistes of Sri Lanka, Macintyre had to sideline his passion to a hobby. However, with a varying career including seven years in the Sri Lankan Air force and four years in the United Nations, he has managed to contribute substantially to Sri Lankan theatre, both in Sri Lanka and Australia. At the packed auditorium recently at the ICES (International Centre for Ethnic Studies), he shared some of his views.

### **Gandhi McIntyre**

International Actor, Cinema & TV & Theatres, took his 'One Man' play all over the world, inclusion Canada, UK, Australia, Sri Lanka. Performed a number of stage plays for charity events.

### **Dr J.T.Xavier, MBBS, FRCS**

A successful Surgeon, Tamil Scholar, Extensive research in Tamil History and Culture and have, written books.

### **Professor Chitramohan**

Patrician Consultant Psychiatrist and Director of Effectiveness and Governance and Associate Medical Director at one of the largest mental health provider in the UK; Has been in medical management for 15 years Visiting Professor of Psychiatry in University of Madras and Malaya Kuala Lumpur; Have delivered more than 1000 invited lectures the in UK and abroad. Lectures are in Psychopharmacology and Mental Health Law; Has been a court of elector and has been on the Council of the Royal College of Psychiatrists; Has been involved in developing innovative psychiatric services for people in the Birmingham and Solihull areas; Have been a

founder Vice President of South Asian psychiatrists forum that have been actively involved in developing services in Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan; Have been a Mentor for many Psychiatrists and have guided many a trainees over the last 20 years. He is an active globe-trotter in the line of his duties; this also gives him an opportunity to keep in touch with Patricians globally; Also an active philanthropist; Helps project the good image of our Alma Mater globally.

**Saba Naganathan Architect MNAL, RIBA, M.Arch (Oslo), Grad Dip. Design (Sydney)**

A Past President of SPC OBA Oslo Branch; nephew of Rev.Dr.Thaninayagam Adigal; An outstanding Professional Architect - is the only Experienced Tamil Architect in all of Norway; Educated in Sri Lanka, Australia, Nepal, India & Norway. He obtained his Masters in Architecture in 1987 at the Oslo School of Architecture, after Obtaining a Diploma in UTS Sydney Australia. He has worked for Japanese Company in Sri Lanka, Various Companies in Australia and now permanently in Oslo, having worked for Oslo's leading companies. Also he has his own Company titled " Saba Naganathan Architect mnal" ; Involved in outstanding volunteer work, in Post Tsunami Reconstruction in Sri Lanka 2005/2006 in Northern Sri Lanka, often risking his life; Worked with Tamil refugees in Oslo 1986 / 87; Established a meeting point / Club for Tamil Youths along with few others; Has an enormous passion for music; An excellent Thabla player, helped our own St. Mary's Cathedral and other Churches in Thabla Playing; Formed the first ever all Tamil Music Band "The Roots" in Norway in 1987. The band is still active; Music activities - what groups in Jaffna, in UK, in Norway; Jaffna - Blue Screemers, Purple Haze, Beatniks, played Thabla for many years as a school boy for St. Mary's Cathedral Choir. Guest Thabla player in many other Choirs ex. St. Anne's Church all girls' Choir; Norway - The Maharaj, The Roots; Australia - Distant Link, Pancham (North Indian band). Note: Blue screamers, Purple Haze, The Roots and Distant Link were formed by Saba; Was Drummer in all the bands; The Maharaj with Austin Ratnam and produced its own music.; Done case study and a Master plan for SPC (2002 - 2004);

