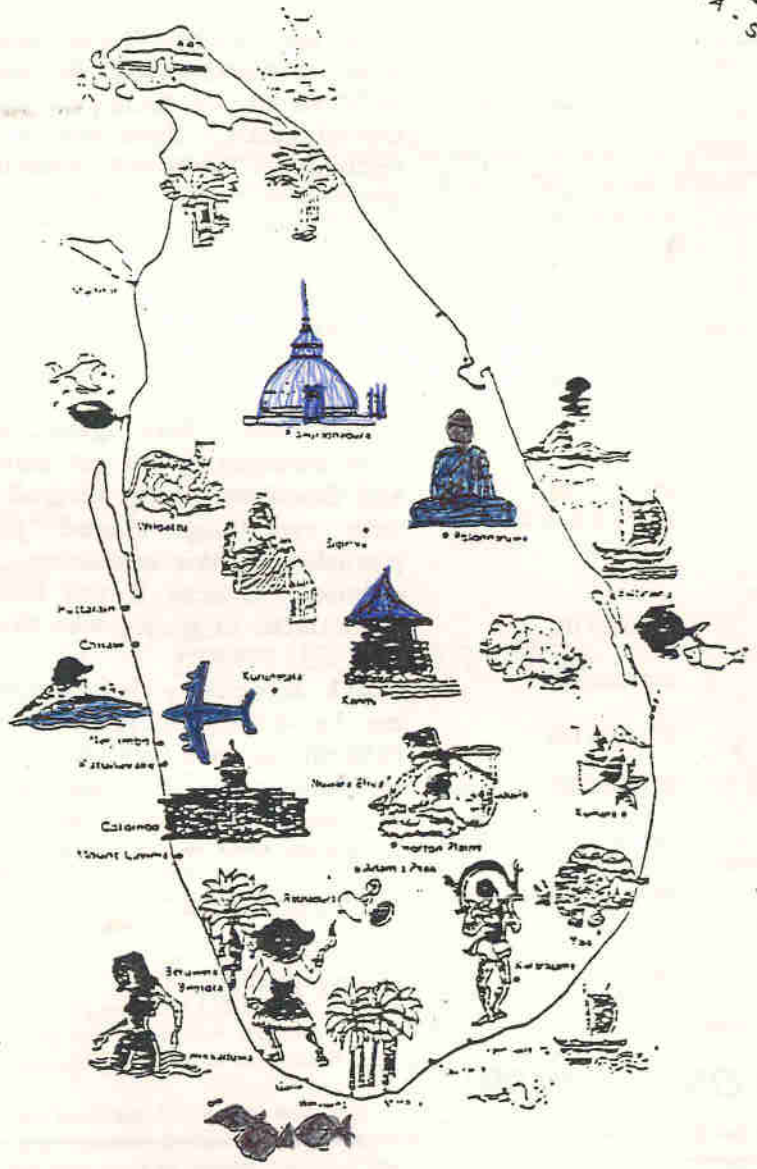


NEWSLETTER

21st YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1992

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THE WESTERN AUSTRALIA - SRI LANKA (CEYLON)
 ASSOCIATION INC.

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There is a dangerous tendency for people of all nationalities and walks of life to feed on memories - memories of the wonderful life we had back home, the servants, the large airy houses, the holidays by the sea, the extended families and the support and I can go on.... some of us, unfortunately, also have bad memories - memories of the unrest, the fighting, the killings, the fears for life, the shortages (I never seem to be able to forget the bread queues and using leeks when we couldn't get onions !!!)

Unfortunately, these bad memories sometimes drive us to retaliation. We need to examine these memories in an honest atmosphere - the atmosphere we have chosen to live - the atmosphere of a new way of life in this our country of adoption and have the courage to reject the distorted memories. If you can do this, you will soon realise the harmony within yourself and this harmony will radiate to the larger Sri Lankan family - our community.

In this issue, I have opened a page for "Have your Say" and it is encouraging to get material for this page - Bouquets and Brickbats. I am sure all of you don't completely agree with everything around you - and everything that is published in this newsletter. Don't be afraid to voice your opinion - criticise if you have to. You will be surprised at the number of people who think the way you do - Try it.

I lack community information for publication. Please let me know of achievement, weddings, graduations, social celebrations and deaths in the community. Unfortunately the only news that reaches me is through the committee members - probably giving the impression that I am partial. So please send me material for publication.

