

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR



Dear Readers, it just had to happen - and it did. A vicious little printer's devil managed to infiltrate our last issue. In the editorial I said that the value of the Australian dollar had fallen from .98 SL cents to a mere .70 SL cents. Wrong! What I should have said was that the value of the dollar had fallen from 98 SL rupees to a mere SL 70 rupees. My apologies. Kudos to David Van Eyck of Colombo who was quick to point out my mistake. Thanks David.

OF RAFFLES AND RAFFLE PRIZES

One of the chief money spinners at our fund raising lunches is the Raffle. It must be said that our members always support the raffle by **donating prizes**, buying many tickets and hoping to win a prize. But, time and time again we have watched a scenario where the winning number is announced and, somewhere in the crowded Hall, a face lights up with glee and the holder of the winning ticket jumps up, waving his or her ticket in the air. The winner then walks up and accepts his/her prize and walks back jauntily to his/her table. The well-packaged prize is then opened and the winner's face falls. Why? Yet another casserole dish or pudding bowl or set of glasses or a vase or even a toaster! The average family has plenty of these articles in their homes and need no more. So, the prizes end up as donations to yet another raffle somewhere! Therefore, what this Club has decided to do is confine its prizes to hampers containing gourmet quality food and drink. Prizes will consist of about ten hampers. I am sure that everybody will agree that this is a good idea. So, friends, supporters and benefactors no more bowls, dishes, vases and/or water tumblers please. We would appreciate, greatly, donations of good quality food and/or drink that we can include in hampers. Stuff that you would enjoy winning and consuming. In donating food please make sure that the USE BY date has not expired which is something I am sure you always do anyway. Of course, donations of more expensive items such as DVD players, or wrist watches etc. are always welcome! Thank you, friends. I am sure everybody will understand and comply with this request.

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Scarnivel. Tony/Arlene

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Young. Annesley/Jennifer

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CLUB WEBSITE

www.eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

Caring for the Less Fortunate

President's Report 2008-2009

My first tenure as President has drawn to a close and I must admit that I have found it a most stimulating and satisfying experience. What really motivated me, and I know that I have become somewhat obsessed with helping our Welfare Beneficiaries and Sponsored children, was our visit to Sri Lanka in 2007. Having met these people really opened my eyes as to how lucky and fortunate we are in this great country.

The Club has been able to achieve a lot in the past twelve months despite the poor economic situation that our World has faced. All this could not have been achieved without the hard work and support of the Management and Fund Raising Committees and all our wonderful members and friends who are always ready to answer the call for help.

Our financial result for this year has not been as good as in previous years and indicates a substantial loss. However, this was largely contributed to by the world economic downturn, which resulted in the return on the Australian Dollar being reduced drastically and the fact that donations received were considerably less than in the previous year. However, I am certain our situation will improve in the next financial year.

I would like to thank each and every one of the committee members, very sincerely, who gave of their time and energy so willingly to ensure that all we did was a success. The new accounting system is now in its second year and we were able to get invoices out earlier than usual and the results have been good. This is in no small way due to the hard and diligent work of our Treasurer Tony Scarnivel – thank you, Tony. A big thank you also to Roger Raymond for his continuing help.

Our membership has increased and donations keep rolling in. Thanks to our very hard working Membership Secretary, June Isaaks, for her tireless efforts, not only as the membership coordinator but also for doing such a sterling job as MC at most of our functions. Thanks, June.

Darryl Isaaks, our Welfare Coordinator, continues to do an absolutely fantastic job, in spite of having a number of set backs due to ill health. Manfully, he soldiers on and ensures that payments are up to date, closely monitoring new applicants and selecting the most deserving. Anthea Muller and her team at the DBU continue to assist Darryl and help us to provide help and assistance to the Less Fortunate in Sri Lanka. A Big Thank You to all these kind people.

Darryl also doubles as our Editor and all those who read our Newsletter will agree, no doubt, that his articles are not only informative but also entertaining and, where necessary, so adeptly tugs at the heart strings of our members and friends with his well constructed pleas for help. Darryl, a very Big Thank You, Mate.

Trevor Collette, our Student Sponsorship Co-ordinator, has not only kept up the good work of his predecessor, Maurice Forster, but has increased the number of sponsored children. Now, we have 155 children in Colombo and 22 in Batticaloa. A job well done, Trev.

Our indefatigable Secretary, Marie de Kretser, for all her hard work in keeping the committee up to date with all relevant information, keeping impeccably accurate minutes and typing and sending out the many items of correspondence. Not only has she to attend to these secretarial duties but also has to ensure that the President is made to toe the line! Thanks, very much, my dear lady.

This year we are fortunate to have our very own website www.eightyclubmelbourne.org.au. Our very capable committee member and now Web Master, Earle Ferdinand, has designed and developed this site which is proving to be very popular with over 3000 hits being registered per month. Earle has spent many hours and has developed this site at his own expense. He is a tireless worker who also designs and prints all our dance tickets. Together with George deVos, Earle also is responsible for the beautiful Christmas décor we see at our Christmas dance. Thank you to both you guys.

My obsession and special project i.e, to give our sponsored children a Christmas present, has been a big success and we have been able to ensure that this happens again this year. This has been made possible by the generosity and support of those members and friends who contributed so willingly. I hope to make this venture an on- going occurrence.

Thank you one and all for your generosity and support throughout the past twelve months. I close by quoting from the scripture:

....."It is better to give alms than to accumulate wealth".....

