



EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE

CARING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

2nd EDITION Jul 2025 - Nov 2025

NEWSLETTER NO: 167

Patron: Dr. David de la Harpe

Committee of Management

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Asst Membership Secretary

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Collette, Trevor 9706 1084

Asst. Student Sponsorship Coordinator

Drieberg, Dal 0411249340

Welfare Beneficiary Coordinator

Ferdinand, Shireen 9512 7265

Asst. Welfare Beneficiary Coordinator

De Vos, Yvonne 9795 0009

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Drieberg, Dal & Jenny 0411249340

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Hatch, Rita 9725 5553

Harmon, Ingrid & Eric 0419381566

Herft, Angelo & Melinda

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Muller, Laraine 8759 4324

Pinder, Allan & Marie 9700 6178

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Williamsz, Denis 9897 3521

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ROWVILLE, VIC 3178

Join or Renew Your Membership



Dear Members

Its Time once again, to renew your Membership by paying your subscriptions of \$30 for the financial year, July 2025 - June 2026

Your ongoing commitment to the cause of the 'Less Fortunate' has enabled us to continue our work in helping the poor and giving them food, shelter and hope in their lives.



Our Student Sponsors, have also helped, to educate a generation of poor and needy children and provided them with learning and knowledge, for a better and brighter future.



You are important to us and we need you to help us in our work. PLEASE renew your Membership and bring along New Members.

A donation with your Membership would be greatly appreciated

THANK YOU for being a part of the Eighty Club Community, your patronage and generosity over the years.



BANK DETAILS ON LAST PAGE OF NEWSLETTER

Ensure Ref: ID with either Name/Invoice No./Membership No.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, Student Sponsors & Well-Wishers,

Welcome to our Second Edition of the Eighty Club Newsletter!

The year is fast disappearing! However, all is going well. In May, we had our Country & Western Night with toe tapping Country and also Rock and Roll music, provided by Col Perkins and Sandie Dodd. It was a great night but unfortunately, the date collided with the Australian Elections. Many were involved in election duties- whilst others were keen to stay home and follow the results, our numbers were less than expected, but a good time was had by all those who attended. The meal organised by chef Jackie was thoroughly enjoyed by all the guests and the support we received from Allan and Jenny, the Proprietors of the Grand on Princes, together with all the staff was outstanding, as always. Many thanks to all of them!

We are pleased to inform you that our Welfare Beneficiaries in Sri Lanka received a half yearly bonus. We also intend to increase the number of Welfare Beneficiaries over the next couple of months. All this can only occur through the generosity of our members and donors, for which we are most appreciative.

Our Student Program is doing well. However, we would like to increase the intake of students being sponsored in Colombo and Batticaloa. If anyone would like to sponsor a student, kindly contact our Student Sponsorship Co-ordinator – Trevor Collette via email at - trevorcollete43@bigpond.com It is very rewarding to watch a student progress under the difficult circumstances they experience over there.

We rely heavily on your support at our functions as it helps to place food on the table of the 'less fortunate' in Sri Lanka – for which we, as the Eighty Club Committee are most appreciative. Likewise, we hope you too would have an enjoyable time at all our functions.

Winter is upon us and we are certainly getting a good taste of it with the harsh cold winds. Keep warm and look after yourself/selves.

God bless you and stay safe,

Esther Knower

President

POST OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR

After 14 years as editor and after considerable thought and introspection, your editor has decided that the time has come to hand over the editorial and compilation of this Newsletter to the next generation.

The Newsletter is an important part of the Eighty Club Melbourne and it's continuity is paramount for our members /student sponsors and well-wishers to be kept informed not only about the activities of the Club, but also ensure the plight of the 'Less Fortunate' in Sri Lanka, is never forgotten.

The Newsletter is compiled 3 times for every calendar year, at Easter, July and December. The continuity of the Club, I am sure is important to all of us and it is necessary to keep our Members and Well-wishers informed of the work we do. I would be only too happy to help and advise any applicants on the compilation on how the Newsletter is produced and distributed.