Happy reading,

bley

I'M ON A COMMITTEE

Oh give me your pity, I'm on a committee
Which means that from morning to night
We attend and amend and contend and defend,
Without a conclusion in sight.
We confer and concur, we defer and demur
And reiterate all of our thoughts.
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda
And consider a load of reports.
We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose
And the points of procedure are fun!
But though various notions are brought up as motions,
There's terribly little gets done.
We resolve and absolve, but we never dissolve,
Since it's out of the question for us,
What a shattering pity to end our committee
Where else could we make such a fuss.

Reflections...

*Don't be dismayed at good-byes
A farewell is necessary before you can meet again,
And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes,
Is certain for those who are friends.*

President's Report

Dear Friends

This Association, while reaching the milestone of TWENTY ONE YEARS has achieved it with an increased membership. A large proportion falling into the family category with dependent children, which I am confident will assure our Association continuity and a bright future. As an Association, we are also looking at a brand new joint CLUB HOUSE in the near future.

The temporary premises we have moved to, at 133 Lord Street, has already made us realise what we have missed out on, in all these years. A sub-committee formed at the last Committee Meeting will soon plan activities, though on a small scale at present, to bring together to these premises Seniors and the Young alike. It sounds very exciting.

There is no doubt in my mind that the interest generated with the calling of the Special General Meeting, the hard work the Committee Members put in to contact you and help you by arranging and picking up your proxy votes, have resulted in the increase in the membership. I thank every Committee Member for that, because today your Association is **larger and stronger**.

As per the unanimous decision of the members at the Meeting on the 9th August 1992, the joint submission has been made to the Bassendean Town Council. We are waiting for their nod. When that happens you will be called together once again to obtain your approval to go ahead.

The Anniversary Ball was a success. My THANK YOU goes out to the Sub-Committee headed by Joel and the General Committee that worked tirelessly to bring it to such a success. No success comes without hic-cups - we did have a few !!

We have some great functions in the near future starting with the ANNUAL FOOD FAIR, THE TELETHON DANCE closely followed by the TWENTY FIRST ANNIVERSARY FAMILY FUN DAY and the YOUTH CAMP. Watch your Newsletter.

My wish is for our Community to grow in size and unity.

Let us reach out to those still not in our fold, so that we could show the world that great things are possible with unity and size.

GOOD LUCK

Ranjit

PRESIDENT

From your Committee



"Once more, no more opposed!"

We had a great response from the members to the Anniversary Raffle and the Committee's thanks go to Aubrey Raymond who co-ordinated the job very efficiently.

We nominated Mel Fialho and Janaki Chandraratne to the committee of the Australian Asian Association as Vice President and Treasurer, respectively. Good wishes to them in their new assignment.

IMPORTANT NEWS

The Committee conducted a busy bee at 133 Lord St - our new premises - and got the place ready for the first meeting which was held on Tuesday 8th September. We have plenty of room compared to the one room at the Peninsula and great potential. At last our equipment could be stored in a separate room under lock & key.

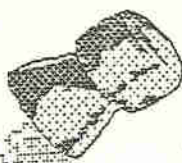
But we require much more furniture & effects to make it comfortable and livable.

The House Committee appointed at the last meeting comprising, Raj, Olga, Rosemary & Oenone would welcome your contributions. We desperately need an electric stove so if you have any USABLE discard - we mean something lying in your backyard - please let us have it - we will get it transported. Or someone may be generous enough to gift one to us !! Other items welcome are: Card Tables, occasional tables, lounge chairs - not necessarily a set - any posters or pictures of Sri Lanka or any tropical scenery - linen like table cloths, teapoy covers, vases, kitchen table - anything that you think would be useful to make it a home. SO LET US SEE YOUR GENEROSITY members. **HELP US MAKE IT A HOME - YOURS & MINE.**

The premises are big enough to have small scale lunches and we hope to organise some soon specially for the senior citizens. We will contact you personally and advise.



Coming of Age Coming of Age Coming of Age



Part 3 - Continued from Jul/Aug issue

In the next year of existence of the W.A.Ceylon Association, Charlie Oorloff was elected President for a second term. The Association was very keen to send money to help those displaced as a result of the unrest in Ceylon - but unfortunately due to various restrictions this did not eventuate.

Around this time there was an influx of Ceylon students under the Colombo Plan; also new migrants. These newcomers were welcomed into the homes of the members giving them a feeling of belonging.

With changes in the migration policies and the introduction of the family reunion scheme, the new migrants were less dependent on the Association and the Association changed its direction from a welfare oriented group to a social & cultural organisation.

Following Charles Oorloff, Fr. Gaston Alwines took over in 73/74, Wilton White in 74/75 and Fr. Alwines again in 75/76. Membership in the Association was steadily increasing and the highlight of each year's events was the New Year's Eve Dance. According to reports every committee put in their best effort and profits from these years went to swell the already established building fund and the Community Chest, which was set up to assist members in need.