Rodney de Kretser

HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT

The Emergency Fund was put to good use, once again, and the following payments were made:



24.04.09	Mrs Ruby de L	1,500.00	Breast cancer. Needs money for a scan and other medical tests.
15.05.09	Mrs Flora R	1,500.00	89 yrs old. No income. In need of nourishment.
15.05.09	Mrs Iris de F	1,500.00	62 yrs old. Is a heart patient and needs assistance as she has no income.
16.06.09	Anthony W	1,000.00	63 yrs old. No income. Brought his wife to Hospital from outstation. Bus fare is Rs.300/= for 2 - one way tickets.
21.05.09	Mrs Mercie B	1,500.00	63 yrs old. Husband is sick and needs a by-pass. Had not had a proper meal for the past 3 days. Was desperate.
05.06.09	Christopher J	1,500.00	He is disabled and finds life difficult. Used to paste paper bags but no one wants these now.
15.06.09	Clarence P	1,500.00	74 yrs old. Has a heart condition and needs medication.
16.06.09	K.A.B. H	1,000.00	73 yrs old. He is deaf and has a growth in his neck. No income.

The Management Committee decided that, in future, reimbursement of the Emergency Fund would be in a sum of Rs.20,000 at a time as the present imprest of Rs.10,000 was used up very quickly.

The vacancy for a Welfare Beneficiary caused by the death of Mrs. Maureen R was filled by Mr Christopher J, a disabled man who was finding it very hard to live as he did not have the use of his right hand and could not earn a living. Another vacancy caused by the death of Mrs Dolly B was filled by the appointment of Mrs Rosemary F, destitute and crippled by arthritis. Also, Mr Clifford R passed away and was replaced by Ms. Jeanette L. and Mrs. Joyce Rita S was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Mr H E S. So, once again, the number of Beneficiaries is being maintained at its maximum of 200.
Good news indeed!

Our President has been instrumental in shipping four boxes of new/used clothes to the DBU for distribution among the WBs during the Christmas period. Most shipping charges, transport and duty have been paid by donations received from Committee Members. **Club funds will not be utilised for this purpose.**

In the last newsletter we stated that an outright donation of Rs.10,000 was given to Mr Rickardo J (on waiting list for Welfare Benefit) to help him tide over his difficulties. Mr. J writes as follows: "This is to thank you for the sum of Rs.10,000 you sent me. And also I thank the Eighty Club for everything. That money was a great help to me for my medicines."

A sum of Rs.5000 was given to Mrs Von H to pay for her cataract removal surgery. Another person's sight has been restored by the Eighty Club.

This Club has raised its entrance donation to fund raising lunches from \$20 to \$25 per head. This is in line with rates charged by other Clubs and has been necessitated by increased costs charged by caterers, hall hire etc. Our members and supporters are quite happy to pay the increased rate, or even more, as they are aware of the sterling work done by us to help the less fortunate in Sri Lanka.

Please pay your membership fees, dear friends, and help us help these unfortunate folk back in Sri Lanka.

DARRYL ISAACS – Welfare Coordinator.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2009

October 11th

INDONESIAN LUNCH

CONTACTS: RODNEY & MARIE DE KRETZER, EARLE & SHIREEN FERDINAND

December 5th -

CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE

CONTACTS: TONY & ARLENE SCARNIVEL, EARLE & SHIREEN FERDINAND. **BOX HILL TOWN HALL**

LUNCHES WILL BE AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD HALL, WHEELERS HILL. HOWEVER, DATES, VENUES AND MENUS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE WITH THE CONTACTS NAMED ABOVE WHOSE PHONE NUMBERS WILL BE FOUND ON THE FRONT COVER OR WITH ANY OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBER.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We extend the hand of friendship and a warm welcome to the following new members:

JOAN HAMILTON of Cape Woolamai, Vic

BILL DEUTROM of Brookfield, Qld

DIANA & FRED STROBL of Noble Park North, Vic

ERIC & DOREEN WEINMAN of Meadow Heights, Vic

IMPORTANT

Would you like to receive your copy of the Newsletter as an email attachment? If so, please send me an email and inform me accordingly. My email address is darjun@optusnet.com.au. Needless to say, those who receive the newsletter by email will not receive a printed copy in the mail.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

When you received the last Newsletter you would have found an Invoice inside it requesting payment of your membership fees from July 2009 to June 2010. Many members responded promptly with their payments but, unfortunately, some have forgotten to send us their payment. The fact is that we depend on prompt payment of dues to carry on our welfare programme. So, if you have posted your payment already we say a fervent "Thank You." If you have forgotten, please put your payment in the mail without delay. **A red spot on the address label is to remind you that your membership is due.**

Thank You one and all !



Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong sermon on the devil. One said to the other, 'What do you think about all this Satan stuff?' The other boy replied, 'Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your Dad.'



IMPRESSIONS OF SRI LANKA

BY PRUDENCE COOK

It was dark when I arrived in Sri Lanka and, after 24 hours worth of flights and transits, I was tired. I tried to make polite chit-chat with my driver, but neither of us could understand the other's accent so I resigned myself to looking out the window sleepily taking in my first impressions of the country that was to be my home for the next month. All I managed to make out were colourful Buddha's in brightly lit glass enclosures and silhouettes of soldiers, the shadows playing against their guns making them look enormous.

My first days passed in a slow haze of jetlag and humidity, and a particularly nasty trip on a jagged piece of concrete protruding from the sidewalk. I left a trail of blood all the way back to the hotel and have worn closed toed shoes ever since.

