

# THOMIAN PERNION



## **NEWS FOR THE THOMIAN FAMILY**

Vol.1 No.4/April 2001

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### **OBITUARY**

We mourn the death of Lionel Shelton Gauder.  
(see inside)

## **WELCOME**

We did welcome into the Thomian family the following members of the staff, and wish their stay will be very pleasant and useful.

### **MR.T.B.JEGANATHAN**

Mr. Jeganathan had been an athlete, football player and a member of the College Interact Club at St. Sebastian's College, Moratuwa. He continued with the Rotarian work and was the President of the Nuwara Eliya Rotary Club. An English Trained Teacher from Maharagama who is currently reading for his B.Sc., will teach General English.

### **MR. D.F.NIZAAM**

A very experienced teacher of the Government Schools will teach Islam and Social Studies in the Tamil Medium, in the Middle School

### **MRS. M.P.JAYASINGHE**

A first class honours graduate and a member of the Institute of Chemistry, Mrs. Jayasinghe, will teach Science in the Upper School. She is an old girl of Visaka Vidyalaya, Colombo 5.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **MR. H.L.A.S.DE SILVA**

Master In-charge of Under 15 & Under 13 Rugger

### **MR. T.B.JEGANATHAN**

Master In-charge of Under 17 Rugger

Asst. House Master- Stone House

### **MR. M.C.FONSEKA**

Master In-charge of Athletics

### **MR. GAMINI WEERASINGHE**

House Master – Stone House

## **AN ODDSSEY OF RUGBY**

(Adapted from article written by Mr. S.B.L. Perera who lead the first Thomian Rugby Team for a school encounter in 1955 and later Captained in 1956.)

The seeds of rugby at STC were sown on the playing field of Longdon Place somewhere around 1953. By 1954 those

who were at CR. commenced 'Thomian Tigers' and apart from Thomians, in it were Peterites, Josephians and Wesleyites.

There was much support, encouragement and advice given by the giants of Rugby in that era namely Ashey Cader, Geoff Wieman, H.Numan, A.K.Dorrayand mostly by the then All Ceylon captain Mahesh Rodrigo whose services we were fortunate enough to obtain as the first coach of the College.

Warden De Saram at the commencement of the second term, made the historic announcement at assembly appointing K.S.Anandan as the first Captain of the College and the writer as the Vice – Captain. The first match was against Trinity College Kandy.

The big day dawned when the Thomians were, for the first timewere run on to the Rugby grounds at Longden Place. Unfortunately, Captain K.S.Anandan was down with 'flu and I had the distinction of leading out the first Thomian outfit.

M.G.Ratwatte led the formidable Trinity side, with a long tradition in the sport. However a great demonstration of the Thomian 'grit' was seen when the unbeaten Trinity XV was held scoreless forty-five minutes and it was a drop goal by Ken de Joodt, which commenced the scoring for Trinity.

Anandan was back to lead the team against Royal College, our traditional foes, led by another stalwart "Puggy" (C.V) Gooneratne. Though we lost to another experienced team, we put up another superb performance.

In 1956 we were committed to a more fuller season with new encounters against Wesley and St. Joseph's, St.Peter's as well as Trinity and Royal. The dedicated boarders of S.T.C sacrificed half of their vacation for practice and even arranged their meals from homes close to College as the kitchen was closed. From the 1955 team we had three Cader brothers, "Patchy" Bulankulama, Rohantha de Silva, Thissa Molligoda and I being available during this season the Under 17 team too was started. The season started with a bang with S.T.C defeating St. Peter's on their home grounds. Having the encouragement of beating a team, which had played Rugby since 1930, we went on to win the next two matches against Wesley and St. Joseph's. The Royal Thomian was the next and continuing in the good performance we held Royal to a scoreless draw and we were proud to have held a team, which was vastly more experienced.

Finally, we traveled up to Bogambara with Lassie Abeywardena, our Master in Charge, to meet the Trinity team, which is today considered as one of the best the College had ever produced.

