



BLUE WHITE & BLUE



Newsletter of the Old Josephians' Club of Australia
First Quarter 2016



President's Message

Happy New Year - 2016. I wish all my fellow Joseaphians' and their families a peaceful and blessed new year.

With our membership's co-operation and the commitment of the committee I have no doubt that we will achieve the objectives that we have set out for 2016.

I request your support, mainly at all the Joes events during the year. This year our flagship event **"Mystic Colours - Dinner Dance" has moved to July 30, 2016**. Please make note of the changed date and make plans to attend along with family and friends. We always cherish your support and input to the Old Josephians' Club of Australia. Together we will be able to grow our club to ensure that we assist our Alma Mater to the best of our ability.

As our past president Gary has mentioned in his message we embarked on an ambitious project of refurbishing the lady teachers staff room which cost us almost AUD 20,000/-. I had the opportunity to visit the staff room prior to the refurbishment in June 2015 and thereafter in January 2016, after the renovations were completed. I must say that I was heartened with the outcome and was proud to be associated with such a mammoth endeavor by our club in

Australia. This project has been a big source of encouragement to the teaching faculty and Fr. Rector who expressed his appreciation for the commitment shown by the Old Joes of Australia in supporting college now and in the past years.

I am always open to and welcome your suggestions and your thoughts for the development and growth of our Association.

I remain committed to seeing us through another successful year and thank you for your on-going support and commitment to college and our Old Joes Club in Australia.

Best wishes
Mohan Perera
President

Thank you for the honour and the opportunity that you have given me to lead the OBA this year. The new committee and I will continue to strive in supporting our alma mater in various areas of sports and other beneficial initiatives as seen fit by the membership and college.

This year we have identified a few focus areas and would make it our priority to address them through the appointment of sub committees:

- Membership Drive
- Communication (Web Site, News Letter, FB etc.)
- Sponsorship Drive
- Project Identification
- Event Organising
- Old Joes Welfare

Mystic Colours - Dinner Dance has moved to July 30, 2016. Please make note of the changed date

The Joes Committee 2015 — 2016



Mohan Perera
President



Patrick Dirckze
Vice President



Uditha Vithanage
Secretary



Joseph Carvalho
Treasurer



Hilary Felsing
Social Secretary



Sheahan Pereira
Sports Secretary



Dannelle Diaz
Editor



Hirosha Perera
Gen. Committee



Sanath Jayanetti
Gen. Committee



Gary Gunesakara
Gen. Committee



Darrell De Silva
Gen. Committee



Alex Fernano
Gen. Committee



Jeremy De Lima
Gen. Committee



Keith Ockersz
Gen. Committee



Spencer Madhanayake
Gen. Committee



Rayan Ohlmus
Gen. Committee



Nirmal De Silva
Gen. Committee



Ravi De Cruze
Gen. Committee

Rev. Fr. Rector's Message



It is always a pleasure to communicate with our Branch Unions overseas. A communication, be it written or spoken helps tremendously to bind us closely and strengthens the links that bind.

Distance separates us physically, however of this I am certain, it is that the very name of your old schools kindles

a deep sense of loyalty and fondness which is inexplicable and stirs a thousand memories which are relived all over again.

It is this that makes you want to repay your alma mater in various ways by engaging in sponsoring various projects which your Branch sponsors.

I want the membership to know how much the Management ap-

preciates your efforts in so many ways. I want you also to know that it is not only at times like this but also on numerous occasions that we recall your absence but are consoled that you are with us in spirit.

This News Letter will certainly help to communicate good news among the Josephian family in Melbourne and elsewhere.

I wish you all the success I know you deserves. Thank you

REV. FR. TRAVIS GABRIEL.
RECTOR/PRINCIPAL.

A Note on our History— The Old Josephians' Club Melbourne



The Old Josephians Club of Australia, is one of the oldest Sri Lankan school clubs in Melbourne Australia.

Founded in 1984 with the encouragement of a former Rector of St Joseph's Colombo, Fr Neville Emmanuel who was visiting Melbourne, the club has grown exponentially and now has more than 300 registered members, some from two and even 3 generations of Old Josephians.