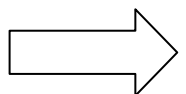
People assume that coming from Australia I should be used to the heat, but I've come from Melbourne in the middle of winter and it is freezing. Where I'm from, we have dry heat that penetrates your skin and sends people running for the shade until a cool change comes through in the evening. Here the heat is heavy and sticky all the time. The only respite comes from a cold shower and, even then, the feeling of being fresh and clean is fleeting.

The traffic is perhaps the first thing you notice in Sri Lanka that is entirely different from home. Lanes, traffic lights, road signs and pedestrian crossings are indicators only and not necessarily firm rules. Car horns, unlike at home where a toot is usually followed by a stream of abuse and a rude hand gesture, are simply used as a common courtesy. Although it's congested and chaotic, at least the traffic is constantly moving. I'm usually a poor passenger, tensing as cars approach and often clutching at my seat during fast turns, but surprisingly, I've remained relaxed in Sri Lankan traffic, even when my driver has to negotiate cows, dogs, tuk-tuks and hair-raising roundabouts.

The public transport too, has left me unfazed. Initially I was nervous as I had heard horror stories from other travellers, and even some Sri Lankans seem surprised that I regularly take the bus, but I don't mind the sharp corners, the exhaust fumes in my face and the dust under my eyes. The buses here are no more crowded than Melbourne's public transport and there's a slight exhilaration to jumping on and off a bus that is in motion.

The first question I am always asked by both Sri Lankans and my friends and family at home is always about food. Lucky for me, I have always been a fan of spicy foods, and the novelty of spice, rice and curry at every meal is yet to wear off. I'm always provided with a knife and fork to eat my dinner, but I find that eating with my fingers allows for a greater blending of flavours and gives you a closer relationship with your food. The fruit here is the best I have ever tasted and it saddens me to think that when I get back to Australia, the mangos, bananas and pineapples will never taste as sweet as they did in Sri Lanka. I don't think I will find a king coconut or a mangosteen anywhere in Australia, particularly not at the ready, sitting brightly coloured and appetizing on a roadside stall.

Sri Lankans are wonderful people, genuinely interested and happy to help out. Unlike other Asian countries, where asking for directions, or getting someone to take a photo of you will result in you being fleeced out of cash, Sri Lankans will go out of their way to ensure you enjoy their beautiful country. I've had a gentlemen lead me across several pulsing roadways in order to ensure that I get settled onto the right bus, conversing with the conductor in Sinhalese on my behalf to ensure that I arrived at the right destination.



Perhaps the thing that took the longest to become accustomed to is the concept of 'Sri Lankan time'. I have always been incredibly punctual and impossibly impatient; two characteristics that are only accentuated by the frenetic pace, corporate drive and hustle and bustle of Melbourne city. Here, everything runs late, but no one is fazed by that, it's just accepted. It took me a good two weeks before I lost my purposeful stride and learnt to amble along at a slow walking pace like my fellow pedestrians, although sometimes I catch myself starting to hurry and stop myself, because there really is no need. I envy the Sri Lankan ability to sleep anywhere at anytime.

I heard many a story from other travellers about bad things can that happen in Sri Lanka, but I am yet to experience any of it. All my experiences, with the exception perhaps of a few close calls in Colombo's traffic, have been pleasant and I far prefer the company of Sri Lankans to the other travellers I have met, who want everything to be the same as at home, only cheaper, or expatriates who enjoy the luxury of five star living without ever really getting to know the real Sri Lanka and its people. Sri Lankans have welcomed me into their homes and lives, explaining the ins and outs of their lifestyles and diets, and preventing me from making ignorant faux-pas. Their generosity, kindness and hospitality are something that I hope my fellow Australians can aspire to.

Sri Lanka has helped me to be more patient, open-minded and accepting and has also planted in me the firm belief that I am capable of doing anything. I won't miss the mosquito bites or the smell of rotting trash on my walk to the bus in the morning, but these are minor annoyances that have in no way detracted from my over all experience. Upon my return I think I'll find that I miss Sri Lanka more than I missed Australia. I'll come back, hopefully sooner rather than later, there is still so much more I need to see.

I doff my hat to the writer of this honest and outspoken article . Whereas visitors from foreign lands and even returning ex-patriates tend to compare Sri Lanka with the country that they now call home – and invariably find Sri Lanka wanting, this writer has accepted Sri Lanka for what it is – and loved every aspect and nuance of what that wonderful country has to offer. Thank you, Prudence Cook and Thank you, Conraad Hatch, for sending me this article. The Editor.



Thanks Anthea Muller.

SOCIAL NOTES

WELCOME TO OUR WORLD



To Patrick & Sarah HERFT - a son, JESSE PATRICK DEAN on 27th August and eleventh grandchild for CLAIR & LUCIA HERFT.

To Cheryl and Robert CHALLIS, their first Grandchild, COOPER JAMIESON; born on 24/8/09. A son to their daughter Chantelle, and her partner Jamie Pankhurst.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to young JONATHAN (on left). Jonathan is the only grandson of members Irene and Lyn Isaaks of Noble Park and lives in Noosa with his parents, Connie & Russell Isaaks. Jon loves to teach his grandfather how to fish !



Warm greetings to Melody King; Elvira Ferdinands; Henry Brohier; Lyn Noeline Mortimer; Marguerite LaBrooy.

Paternott; Conraad Hatch; Audrey Isaaks; Irene Isaaks.

