

32nd ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE
Royal Gala Dinner Dance



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Best Wishes

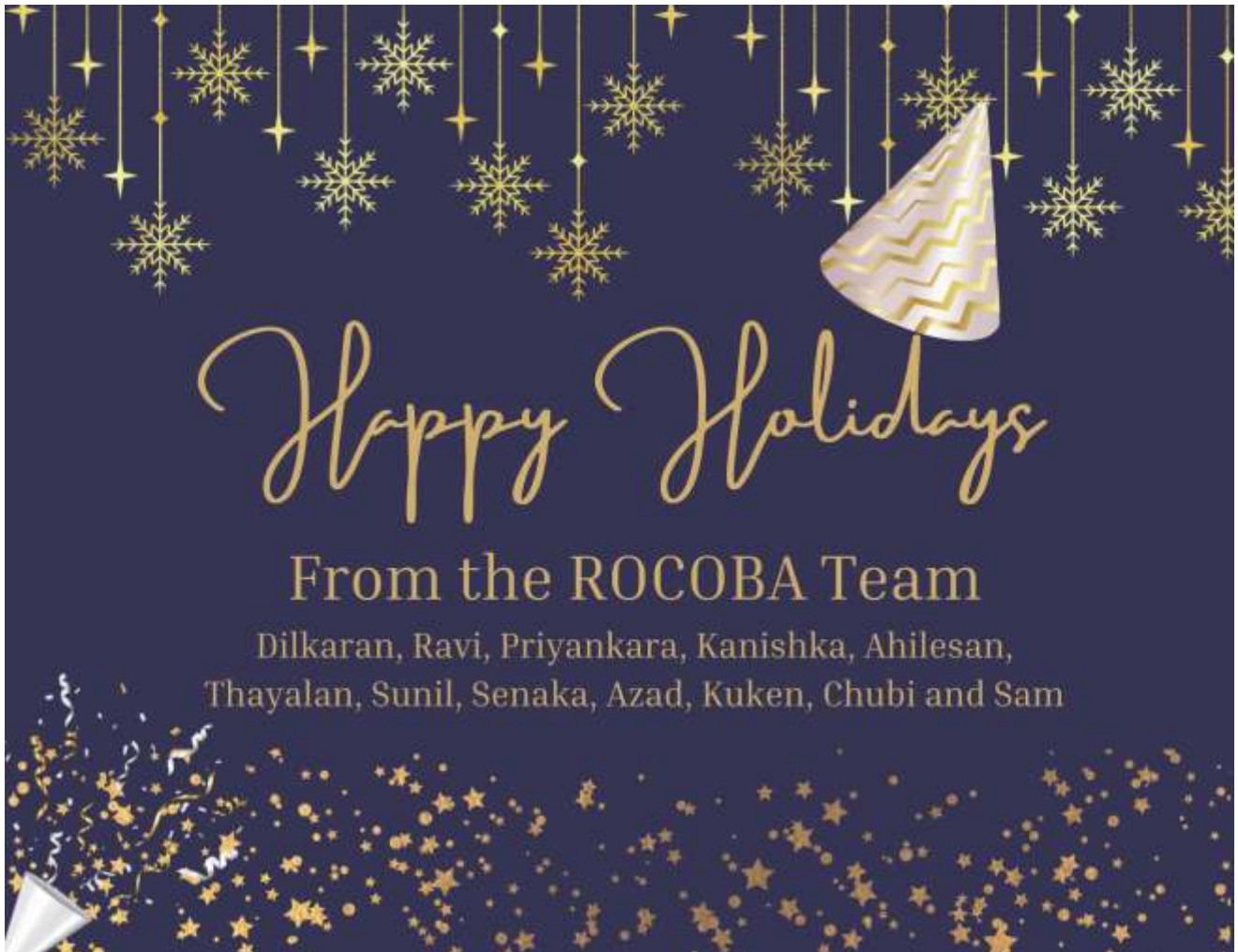
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School of Our Fathers

Thy spirit first to life awoke
In eighteen hundred and thirty five;
Beneath the sway of Marsh and Boake,
Thenceforth did Lanka's leaning thrive.

Refrain

School where our fathers learnt the way before us
Learnt of books and learnt of men, through thee we'll do the same.
True to our watchword "Disce Aut Discede"
We will learn of books and men, and learn to play the game
Within thy shade our fathers trod
The path that leads to man's estate;
They have repaid the debt they owed;
They kept thy fame inviolate.