Tribute to an Old Joe and Pal

Carl Gerald Aldons— By Phil Lobendhan

Carl was born in Dar Es Salaam East Africa and spent most of his Primary school years in Africa. Carl migrated to Sri Lanka along with his brother Robert his stint at St Joseph's began when he joined college in the high school years. During his education years at St. Joseph's Carl and Robert were boarded with Big Teacher (Marjorie Stave). Since then Carl has been a dedicated Joe.



Having completed his education at St. Joseph's Carl sought and obtained employment at Air Ceylon.

Carl joined the BRC club in Colombo and played Hockey for this prestigious Club. Having spent a few years in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) Carl decided to head back to Nairobi, where he did several jobs, he was also secretary of Parklands Sports Club in Nairobi which had a membership of over 600 and it was while at this club that Carl met his sweetheart Christine Smith whom he later married at St. Austin's church Nairobi on 10th June 1967.

Carl and Christine migrated to Australia (Melbourne) in 1981 and after several jobs Carl decided to start up a travel business (Orrong Travel) while Christine sought employment at AMP. Carl had no hesitation in joining the Joes OBA and served as the president for two years, 1989–1990. Carl was an active member of the Federal Liberal party, and also President of the Burgher Association Australia for two years 2000 – 2001.

Carl is now resident at Waverley Valley Age Care, Room 45, 29-33 Chesterville Road, Glen Waverley.

EDITOR'S NOTE



Its with great delight that I bring you the new and re vitalised Joes OBA - Australia Newsletter, "*Blue White and Blue*".

I request your support, please provide me with your literary and photo contributions here in OZ and also the rest of the OBA's around the world and most importantly news from our Alma Mather. I will do my best to make this newsletter an informative and interesting read for all of you. The plan is to produce 2 newsletters per year at present I would most certainly be happy to look at increasing the frequency of the newsletter if we have sufficient material to publish. I look forward to your feedback **good** and **bad** and receiving all your articles and pictures as and when they are available to you.

Please join our Facebook page [SJC OBU—Melbourne](#) and spend a few minutes looking at our website www.oldjoesaust.com.au.

A warm welcome to **Mohan Perera** our new president for 2015–2016 and to the rest of the newly elected committee. Thank you to **Gary** for all the hard work done in the past 2 years and the success that we have been able to achieve during your tenure as President and thank you for your continued support in the committee.

I look forward to bringing you the best possible, interesting information in the coming issues of *Blue White and Blue*". Wish you every success in 2016.

Dannelle Diaz
dannellediaz@gmail.com



The Past Two Years— A Message of Thanks

By Gary Gunesekere—Immediate Past President 2013 – 2015

Thank you all for the opportunity to lead the Old Josephian's Club of Australia – Melbourne, for the past 2 years. It was

a privilege, honour and pleasure for me to serve our club. I pledge my whole hearted support to our Club in the coming years.

I am so very glad that I was able to give back to St. Joseph's college for all the nurturing and character building that I received. As I most often say with fondness, "The person that I am today has been moulded by my family first and then my Alma Mater St. Joseph's College".

A big thank you to the committee for all the hard work and support during past two terms. I am sure we could look back with pride on our achievements.

To all the Old Joes and well wishes who supported us and all our events, **"THANK YOU!"**. Without your support we would not have achieved success.

As you are aware we have 4 main functions each year; the St Joseph's feast day in March, The Members Evening in May and the biggest of all, our Annual Dinner Dance in July and the Christmas Celebration. These events were very well patronised by all Josephians, young and old from Victoria interstate and overseas.

It was very satisfying to see that we were able to revitalise our already successful **Mystic Colours** – dinner dance which has

now become a noteworthy annual event on the Sri Lankan schools calendar, with participation levels up to sell out numbers of 550 guests + during the past 2 years.

Our Feast and Christmas functions have also been a success. The annual "Members Night" has given the young and veteran Old Joes the opportunity to party, mingle, share each others stories and build up comradery all adding up to a fantastic evening.

Thanks to the participation and support of our Old Joes and well wishes we were able to raise a considerable amount of money through our events.

For the first time in the 32year history of the Old Joes Club of Australia we were able to take on a considerable big project, the renovation and refurbishment of the ladies' staff room at college at a cost of approximately \$20,000. The project was completed in September 2015. In addition, we have made regular contributions to college sports, the teachers Christmas function and for the first time we contributed to the 2014 annual get together for the college support staff.

