

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

### **Re-Union Celebrations – 2006**

The Cricket Match was the main feature of the Saturday morning and as usual the Old Boys had a festive approach to it. They had their fun while the match was on and the band provided the music at the required tempo to add to the fun. After the match almost everyone had a dip in the swimming pool. A volleyball match was played with the minor staff later on and it provided much fun and entertainment

### **Annual General Meeting**

AGM was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at 6.30 pm, with the Headmaster, Mr. Gladwyn Canagasabey in the chair. Dr. David Ponniah, Warden STC Mt. Lavinia, and Patron of the OBA was also present. The new Ex-Co was elected and the Meeting adjourned at 8.00pm. Old Boys Fellowship followed immediately afterwards and it was nice to see the young & old get together.

### **Special General Meeting**

A Special General Meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006, at 6 pm with Dr. David Ponniah, Warden STC Mt. Lavinia, and Patron of the OBA, in the chair. He called upon His Worship the Bishop Duleep de Chickera, Chairman, Board of Governors to address the Meeting. His worship traced the history of the problem that had beset STC Gurutalawa and indicated that the downward trend had actually started after the assassination of the then Headmaster in 1989. He said that everyone from the Board of Governors and below in the hierarchy, had not addressed the problem in time and the past recriminations would not serve any purpose in reviving Gurutalawa. He indicated that some measures had been put in place to relieve the situation but it had to be a 'wait & see' situation of how the situation would improve in the course of the year. He considered that a review of the stark realities would have to be addressed as things moved on.

### **Current Situation at Guru**

With the uncertainties that existed at the College, during the year, the Ex-Co decided to keep a low profile and build up funds for any future eventuality. The workshop to discuss the possibilities of revitalizing the affairs of Guru was conducted by His Holiness the Bishop and it was attended by few members of the OBA, the parents, teachers and well wishers.

The Headmaster, Mr. Gladwyn Canagasabey, resigned at the end of January this year, to take up an appointment as Vice Principal, Trinity College, Kandy. We wish him well in his new endeavour. Mr. Jacques Huyghebaert, originally from Belgium, currently living in Sri Lanka has come to the help of the College and he is now seriously involved with the administration at Gurutalawa. All those who attend the Re-Union Celebrations will have the opportunity to meet him.

A task force has been formed with His Holiness the Bishop Duleep De Chickera, as Chairman with several Members of the Board of Governors, Mr. Jacques Huyghebaert and the Senior Vice President of the OBA, to address the problems and develop the College, hopefully to bring it back to its old glory.

### **Our website : [www.stcguru.com](http://www.stcguru.com)**

Mr. Muditha Dissanayake continued to maintain and update the website started in 2003, in spite of his commitments in the UK, in studies and employment, and the OBA expresses its grateful thanks to him

### **Generosity of the OBA Melbourne Branch**

The established link with the OBA Melbourne Australia Branch was further strengthened by the promised gift from that Branch to our OBA, of Rs. 31,788.65 and Rs. 120,000.00 from Mr. Edouard Rowlands. We are grateful to them for these gifts.

### **Fellowship Get together 2006**

The Fellowship Get together on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2006 at Wadduwa Holiday Resort was organized by Col. Walgama and his small team. It was well organized and over 150 were present. Everybody enjoyed it thoroughly and our thanks are due to the organizers.

Out of the outstanding amount of Rs. 20,000.00, Rs.6,000 has been collected reducing the outstanding amount to Rs.14,000.

### **All Thomian Cricket Tournament -2007**

The first ever All Thomian Cricket Tournament organized by The Old Boys' Associations of S. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia, Gurutalawa, Bandarawela, & The Old Boys' Union of S. Thomas' Preparatory School Kollupitiya, was successfully held on January 7, 2006 at 10.00 am at the big club grounds of S. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia.

STC Gurutalawa OBA Team consisted of Vijaya Mendis, Mujitha Mauranath, Ramesh Perera, Ajith Sirisena, Athula Jayasundera, Prasaj Kumar, Eranga Peiris, Indika Senaratne, Faiz Mohomed, Danushka Daswatte, Dushantha Dharmawardena, Rasika Fernando, Sumedha Perera and Dilan Amarasuriya.

We beat Bandarawela and entered the finals. We gave Mount quite a scare with an opening partnership of 65 runs in 6.2 overs, before getting beaten. Most of our batsmen were caught at the boundary line, keeping to the 6 runs or get out attitude of Guru .

1<sup>st</sup> Match was Bandarawela vs Gurutalawa - Bandarawela batted first getting out for 92 runs. Gurutalawa scored 93 runs for no wicket in 6.1 overs. Mount vs Guru - Mount scored 174 runs for 4 wickets in 15 overs. Gurutalawa were all out for 103 losing by 71 runs. Faiz Mohomed was the man of the tournament. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the participants and the supporters, who graced this occasion. The event was definitely a great success.

### **Membership**

Twenty Eight Old Boys joined the OBA during the year. They are: C. P. Weerasinghe, Wansariya Gunaseela, Nagitha Gunaseela, D. L. N. Jayawardana, D. L. U. N. U. Jayawardena, A. I. Rahim Adam, Jayanth Sellahewa, Rohan Palletenna, A. H. M. Rushan, W. G. A. Botejue, D. K. Perera.M, H, M, N, Ameer, Hareen Walgama, D. M. Dasanayake, K. G. S. Ratnasekera. Ramanathan Shanmuganathan,G D Upul P Wicramasinghe, Sanjeewa Deshappriya, S K Bopitiya, R Dinesh Ravindran, Selvarasu Kaviharan, K Selvendran, N M A Imran, R D Wigetunga, P Sanath Pathirana, Sreshkumar Shanmugalingam, L Omar.

### **Ex-Co Meetings**

Regular Meetings of the Committee were held, including one at Gurutalawa. The Meeting held at Gurutalawa was well attended.

We are very grateful to Mr. Y. Casiechetty, Headmaster, STC Kollupitiya, for his unstinted support in making available a classroom every time we requested for his assistance, to hold our Committee Meetings. We thank him profusely.

### **Our Donors**

We are very grateful to the following who have for the past few years contributed by Bankers order, monthly, quarterly or bi-annually – Mr.S.K.Wickremasinghe Rs 6,000.00, Mr.Falil Caffoor Rs. 3,600.00 Mr.J.O.Yatawara Rs. 4,200.00 Mr. L.G.S.Goonawardena 300.00 and Mr.Sisira Nanayakkara for regular remittances.

### **ESTO PERPETUA**

Shervon Fernando  
Hony Secretary