For some unknown reason, half the ground was mowed and the other half was ankle high. The referee A.C. "Jonnie" Walker dropped his whistle in the uncut area and the match was suspended while the thirty players, on all fours were searching for the whistle. The match resumed after the whistle was found, to the amusement and laughter of the crowd with "Jenny" Walker going red in the face.

The match itself proved to be difficult with Trinity playing a cohesive brand of Rugby. We were beaten 23 – 3 which could be said to be a fairer result in the context of the strength of the two teams.

All in all '56 had a very satisfactory season winning three matches, drawing one and losing one only in our second year. In retrospect what a few of us set out to achieve in 1955, can only be measured by the current strength of Rugby at S.T.C where the College team has come up to the top rung of all Rugby playing schools.

*Our grateful thanks to that great Thomian, "Legal Eagle" Noel Gratien to have presented the case so as to convince the then Warden Rev.Canon R.S.de Saram to commence Rugby at the College. In College itself Rugby now stands side by side with "King" cricket and perhaps the best gauge by which the game has progressed over the last five decades.*



**SPORTS NEWS**

	EVENT & DATE	VENUE
ROWING	<b>Inter – Monsoon Regatta</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Head of the Beira</b>	Beira Lake
	<b>Crew 1:</b> Niroshan David (Bow) Isuru Perera (Two) Preshith Ganegoda (Three) Tharindu Gunasekara (Stroke) Sharen Kannangara (Cox)	
	<b>Crew 2:</b> Hishan Fernando (Bow) Nilanka Atapattu (Two) David Gnanamuttu (Three) Salman Nishtar (Stroke) Lashika Weerasinghe (Cox)	
	<b>Crew 3:</b> Mahira Samarasinghe (Bow) Dharshan Gooneratne (Two) Dejan de Zoysa (Three) Eraj Fernando (Stroke) Sean Abeywardena (Cox)	
	<b>Crew 4:</b> Dineshka Aluwihare (Bow) Harshitha Kolonne (Two) Praveen (Three) Mahangu Weerasinghe (Stroke) Nirukshan Rajatileka (Cox)	
	<b>Stubbs Quiche</b>	
	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Pair:</b> Hishan Fernando (Bow) Diluk Aluwihare (Stroke)	
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Pair:</b> Preshith Ganegoda (Bow) Ajith Goonewardena (Stroke)	
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Pair:</b> Niroshan David (Bow) Sanjaya Mendis (Stroke)	
Squash	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Squash</b> <b>Tournament</b> The following represented College	<b>Sugathadasa</b> <b>Stadium</b>
	<b>Under 19:</b> Kavin Jayawardhana >	Winner
	<b>Under 17:</b> Kavin Jayawardhana > Manojith Weerasuriya >	Winner 4 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Under 15:</b> Eranga Alwis > Roshane Nanayakkara >	Winner 4 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Under 13:</b> Eranga Alwis > Yasir Issadeen > Manesha Marambe >	Winner 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
	<b>Under 11:</b> Yaseen Issadeen >	3rd

**The Inter-School Debating Competition**

The final round of the Inter-School Debating Competition organized by the Sinhala Literary and Debating Society of S.Thomas' College was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2001, in the college Hall. The teams which had reached the finals were Royal College and Vishaka Vidyalaya.

Vishaka Vidyalaya emerged champions claiming the 'Arisen Ahubudu' Challenge Trophy, while Royal College emerged runners up. Mr. Arisen Ahubudu, who was the chief guest for this occasion, presented the trophies to the contestants.

A friendly debate between the Junior and Senior Debating Teams of S. Thomas' college was also held on the same day.

**Junior Sinhala Literary and Debating Society**

Meetings will be held on Fridays, at 1.30p.m in the M17 classroom. All students of the Middle School, who wish to join are welcome.

**Classical Music Association**

The singing competition organized by the classical music association, will be held early next term. Those who wish to take part in the competition please meet P.Hewamanna(President) or Mrs.Abeynaike in order to obtain music.

**All Members who wish to join could obtain a membership card from Asitha Tennakoon**

**The Commerce Society**

The society will show the film 'DUNGEONS & Dragons' on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May at 6.30pm in the College Hall. Tickets are priced Rs.30 and can be purchased from all committee members.