Over the past 2 terms we have had our ups and downs, some things we did well and some things have room for improvement. Regardless, all of it was done to the best of our abilities and with one clear goal in mind – to support and give back to St. Joseph's College. Overall it has been a terrific ride. Once again **"THANK YOU!"** to the two committees for your unselfish support in the past two years. To all the Old Boys and our

well wishes in Victoria and interstate – specially NSW, we could not have achieved success without you.

As I ponder, with gratitude towards all the past presidents and committees of the years gone by, while especially remembering the founder members of our OBA. Thank You! without you and your dedication to our club and college we would not have the opportunity and ability to serve such a worthy cause.

I now hand over the mantel to my successor Mohan Perera who has faithfully severed on the committee with much dedication in the past years.

Thank You once again for the privilege and God Bless you all. I remain dedicated to supporting my Alma Mather always.

"For the first time in the 32 year history of the Old Joes Club of Australia we have been able to take on a considerable big project"

Calling all Old Joes in Victoria and Australia to join the 'Old Joes' club in Victoria

Please contact Sanath Jayanetti—0478770051

or

Members can now pay their \$15 subscription online via Net banking.

Bank: National Australia Bank

Account Name: Old Josephians Club of Australia Inc.

BSB: 083-297

Account: 168148308

Please include your full name in the 'To account description' so we can match your payment to your subscription.

Join the 'Old Joes' club in Victoria

The AGM—2015



The Annual General meeting of the Old Josephians' Club of Australia Inc. was held on October 25th 2015, at the Walawwa (The Bungalow) in Noble Park.

The meeting was attended by a hand full of members. A new committee was elected, from the nominations that were received. The general observation was that there could be a lot more participation from the membership to make our already successful Old Joes OBA an even more viable group. Mohan and the committee requests your participation as much as possible.



Members Night —2015



The annual members night was held at The Walawwa in May 2015. This annual networking evening has seen a surge in attendance by the younger old joes.

Sports Report— *By Susilough de Silva Wijeyeratne*

Cricket took a back seat over the weekend due to the Inter House Athletic meet, where Marque House became champions with a clear lead, however on Sunday the Past Cricketers met Present Cricketers in their Annual one day match for the Past Cricketers trophy, which was won by the Past Cricketers. It was also encouraging to see some immediate Past Cricketers taking the field and off the field too there were Past Cricketers to support the Cricketers. Lalit de s Wijeyeratne our Captain of 1968 handed over the trophy to another Past Captain Prasann Leanage who led the Past Cricketers.

This week (Fri/Sat) we will be playing against St Anthony's College, Kandy for the Murali-Vaas Trophy which is named after the two great Sri Lankan Bowlers and the Highest wicket takers for Sri Lanka in International Cricket.

A Joes past cricketers cap has been launched as the dates for the Joe—Pete 2016 draws near. Please buy your cap early as a limited stock is available Priced at Rs. 500/=

In Rugby the Fixtures are attached however the Venues are not yet known, please keep the dates free.

The Josephian Peterite Old Boys Dinner will be on the 26th February 2016 at the Waters Edge, Please book your tickets early
The Josephian Stag Nite will have a new look this year as Batch of 98 together with the Old Joes Sports club has teamed up to give an exciting evening on the 3rd of March at the College grounds.



Harin Cooray's 12 wkt haul paved the way for victory for Joes against Wesley



The Past Cricketers trophy

St Joseph's College Past Cricketers beat the St Joseph's College Present Cricketers by 5 wkts in a match played at Darley Road.

St Joseph's College Present Cricketers 271 for 9 in 50 Overs
Sandaruwan Rodrigo 49, Nipun Sumanasinghe 21, Thashan Perera 66 n.o, Malshan Rodrigo 43, Charuka Ullandupitiya 20
Aravinda Akurugoda 3 for 34, Yashan Samarasinghe 2 for 33

St Joseph's College Past Cricketers 275 for 5 in 35.4 overs
Tharindu Ariyawansa 50, Sadeera Samarawickrema 102, Roshen Silva 77
Kavindu Jayathissa 2 for 53



Rugby Fixtures 2016

18 th March	Vs S Thomas' College	Home
2 nd April	Vs Trinity College	Away
9 th April	Vs Wesley College	Home
23 rd April	Vs Royal College	Home
30 th April	Vs D S Senanayake College	Home

The venues are to be announced. The first four teams on the ladder will qualify for the clash for the cup.