Refrain

And we their loyal sons now bear
The torch, with hearts as sound as oak;
Our lusty throats now raise a cheer
For Hartley, Harward, Marsh and Boake.



Note: Principal H. L. Reed composed and set to music 'School of Our Fathers' in the Third Term of 1927. Much credit for the magnificent performance of the College Choir goes to Mrs. H.L. Reed who was assisted by R.C. Edwards.



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Message from the President

December 31, 2023

Dear family, friends, and fellow Royalists,

Welcome to the 32nd annual New Years' eve gala hosted by the Royal College OBA (Ontario). It is an honour to have served as President for eight years, along with a great group of gentlemen, who have supported the alumni with distinction.

ROCOBA Ontario is celebrating 32 years in Canada. It takes a lot of effort, dedication, commitment, and financial support to sustain such an organization year after year. Let me take this opportunity to thank the past Presidents and their committees along with all the dedicated volunteers for their undaunted efforts to keep the Royal College flag flying high in Ontario.

With the support of the Executive Board and the ROCOBA memberships, we've had the opportunity to give back to fellow Royalists back home. This year, we will continue to build on the ROCOBA Education Fund, which will help support young Royalists in Sri Lanka who face financial hardships. ROCOBA – Ontario will continue to partner with the Royal College Union (RCU) in contributing to the Loyalty Pledge and fund scholarships.

I'd like to take the time to thank our Dance Committee Chair, Haritha (Sam) Samarajeeva, who has worked tirelessly with the Dance Committee to provide you all a fantastic evening! Our lovely spouses have also been working behind the scenes to make this event a success – we appreciate all your hard work. An event of this magnitude would also not be possible without the generous financial sponsorships from our major corporate and individual sponsors, the support of our volunteers, and the dedicated staff at Scarborough Convention Centre. Thank you all!

This year, we also have Trishelle Wijetunga along with Matrix and our own DJ Chami to keep you entertained all night long!

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continuous support. Without you, our guests, the success of this Gala and all other events would not have been possible.

Let me take this opportunity, along with my wife, Suhandini to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. Let the fun begin and let us usher in the New Year together.

Floreat!!!

Dilkaran Rajendra
President
ROCOBA – Ontario
2016-2023





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From the Dance Committee Chair.

December 31, 2023

Distinguished Guests & fellow Royalists,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee it's my pleasure to welcome you all to the 32nd Annual New Year's Eve Royal Gala Dinner Dance.

Royal College Old Boys' association known as ROCOBA has been organizing this event for the last 31 years! Today we are proud to celebrate the 32nd.

This year, like in previous years a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Royal College Education Fund to help needy students achieve their educational goals.

Be proud that you played a part in it by attending this year's Annual Dinner Dance.

A special "Thank You" goes out to all the committee members and their wives, Sponsors, Advertisers and individuals who supported us in putting this event together.

We also wish to thank Sen and his team at Scarborough Convention Centre to enable us to have a great evening.

We hope you will enjoy the evening with your family and friends.

Happy New Year!

Let the party begin.

Sam Samarajeeva

Chairman - Dance Committee





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PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

December 31, 2023

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 32nd Annual New Year's Eve Gala of the Royal College Old Boys Association of Ontario.



This special occasion offers alumni of the Royal College in Colombo, Sri Lanka, an opportunity to renew old ties and share treasured memories. The education you received at this institution has contributed to your personal and professional development and will always be part of the proud history that unites you.

I would like to thank the Royal College Old Boys Association of Ontario for making this evening possible. Canada is truly a multicultural nation, made stronger and more resilient by our diversity.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable evening and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



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Happy & Prosperous
New Year!

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December 31, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in the 32nd New Year's Eve Gala of the Royal College Old Boys Association of Ontario.

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions of the Sri Lankan Canadian community to Ontario's culture, our prosperity and our public life. Your talents and skills have helped build this province and Canada.

Thanks to the wonderful team who organized this much-awaited gala. Alumni associations play an important role in giving back to the community, forming beneficial professional and social networks, and building a stronger Sri Lankan community within this great province.

I wish all of you the hope and renewal that comes with the new year. Have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2024!