It would be beneficial to nominate as a Committee Member. The Committee meets 4 times for the year and your presence at these meetings will help you understand the workings of the Club and give you an insight of the work we do. This will indeed assist you as Editor.

You will be ably assisted by all Committee members and articles for the Newsletter will be forwarded to you by the President, Treasurer, Welfare and Student sponsorship coordinators and Membership Secretary.

I sincerely hope that all those interested will contact me for further information.

Thanking You,

Earle Ferdinand MOB: 0402 458 992.

editor@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help.

Heather French Henry

**Nothing teaches
hope, kindness,
courage, and
compassion like
HELPING
OTHERS**

Welfare Beneficiary Report - Shireen Ferdinand

Reviewing applications for welfare assistance is always heart rending. Every applicant is deserving and we are limited by financial constraints as to how much support we can extend. Quarterly pensions have been increased to Rs 15,000 to individuals and Rs18,000 to families and we endeavour to supplement these with mid-year and Christmas bonuses. The number of individuals relying on welfare support has been steadily increasing. Persistent poverty contributes to a larger number of people needing welfare assistance. The growing number of welfare beneficiaries poses many challenges in providing support.



Mrs Shereen A –76 yrs and her humble home



John R –80yrs

More beneficiaries mean higher costs for welfare programs. Long-term sustainability of our welfare program is crucial. For 43 remarkable years, The Eighty Club Melbourne has been a lifeline for older Sri Lankans with no means of support. To those in need and relying solely on charity, we continue our mission to enhance the lives of these poor people.

A decision by the Committee to increase Beneficiaries from 200 to 215 means increasing our funding and **your Support Matters**. To make this possible, we rely on the generosity of donors like you. Do join us in making a difference in the lives of these individuals through donations, volunteering, or spreading the word – every bit counts!

Your support will bring hope and dignity to those who need it most and provides food and groceries, offer shelter and accommodation and deliver medical care and services

The increase in welfare beneficiaries underscores the need that we need to address both immediate needs and long-term solutions, to better support those in need and work towards giving them the financial means to better their lives.



Kirthi G –the floor of his home is a patch work of various tiles



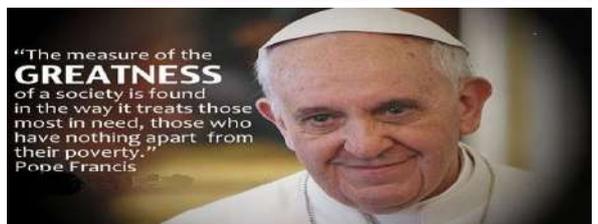
Mevis V– 72 yrs

Make a Difference!
DONATE



PLEASE DONATE
THANK YOU

“How marvellous it would be if, at the end of the day, each of us could say: Today I have performed an act of charity towards others! Charity that does not change the situation of the poor isn't enough.”
Pope Francis



STUDENT SPONSORSHIP NEWS - Trevor Collette

120 students in Colombo currently receive assistance. 11 are studying at "A" level.

39 students in Batticaloa receive sponsorship. 6 students are at "A" level and 6 are in University.

Each "A" level student receives Rs. 15,000 a quarter and the other students receive Rs. 12,000 a quarter. These allowances are paid by individual sponsors.

10 students are in the PSET Scheme. They are all studying in tertiary institutes and provide quarterly reports on their progress. The PSET payments are made from ECM funds in the scheme established by the late Mr. Ivor de Kretser. The quarterly PSET allowance is Rs. 20,000 per student.



Communication by students or parents with their sponsors continues to be a major issue.

Prior to Covid all students went with their parents to the DBU to collect their allowance and hand over a written aerogramme addressed to the sponsor. This was posted by the DBU. Each student was then given a new aerogramme for the next quarter. No letter meant no payment.

However, with Covid the quarterly personal payment meetings ceased and each student opened a bank account into which their allowances are now paid.