JOES RETAIN MURALI—VASS TROPHY FOR THE 6TH TIME

At Darley Road the Joes retained the Murali—Vass trophy for the 6th time in a row.

St. Joseph's: 169/6 at close in 43 overs (Shevon Fonseka 37, Nipun Sumanasinghe 36, Kevin Coteling 29, Neran Gunathilake 20, Sandaruwan Dharmarathne 3/63)

St. Anthony's: 138 in 49.2 overs (Kanishka Uggalpaya 31, Lakjeewa Wijebandara 24, Mohammed Aflaar 20, Harin Cooray 4/15, Malshan Rodrigo 3/27)

Dates to note

Soccer

18th Feb Vs Dharmarajah College at M H Mohamed football Grounds, Wanathamulla

26th Feb Josephian-Peterite Dinner at the Waters Edge

3rd March Stag Nite at the College Grounds

Some info featured in this article maybe old at the time of publishing this newsletter

Marque House—Inter House Champs

Athletics (Inter House sports meet)

Marque House won the 82nd Inter House Athletic Meet held at the College grounds

Marque House	382
Bonjean House	297.5
Melizan House	196
Coudert House	193.5

Best Athlete for the year 2015 : Damindu Dharshan



Rugby & it's Roots at SJC — *By Dannelle Diaz in collaboration with Holly Ohlmus*



Rev. Fr. Peter A Pillai

It was after the Joe-Pete cricket encounter in 1954 that a group of Sports loving Joes, led by Lalith De Mel and Anton Mariadasan, attempted to inaugurate a rugby team for the purpose of playing club rugby after they finished their studies at college. This almost went viral among many Joes and in a short space of time, weekend ruggar practices during the term and morning practice sessions during the holidays saw the dawn of Josephian rugby. The first practice sessions were held at a public playground, in Havelock Town, now called Pedris Park.

Calling themselves the "Josephian Hornets" this group of school mates played yet another team comprising primarily Thomians of about the same age, on about four occasions. As time went on, these Josephian Hornets became more and more known in the then Ceylon rugby circles, whereupon the sports loving Prefect-of-Games, Mr. Joe Ekanayake proposed to the then Rector, Very Rev. Fr. Peter Pillai that these boys who played as Josephian Hornets be allowed to represent college in inter school rugby tournaments.

Initially, Fr. Peter Pillai was somewhat reluctant but eventually agreed to those playing in the Josephian Hornets team, to represent their school in rugby but in strict compliance to the under 19 age rule of the Rugby Union's, Schools Section. It was quite evident to everyone that the keenness and unrelenting enthusiasm of these Hornets that convinced the Rector to permit the commencement of practices, and appointed the amiable teacher, Mr. Anthony Abeysinghe as the master-in-charge and authorized him to purchase whatever sports equipment was needed. The first purchases were four rugby footballs and three scrum caps. This was the birth of SJC Rugby, a game that has now become a considerable part and parcel of the rich Josephian sports culture.

Initial practice sessions which began in the third term of 1954 were at the Colombo Hockey & Football Club (CH&FC) grounds at the former Colombo Racecourse, with CH&FC player, Mr. J. Ewarts as honorary coach. As Mr. Ewarts was unable to continue coaching for personal reasons, he was replaced by ex-Ceylonese Rugby & Football Club (CR&FC) wing three-quarter Mr. Percy de Silva, Ceylon's Legal Draftsman. Practice sessions were conducted on the College grounds, where the temporary goal posts were made of areca nut tree trunks. Mr. Percy de Silva too found that his professional duties did not permit him to devote much of his time to coaching, and he recommended Mr. N. Numan, who was undoubtedly the best (and most dreaded!) flank-forward and "crash tackler" in his time. Mr. Numan gradually brought the College XV's from 1955 to 1958 to reasonably high standards, and perhaps his greatest joy was to witness the first Josephian rugby victory against Wesley College in 1956.