Doug Ford
Premier





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Royal College Old Boys' East Coast Foundation

***Executive Committee
2023/2024***

December 21, 2023

President

Rushdhun Ramzy
(929) 216-8104

It is with immense pleasure I convey this message of good wishes to the President and members of the Royal College OBA - Ontario on the occasion of their annual dinner dance.

President Elect

Dr. Sudath Rannulu MD
(917) 972-3247

Vice Presidents

Anuk Fernando
(347) 688-2685
Nuvina Padukkavidana
(610) 393-4471
Tharanga Elvitigala
(631) 365-3661

The resolute spirit and the camaraderie of the Royal College fraternity is well exemplified by everyone coming together to celebrate life and raise for our alma mater. The commitment of the Toronto Royalists toward the growth and development of the school, as well as the dedication to towards uniting their local community is commendable.

Secretary

Senaka Senaviratne
(347) 866-6532

I would like to express my heartfelt and deepest appreciation to Toronto Royalists for your valued contributions towards our alma mater Royal College.

Treasurer

Kanna Sriskanthan
(914) 715-8375

I wish you all success in this year's dinner dance.

Committee Members

Gamini Karunaratne
(917) 376-4987
Thamindu Ranasinghe
(267) 901-1183
Krishan Jayachandra
(562) 341-2081
Darsha Rupasinghe
(646) 238-5213
Nipuna Ambanpola
(912) 484-1295
Sachith Rajakaruna
(267) 991-4973
Iyan Kasthuriarahchchi
(917) 327-9841
Prageeth Kumara
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Floreat – May you prosper!

Rushdhun Ramzy
President, RCOBEC Foundation
www.RCOBECF.org

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**BEST WISHES
FOR
2024**

Nithy Ananth
Class of 1980



December 31, 2023

On this most joyous and most festive event that is the 32nd Annual Royal Gala Dinner Dance of Royal College Old Boys Association of Ontario (RCOBA), I am so enthralled to write a few words on behalf of Royal College Old Boys Association of North America (ROCOBANA) from the sunny climes of Southern California.

I consider this as a great privilege and a great pleasure since I was so fortunate to be associated with RCOBA for over 12 years as a committee member and then as the Vice-President. I was always very impressed how RCOBA managed to put on many events year after year including two dances; Royal-Thomian cricket encounter; Rugby tournament as well as fund raising for many worthy causes in Canada and in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, in the process of doing these events the comradery and brotherhood we developed were priceless! In my humble opinion this is the biggest and the best accolade one can give RCOBA.

Keep doing what you are doing as an organization to foster fellowship and brotherhood among Royal College alumni all the while doing those great projects in Canada, Sri Lanka and beyond.

On behalf of the collective membership of ROCOBANA which is the very first Royal College Alumni association in the USA (and one of the largest), it gives me utmost pleasure in wishing RCOBA, its Committee, its entire membership all the success in all your endeavors.

May the RCOBA's 32nd Annual Royal Gala Dinner Dance be a smashing success!

Cheers!





Charit Seneviratne

Charit Seneviratne, PhD
President- ROCOBNA



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32nd Annual New Year's Eve Royal Gala Dinner Dance Program



6 - 7 PM	Hors d'oeuvre, Wine, Cocktails & Mocktails	10.15 - 11.00 PM	DJ Chamil - Everybody on the Floor
7 - 7.30 PM	Welcome Speech by President Early Bird & Door Prizes.	11.00 - 12.00 Midnight	Countdown with Trishelle. HAPPY NEW YEAR
7.30 - 8.30 PM	Let's start dancing with Trishelle backed by Matrix	12.00 - 12.30 AM	It's Baila Time Will there be a surprise?
8.30 - 10.30 PM	Enjoy a Scrumptious Buffet Dinner	12.30 - 1.00 AM	Raffle Draw
8.30 - 9.30 PM	DJ Chamil	1.00 AM	DJ Chamil
9.30 - 10.15 PM	Trishelle with Matrix Hold your Partner tight	1.00 AM	Enjoy Kiribath, Lunumiris Sweets, Tea & Coffee.

