

BURGHER ASSOCIATION (AUSTRALIA) INC

Postal Address: PO Box 75 Clarinda VIC 3169
ABN - 28 890 322 651 ~ INC. REG. NO. A 0007821F
Web Site: <http://www.burgherassocn.org.au>

Autumn 2018 March News Bulletin





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The Burgher Association Australia Donations Pledge



The Burgher Association Australia Incorporated (BAA) is passionate about supporting the community and is proud to be helping make a difference in the area of health and wellbeing. It is our goal to empower wellbeing and healthy lifestyles across Australia and Sri Lanka. The BAA is pleased to have considered charitable contributions, donations and sponsorships to children's education in Sri Lanka and other charitable donations/sponsorship based in Australia

The BAA has just announced following their November 2017 Committee Meeting that for the current year donations and sponsorships will be granted to the following.

- **Sponsorship of education to children via the Dutch Burgher Union of Sri Lanka for up to 21 Children doing year 11 and 12 studies**
- **Donation to the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children in Australia**
- **Donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation Australian Aboriginal Fund**
- **Donation to the Brighter Futures**
- **Donation to MiLife Victoria**

The BAA has approved via the general committee meeting to contribute up to 30% of its net profit per year to satisfy the commitments of the above.

The same procedure will be adopted annually at the AGM to set up a budget for new/continued sponsorships to be adopted in the following year

START WITH A LAUGH

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen.

The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, 'Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great... I would recommend it very highly.'

The other man said, 'What is the name of the restaurant?' The first man thought and thought and finally said, 'What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know... The one that's red and has thorns.' Do you mean a rose?' 'Yes, that's the one,' replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, 'Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?'



A man was telling his neighbour, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand dollars, but it's state of the art. It's perfect.'

'Really,' answered the neighbour. 'What kind is it?'

'Twelve thirty.'



A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully, up onto a stool... After catching his breath, he ordered a banana split.

The waiter asked kindly, 'Crushed nuts?'

'No,' he replied, 'Arthritis.'



Three old guys are out walking. First one says, 'Windy, isn't it?' Second one says, 'No, it's Thursday!' Third one says, 'So am I. Let's go get a beer.'



Morris, an 82-year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical.

A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?'

Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'

The doctor said, 'I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur; be careful.'



The Sri Lankan Burghers

by Deloraine Brohier

Many Sri Lankans pass and re-pass the round-about from where several roads radiate, which has given to the junction the colloquial term - thun mulla. Few though, in their motor vehicles or as pedestrians, in their hurry, pause to look up at a tall building of unique architectural design which stands at this point. It is conspicuous and has remained so, for many years. Fortunately it has not yet been hidden away or crowded in by structures more modern of style and unimaginative in shape, as trends have developed in the passing years. Significant of façade, it stands deep in a lawn front and a triangle of garden. From the porch it rises to an upper storey, with glass-fronted windows. But the most striking feature of the facade and one which stands out to the eye, is the step-gabled ends of its two wings. This feature is what makes it unique and identifies with many buildings in Holland's old towns and quarters, which date back to the periods of the 17th and 18th centuries.

The building at the intersection of Havelock Road, Reid Avenue and Bullers Road, now Baudhaloka Mawatha - and which has led to the name thun mulla, does not go back so far in the centuries. It came up only in the early years of the present century. The prominent building, we have so highlighted is the Dutch Burgher Union Hall - library and social meeting place of a small community who are identified in the polyglottal mix of peoples in Sri Lanka as - Burghers. From many a pen of an older generation, as also by this writer, have flowed explanations of - who are the Burghers. It is not therefore my intention to elucidate on the subject here, be it to say that the term came to be associated with a group of people who originally came out to Sri Lanka, under the flag of Holland and who chose to settle in the island over the period from the mid-seventeenth century to the closing of the eighteenth century.

Largely of Dutch and Flemish origin, some were also from the more northern European countries, and quite a few others who called themselves Huguenots - French Protestants. Collectively, this was the "Hollandsche Natie" who served officially under the United Dutch East Indies Company - the *Veerinde Oost Indische Compagnie* (VOC) in the years known in Sri Lanka's history as the Dutch period. The year 1802 which marked the signing of the treaty of Amiens, saw a change of colonial occupation of the island when Ceylon was made a Crown Colony of Great Britain. With the switch of power there emerged a new life and status for those who officially had served under the Dutch Company, in their varying capacities and others, private emigres who had come out as merchants and traders. For reasons personal and those determined by the terms of the hand-over of power, it has been estimated that about 900 families of the *Hollandsche Natie* opted to remain in Ceylon. They took an oath of allegiance to George III of England and accommodated themselves to changes that developed under the British.

This small overflow of people who had moved with the history of Ceylon from one colonial regime to another were now designated "the Dutch and Burgher inhabitants of Ceylon." With time the term came to be abbreviated to - Burghers. Let me now digress briefly to qualify the term Burgher. In this we have no better authority than Mr. R.L. Brohier, who has stated: "Burgher is not an ethnographic name and has nothing to do with race. The term is of historic origin and refers to a political community which had a distinctive character when it entered under the sway of the British Government." (R. L. Brohier: footnote in *Changing Face of Colombo*) Brohier elucidates that the community known as the Burghers, came to be so designated on a "generic basis" - the term signifying a conferment of citizenship on a group of peoples. And some have retained the identity of their origin to this day.

The Burghers, like many other groups of peoples who came to live under the British colonial system did so by a common community of interests. As an eminent writer of the past has described: "...they passed their days in peaceful co-existence and purposefully linked by common interests, blended freely on terms of racial amity with neighbour and friend" - moving freely on occasions of sadness and gladness -" in the common object of promoting the most easy and friendly terms of inter-communal fellowship." After roughly one hundred years of British colonial rule it was however felt that the time had come when the Dutch Burgher descendants associate together - for a recognition of themselves, as having "an origin, history and character of their own." R. G. Anthonisz, a leading member of the community at the time however voiced the sentiment that "a union among the Dutch Burghers was not going to disturb any of the existing friendly relations they had with members of other communities."

