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NEWSLETTER

September 2013

ASSOCIATION OF PAST EMPLOYEES OF SINGER

80, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Members,

This may be the last issue of our Newsletter for the current year. I feel it is appropriate that we look back and see to what extent we have achieved the objectives in publishing the Newsletter.

The Newsletter & Publishing Committee is satisfied that the objectives in publishing this Newsletter have been realized to some extent in comparison to previous years mainly due to the co-operation extended to us by some members by sending articles for publication.

We now feel confident that this trend will continue next year with many more members sharing their past experiences at Singer with their colleagues and friends. Let us all join hands to make the Newsletter of the Past Employees of Singer a much awaited publication.

MEMBERSHIP

As at end August the membership has risen to 199. With the following members joining the Association. We welcome them and look forward to their moral support and active participation in the activities organized by the Executive Committee.

197 Mr. Nasser Majeed

198 Mr. Anton L. Silva



199 Ms. Vimercia Fernando



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 13th October - Medical Camp
- 9th November - Sing-a-long Musical Evening (Tentative)
- 8th December - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Fixed)

(Venues and Confirmed Dates will be notified later)

EVOLUTION OF THE CRICKET BAT

(An Article from the 'Herald Sun' Melbourne, Australia is re-produced for the benefit of the cricket loving members of the Association.)

1620s : The first mention of a Cricket Bat can be traced back to this time. The initial shape was like a Hockey Stick to help hit the ball which was exclusively delivered underarm and along the ground.

1770s : Bats start to take a rectangular profile as bowlers are allowed to loop the ball in the air, while still delivering underarm.

1820s : Laws are changed to allow bowlers to deliver round-arm. The bat takes its truly modern form.

1920s : Sir Donald Bradman uses a bat weighing 2lb 2oz. It is very slim with a straight profile and thin edges. Fellow Australian great Bill Ponsford prefers "BIG BERTHA" weighing 2lb 9 oz.

1960-70 : International Super Stars like Clive Lloyd and Graeme Pollock use bats far heavier than the norm, often exceeding 3lbs. But a lightweight bat is always the weapon of choice for West Indies icon Sir Garfield Sobers.

Mid 1970s : Australian Captains Greg and Ian Chapell use the Grey-Nocolls Scoop with success. West Indies great Brian Lara uses a version of the GN Scoop to post his the world record of 375 against England in April 1994.

1979 : Australian fast bowling legend Dennis Lillee uses an Aluminium bat, the COMBAT in a Test against England in Perth. The bat is soon banned by authorities who deem all bats must be made from wood.

Early 1980s : New Zealand strongman Lance Cairns uses the Newberry Excalibur, the first shoulderless bat. Cairns famously uses the bat to blast six sixes in 10 balls at the MCG in 1983.

2010 : Australian great Matthew Hayden unveils a specific T20 bat, the MONGOOSE. This revolutionary bat has a blade 33% shorter than normal and the handle is 43% longer than a regular bat.

By: G.C. Wasalathanthri

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the demise of Mr. Sarath Abeysena who was ailing for sometime. All of us pray that he finds Eternal Bliss in his next birth.



1. "I am P.M."

B.F.L. Perera, the first Personnel Manager of Singer Industries had a wide smile and a conspicuous gap between his front teeth. He dutifully accompanied the factory workers on their annual excursions. On one trip, standing waist deep in the Kala Oya watching the excursionists splashing in the water, he yelled "Mama PM, Mama PM" and dipped his body into the water. Under water swimmer Prematillake had ripped off his bathing trunk.

2. Cheapest Sympathies

Warehouse driver Abeyasinghe passed away after a heart attack and there were only five SSL employees who were prepared to attend the funeral at Gampaha. Non-availability of Company transport kept the others back, yet they were seen dispatching telegrams expressing their condolences.

Leaving Chatham Street office for the funeral, Nicholas commented aloud "We are going to offer our deepest sympathies, but the others are offering their cheapest sympathies".

3. The DM and the Buffalo

A particular DM always drove at break-neck speed and inevitably he had a nasty accident when he crashed against a buffalo. He was hospitalized for several days and his car was a write-off.