Mr M Numan

In 1955 the inter school fixtures were against S. Thomas, Royal, Trinity and the Big Match against St Peters. This match was a 'sizzler with a nail biting finish; the tackling by all eight Josephian

INUGURAL JOSEPHIAN RUGBY TEAM - 1955



Back Row

Rene Don Bernard (centre), Ethelbert Ohlmus (breakaway), Gamini Weerasekera (second row), Frank Sebastianpillai (forward), Idris Lye (lock forward), Rushmore Wendt (breakaway), Rex Stanislaus (winger).

Middle Row

Shirley Boteju, Terrence Pereira (prop), Michael Berman (centre), Christo Arendtstz (stand-off), Tony Perera (second row), Cecil Dharmaratne (scrum half), Shirley Poppenbeek (prop), Christo Panambalana (winger), Raja Senanayake (winger).

Seated

Mr. Annesley Abeyasinghe (Master-in-Charge), Neville de Andrado (winger), Mahendra Dias (Captain) (second row), Rev Fr Peter A Pilla (Rector), Mr. Joe Ekanayake (Prefect of Games), Lalith de Mel (hooker), Mr. Percy de Silva (Coach).

Absent

Bryan Symons (centre), Noel Wijeratne (prop)

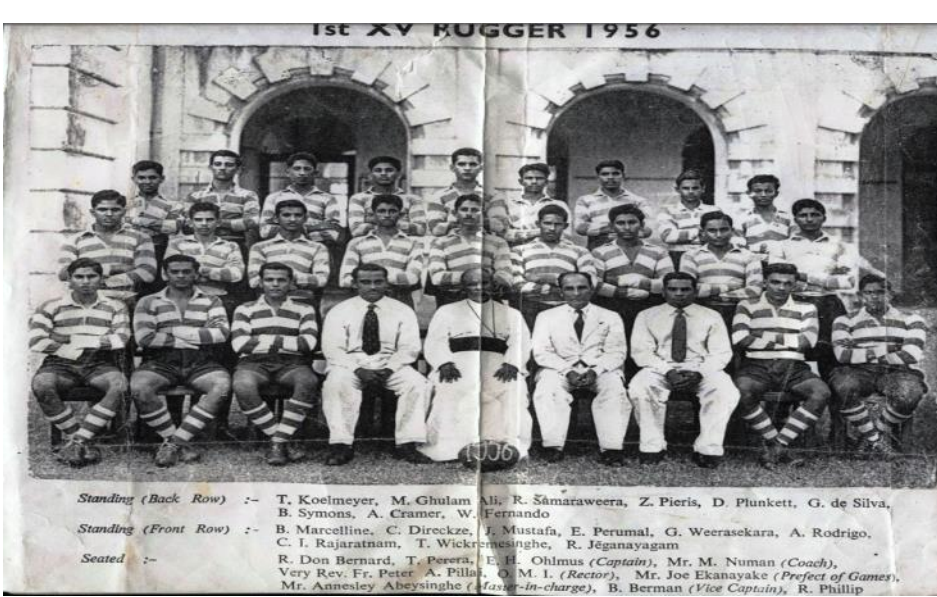
forwards was outstanding and it was destined to be that the more experienced Peterites had to limp away with a wafer-thin 3-0 victory. Here, it might be well to record that Mr. Numan (himself an Old Peterite) had a single and simple message about tackling: "Tackle hard and clean with only one purposes in mind, which is to win the ball for your side". Late tackles, punching opponents and other "dirty play" were never heard of then.

Many who played for the "Hornets" did not represent College in the inaugural year 1955, for the following reasons: (a) Overage (b) Entered overseas/ local universities / higher educational institutions (c) Employment (d) Family migration



Standing (Back Row): Rocky Dias, Atanson Koelmeyer, A. Jinadasa, Prerna Basaranyake, Gladwin Tissera, Raja Athureliya, Lancot Fernando, Zebedee Peries, Russel Gomes? Evan Penumal, Joe Mustapha, T Wickremesinghe, Wilfred Fernando
 Standing (Front Row): Cedric Dirczke, Ethelbert Ohlmus, Mr M Numan (Coach), Very Rev'd Father Peter A Pillai (Rector), Mr Joe Ekanayake (Prefect of Games), Indra Rajaratnam, Gamini Weerasekera