An informal meeting was first held at the Lindsay hall, Bambalapitiya on November 12, 1907 men and women of the Dutch Burgher community, distinguished each in their own right, by professional achievement and of social standing met to air opinion. In the outcome, a resolution was carried unanimously which read: "That this meeting is of opinion that a union of the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon, with the object of promoting the moral, social and intellectual well-being of the community is very desirable." Hector van Cuylenburg, called to the chair on the occasion, said in his inaugural address that he felt the time had come for them, as a community to "coalesce". If there was an association of the kind proposed the members of it would frequently meet and there would be a bond amongst all the Dutch Burghers in Colombo and the outstations."

To the present generation of readers, the names of those who were then appointed as a Committee, to frame rules, enrol members and carry out the preliminary, arrangements for the formation of such a union, will signify little relevance. There was F.C. Loos (member of the legislative Council) R. G. Anthonisz who rose to be head of the Archives Department, J. R. Toussaint of the Ceylon Civil service. There were medical men, surgeons and physicians like Drs. W. A. van Dort, L. A. Prins and Andreas Nell, legal luminaries like Allan Driberg and F. H. de Vos; senior officers in the government's technical departments, engineers and surveyors. P. D. Siebel was a successful businessman and the first florist in Ceylon, A. R. Koch a leading photographer in society and there was, Ceylon's first woman doctor, Dr. Alice de Boer. In the months that followed discussions and informal meetings of the core group took place and the burning of much midnight oil in formulating drafts of the Rules and Registrations of the union

The first meeting of the Dutch Burgher union took place on Saturday January 18, 1908, at the Pettah library Hall. A large gathering was present, for 267 persons had already enrolled as members. Elected as the first president was Frederick Charles Loos M. L. C; honorary secretary was R. G. Anthonisz and a committee of 45 members, of which 15 were residing in the outstations. The draft Constitution having been passed the Dutch Burgher union could be said to have been established. The records of this first meeting and the early meetings of the union can be found well-documented in a worthy publication which, from March 31, 1908, came out on a regular basis. This is known as the Journal of the Dutch Burgher of Ceylon. The DBU journals are a rich source of information - archival chronicle and memoir - which scholars and academicians, writers and journalists of the present generation may well be advised to consult. Committees were formed for purposes ethical and literary, for genealogical research, for social services, entertainment and sport. The feast of St. Nikolaas, December 5, beloved by Dutch children was introduced to the Union in its first year and was held in the Public Hall, Colombo. The tradition of this festival continues to this day. .

The need of an office and committee rooms was felt as urgent for in its initial months Dr. Andreas Nell sublet to the DBU, two rooms at Sea View, Kollupitiya, also used as a Reading Room for members. Thus, we soon find in the DBU's records that a "Building Committee" is mentioned for the raising of funds for a permanent house. There can be seen to this day set into the wall in the foyer of the hall, a copper plaque inscribed, which gives acknowledgement to:

"William Edward Vandersmagt de Rooy through whose exemplary zeal and unswerving persistency, the erection of this hall, in the year 1913 became possible." A building company was formed and shares were made available to members. Planners and architects, engineers and designers then went into industry as a block of land was found in an area in the city which was opening out at the time - pre-First World War. More salubrious was Colombo as it reached out beyond the Fort and Pettah in the early years of this century. The Borella burial site or Kanatte and the Havelock race course in the Cinnamon plantations, had come into use shortly before the turn into the 20th century and Buller's Road cut through scrub jungle and was a gravel road.

The populace of the older city of Colombo were moving to the littoral strip along the Galle Road, the inlets of the Beira Lake or to the Cinnamon Gardens. Today's city zones - three, seven, five and four reflected quite a different geographic picture. Airy residential homes encircled by large gardens were linked by sandy tracks and foot-paths lined with spreading flowering trees. Buller's Road, now the Bauddhaloka Mawatha was lonely and little used, made more forbidding by the fact that half-way along it was the Asylum for those mentally disturbed.

My mother, when a timid teenager, described in later years her fear to take a carriage ride along this stretch, while my father recalled boyhood rambles with his uncle in koombi kalle where they hunted hare and thalagoya in what is known today as Jawatte Road. Reid Avenue was then named Serpentine Road and there was no broad thoroughfare to connect Buller's Road with the Galle Road. The Dutch Burgher Union Buildings Company purchased an extensive extent of land in the area we have described - and a building soon reared up, at the junction of Buller's Road and Serpentine Road. The hall, as it was to be called was in elegant setting, handsome in style. From the two gates, a drive swung round a carpet of lawn, bordered in flowers, to a front porch.

There was provision of ample, space at the rear of building for horses and carriages, which gave way in a later era to the motor car. Tennis courts and a netball court provided activity for the younger members - and gives the reader an idea of the extent of land originally owned. A vestibule on the ground floor led on to a spacious public room for lectures and for dancing in that it had well-sprung teak flooring. A beautifully carved, wooden staircase led to the upper floor - to billiard and card rooms, a drawing room arranged with comfortable chairs for informal entertaining, a bar and a reading room lined with a well-chosen collection of books; residential quarters for outstation members with a rear staircase for their convenience, had also been thought of.

The years went by and the Dutch Burgher Union took on a character of its own. It was inevitable that there were changes in the surroundings in which it stood. Blocks of residential buildings came up all around and a link with the Galle Road, which came to be known as New Buller's Road, found that the DBU lost large strips of garden in acquisition, whilst escalating property rates saw the Buildings Company selling off its outer peripheries.

Through the war years, the First and Second World Wars, and especially in the conflict 1939 to 1945, troops of Dutch forces serving in the Asian war zones, sailors and airmen, found release in festive events in the Hall. The lovely mosaic floor in the foyer, depicting a Dutch sailing ship riding the waves, is a token of their appreciation. Down the years men who made outstanding contribution to the country and to the community took office as Presidents. Their names, inscribed on polished brass, is a record, as also early paintings and portrait photographs in a later era which keep them in memory.

The generation who saw the birth of the Dutch Burgher Union and the building of the Hall have, with time, faded away - their names forgotten by the present younger generation. But the traditions and standards they set live on with their sons and daughters. To these, such as the writer, and with a few others, old scenes of happier days surface in memory. The laughter of children at play every December 5th; St. Nikolaas, dressed in Bishop's regalia, riding in on a tall white horse, black pete by his side who dispensed sweets and toys. A young girl's "coming out" dance, the band playing the old-waltz or fox-trot as she stepped out with her first beaux watched by fond "mamas" who sat through the night stiff-backed chairs arranged around the ball room. Then there were those grand occasions when Ceylon attained Independence and our first Prime Minister D. S. Senanayake was honoured, or Lord Soulbury, Governor General graced a reception.