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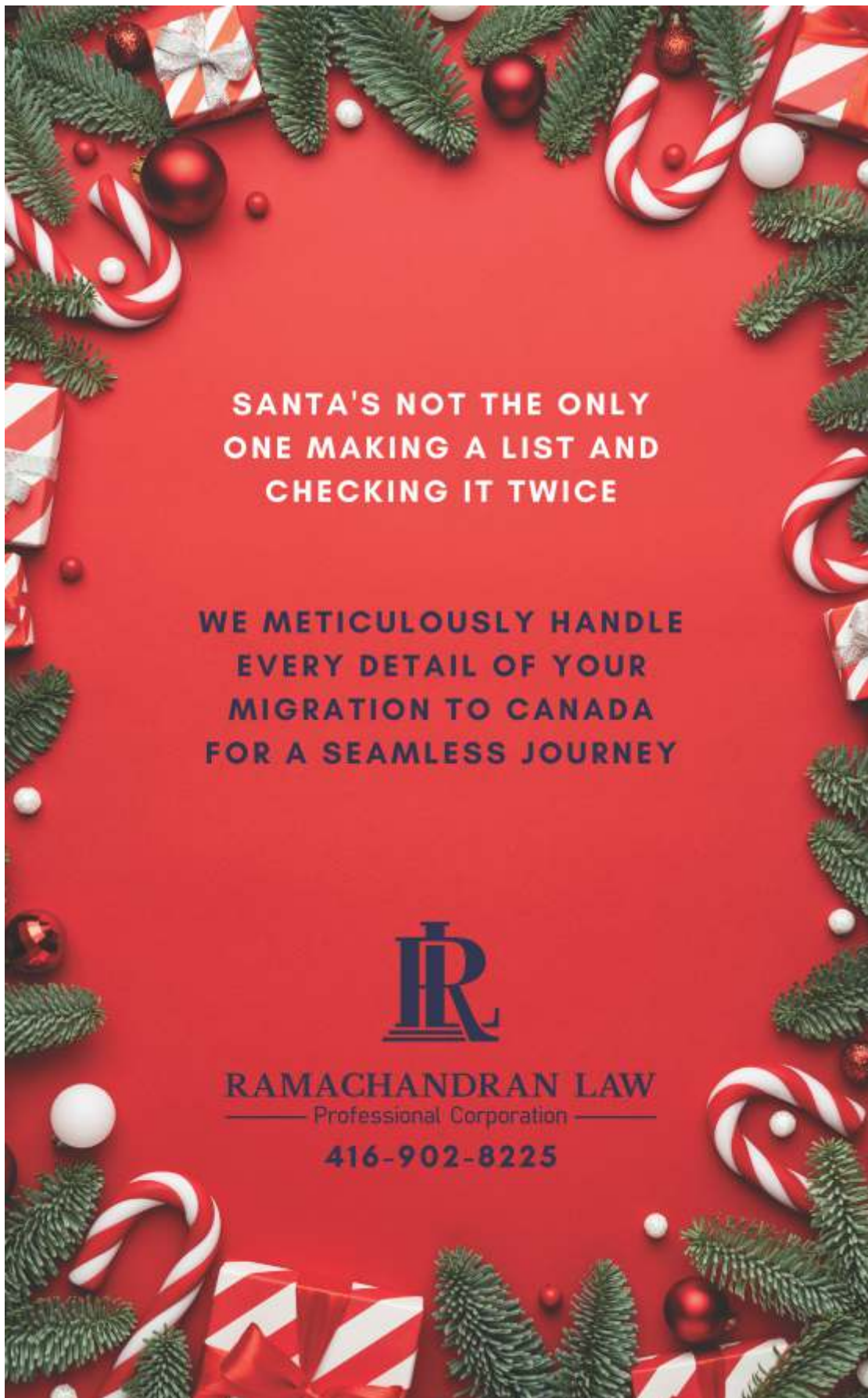
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Meeting with Mr. Dilkaran Rajendra, President – ROCOBA

From Left: Mr. Ratnasabapathy Udayakumar – RCU, Mr. Dilkaran Rajendra, President – ROCOBA, Mr. Abhaya Amaradasa, Chairman – LPMC, Mr. Sachith Jayakody, Treasurer - LPMC

The officials of Loyalty Pledge Management Committee (LPMC) recently met Mr. Dilkaran Rajendra, the President of ROCOBA – Ontario at the RCU Skills Centre. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Ratnasabapathy Udayakumar, Past Secretary, Royal College Union.

During the meeting, Mr. Abhaya Amaradasa briefed Mr. Rajendra on the current status of the scholarship scheme, selection process of scholars as well as the Communication and Personality Development programme conducted by the LPMC. Mr. Amaradasa highlighted that donors have the opportunity to join the selection process scholars even from overseas as the selections are now carried out online. He also explained the positive impact that Communication and Personality Development programme of LPMC has made on the Royalists in the Junior School to improve their communication skills through various artistic activities like stage dramas and choirs.

