

# **BURGER ASSOCIATION (AUSTRALIA) INC**

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## **December 2016 Summer News Bulletin**





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## Message from The President



Dear Members & Friends

Greetings and welcome to the **Summer Christmas Edition** of the 'Burgher Association Newsletter.' I hope you enjoy its contents. Please feel free to contact myself or the Editor with ideas that might make the Newsletter more interesting and enjoyable for all Members. The Annual General Meeting has just been concluded and last year's General Committee was given the opportunity to represent you the Members for another year. Thanks to your support and the assistance of a very dedicated Committee we have moved the presence of the Association to new heights. A newly enhanced web site and a fresh approach to our Newsletter have generated a great deal of responses from you Members and, also an increase in Hall Hire revenue for the Association. Thank you for the comments and feedback; please continue to forward those emails.

Going forward, the Burgher Association needs new blood to carry out its brief into the future; a sort of succession plan. Please try to involve your children in the Association's social activities and talk to them about the Burgher Story; this is all available on our website <https://burgherassocn.org.au>. There is great scope for our young members to forge an interactive social identity within the BA; if you feel you have organisational skills or are just a very proactive person, I am sure your enthusiasm and ideas would be most welcome. Please do write in and let's talk about it. The social functions held by the BAA have been really well attended and, have proven to be very popular with Members and well-wishers alike. Please continue to spread the word and introduce your friends to the BAA functions; you are a vital part of the heartbeat that allows the Burgher Association to function.

Take care & best wishes

Hermann Loos  
**President**

*"Where there's a Will, there is always a relative."*

*~ Ricky Gervais ~*

## **Some Burgher personalities of the past in the arenas of public debate and politics**

by Ms. Deloraine Brohier

Viewing the history of the Burgher community in Sri Lanka, in retrospect one can say that theirs is a remarkable and epic record which is rare in history. The Dutch Burghers entered Ceylon less than four centuries ago, when the maritime regions of the island came under the Dutch East India Company - Vereenigde Oost Indische Compagnie V.O.C. Ceylon was then handed over to the English East India Company and subsequently the whole country was unified and ruled as a crown colony of Great Britain.

The community that was left behind in the island when the Dutch wound up their activities here, at the end of the 18th century were about 900 families it is estimated, in Colombo and other townships. This Dutch community known by the Dutch term Hollandische, came to be known, in the early records of the British as "The Dutch and Burgher inhabitants of Ceylon". In course of time, with the death of those who in 1802 first took the Oath of Allegiance to king George III of England and were permitted to remain in Ceylon, the appellation resolved itself to - Burghers.

Displaced as they found themselves to be by political circumstances which they had enjoyed under the Dutch Company, under British colonial rule the Burghers were able to acquit themselves so remarkably that they became indispensable to the British government. Not only as administrators did this community excel, but noticeably in the second half of the 19th century, they entered every sphere of activity in the country. In medicine and the judiciary, in scientific and technical fields, surveying, irrigation, engineering, archaeology they made enduring contributions; in literature, music and painting, and in sport, the Burghers distinguished themselves. Equally noteworthy was their political role, where the Burghers, became leaders of the freedom movement, through their association with the Legislative and Municipal Councils.

A great historian of our island, Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, in his 1901 census report wrote: "The Dutch descendants are the most educated and useful members of this island's population and form the upper stratum of the Burgher community."

The Burgher intelligentsia in the 1860s was led by a young man who hailed from Matara - Charles Ambrose Lorensz. Being a brilliant lawyer he was popularly known as the "morning star of Hulftsdorp". Together with a group of young Burghers like Leopold Ludovici, Francis Bevan, Samuel Grenier and James Stewart Driberg they produced a leading local literary journal called Young Ceylon. In 1859 Lorensz and a syndicate purchased the Ceylon Examiner which became the first Ceylonese newspaper. Until his death in 1871, at the age of forty-two, Ambrose Lorensz wielded the powerful influence of his pen for social reform, championing democratic causes and courageously criticising the British colonial government, the Governor and his Executive Council.

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In the true traditions of 19th century Burgher leaders, like C. A. Lorensz there came a few years later - George Alfred Henry Wille, who was also of the legal fraternity in that he was a proctor by profession. A keen student of history and politics from his young days, Wille was alive to his responsibilities as a citizen. His interest in public affairs was such that there was hardly a public movement in the early 20th century in which he did not play a part. He was well-known for his knowledge in constitutional matters and when the Ceylon Congress came into existence, Wille had the sagacity to foresee the political reform in Ceylon which could not be postponed. Alone among minority men, George Wille joined the Congress and took a prominent part in its affairs side by side with its foremost leaders from the other communities.