**Professor Charles Santhiapillai PH.D**

Is the eldest son of Mr. S.F.Santhiapillai who taught Latin & English at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna. Charles joined SPC in 1953 and left in 1963 to enter the University of Ceylon (Peradeniya Campus) where he specialized in Zoology. After graduation, he was recruited into the staff at the Department of Zoology, University of Peradeniya as a probationary lecturer. He then went to the University of Southampton (UK) where he carried out postgraduate research under the supervision of Prof. Mike Delany and obtained his PhD in Mammalian Ecology in 1975. He returned to Sri Lanka and resumed his career as a Lecturer in Zoology at the University of Peradeniya from where he retired as Associate Professor of Zoology in 2011. From 1984 to 1992 he represented the World Wildlife Fund as its Senior Scientific Officer in the Asia Program based in Indonesia during which he co-authored the Action Plan for Asian Elephant Conservation. He was the founder Editor of Gajah – the Journal of the IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group and the Deputy Chairman of the Group from 1998 to 2006. For his work on large mammals in Asia, he was awarded the Gold Medal from HRH Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands and appointed the Knight of the Golden Ark at the Soestdijk Palace, Baarn, The Netherlands on June 29, 1990. In 1998, he was listed as one of the 243 Environmentalists by WWF's "De Wereld van het Nature Fonds". In 1999, he was awarded the first place in popularization of Science in Sri Lanka and subsequently became the recipient of the Presidential Award for Scientific Research in Sri Lanka in 2001, 2003 and 2005. He received the national award of Vidya Nidhi by the President of Sri Lanka on November 14, 2005. While studying Zoology at Peradeniya, Charles met, fell in love and later married his batch-mate, Anoma (nee Alagoda) – a Kandyan Sinhala Buddhist, their small contribution to 'national harmony'.

**Dr.Bernardshaw MD PH.D**

Bernard got his MD at the University of Bergen in 1991 & Disputas and PhD in 2007 at the Ulleval University Hospital, Oslo. He wrote a thesis on abdominal infections and prevention of such infections by using medicinal fungus extract as pre-operative treatment on Animal models on human blood cells, analysing the effect on innate immune system. His medical research papers are found in Pub-Med in variety of Journals. He served as a Gastrosurgery Consultant in Stavanger University. Currently, the senior consultant and in-charge of the Surgical and X-ray

department at the Bergen Emergency and Accidental Unit. Even though Bernard's sub-speciality is Gastrosurgery, the current field is dealing with minor surgery and specially hand injuries. He is part of the reorganizing team to establish a "Special Unit for Hand Surgery" at Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen. This is expected to function probably next year. The intention of the unit is to treat patients who have both orthopaedic injuries and other injuries to the hand. Residents who want to become Plastic Surgeons or Orthopaedic Surgeons will have the opportunity to practice Hand surgery. Currently a mentor for PhD Candidate for Thesis in Acute Wrist Sprain. The summary of his published articles in Medical Journals are found [here](#). Currently a mentor for PhD Candidates for Thesis in Acute Wrist Sprain. The summary of Bernard's published articles in Medical Journals are found [there](#). Hyacinth Joseph of Ohio bears personal witness to Bernard's expertise after a long suffering and getting cured after the prescribed cure for his illness by Bernard, within a short time. As President of his OBA in Bergen, he successfully organized the first ever Global Reunion in 2011. His life motto goes like this "I believe in my discipline and treating people with respect earned years in my Alma Mater. I am a philanthropist, interested in 'helping poor people' without border, language, religion and ethnicity."

### **S.Ponnuthurai aka ESPO**

Author, Tamil Scholar, Publisher – ESPO is a living literary giant, started writing at age 15, he is 80 years young today; authored over 30 books to his credit and he is still writing. The Prestigious Tamil Literary Garden recognized his unique talent and gave him the most PRESTIGIOUS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR 2010 in Toronto Canada, for promoting the development the Tamil Literature all over the World. He lives in Sydney Australia, where one of his son's is a Doctor, criss-crossing between Tamilnadu, where he has established his 'Mithra Pres' in memory of his son who gave up his life for the Tamilian cause. He taught in Ceylon and later in South Africa, after graduating from Annamalai University, Tamilnadu at age 20. He was at SPC during Fr. Long's era and was a pupil of FNC and Subramanya Iyer. He comes from an illustrious family of Doctors, an MP, a Priest, Lawyers, Bankers and Teachers. Through him and his large family members who are settled around the globe, the growth of Tamil Language is absolutely assured.

