



EIGHTY CLUB

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE, INC

4th QUARTER

OCT- DEC 2012

P O BOX 2645, ROWVILLE, VIC 3178

NEWSLETTER NO. 127

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The President

&

Members of the Management &

Fund Raising Committees

Wish all

Our Members, Benefactors

And Well-wishers

A

Merry & Blessed Christmas

And a Happy

And Healthy

New Year 2013.



CARING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2012

*May this Christmas
find you surrounded by those you love
and those who love you*

On behalf of the Management and Fundraising Committees of the 80 Club, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

I would also like to thank all our members, friends and benefactors for your generosity which enables our organisation to help those less fortunate in Sri Lanka. To all those who helped me with my pet project of providing a Christmas present to the sponsored children, I extend my heartfelt thanks. To see the smiles on the faces of these children when they receive their gifts is truly satisfying.

To our Management and Fundraising committees, thank you for your dedication and generosity over the past year. I look forward to your continued support.

Rodney de Kretser



Merry Christmas



**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2012 FROM THE
DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON TO THE
PRESIDENT, COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS OF —
THE EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE INC.**

In this my first year as President of the Dutch Burger Union of Ceylon (DBU), it gives me great pleasure to issue this message as we look ahead in a few weeks time to Christmas 2012.

It is only appropriate that I commence my Message by, yet again, placing on record my grateful thanks and that of the DBU General Committee for the tremendous contribution that your wonderful organization has consistently made during the past many years, to assist the less privileged members of our Community in Sri Lanka. It is such acts of generosity and assistance which continue to be extended to the DBU that have enabled much good work to be again done during the past year, through the Welfare Beneficiaries Scheme as well as the

Child Sponsorship Programme.

It is through this caring and commitment as, so spontaneously, demonstrated over the years by the membership of the Eighty Club Melbourne Inc. that the DBU and indeed those more directly associated with the Welfare work, including not only Anthea Muller and Etienne Jayatunge, whose dedication and commitment is known to all, but also the contribution by willing volunteers such as Mystica Flamer-Caldera and Lana Foenander who unhesitatingly give of their time and commitment, that it has been possible to achieve so much in assisting the less fortunate. I would also wish to mention here the contribution made by our Executive Manager, Mohan Lourdes, both on the accounting side and in putting in place necessary arrangements to meet the requirements for cash on dates when payment is made to Beneficiaries.

As in previous years, the Eighty Club Melbourne Inc. will this year as well sponsor the much awaited and looked forward to Christmas party at the DBU. This year, the date of the Event will be the 18th of December 2012. It is a day which truly brings sunshine into the lives of the many children whose circumstances would otherwise deprive them of the experience and enjoyment of being touched by the spirit of Christmas.

In conclusion, on behalf of the DBU, the General Committee and the entire DBU Membership, I take this opportunity to wish your President, the Committee and indeed the Membership of the Eighty Club Melbourne Inc, along with their families, a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year 2013.

Timothy Speldewinde

President





HANDS ACROSS THE SEAS

Another very successful year has come to an end, and I cannot find adequate words to express my very sincere thanks to the Committee Members of the ECOM Inc., who spare no pains to assist our needy brethren.

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. Rodney de Kretser for being re-elected as President for the ensuing year, as he puts his heart and soul into the activities of the ECOM Inc he leads.

Special commendation must be made of insatiable, Mr. Darryl Isaaks, for the unstinted support rendered to the deserving elderly folk without which some of them may even not be in a position today, with the high cost of living, to have one square meal a day. There are 210 recipients at present and their quarterly allowance has been raised from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.7,500/-, and an additional Rs.3,000/- is also remitted to a spouse and/or dependant. In addition, two bonuses a year are also paid and delectable fish buns and hot cups of tea provided on every payment day to each of those present.

An Emergency Fund is also made available by the ECOM Inc. which assists those casual callers when they are sick, meet with accidents or do not have any funds for a meal.

My grateful thanks also go out to Mr. Trevor Collette who assists the children for their education and other needs and has increased the number on the list to 153.

