

Launch of Web Site for College by Muditha Dissanayake (and the 95 Group)

1. Muditha Dissanayake was a student at S.Thomas' College Gurutalawa during the years 1990 to 1996. He is an undergraduate of the Staffordshire University in UK studying for his B Sc in IT. In October 2001 he had written to the Headmaster of STCG expressing his desire to set up a Web Site for College. In February 2002 having come across the Web site of the 62 Group of STCG, he communicated with the Secretariat of the 62 Group and at the very outset itself expressed his interest in setting up a Web Site for the College. We gave him all the encouragement, advise, guidance and assistance. The minutes of the Ex-Co Meetings and correspondence with the Headmaster testify to the efforts made by us to enable Muditha to initiate action to set up a web site for Gurutalawa. Although it has taken several months to make significant progress towards the establishment of this Web Site we are gratified that the Web Site has eventually been launched (unofficially).

We congratulate Muditha on his singular determination and dedication to this cause. Well done Muditha.

Muditha has also been able to garner support for the College and the OBA by forming a Group of his contemporaries called the 95 Group. The last Prize Giving at College on August 09,2003 bore ample testimony to the dedication and willingness of this Group of young Thomian Old Boys towards the upliftment of College and maintaining its hallowed time-honoured traditions.

It wasn't very long ago when we of the 62 Group launched out to revive the almost deceased OBA and a ravaged College, out detractors labeled our activities as divisive, undermining the authority of the Ex-Co and impairing the activities of the OBA by our acts of omission and commission. 18 months have elapsed since this criticism which is unfortunately a matter record. It is in this context that it is heartwarming to note that the many Groups that were in existence then (albeit sans label) and others that appear to have been formed thereafter [**O Tempora O Mores**] are working in unison extending their co-operation to the Headmaster and the College and rallying Old Boys all over the world of different eras extending support to all activities of the Ex-Co to generate funds for the revival of the College and to make the Guru OBA a vibrant, entity . Gone are the days when the OBA had degenerated to such an extent as to be an Annual Picnic Club of a Chosen Few.

2. Muthitha and many more who will follow him will no doubt explode the myth that the formation of groups is counterproductive or ill advised. A study of the activities of the OBA as well as College since March 2002 todate will establish this beyond any doubt, and anybody except the blind and those who refuse to see, will admit the vast strides made.

3. So we congratulate Muditha and his friends of the 95 Group who perhaps are the future of the OBA and of Guru.

S.T.C. GURU HAS A WEB SITE

stcguru.com

Thanks to Muditha Dissanayaka (1990-1996), our youthful (youngest) and energetic Committee member, the College has got a web site, which he is largely responsible for establishing. The web-site contains

- The latest happenings at the School and in the O.B.A.
- Staff Profiles
- Details of the Board of Governors
- Profiles of the Headmaster and Chaplain
- List of Head prefects men
- All round Sportsmen
- There is a section devoted to the O.B.A. with the
 - Headmaster, Dr. R.L. Hayman's inaugural speech in 1959.
 - The member directory (There are corrections to be made and it has to be up dated)
 - All the News Letters to date.
 - Application From Pro-Forma
 - Features of the Reunion Celebration 2003.
- Also information of the pending Projects of the O.B.A. The Hayman Memorial Archives and the impending Dinner – Dance which will be held on Saturday the 29th November 2003.
- There are quite a few articles about the College Teams and Photographs.
- The Academic and Sports Calender for the year
- Links to other Thomian Websties
- Photo gallery.
- On link - a condensed History and updated to the year 2002.

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This Web Site supplements the Web Site already in existence and established by the 62 Group by Lakshman Jayatilleke and whom it was that Muditha contacted. Thank you, Lakshman Jayatilleke.

Muditha wishes to thank, Messrs Lakshman Jayatilleke, Nihal Wanniaratchchi Bandula Wanigasekera, and P.S. Duleepkumar for their help.

Yajeewa Bandara, a contemporary of Muditha, deserves special mention for the photographs and Chandana De Silva for raising the initial Capital required of Rs. 12,000.00 which will be the annual Rental, till the next due in September 2004. Any sponsors for next year ? Even on a Commercial Basis from an Old Boy for his Company Advertisement.

Muditha can be contacted at -<mudith@lycos.com > or No 9 Knightly House Stafford Court, Staffordshire University, Beaconside, ST 18 OAB, UK. (Tel: 01785608932)

Browsers of the web will find it most absorbing – particularly if they are Loyal Thomians with an abiding interest in their alma – mater, and a sense of gratitude for what they have received from the College.

Lakshman can be contacted on ashanjay@sti.lk : Telephone No. 2854164, 2828273 or Home No.2828272.

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The **Website** www.stcguru.com started in September 2003 was regularly updated to keep the members abreast of news and activities. This year it has been sponsored by Ranjit Wanigasekera, 5, Heritage Ave., Hamilton, New Zealand, an Old Boy of the very early 1950's vintage. Our grateful thanks to him. Also special thanks also to Muditha Dissanayake for the maintaining of the site and taking the time for regular updates in spite of the burdens of his Academic studies and the work in his Industrial Placement at Staffordshire University, U.K.

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