### **Dilip Tisseveerasinghe**

Despite a life threatening operation that Dilip went through and while under strict medical care, he volunteered to do a 'half-marathon' runs, training diligently for over 6 months, to help an orphanage financially; Done Many Half Marathon/Charity runs, the 2 most significant ones are: "Patrician in Need, Jaffna" in March 2009 and for an Orphanage "Orphans and the destitute children at HFC, Jaffna" in October 2011; Dilip didn't start running long distances before his 50th, hence, it took him about 8 to 12 weeks for a disciplined training; He had 2 stents put in one of the major cardiac arteries in August 2007. It is after his operation, that he started running and he leading a very cautious life on Doc's advice; He is the founder members of the present Alumni Ass. UK, Gen, Sec, 1993 – 97, President 1997 - 2001 and a Trustee for the PTF, AA, UK from 2007 to date ; Founded the PTF, Sri Lanka in 2005, with the help of then Rector Rev Dr Justin B. Gnanapragasem, The birth of PTF to suffice the needs of our Alma Mater for years to come; Dilip did his Hotel Catering and International Management (HCIMA, UK) in 197Industry for over 35yrs.he has worked for Telegraph Media Group, British Broadcasting Corporation, Ministry of Defence and lately London Olympic 2012; Dilip is one of the passionate Patricians and devotes his life to serve his Alma Mater. At the time of writing this in October, the doctors have issued a warning to take it easy as far as any form of strenuous running is concerned.

### **Eddie Ferdinand**

Director/Editor of the "InterSector"/ Volunteer Worker par Excellence. Perhaps the greatest ongoing contribution by any living Patrician is by Ferdi, in his capacity as the Director and Editor of the 'InterSector' – a free Internet based publication that has over 1800 Patricians & Friends. We appreciate that this is a Voluntary task and he is virtually 'on call 24/7' as far as urgent notices such as 'obituary and other information that has to be released pronto. This is a tall order that Ferdi/Sathi has undertaken voluntarily, for which both of them must receive an honorary 'Life time Patrician Award', for their ongoing, unique, selfless contributions. The membership is



increasing and so is the demand for more work that is demanded of this great humble but tireless Patrician. It is a very demanding Voluntary job indeed for both Ferdi & Sathi, for which we are truly grateful.

### **Joe Sathiajeevan Aloysius**

Co Director of the "InterSector"/ Volunteer Worker par Excellence.

The 'Cyber Space Computer Whiz kid' and a humble gentleman like Sathi is the first one to correct us readers by saying 'Ferdie is the Main Person of the InterSector, I am just a Helper'. Sathi is in charge of maintaining the InterSector's web page. While Ferdi takes care of the editing, Sathi is in charge of all ongoing 'face-lifting' and 'beautifying' our InterSector. Every time you open up the InterSector nowadays, one begins to notice its 'Freshness', as if it has just come fresh out of a "Beauty parlour in Canada", adding more and more wonderful changes to our InterSector, for the better.

## **Patricians distinguished in All Sports in various Capacities**

**R.N.Chitranjan** –Superintendent of Police, Coach & Manager of Men's & Women's Sri Lankan Basketball Teams. captained basket ball team at SPC, played for Ceylon schools touring India in 1972; Captained police basket ball team in the mid eighties

Joined force as SI in 1978; Promoted as SP in 2001 and SSP posthumously in 2005; Manager Sri Lanka women's team and has toured Malaysia and India; Manager Sri Lanka police team; secretary for many years of SLBF

### **Dr. Anton C. Arulanandam PH.D**

Athletics Administration/Coach - Life Vice President for Ceylon Athletics Association. Served as General Manager of Sri Lankan Athletic Teams that toured Asian Games in Iran and India; Founded Ceylon Coaches Association and served as Secretary of the Ceylon AAA and Ceylon Schools Athletic Association for several years.

### **John B.Kibuka**

Athletics- Wonder school boy athlete & held Unbeaten Ceylon Record holder for the 110 metres Hurdles for several years. Most popular Ceylon athlete of all times.

### **S.A. Benedict**

Athletics-Outstanding Athlete of Ceylon & equalled the Public Schools Long Jump Record. First in Hop Step & a Jump in Public Schools Meet in 1959.Only athlete selected from North as member of Athletic Team that toured Australia in 1960 and met Fr. Long there.

M.Francis-Football- Coach/All Ceylon Soccer Player, played for Manila in 1970, represented Ceylon in 1970/71;Member of the Ceylon Youth Team, won Ceylon Colours as an 18 year old.