He came hobbling to office one day to meet the Marketing Director and began "Sir while I was driving, a buffalo suddenly crossed the road and "Yes yes I know" interrupted Gamani Abeyhuriya " you were driving at 10 mph and the buffalo came at 80 mph knocked you over and your car is smashed up"

4. SIGIRIYA BATTLE

Factory worker Alfred Silva had a high sense of humour, and could turn a tense situation into amusement. In February 1978 while on the Annual Excursion, two factory employees got into a brawl at the Sigiriya vehicle park, and scared school children were seen fleeing from the vicinity seeking safety.

Alfred grabbed the mike in the bus and began a blow by blow commentary.

"What we are now witnessing is the historic battle between Kashyapa and Moggallana in this Sigiriya battle field. It's a duel which is very well being fought..."

Seconds later, Derrick Kelaart and Tony Ferdinand intercepted and separated the two fighters."Unfortunately, ladies and gentlemen," Alfred continued "the great battle was stopped due to Portugese invasion".

BIRTHDAYS



The Ex Co members and the general membership wish the following members who are celebrating their birthdays in October and November. Please accept our apologies if we have missed any one.

<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>	
Beata Rajanayagam	2 nd	Ranjith Liyanage	1 st
M.M.M. Yusuf	2 nd	Ajith Aponso	4 th
Lucky de Chickera	4 th	Indika Gunawardena	8 th
Gamini de Silva	6 th	Jayantha Samarakoon	9 th
Jaminda Mendis	8 th	Anton Nelson	10 th
Nesta Rajakarunanayake	21 st	Rohan Goonetilleke	11 th
Keerthi Abeywickrema	22 nd	WLDS. Wijetunge	16 th
Edwin Joshua	23 rd	Jude M.Joseph	18 th
S.R. Fernando	24 th	D.Wijendra	19 th
Damayanthi Perera	25 th	Tilak Galabada	22 nd
Maya Gangodage	27 th	M.H.M. Nuhmaan	30 th
Mala Abeyhuriya	28 th	Ranjith Udugoda	30 th
Yamuna Perera	31 st		

THE MEANING OF LIFE

This depends on various attitudes of people. Some are very selfish and consider 'Life' is to enjoy to their fullest satisfaction. Some others are sensitive and prefer to share and make others too happy to some extent.

Certain other people who are not very affluent for any financial assistance to the needy or less fortunate people, sincerely extend warm kindness and love, and provide immense moral strength in any hour of need.

You may ponder which category you belong to. I would like to end here with the following statement which I happened to read somewhere.

*"YOUR WEALTH CAN DECORATE YOUR HOUSE,
BUT ONLY YOUR VIRTUES CAN DECORATE YOU.
YOUR DRESS CAN DECORATE YOUR BODY, BUT
ONLY YOUR CONDUCT CAN DECORATE YOU."*

^^^^

Sent by : Pushpa Fonseka



Our Organization had a system for assessing employees' performance during the year, and a good rating was essential for a pay rise. The Sales Manager, a hunting enthusiast, constantly pestered one absent-minded employee to show him the rifle he owned.

1. One morning as we were about to begin a meeting, the subordinate walked in with the rifle. Then he pointed it at the Manager and asked "OK it is time to talk about my rise".
2. Our daughter was selling Home Security over the phone. As she recited the benefits of the system to a potential customer, he interrupted her and said "We don't need it because we have a big dog".
"I see," said my daughter, "but can he dial Emergency"?

MEMBERS' ONE DAY OUTING – 25TH AUGUST 2012



THE VENUE – CLUB PENTHOUSE ISLAND RESORT at Dampe, Piliyandala discovered by our ingenious President Bertie Fernando & Janaka Kaluhendiwela - the expert local explorers. This was an enchanting and serene spot of peace and tranquility only disturbed occasionally by an omnipresent crowd of crows. The members motored their way to the embarkation point and got into the motor boats which took us to the island. It was a short and sweet ride which took only 5 minutes to reach the destination.