Douglas Gauder was President for two years 76/77 and 77/78 during which time, I believe attempts were once again made to send funds to Ceylon.

With Asian migration on the increase more and more ethnic groups were being formed and the Perth public were made

more aware of the ethnic & cultural diversity of the migrant groups. Both Federal and State governments were placing great emphasis on a multicultural Australia. In this context, and with Wilton White as President in 78/79 the Association took an active part in the Indian Ocean Arts Festival and the Bicentennial celebrations of the State. Aubrey Raymond continued this interest in 79/80 with an exhibition of artefacts at the Concert Hall and hosting dance groups from Sri Lanka. There were 20 of them and all the committee seemed to be doing cooking large pots of rice and curry for all their meals!!!!

Our first attempt at participating in a competition was the float prepared for a parade at the Royal Show - under the category Ethnic communities. Believe it or not we were judged the winners !!!! and Rane Molrich must get all the credit. The main thing the Association was prepared to get involved in the community activities and it certainly paid dividends.

(To be continued).....

YOUTH CAMP

The Convenors Chris Raymond & Shan Ramasamy are busy coordinating plans for the Youth Camp to be held at Woodman's Point (app. 4 km. south of Fremantle - November 6/7/ & 8th

Ages 13 - 22

Activities include wind sailing, surfing, snorkling

Barbeque & Disco on Saturday evening

Adults invited for Saturday evening.

The Convenors will be writing individually to the children of the members giving them all particulars. If you haven't heard from them, please contact Chris or Shan.

After the Ball is Over



It was a night to remember - the celebration of the COMING OF AGE of the W.A. Sri Lanka (Ceylon) Association. The guests arrived early - welcomed by ushers Mel & Stanley who greeted the ladies with champagne blush rose corsages. Pianist Gihan (in excellent touch) played light classics on a Baby Grand while guests mingled in the foyer sipping their pre-dinner drinks. There were no ticket collectors at the door this time !! After all everyone was a guest - They were directed to their tables as the ballroom doors were opened at 8.15 p.m. - Ushers Manjula and Vino were ornately dressed in traditional costume, a real eye pleaser to those who had not seen a traditional sari before.

The ballroom was decorated in silver and apricot and was candlelit as guests settled in to formal seating (place names and all)! The opening bars on a solo saxophone set the mood for the evening as some read their souvenir - with the compliments of Raj.

The party was on and the dance floor was like a New Year's Eve function. The Wells music was irresistibly catchy - their repertoire superb with more than a touch of brass as they opened with a Glen Miller MedleyBut the word was around - She had arrived and only just -- our guest entertainer Dalreen had arrived (our cabaret star) flown to Perth after a hectic schedule in the East - Looking every bit a star, she finally took the stage and belted out tunes by Roxette and Tina Turner. The dance floor was a buzz with memories of the sounds made famous by Dalreen at the Blue Leopard and Akasa Kade.

Bill Elkins (our first Aussie committee member) proposed the toast to Past Presidents as our compere, Aubrey invited them and founder members, Trevine & Dawn to take the stage while the band played *The Anniversary Waltz*. While the party continued the judges mingled among

the bevy of beautiful ladies to choose the Anniversary Queen - We had found her - Looking a picture in an elegant silver and green sari, Chandini Raat looked the part - A singular sensation decked in traditional jewellery. She was escorted on to the dance floor and sashed by Olga to the strains of Stevie Wonder's "Is'nt she lovely ...' a befitting parade of honour.

After dinner it was time to cut the sumptuous cake generously donated by Cheryl Weerasekera - The cake was wheeled in (sparklers & all). Past committee members over 21 years were asked to take the stage as they held hands and sang "Heres to You". Sheila scurried in the kitchen organizing girls to make their entrance with platters of anniversary cake made by herself and Joyce and exquisitely wrapped in silver and apricot. The girls Jackie, Sue, Manjula, Shan, Elizabeth, Vino and Chandi looked a picture as they mingled with the crowd and served them our 'rich cake'

It was the Baila session next as Dalreen took the stage and guests poured onto the floor to the tunes of "Udarata Menike" and "Suranganie". The crowd called for more and she obliged - Rochelle (our youngest member) presented her with flowers and a Koala Bear as she finished her stint. Spot prizes (some twenty of them) were given out during the night. The Ansett Mystery flight (our Door Prize) was won by Kevin & Shirley Hedley and the trip to Malaysia (drawn by Vice President, Rosemary) was won by Reg Ransom. Vintage port (donated by Wilton) was served to guests with their coffee - The band played on, tunes as old as "Oh my Papa" and as new as "Would I lie to you" by the Eurythmics - A 31st night?? No our special 21st Anniversary Ball and cheers to you who made it such a memorable evening.