### **M.A.Thiagarajah**

Athletics, Cricket & Body Building - Won Public School Colours at the All Ceylon Public School Meet in 1957 for Put Shot and Discus. Became Director of Sports for Sri Lanka; Won Mr. Ceylon Contest, after being Mr. Jaffna for several consecutive years.

Sebastian Roche – Athletics-Won first Place in Pole Vault at the Ceylon National Athletic Games; Captained the Royal Ceylon Air force Basketball Team

### **Anton Benedict**

Cricket -Holds the 'All Ceylon Bowling Schools Record established in 1967, capturing the most number of wickets ( 83 )in one season; Played for Burgher Recreation Club and Maharajah Organization; Broke Daya Sahabandu's Record of 76 wickets, capturing 83 wickets. Despite taking the highest number wickets in the selection match for the selection of Sri Lankan team and holding the record for the highest number of wickets taken for the entire season, Anton was overlooked for being selected in the Sri Lankan Team.

**Frank Sebaratnam** – Tennis -Became the All Ceylon Tennis Champion

**Neville Sheddton** – Rugby football, played for the Army Team.

**Raymond Santiago, B.A., M.A.,**

Soccer, Cricket, Tennis - An outstanding, hardworking Patrician, who has been serving in the OBA, Canada for over 25 years continuously, including as its current President for the 2nd time- a rare feat; an outstanding sportsman Captaining SPC 1st, 2nd & 3rd SPC & Sri Lankan Cement Corporation Cricket Teams ; Captained the 1st Eleven UNBEATEN SPC Team;; Played 1st, 2nd and 3rd Eleven SPC & Kankesan Soccer teams; Top Male player in Tennis in Scarborough Tennis Federation ;Also Captained the Silver Medal winning Kiwaniwood Tennis Club Championship; Court Officer in the in the Toronto Police Force; Undertook Graduate Administrative studies at University of Toronto and University of Guelph; Underwent work related trainings in U.S.A, Germany, Canada & Sri Lanka.

**M.Francis**

Soccer – In 1969 18 year old M. Francis was Centre Half along with Gonsales as Captained the Sri Lankan National Soccer Team against Tamil Nadu Soccer Team in Kerala, India during All India Football Tournaments in 1976... Bangkok. Patrician of the Year. Did the course. Settled down with the family in UK. All Stars Tournament

**Joseph Aloysius**

Soccer - This Patrician is affectionately known as the best 'All Ceylon Goal keeper', having been selected in 1959 to play for the Sri Lankan National Football Team. Undoubtedly he was the best goalie Jaffna has ever produced. He was also selected for the President XI Team under the then Min. of Sports Hon. Mr. Sugathadasa. He participated in the Asian Tournament held in Kuala Lumpur, along with another Patrician Canute. Aloysius was one of the early pioneers to have migrated to Norway, settled down and also became one of the OBA, Bergen's Presidents. He and his dear wife Francesca are blessed with 3 children, 11 grandchildren and three 3great grand children, all happily living in Norway

**S. Canute Soccer-** Canute played as the 'centre-half in the Sri Lankan National Football Team that toured Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the Asian Tournament. He also played for the Jaffna Soccer Team. St. Patrick's College had the unique distinction of having two Patricians' Canute (Centre Forward) and Joseph Aloysius (Goal Keeper)

**S.N.J. Anthonypillai Soccer** – was a member of the Sri Lankan National football Team in 1960 that toured Bangla Desh.

**S.K.E. Xavier** Cricket – He was a member Jaffna Cricket Team and the ferocious 'Fastest bowler Jaffna has ever produced. Played an active part in the 'Passion Play.

**A.C.T.Crowther**

An all round sportsman - he has the unique distinction of representing the National Teams of Sri Lanka in Football and Basketball at tournaments held in various countries. At St. Patrick's, he Captained the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XI age groups in Football, Basketball and Athletics in all age categories, also played Cricket at St. Patrick's team. The school's latest school record indicates that he still holds the 'Records' in Shot Put, Discus and Javelin Throws in the under 17 and under 19 age categories. He also represented the SPC in Athletics at the Jaffna Schools and All Ceylon Public Schools Championships WINNING IN ALL THREE EVENTS in the different age groups. He accomplished this while he was at SPC from 1960 till 1965, the first three years as a Boarder. After his school, he joined the Royal Ceylon Air Force ( 1967 to 1975) represented and represented it in the Air Force and Combined Services Football, Basketball and Athletic Teams Captaining the Football and Basketball Teams. He was voted as the MOST OUTSTANDING SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR IN 1969 AND 1972. Migrated to UK in June 1975 and worked as a Sports Complex Manager until 1995. He is also worked as a freelance Tennis Coach (1995 – 2005), after playing and qualifying as a lawn Tennis Coach with the All England Tennis Association. Now retired, he and his wife criss-crossing between UK and Spain, spending quality

time with the family; His son has a 6 year old daughter; and his daughter, has a 13 year old daughter and a 10 year old son

