

ROCOHA

Royal College Old Hostellers' Association

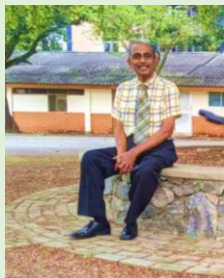
NEWSLETTER

Hostel News

Renovation of the Dining Hall



RC Group of 2004 has renovated and beautified the dining hall and external area. Mr. K.H Amaradasa, the former Warden was the Chief Guest at the handing over ceremony. A popular teacher; Mr. Amaradasa has been the President of the Past Teachers Association of Royal College after his retirement.



Mr. K.H Amaradasa

Renovation of the Drain System

Hostel drain system has been renovated with the support of Government funding of 4 MLKR. Prior to that students have confronted several difficulties in rainy days.



Motivating O/L Students



To cheer up the young hostellers who were sitting the GCE (O/L) 2020, a motivational session has been conducted by past hosteller Mohammad Rizwan (1993 A/L) recently at the invitation of the Warden.



Have you updated your information?

The **database of past hostellers** is being updated by Membership Development Subcommittee (MDS). Please use the following **link or QR CODE** to update our database.

Link: <https://forms.gle/SbvrJe5ereu4zx5o7>



For any queries you may contact, the Chairman of Membership Development, **Buddhika Harishchandra**

Mobile: 071 3 770 984

Email: buddhika.haris@gmail.com



A ROCOHA Committee meeting in progress at the renovated dining hall.

Riffa Heads the Sri Lankan Operation



Ismath Mohammed Riffa (1986 A/L) is the Head of Supply Chain at Upfield Lanka Limited. He has been the president of ROCOHA for three years contributing immensely to sustain & develop ROCOHA network.

A Chat with Mr. Harishchandra Past Hostel Warden from 1973 to 1981



Current Residence: Australia

Education: Royal College and University of Ceylon.

Qualifications: B.Sc., University of Ceylon

Career: 17 years at Royal College and 20 years in Seychelles as a teacher.

Main Stream of teaching: Physics

Additional Responsibilities:

- Sectional Head grade 11
- Master-in-Charge of Rugger for 5 years
- Master-in-Charge of Cricket for 5 years

Spouse: Mrs. Nanda Nanayakkara, educated at Methodist College and University of Ceylon.

Children:

1. Dr. Ramani Nanayakkara, Paediatrician working in the U.K.
2. Savithri Nanayakkara, lives in Australia.
3. Prasanna Nanayakkara, Engineer lives in Australia.

Hobbies: Scrabble and Bridge. Watching cricket.

Advice to the young: Learn of books, learn of men and learn to play the game. Do regular exercise and walk for one hour. Look after your parents.

He can be contacted through email vhnanayakkara@hotmail.com

Change of Administration in the Hostel

The Warden, Mr. Chulatissa Danuddara will be retiring from the government service with effect from 6th June 2021. He is on leave from 15th March and Mr. Janaka Jayasinghe is acting as the Warden.

Camaraderie After Many Years



82 G felicitating their batchmate **Parliamentarian Anupa Piyum Pasqual**. From left to right Sumudu Jayamanne, Prabath Jayathilake, Shervin (SHAP) De Silva, Jayantha Madurapperuma, Dr. Asitha Chandrakeerthi, Rear Admiral Upul Ekanayake, Lohitha Wijethunge. Seated Left to right Nanadana Gamlath, B.S Ravindrathilake, Anupa Piyum Pasqual, Upali Bandara (Wamboatuwewa), Janaka Kumarasinghe.



Group of 1984 hostel batchmates at a gathering (from left Thusitha Paranagama, Chandana Kulasekara, Dinesh Weerawansa, Harischandra Ranasinghe and Indunil Kodituwakku)

Amendments to ROCOHA Constitution

To bring the above in line with contemporary needs a mini committee headed by Lawyer **Anuradha Kiralawella** along with Hony. Secretary Jeewan Nayanajith is reviewing it. After the amendments it will be taken up at a Special General Meeting by following the due process.

Extension of Hostel Fee Support Scholarship

A total of 10 hostel students will be awarded with scholarships by ROCOHA in 2021. Half of them will be on merit and the other half on a need basis.

The purpose of the merit scholarships is to self-motivate hostellers to learn of books, men and learn to play the game. The criteria are being developed by the committee member Hasitha Jayasinghe.



With the purpose of introducing fast growing IT careers to hostel students, seven students staying at home during the pandemic has been connected with the Silicon Valley, USA. The program was facilitated by One Billion Tech (Pvt.) Ltd.



Senior hostel from the playground side

Condolences



It is with great sadness we inform you, the demise of our past hosteller **Madusha Liyanage** (2000 A/L). May he attain Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!

Also, past hosteller, Attorney-at-law **Asoka Manthirratne** (1979 A/L) who has been practicing at Attanagalla Bar has passed away. May he attain Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!