Rugby & it's Roots at SJC — By Dannelle Diaz in collaboration with Holly Ohlmus



Standing (Back Row) :- T. Koelmeyer, M. Ghulam Ali, R. Sāmaraweera, Z. Pieris, D. Plunkett, G. de Silva, B. Symons, A. Cramer, W. Fernando
Standing (Front Row) :- B. Marcelline, C. Direckze, J. Mustafa, E. Perumal, G. Weerasekara, A. Rodrigo, C. I. Rajaratnam, T. Wickremesinghe, R. Jēganayagam
Seated :- R. Don Bernard, T. Peera, E. H. Ohlmus (*Captain*), Mr. M. Numan (*Coach*), Very Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai, O. M. I. (*Rector*), Mr. Joe Ekanayake (*Prefect of Games*), Mr. Annesley Abeysinghe (*Master-in-charge*), B. Berman (*Vice Captain*), R. Phillip

As a result of all this Rugby at SJC will live on



Mr. Joe Ekanayake



Class of '70 — By Jeremy De Lima



St Joseph's College Colombo – Our icon of Catholic education in Colombo which begets such great citizens - men of this world who think of others before themselves.

Circa 1970 saw a group of them bid farewell to their Alma Mater, more than 75% of them to migrate, but never to lose this link to their birthplace.

While a few of the old faithfuls had always kept in touch, 35 years later, a chance circumstance of a phone call, and an exchange of spread sheets, re-invigorated this band. Discovering in disbelief, that more than half a dozen were living within a few kilometres of each other in Melbourne, they first decided to re-group in Melbourne, fittingly at "Mystic Colours" the Old Josephians Annual dance in 2006

This event saw the launch of a camaraderie indubitably linked to College. At one time this class had 5 committee members in the Old Josephians Club of Australia with one going on to become president and another the current Vice president!

Since the historical gathering in 2006, there have been many mini

and major class reunions, with the latest event, last year in 2015 in Sri Lanka. As shown in the photo, this is now a Josephian "family" which gather together from afar as Australia, Canada, Switzerland and Germany.

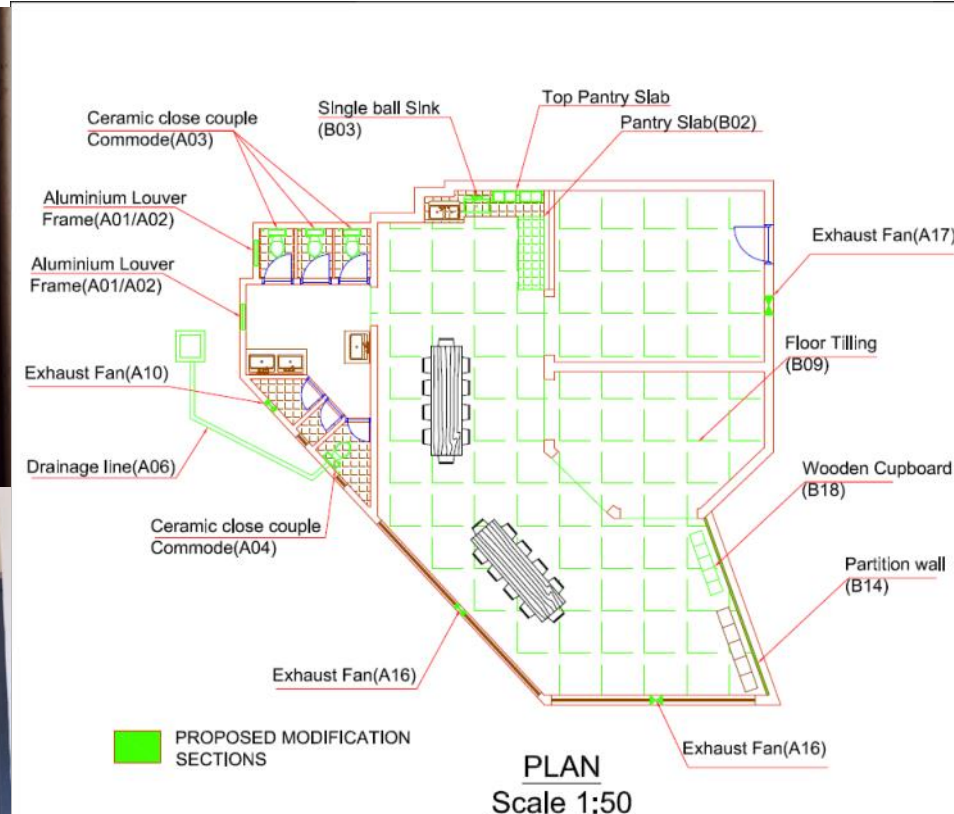
It is worth reminiscing that at a prior reunion in 2009, at a mass in the College chapel, when the Josephian choir rendered "We stand for God" there was not one dry eye in this grateful class of 1970!