### **N. Wigneswaran**

Athletics - Athletic Captain in 1956 for St. Patrick's College and he was in the Hindu boarding with his younger sportsman brother Karu Navaratnarajah, affectionately known as 'Pallai' – nicknamed after their father who was originally a Station Master at Pallai Railway Station. His "100 yards ground record" is still intact, according to the latest published Souvenir for the SPC 150 year anniversary. In the 100 yards relay held in 1955, run by N. Wickneswaran, along with our great Patrician Albert Santiapillai, as well as A. Dharumalingam and A.E. Croose, equalled 'Ceylon Public Schools Record'.

### **Nava Karunaratnarajah**

Cricket - 'Gentleman Karu' as he is known to many, was an active Patrician and was in the Hindu Boarding during Fr. Long's time. At the time of writing, Karu is being nominated by the Member of Parliament of his electorate for Her majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award. Hopefully he will get it by end of this October; He is also Vice President of Sri Lankan Past Railway Employees' Association in Canada. He Captained the SPC third eleven Cricket team in 1958 and had a wonderful time at school. He wore several hats during his life time; Honorary Secretary of the Railways Institute for three years in Ceylon; Played for the Railways Cricket Team for three years; Served in Saudi Arabia as a site Engineer; He was the recipient of the Volunteer Service Award from the Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Immigration; Working Committee member of the SPC Alumni Association of Canada; unanimously elected President of Tamil seniors group of Etobicoke for the past five years and President of the Multicultural Association of Etobicoke.

### **Professor Xavier Fernando**

Xavier Fernando studied in St. Patrick's college in 1983 - 1984. He sat the G. C. E (A/L) exam in St. Patrick's in Aug. 84 and entered University of Peradeniya. He is a Professor and Multimedia Stream Coordinator at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada. He has PhD from the University of Calgary, Alberta. He has co-authored close to 100 research articles and holds a patent. He is the Chair of the IEEE Toronto Section and an IEEE Communications Society Distinguished Lecturer. He is a member in the IEEE COMSOC Education Board Working Group on Wireless Communications. He has delivered invited talks worldwide including the Cambridge University (UK) and Princeton University (USA). He is a co-author and co-editor of the IEEE Communications Society Wireless Communication Body of Knowledge (WEBOK). He was a visiting scholar at the Institute of Advanced Telecommunications (IAT), UK in 2008. He has worked for AT&T for three years as an R&D Engineer. He is a program evaluator for ABET. His work has won several awards and prizes including IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society Prize in 2010, Sarnoff Symposium prize in 2009, Opto-Canada best poster prize in 2003 and CCECE best paper prize in 2001. He is very active professionally and won IEEE COMSOC Chapter Achievement Award for 2008 and IEEE Toronto Section exemplary service award in 2007. He was the General Chair for IEEE Toronto International Conference on Science and Technology for Humanity 2009. He has obtained funding from Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA), Alberta Informatics Circle of Research Excellence (ICORE), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada, Canadian Foundation of Innovations (CFI), Ontario Innovations Trust Fund (OIT), Ryerson International, MITACS, and Canadian Photonic Fabrication Research (CPFR).

### **Others**

There a number of others, notably Vincent Jacob, Mervyn Joseph, Christy Rajadurai, Muthulingam, Gratian, Gunasingam, Pilendran, FJM Jegathesean, Bastiampillai, ACT Rasiah, Jeyasingam, Xavier (hits a sixer in almost in every cricket match), MF Joseph (iconic wicket keeper), and others who delighted the then Patricians in there are of sports during those days. We like to hear about their achievements to date in the future editions.