George Wille came into prominence by his association with the Colombo Pettah Library - an institution started by the Burghers in the early days of British rule. As secretary of the institution for a great many years, it was said that Wille's annual reports were masterpieces of literature. George Wille was a publicist and when barely twenty-five years old he was a regular contributor to the Ceylon Examiner the lawyers' paper. When that paper was discontinued after a half a century's outstanding existence, Wille turned to the Ceylon Independent, as a frequent and dependable writer whose views were much appreciated by the reading public. The Ceylon Independent at its zenith won a victory by taking up the battle against the Paddy Tax, under the leadership of its editor, George Wall. The proprietor of the paper was Sir Hector Van Cuylenburg, one-time Burgher Member in Council.

One of the greatest contributions made by George Wille, to the public of Ceylon, was in building a solid bridge between the Burghers and the other Ceylonese communities. He was a far-seeing man and living as he did into the years prior to independence, he was convinced that the Burghers, as a community, could not remain aloof. He knew intimately and admired the integrity of men like Sir James Peiris, Sir D. B. Jayatilleke and Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan.

The general confidence in Wille from within his own community, for his ability and sincerity was when the Burgher seat in the national legislature was being contested on the retirement of Allan Driberg, when the latter became a Puisne judge. Wille was returned by the Burghers as the 'First Member' there being two members allowed for that Council. Wille won that seat of unique conduct and asked not even a friend for their vote on his behalf, though he addressed meetings to educate the electorate. It is said that George Wille's work as a Member of the Legislature Council was outstanding. When the first State Council had to be constituted in 1931, George Wille was nominated a Burgher member. He was however prevented from taking up the office due to professional problems in the legal firm he was working in. When the Burgher deputation to the Donoughmore Commission was selected, George Wille was an undisputed representative. Other achievements of the man, to name a few were as Chairman, Municipal Education Committee, Colombo, president Ceylon Workers Federation, president Ceylon Social Service League, Provident Association, Member in the Council of Legal Education, Member Local Government Board, Member Labour Advisory Board, Member University College Council.

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Turning to the arena of Municipal politics we find many a Burgher name in the councils, in Colombo and other townships. As early as in 1865 when the Colombo Municipal Council was set up by proclamation, together with leaders of other communities, like James d'Alwis, A. M. Ferguson, Ossen Lebbe, Abdul Cader Marikar we find also the names of many a distinguished Burgher of that era. C. A. Lorensz attended the first meeting to prepare lists of resident householders in Colombo and persons eligible for the office of counsellors.

From the diary of Sir Richard Morgan, we read the entry: "The Burghers are predominantly in the Pettah and should be duly represented". Six of the members eventually elected to the council were Burghers, which led Morgan to comment subsequently that, "there are too many lawyers and too many Burghers!" Of those elected to the first Colombo Municipal Council there were - C. L. Ferdinands (Colpetty), Dr. J. W. Van Geyzel (Pettah), C. A. Lorensz (Cotta-China) and F. C. Loos (Marandahn) (Early spellings of names of the Colombo wards have been retained). Samuel Grenir was secretary when the council met for the first time, on January 16, 1866. As in the Colombo Municipal Council, likewise in the other major Town Councils such as in Kandy and Galle, leading Burgher citizens took an active role. Dr. Peter Daniel Anthonisz who was the first president of the Ceylon Branch of the British Medical Association, after his retirement from the Medical Department settled down to a lucrative practice in Galle, which was his hometown. He served as a member of the Galle Municipal Council, Fort Ward, for several years. By special permission of the Governor, he was also a member of the Colombo Municipal Council and represented the Burgher community in the legislative council, 1886 to 1895. The clock tower which commands the front view of Galle's ramparts was built by public subscription to perpetuate his name.

Making history for the Burgher community in the Colombo Municipal Council was Dr. V. R. Schokman when he was elected Mayor of Colombo in May 1937. His excellent powers of organisation were put to usefulness in this office, as were his schemes notably in education and social service. A medical man by profession, Dr. V. R. Schokman also absorbed himself in a wide variety of sports activities. In the period from 1833, many were the Burghers who engaged in politics and represented their community in the several constituted political and public institutions set up in Ceylon. Though just a few men from the Burgher community have been here highlighted for their involvement and the dynamic role they played in the arenas of public debate and politics, we conclude by listing other names, as of interest to readers, of those who served in the National and Local Government Assemblies in Ceylon till the dawn of independence. It is not my intention, though relevant to go into the history of the constitutional developments in Ceylon in the British period. Briefly to explain - in 1833 when the Colebrooke recommendations were implemented from the old constitution where the Governor had complete executive and legislative power - two councils, an executive council and a separate legislative council, was instituted. Governor Horton nominated in 1835 the first Ceylon unofficial members - J. G. Hillebrand, a senior Burgher proctor, J. Phillipsz Panditaratne, a Sinhalese and A. Coomaraswamy, a Tamil.