The initiative and drive of the ECOM Inc. Committee are valuable assets in life, as I am well aware of the manner in which funds are raised by them organising various fund raising events and striving hard to meet their targets.

A few members of the ECOM Inc., visited Colombo this year and witnessed our payment days and I am sure saw for themselves how helpless and needy were the Burghers assisted by their Club.

An extract from the works of Henry Wordsworth Longfellow comes to my mind and I would like to quote:

*The heights by which great men reached and kept
Were not attached by sudden flight
But they, while their companions slept
Were toiling upward in the night.*

The sacrifices made and the cause they stand for are deeply appreciated not only by my sub-committee and myself but by each and every recipient of the monies they receive.

God Bless you all and may you have a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas.

ANTHEA MULLER

Chairperson Social Services, Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon





FROM THE REVD: CHARLES N. JANSZ

PRESIDENT – CHRISTIAN REFORMED (FORMERLY DUTCH
REFORMED) CHURCH OF SRI LANKA.

Dear friends,

Greetings once again to one and all of you from Maxine and myself and may I begin by wishing all of you a most blessed Christmas.

It is that time of the year when we also reach across the seas to wish each other all the joys of the Season and I am thankful that I could do this again through this Newsletter.

Contrary to what happens during the season, Christmas is not meant for agitated rushing about. This gentlest of seasons invites us to be calm instead of harried, focussed instead of fragmented. It calls us to cultivate an attitude of awed stillness before the Lord as we wait in patience for Christ to be born in our minds, hearts and lives.

I have been kept updated, especially through your Newsletter and the snippets that come from the DBU, of your awesome work to raise monies and share your resources, helping so many needy of the Community here in terms of their material, medical and educational needs. Many have been blessed and many lives and families helped in no small measure. And we are grateful for all the work, generosity and sacrifice that has sustained your great efforts.

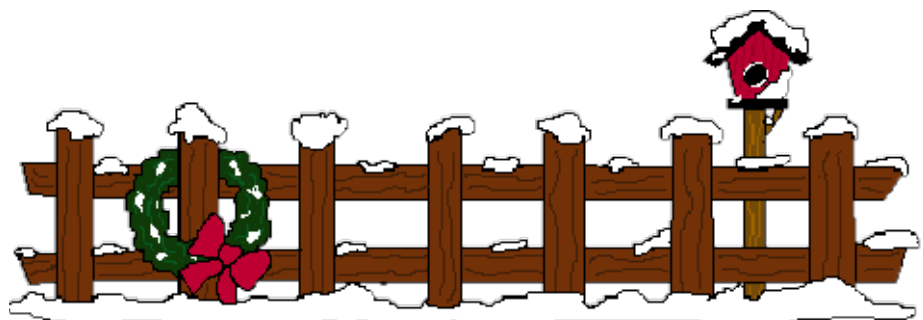
With the season almost upon us, I thought of what someone once said: "Christmas is a necessity. There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves." You of the Eighty Club have amplified this thought through another year and we thank you and thank God Who has made that possible.

Do have a blessed season and may the peace and joy of Him whose birth we commemorate, follow you through the New Year !

With every blessing,

As always,

Revd: Charles Jansz.





ON THE LEFT IS A BANANA LEAF BUS STAND BUILT AT PITA KOTTE, COLOMBO.

I am, you are, we are.....

No matter where we hail from, Australia will always be home to those who seek her shores.

IT is just more than 41 years since I arrived in Australia.....August 28, 1971. It was a cold and wintry morning. My immediate and extended family were at the airport in their numbers to welcome me, my husband, Ralston, and our son, Andrew.

But all I remember is a feeling of confusion and despair. I was a reluctant immigrant, loath to leave the country of my birth, Sri Lanka. For years I battled homesickness as I struggled desperately to cope. The acceptance, warmth and friendship I encountered along the way helped in those difficult years of adjustment.

Nevertheless, it took me 11 long years to decide that I was ready to apply for my Australian citizenship. I wanted to be sincere about my commitment, and I was.

I've grown to love my adoptive country – warts and all – and the disloyalty of some towards this land is sad.