Though most students contact sponsors, a few of them did not continue communicating with their sponsors. In a recent instance the sponsor has decided to cease sponsorship due to lack of communication.

Whenever a sponsor contacts us regarding the lack of communication we immediately liaise with the Admin. Manager at the DBU who in turn contacts the student/parents and ensures continued communication. If you have not heard from your sponsored student, please contact the Student Sponsorship Coordinator.

We are at present, along with the DBU building a register of "WhatsApp numbers" to enable better communication between the students and sponsors.

The student numbers have decreased from 189 at the end of 2022 to 169 at present. Though we are able to get more deserving applicants from both Colombo and Batticaloa, we need to increase the number of sponsors to take on the new students. Most of the "older" sponsors are restricted in their ability to take on a new sponsorship, as they are now in different circumstances (physically and /or financially).

I appeal to our members to take on a sponsorship if you currently do not have one. Do encourage friends and relatives to support the educational needs of a poor student, by contributing as a student sponsor.

**SPONSOR
A STUDENT
TODAY** 

**Thank You
To Our Sponsors**



SPONSORSHIP is the fuel that drives students toward achieving their dreams. It helps them navigate challenges, stay focused, and maintain a positive attitude even in the face of adversity.

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." – Benjamin Franklin



A Gift for Every Child at Christmas - Rodney & Marie de Kretser

The winter chills, always brings home to us that Christmas is just around the corner.

For many years, our initiative to spread Christmas cheer and bring joy to children in need, has spread happiness and a smile to the faces of many a child. All this is possible due to your donations and memories of your own childhood, where we all eagerly awaited the dawn of Christmas and the gifts from those who loved and cherished us.



Spreading Christmas cheer, every gift, big or small brings that special feeling to a child to know someone, somewhere cares, so please consider donating today and help make this Christmas season unforgettable to every child. Your donations also helps families facing financial challenges, as our program also provides funds to help these families enjoy the season with a festive meal.

Lets make this Christmas, once again unforgettable for every child and their families.

Thank You for your donations and ongoing support and kindness to spread Christmas cheer to those who may have nothing this year.



Marie and I, send you an early Christmas Wish and blessing to you and your loved ones.

Welcome to our new members

**Tanya Foenander
Joseph & Rohini Silva
Rodney & Diana Paternott**

**Terry & Helen Backhouse
Carl & Vicky Schokman**

Please support our membership drive to recruit more members which will help the club to maintain welfare services to the less fortunate of our community in Sri Lanka.

If you need an application form to invite a friend or relative to

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

**joinUP
SIGN UP**



join our Club, please contact our Membership Secretary:

Allan Pinder on 9700 6178/0410 863716. email:apinder8@hotmail.com

You may also download an application from our website at:

www.eightyclubmelbourne.org.au. (Membership Secretary's page - Click on become a member)

**Allan Pinder
Membership Secretary**

Project report as at 30 June 2025



We have not had any recent requests for cataract surgeries. However, we are in discussion with HelpAge eye clinic, to send persons requesting eye treatment to their clinic in Colombo 6, for assessment and follow up cataract surgery, if necessary. This is done by the clinic at no cost to the patient. Any incidental costs for medicines will be borne by the Eighty Club.

The next eye camp by HelpAge is to be held at the DBU in October 2025 so that WB's needing treatment can attend this clinic at the DBU, to have their eyes checked for free.

Hopefully, we will be able to use this facility to help WB's in need of cataract surgery in the future.

As always , we welcome your donation of used glasses/spectacles.

These items are graded and recycled to deserving patients and if necessary new prescription lenses are used. Please contact me or any Committee member.