**GOLF**

All students who wish to join the Golf Club could contact the Warden for further information

**Make Yourself Known**

All information from Thomians and articles which you wish to publish, should be handed over to the editors or sent to the **EPITRC** (IT CENTRE)

S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia.

TEL: 729784-86 Fax : 729785

E-mail: [stcmount@eureka.lk](mailto:stcmount@eureka.lk)

# L I O N E L   S H E L T O N G A U D E R

*(Adapted from the speech made by Berty Wijesinghe at the memorial service on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2001)*

Lionel Shelton Gauder was more substantial than poet's dream and will not be forgotten. He will continue to live in the hearts and minds of those close to him whom he loved so well, and also in the hearts of his friends.

Certainly he will where a great part of him lived – at S. Thomas' College and all that the institution stand for. He served S. Thomas' College from the time he entered her portals at the age of nine until the end of his active life.

He was S Thomas' personified and it can truly be said that he gave his life to the school he loved so well. If it can be said of an individual that he was "all things to all men" surely it can be said that Shelton Gauder was all things for to S. Thomas', General factotum. He was caretaker, plumber, electrician, driver, swimming pool caretaker, cricket coach, dormitory master and even stand-in-teacher.

Shelton played in the College cricket team from 1930 – 33, captaining the team in his final year when a win in the match against Royal College was cruelly denied him.

When he left College he went to work for a short time in a Bank. But surely, the lure and call of his Alma Mater was a strong call, which could not be denied. The late Rev. Cannon R.S.de Saram beckoned and Shelton gladly and willingly went back to serve his school.

When the school resumed after the war was over, it was Shelton who put the broken pieces together to bring the school back to normal. Despite his duties he took over the coaching of the College team. Many a national cricketer and several national captains passed through his expert hands all the better for his devotion to cricket, which was to him a "way of life"

Shelton was a humane and generous person, devout in his faith. Shelton unhappily was to suffer illness in his last days, but did not complain. He seemed to whisper

*"Breathe on me breath of God  
So shall never die  
But live with thee the perfect life  
Of time eternity"*

Let us remember his as a man of God, a dutiful husband, a loving father and a grandfather, who lived and feared his maker.

Let us all with one accord say

**"Well done thou good and faithful servant !"**

## Notice Board

"There are more instruments in a band than a Trumpet and they can all be played at the same time" – Thomas Hammarberg of Sweden.

The Western Music band of STC started in a small way in 1965. It has now established itself and earned a name of some repute. We welcome new members specially from the Lower 6<sup>th</sup> to Coll E classes. The instruction classes and the instruments are provided by the school, but they are insufficient for all are members. We would appreciate donations in cash and kind donations from Old boys and friends for Woodwind, Brasswind and Percussion instruments. There is no compulsion, but those who wish to purchase their own instruments may do so. For further information please contact the Teacher in Charge, Mrs. Sneha Appathurai

### Thank You

We take this opportunity to thank the following people for their generous sponsorship.

**UNION ASSURANCE FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF RS.20, 000 FOR WATER POLO**

**MR. RAJ KUMAR FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF RS.250, 000 FOR RUGBY.**

**MR. T.THENABADU FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF RS. 50,000 FOR HOCKEY.**

### Rugger News

#### **The 1st xv results**

<b>Zahira College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>- 24 - 8</b>
<b>Science College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>- 63 - 0</b>
<b>Maliyadeva College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>- 32 - 5</b>
<b>St. Aloysius College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>-- 105 - 0</b>

#### **The U - 17 results**

<b>Zahira College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>-- 34 - 0</b>
<b>Thurstan College</b>	<b>lost</b>	<b>-- 17 - 15</b>
<b>St. Aloysius College</b>	<b>won</b>	<b>- 51 - 0</b>

#### **Next Matches –**

**18<sup>th</sup> - vs. St. Aloysius - Longdon Place**  
**24<sup>th</sup> - vs. St. Josephs – Longdon Place**  
**02<sup>nd</sup> – vs. Trinity -- Longdon Place**  
**09<sup>th</sup> -- vs. Royal -- Longdon Place**