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Over the years' modifications to the numbers and composition of Ceylonese represented in the legislative council of the colony can be traced. The Donoughmore Commission, adult franchise, the setting up of the State Council with elected members, were the changes which, step by step, brought an end to British Colonial rule and to independence in 1948. Hillebrand the first Ceylonese Burgher in politics, when he rose to be a Judge of the Supreme Court was succeeded by J. F. Giffening, also a proctor and who James d'Alwis described as "an old narrow-minded austere, but clever Dutch lawyer". Richard Morgan was the next member. He was raised to knighthood and acted as chief justice. Charles Ambrose Lorensz, of whom it was said, "the most versatile and gifted member the community ever produced," followed James Martensz succeeded him and then came C. L. Ferdinands. When the latter accepted government office as District Judge, Colombo, Advocate James van Langenberg Sr. was appointed to fill his place. On his death, Dr. P. D. Anthonisz of Galle, was appointed breaking the tradition of lawyer members. The appointment again of H. L. Wendt revived the legal link. He was followed by F. L. Loos, with James van Langenberg the younger, Francis Bevan and Dr. W. G. van Dort acting at different times in his absence. James van Langenberg Jr. succeeded F. C. Loos on his death.

Then came the era of elected members - Sir Hector van Cuylenberg, being the first. Sir Hector was followed by Charles Vander Wall, Allan Driberg and N. J. Martin as elected members, while Arthur Alvis (after whom the street much used by traffic today, leading off the Beira Lake, is named), H. A. Loos and C. E. de Vos, a famous lawyer from Galle, secured their seats at different times as nominated members. Then again came a break in lawyer members with the appointment of George A. Wille and Dr. V. R. Schokman. It is interesting to note that in 1924 when the council consisted of 37 unofficial members, there were no fewer than three Burgher members - N. J. Martin, G. A. Wille (elected) and H. A. Loos (nominated). From the list of names, as above, a curious fact emerges - that or more than one hundred years the Burgher representatives in succeeding legislative councils and in the State Council, nominated or elected, came to be drawn from the fraternities of the legal or medical professions.

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## ~ Meaningful Sayings ~

Most people want to see you to do better, but not doing better than them.  
*London Mond*

Children have more need of models than critics.  
*French (on parents and children)*

Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children.  
*Charles R. Swindol*

It's better to be unhappy alone than unhappy with someone.  
*Marilyn Monroe*

## What's so funny??



### WHEN I SAY I'M BROKE - I'M BROKE!

A little old lady answered a knock on the door one day, to be confronted by a well-dressed young man carrying A vacuum cleaner. 'Good morning,' said the young man. 'If I could take a couple minutes of your time, I would like to demonstrate the very latest in high-powered vacuum cleaners. "No, thanks!" said the old lady. "I'm broke and haven't got any money!" and she proceeded to close the door. "Don't be too hasty!" he said. "Not until you have at least seen my demonstration." And with that, he dropped horse manure onto her doorway carpet. "Now if this vacuum cleaner does not remove all traces of this horse manure from your carpet, Madam, I will personally eat the remainder." The old lady stepped back and said, "Well let me get you a fork, 'cause they cut off my electricity this morning."

--oo0oo--

### Man smart, woman smarter!

Jake was dying. His wife sat at the bedside.

He looked up and said weakly:

'I have something I must confess.'

'There's no need to, 'his wife replied.

'No,' he insisted,

'I want to die in peace.

I slept with your sister, your best friend, her best friend, and your mother!

'I know,' she replied.

'Now just rest and let the poison work.'

--oo0oo--

A middle-aged couple had two beautiful daughters but always talked about having a son.

They decided to try one last time for the son they always wanted.

The wife got pregnant and delivered a healthy baby boy.

The joyful father rushed to the nursery to see his new son.

He was horrified at the ugliest child he had ever seen.

He told his wife:

'There's no way I can be the father of this baby. Look at the two beautiful daughters I fathered!

Have you been fooling around behind my back?' The wife smiled sweetly and replied:

'No, not this time!'

--oo0oo--

Who is a Psychiatrist?

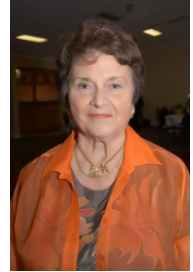
A qualified person who gives you  
an expensive & critical analysis about yourself,  
which your wife gives you for FREE, daily.



# Migration Ball 2016



# And the fun continued .....



# The Ten most evil men in History

By: Rory Darwin

## Adolf Hitler'

What can be said about Hitler that hasn't already been covered by countless books, documentaries and lessons? After rising to power as leader of the National Socialist German Workers Party, Hitler became Fuhrer in 1934, and kicked off the Second World War in 1939. His ascent had been achieved through the promise he would return Germany to its former glory before its humiliating defeat in the First World War and the economic depression that followed; but in practice, Nazism's code of racial superiority used scapegoating to establish malicious hierarchies and justify the murder and brutalisation of millions. Under Hitler's direction, the regime carried out the Holocaust against the Jewish people, who were sent to horrific concentration camps in ever increasing numbers as the Nazis made gains. Approximately six million Jews were killed in history's most infamous genocide. Slavs, Romanis and other groups were also targeted, with many hundreds of thousands annihilated.