Unforgettable too were those afternoons when special Dutch Teas were served. The Hall was arranged with little square tables covered in crisp white linen: poffertjest hot off the pan came served with cooled sugar syrup, bolo-fiadho oozing treacle and fogutte filled with minced cashew and pumpkin preserve, while not forgetting the thick slices of broeder spread with butter and a slice of Edam cheese with its deep red rind.

As a school girl the writer with other Dutch Burgher friends, enjoyed the novelty and importance, dressed as traditional Dutch girls in bright skirts and starched organdy aprons, wearing quaint lace-edged pointed bonnets and wooden clogs. Yes, days gone away are ever sweet to linger upon - as we contemplate that the Dutch Burgher Union has notched ninety years of history.





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OXTAIL/OX TONGUE	SEENI SAMBOL BUNS
KOTHU ROTTI CURRY PACKS	CURRY PIES/PRAWN PARCELS

TAKE AWAY CURRIES - SWEETS & DESSERTS

BEEF	LOVE CAKE/CHEESE CAKE
LAMB	MILK/POTATO TOFFEE
PORK	VATALLAPAN
FISH	SPRING ROLLS/SAMOSAS
PRAWN	WADAIS
VEGETARIAN	

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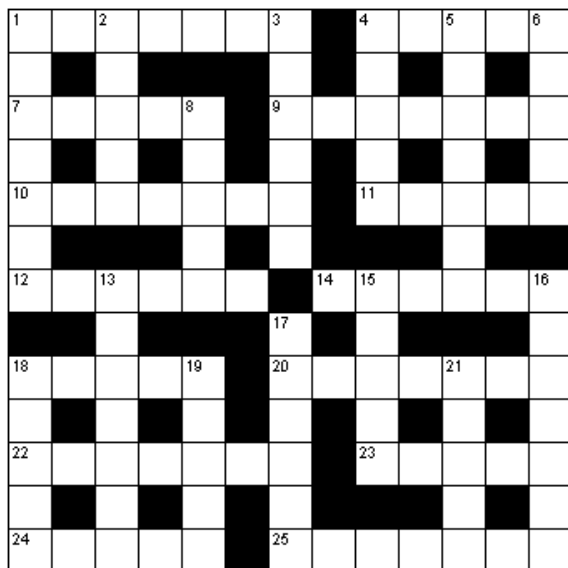
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Down

1. Transported (7)
2. Emblem (5)
3. Tropical bird (6)
4. Mistake (5)
5. Dependable follower (7)
6. Go in (5)
8. Magnitude relation (5)
13. Reinforcement (7)
15. Reasoned judgment (5)
16. Musical passage (7)
17. Opportunity (6)
18. Part of a church (5)
19. Ahead of time (5)
21. Obviate (5)

Across

1. Floorshow (7)
4. Spooky (5)
7. Detection device (5)
9. Vertical (7)
10. Inactivity (7)
11. Measuring implement (5)
12. Dictator (6)
14. Ecclesiastic (6)
18. Copious (5)
20. Drawn (7)
22. Pouch worn with a kilt (7)
23. Diadem (5)
24. Admittance (5)
25. Spiny anteater (7)

SOLUTION

A	N	D	I	H	C	E		Y	R	T	N	E
Z		I				C		L	R		L	
N	W	O	R	C		N	A	R	R	O	P	S
E		V		I		A		A		P		I
D	R	A	G	G	A	H		E	L	P	M	A
A			O		C					U		
C	I	R	E	L	C			T	O	P	S	D
		A				N		I				E
R	E	R	L	U	R	A		I	T	R	E	N
E		U		O		C		A		G		R
T	H	G	R	I	P	U		R	A	D	A	R
N		E		R		O				A		A
E		R	I	E	E	T		E	R	A	B	C

Try working this out without checking the answers!

Anger Sayings

- A hand ready to hit, may cause you great trouble. -- *Maori (on anger)*
- A man in a passion, rides a mad horse. -- *Ben Franklin (1706-1790)*
- A quarrelsome man has no good neighbours. -- *Ben Franklin (1706-1790)*
- Anger is a short madness. -- *Horace (65-8 BC)*
- Anger is often more hurtful than the injury that caused it. -- *English (on anger)*
- Anger is one letter short of danger. -- *Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)*
- Clouds gather before a storm. -- *unknown*
- Don't get your back up. -- *unknown*
- Exaggeration is truth that has lost its temper. -- *Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)*
- Fire in the heart sends smoke into the head. -- *German Proverb*
- Hard words break no bones. -- *unknown*
- If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow. -- *Chinese Proverb*
- If you kick a stone in anger you will hurt your foot. -- *Korean (on anger)*
- Postpone today's anger until tomorrow. -- *Tagalog (Filipino) (on anger)*
- Red sky at night, shepherd's delight; red sky in the morning, shepherd take warning. -- *unknown*
- The anger of the prudent never shows. -- *Burmese (on anger)*
- The greatest remedy for anger is delay. -- *unknown*
- If a small thing has the power to make you angry, does that not indicate something about your size?
-- *Sydney J. Harris*
- He who angers you conquers you. -- *Elizabeth Kenny*
- Anger ventilated often hurries toward forgiveness; and concealed often hardens into revenge. --
Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton
- Where there is anger, there is always pain underneath. -- *Eckhart Tolle*
- Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured. -- *Baptist Beacon*
- Bitterness is like cancer. It eats upon the host. But anger is like fire. It burns it all clean. -- *Maya Angelou*
- Speak when you are angry and you will make the best speech you will ever regret. -- *Ambrose Bierce*
- It is wise to direct your anger towards problems -- not people; to focus your energies on answers -- not excuses. -- *William Arthur Ward*
- Never respond to an angry person with a fiery comeback, even if he deserves it...Don't allow his anger to become your anger. -- *Bohdi Sanders*
- Learn this from me. Holding anger is a poison. It eats you from inside. We think that hating is a weapon that attacks the person who harmed us. But hatred is a curved blade. And the harm we do, we do to ourselves. -- *Mitch Albom*
- Anger is never without a reason, but seldom with a good one. -- *Benjamin Franklin*
- A quick temper will make a fool of you soon enough. -- *Bruce Lee*

Wise Sayings

A beautiful woman delights the eye; a wise woman, the understanding; a pure one, the soul.