**Allan Pinder
Project Coordinator**



Annual General Meeting

Date: Sunday, 14TH September, 2025.
Time: 4.00 pm
Venue: The Grand on Princes
2251 Princes Highway, Mulgrave.(off service road)

A G E N D A

- President declares meeting open, welcomes members and receives apologies
- Confirmation of Minutes of AGM held on 29th September, 2024.
- Matters arising from Minutes
- President’s Report
- Treasurer’s Report and Statement of Accounts
- Election of Office Bearers
- Election of Honorary Auditor
- Any other business:
- Meeting Concludes

NOMINATION FORM

EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE, INC. NO.A0013333T

The Administrative Secretary,
Eighty Club Melbourne, Inc.
8, Peter Street,
Doncaster East, Vic. 3109

NOMINATION FOR 2025/2026 OFFICE BEARERS

We nominate.....for the office
ofin the Club for the above period.

Proposer’s Name and Signature.....

Seconder’s Name and Signature... ..

Nominee’s Signature indicating consent.....

NB. The completed form must reach the Administrative Secretary before 1st September, 2025.

(Nominees must be up to date with membership fees and be prepared to perform ALL the duties of the Office for which they have been nominated)

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO THESE GENEROUS DONORS
Donations received from 1st April 2025 to 23rd June 2025

Name	Memo/Description	Donation	Name	Memo/Description	Donation
Anonymous Donations		\$4,160	Moldrich, Elmo & Dianne	For family in April 2025 newsletter (Champika)	\$100
Bartholomeusz, Katie		\$200	Noller, Trevor & Aloma		\$25
Bartholomeusz, Moira & David		\$170	Oorloff, Howard & Trish		\$25
Dabrera, Cheryl		\$100	Pereira, Caryl		\$20
Datam Pty Ltd		\$1,000	Phillips, Charmaine		\$40
De Vos, George & Yvonne	In memory of Carmen de Vos	\$400	Robertson, Jack & Emily		\$150
Ferdinands, Peter & June		\$500	Schokman, Carl & Vicky		\$100
Forster, Doreen	In memory of Percy, Raneer and Reggie Vanden Driesen and Eric Weinman	\$25	Whitham, Wendy		\$70
			Newman, Trevor & Sandy	Donation to July Lunch	\$90
Gill, Sharon		\$200	Willenberg, Noeline		\$30
Misso, Mario	Special Quarterly Donation for Mrs R Violet (burns victim)	\$62			



Date	Name	Amount	Remarks
08.01.2025	Mr Andrew Pereira	500.00	Sponsored by ECOM. Has no other income and too old to work. He has no money for food.
11.02.2025	Mr Jerome Pereira	500.00	Mrs. Wilma Pereira's son. Came to inform us that she had a stroke.
11.02.2025	Ms. Flora Roof	2,000.00	Sponsored by ECOM. She is very old and feeble and could hardly walk.
13.02.2025	Mr. Edward Bailey	2,000.00	75 yrs. He is after a stroke. They have no income and depend on their children.
28.02.2025	Mrs. Mavis Vanderwall	1,000.00	In need of medication. Has no income.
06.03.2025	Mr. Adrian Pereira	1,000.00	He has no income and has no proper place to stay.
07.03.2025	Mrs. Nora Robertson	1,000.00	70 years. Diagnosed with womb cancer and is under treatment. No immediate family.
21.03.2025	Mrs. Shereen Arnolda	1,000.00	Has no income. Lives with her sister. Came to the DBU to fill in an application.
04.04.2025	Mrs. Renuka Vanhoff	3,000.00	Earns Rs.1,500 per day and has to feed a family of 6. Eldest daughter is getting married and she was desperate without any money.

In God's Care



EPHRAIMS, Ziska Therese— 16.09.1930— 10.06.2025.

Wife of Conrad (dec), LOVED MOTHER of Tyrone and Yohan. Mother-in-law of Lorraine and Mitchell. Grandmother of 4 and Great-grandmother of 5. Rest in Peace. Always in our hearts.

SCHRADER, Peggy - 23/11/1923 - 07/03/2025 - Beloved wife of Everard (deceased).

Much loved mother of Diane, Geoffrey (deceased), Nasima, Deborah (deceased), Jennifer and Sally. Precious sister of Leslie. While we mourn your passing, we also celebrate the joy you brought into our lives. May your light continue to shine in our hearts.