## Josef Stalin

Stalin's dictatorship was instrumental in moving Russia forward from an agrarian to an industrialised economy, but at huge costs for the enormous nation. Millions of citizens under Soviet rule found themselves in forced labour camps (gulags) under Stalin, who turned Lenin's communist dream into a living nightmare. His agricultural policies created a terrible famine between 1932-1933, which saw huge numbers starve to death in Ukraine and horrifying reports of mothers eating their own children in desperation. Through the infamous Great Purge, Stalin cleared his house of all alleged 'traitors' – anyone who could conceivably threaten his reign of terror was removed and killed with ruthless efficiency after a show trial. Around 800,000 were executed during the dictatorship between 1922 and 1953, while millions more died as a direct or indirect result of Stalin's policies. Stalin's monstrous personality is also reflected in his personal life; two of his children allegedly committed suicide due to his lack of compassion and sadistic tendencies. While it's impossible to declare one leader the ultimate tyrant, Josef Stalin's iron grip on Russia certainly ranks high.

## Pol Pot

Pol Pot was responsible for terrible genocide in Cambodia, leading the notorious Khmer Rouge from 1963 to 1981. After taking control of Cambodia's Capital Phnom Penh in 1975 he imposed a strict brand of agrarian socialism that saw urban dwellers displaced to the countryside to join collective farms and forced labour projects. During the four years he governed as a totalitarian dictator, a remarkable 25 per cent of Cambodia's population died as a result of his policies.

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Between one and three million. Under his concept of 'Year Zero', Pol Pot actively sought to evacuate Cambodia's cities and towns and exterminate the middle classes in the belief a return to a society dominated by agriculture was the best course for the nation. The legacy of the Khmer Rouge is still being dealt with in Cambodia today, with the organisation's senior members being slowly brought to justice. Sadly, Pol Pot won't be among them – he died in 1998.

### **Ghengis Khan**

Born Temujin in approximately 1162 AD, the warlord we now know as Ghengis Khan earned his title around 1206 AD after uniting the hostile nomadic tribes of northern Asia. Under his leadership, the Mongol Empire decimated millions as they swept across huge swathes of Eurasia. While Ghengis is still regarded as a heroic figure within Mongolia and other countries, for example Turkey, in the likes of Iran and the Middle East he is viewed as a genocidal despot. Certainly, the headcount attached to the many raids Ghengis's armies carried out is staggering – some 10 to 15 million were slaughtered, amounting to three quarters of the Iranian Plateau's population. Likewise, Ghengis is vilified in modern day China, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Korea and Poland, where he wreaked large scale devastation.

### **Ivan the Terrible**

Tsar of all Russia between 1547 and 1584, Ivan's reputation precedes him with his moniker 'the Terrible'. However, his legacy is chequered; modern historians point out that Ivan made some vital changes through his rule that allowed Russia to progress from a medieval state to a more modern empire. Ivan suffered from mental illness, and was prone to explosive fits of rage that could rapidly become murderous. Most famously, he killed his son and heir Ivan Ivanovich in one dramatic episode of lost control. As he aged, Ivan's mental instability increased, which in turn led to the deterioration of his reign. He created the oprichniki in 1565, Russia's first secret police force, to satisfy his paranoia about rival groups. Using the oprichniki, Ivan would license the massacre of Novgorod in 1570, in which tens of thousands were tortured and killed in a brutal suppression of alleged treason.

### **Mao Zedong**

Credited as one of the most important figures in 20th century history, today Mao's reputation varies depending on where and who you are. While there's no denying Mao's drive to transform China from an agrarian economy to an industrial one was key to the country's emerging power four decades after his death, his policies also victimised millions of Chinese. Mao's regime oversaw systematic human rights abuses and forced labour, and – partly due to a series of natural disasters – his Great Leap Forward sparked the biggest famine in history. A staggering 40 to 70 million people perished for these reasons and others related during his reign.

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## **Nero**

Many Roman emperors had appetites for excess, but Nero's name lives on as a hedonistic tyrant to this day. Few historical sources from his own era paint him in a favourable light, and we remember him today as the emperor who 'fiddled while Rome burned' – a reference to his lack of action during the Great Fire of Rome, which he allegedly ordered to be started himself in order to clear land for his personal palaces. This callous decadence has cemented the image of Nero as a self-centred monster, and isn't helped by the many executions he presided over – including that of his own mother. The emperor is also credited with being an early adopter of the persecution of Christians, and had them dipped in oil and burned at night to light his palace gardens.