BELATED BUT SINCERE BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:



PAT OHLMUS who celebrated her 90th birthday on the 25th of May this year. Pat, with son and daughter, migrated to Canberra from Colombo in the mid-1950s and worked at the University. Her birthday was celebrated at a most enjoyable Italian-style lunch at a Restaurant in Griffith township when Pat was toasted by friends and family from Canberra, Victoria and NSW. She revelled in the presence of all her grandchildren from her daughter, Patricia although her son, Timothy, was ill and could not be present. Pat is relatively well and continues to maintain her very keen interest in all sports, particularly cricket and rugby. She lives now in a retirement village in Griffith, surrounded by family.

We wish Pam and Maurice Wishes on the occasion of grant you many more years of



FORSTER our sincere Congratulations and Best their GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. May God wedded bliss.



SINCERE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS ALSO TO:

**SHIREEN + EARLE FERDINAND; KRISTINA + ANTON DEKKER ;
LYN + IRENE ISAACS.**

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE CHANGED YOUR POSTAL ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE NUMBER. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT YOU GET YOUR NEWSLETTER WITHOUT INTERRUPTION.

in GOD'S HANDS



BAPTIST – Trisette passed away on 11.6.2009, aged 96 years. Widow of Dodwell (dec); mother and mother-in-law of Christine and Norman; Ralston and Carmen. Grandmother of 5 and great-grandmother of 10.

LUDOWYKE – Neville passed away on 29.6.2009. Husband of Mignonne; father of Trevine; brother of Gwendoline, Winston and Noel. Father-in-law of Natalie and brother-in-law of Kay.

REIMERS – Chester (Robin) departed this life on 6.7.09. Husband of Trilby; father of Stuart and Tristan; father-in-law of Sue and Belinda and grandfather of Rhys, Kyra and Jed.

HARE – Joan. Wife of Desmond (dec); mother of Lynette, Susan (dec) and Geoffrey. Mother-in-law to Roger.

FERDINANDS – Ivor. Passed away on 22.7.09. Devoted husband of Audrey. Father of Johann and Barbara; Hans and Honorine. Grandfather of Benjamin, Thomas, Birgitta, Cassandra and his darlings, Nicholas and Scott. (Ivor was a Committee Member of the Eighty Club Melbourne, Inc and a tireless worker at its fund-raisers until ill-health laid him low. Vale! Ivor.)

ACHILLES - Vernon Karl Lorensz, aged 101 years. Passed away peacefully after a long and healthy life. Devoted husband of Dulcie (dec.). Much loved father to Dallas, Dalrene, Orianna and Delmer. Fond father-in-law of Seeta, Gary and Liz. Proud grandfather to Dodwell, Maria, Rukshika, Shiran, Ryan and Tasha and great grandfather to Jacob, Chloe, Zyon, Dre, Maxym, Triyan and Tanisha.

CLAESSEN – Cynthia, wife of Ralph (dec). Mother of Rodney and Ian. Sister of Dr. Larry Foenander.

BLAKE - James Patrick 'Jumbo' - Passed away in Ontario on August 1, 2009 at the age of 83. Husband of Paddy and father of Penny, Diana and James. Grandfather of Benjamin and Alexis; brother of Willie, Maureen, Jean, Estelle, Shelley, and June.

HOLSINGER – Ivor, husband of Eugenie (dec); father of Heather and Elaine; father-in-law of Tony and grandfather of Tamara and Gregory. Brother of Gerald (dec); Aubrey (Cairns); Ronnie (dec) and Mignonne Holsinger (UK).

FERDINANDS

Audrey and her family express deep appreciation for all the kindness and sympathy shown by relatives and friends when Ivor passed away recently. They also thank those who donated generously to the Eighty Club in his memory.

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**DETAILS OF THE
NEW TEAM OF OFFICE-BEARERS
ELECTED AT THE CLUB'S
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ON 30/8/2009
ARE ON THE FRONT PAGE.**



JULY LUNCHEON 2009

The lead up to the Eighty Club July lunch created much interest in the Sri Lankan community this year as it was sponsored by Victor and Lorraine de Silva and held at their palatial establishment aptly named The Grand International. Located in the eastern suburbs, The Grand has become a most popular venue hosting a range of functions from Debutante Balls to Dinner Dances and on Sunday 5th July a simple fundraising luncheon for a noble cause in the Grand Ballroom.

On arrival, guests were greeted in the foyer which led to a vista of beautifully set up round tables in the ballroom with linen table cloths, table settings and chairs draped with white linen covers festooned with a gold ribbon and bow to give the room a feeling of grandeur. The response to the luncheon was greater than expected with 450 guests in attendance giving the room an atmosphere of intimacy as tables were set in every available space.

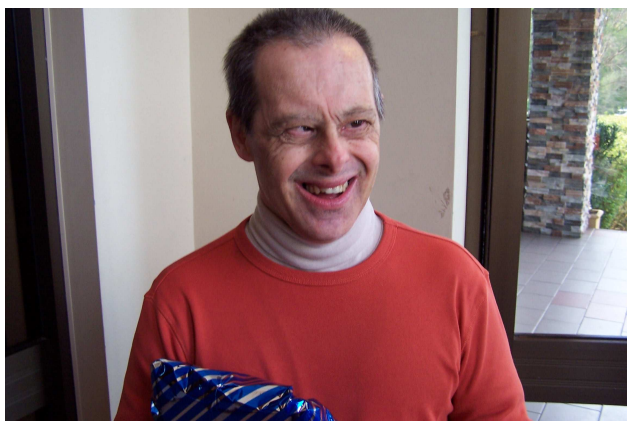
Mistress of Ceremonies, Mrs. June Isaaks, introduced the President, Rodney de Kretser, who welcomed the guests and acknowledged the musicians, Noeline and Glen Schubert and, most of all, Victor, Lorraine, Shanaka and Kishan de Silva for their generous sponsorship of the lunch. They have done this for the past ten years which has helped the Eighty Club raise in excess of \$40,000 for the various charitable programs undertaken by the Club for the less fortunate members of the our Community in Sri Lanka. Rodney thanked them and made a presentation in recognition of their contribution.