Anonymous.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE DANCE COMMITTEE
FOR A JOB WELL DONE



Deepavali

The
Festival
of
Lights

(Very little is known of the significance of this popular Hindu Festival by those who are not Hindus - here is just a glimpse)

Deepavali is celebrated by Hindus all over the world in early November. It is commonly known as the Festival of Lights and on this day priority is given to the lighting of oil lamps and brightening up the homes and temples.

The word Deepavali means chain of lights, when millions of deeyas (clay lamps with coconut oil and clean rag rolled into a wick) are lit in homes. Lamps twinkling in intricate designs arranged by the housewife is a common sight, if you happen to walk into a Hindu home during the festive season.

For the Hindus, Deepavali marks the beginning of a new life and for this reason it is celebrated in autumn - when all trees shed their leaves. (ed. this does not apply Down Under).

Certain rituals are associated with the celebration. A Hindu household will clean the home - early morning floors are washed and tumeric water sprinkled for purity and cleanliness. They draw the **Kolum** (i.e. geometrical designs drawn with a mixture of lime and rice flour) at the entrance of the house, the thresholds of places of worship. The deeyas or lamps are lit to welcome Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth.

Everyone in the household has an oil bath and wear new clothes. Families gather and partake of the rich food cooked. Neighbours are invited to partake of this meal, as well.

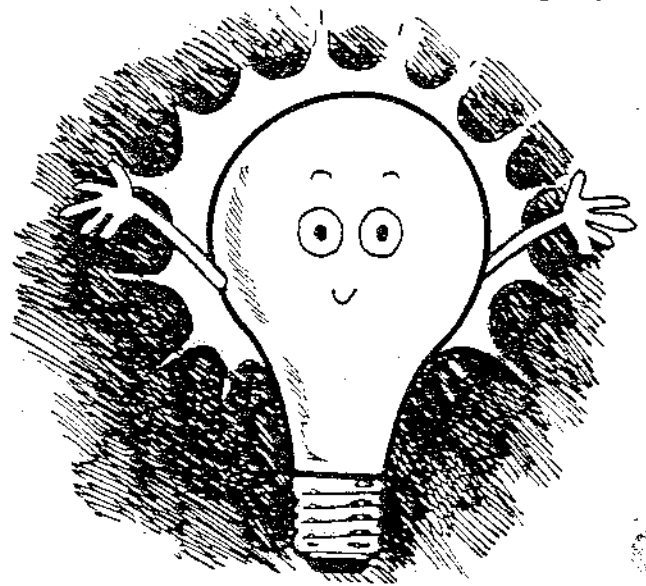
The commonly believed legend about Deepavali is about a demon king of India called Narakasurian who was very unpopular among his subjects. His people were very unhappy and unable to bear his cruelty and punishment and prayed to Lord Maha Vishnu for redress. Maha Vishnu, it is said, had appeared in the human form as Sri Skanda and defeated and killed the demon king in a bitter battle - The demon king at his deathbed sought the mercy of Lord Maha Vishnu and requested that the day be a day of celebration - with pomp pageantry to signify the triumph of good over evil ----- so the story goes.

Whatever manner it is celebrated - it brings fun, hope and the blessings of the elders on the community.

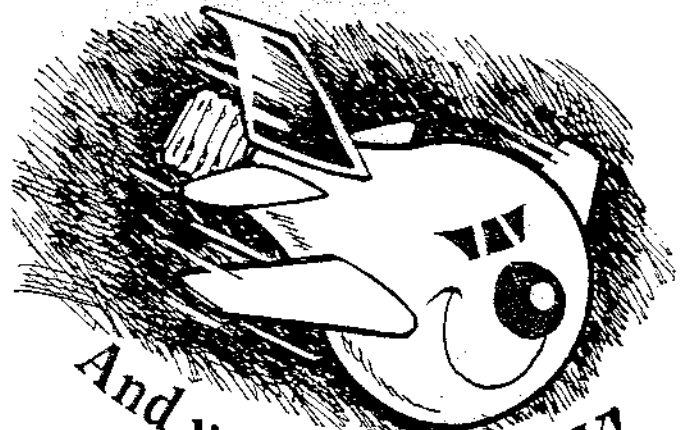
HAPPY DEEPAVALI TO ALL

OUR HINDU READERS

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with a million
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CONTRIBUTIONS

PREMISES REPORT

The Special General Meeting in August was a significant milestone in the Premises Project. Although the necessary numbers could not be mustered to decide on the release of funds, the proposal received an overwhelming endorsement, with none dissenting. The House also gave an undertaking to take necessary steps to release the funds, upon a satisfactory evaluation of the final form of the project. On the strength of these assurances, the Sub Committee, together with the joint venture partners - the French Mauritian Society made the formal submission to the Town of Bassendean.