If I could use a simple analogy, it would be similar to being invited into a stranger's home, being made to feel welcome and, in return, making disparaging remarks about your host.

How I wish Australians, from whichever land on Earth we come (to quote the song I AM AUSTRALIAN) would take the wonderful, peaceful life Australia offers and give something back in appreciation and loyalty, if nothing else.

Forty-one years after my arrival, I want to wish Australia well and echo the words of Dorothea Mackellar in My Country.

"All you who have not loved her, you will not understand."

Heather Bartholomeusz, Montmorency



From Ms. Jean Byrne of Eastwood, NSW

Dear Darryl,

*Having just re-read your article "How Your Money Is Spent" in the September newsletter, I once again would like to congratulate you and the Eighty Club Committee for your continued support of those in desperate need in Sri Lanka. That you all are volunteers makes it even more commendable. My sincere thanks to you all. I enclose a cheque which I hope will help to provide some cheer to those who may need it over the Christmas period. Yours sincerely, *Jean Byrne**

Jean. thank you for your sentiments and for your very generous donation which will be put to good use.

Darryl .



LETTER RECEIVED FROM WELFARE BENEFICIARY, MR F.H.TREK.

This is a letter long overdue. I am writing to thank you, most sincerely, for your timely contribution to me which is overseen by Mrs. Muller, a devoted person. Your kind donation has helped me in many ways to uplift the condition of my health, especially being a heart patient. My wife too was able to attend to her general health – especially regarding her eye sight for which she had to undergo surgery time and time again.

We generally attend the clinic at the General Hospital, Ragama but most of the medicine has to be bought from the pharmacy at a price. If it wasn't for your generous help we actually would have been in a very pathetic situation. So, may God bless you abundantly and give you many years of good health and love. So, both my wife and I thank you over and over again for your generous contribution which has given us a new lease of life. Yours affectionately, F H TREK.



STOP PRESS EMERGENCY PAYMENTS

Rs.1000 to Mr. R. Johnson who is being treated for paralysis and needed money for medication.

Rs.500 to Mrs. B Gomes who needed a tube of cream for a chronic rash.

Rs.3000 to Mrs J Don Paul who is 62. She is a heart patient and her husband is diabetic. They had no money to buy food.

Rs.2000 to Mrs R A Lobendhan who is 77. Lives with her sister and has no income.

Rs.3000 to Mr E de Kauwe who is 56 and can neither hear nor speak. Has had a stroke and cannot work any more. Has no income.

Rs.1000 to Mr D Rozairo who needed money for medication.

Rs.2000 to Mrs R Patternott who is 66. Lives with a friend and helps in the house work. Has no income.

Rs.3000 to M

r T Hannibalsz who is 58. Has had a stroke and a heart attack and has no income.

Rs.3000 to Miss R Gay who is 66 and has no income. Also has another sister. They live with a niece whose husband is a three wheel driver.

The Eighty Club's emergency fund continues to give much needed financial assistance to those who walk in off the street and request it. It does not matter whether they are ECM welfare beneficiaries or not. No one is ever turned away. This scheme is made possible by the prompt payment of membership fees together with generous donations.

SOCIAL NOTES



GREETINGS TO VIOLET AND ERROL JACOTINE WHO CELEBRATED THEIR 51ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

ALSO, GREETINGS TO CARYL AND MAX MORTIMER WHO CELEBRATED 51 YEARS OF WEDDED BLISS.

CARYL AND JACK DONOHUE ALSO CELEBRATED 51 YEARS OF MARRIAGE AND ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED.

WARM GREETINGS TO JOAN AND ROBIN LUDOWYK AND ALSO TO ISHBELLE AND EMILE POPPENBECK ON THEIR 52ND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO MYRNA AND DENIS WILLIAMSZ ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 56TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS GO OUT TO DR. ROBIN AND GWEN MISSO AND ALSO MELROSE AND CHOLMONDOLEY WILLENBERG.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ANIVERSARY TO RALPH AND PHIL GERREYN.

MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS AND KEEP ALL THESE WONDERFUL COUPLES.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Leonie Martenstyn: Mervyn Schoorman: Laraine Muller: Rita Young (80): Spencer Vanderzeil: Binkie Abel: Arlene & Tony Scarnivel: Earle & Shireen Ferdinand: Shane Isaaks: Terease Cramer: Beulah Vollenhoven: Etienne Jayatunga (DBU).



A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales.

The teacher explained that it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because, even though it was a very large mammal, its throat was very small..

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human.

It was physically impossible, she repeated.

"When I get to heaven, I will ask Jonah" said the little girl.

The teacher asked: "What if Jonah went to hell?"

"Well then," the little girl replied, "you ask him."

Thank you, Tony Scarnivel.



HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT

The emergency fund was put to good use and the following were helped:

Rs.1000 to Miss N de Silva who is an epileptic and needed money for medication and nourishment.

Rs.3000 to Mrs P Bouvard who is very sick and has an inoperable heart condition. Needs Rs.7000 per month for medication. This claim has been verified.

Rs.1000 to Mr E T Lappen who had just left hospital and needed money for medication.

Rs.2000 to Miss V L Schrader who walked all the way to the DBU as she had no money for bus fare or anything else.

Rs.2000 to Mrs R M J Smith was desperate to get some money for medications.

Rs.1500 to Mrs M Francke needed to replace the lenses on her spectacles.

Rs.1500 to Mrs E Herft who came all the way from Gampaha for an interview.

Rs.1500 to Mrs V Ludowycks who is 70 years old, without income and with a son who is retarded.

Rs.1000 to Mr W Muller who is 69 years old and blind. Lives with his sister.

Rs.1000 to Mr C Pompeus who is just out of hospital and needed medication.

Rs.2000 to Mrs L Felthman who is 67 years old and needed money for medication.

Rs.1000 to Mrs M F Gregory who is 60 years old and very weak. Came all the way from Seeduwa.

Rs.2000 to Mrs M Kelaart who had lost her son and needed money for expenses.

All 210 welfare beneficiaries will receive a bonus of Rs.2000 each in time for Christmas. Every year, the DBU throws a party for them at the end of the year and this year should be no exception.

One of our Beneficiaries, Mr Lawrence de Silva, passed away in June this year. The DBU welfare staff were surprised when he did not call to collect his last Benefit and got in touch with St Michael's Church from where he used to get a free lunch every day. They confirmed that Lawrence was deceased. His place on our list has been taken by Mrs Bertha Kronenberg who is 70 years of age. In dire straits since she and her husband have no income at all.

Mr Malcolm Juriansz has written to thank everyone who helped him financially before his by-pass surgery. He had a minor set-back when a small part of the wound had to be re-sutured which left him with a scar upon a scar. This is being treated with some expensive cream which he hopes will heal the wound and put him back on his feet. Mrs LaBrooy, who had a stent inserted in her chest is resting at home but still in pain. The cardiologists are of the opinion that she will have to get a by-pass done soon.

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of our members and well-wishers, a number of distressed persons back in Sri Lanka, both welfare beneficiaries and others, have been helped to a tremendous degree. The family of the late Stanley de Fry is a case in point. The donations showered on them helped Stanley during his lifetime and is also enabling his wife, Nilmini, to pay her house rent for a whole year. In addition she receives a regular welfare benefit. Also, sponsors were easily found for her three children so it should not be hard for the family to find their feet and be self reliant.

I wish all benefactors and well-wishers the best during this Christmas Season. May God reward you with his choicest blessings!