As usual, two buffet tables were groaning under the load as they were laid out with a sumptuous Sri Lankan Smorgasbord. Shortly after the opening speeches had concluded, the guests were invited to lunch but not before Mrs Aileen Fernando said Grace. The aromas of the beautiful curries quickly filled the room signalling to our taste buds that it was time to eat. After the patrons had eaten their fair share, it was time to take to the floor for those who wanted to dance or work off the calories.

The raffle which raises a tidy sum was sold out and the draw conducted for a range of prizes. Particular mention was made of Keith and Judy Orchard of Regal Jewellers who donated three prizes. All prize donors were thanked as a fine array of prizes meant everyone had a reasonable chance of getting a prize. After dessert, tea and coffee were served and it was time to wind up proceedings.

From the humble surrounds of Good Shepherd Church Hall which has hosted these functions for many years, it was great to try out such a glamorous and classy venue. The ambience was cosy as we were in from the cold in such pleasant surroundings. In terms of value, where can one go for lunch for \$20 and have such a good time in a warm and friendly atmosphere among friends. The proposed increase in price from \$20 to \$25 has been necessitated by circumstances but is an indirect form of giving for a charitable cause. The lunch was well worth the value and the Committee and the sponsors of the lunch must be congratulated for an excellent afternoon of fellowship and charitable purpose. I hope it was a financial success and increased the coffers of the Eighty Club handsomely.

KEITH DE KRETZER



On the left is a good friend, **ERROL SMITH**, clutching a gift given to him by June and Darryl Isaaks in recognition for and appreciation of the hard work done by him at the commencement of all our fund-raising events. Though afflicted with Down's Syndrome since birth, Errol joins the other members of the Club's Fund Raising Committee and does his very best, with a very cheerful demeanour, to help with little tasks that are allotted to him. So, June and Darryl decided to show him their personal gratitude because Errol is a fine example of the afflicted helping to care for the less fortunate.



STUDENT SPONSORSHIP REPORT

The student sponsorship scheme in both locations of Colombo and Batticaloa is functioning effectively with the payment of the allowances taking place quarterly.

The only common complaint from sponsors appears to be a lack of communication from the sponsored children and or their parents. If this should be a concern to any of the sponsors please take immediate steps to contact me either by telephone on (03) 9706 1084 or if you prefer e-mail on tcollette43@optusnet.com.au . When the children in Colombo collect their allowances they are able to request the DBU for an aerogramme to correspond with their sponsors.

Though it is very rare, I have also had a few of the children inform me that though they do write regularly they never receive a reply from their sponsors and feel that their efforts in writing are either not appreciated or not necessary. Please take time to respond to the letters from the students as it makes them feel really special and cared for.

I have also had a few sponsors comment adversely on the quality of the written English in the student's letters. We need to remember that in most cases English is not the medium of education and is not even the child's second language; some of the parent's command of the English language is equally poor. Whatever the children's and parents ancestry is, what we are seeing is the result of decades of neglect and lack of teaching in English. Cast your mind back to when you were in school 8 or 9 years old and being educated in English, how well would you have written a letter in Sinhalese or Tamil?

Trevor Collette
Coordinator

LETTER FROM MR BILL DEUTROM

During my visit to Sri Lanka last August, I had the pleasure of visiting the Dutch Burgher Union at Bambalapitiya, to observe the distribution of funds provided by the Eighty Club to sponsored children. My visit was at the request of Rodney de Kretser and Trevor Collette.

I was dropped off at the DBU and welcomed by Anthea Muller, Welfare Chair, and her committee who were well into the process of interviewing the families and giving them envelopes containing the sponsorship money from the Eighty Club sponsors. The verandah was fully occupied by well over a hundred people, all seated patiently and moving forward as each family received their gift.

The work done by the Welfare Committee is impressive. Each family was interviewed and enquiries made as to their health, circumstances and the children's education. It was done in a very caring manner and Anthea knew them all and I would say that she would have visited most of them as well.

The process took well over three hours and all the children and their parents were most thankful. I had the pleasure of meeting the family of the young Wesleyite who I am sponsoring and spent some time with them, talking about Wesley College and their family.

The Eighty Club can be very confident that the money sent to the DBU is handled in a very professional manner; fully accounted for and that the recipients are truly grateful for the assistance. The committee, at each interview, stressed the requirement for a letter to be written by the student to the donor. Additionally, some of the young beneficiaries were photographed and I am sure these will be sent to the Eighty Club in due course. I was invited to a lamprais lunch with the President of the DBU, Nigel Austin, together with David Colin-Thome, Anthea, David Van Eyck, Etienne, and others. An excellent lunch in very pleasant surroundings. It was a very interesting and informative morning, which brought back memories of my visits to the DBU, with my family, so many years ago.

