

**SLCAO UP-
COMING
EVENTS**

- Sinhala-Tamil New Year, 26 April 2014

සමගම

The newsletter of Sri Lanka Canada Association of Ottawa (SLCAO)

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

A CROSS TO BEAR?	2
Madduma Bandara	2
From our sponsors...	3
New Year - a time for friendship and unity...	4
මහලදු අවසාන තරඟ වැනි...!	4
Community News..	5



Perfect!

When *Kula* got hammered for 16 in the 16th over, India were at 111/2 (at a Nelson) and it looked like they could go on to make 160 or more and our hearts got heavy!

Sachithra Senanayake bowled the next over beautifully yielding only 4 singles. *Malinga* put the batmen on strangle-hold bowling wide yokers giving away only 4 runs in

the over #18. *Yuvaraj* got out to first ball of the next over from *Kula* and *Dhoni* came in. We were getting anxious that the onslaught may start on *Kula*. But boy! *Kula* followed suite bowling wide yokers and mixing them up well. Another over giving away only 4 runs again! In the final over, *Malinga* bowled so well even one of the best finishers in the world (*Dhoni*) and most inform batsman (*Kholi*) could not get him away.

This is the best death bowling I have seen in a T20 final. This led the way to a **Sri Lankan victory and the second world cup which we all awaited 18 years.**

Yes! *Sanga* batted well to get SL through after few anxious mo-

ments. But I would say the credit should go to the bowling unit and the excellent fielding.

What do you think?...

Congratulations!

What is a Nelson?

Nelson is a piece of cricket slang terminology and superstition. The name, applied to team or individual scores of 111 or multiples thereof (known as double nelson, triple nelson, etc.)

It is thought by the superstitious that bad things happen on that score, although an investigation by the magazine *The Cricketer* in the 1990s found that wickets are no more likely to fall on Nelson and indeed, the score at which most wickets fall is 0 (a duck). It may be considered unlucky because the number resembles a wicket without bails (a batsman is out if the bails are knocked off their wicket).

Late David Shepherd, a famous Cricket umpire made popular the longstanding practice of raising a leg from the ground on Nelson in an effort to avoid ill fate. When crowds noticed this, they would cheer his leg-raising.

(Based on Wikipedia)

Information, views or opinions expressed on the SLCAO newsletter originates from many different sources and contributors throughout the general community. Please note that content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of SLCAO or the editor. Any feedback or contributions are most welcome.



A CROSS TO BEAR?

By Kumudini Nicholas

In Canada, each season has its own distinctive set of colours with a matching temperature, while in Sri Lanka, continuous summer brings the nature's heyday, every day. The human complexions take on the rich red-gold of the sun, and the strength and vigour of the rays are reflected in the colours of the flora and fauna, and especially in humans thriving under harsh conditions. With no cycle of seasons, the days have no influence on human emotions; Sri Lankans are beings as sturdy as one may encounter.

I was visiting my motherland. The heat on my face was familiar. The midday sun glistened the roof tops while the ground beneath exhibited a mirage. The birds avoided the deep heat and leaves drooped to preserve the water within. I enjoyed the scene while my eyes naturally squinted for their protection.



Suddenly, a gradually approaching sound of chanting re-directed my attention. The repetitive monologue was similar to a bird's mating

call. I tried to de-code the non-stop lyrics. My sensations and expectations were indescribable.

Emerging from a bend on the Lane was a person almost completely hidden by a heavy load on his back. From parts visible, he was a small man with slim legs, dressed in a shabby sarong. His hands were wrapped around to keep the load in place. His bony fingers were pressed to the load like the claws of a crab. With time, the chant became clearer:

"Putuwak laabeta, Putuwak laabeta..., gedaratama genna-wa....."

He arrived and unloaded across from me, an unusually large armchair, beautifully handcrafted but unpolished! He wiped his face with a cloth and looked up at me. His eager eyes met mine. After pausing to catch his breath, he picked the load with one swift move and resumed his chant. I admired his remarkable resilience and perseverance which tugged at my sense and sensibilities. Was this a clever carpenter from Biblical times appearing bearing a cross, to direct my attention to life's inequities?

MADDUMA BANDARA

Madduma Bandara is known as a national child hero in Sri Lanka. He lived during the regime of Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe, the last king of Sri Lanka. His father was one of the king's ministers, whose name was "Ehelepola". Ehelepola never obeyed kings orders, and was ambitious for power like his uncle, the king ordered that Ehelepola's family must be killed.

They were brought to Bogambara by the king's men. It was Madduma



Bandara's elder brother who was 10 years old had to face death first. But he dared to not come forward, he ran to his mother and hung on to her saree because he was afraid of death. Madduma was a brave boy, he came forward like a hero. Madduma Bandara jumped forward

and roared like a lion 'elder brother don't fear, I will show you how to die'. He called the executioner and said 'I am ready, cut my neck in one attempt' so saying he bled his last to enrich the Kandyan soil with the blood of a hero whose name will be remembered as long as the Sinhala nation survive.