The Council is currently deliberating the issue and a decision on the proposal is expected at the next Council Meeting.

Charlie Oorloff, having served a long spell opted to be relieved from the Sub Committee. Charlie's contribution to the project was indeed noteworthy. He was solely instrumental in drafting the Rules of the Premises Management Committee and his advice and guidance at all times was invaluable. Charlie has been replaced by Janaki Chandraratne, who has served the Committee at its inception having in fact attended the initial meetings with the Council.

The joint Committee has lodged an application for a federal grant, pending the approval of the project by the Council.

Sgd/ Rohan Bandarage
Convenor, Property & Premises Sub Committee.

MATHEW PIERIS ... as you will recall ... was a household word in Sri Lanka - following the publicity surrounding his criminal trial for double murder.

Now A.C. Alles, a former Judge of the Supreme Court and one time Solicitor General has put together the astounding facts of a murder trial unparalleled in the country together with a careful analysis of the several controversial legal issues that arose during the trial.

The Book titled : **MATHEW PIERIS: FROM MYSTICISM TO MURDER** is an outstanding publication from the standpoint of practitioners in criminal law and 'meaty' reading for us lay people. According to review comments it "highlights the complex issues of proof through circumstantial evidence, modes of establishing conspiracy and conflict of expert opinion on differential diagnosis."....." The case shocks us beyond measure, horrifies us, ...because of the heartlessly cruel and calculating manner in which he contrived the deaths of two innocent persons who had done him no harm"

Autographed copies of the book are priced at C.Rs. 750/- + postage (a bulk package of 4 copies costing approximately \$ 2.00)

For further information please contact: Michael Alles, Unit 11, 134 Peninsula Road, Maylands 6051 Tel. (09) 370 2824

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new address

IT'S ON ONCE AGAIN - BY POPULAR DEMAND !!

THE BIGGEST EVER

SRI LANKAN FOOD FAIR



SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 1992

FROM 11.00 A.M. - 3.00 P.M.

PRESENTED BY



THE W.A. SRI LANKA (CEYLON) ASSOCIATION

AT THE SCOUT HALL - DIANELLA COMMUNITY CENTRE

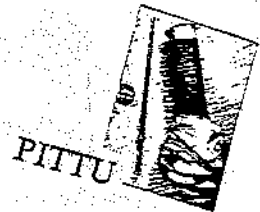
LIGHT STREET DIANELLA

SAVOUR THE EXQUISITE, MOUTH WATERING FOODS

FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE BEAUTIFUL PARADISE ISLAND OF



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Have a great day of fun -- & good eating !
RAFFLES ** HAMPERS ** PRIZES

YOUR FOOD WILL BE SERVED IN
TRUE SRI LANKAN STYLE BY LADIES
IN TRADITIONAL DRESS - CLOTH &
JACKET DON'T MISS THIS
OPPORTUNITY

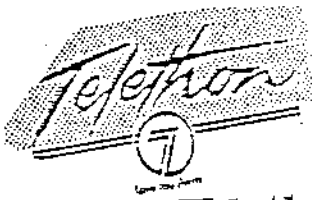


The Australian Asian Association of W.A. Inc.

in conjunction with

The W.A. Sri Lanka (Ceylon) Association Inc.

PROUDLY PRESENT



The Teletthon Dinner Dance 1992

DATE 17th October 1992

VENUE Macedonian Community Centre (Upper Hall)
21 Albert St. North Perth

BAND: The Oceanites

Guest appearances by visiting Teletthon Personaliti

Dress Formal / Lounge / National
Drinks Bar Facilities Available
Tickets \$ 25.00 per head

SMORGASBOARD BY CREATIONS FOR FOOD

The joint organising Committee have lined up a fabulous night for you. Some of you missed out on the Anniversary Ball - which was a great night. This is your opportunity to have a fantastic night out and help a worthy cause at the same time.

Book your table and avoid disappointment

Ring Joel 474 2288 or
Olga 328 6202
for tickets & reservations

We sent each member one Raffle Ticket Book with only 10 tickets.

In the true Sri Lankan spirit of generosity & hospitality we are confident you will help support the charities that help us all here in W.A.