#### **Tradition will be established when on**

2<sup>nd</sup> June – TRINITY MATCH

Mr.S.B.L.Perera the senior most contactable Rugby Captain will be the chief guest and the Guest of Honour will be Mr.Quintin Israel

9<sup>th</sup> JUNE – ROYAL MATCH

Mr.Ifthikar Cader the next most senior captain will be the Chief Guest  
The two College bands will be in attendance at these matches

### An Apology

The book published by Mr.T.D.S.A.Dissanayake (Royalist – class 1949) entitled “*WELL DONE S.Thomas’ ESTO PERPETUA*” was as his contribution for the commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was wrongly printed as “*WELL S.THOMAS’ ESTO PERPETUA*”. This is available for sale at the book cupboard for Rs.100/- .We regret the error.

## News Flash – Results of the Head of the Beira **The Thomians were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively**

### **SPORTS**

There are fifteen sports catering to varied interests of students. Students are invited to make the maximum use of these extra curricular facilities. There is also an Indoor Gymnasium which sports almost all popular indoor sports such as Table Tennis, Squash, Badminton, a fully equipped Gymnasium and an Indoor Basketball Court. The boys welcome any advice, support and sponsorship from old boys, parents and well wishers.

**Mr. D.Edirisinghe** is the Prefect of Games and any general information could be had from him and on specific club or society from the respective teachers in-charge

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>Master In Charge</b>
<b>Cricket</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> XI - Mr.R. Ekanayake, U-17 - Mr.B.S.J.Perera U15 - Mr. M.Fernando U 13 - Mr. H.L.A.S. de Silva U 11 - Mr. H.S.P.Cooray
<b>Hockey</b>	Mr.D.Edirisinghe
<b>Rugby</b>	Ist XV -Mr.G.Weerasinghe U 17 - Mr. S.Jabanathan U15&13Mr.HLA.S.de Silva
<b>Tennis</b>	Mr.D.de Alwis
<b>Swimming</b>	Mr.P.Amarasinghe
<b>Basketball</b>	S.A.L Nandasiri
<b>Athletics</b>	Mr.V.A.B. Samarakoon
<b>Rowing</b>	Mr.D.Edirisinghe
<b>Badminton</b>	Mr.D.Edirisinghe
<b>Soccer</b>	Mr.E.B.Goonethileke
<b>Volleyball</b>	Mr. H.A.L Desilva
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Mr.D.Edirisinghe
<b>Squash</b>	Mr.A.Goonewardene
<b>WaterPolo</b>	Mr.P.G.P Amarasinghe

*“A funny thing about life is that if you want nothing but the best you often get it”*

*“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time”*

*“One of the greatest victories you can gain over someone is to beat him at politeness”*

### **ROWING** (More on the inter monsoon regatta)

After being placed runner up in the National Rowing Championship, the college crew is currently training for the inter-monsoon regatta, which will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May. This two-mile race is one that is very unique because one races against the clock. Explaining the race further – we start at 0 (Near the club house) and race upto one mile, do a turn and then race back down to ‘ease oars’ which is the end of the race. Basically the crew that gets the lowest timing for two miles wins. This unique race is only for the four events and is called ‘Head Of The Beira’. Last year the first crew of S.Thomas’ College won this event.

The races for pairs are also something different to normal junior oarsmen such as the present college Rowing crew would take a senior oarsman from the club as pair partner for this particular event and row down 1000 meters. This special event is named as ‘Stubbs Quiche’, and will be rowed in the coxless pairs.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

S.Thomas’ College will be embarking on a project to direct and place Thomians in various careers. This facility is open to both present and past Thomians..

**Please Contact:** The Career Teacher

Telephone > 729784 – 6

Fax > 729785

E-mail > [stcmount@eureka.lk](mailto:stcmount@eureka.lk)

### **EDITORIAL BOARD**

Mr. Gamini Weerasinghe      H.K.Silva  
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*Compiled at the ‘Esto Perpetua’ Information and Technology Resource Centre*