Madduma Bandara has left an indelible name in the annals of our history, or perhaps the world history. The King who watched the incident from the window of his palace ordered the dead bodies to be pounded by Ehelepola Kumarihamy. She lifted the rice pounder and fell down unconscious on the ground. The King ordered the female to be drowned to death in the Bogambara lake. Ehelepola Kumarihamy, her daughters and the sister-in-law were drowned in the lake as well. Ten months after this tragedy, the people of the Kandyan Kingdom not only entered into the historical Kandyan Treaty of 2nd March 1815, but also lost their independence and the sovereign rule they enjoyed for a long period of 2357 years in the history of Sri Lanka. It's very fascinating to know that back in the day there were many brave warriors who would risk there life for others. We should be honored to know people like this existed in our country.

BY: KASUNI DE SILVA GRADE 9

Understanding your options – many Canadian's are simply unaware that there are two types of RESPs

Dear parents,

Most Canadians are not aware that there are two types of RESPs and don't understand that the two types of RESPs, scholarship and self-directed plans, are actually subject to different legislation.

Companies like Heritage Education Funds offer a scholarship plan called the Heritage Plan and it is limited by law to investing contributions in government fixed-income securities like Federal and Provincial Bonds, Guaranteed Investment Certificates, Term Deposits, and Government Treasury Bills, NHA Mortgages. What does this mean? This means your contributions will be there when your child is ready for post-secondary education. And that's very reassuring when you've worked hard and sacrificed to build an education savings plan for your children.

An Optional Insurance plan is also available on the Heritage Plan that can continue to make your contributions should you die or become disabled.

Self-directed RESP plans from banks and mutual fund companies are not guaranteed and not subject to the lower risk investment limits that govern Scholarship Plans. The market value of your savings plans may even drop below the amount you've contributed. You'll also have to contend with the volatility (up and downs) of the stock market and hope that times are good when you need to withdraw funds for your child's first year of university. And whether your account shows gains or losses, there are still management fees to be deducted each year - fees, which can erode investment gains.

Heritage Education Funds Inc, is one of Canada's leading providers of fixed-income Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs) and is the distributor of the Heritage and Impression Plans. Heritage's objective is to encourage parents, grandparents and family friends to save for a child's post-secondary education through a planned education savings program.

Learn more about us today by visiting our website:

www.respottawa.com

Join a Winning Team and we'll help you create your own

Kannan Pagalam
Sales Representative

cell: (613) 619-4867
kannanpagalam.com

"Let's Make Owning Your Home A Reality"

SOLD

COLDWELL BANKER

COBURN REALTY BROKERAGE
Independently Owned And Operated

Kannan Pagalam is a proud sponsor of SLCAO events. SLCAO appreciates the support while wishing the best to Kannan on his business endeavors!

Winning Team.

We're looking for part-time and full-time representatives who have a passion for kids and love to help other parents realize their dreams for their kids. Give us a call, Jacques Waisvisz 613 829 5980

Get the Facts on RESPs

Did you know... A common myth in the RESP industry is that all banks assist you with applying the CESG and CLB.

FACT:

Be aware that not all RESP providers will help you to apply for all available government grants. Additional Canadian Education Savings Grant (CESG) and the Canada Learning Bond (CLB), along with other grants might not be available at certain financial institutions. Heritage will help you to apply for all types of government grants you are eligible to receive

Heritage Education Funds Inc. brings an interesting proposition to the table to help families. We appreciate your support and wish you the best in your endeavors!

New Year - a time for friendship and unity among all those of Sri Lankan descent

By Martin Nicholas

The Sinhala and Tamil New Year is a time to show the national unity among all ethnicities in Sri Lanka. Also, demonstrate a sense of a shared and cherished rich heritage within the Sri Lankan Diaspora, which now covers most countries around the globe.

This year, a prestigious Nature publication, the Journal of Human Genetics, published an article about the DNA history of the Sri Lankan ethnic people. For the first time, high resolution molecular genetic studies on Sri Lankan ethnic groups were undertaken using internationally accepted protocols and procedures. This was part of the first author Lanka Ranaweera’s (Kelaniya University), doctoral research. The authors reported that a genetic separation between the Sinhalese and the Sri Lankan Tamils could not be shown through genetic mapping.

http://www.nature.com/jhg/journal/v59/n1/full/jhg2013112a.html

Admixing between ethnic groups in Sri Lanka over several generations could reduce the genetic distance which may have existed between them several centuries ago. In 1995, Kshatriya reported that a genetic affinity between the Sinhalese and the Sri Lankan Tamils may not be surprising, as the two populations have been in proximity to each other historically, linguistically, and culturally for many

generations.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/8543296

Previous molecular genetic studies on Sri Lanka published by Ruwan Illeperuma and co-authors in the Forensic Science International – Genetics, similarly concluded that currently, there is no significant genetic variation among the major ethnic groups in Sri Lanka (Reference: Illeperuma, R. J., Mohotti, S. N., De Silva, T. M., Fernandopulle, N. D. & Ratnasooriya, W. D. Genetic profile of 11 autosomal STR loci among the four major ethnic groups in Sri Lanka. Forensic Sci. Int. Genet. 3, e105–e106 (2009)).