BE IN THE DRAW

FOR THE SELLER'S PRIZE

Come & Enjoy Games & Competitions

for the Young & Old

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 1992

10.00 A.M. ONWARDS

at the Leeming Recreation Centre

Farrington Road, Leeming

at the
FAMILY FUN DAY
TO CELEBRATE OUR
21ST ANNIVERSARY

MEMBERS: \$ 5.00 MEMBER FAMILY (2x3) \$ 20.00
NON-MEMBERS \$ 8.00 NON-MEMBER FAMILY (2x3) \$ 30.00
CHILDREN/SENIORS \$ 5.00
Heated Pool Adults \$ 2.30 Child. \$1.30
Spa/Sauna/Steam Room - Adults \$ 1.20
BRING YOUR BATHERS

Cricket & Tug-o-War Competition
NORTH VS SOUTH

SCRUMPTIOUS RICE & CURRY

Soft Drinks, Wine & Beer on the House

B. Y. O. SPIRITS

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

(Episode 2 - contd from May/June edition)

Ammi dearest,

This language problem is really a nuisance. Last week I had to get some light bulbs and went to one of the large department stores to get them. I asked an assistant where the bulbs were, and she told me to look for it in the nursery. I gazed at her in disbelief, but decided that she knew better than I did where they kept their goods and made my way to the baby department quite sceptical about finding light bulbs among nursery goods. Sure enough I found nobulbs there! In exasperation I made my request to another assistant including a bit of miming to make myself clear.

"Oh, you mean globes" she said.

"No, no, I have a globe to teach the children geography, but I want a light in their room so that they can see the globe" This I explained with painstaking clarity of diction. She smiled and led me to the electrical department and showed me shelves and shelves of bulbs saying "Go for your life" (I began to make a hasty retreat when she explained that "Go for your life" meant "help yourself to as many as you want!") In Australia we call them globes. But why was I told I'd find them among the nursery items? The nursery is the garden-centre, she explained politely, though I am sure she was dying to laugh. Do you know they also have notices saying "Shop stealers will be prosecuted?" I suppose it does make more sense than "Shop lifters" - but when will I learn to speak Australian.

Jobs are very difficult to get and although we have been here for 18 months Karu still hasn't got a job; but Australia has this thing which they call "The Dole" The government pays you a very good weekly allowance for just existing - and Karu says we are like Cliff Richards - "LIVING DOLE"

You should see Karu setting out each morning to look for a job. He catches the bus, carrying his egg-sandwich in a little brown paper parcel which he puts into the red cabin-bag he got from airline. He has bought a yellow plastic raincoat which we got cheap at a sale (they call this "on special") - and he leaves home at 7.30 a.m. and gets back at 5.30 p.m. (The raincoats are only for winter when it rains and it's freezing - worse than N'Eliya). After he leaves I take the five children to school also by bus. So the six of us stand at the bus-stop, all in yellow raincoats, the children with their bright blue school bags and I with my large brown handbag and green umbrella (bought from Good Samaritans (a second-hand shop where many migrants shop). Several people have remarked "Aren't they beautiful" looking at the children, but I think they are so stunned at the display of colour that we present that they have to say something complimentary !!!

Shall tell you more when next I write. How I miss Soma to cook for me, Siri to look after the children, Gunasena to clean the garden and Banda to run to the boutique to get what I need.

Lots of Love,

Kamala

(Ed. All names are fictitious)

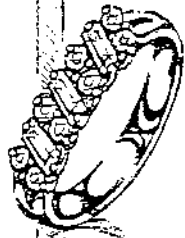
Extract from letter of 31st July 1992 from Charles Oorloff O.A.M. tendering his resignation from the Building Sub-Committee.

"Dear Ranjit,

.....

I wrote to you on the 9th July informing you that there would be no useful purpose served in my continuing to be on the Building Sub-Committee and also advised you of the need to obtain the advice of an accountant and a commercial lawyer. I trust that you have informed Rohan of my decision so that he could, if he so wishes, take the necessary steps to fill the vacancy.....
Sgd/ Charles Oorloff.

Give us a ring.

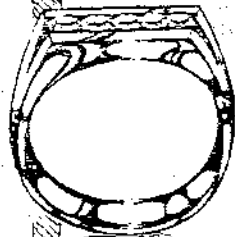


Or better still, call in.

If you're seriously considering the purchase of high quality jewellery, you'll be impressed with the comprehensive array. Rings, watches, gold & silver chains & bracelets, precious & semi-precious stones - in short, a fabulous selection of designs and styles that you won't find elsewhere. Best of all, **You'll really love our prices!**



Perhaps you're thinking of having an old-style jewellery piece remodelled, or would like to have something individually designed and handcrafted. If so, we pride ourselves on being able to offer you **Personal expert attention.**



A highly qualified jeweller is available on our premises to help and advise you at all times - a distinctive service which is frequently carried out by a sales assistant elsewhere. **Watch & jewellery repairs.**

Being able to speak directly with the jeweller is a definite advantage. You will always receive expert advice, while many repairs can often be done while you wait.