Minna Antrim

Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something. **Plato**

A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool. **William Shakespeare**

Life is a dream for the wise, a game for the fool, a comedy for the rich, a tragedy for the poor. **Sholom Aleichem**

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future. **George Bernard Shaw**

A wise man makes his own decisions, an ignorant man follows the public opinion. **Grantland Rice**

Affliction comes to us, not to make us sad but sober; not to make us sorry but wise. **H. G. Wells**

A smart man makes a mistake, learns from it, and never makes that mistake again. But a wise man finds a smart man and learns from him how to avoid the mistake altogether. **Roy H. Williams**

The aim of the wise is not to secure pleasure, but to avoid pain. **Aristotle**

An optimist is a person who sees a green light everywhere, while a pessimist sees only the red stoplight... the truly wise person is colour-blind. **Albert Schweitzer**

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook. **William James**

The stupid neither forgive nor forget; the naive forgive and forget; the wise forgive but do not forget. **Thomas Szasz**

Burgher Association Australia

Presents

11 March 2018
4.00pm to 7.00pm



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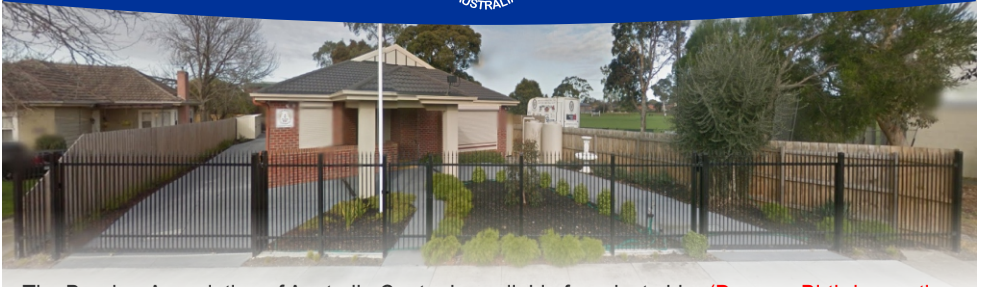
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Burgher Association (Australia)

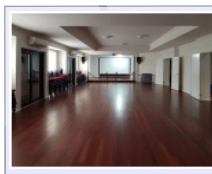
358 Haughton Road, Clayton VIC 3168



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 Breedra Foenander on 0402 297 394 to enquire whether the date, you wish to hire the hall for is available. If you are a member of the BAA, the price of hiring the Centre costs \$350 per day; Non-members \$400 per day. Minimum booking is 5 hours \$300. 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). A payment of \$100.00 will be deducted from the Security Fee deposit for cleaning of the premises, for the next day's events. [Hiring Agreement](#). *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.*



Burgher Association Australia

Authentic Ceylon

Lamprais Lunch

12.00noon to 5.00pm



**Sunday
29 April 2018**

358 Haughton Road, Clayton 3169

Menu

ENTREE

Savoury Chick Peas (Kadala)

MAIN

Rice (cooked in stock)

3 Meat Curries, 2 Frikkadels(meat balls)

Egg Plant Pahi - Seeni Sambol - Prawn Blachan

DESSERT: Caramel Pudding

TICKET CONTACTS

Tamaris Lourensz - 5981 8187,

Elaine Jansz - 9798 6315

Breeda or Harvey Foenander - 0402 297 394

Carol or Hermann Loos - 9827 4455

Rosemary Quyn - 9563 7804, Ashley Henricus - 9561 6212

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Burgher Association (Australia)

Presents

A BURIYANI LUNCH

at

Burgher Association Centre

358 Houghton Road, Clayton 3169

Sunday 24 June 2018

12.00noon to 5.00pm



Menu



Buriyani Rice	Sri Lankan Badun
Chicken Curry	Eggs
Mutton Curry	Raita
Cashew & Pea Curry	Pineapple & Tomato Salad
Tempered Potatoes	Dessert - Watalappan
Mango Curry	Tea / Coffee

Music
for your pleasure.

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Rosemary Quyn - 9563 7804, Ashley Henricus - 9561 6212

Rita or Bert VanGeyzel - 9503 4841,

Hans De Zilwa - 0419292939, Fallon De Zilwa - 0414096774

Dyan or Neville Davidson - 97111 922

Quotes

Every form of addiction is bad, no matter whether the narcotic be alcohol or morphine or idealism. -- **Carl Jung**

What fascinates me about addiction and obsessive behavior is that people would choose an altered state of consciousness that's toxic and ostensibly destroys most aspects of your normal life, because for a brief moment you feel okay. -- **Moby**

Reality is just a crutch for people who can't handle drugs. -- **Robin Williams**

Addiction- When you can give up something any time, as long as it's next Tuesday. -- **Nikki Sixx**

Quitting smoking is easy, I've done it hundreds of times. -- **Mark Twain**

The unfortunate thing about this world is that good habits are so much easier to give up than bad ones. -- **Somerset Maugham**

Addiction begins with the hope that something "out there" can instantly fill up the emptiness inside. -- **Jean Kilbourne**

Addiction is just a way of trying to get at something else. Something bigger. Call it transcendence if you want, but it's like a rat in a maze. We all want the same thing. We all have this hole. The thing you want offers relief, but it's a trap. -- **Tess Callahan**

You can get the monkey off your back, but the circus never leaves town. -- **Anne Lamott**

Addictions ... started out like magical pets, pocket monsters. They did extraordinary tricks, showed you things you hadn't seen, were fun. But came, through some gradual dire alchemy, to make decisions for you. Eventually, they were making your most crucial life-decisions. And they were ... less intelligent than goldfish. -- **William Gibson**

At first, addiction is maintained by pleasure, but the intensity of this pleasure gradually diminishes and the addiction is then maintained by the avoidance of pain. -- **Frank Tallis**