## **Vlad the Impaler**

You know the ruler who inspired Dracula isn't going to be a pussycat, and our man Vlad doesn't disappoint. A member of the Order of the Dragon – set up to defend Christianity in Eastern Europe – Vlad ruled what is now Romania between 1456 and 1462. His reputation for cruelty came from his penchant for torture and impaling his enemies on wooden stakes. Some sources estimate he killed between 40,000 and 100,000 this way, though modern historians often argue these figures are exaggerated. The most extreme claims about Vlad report he roasted children and fed them to their own mothers, among other horrors. Regardless of how true these accusations are, his use of excessive violence to strike fear into the hearts of his enemies is undisputed. We've come a long way from the view that great individuals play pivotal roles in the ebb and flow of world history. On the contrary, we're far more likely to consider larger forces such as sociology and economics as key to shaping things on the global stage. Nonetheless, the idea of an infamous individual still holds great power, and there are some men whose evil deeds guarantee they'll never be forgotten. While there's no evil-ometer to measure their acts, the following ten men represent the most ruthless, murderous and downright evil rulers' history has to offer.

## **Attila the Hun**

Attila was leader of the Hunnic Empire, reigning between 434 and 453 AD. His territory stretched across a large part of Europe, from the Ural River to the Rhine River and the Danube River to the Baltic Sea. The Western and Eastern Roman Empires alike were terrified of Attila, whose armies struck deep into various parts of Roman territory slaughtering huge numbers and wreaking havoc. His bloody campaigns even earned Rome, his image lives on as a ruthless plunderer who nearly brought Roman civilisation to his knees.

## **Idi Amin**

Known to many modern audiences through his depiction in blockbuster movie *The Last King of Scotland*, Amin was the third president of Uganda. Under his rule, the African nation became synonymous with violence, human rights abuses, political repression, ethnic persecution, extrajudicial killings and all manner of horrific crimes. Between 100,000 and 500,000 people are estimated to have died as a result of Amin's reign of terror. Despite all this, Uganda remained a member of the UN's Commission on Human Rights throughout 1971-1979 when he was in power.

## Dimbulla estate in the winner's circle

24 August 2016, 1.46 p.m.



The Clear Image Hunter Valley Wine Show, one of Australia's leading regional wine shows, was held on August 19 and showcased a variety of high calibre winemakers and their products.

Among these high quality winemakers was Dimbulla Estate, a young vineyard committed to pursuing the early European settlers experience and tradition of wine making. Dimbulla Estate was awarded the Doug Seabrook Memorial Trophy for the best red wine of the show and the Best Other Red trophy category.

The winning wine, the 2014 Tempranillo Shiraz, is a refreshing blend of the Spanish grape, Tempranillo, and Hunter Valley Shiraz. The wine is medium to full bodied showing red fruit and blackberry with savoury bitter cherry and peppery notes. It has a juicy palate with a mix of black cherry, plum and tilled earth finishing with mouth filling slippery tannins. **Dimbulla Estate owner and previous Chairman of the Australian Rugby Union, Dilip Kumar**, says that the estate first began growing the Tempranillo 15 years ago after realising that it was a hugely successful trend overseas. "The Tempranillo has become hugely popular around the world and people are beginning to move away from the traditional heavy red wine, so the blend is doing well in the Hunter Valley," Dilip says. "We have been very lucky to have the heavy rain earlier on, which means we were able to produce quality grapes."

However, while the rugby and red wine enthusiast says the Dimbulla team always hopes to do well at these events, he admits they were absolutely blown away to be chosen for the awards. In fact, this is the first time a blend has ever won gold in the red wine category, with the previous winners being more traditional reds.

Medals awarded in the Clear Image Hunter Valley Wine Show are highly regarded throughout the media and wine industry, and Dimbulla Estate hopes to continue to gain recognition for their high quality wines. Show President David Flynn said it was a fantastic result for the Hunter. "Once again we've seen the longevity and quality of our Semillons demonstrated with a 2009 vintage taking out the Best White of Show trophy." He also declared the online judging system, a pilot program developed in partnership with the Australian Wine Research Institute, a real success. "We sought a solution for front end entries through to the database and also online judging through to producing the results. We wanted a system that was integrated and efficient. "Not only did we produce a wine show that was rigorous and meticulous, but having the judges' scores coming through live to the heads of the panels added another dynamic level to the judging."

The story, "Award winning winemakers" first appeared on "The Singleton Argus."