## **Snippets**

### **Sri Bhagavadas**

Sri Bhagavadas is Solicitor & Barrister, LLM (Sydney), M Inte. Study (Sydney), M A (UNSW), and has worked for Aboriginal legal services for ten years. As an academic, and a prolific free lance writer, Sri epitomizes the true Patrician spirit in every sense of the word. He has written a number of articles and has organised a number of plays all aimed towards justice and love for mankind.

### **W.C.M. Gunaretnam**

W.C.M. Gunaretnam is well known for his voluntary service on the publication of a number of various St Patrick's journals over a number of years, including his role as Editor of the 'Bottled Sunshine'. W.C.M. Gunaretnam also was the Editor for the wonderful Global Reunion Souvenir 2012 which included articles and photographs of alma mater then and now along with ancillary information, refreshing the past and present glories of our Alma Mater. W C M Guneratnam is the brother of multi-talented and our popular teacher, generally known as "Gnanaratnm Master".

### **Alfred E Arulanandam**

Alfred is well known for his voluntary service from his school days and delighted in the school's Passion Plays and other drama activities. As a Member of the Altar Boys Association of St Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna, his contribution to entertainment including voluntary piano playing at annual fund raising events. He continued his service helping and mentoring others as well as Patricians and recently was the Editor of a number of publications including Patrician Souvenir Journals for Norway (2011) and Canada (2012) and the latter was considered to be the mother of all Souvenirs, by a number of Patricians. Alfred was elected as the first Sri-Lankan President of the UK based Cost & Management Accountants Association, which at that had 3,300 strong membership. Alfred is also a Member of CMA (Canada), ACMA (UK), CGMA (UK) and CSC (Canada).

### **Dr Nelson**

Dr.Ambrose L Nelson RMP, MAcF (Sri Lanka) has been the President Patricians of Jaffna (Sydney) from 1994 until 2011 and was Vice President from 1995 to 2004 and 2011 to 2012. Dr Nelson was also the President of Catholic Association of Sydney Tamils, Vice President ETA, Sydney, NSW and the Chairman, 25th Anniversary Committee of Patricians of Jaffna (Sydney). Nelson is well known for social service and has successfully organised a number of fund raising charitable events for the welfare of our alma mater.

### **Dr Victor Rajakulendran**

A versatile Patrician and academic, Dr V Rajakulendran, a former Committee Member, a Social Worker, TV, SBS Radio personality. Deeply committed to the welfare of the marginalised Tamil community.

### **Eliyathamby Arumainathan**

The Association is indebted to our loyal, responsible senior Executive Committee member for typesetting the Tamil articles and Tamil songs. As a social worker among the Tamil community, Arumainathan spends his time especially the weekends imparting the Tamil language as the Principal and President of the Mt Druitt Tamil Centre, supported by his helpful wife Immaculate, daughter Christine and son Anton. Arumainathan is currently the President of Patricians of Jaffna, Sydney (Australia). Arumainathan was also the President of Catholic Association of Sydney Tamils during 2006/2007 and 2007/2008.



## Jovan Soosaipillai Titus

As a senior deeply committed member, Jovan has been a tower of strength to the Association. A former President and Vice President of the Catholic Association of Sydney Tamils. Ably led the Patricians' Australia Clean up Campaign. Jovan was the President of Patricians of Jaffna during March 2011 – March 2012.

## Adrian W Arulanandam Justice of the Peace, ACT

As a senior dedicated member of the Association, Adrian from time to time travelled from Canberra to Sydney to assist as Master of the Ceremony at Association functions including Patrick's Day celebrations, Christmas dinners and other charity events. As a passionate Musician, he has sung with the great singers like 'Unnikrishnan', in public concerts & has also provided his services as a singer and guitar player at many voluntary functions. Adrian is also a social work worker, conducted part time Tamil Radio Programs that is aired across 'down under' and has released a CD, composing some of his own songs. He is currently a Justice of the Peace.

### Stamps issued by Sri Lankan Government in relation to St. Patrick's College and Patricians (Rev Fr Gnanapragasar, Rev Fr Long and Swami Vipulananda) and St Patrick's College



( This list was composed from base data of the past Patrician journals and reports and subsequently expanded by the Editors of this Souvenir and the Norwegian Souvenir.)