Mr. Rajendra was delighted to see the contribution that LPMC has made on the lives of Royalists and he, on behalf of the membership of ROCOBA – Ontario, appreciated the silent but valuable service rendered by the LPMC to Royal College for two decades. He also conveyed the message of his membership that they are fully committed to support the LPMC and that they look forward to strengthening the partnership with the LPMC in the years to come. Mr. Rajendra, on behalf of the membership of ROCOBA - Ontario, presented a donation cheque to Mr. Abhaya Amaradasa making a contribution to the “Help a Needy Student” scholarship scheme.

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Mr. Amaradasa thanked the ROCOBA and its memberships for their continuous support to the LPMC which has been source of strength throughout the years. He also extended his gratitude to the ROCOBA and the membership for not forgetting the Motherland and Royal College at this difficult time for Sri Lanka and for coming forward to support Sri Lankans to face the current challenges at this critical moment.

Mr. Abhaya Amaradasa, Chairman of Loyalty Pledge Management Committee and Mr. Sachith Jayakody, Treasurer of Loyalty Pledge Management Committee participated at the meeting representing Loyalty Pledge Management Committee. The LPMC was established in 2002 to support the students in Royal College and undergraduates who are encountering financial challenges in achieving their academic goals and we proudly celebrate two decades of our silent service to the Royalists community in 2023.

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The 20th Anniversary



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ROCOBA Rugby Show the Way Again!

The last try to win the last game of the season epitomised the ROCOBA rugby team of 2023. Dedication, belief, a level-headed approach, and quick thinking. A determined, extremely fast, and experienced Isipathana outfit led 5 – 0 with 30 seconds to go. Royal's team Captain, Anishka saw the referee indicating to a 'Pathana' player that they were off side, and immediately took the player on, forcing him to defend before he could retreat on side. Belief! As soon as he was tagged, Pathana were blown for off-side, and Royal's live-wire scrum-half, Ritchie, immediately tapped and ran in under the post before Isipathana could organize and were still arguing the call! 'Quick Thinking'! Mahadi converted, and Royal won 7-5! It ended an amazing season where Royal extended their winning streak in the Sri Lanka Schools Flag Rugby Tournament, organized by the STC OBA to 5 consecutive years (not including the 2 years missed due to COVID).

The season started with dedication from March! The ROCOBA team joined the Toronto Touch Rugby League and showed how they are willing to learn a new form of game. The league was made up of Canadian teams with huge experience. But the Royal team, learned and studied the style fast. And tied their second game against the eventual champions! Royal showed grit and pride by taking on every team in the league and beating them all! The team overcame significant adversity by overcoming injuries to stars like Shaukett, a former Sri Lanka squad member and a solid leader in the team. The dedication was apparent with players like Mahadi, Shaukett, and Ashiq playing all-out despite being drained with their traditional fasting! The team developed so fast that, to the surprise of the Toronto teams, Royal became the team to beat in the tournament! The Royal team was extremely unlucky to lose the Semi Finals to 'Razzle Dazzle', the eventual tournament champions 3 – 2, after they scored 2 tries late! But the loss was well taken, and the team learned immensely from the experience.

The second tournament of the year was in July, playing 6-touch rules in the Sri Lankan Schools Touch tournament organized by the St. Peters' OBA. Royal enjoyed the services of 'Lema', another Sri Lanka 7s player and squad member who made the trip from British Columbia. The dedication to defence, learned in the Toronto Touch Rugby League was apparent throughout the tournament, with players newer to the squad like Tharaka, gelling well with experienced hands like Thivanka, Kavisha, Shaukett, Mahadi, Anishka, Joel, Asanka, and Sasanka. The style was new to Royal, who were playing this tournament for the first time and are used to playing the 'Flag' Tournament later in the year. The tournament saw Royal overcome Wesley in the semi-finals, Toronto Leopards in the quarter finals, and many other strong teams before meeting a fast-improving Isipathana outfit in the final. Pathana boasted a fast and experienced squad with some tricky play makers. However, Royal's defensive communication and organization was the catalyst, frustrating Isipathana's speedy runners time and time again, and building offence off this. Royal ran away with a 5 – 1 tournament win!