At every stage, addiction is driven by one of the most powerful, mysterious, and vital forces of human existence. What drives addiction is longing: a longing not just of brain, belly, or loins but finally of the heart. -- **Cornelius Platinga**

Recovery from addiction requires hard work, a proper attitude and learning skills to stay sober, not drinking alcohol or using other drugs. Successful drug recovery or alcohol recovery involves changing attitudes, acquiring knowledge, and developing skills to meet the many challenges of sobriety. -- **Dennis Daley**

Addiction is a symptom of not growing up. -- **C. C. DeVille**

The mentality and behavior of drug addicts and alcoholics is wholly irrational until you understand that they are completely powerless over their addiction and unless they have structured help, they have no hope. -- **Russell Brand**

I have absolutely no pleasure in the stimulants in which I sometimes so madly indulge. It has not been in the pursuit of pleasure that I have periled life and reputation and reason. It has been the desperate attempt to escape from torturing memories, from a sense of insupportable loneliness and a dread of some strange impending doom. -- **Edgar Allan Poe**



Was the Indian Sub-Continent the Original Genetic Homeland of The Europeans?

by Subhash Kak

Did Indians migrate to Europe as early as 3300 BC?

'Iceman' theories are often promoted by the colonialist historians and their successors in the field of ancient Indian history. They seem to do that like the eponymous character of *The Iceman Cometh*, one of the most famous plays by the great American writer Eugene O'Neill, which deals with how people hold on to delusions that provide meaning to their lives only to be shattered by an individual who calls them out for what they are.

The beginnings of this story go back to September 1991. Two tourists found the body of a person, now named Ötzi the Iceman, frozen at 10,000 feet on the Alps near the Austria-Italy border. A variety of medical tests showed that he died around 3300 BC. This is the oldest known natural human mummy in Europe that has provided much information on Chalcolithic (Copper and Bronze Age) Europeans.

DNA tests have shown that the Iceman has living relatives in Austria. Microevolution, as in the mutations of the mitochondrial DNA (inherited from the mother) and the Y chromosome (inherited from the father), makes it possible to trace and connect populations across time and region. When the random mutations are calibrated one has a genetic clock.

Other studies can complement the DNA evidence. Thus, even without historical evidence related to the spread of the potato plant, a scientist can deduce the Andean origin of the plant from the fact that there exist many varieties of it in Peru and just a few lines in Asia, Europe, and Africa.

Pathogens with distinct phylogeographic pattern can also be used to reconstruct recent and ancient human migrations. Researchers at the European Academy of Bolzano (EURAC) thought of doing so and they picked on the stomach bacterium '*Helicobacter pylori*', which is found in all human populations, with two major strains that are Asian and African. The modern Europeans have '*H. pylori*' that is a hybrid between Asian and African bacteria.

In research published in the 8 January, 2016 issue of the *Science Magazine*, the EURAC authors announced that the Iceman's stomach has '*H. pylori*' that is of Indian origin (but now extinct) and not related to the hybrid variety of the modern European "admixture." This means that Indians as migrants were present in Europe in 3300 BC.

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This is the earliest example of a pattern that has been repeated in history many a time. We have Mitanni kings with Sanskrit names who ruled in Syria for centuries in the second millennium BC. The Gundestrup cauldron found in a peat bog in Denmark and estimated to have been made about 2000 years ago has images of Indian deities on it (including, most strikingly, that of a goddess worshiped by two elephants, Gajalakshmi), and thus may have been done by craftsmen of Indian origin, perhaps in Thrace. Trade between India and the West has been traced back to the third millennium BC. Such continuing interaction must have led to diffusion of art and culture.

Now let's go back to DNA evidence harnessed to reconstruct ancient migrations. An extensive genetic study of today's Europeans, which was published in June 2015 by the journal *Nature*, shows that they descend from three groups. First of these are the hunter-gatherers who arrived about 45,000 years ago and then came farmers from the Near East about 8,000 years ago. Finally, nomadic sheepherders from western Russia, called the Yamnaya, arrived about 4,500 years ago. The authors of the study suggest that the Yamnaya language most likely gave rise to many of the languages spoken in Europe today. Apparently, Yamnaya were speakers of a Sanskritic (Indo-European) language, and the wave that came in 8,000 years ago might also have been Indo-European.

The Iceman findings appear to corroborate this study as well as the work of Stephen Oppenheimer, who in his book *The Real Eve*, synthesized the available genetic evidence together with climatology and archeology with conclusions which have bearing on the debate about the post-migration population of India.

Much of Oppenheimer's theory is based on mitochondrial DNA, inherited through the mother, and Y chromosomes, inherited by males from the father. According to him, modern man left Africa approximately 90,000 years ago, heading east along the Indian Ocean, and established settlements in India. It was only during a break in glacial activity 50,000 years ago, when deserts turned into grasslands, that people left India and headed northwest into the Russian steppes and on into Eastern Europe, as well as northeast through China and over the now submerged Bering Strait into the Americas.

Oppenheimer makes two major conclusions:

First, that the Europeans' genetic homeland was originally in South Asia in the Pakistan/Gulf region over 50,000 years ago; and second, that the Europeans' ancestors followed at least two widely separated routes to arrive, ultimately, in the same cold but rich garden. The earliest of these routes was the Fertile Crescent. The second early route from South Asia to Europe may have been up the Indus into Kashmir and on to Central Asia, where perhaps more than 40,000 years ago hunters first started bringing down game as large as mammoths. (pp. 153-154 of *The Real Eve*)

Oppenheimer's ideas also help explain regularities in languages that are spread widely across distant lands with an overlap in India. Thus the Indo-Pacific family covers the languages of the Australian aborigines and the Papuans, the Austro-Asiatic cuts across from India to the Pacific (the Munda in India, the Thai, and the Vietnamese), and the Dravidian has connections with the Altaic (Japanese, Korean, and the Turkic).

The idea that the development of the Indo-European languages took place in India explains how a variety of such languages are to be found in the sub-continent. Both the so-called *kentum* and *satem* language subfamilies are represented: Bangani is *kentum*, it is found in the Himalayan region; and languages such as Sanskrit, Hindi, and Assamese are *satem*.