# Burgher Association (Australia)

358 Haughton Road, Clayton VIC 3168



The Burgher Association of Australia Centre is available for private hire (**Dances, Birthday parties, Anniversaries etc**). The BAA Centre is located within a short walk from Clayton railway station. The hall is licensed to hold 150 people. Tables and chairs for this number of attendees are provided. There is usually plenty of parking across the road and a few spaces on the property. Disabled access via ramps is available to both the front and rear doors and a disabled parking space is available. There is also a 'horseshoe' driveway permitting the dropping off of attendees under cover. Commercial kitchen facilities are available including stainless steel splash walls, a commercial glass washer, dishwasher, stove, oven, hot water boiler, large freezer, refrigerator and a bain-marie. **There also is an alfresco area at the back that can be used for making the famous Sri Lankan Hoppers, BBQs or other activity that requires a shielded outdoor space.** There are multiple reverse-cycle heating and cooling units servicing the main hall and kitchen. There are separate male, female and disabled toilets. More pictures are available on our website <http://burgherassocn.org.au/baa-centre/>

How to make a booking: Call Bevill Jansz on 0419 385 462 to enquire whether the date, you wish to hire the hall for is available. (If this phone number is unavailable please contact Breeda Foenander on 0402 297 394) If you are a member of the BAA, the price of hiring the Centre costs \$350 per day; Non-members \$400 per day. Meetings of 3 hours or less \$180. Every hour thereafter will cost a further \$60 per hour. Hours of operation Friday/Saturday 11AM to 12 Midnight, other days 10AM to 10PM. All bookings require a bond of \$250 that is refunded if the centre is handed back to management clean and undamaged. **(\$1000 for age 21 and under, if not signed by parent)**. To have total control of the cleaning of the premises for next day events a payment of \$100.00 will be deducted from the Security Fee deposit

*NB: To book the hall, payment has to be made via the BAA Bank Account – details available on request. Depending on whether you are a member or non-member the full fee plus the deposit of \$250 must be paid to secure the date booked.*





Join Us at the BAA  
on  
Australia Day  
January 26

(Bring the Family)

BYO Alcohol

\$25.00  
per person

Smorgasbord of Western Food  
And music for your pleasure



*Get in quick!*

Have a  
**HOPPER**  
Day

*with the BAA*

**19 February 2017**

**12.00 noon to 4.00 pm**



Music for your pleasure  
and great company

**Hoppers! Hoppers!**  
from our **new**  
**Alfresco Kitchen.**  
**Come & check it**  
**out!**





## OBITUARIES

Compiled by Victor Melder

(E & O.E.)

(NOVEMBER 2016)

- WATT – DOUGLAS ALEXANDER**, (21.7.1921 – 23.10.2016), in New South Wales, on November 7, 2016. (Contributed)
- WILLENBERG – ERMA CELINE**, (nee Kelaart), wife of Darrieux Emerson Willenberg, mother of Tony, Tamahine and Joahan, in Sydney, on November 2, 2016, aged 67 years. (Contributed)
- ARNDT – ROSEMARIE**, wife of George, mother of Rowan and Louise, Adrian and Ingrid, grandmother of Alec, Stefan, Kristian, Kai and Chloe, in Sydney. (Sydney Morning Herald 31.10.2016)
- ARNOLDA – GAYE (LORNA) (nee Cameron)**, wife of Dennis, mother and mother-in-law of Stuart and Karen (Brisbane), Robert and Brooke (Brisbane), grandmother of Zac and Lilly. Eldest daughter of the late Allan and Lorna Cameron, sister and sister-in-law of Gavin and Pauline Cameron (Christchurch), Brian and Karen Cameron (Gold Coast), Pam and John Anders (Blenheim), Jenny and the late Allan Buchanan (Timaru) and Ivette Cameron (Picton), in Brisbane on October 27, 2016, in her 75th year. (Timaru Herald 1.11.2016)
- BURLEY - MIKE**, husband of Shriani (nee Senewiratne), of Neil and Dawn, father-in-law to Denise and Tim, stepfather to Sanjee, son-in-law of the late Calixtus and Florence Senewiratne, brother-in-law of Nirmalinie Perera, Prasanna, Ruwanal, Hemantha and Rohith Senewiratne, passed away suddenly in Doha Qatar. (Daily News 3.11.2016)
- GEORGESZ - TREVOR MARCUS**, husband of Idina (nee Holmes), father of Dayan, Gladwyn & Nicola, father-in-law of Shameema Dean, brother of Brian, Barbara, Mignonne, Callistus, Ingrid and late Andrew, brother-in-law of Manik, Stanley Perera, late Ronald Speldewinde, late Mallika, Joe Schokman, late Suzette, Audrey Holmes, Marie Kelaart and Alric Holmes, in Sri Lanka (Daily News 3.11.2016)
- PERERA - HILTON CEDRIC**, husband of Iris (nee Smale), father of Maryanne & Nath, Shehani & Arjuna, Harin & Sardha, grandfather of Rayani & Praveen, Rehan, Anju, Jerusha and Yeshaya, son of the late Vincent & Raida, brother of late Vernon & Rene, Clement & Blanche, in Sri Lanka. – 34, Uyana Road, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. (Daily News 4.11.2016)
- FR. DERRICK MENDIS SJ.**, on 7 November, 2016 in Negombo. Youngest son of the late Maurice and Neta Mendis of Moratuwa, brother of the late Aubrey and Malcolm and of Sr. Charmaine. – “Sevsevana”, Jesuit Provincialate, ‘Akkara Panaha’, Negombo, Sri Lanka. (Daily News 8.11.2016)
- RAMENADEN - JACQUELINE LAITY**, wife of Desmond Kelaart, mother of Jeremy Kelaart, youngest daughter of (late) Richard Ramenaden and Enid Buultjens, sister of Delrine, Roger (Trevor), Delia, (late) Shirani, Charmaine, Edgar (Damian), in Sri Lanka. – 16/4, StAnthony’s Lane, Station Road, Kandana, Sri Lanka. (Daily News 8.11.2016)
- PEREIRA - EDNA (nee Alwines)**, daughter of C.W.D. Alwines, wife of late Callistus Pereira, mother of Nina (U.K.), mother-in-law of Mark Crook, grandmother of Charlotte, sister of late Fr. Gaston (OMI), Fr. Guy (SSS), Sr. Irene (Holy Cross) and Sr. Hyacinth (HFC Ratmalana), late Netia, Maxi and Morris (Brunei), in Sri Lanka. (Daily News 16.11.2016)
- CONWAY - JACK HERBERT** of Bandarawela, husband of late Daphnie (nee Peiris Goonetilleke) of Panadura, brother of Henry & Joan and Joan Perry (all deceased), brother-in-law of late Egerton and Duksie Goonetilleke, Rienzie and Daphnie Goonetilleke (both deceased), Gerald and late Stephanie de Alwis, in Sri Lanka. – 50, Koswatte Road, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka. (Daily News 18.11.2016)
- PEREIRA - CONRAD JOSEPH**, husband of Babara, father of Roshan, Jerome and Victor, father-in-law of Ruchira, Andria, grandfather of Rochelle and Johnathan, brother of late Noaline, Rosemary and Augustine, brother-in-law of Karu and Nandani, in Sri Lanka. – 1, Walpola Road, Ragama, Sri Lanka. Daily News 18.11.2016)
- BAKLEMUN – MERRIL (BEKKY)**, husband of Audrey (Australia), father of Mitzi and Marlon (Australia), Michael (South Africa), grandchildren, in-laws (Sri Lanka and Australia), brother and sister (Sri Lanka), in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer 20.11.2016)
- BOCKS - ELIZEABETH IRENE (nee Kerner)**, wife of Patrick, mother of Tania and Michelle mother-in-law of Malintha Fernando, grandmother of Baby Mackenzie, loved sister of Auril Lodewyke and Maureen Correa, 17th November in Colorado USA. (Daily News 21.11.2016)
- HENSMAN - DENNIS SATHIYANATHAN**, youngest son of Raja & Lilly Hensman, husband of Ariamalar (Bubby), father of Niranjani, brother of Rudie, Millie, Sagu, Mary, Sheila, Nirmala, Mythili, Henry and Eddie, passed away on Friday November 18, in Canberra, Australia. (Daily News 22.11.2016)