In conclusion may I offer my congratulations to all the Eighty Club members for an initiative which will assist many young children to further their education. These funds go towards new clothing, books and other essentials. A very worthwhile cause which I am proud to be able to participate in.

BILL DEUTROM, BROOKFIELD, QUEENSLAND

MAIL BOX

FROM LAURA & COLIN TAYLOR OF NSW:

Hello Mr Isaaks,

You asked if anyone made genuine Lamprais for sale in Melbourne – we live in New South Wales and don't make them for sale, but my family do make them. I thought I'd share this with you.

My grandparents (Fred and Barbara Anderson) were both from Sri Lanka but sadly now passed, introduced their family to many Sri Lankan delights and Lamprais was one of them. In June each year, those who could, from their family (children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great grandchildren), got together and had a Lamprais cook up. One organiser did a fantastic job to coordinate other family members to cook the various items and we came together on a Saturday for a 'Lamprais night'. It was great to have all the grand kids get involved in packing a small cup that went down the production line, being filled with various tasty items as it went, to end up at the foil lined with banana leaves (heated in the oven as we could not manage the coconut coals) for a wrap up. Once all the Lamprais were ready, we tidied up while they heated in the oven. Then we sat down to a Lamprais feast!!

In the end it was a wonderful day and I still remember some of fantastic things that have come from such a great country. May I suggest that, next year, we skip the booze and think about making of some home made ginger beer? Thank you,

Laura Taylor

What lovely memories you must have of those days gone by, Laura. Thank you for sharing them. Editor.

FROM JEAN BYRNE OF EASTWOOD, NSW

Dear Darryl,

Once again I thank you and the Eighty Club Committee (and the DBU) for all your work dedicated to assist the "less fortunate" in Sri Lanka.

I also hear your cry for help to continue this good work and have pleasure in making a donation (in memory of my parents) to help the Club maintain their many and varied programs.

With every good wish, Yours Sincerely

Jean Byrne

Thank you for your extremely generous donation, Jean. It is precisely your type of generosity that enables us to do so much for those less fortunate folk back in Sri Lanka. May God reward you.



LAMPRAIS

Do you think a Muslim Lamprais is as incongruous as a Sinhala Biriyanis? Yes? Well, then I'm here to tell you that the time has come to revise that opinion. Just as my Sinhala friends and relatives claim to make the best Biriyanis ever, the Galle Muslims claim their "Lumprice" is up there with the best. And they certainly are.

Lomprijst, credited with Dutch Colonial origin is unheard of in Holland and variations of the word cannot be found in any Dutch recipe book or dictionary. So, we might as well claim this as a uniquely Sri Lankan meal.

Given the popularity of the ubiquitous Lumprais, and the variety of ways in which it is cooked, one can safely say the dwindling Burgher population no longer hold a monopoly on its preparation. However, given the additions and subtractions to the 'traditional' recipe, - the 'mixed' shredded meat has given away to chicken on the bone; soya for vegetarians; vambatu pahi has endless variations; tiny fricadelles are now big breaded cutlets; the seeni sambal is often devoid of maldivian fish and leans towards being an onion sambal; the prawn blachang is often suspect and, although the end result is often quite tasty, one tends to wonder whether the once glorious lompryst has evolved into nothing more than an upscale "Buth" Packet.

There is a Sri Lankan newsletter called "Culture Vulture" and the latest issue had this article in it.

BOTTLED BONANZA *alias Coin Collections*

Peter Schoorman	35.95	Earl & Iris La Brooy	63.20
Ryan Roberts	70.20	Mirabel La Brooy	45.70
Clare Berenger	18.50	C & J de La Zilwa	31.30
Ralph & Phil Gerreyn	29.40	Anonymous	37.65
Anonymous	20.15	Luncheon Guests – 30/8/09	13.35
Nowell & Louise Hannibalsz	30.00	June Mack	30.00
C & J de la Zilwa	21.95	Anonymous	14.65
Ina & Anton Blacker	35.00	Homi & Marjorie Jilla	16.05
Anthony & Rosemary Koelmeyer	31.15	June & Darryl Isaaks	17.50
Janet & Ray Kelaart	24.20	M.Schoorman	16.45
Reilly Collins	32.50	Anonymous	20.35
		TOTAL	655.20



A KIND HEARTED LITTLE BOY

Seven year old, REILLY COLLINS, was prattling merrily to his grandmother as little boys do. (His grandmother is none other than LEONIE MARTENSTYN, a very hard working member of this Club's Fund Raising Committee.) Reilly showed a great deal of interest in Leonie's description of the Eighty Club and its various activities to raise funds for the less fortunate people in Sri Lanka. One thing that Leonie told Reilly about was how members collected coins in bottles and handed over the proceeds to the Club. Reilly pricked up his ears. "I can do that grandma" he said. "I will collect coins in a bottle for the poor people." Leonie dismissed it as a childish comment and thought no more of it. However, the next time she visited Reilly at his home, he proudly gave her a bottle filled with coins and said, "Here grandma. Please send this money to the poor people in Sri Lanka." Indeed he had emptied his piggy bank, asked his mum to put the coins in a bottle and waited impatiently until he met his grandmother again so that he could give the bottle of coins to her. The bottle contained \$32.50! How proud Leonie is of her grandson, Reilly, and rightfully so! What a wonderful example of generosity on the part of a little boy towards people who he will never meet, in a far away country that he may never visit! May God Bless and keep him. Good on you, Reilly.