References:

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- Subhash Kak is Regents professor of electrical and computer engineering at Oklahoma State University and a vedic scholar.



2018 Australia Day Honours

The **Australia Day Honours 2018** are appointments to various orders and honours to recognise and reward good works by Australian citizens.

The Australia Day Honours are the first of the two major annual honours lists, the first announced to coincide with Australia Day (26 January), with the other being the Queen's Birthday Honours , which are announced on the second Monday in June.

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

General Division

Sandra Joyce BERENGER – For significant service to nursing in the field of infection prevention and control, as a clinician and consultant, and to medical associations. Cardiff, NSW 2285

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

General Division

David Aldo SANSONI – For service to the community of Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

RARE SRI LANKAN ETHNIC SURNAMES ~ SOON TO GO EXTINCT

The multi ethnic Sri Lankan society has since recent decades witnessed innumerable changes and many of the most notable ethnic communities are now on the brink of extinction, with the population dwindling to a noble handful. Some of the most colourful surnames that once stood as a beacon to help distinguish ethnic backgrounds of locals have now gone into abeyance. The ethnographers are of the opinion that the frequent intermarriages with members of the prominent Ethnic groups and death of male line descendants have gradually airbrushed the identities of many minorities. It is sad to note that there is hardly any material written on the subject of Lankan Onomatology, however it is unmistakably clear that many of the Lankan patronymics and surnames have European roots.

CEYLON BURGHES COMMUNITY

The Ceylon Burgher Community is the finest exponent of this European Onomatology in Sri Lanka, as the members of the community carry some of the World's rarest surnames which at present verge on extinction. The ancestors of the Dutch Burghers were not necessarily Dutch by ethnic origin as the Dutch East India Company installed hundreds of mercenaries from all parts of Europe who later reached the shores of Lanka to strengthen the Dutch garrisons on the Island. These Europeans later espoused local women and paved the way for the Lankan Eurasian Community, which later came to be known as 'Dutch Burghers' meaning 'Town Dwellers'. The Dutch surnames can be recognised by the 'tussenvoegsel' referring to the words positioned between the forename and last name similar to the Scottish prefixes. Many Dutch surnames begin with '**Vanden**' a collective term meaning 'from the', while prefixes such as 'Van' meaning 'of or from', 'der' meaning 'of the' and 'de/het/t' meaning 'the' are commonly used by the Dutch Burghers in Sri Lanka. The fifth Solicitor General of Sri Lanka was Mr. James Van Langenburg and based on his surname it is clear that the progenitor of his family hailed from the German village Langenburg. The Ceylonese **Van Geyzals** descend from Franc Van Geyzal from Belgium (St.Nichola's) who married the daughter of Angelo Pegolloti, an Italian, and his descendant Carl Theodore van Geyzel, was a first class Lankan cricketer. While the **Vandorts**, trace their lineage to the Dutch hamlet named 'Dordrecht', and the first Vandort to have set foot on Lankan soil was Cornelis Jansz van Dort from Utrecht who arrived on the ship "Bellois" in 1700 and settled down in Galle. One of his descendants was Leonhard Kalenberg Van Dort, born in 1831, a famous artist whose watercolours of 19th-century Sri Lanka can still be found in Leiden and Lankan Cricketer Michael Vandort is yet another descendant. The famous 'Van' prefixed surnames include, **van Arkadie** (from Arkadiem, France), **van Cuylenburg** (from Culenbergh, Germany), **van Dersil**, **van der Straeten** (Van der Straeten, presumably Flemish), **Van Hoff** (also spelt as Van't Hoff like in the case of Jacobus Henricus van 't Hoff, Dutch Physical and Organic Chemist), **Van Rooyen** (also spelt Van Rooijen, meaning those from the remote areas), **Vander Zeil** (from the rail), **Vander Putt** (topographic name for someone living besides a 'putt' meaning pit or well-

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Village 'Putte' in Netherlands and Belgium), **Van Sanden** and **Vander Gucht**.

The origin of surname, **Van Houghton** remains blurry as 'Houghton' or Hutton is an Anglo Saxon habitation locational surname referring to a 'High Town' while 'van' is purely Dutch. However, the early English names had three parts, the first name (Christian name), followed with 'De' and the name of the place which the family lived (locational name) and Houghton is derived from 'De Hocton'. Nevertheless, Van Houghton is at present an endangered surname in the world, and based on the geographical spread its only the Ceylon Burghers who use this uncommon surname. The **De Soysas, De Silvas, Peiris, Rosayro, Dias** and **De Serams** identify themselves as 'Sinhalese' though they are bearers of Portuguese surnames. However, Dr. Lucian **de Zilwa**, the first Ceylon F.R.C.O.G. and former Senior Physician and Gynaecologist was a Dutch Burgher and not a Sinhalese, as substituting the letter 'S' for letter 'Z' is yet another Dutch Burgher feature seen in their surnames like **Diasz** (days), **Peiriz, De Zoysa** etc. The prefix 'De' meaning 'the' was used by both the Dutch and Portuguese. Surnames like **De Kresters** (e.g. Dr. David Morritz de Kretser, a Ceylonese Medical Researcher who later became Governor of Victoria, Australia), **De Hoedt, De Koning, De Niese, De Kauwe, De Wet, De Vos, and De Coan** helps exemplify the 'De' prefixed Dutch Burgher surnames. Amongst the Lankan Burghers we do find abbreviated patronymic surnames, like **Jansz** which is originally the Dutch surname **Janszoon** meaning 'Son of Jan/ John' while **Loos** is the abbreviated patronymic of 'Lodewijk' meaning 'akin to Louise'. Other Dutch surnames used by the Burghers include **Prins** (meaning Prince), **Antonisse, Andriesz, Baldesinger, Brohier** (R.L. Brohier, an Engineer who built Ceylon's first whole irrigation system), **Bulne, Beekman** (meaning 'Creek man'), **Claasz, Ebert, Engelbrecht** (glorious Angel), **Foenander, Fernandez** (son of Fernando/ Spanish), **Frugtniet, Kegel** (Dutch and German origin) **Kelaart, Martinus, Melder, Meynert, Milhuisen, Neydorff, Passe, Philipsz, Scharenguivel, Werkmester, Wille, and Willenberg**.