cont'd ....

**DORRIT PEARLINE BLAZE** (29/10/2015 – 17/10/2016 wife of the late Benjamin Richard Blaze'.

Mother of John, Robin (dc) and Carel. Mother-in-law of Annette and Carmen. Grandmother of Jesse, Joshua, Amy, Annie, Solomon, Bessie and Kitty. Grandmother-in-law of Mark Hermans, Naveen Nara, Cindi and Lisa Blaze'

In God's loving hands.

**GRAY - DIRK RUDOLPH**, husband of Priyanga, father of Annika, son of Pam and late Ronald, brother of Kevin and Joanne, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News 22.11.2016)

**HERFT - CHRISTOBEL (nee de Hoedt)**, wife of the late Theodore (Teddy) Herft, mother of Christine, daughter of the late Torry and Annie de Hoedt, sister of the late Carmen La Brooy (Australia), Rita Benjamin (Malaysia), Jean Ephraums (Australia), Pam Mulholland (Australia) and Anton de Hoedt (Australia), in Sri Lanka. (Daily News 22.11.2016)

**STAINWALL - ALOMA (nee Edmund)**, wife of Tyrone, daughter of late Michael and Trixie Edmund, sister of Rhona, Marie, Canisius, Camillus and Gordon, daughter-in-law of late Trevor and Iris Stainwall, sister-in-law of late Royce and of Mario, Harvey, Alistaire, Glenise and Steve, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News 23.11.2016) **NATHANIELSZ – RONALD FREDRICK WILLIAM**, on November 11, 2016, aged 81 years in San Francisco, USA. Husband of Remigia (Nina), father of Cleonnie, Elizabeth, Clifford, Geraldine (all USA), Richard and Rachel (Philippines), father-in-law of Leila. Grandfather of twelve, great grandfather of seven. Brother of Douglas, Therese, Russel, Tyronne, Romaine and Malcolm (all Aust). – 2, Sangumay Street, BahayToro, Mindanao, Quezon City, Philippines (Contributed).