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1872497308001439

Let us, as Sri Lankan-Canadians, unite in enjoying the festive times by singing the Gypsies’ song “Lowé Sèma” using lyrics in Sinhala, Tamil and English. This could promote the significance of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year in forging peace, unity and harmony amongst people with different ethnic, religious and social backgrounds.

May the New Year be wonderful for you!

ගෙදර ආසයෝ තරහ වෙලා...! (මැරිවියේ ජවිගේ නිර්මාණයක්)

ආ: උදේ රැයින් අවදිවෙලා මුපටි මුන පුළුටු කරං මේ මොන මහසොහොන් යකා වැනිලද මන්ද.. මමත් ගනං ගන්නෙම නෑ සැරවැඩි හින්ද

පි: රැටි කාල බුරු ඇදේ - කොතෙක් බලං උන්නද මං හිකමටවත් බැලුවෙ නෑනෙ මේ ගෙයි උන්දෑ... දන්නෙම නෑ හින්ද ගියා තනිකම හින්ද

ආ: පිලිකන්නේ පුහුල් වැලේ කුළුදුල් ගෙඩියක් පැනිලා එව්ව හොයන බලන කෙනෙක් නැතිවද මන්ද... මට ඕවට පංගු නැත්තෙ කට සැර හින්ද

පි: ගෙදර කෙනෙක් ඉන්නව නං පොලෙන් ගෙනා කරවල ඇති තෙලට අපුරුවට තියෙයි ඉව්වද මන්ද... අපිට කැමති කෑම හැදුවෙ කවදද මන්ද

ආ: මොනව උනත් ගෙදර කෙනා කියල මමත් හිතන හිසා පෙනෙල කැඳන් හදල තියෙයි බොනවද මන්ද.. ඒව බිල පැලට ගිහින් කොහොමද මන්ද

පි: පැදුර කොටේ එළුවානං අපිට ඉතිං හොඳටම ඇති මේ පැදුරේ ඉතිරි හරිය කාටද මන්ද.. බවලත් අය අපි ලගටත් එව්ද මන්ද.. එන්නැති වෙයි අපේ ඇගේ ගෑවෙන හින්ද...

The following community news items were provided by the Voice of Canadian Sri Lankans (VOCSL)...

HANDS-OFF SRI LANKA PROTEST organized by The Voice of Canadian Sri Lankans (VOCSL)

A busy beginning marked by two events that galvanized the community

A peaceful protest was staged on the 25th of March, in front of the United States Embassy in Ottawa by a group called **The Voice of Canadian Sri Lankans (VOCSL)**. The mission of this group is to raise an impartial voice in Canada on matters relating to Sri Lanka. The particular protest was to denounce America’s role in bringing in an intrusive and punitive motion against Sri Lanka in Geneva.

The motion by the US is based on unsubstantiated allegations, demanding actions that would jeopardize the fragile, pains-takingly brought-about peace in Sri Lanka. The protest started at 2 PM with around 30 concerned individuals, but quickly grew in number. Despite being a working day and the bitter cold wintry weather, there had been around 120 concerned Canadians of Sri Lankan origin participating towards the end of the protest by 5 PM. Some of the participants came all the way from **Montreal and Toronto**. Sri Lanka United National Alliance (SLUNA) also had contributed with some colorful posters. It was evident that a loud voice was raised by those who gathered at the protest. The organizers would like to offer their heartfelt gratitude on behalf of Sri Lanka to all those who attended and supported the cause.



A TESTIMONY OF APPRECIATION to Outgoing High Commissioner Mrs. Chitrangenee Wagiswara
Presented by The Voice of Canadian Sri Lankans (VOCSL)

Sri Lankan Canadians had benefited much from the steady, persistent and unrelenting approach that had been followed over several years by **her Excellency Mrs. Chitrangenee Wagiswara**, the Sri Lankan Envoy to Canada. VOCSL and Ottawa Sri Lanka Prayer Group learnt that Mrs. Wagiswara was at last definitely leaving on the 31st of March. Although Chitrangenee and Dulip Wagiswara had been accorded farewells already, last year, when she was set to leave, her departure had been held back. Nevertheless, she carried on her indefatigable service to the country, consciously and with determination.



She would regularly attend community events, Buddhist temple events, church events, Hindu and Muslim events in Ottawa. She also participate in events in Toronto and Montreal. A thanks-giving and an expression of appreciation were once again in order on the 30th of March at the Canadian Martyrs Church in Ottawa. Members from SLCAO and SLOYA also attended the ceremony.