The Eighty Club Melbourne, extends heartfelt THANKS to families and all those who honour loved ones and friends through donations and bequests. Your thoughtful gestures keep cherished memories alive and support our mission to care for the 'Less Fortunate' members of our community. Your legacy make a lasting impact and we are deeply grateful for your generosity and support.

THE EIGHTY CLUB OF MELBOURNE INC

is holding a Fundraising Lunch Dance on
Sunday, 14th September, 2025
from 12.00 onwards at

The Grand on Princes,

2251 Princes Hwy Service Rd, Mulgrave VIC 3170

A Smorgasbord of Traditional Sri Lankan Cuisine
followed by a delicious dessert



ELMO WELLS-JANSZ

Listen to the sensational rich, powerful,
melodious voice of Elmo who will keep
you entertained to the sounds of easy
listening ballads to toe tapping Rock & Roll.

MUSIC &
ENTERTAINMENT

Back by
Popular
Demand

MUSIC FROM
60s
70s
80s



Bookings from the Coordinators

Allan & Marie Pinder PH: 9700 6178 MOB: 0410 863 716
Tony & Arlene Scarnivel PH: 9763 0085 MOB: 0400 448 580
Laraine Muller PH: 0419 525 750

Your Table Host or Committee Members

EARLY BOOKINGS WILL BE APPRECIATED

Donation \$ 45.00

Pre-payments to : Eighty Club Melbourne

ANZ BANK- BSB: 013479 Acc. No: 3003 555 83

(Please ensure ID with Name/Phone No. for Bank Transfers)



THE EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE

together with Australian International Foods

PRESENTS

The Magic of Christmas DINNER DANCE

SATURDAY - 6th DECEMBER, 2025

7.30 PM—12.30 AM

Sumptuous Eastern / Western Smorgasbord Dinner

MUSIC: NEXT GENERATION

For further tickets and table reservations,
Please contact the co-ordinators

Earle & Shireen Ferdinand Ph: 9512 7265
George & Yvonne de Vos Ph: 9795 0009
Esther Knowler Mob: 0425 745 875
All Committee Members

events@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

PAYMENT IN FULL by 27th November, 2025

BANKING DETAILS: ANZ BANK: BSB: 013479 Ac.No: 300355583

Please ensure ID for BANK deposit

Pre Dinner Sherries & Canapes
Bottle of Red / White Wine &
Soft drinks per table of 10 / 12 pax

BYO

DRESS CODE

Gents: Lounge
Ladies: After Five

Donation: \$85

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO OUR MEMBERS

Please be advised that with the introduction of our new accounting software and to streamline our Accounting procedures, the following changes have been made.

The bank account Nos: will be as follows:

MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION PAYMENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013479 Account No: 3003 555 83

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP AND GIFTS TO STUDENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013141 A/C 852 301 233

FOR ALL EFT TRANSFERS AND BANK DEPOSITS MADE TO A BANK TELLER:

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR ID / REFERENCE:- IS THE INVOICE NO: OR YOUR PHONE NO:

CHEQUES /MONEY ORDERS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO THE:

EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE Inc ADDRESS: PO BOX 2645, ROWVILLE, VIC 3178

PLEASE ATTACH THE TOP HALF OF YOUR INVOICE WITH YOUR POSTAL REMITTANCE



HELP INCREASE OUR FUNDING, BY REDUCING THE COST OF MAILING

To all our members, who presently are not on our electronic mailing list, please consider receiving our Newsletter and all other correspondence, by EMAIL. This will also enable you to receive the newsletter in colour.

Due to the escalating costs of postage and printing, an electronic mailing list will save the club approximately \$2000 this year. These savings will help increase our funding for the less fortunate in Sri Lanka

Please indicate your preference for receiving the Newsletter by contacting us on email at : editor@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au. and submitting your Name and Email address



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