A welcome drink of orange juice invigorated us to start proceedings. And the 'old bucks' were soon on the lush green playing cricket, displaying their 'temporary form' and the 'permanent class'. Bertie, Nelson, Janaka, S.R., Nawaz, Maithripala, Upul, Karunaratne, Anton Silva, Sadique, Stanley and Kaluhendiwela junior represented The 'Gents' while Sandya, Sriyani, Subadra, Kamalangani, Himani and daughter Sandali, Yamuna, Pushpa, Janaki Alahapperuma and her four children, Nilanthi and her two Daughters did justice by the Ladies. Our latest member Vimercia also joined in the fun.

The swimming pool in the Resort was very inviting and members were seen enjoying the warm water under the hot sky sipping a beer. It was a difficult task to get John, Maithripala, Nawaz and Stanley (Pushpa's husband) out of the water except to get their refills

Fellowship of members, spouses and the families present was very encouraging and lively specially after the 'spirits' aroused the 'cheer' inside them. The live band provided by another group of visitors who shared the Resort that day with us played irresistible music which drew our young ladies led by the three 'S' sisters of the Singer family- Sandya, Sriyani & Subadra and joined by Janaka. Ajit (Palihawadana), Nawaz, Sadique, Bertie and Nelson, the latter announcing that he was only trying Out the two knees after recent surgery.

D.A. Ariyadasa, photographer was seen snapping away young girls who were dancing or otherwise enjoying the fun and when asked why he was concentrating on the young ones, his reply was that he wanted to show them to his 2 daughters who had refused to join him on the outing saying 'there won't be any fun with 'old folks'. Hope Ari will be able to convince his daughters to join our next outing.

The Buffet lunch served hot and spicy straight from the clay pots was devoured by the members especially those who had been made hungrier by the beverages consumed and the time spent in the pool and on the dance floor. The meal was tasty and the dessert of 'What-will-happen' was nice and sweet.

A group photograph of the party to remember the day was also taken before we left for home at dusk after enjoying an outing with your close colleagues with an air of freedom and happiness which helped us to be away from our busy schedules and stressful work at home. Hope to see you again. *Au Revoir !*

TIME FOR JOKES By: Eric Hulangamuwa



Jim : Hi, Mum, is dinner ready? I'm starving.

Jim's Mother: No, Dinner's only half cooked.

Jim : That's alright – I'll eat the half that's cooked and leave the rest till later.

Surgeon's wife: Why have you cut the back of this book?

Surgeon: : Well it was marked "appendix" and I cut it without thinking

Bill : The Club I'm taking you tonight is very exclusive, you know

Jill : Is that right ?

Bill : Yes even the hot dogs are registered at the Kennel Club

Father ow! : I'm worried about our son

Mother ow! : Why ?

Father ow! : He doesn't give a hoot about anything

Lady at Zoo: Oh look, aren't those tiny Lion Cubs sweet ?
I say if wonder what they'd say if they could talk

TO : PRESIDENT & COMMITTEE A.P.E.S.
AND ASITA

Zoo Keeper: I think they'd probably say "We are Tigers,
not Lions"

*'Twas indeed a pleasant surprise
To receive a gift from all you guys
Not forgetting the two sweet gals
Who have, from the 70s been my great pals*

*Bertie, Ananda, Gamini and Janaka
Nelson, Nissar, Dabara and Lashantha
John, Hassen, Kalyana and Nawaz too
And wonderful Intruder Asita who's joined
the crew*

*A Special word of thanks to his Royal Highness
Who visited me with his good Lady – Her Highness
Representing my colleagues including Kaushi & Judy
A Great Gesture of Goodwill and S-i-n-c-e-r-i-t-y*

*Thanks to all and I pray that you ALL be Blessed
With Health, Peace, Happiness and
ALL THAT IS BEST!*

(Sent by an Ex Co Member who had been bed-
ridden after an unfortunate mishap – 4 -7-2013)

THE NEXT NEWS LETTER

The next issue of our Newsletter will be in the New
Year. Members are kindly requested to send their
contributions for publication before 31st December
2013 addressed to:

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Pagoda Road,
NUGEGODA.

E-mai : gwasalathanthri@gmail.com

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132 හයි ලෙවල් පාර, කොට්ටාව (දු ක 0755441692)