THIS FISH STALL IS IN DICKOYA AND HAS BEEN 'DONETED' BY SAMURDHI, A SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENT WELFARE ORGANISATION. ONE HOPES THAT THE DESCRIPTION "FISH STALE" IS NOT INDICATIVE OF THE QUALITY OF THE FISH! DAVID VAN EYCK OF COLOMBO WHO SENT THIS PICTURE TO ME SAYS IT CAN BE "FISH STALL, FISH STALE OR FISH TAIL." BUT, THAT'S DAVID !!!

**OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING
DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY**

Donations received from 3 June to 22 September 2009

Aldons Ione	20.00	Fernando Audrey	20.00
Andriesz Remy Terry	70.00	- In memory of " Luke "	
Anghie Trevor Ruth	70.00	Fernando Brian Lucy	10.00
Anthonisz Harris Joyce	20.00	Fernando Errol Diane	20.00
Australia/Sri Lanka Welfare Guild	1,000.00	Fernando Errol Keith	10.00
Baines Ron Jacinth	20.00	Fletcher Chris Petula	20.00
Bartels Aileen	10.00	Foenander Hugh Avril	20.00
Barthelot Ralph Cheryl	10.00	Anonymous Donation	500.00
Bartholomeusz Hermon Anne	20.00	Forster Wilhelm Romaine	20.00
Bartholomeusz Moira	70.00	Frugtniet Brian Christine	30.00
Bellbirds Club	180.00	-In memory of Joyce Matthysz	
Bennett Cuddy Peggy	5.00		
Bennett Cuddy Peggy	5.00	Frugtniet Noeline	70.00
Bertus Anthony Christine	50.00	- In memory of "Geoff"	
Brohier Henry	20.00	Garnier Rodney Carole	20.00
Brown Norma	20.00	Gauder Doreen	25.00
Byrne Jean	1,000.00	- In memory of Clive -	
-In memory of Jean's parents		Gibson Pamela	50.00
Caldera Alan Kate	30.00	Goggin Peter Rosemary	30.00
Caspersz Grayden	20.00	Gooneratne Gladwin Audrey	20.00
Claasz Heather	300.00	Gray Derek	20.00
Colpo Patricia	50.00	Greve Derrick Heather	70.00
Cooke Noeline	5.00	Grugeon David Elizabeth	20.00
Cooke Rowena	25.00	Gunaratnam Marcus Karmini	100.00
Cramer Melrene	50.00	Harris Dimitri	20.00
- In memory of our darling daughter		Hatch Conraad Rita	20.00
Rebecca Davis		Heatherich Martin Patricia	70.00
Cramer Melrene	30.00	Henderling Kingsley Elizabeth	20.00
Crowe Chester Pax	70.00	Henricus Malcolm Christine	20.00
Da Silva Dudley	20.00	Herft Angelo Melinda	20.00
D'Abrera Royston Joseph	20.00	Herft Clair Lucia	10.00
De Kauwe Herschell Faye	20.00	Herft Damian Caroline	70.00
De Kretser Desmond & Dianne	30.00	Hogan Gavan & Maureen	70.00
De Kretser Ivor Pat	70.00	Holsinger Aubrey	20.00
De Kretser Vivian	10.00	Isaaks Lyn Irene	20.00
De Moore Eileen	100.00	Jacotine Ian Melody	20.00
De Saram William Maureen	20.00	Jansz Cedric Faye	20.00
De Silva Rosemary	10.00	Jansz Neville Myrtle	45.00
De Zilwa Mervyn Myrna	20.00	Jilla Homi Marjorie	50.00
Deckker Norman Christine	20.00	Jilla Homi Marjorie	50.00
Deutrom Bil	30.00	Johnson Brian Jennifer	20.00
Dircksze Aubrey Patricia	20.00	Kelaart Ivo Phyllis	20.00
Drieberg Bryan Electra	20.00	Kelaart Ray Janet	30.00
Dunlop Anne	70.00	Kelaart Rod Sue	20.00
Ebert Sheila	20.00	Kelly Vernon Maureen	20.00
Edema Braebourne	20.00	Koch Carol	70.00
Edema Ralston	20.00	Kreltszheim Jeremy Rosemarie	20.00
Edwards Ray	50.00	La Brooy Earl Iris	25.00
Else Jackie	50.00	Lappen Ken Marie	5.00
-In memory of Richard Young		Leembruggen Charmaine	20.00
Ferdinands Persis	70.00	Lobo Ben Yvonne	30.00
Fernandez Joe Jacintha	20.00	Lourensz Richard Louise	30.00