Lema made the trip a second time, along with Richie, for the Sri Lanka Schools Flag Rugby tournament organized annually by St. Thomas' OBA in August. Both these tournaments show how Touch and Flag rugby is becoming extremely popular with Sri Lanka school alumni associations in the GTA. The tournaments are becoming more and more competitive, with



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more and more teams joining. This year's Flag Rugby tournament saw 12 teams in the tournament! The quality of rugby has improved tremendously; a fresh outlook given how rugby in general in Canada has suffered after Covid. A huge congratulations to all the alumni associations that participated!

Given this improvement, it's all the more creditable that the Royal outfit has won the tournament so many times in succession. Led and organized by the selfless Inbakumar Rajendra, who brings the same tireless dedication to the squad every year (Even more so this year given the increased quality of the opposition!). Inba is the 'father' the young boys, many who are new to Canada, so desperately need. The Royal OBA Rugby 'family' has become the support structure they need to thrive here, and everyone of them are eternally grateful to 'Inba Aiya' for what he does for them and the team. A huge thank you to Gaje and Krish who's businesses 'Benjamin Moore – Ajax' and 'Superior Truck and Trailers' helped sponsor and support the team with much needed finances. And a special shout out to Aashiq and Asanka who suffered serious knee injuries during the year, yet still came out to practice, on their crutches, to support their team mates any way they could!

This year was, by far, the toughest to win! In the final, Isipathana scored early with their winger squeezing in near the left corner flag following a kick and chase. But, it was apparent that Royal's team still truly believed they could overcome all odds to win yet again. They held the lighting fast 'Pathana' runners time and time again with organized defence that allowed the team to depend on each other and cover for each other before, scoring under the post and converting with 30 seconds to go.

Congratulations to the ROCOBA Rugby Squad for another hugely successful year. And congratulations to the Sri Lankan rugby fraternity for the continued improvement of rugby among the Sri Lankan diaspora in Ontario.





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The life and times of Summa – The bolt of Asia



Once the fastest man in Asia, Navaratnam passed away peacefully at his residence on the morning of Thursday, 19 October 2023 at the age of 98. The legendary sporting icon leaves behind many gifted services to the island nation. He was considered the oldest living Sri Lankan athlete until his death. The legend celebrated his 98th birthday in May this year, flanked by his family, friends, and students at the Ceylonese Rugby and Football Club (CR&FC) premises. It was his one true club all his life.



At Royal College, Navaratnam went on to represent the school in athletics, rugby, and boxing. He came into the limelight when he became the youngest Royalist to be awarded athletics colours, at the tender age of 15 in 1940.

Here are some of our protagonist's achievements – with excerpts derived from the note which was read before the crowd at the Royal College Sports

Complex when its grandstand was named after “Sir Summa”, prior to the second leg of the Bradby Shield 2023.

At the Reid Avenue school, he captained the athletics team in 1942 and 1943, and won the nationals in the 100m, the 200m, and the 4 x100m relay at public schools meets, winning the Tarbet and Jefferson Trophies. He won the nationals in the same events in 1944.

In the 1940's and 1950's, he was the cynosure of all eyes, scoring brilliant tries, playing on the wing for Royal, CR&FC, and Ceylon, while also breaking many national and international records in athletics for Royal, Ace Athletics Club, and Ceylon.

Flying colours

In 1953, Navaratnam was dubbed “Asia's fastest human” and “The fastest man in Asia” when he broke the 100m record at the Indian States Olympic Meet in Madras – the forerunner to the SAARC Games – running neck-to-neck with Lavy Pinto, the best of the Indian sprinters. His astonishing time of 10.4 seconds surpassed both Indian and Asian records, and compared well with the 1948 London Olympic record of 10.3 secs – set by American sprinter Harrison Dillard, and the Helsinki Olympics in 1952 – where Lindy Remigino of the United States (US) recorded 10.4 secs to win the gold, while in the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, the winner Robert Morrow posted a time of 10.5 seconds. Navaratnam's 10.4 seconds was the fastest time ever recorded on a grass track anywhere.



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All these performances were on cinder tracks, which helped athletes improve on their timings and compete better with sprinters from other foreign countries. In those “old days” in Sri Lanka, our local athletes ran on grass tracks only – not on any special tracks. One could well imagine the results and enhanced timings of Navaratnam if he had these facilities in Sri Lanka back then. However, it would surely have been another Olympic medal for Ceylon through Navaratnam, if it was not for nepotism on the part of the then selectors who stood in the way of this superb athlete.