The '**Barthalomeaucz**' is of course such a totally unheard of name in present day Sri Lanka however in the bygone Era, this particular patronymic was so popular that people couldn't ignore. As we delve deep into the etymology of this distinctive surname it is clear that the patronymic is derived from 'Bartholomew', meaning 'son of Ptolemy' based on Aramaic literature. The Dutch variant of Bartholomew known as 'Bartholomeuszoon' has filled several volumes of military history and Egbert Bartholomeuszoon Kortenaer (1604-1665), who bore the same patronymic, was a renowned hero of the Second Anglo-Dutch War. The earliest known ancestor of the Bartholomeaucz clan in Sri Lanka was Daniel Bartholomeaucz (1735-1798) who made settlement in Jaffna and after the advent of the British, the family expanded and domiciled in the Western and North western provinces of British Ceylon. Some of the notable Bartholomeucz who have stamped their identity in Ceylon include Surgeon Noel Bartholomeusz and Ramani Bartholomeaucz, former model, actress and Miss Sri Lanka. The **Sansoni's** (Sansone),

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yet another unique patronymic which is neither Dutch nor German and based on onomastics it is of Italian origin. The name is originally the Italian variant of English Samson meaning Sun child or bright sun in Hebrew. Guiseppi Joseph Sansoni born in Italy, regarded as the progenitor of the Sansoni clan in Ceylon was the commander of the ship "Livorna" which served the Dutch belligerents during several battles. Sansoni's have definitely left their mark in Lankan history, and former Chief Justice Miliani Claude Sansoni who chaired the Sansoni commission which investigated the 1977 communal violence helps testify the importance served by a Sansoni in the Lankan Judiciary. The ancestor of the **Oorloff** clan in Ceylon hailed from Russia as the Patronymic is derived from the Russian Eastern Ashkenazic personal name 'Orlov' corrupt form of 'oryol' meaning eagle. Andris Andriesz Oorloff (b.1730) of Rypdewack, the founder member of the family arrived in Ceylon in 1761 in the ship "Fransz Elizabeth" which served the Dutch East India Company. Back in the days of the British both the Medical sector and the Railway Department benefited from the services extended by the Oorloffs. Besides the Oorloffs, the surname **Heins/Heyn** (Major General Bertram Russel Heyn) is also derived from Russian Hutterite/ Mennonite.

Though the bearers of the patronymic '**Ohlmns**' identify themselves as 'Dutch Burghers', sources reveal that the founder member of the family was originally a German and his descendants later intermarried with other Eurasian families in Ceylon thus making this rare German Surname part of the Dutch Burgher Community. The founder member, Jan Carel Ohlmns, born at Hildesheim an ancient town located in North Western Germany arrived in the ship "Amelisvaart", and later settled down in Sri Lanka as a mercenary serving the Dutch. While surnames like **Koch**, **Gogerly** and **Landberger** are also derived from German literature and the name Koch refers to a Cook. The surname **Lourensz** is derived from German (Roman) word 'Lorenteus' meaning 'from Lorenteum' and **Cole** is derived from German 'Khol' meaning 'swarthy'. The French in Sri Lanka are also identified as Burghers a common term used by the locals to identify those of Eurasian descent, and this French factor is clearly manifested by the use of Lankan surnames like **Toussaint**, **Kherkovan**, **Crozier**, **Delile**, **Andre**, **Gauthier**, and **Spitttel**. The Toussaint is French patronymic of baptismal origin and the Medieval English surname 'Spittel' is derived from "spital", an aphetic form of the Old French "hospital" while Crozier is derived from old French word 'Crois' for crook. Dr. Richard Lionel Spittel, was a foremost expert on Lankan veddha Community and authored several books on Lankan heritage. The Anglo Saxon (English) Burgher surnames include, **Villiers** (from Villiers, Normandy), **White** (Athlete Duncan White), **Arndt** (derived from Ernault or Arnolt, meaning an eagle/ rule), **Wright** (from 'wryhta' or 'wyrhta', meaning worker or shaper of wood), **Herft** (Model Sabrina Herft), **Bevan** (from Welsh 'ab Evan' meaning 'Son of Evan'), **Deutrom**, **Hepponstall** (Habitation surname derived from Parish

Hepponstall, Yorkshire), **Sella** (Scottish occupational surname used to refer a merchant who works in a cellar or saddler), **Rode** from 'Rodd' a village in Herefordshire, **Steinwall, Robertson, Greig** (pronounced 'Greg' originated in Scotland from the Scottish Highland clan MacGregor), **Baldsing, Holdenbottle, Fraser** (Scottish surname derived from French word 'Frederius') **Keegal, Hingert, Barker** etc. **Morrel** is a Medieval English surname derived from 'morel' originally from the nickname More or 'Moore' meaning dark complexioned man. Last but not least, the famous **Ondaatje**'s aren't really Burghers as the progenitor of the clan was a Tamil Ondaatchii from Tanjore South India who was commissioned by the Dutch to serve in Ceylon.

THE CASE OF SRI LANKAN MALAY SURNAMES

The Malay Community is indeed an entity famous for its unique sounding patronymics, alas, since recent past many Malay surnames have gone extinct presumably due to frequent intermarriages. Unlike their Muslim counterparts, the Malays use distinctive prefixes along with their rare sounding surnames. The prefixes **Tuan/ Maas/ Raden** are used by the male folks while their women use **Gnei/Nona/ Sitti Nona/ Gnonya**. The Malay community despite its small number is made up of an intricate network comprised of several sub-ethnic groups who trace their descent from the archipelagos of Indonesia and from the Malayan Peninsula. So, the Patronymic helps trace the ancestry, social class, creed, caste etc. of a Sri Lankan Malay individual. For example, the Malay Patronymics such as **Lye, Chunchie, Doole, Kitchilan, Kutinun, Kanchil, Sainon, Bongso, Bohoran, Kuppen, Lappen** and **Booso** helps reveal their Peranakan lineage or those of mixed Chinese-Malay heritage. Patronymics of Sanskrit/ Indian origin include **Jayah, Weerabangsa, Sinhawangsa, Jayawangsa, Wangsa**, etc. while **Saldin, Rahman, Drahaman, Bucker, Ramlan, Rajap, Jumat, Mannan**, are those derived from Arabic literature. The progenitor of the Malay **Kayath** family in Ceylon was a local Chieftain from the Banda Archipelago known as Orang Kayat who was exiled to Ceylon by the Dutch, so the present day Kayath's aren't really Malays by ethnicity instead they are Bandanese. Alas, **Deen Azeez Kayaths** are on the brink of extinction with just a single family left on the Island with no male line descendents. While the **Raden's** anglicized as Rawdin belong to an aristocratic clan, however Raden is a Javanese title of respect and not a patronymic as used today. The ancestor of late Minister, Dr. T. B. Jayah was Raden Thurtho Perma Jayah, an aide de Camp to the Javanese King who was exiled to Ceylon.