Ludekens Max	70.00	Ludekens Dudley Pam	5.00
Ludowyk Chireen	20.00	Roberts Herbert Carmen	70.00
Ludowyk Robin Joan	20.00	Roberts Ryan	70.00
Ludowyke Rex Barbara	10.00	Robson Laurie Gail	20.00
Mack Brian	50.00	Rode Dennis Barbara	85.00
-In memory of Margie & Jerry Mack		Rodie Primrose	200.00
Mack Derrick Bernice	40.00	- In memory of John Rodie	
Mack Douglas Peggy	50.00	Rodie Primrose	50.00
Mack Spencer	20.00	Rodrigue Roger Bety	50.00
Maddaford Daryll Tania	20.00	Rowlands Norma E	20.00
Makalanda Marky Gillian	70.00	Scharley Marie	120.00
Maloney Tyrone Pauline	100.00	Schoorman Frank Dorothy	10.00
Martinus Oswald Maeve	20.00	Schrader Everard Peggy	70.00
Matthew Yolande	20.00	Schrader Mark Gladys	30.00
Matthysz Harold Esther	20.00	Schrader Ronald Merlyn	20.00
Matthysz Maurice	70.00	Schumacher Carmen	30.00
McIntyre Graeme Jean	20.00	Schumacher Anton	20.00
Metzeling Esme	50.00	Schumacher Ivor Eileen	50.00
-In memory of Merril, Stan & Chris Livera, Jack & Beryl Misso		Scovell Elliston Fleur	25.00
Metzeling Laurian Pam	40.00	Serendib Financial Service	70.00
Metzeling Laurian Pam	50.00	Sethupathy Bryan Michelle	20.00
Metzeling Michael Therese	20.00	Siebel June	50.00
Miller Brian Louise	20.00	Siebel Werkus A. Brian	70.00
Miller Francis Cheryl	30.00	Sincock Ron Maureen	20.00
Misso Robin Gwen	50.00	St.John Shirleen	20.00
Moldrich Chris	20.00	Stewart Glen	5.00
-In memory of Arlene & Leone Brohier		Stonehewer Algy Heather	10.00
Moldrich Elmo Dionne	20.00	Thiedeman Michael Janis	50.00
Morrison Meredith	70.00	Thomasz Frank Marguerite	20.00
Mortimer Ernie Noeline	20.00	Thomasz Malcolm June	20.00
Nicholas Arlene	20.00	Tytler Harry June	20.00
Nugara Ivor Margaret	20.00	Van Buren Rosemarie	20.00
Nugara Merrill Arlene	25.00	Van den Driesen Lorna	10.00
Ohlmus Pat	20.00	van der Straaten David	20.00
Ohlmus Fritsz Liz	20.00	Van Gramberg Vyvette	20.00
Ondaatje Aelian Patricia	30.00	Van Rooyen Clem	20.00
Ondarchie Keith Coral	70.00	Vanden Driesen Monica	10.00
Oorloff Celia	20.00	Vanden Driesen Nigel	10.00
Oorloff Errol Elaine	10.00	Vandersmagt Vernon Yvonne	5.00
Palewandrem Miriam	20.00	Vanderwert Churchill Heather	70.00
Palewandrem Jeremy & Belinda	200.00	Wambeek Cynthia	5.00
Parsons Karen	20.00	Weerakoon Peter Valerie	20.00
Paternott Elvera	50.00	Weiman Gordon & Heather	20.00
Paternott Roger Jean	20.00	Weinman Carlyle	20.00
Pears Adrian Dawn	100.00	Weinman John Lorraine	100.00
Pereara Lorenz Maryse	20.00	Welsh Trevor Lorraine	70.00
Phoebus Tony Elaine	80.00	Whatmore Margie	20.00
Poppenbeck Emile Ishbelle	20.00	Willenberg Shelton S	20.00
Poppenbeck Victor Anita	20.00	Williams Pat	10.00
Rabot Theo Marie	20.00	Williamsz Miles Rachel	50.00
Ragel Florence	20.00	Williamsz Steven Julie	100.00
Rajapaksa Anil Stephanie	20.00	Woodbury John Forrest	70.00
Raymond Ronald Rita	20.00	Wright George Claudette	20.00
		Young Rita	20.00
		Young Rita. In memory of Richard	200.00

Reimers Glenn Jill	20.00		
Revell Tony Val	85.00	Young Annesley Jennifer	20.00
Young Gillian	20.00	Anonymous	20.00
Young Ian Sonia	20.00	Anonymous	30.00
Anonymous	50.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	15.00	Anonymous	70.00
Anonymous	20.00	Anonymous	1,000.00
Anonymous	110.00	Anonymous	30.00
Anonymous	30.00	Anonymous	50.00
Anonymous	35.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	80.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	30.00	Anonymous	70.00
Anonymous	20.00	Anonymous	170.00
Anonymous	35.00	Anonymous	70.00
Anonymous	30.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	40.00	Anonymous	30.00
Anonymous	30.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	100.00	Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	35.00	Anonymous	70.00
Anonymous	70.00	Anonymous	100.00

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF IVOR FERDINANDS			
Anderiesz H & K,	Fonseka V	Martenstyn L	
Anghie T & R,	Isaaks D & J	Muller L	
Chapman B	Jacotine E & V	Paternott E	
Collins S & R,	Jansz C	Rodrigo R & D	
DeKretser I & P	Jayatunga	Scarnivel T & A	
DeKretser V & H	Jonklaas H & J	Schoorman M & M	
De Zilwa P	Joseph L & L	Speldwinde C & C	
De Zilwa W	Kelaart I & M	Thomasz GM & JC	
Ernst J	Kelly P & M	Wambeek c	
Hatch C & R	Kelly V & DM	Young R	
Ferdinands Family	Khoo M	21 names not provided	
Ferdinands R & T	Mack D	Total	\$2,240

I EXTEND MY HUMBLE AND HEARTFELT

**THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER WHO RESPONDED TO MY
APPEAL FOR A FEW DOLLARS IN ADDITION TO THEIR MEMBERSHIP FEE.**

**THE RESPONSE WAS MAGNIFICENT AND WILL HELP
TREMENDOUSLY IN THE CONTINUATION AND EXTENSION, PERHAPS,
OF OUR WELFARE PROGRAM**

Darryl Isaaks - Editor