Navaratnam had a unique experience in 1953, a rare feature for anyone to be representing the country in two international sports events on the same day, when he participated in the 100m international event of the Ceylon AAA Nationals, in which the Asian record holder – Lavy Pinto of India – and a host of other local athletes took part. Later in the evening, he represented Ceylon in a rugby international game against the Australian Colts at CH&FC Grounds. Read more about this heroic feat in the article by Ken de Joodt in the Quadrangle Magazine.

A legendary record

Navaratnam's first major sporting achievement was as a boxer, representing Royal College at the Stubbs Shield boxing meet of 1939 – where he reached the finals in bantamweight – for which he was awarded College boxing colours at the age of 14.

His first XV rugby debut came in 1941 under Mino Jilla, when Royal beat Trinity for the first time 11-3. He played in 1942 and 1943 in the teams which beat Trinity in both legs for the first time, 6-3 and 5-3. It was in 1943 that the maiden two-legged game was played, prior to the beginning of the Bradby Shield in 1945. He captained the team in the second leg and scored the winning try, intercepting a Trinity pass to score under the post.

Navaratnam left Royal in 1944 to join the Royal Air Force. He was selected to play for Ceylon against the touring British Lions in 1950, when he scored the only try for Ceylon. Even though Ceylon lost 44-6, the British manager paid him a compliment by saying that he could be given a place in the British Lion team. A great honour indeed. He captained CR&FC in 1944 and 1945, leading his team to win the Clifford Cup league title. He joins the rare breed of legends, including Mahesa Rodrigo and Ashy Carder, to have captained Royal, CR&FC, and Ceylon.

Navaratnam coached Royal in 1953, 1954, 1967, and from 1972 to 1983 – when Royal won the Bradby six times and its maiden three-in-a-row from 1978 to 1980. In 1976, Royal – under skipper Manik Weerakumar – beat Trinity 36-0 and 25-6 during Navaratnam's reign as coach, which was the highest total and aggregate, which was subsequently broken by Royal in 1998 and the historic 2002 outfit.

Navaratnam coached the Sri Lanka XV and seven-a-side teams, and was the President of the Ceylon/Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union from 1972 to 1974. He has produced many rugby players for Royal – who have excelled playing top division club rugby, and for Sri Lanka. He was also elected as President of his good old club, CR&FC.



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Royal College marks 100 years at Reid Avenue

Excerpts from article on Sunday Observer

A centenary in the life of an institution is a long period and calls for much celebration. However, for Royal College, now 188 years old, a grand celebration to mark 100 years at Reid Avenue may not be appropriate.

Rev. Joseph Marsh

It is opportune to look back to the 88 years of Royal College before its life at Reid Avenue and make a brief sketch. In 1831, Rev. Joseph Marsh, a 28-year-old Scotsman, arrived in Ceylon as a missionary of the Church Missionary Society (CMS) in Cotta (Kotte). He was a mathematics and classics tutor and was appointed the headmaster of the CMS. This institute educated and trained young men to be catechists and priests of the Anglican Christian faith.

Rev. Marsh was at the CMS for four years till 1834 and had married a Miss Walker whose family was firmly established in Ceylon. Gov. Horton in appreciation of Rev. Marsh's ability transferred him as the Acting Chaplain of St. Pauls' Church at Wolfendhal in 1835.

Rev. Marsh started a small school in January 1835 on the verandah of the church. It was called the Hill Street



Academy and had about 20 pupils, mainly from the upper-crust Burgher community. The Burghers petitioned Governor Horton for a bigger school to accommodate more of their boys and on January 4, 1836, the Governor named Rev. Marsh's school as the Colombo Academy and made him the headmaster.

Richard Morgan, the brightest student under Rev. Marsh and the first Head Boy of the school passed out as an advocate in 1846. He was appointed as a Legislative Councillor in 1857 and acting Chief Justice in 1874/75. In 1863, he became the first Ceylonese in the Governor's Executive Council, the supreme policy-making body. Morgan along with Muthu Coomaraswamy were the first Asians to be knighted in Britain's Far Eastern Empire in 1874. The schools' other illustrious sons who became Legislative Councillors were James Stewart, C.A. Lorenz, Muthu Coomaraswamy, James Peiris, and brothers Ramanathan and Arunachalam Ponnambalam. The latter four were knighted and the last three have halls of residence named after them in the University of Peradeniya.