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ALL HOURS ON 018 910815

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Today



Yesterday

Recent findings by a local geologist seems to point to the discovery of diamonds on a large scale in Sri Lanka to add to the already glittering crown of gems that adorn the island.

The study shows that the belt of mineral wealth girdles the area between Hambantota and Trincomalee in the south. Recently, during an oceanographic expedition a single diamond was discovered off the coast of Bentota. A further four diamonds have been discovered near the boundary of the hill country and Yala.

There is an English saying that "one swallow does not make a summer" but it does not apply to the diamond find in Sri Lanka - so say the geologists working on the discovery.

The story goes that diamonds were first discovered, quite unwittingly, by a group of children playing near the Orange River in South Africa. Today South Africa boasts of the world's best diamonds. When it was first discovered the children did not know that the hard stone they picked up with glittering points was a diamond weighing 21 carats!!

From the early dawn of recorded history, Sri Lanka has been famous for its gems - blue sapphires, cat's eyes, rubies, opals and almost every precious and semi precious gem has been found in this resplendent isle.

Talking of diamonds, the Koh-i-Noor diamond, now part of the British crown jewels came from India and belonged to an Indian prince.

So..... when you are next holidaying in the Yala game sanctuary dig deep at its borders and you may just be as lucky as the children near the Orange River!! You may end up with what is generally known as

"A girl's best friend" - the diamond of the century."

By Iris Manampery (a story woven around a lifelike wooden carving of the Kandyan era....**The Missing Birthmark**)

Gascoine was a Frenchman, O so elegantly dressed!
With frills about his collar and braid about the breast
Of his well-cut velvet jacket, as an emissary he came
To meet the King of Kandy, King Narendra was his name.

King Narendra met the Frenchman who from a far off country came,
He gave gifts to King Narendra, King Narendra did the same,
They talked about a treaty which would let the Frenchmen trade,
In pearls and gems and spices and thence a bond was made.

Gascoine remained in Kandy, the city of green hills,
He was welcome in the palace, where he roamed around at will,
And there the gallant Frenchman one day espied the Queen,
Her beauty left him speechless, as such he'd never seen!

She smiled at handsome Gascoine & her heart began to beat!
And ever often after, they met in quiet retreat
In secret, and the lovers many happy hours spent,
In an around the palace, in stolen love, content.

But after months of pleasure, one day Gascoine was told,
"The Queen lies in a stupor, she lies mindless, she lies cold,
Evil spirits have possessed her, the gods we must invoke.

The Queen was carved in wood on a stand,
Tis a perfect picture of my Queen to his Frenchman guest, King Narendra said,
To which Gascoine with a shake of his head, remarked
that the craftsman had failed to dot,
Her thigh with a birthmark, and on the right spot,
He painted the mark with a turn of his wrist, for that was all that the artist had missed!

King Narendra full of fury, Like a hawk about to strike
Said "Strip this Frenchman, march him and pierce him on a spike!
He was my royal guest here, but as far as I can see,
This villain of a Frenchman is steeped in lechery!"

The funeral drums struck up a muffled beat and slow,
Attired in red to his death he did go,
The Queen looked down and lamented on the grief she had brought

"Though Ravana captured Sita", he answered "he nothing gained"
But the love that we shared with each other was surely not in vain"

Have your Say

Please Note:

The Editor takes no responsibility for opinions expressed in this column or anywhere else in this newsletter.

with Bouquets & Brickbats

From: Osmund & Fleur Perera

Dear Olga,

We have to say how much we enjoyed ourselves on the night of the Anniversary Ball. Congratulations on a job well done !! The atmosphere, the music, the decor, the company, the dancing, the cake... it was a night to remember. We hope there will be many more occasions like this.

With love,

Sgd/ Os & Fleur

P.S.

I shouldn't forget the gorgeous sarees !

From: Chris Hesse

Congratulations to the Editor.

Well done, Olga and a welcome change of format - reviving past memories of those who formed the Association and set up its aims & goals.

As I remember the Association, it was one of "togetherness" - working as one great bunch of people in the same direction to consolidate the bonds of friendship and support for each other.

I consider you a stalwart of the Association. In spite of wearing several hats you bring to whatever position you hold charm, integrity and the courage of your convictions. Through your words of wisdom you are advocating a togetherness - with no boundaries and for this I wish to bestow on you the title "Iron Lady of the Association"

Sgd/ Chris Hesse

From: Wilton White

Published with permission from the writer David Young of Bibra Lake.