Darryl Isaaks (Welfare Coordinator)





THE EDITOR AND JUNE
WISH ALL READERS
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR
2013

REGRETTABLY, AND DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES ENTIRELY BEYOND MY CONTROL, DETAILS OF DONATIONS RECEIVED IN THE LAST QUARTER COULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. THESE DETAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE NEXT QUARTER. *The Editor*



COIN DONATIONS

Binky & Doris Abel	22.20	Deanna Vancuylenberg	30.50
Peggy & Douglas Mack	31.00	Rita Hesse	20.00
Homi & Marjorie Jilla	55.00	Anonymous	19.30
M. LaBrooy	23.50	Roger & Sue Smith	36.20
Errol & Violet Jacotine	15.25		
		TOTAL	252.95

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ONLY CREATURE IN
THIS WORLD WHO
CUT THE TREES, MADE PAPER
FROM IT AND THEN WROTE,
"DON'T CUT DOWN TREES"

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- FEBRUARY 17TH - BURIYANI LUNCHEON
Coordinators – Pam & Maurice Forster: Esther & Melville Knower
- APRIL 28TH STRINGHOPPER PILAU
*Coordinators – Arlene & Tony Scarnivel: Earle & Shireen
Ferdinand: Rita Young*
- JULY 14TH - MID YEAR LUNCH AT THE GRAND.
*Coordinators - Marie & Rodney de Kretser: Trevor Collette &
Jill Amit.*
- AUGUST 25TH - ROTI LUNCHEON
Coordinators - Jennifer & Annesley Young: Vilma Arkley.
- OCTOBER 13TH - SAVOURY RICE & CURRY
Coordinators - Violet & Errol Jacotine: Leonie Martenstyn.
- DECEMBER 7TH - CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE
Coordinators: Arlene & Tony Scarnivel: Earle & Shireen Ferdinands

***LUNCHESES WILL BE AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD HALL,
WHEELERS HILL EXCEPT FOR LUNCH ON JULY 14TH.***

***DATES, VENUES AND MENUS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE WITH THE COORDINATORS
NAMED ABOVE WHOSE PHONE NUMBERS ARE FOUND ON
THE FRONT PAGE OR WITH ANY OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBER.
BOOKINGS CANCELLED THREE DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT
MUST BE PAID FOR IN FULL.
GUESTS SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD HALL
AT 12.30 PM, OR AFTER - NOT BEFORE.***

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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

**Robin & Marie Louise CLAESSEN of Chapel Hill, QLD
Perc & Pia ROWLANDS of Thornbury, Vic
Lindsay & Crystal DEUTROM of Clarinda, Vic
Gloria KELAART of Springvale, Vic
Dorothy STORK of North Dandenong, Vic
Loxly & Elaine ROSAIRO of Pearcedale, Vic
Alison RODIE of Berwick, Vic
Hazel CARRON of Clarinda, Vic
John & Moira MIDDLETON of Eltham, Vic
Michael & Fiona HEYNSBERGH of Rowville, Vic
Felix & Mavourneen DE JONG of Bayswater
Jeremy de SOUZA of Warranwood, Vic**

**CHRISTMAS IS A TIME WHEN EVERYBODY WANTS HIS PAST FORGOTTEN AND HIS PRESENT
REMEMBERED.**

IN GOD'S CARE



De KRETSER – Patricia (Pat) on 22.9.2012. Widow of the late Ivor. Mother of Christopher and mother-in-law of Lorraine. Grandmother of Straun and grandmother-in-law to Melanie. Great grandmother to Kirsten. Sister to Mignonne, Ron and Bill (dec).

Pat de Kretser was a very enthusiastic member of the EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE, INC. having joined, with her husband, Ivor, in 1987. She was a very hard working member of the Fund Raising Committee and insisted on doing her usual tasks at fund raising events even in ill health. She was a good friend and will be sorely missed by one and all.

PEREARA – Dr. Trevor Lorenz on 28.9.2012 aged 83 years. Husband of Maryse; father of Michele and Warren; father-in-law of Raelene and grandfather of Alana, Matthew, Lachlan, Nicholas and Benjamin.

CALDERA. - Alan Maartensz. Late of Cairns, formerly of Nunawading. Passed away on Thursday Oct. 11, 2012 aged 87 years. Husband of Kate. Father and father-in-law of Alaine and Lindsay Yates. Grandfather and great grandfather of their children. Alan will be sadly missed by family and friends.