Hostel History in Brief



As per the information available, hostel of Colombo Academy was established in San Sebastian in 1868. (as one of the first boarding schools in Ceylon). This hostel has been there till 1913, until the College was moved to the new building in Reid Avenue. In 1935 once again new boarding was established at "Maligawa" (stately mansion of Sir James Obeyesekere). In 1941 hostel was shifted to the unique boarding school in the salubrious climate of Bandarawela during the World War II. This was 'GLENDALE' which originally belonged to an English gentleman. The bungalow was converted to serve as a hostel. Almost all the students were 'boarders', thus this 'Boarding School' came to be known as 'Glendale'. From its inception in 1942 till its closure at the end of 1948 Glendale was in charge of the well-known educationist the much-respected J.T.R. Perimpanyagam.

Source: An extract from the article on 'ROYAL'S GLENDALE' Published on Daily Mirror

14th September 2019 by Col S.D Lankadeva KSV BA(Hons) (Retd)

ROCOHA Supported the Renovation of Senior Dormitory in April 2021

Before



After



The past Sub Warden Mr. Sivalingam living in Kallaru, Batticaloa has been visited by old Royalist/Minister Dinesh Gunawardhane a year ago.

Our Past Hostellers - 'They Kept thy fame inviolate'

Our Scientists

A Hosteller with 43 Patents

Jatila Ranasinghe (1976A/L) is working to empower a world powered by zero emissions energy.



He has spent the 23 years at General Electric and Power, applying his engineering expertise. He has been **awarded 43 patents** – so far.

ROCOHA Entrepreneurs



Dave Siriwardena (1980 A/L) is Founder of Dave Tractors & Combines (Pvt.) Ltd have contributed

immensely to the Agro Machinery Industry in Sri Lanka. He is also the chairmen of Lankaloha (LANLO) Hardware Ltd, which is former Ceylon Hardware Corporation.



Dharshan Wijesooriya (1980 A/L) has **started** online music classes. He owns Amarillo school of music. Dharshan is an International Dance Adjudicator, Examiner and Dance Instructor.



Kapila Dodamgoda (1987 A/L) is the Regional Director of ICMA (Australia) Sri Lanka and founder/ Managing

Director of the Academy of Finance (Private) Ltd. Also, an engineer cum accountant he is Director of the National Engineering Research and Development Centre (NERD).



W.M. Upali Bandara Wambatuwewa (1982 A/L) is the head of the Interpreters Office in Parliament. He was also

the Official Interpreter to the former President of Sri Lanka and has accompanied him to more than 20 countries and meeting more than 25 global heads of state during those visits.

Queen Services Medal to Channa



Our first Hony. Secretary of ROCOHA, **Channa**

Ranasinghe (1977 A/L) has been conferred honours in

2018 for his commendable services to New Zealand by the queen of England. He is the Sri Lankan President of United Sri Lankan Association in New Zealand.

Link to Channa Ranasinghe's Investiture by the Governor-General, New Zealand;
<https://youtu.be/WSfhjVS6lTY>

Young Achievers



Ranga Wijewardhane (2001 A/L) an accountant by profession is the Head of Operations (COO) at Infomate (Pvt.) Ltd; a subsidiary of John Keels.

He operates a team of more than 250 Financial professional with direct reporting to the CEO. Also, Ranga is the current Hony. Secretary of ROCOHA.



Dr. Charitha Herath (2001 A/L) MBBS Hons (Col), MD Medicine (Col), MRCP (UK) Consultant in Interventional and General Cardiologist, attached to Ministry of Health,



Dr. Sanjaya Kumarasinghe (2001 A/L) MBBS, MD (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) Consultant Obstetrician and is a Gynaecologist attached to Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka



Dr. Chanaka Rupasinghe (2004 A/L) graduated from University of Moratuwa in Electronics Engineering and PhD in Electrical and computer systems engineering from

Monash University, Australia. He is the Principal inventor for 2 international patents and has won academic and corporate awards in Australia, Sri Lanka and at Asia Pacific level including best IT project in Australia for 2020. Currently he is working as a Senior Data Scientist at DXC technology and consultant to Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Doctors' Corner



Prof. Prasad Amarathunge (1975 A/L), has been the past Dean of the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya and Past President of the Asia Pacific

Dental Federation. Also, currently he is the Consultant Dental Surgeon and Dental Implantologist at Primrose Dental Hospital Kandy.



Prof. Ranjan Premaratne (1982 A/L) Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya is the Head of the Rickettsial Disease Diagnostic and Research

Laboratory. He is a world-renowned scholar in the above area and practices as a Consultant Physician in Ragama.



Dr. Ajith Jayasena (1986 A/L) Consultant Judicial Medical Officer (JMO) at Teaching Hospital

Kuliyapitiya has been appointed as the **President of College of Forensic Pathologists** from March 2021.



Dr. Ajith Rathnaweera (1995 A/L) Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna is also a council member of College of Forensic Pathologists.

Corporate Personalities



Rajitha Kariyawasam (1987 A/L) an engineer cum accountant is the Managing Director of Haycarb PLC, one of the world's leading manufacturer and marketer of coconut shell activated carbon.



Mohommad Azmeer (1979 A/L) a banker with strong international exposure has been the CEO of Amana Bank Since 2014.

Editor's Desk for News and Feedback

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