What is "multiculturalism"? Its literal meaning seems to be simply a system comprising many cultures.

"Culture" means a place of origin as well as a system of beliefs and customs peculiar to a particular group. It is all very well to recognise these groups but how they are dealt with involves many questions.

Multiculturalism as practised in Australia appears to assume that the questions are common knowledge and the solutions will be found simply by declaring the existence of a policy. In the early 1950's the country welcomed migrants from different cultural backgrounds. We didn't call them "ethnics" we didn't have ethnic councils and no one talked about multiculturalism! Over time these groups of people settled in society and became simply "Australians"

Everyone concerned, "old" and "new" Australians alike went through a cultural change - which is still going on. More often than not, the development has been an almost imperceptible process of changing attitudes and values. The result has been a changed and enriched Australian culture and it has happened in the simple context of the newcomers wanting and striving to become Australians above anything else.

A "multiculturalism policy" has muddied the waters. creating an atmosphere for ethnic groups to bring the problems of their countries of origin into Australia. They should be forced to decide their primary loyalty to this country - or leave.

You cannot "bureaucratise" the processes of social assimilation.

People will take their own time but, in the end, ordinary people will determine the effectiveness of assimilation, assisted by the efforts of new comers to become "real" Australians.

Australian "culture" is developing.

Let's just be sure that it is uniquely ours through an evolutionary process..... David Young.

* There is little doubt that disharmony in an organisation is due to culture trying to dominate a strictly social community. A comparison of the Association's objectives in 1971 and what they are at present indicates our "ad hoc" approach to pre 1948 thought and post 1956 thinking.

We should do all possible to unite the groups....

With regards,

Sgd/ Wilton.

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

VALE

We record the passing away of Louis Fialho father of Committee member Mel. We convey our deepest sympathies to Mel and the Fialho family.

The Burgher Welfare League President Miriam de Kauwe has asked me to convey to members details of their Anniversary Dance on October 3rd 1992 at the Macedonian Hall, Albert St. North Perth. Tickets \$ 25.00 for Non-members - Please contact Miriam for further information on 343 3281.

The Social Worker in attendance at the Buddhist Temple has advised that a group of Sri Lankan Seniors meet there every 1st Monday of the month.

Activities from 10.00 a.m. - 2.30 p.m. (these include Yoga)

Bring a Plate

Transport can be arranged. Ring Ying (the Social Worker) on 344 4220 for further information and assistance.

Sunday 4th October - there will be an excursion for all those attending the Seniors group.

THE FIRST WORD IN

R A N G E

THE LAST WORD ON

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With Deepavali around the corner, you may wish to try these specialities:

Chapatti & Payasam (Vermicelli Pudding)

Chapatti

Ingredients: 2 cups Atta Flour
enough water to make into dough.

Method: Put flour into bowl, add water, little at a time and knead until dough is smooth and pliable. Cover dough with wet towel and set aside for about half an hour. Divide the dough into small portions. Roll each portion into a ball (hands may be greased). Flatten with a rolling pin on a floured wooden board to a neat 15 cm circle (this needs practice!). Heat a frying pan or skillet on a moderate heat. Place chapatti on pan and cook the first side until half cooked. Turn over to the second side and cook until well done. Now turn back to the first side and cook it again pressing gently on top of chapatti with a small piece of cloth - the chapatti will puff up. (This is the secret to a nice and pliable chapatti!!!) Remove from the pan. Rub some ghee/butter on top if desired. Wrap Chapatti with a cloth until required.)

Vermicelli Pudding

Ingredients: 2 Litres of Milk 50 gr. Whole Almonds
200 gr. sugar 30 gr. Crushed Almonds
1/2 tsp. Essence of Rosewater 30 gr. Crushed Pistachio Nuts
100 gr. Vermicelli (very fine noodles) Silver paper (edible - available in Indian/Asian food stores.

Method: In a blender grind the whole almonds and a little milk to a fine paste. Boil the remainder of the milk for 15 minutes, add the almond paste and boil for another 10 minutes. Add the broken up vermicelli and cook until it becomes tender and the mixture thickens. Add sugar and cook for another five minutes. Remove from stove and add the Rose essence. Pour into serving dishes, decorate with fine sheets of silver paper and sprinkle with the crushed almonds and pistachios. Serve hot or cold. (Ed. Believe me the dish tastes just as nice without the silver paper so you don't have to run around to find it!!)

THE WA-SRI LANKA (CEYLON) ASSOCIATION (INC)

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