**LT. CMDR. ALAN CALDERA – 20TH AUGUST 1925 – 11TH OCTOBER 2012.
CREMATED AT CAIRNS CREMATORIUM ON 16TH OCTOBER 2012.**

ALAN attended Royal College in Colombo and was considered a bright student but gave up his academic career early in the 1940's to join the Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve which was a unit of the British Navy. He was awarded service medals for active service during the war and showed that he was a promising Naval officer. In 1948 Alan, along with eleven others, sailed a wooden fishing vessel "HALPHA" from Sydney to Colombo which was purchased by the Ceylon Government for use by the Fisheries Department. It was reported that the journey to Ceylon was quite dangerous. Alan was appointed Lt.Cmdr. in 1950 and was posted to the UK for further studies. On his return to Ceylon he held several Senior Staff and Command positions. In 1958, he captained the HMCyS "Parakrama", a mine sweeper, and sailed this vessel from the UK to Ceylon. On his return, he was appointed Naval Officer in charge of the Trincomalee Naval Base and held this position until he migrated to Australia.

Alan was a member of several Sri Lankan organisations while in Melbourne and was a founder member of the Ceylon Ex-Servicemens' Association. He took an active role with this group. Alan was a staunch supporter of the Eighty Club Melbourne, Inc and attended every fund raising event until he and his wife, Kate, moved to Cairns.

Alan succumbed to cancer and was fortunate in that he did not suffer for too long. To his wife, Kate, and daughter, Alaine, we extend our deepest sympathies.

MORTIMER. - James Gladwin (Jimmy). Husband of Susan, father of Susannah, Rosemary, Debbie and Laura, Passed away in England on Monday Oct. 29, 2012. Son of James and Gladys (both dec.), brother of Max and Caryl, Maurice (dec.) and Marlene, Ron and Jean, Lindsay and Rosemary, Nigel, Arlene and Tony, Caryl and Spencer, Maureen and Dickie (dec.) Geoff and Sunimal, and Godson of Mary Cooke (dec.). May his soul rest in peace

LABROOY (nee Felsianes). – Tahoma, Wife of Chris. Mother of Cameron and Candice. Daughter of Pearl Seneviratne and the late Lorensze Felsianes. Sister of Lorraine Shelma- Ellsworth (USA), Nilmini and Arjuna (Australia). Sister-in- law of Edward Hannibal, Errol Nugara, Maryse Buultjens and Michael Labrooy.

WEINMAN. - Eric Vivian. 09.11.1940 - 08.11.2012. Son of the late Noel and Verna. Brother of Rev. Ravenal and the late Noeline Caspersz. Husband of Doreen. Father of Bradley. Father-in-law of Nesime. Grandpa of Sienna Rose and Engin. Brother-in- law of Phyllis Weinman and Grayden Casperz. Forever in our Hearts.



Painting the Church

There was a Scottish painter named Smokey MacGregor who was very interested in making a penny where he could, so he often thinned down his paint to make it go a wee bit further. As it happened, he got away with this for some time, but eventually the local church decided to do a big restoration job on the outside of one of their biggest buildings.

Smokey put in a bid, and, because his price was so low, he got the job.

So he set about erecting the scaffolding and setting up the planks, and buying the paint and, yes, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with turpentine.....

Well, Smokey was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly completed, when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder, the sky opened, and the rain poured down washing the thinned paint from all over the church and knocking Smokey clear off the scaffold to land on the lawn among the gravestones, surrounded by telltale puddles of the thinned and useless paint.

Smokey was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he got down on his knees and cried:

"Oh, God, Oh God, forgive me; what should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke..

"Repaint! Repaint!"

And thin no more!"



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- ✓ Higher rates are available for remittances over \$3,000
- ✓ We can open the following types of foreign currency accounts-
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 - RFC - Resident Foreign Currency accounts
 - RKFC - Rankekulu foreign currency accounts for children
 - SIA - Security Investment accounts
- Free life insurance cover, housing loans and other loan facilities, at concessionary rates, Available to NRFC account holders.

OUR SCALE OF CHARGES FOR REMITTANCES

A\$1 to 500 – A\$10.00

A\$500 to 2000 – A\$12.00

A\$2000 AND ABOVE = A\$15.00

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Merry Christmas