THUS, IT IS CLEAR THAT SOME OF THESE QUIRKY YET ANCIENT ETHNIC SURNAMES WHICH CAN BE CONSIDERED 'ENDEMIC' TO SRI LANKA ARE DYING OUT RAPIDLY WHILE SOME HAVE ALREADY GONE EXTINCT.



To be or not to be a “Dutch Burgher”- that is the question...

By Carl Muller

I think it's time I cleared the air somewhat, what with anonymous “Dutch Burghers” and Non-Mullers” and all manner of jokers who seem to proliferate in this land. All this fuss about “Dutch Burghers” takes me back to the past when, even in those times, there were those who were inordinately proud to be called “Dutch Burghers”, others who rightly found no connection whatsoever in calling themselves so, and others who avoided the issue altogether.

I was always interested in the origin of the term because, historically, the English word “burgher” refers to the Dutch word “Burger” meaning “citizen” or “commoner.” It was in no way used on noblemen, although I did find that many Dutch families are connected to noble, even royal lineage.

When the Dutch ruled old Ceylon, there were the employees of the VOC (the Dutch East India Company) as well as “vrijburgers” who were free citizens. But, as we know, when the British took over in 1776, the VOC employees also became free citizens. Their ties of oath and allegiance to the Dutch were severed, although I have also found that some of these VOC employees did receive pensions from Holland.

The British began to make distinctions between the so-called “Dutch Burghers” and other minority groups, but chose to use the word “Burgher” in order to segregate groups of non-indigenous people. This gave rise to the establishment of social systems with all sorts of sub-classifications to bring in those who could be seen together, officially or otherwise.

Higher esteem

As a result of this, we had the “Police Burghers”, the “Customs Burghers”, the “Railway Burghers”, the “Shop Burghers”, etc., but if one was classed a “Dutch Burgher” he was held in higher esteem and usually got a higher-ranking job and lorded it over the other sub-groups and the indigenous people.

Such distinctions made all the Burghers wish to claim they were Dutch, and there was a terrible disdain for those who could not prove their Dutch ancestry... and this got worse!

Some Burghers, in order to earn British favour, actually Anglicised their names and there were many others who actually erased their Dutch surnames. After all, the Dutch wouldn't look after them, but the British would!

In the 1900s, the Dutch Burgher Union (DBU) was formed - an effort to form a group that would retain their ties with their Dutch heritage. Topics covered were Dutch culture, Dutch language [that never really generated much interest], and traditions such as St. Nicholas' Day. To be a member of the DBU, you needed to cover certain criteria and - you guessed it - this further segregated people. These criteria still remain debatable and, in many cases, people were struck out regardless of their claim to be entitled members.

Also, there was the creation of the DBU Journal that produced several family genealogies,

many giving the impression that there was unshakable Dutch ancestry. It followed that the favoured of the DBU could proudly claim their lineage, while others were struck off this or that family tree for social, political, or some other motive or reason - even for no known reason. There were many instances of distortion of fact and omission of information that was readily available but ignored. All this resulted in much bad feelings within the community. The Burgher community has contributed much to this island and, even in their sadly lesser numbers today, continue to do so. But there are two big questions: Are there "Dutch Burghers" in Sri Lanka today? The answer is NO! What must be correctly said is that there are numerous persons whose ancestors are of "Dutch Burgher" origin and they are very proud of this fact. But are these so-called "Dutch Burghers" of Dutch origin? Again, I say NO! We must accept the fact that the term Dutch Burgher was given to all those who came in for employment or as immigrants, brought in by the VOC during Dutch rule in Ceylon. Rightly they were DUTCH-BROUGHT BURGERS! Their nationalities were Dutch, German, Swiss, French, Hungarian, Austrian, Flemish, Italian to name a few. Later, European and even Jewish sub-communities were found among the so-called "Dutch Burghers".

Tropical environment

There is also the issue - much debated - about the colour of skin. It was even said that many families are dark-skinned from hundreds of years of living in a tropical environment. This is a lot of bull! Let us not forget that when the Dutch first came here, they were a fighting force. This is why only men came in those first waves. What is more, a four-month treacherous voyage by ship was far from romantic for the women of Holland. Those who applied and were firmly turned down were the harlots and women of the streets. This was why the men of the first waves were ordered to marry women who were a mix of Portuguese and Sinhalese. The colour of skin was simply a matter of genes!

It is this historical background and the community's contribution to this island that is important and not all this rubbish about whether they are Dutch! It's high time all this elitism was put into the sewer. Let us also not forget that the British treated the Burghers in Ceylon as "lower class" even though I must say that several Burgher families can trace to a line that includes the mother of King George III. Will that get them into England? And will, claiming Dutch ancestry, get them in to Holland?

Forget it! You "Dutch Burghers" are living in a fool's paradise, because there's nothing Dutch about you anyway even if you must make a breudher for Christmas! It's just a name you call yourselves. What you are trying to prove, God only knows!



There is nothing a government can give you that it hasn't taken from you in the first place.
~Winston Churchill~



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



2018 - BAA Premises

- 11 March - Robin Foenander - "A Dutch Tiffin" from 2.00pm
- 29 April - Lamprais Lunch - 12.00noon-5.00pm
- 24 June - "Buriyani Lunch" - 12.00noon - 5.00pm
- 9 September - Singalong with Gastronomic Delights -
12.00noon - 5.00pm
- 28 October - Hoppers Galore - 12.00noon - 5.00pm
- 2 December - Carols & Christmas Feast - 12.00noon-5.00pm

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