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Name change & motto

As the school was administered by the British Colonial government, the imperial colours of Britain, Royal Gold and Blue were adopted in 1877 as the school colours.

In 1881 by a Royal decree of Queen Victoria, the Colombo Academy was renamed as the Royal College, the first time the use of the word Royal was permitted in the wider realm.

The school Motto *Disce aut Discede* in Latin means Learn or Depart, a stern watchword to the students that their studies are of primary importance. The complete hexameter is “*Aut Disce Aut Discede, Manet Sors Tertia Caedi*,” learn or leave, there remains a third fate, be caned. No one took the second option, some have proudly owned the third, but all have learned.

Reid Avenue

The move from 88 years in the confines of Hulftsdorp and Thurstan Road to 100 years in Reid Avenue saw a significant change in the ethos of the school. The new magnificent school building set on 24 acres, had large classrooms, newly equipped laboratories, a huge hall, and plenty of ground area for a range of sports activities. Principal Reed brought in a modern public school atmosphere and introduced the Prefect and House systems. He also composed the stirring College Song, which perhaps was his finest achievement. This permanent abode was the beginning of a new life and Royal College our country's first public school, could stand comparison with any other in the British Empire.

As part of the school's centenary celebrations in 1935, Principal L.H.W. Sampson arranged for the Royal College cricket team to tour Australia and play against leading schools in Perth, Adelaide, and Melbourne. This was an enterprise far in advance of its time. The standard of the Royal team amazed the Melbourne High School headmaster W.M. Woodfull who umpired the match against his school. He was the Test captain of Australia and Keith Miller who later became Australia's finest all-rounder played for his school against our team. Pat McCarthy our star batsman later migrated to Australia and excelled as a State cricketer. E.L. Bradby, principal during the World War II years, will be eternally remembered for the Bradby Shield he offered for the Royal-Trinity Rugby encounter, now the most prestigious rugby match in Sri Lanka.

A solid foundation had been laid by the British principals, and starting from the first Sri Lankan principals J.C.A. Corea and D.K.G.de Silva, both old boys of the College, Royal has forged ahead to maintain its status as Sri Lanka's premier Boy's School. The boys of the school receive not only the highest standard of education but participate in activities of several societies and are able to pursue their skills in at least 25 different games.

This overall balanced education imparted by the school has enabled Royal College to win first place in 2018, in the competition conducted by Microsoft in the selection of the Best Innovative School in the world.

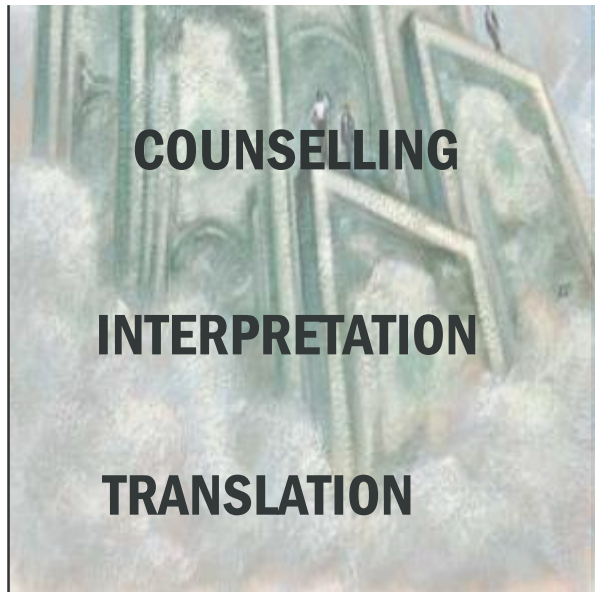
This is where we are now, and Royal will continue to innovate and at the same time engage with several schools in the outstations to promote and initiate programmes, to enable them to develop to higher levels. The school has 8,970 Students, 350 academic staff, 115 non-academic staff, 175 classrooms and 12 laboratories.

The hall is thus a repository where the names of its illustrious sons are permanently etched, many of whom have played a prominent role in our country since 1835.

Royal College will always move forward, adapting to changes in education methods and curricula that are accepted worldwide, where Royalists will be identified by being true to the lines in their College song “Learnt of books and learnt of men and learnt to play the game.”



Royal Rumble 2023



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