May their friendship which was nurtured in the portals of that great institution which holds all Josephians together, sustain them forever- *In Scientia Et Virtute*"



"Mystic Colours" Joes dinner Dance - new date JULY 30, 2016

Staff Room Project - 2015



The Joes OBA Australia were looking to take on a considerable project to help our Alma Mater in 2015, in previous years we helped college with smaller projects as and when required. The committee under the leadership of OBA President—Gary Gunesekere had discussions with Fr. Rector to ascertain the most beneficial and affordable project for us to undertake. Rev. Fr. Rector-Travis Gabriel, requested us to look at refurbishing the Lady teachers staff room as it was in a dilapidated state at the time and needing urgent repairs. The Joes OBA of Australia took on the challenge to redesign and renovate the staff room. The pictures show the completed project.

The teachers thank the OBA for their generosity that will go on to make a big impact on the ladies faculty. Surely the students will also benefit from having refreshed and rested teachers who can now recoup between classes in their comfortable surroundings. The committee would like to thank the membership and all the well-wishers of college who contributed to making this project a tremendous success.

2015 Happenings



Joes OBA President Mohan Perera and Old Joe Sanath-Pavithra Jayanetti meeting HE Somasundaram Skandakumar, Sri Lanka High Commissioner, Consul General and Trade Commissioner in Australia (Nov 2015)



The generous hosts Devaka and Gillian De Silva



Joes 81 Batch Christmas Party

The Joes 81' Family choir that serenaded you at the Joes Christmas function



Hosting Old Joe Damian of D-Zone fame during his visit to Melbourne



The sing song carried on to the wee hours of the morning . Good to have Kumar Fernando from NSW join the boys

Joes 81 Batch Resident Elvis—Dr Jude Gurusinghe and Music Maestro Jude De Silva in action

Joes NCGE Melbourne Group Hosted by Mohan and family



Joes Christmas function December 2015



'99 batch

Calling all writers!! Old Joes and Others. Please send in your articles, pictures and info on any relevant topic to the editor oldjoesaust@gmail.com

Joos Dinner Dance—2015



JOSA VICTORY - "The Saints Quadrangular 2016"

The Saints Quadrangular Cricket Tournament 2016 was resurrected after a few years of being a non event.

It was a sunny and bright Tuesday that saw a 25C high and was also a National holiday that saw many past pupils of 'the Saints' at the venue; J. P. Camms Reserve, Cranbourne.

The Camms Reserve saw many families gather to enjoy the atmosphere food stalls, DJ music, bouncy castle and games for kids.

The games began with St. Peter's College playing St. Benedict's College St. Peter's walked away winners. The next game on the cards St. Joseph's versus St. Anthony's College saw the Josephians walk away on top.

This brought on the age old "Battle of the Saints" in competing for the championship trophy. The Joes won easily by 35 runs.

The Bens played the Antonian's for 3rd place and won by 8 wickets. The fighting Antonian's went down fighting hard, but were no match for the younger Bens side.

JOES were crowned the champs of 2016—JOSA VICTORY !!!!



Joes Event Calendar 2016

March 2016	May 2016	July 2016	September 2016	December 2016
<p><i>JOES FEAST DAY</i></p> <p><i>19th March @ the Walawwa</i></p>	<p><i>Members Night</i></p> <p><i>7th May @ the Walawwa</i></p>	<p><i>"Mystic Colours" Dinner Dance</i></p> <p><i>July 30 @ Springvale Town hall</i></p>	<p><i>Golf / Family Day 3rd Week of September (details dates and event TBA)</i></p>	<p><i>Joes Christmas Function (Details will be announced shortly)</i></p>