Note: All spelling of names as taken from Sri Lankan newspapers

## Remembering Bob Hope

### ON TURNING 70

'I still chase women, but only downhill.'

### ON TURNING 80

'That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing.'

### ON TURNING 90

'You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.'

### ON TURNING 100

'I don't feel old. In fact, I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.'

### ON NEVER WINNING AN OSCAR

'Welcome to the Academy Awards, or, as it's called at my home, 'Passover.'

### ON GOLF

'Golf is my profession. Show business is just to pay the green fees.'

### ON PRESIDENTS

'I have performed for 12 presidents but entertained only six.'

### ON GOING TO HEAVEN

'I've done benefits for ALL religions. I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality.'

### ON HIS FAMILY'S EARLY POVERTY

'Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother.'

## **19 Interesting Facts About India That Will Amaze You!**

### **1. India produces 1000 varieties of mangoes!**

Each of these varieties is named after colours, places, shapes, tastes, flavours, precious stones and even royalty.

### **2. India experiences 6 seasons in a year.**

Spring, Summer, Summer monsoon, autumn, winter monsoon & winter.

### **3. India has the most number of mosques in the world.**

It has around 400000 mosques, exceeding the number of mosques in Muslim countries as well.

### **4. Cotton was first spun and woven in India.**

Mughal referred to the fabric as 'cloth of running water' or 'morning dew'.

### **5. Snakes and ladders was known as 'Mokshapat'.**

#### **Source**

Saint Gyandev invented the board game 'Snakes and Ladders' in the 13th century. He called it 'Mokshapat', in which the ladders represented virtues and snakes symbolized vices.

### **6. There is no land between Somnath Shiva temple and the south pole.**

The Abadhit Samudra Marg, Tirthambh (Arrow) indicates the unobstructed sea route to the South Pole.

### **7. World's first university was established in India.**

Takshila University, (now in Pakistan) established in 700 BCE, taught about 60 subjects to more than 10,000 students from all of the world!

### **8. Peacock was initially bred for food.**

Yes, the Indian national bird was initially bred for food.

### **9. Rameshwaram Temple has the longest corridor in the world.**

The corridor is 4000 feet in length with 985 richly carved pillars on both sides.

### **10. There is a crater in the moon named after Aryabhata.**

The famous mathematician who invented zero, also has his name on the first satellite launched by India.

### **11. Sanskrit is a perfect language for developing a computer software.**

It is the only language that has precise syntax and grammar.

### **12. First successful eye transplant was performed in India.**

This was done by a British Army surgeon who restored his pet antelope's vision by taking the cornea of a recently killed antelope.

### **13. Arabic numerals were not invented in Arabia, but in India.**

### **14. India has never invaded any country.**

It has gone through multiple conquests and invasions, but never invaded a single country in its entire history!

### **15. Artists of Kangra school of art painted with blood!**

The artists would use strange substances to paint, like blood and crushed beetles.

cont'd ....

### **16. Father of Medicine and Father of Surgery, both Indians.**

One of the earliest school of medicine known to mankind is Ayurveda. It was consolidated by Charaka nearly 2500 years ago, Sushruta, father of surgery, used to conducted complicated surgical procedures 2600 years ago, without the sophisticated instruments of today.

### **17. Padmanabhaswamy is the world's richest temple.**

The untold riches of Thiruvananthapuram's Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple, which was discovered four years ago, and was estimated at Rs 1 lakh crore. In terms of precious metals and precious stones, it is by far the wealthiest institution and place of worship of any kind in the recorded history of the world.

### **18. India has the largest postal network in the world.It has over 150,000 post offices!**

### **19. Diamonds were first discovered in India.**

It was the only source of diamonds for the world until 1896. Now you know why the British got here.

--oo0oo--

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# EVENTS



**Saturday 17 December 2016**

**"End of Year Festivities Ball"**

at Valguarnera Social Club

(Enter from Heatherton Road, Spring Valley Golf Club Entrance).

\$45 Member Ticket, \$50 Non-Member Ticket. Music by "Next Generation"

Catered By "Jolly J" - BYO

~

**Thursday 26 January 2017**

**"Australia Day Celebrations"**

at Burgher Association Centre - 12.00noon to 4.00pm

Western Smorgasbord Lunch

\$25.00 per person - BYO Alcohol

~

**Sunday 19 February 2017**

**"Hopper Lunch"**

Burgher Association Centre

12.00noon to 4.00pm - \$20.00 per person - BYO Alcohol

~

9 April 2017 - Twilight Jazz - **Details TBA**

28 May 2017 - Winter Spit Roast - **Details TBA**

16 July 2017 - Stringhopper Lunch - **Details TBA**

24 September 2017 - Twilight Music Event - **Details TBA**



**Please contact a Committee  
Member for further details and  
Tickets.**

**If undelivered please return to:**

The Editor  
96 Darren Road,  
Keysborough VIC 3173

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