

# **BURGHER ASSOCIATION (AUSTRALIA) INC**

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## **Winter Newsletter June 2019**





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Dear Members & Friends

Greetings! and welcome to the BAA Winter Newsletter. I trust you all had a marvellous Easter Break. This year is turning out to be quite eventful in terms of current affairs, isn't it? an election Downunder, troubles in Africa, South America and the Middle East and, a very sad situation in our Homeland Paradise; an unheard-of occurrence! So sad for the loved ones of our countrymen and women.

The BAA has had one function since the last Newsletter; which was very successful and enjoyable; and, there was some very good feedback. Thank you to our very hardworking President, Entertainment Committee and helpers for their sterling efforts.

As I intimated in previous Editorials, I would love to receive from you members; snippets of information that may be of interest to the membership; plus, details of births, deaths and marriages that you might like to share or celebrate. Why not share some travel experiences with us all? The good, the bad and, the ugly; after all, forewarned is forearmed! Please consider contributions to the Newsletter; it is yours, so please, let us make it a standout publication. Committee details on the inside front cover is there to enable you to contact Committee Members for tickets to the many functions the BAA organises; or simply voice your concerns or appreciation on matters regarding the BAA and its functioning; do get involved.

As part of its activities, the BAA is also happy to accept full or half page advertisements for publication in this bulletin. Please email or phone Hermann, Breeda or myself to discuss your needs.

Until the next Edition of the Newsletter, best wishes and stay safe & well.

Neville Davidson  
**Editor**





## **The 2018/19 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 announced following their November 2018 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 Deaf/Blind Australia**
- **Donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation Australian Aboriginal Fund**
- **Queensland Flood Disaster Relief via Uniting Church**

The General Committee will continue to assess carefully all incoming requests for assistance from the various Charities during the course of the committee year with a view to target better the resources made available for the purpose.





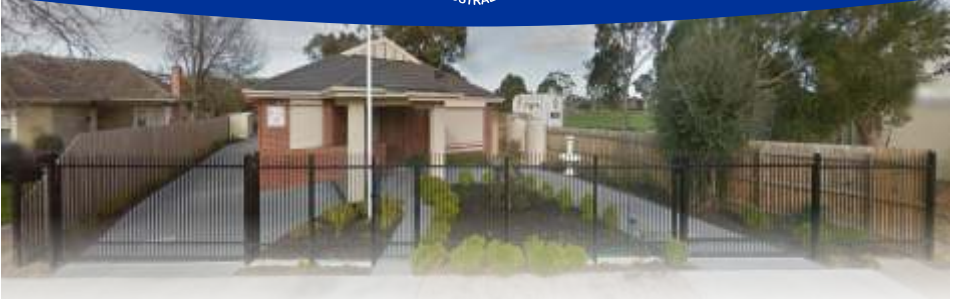
# Burgher Association (Australia)

358 Houghton Road, Clayton VIC 3168

# HALL



# HIRE



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 Breeda Foenander on 0423 844 101 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



## **Sangakkara as MCC President – Island Newspaper.**

May 1, 2019

Kumar Sangakkara will be the next President of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), Lord's announced yesterday. The former Sri Lankan captain will take up the post on the 1st October 2019 and will serve for a period of one year. He will become the first non-British President.

His nomination was announced by the current President, Anthony Wreford, at the MCC Annual General Meeting yesterday at Lord's.

Sangakkara is already heavily involved with MCC and delivered a powerful and memorable MCC Spirit of Cricket Cowdrey Lecture in 2011. In 2012, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Club. In the same year, he joined MCC's World Cricket committee and remains an active member.

"It is a huge honour to be named the next President of MCC and it is a role that I am thoroughly looking forward to. The year 2020 is going to be yet another significant one in cricket, especially at Lord's, and I am thrilled that I am going to be able to play a part in supporting its future as President of MCC."

Sangakkara appears twice on the Honours Boards at Lord's, with both innings coming in 2014. He hit 147 in the Test Match draw with England, and 112 in Sri Lanka's One-Day International victory over the same opposition.

Sangakkara's year of office will begin on 1st October 2019 and will conclude on 30th September 2020. His tenure will include another busy year at Lord's next summer, with two England Test Matches against West Indies and Pakistan and the launch of The Hundred competition.

MCC President, Anthony Wreford said: "As MCC looks to broaden both our horizons and international reputation, I'm delighted that Kumar has accepted the invitation to be the next President of MCC. He is an outstanding individual both on and off the field and will make a huge contribution to the Club. In a World Cup and Ashes year he will also have a significant role to play as President Designate."

# **Congratulations!**

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**Burgher Association Australia**

Presents A



# **Yummy Rotti & Pittu Lunch**

With Scrumptious Accompaniments

By **“Ambula Restaurant”**

**358 Haughton Road  
Clayton 3169**

**23 June 2019**



**12.00noon to 5.00pm**

**Music for your  
listening pleasure!**



## **TICKET CONTACTS**

,Elaine - 9798 6315,  
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Carol or Hermann Loos - 9827 4455  
Rosemary Quyn - 9563 7804, Ashley Henricus - 9561 6212  
Rita or Bert VanGeyzel - 95034841,  
Dyan or Neville Davidson- 0419 880 329  
Fallon De Zilwa - 0414 096 774, Tamaris Lourensz - 5981 8187  
Hans De Zilwa - 0419 292 939,

**Bring the family!**

Burgher Association Australia Inc

# *Christmas Lunch*

BAA Community Centre  
358 Haughton Road  
Clayton Vic 3168

**24 November 2019**

12.00noon to 5.00pm

**Fabulous Christmas Buffet  
By “Cha’s Cabin”**

**Tickets: \$35 pp  
\$15.00 per child 12+**



**Come Celebrate with us  
Bring the Family !**

## **Research shows humans tamed Sri Lankan jungle 45,000 years ago.**

By Stuart Layt

Tools left behind by ancient humans in the rainforests of Sri Lanka 45,000 years ago have helped Australian scientists rewrite the history of human migration through the region.

Experts from Griffith University's Australian Research Centre for Human Evolution have been working with Sri Lankan researchers who have uncovered bone and stone tools at the oldest archaeological site occupied by humans in the country.

The tools found at the Fa Hien cave site suggest humans were settled and living in the region's rainforests, hunting monkeys and other tree-dwelling mammals for food. Griffith University expert Dr Michelle Langley said that indicated a level of sophistication beyond what was previously attributed to the early humans who came through that part of the world during the great migration of humanity across the globe.

"Rainforests have always been thought to be too hard for people to have tackled that early on," Dr Langley said. "The resources are quite difficult to get at, the animals that are there in the trees are difficult to get, they aren't the large animals you get in the savannahs.

"Most people have previously thought (humans) had gone around rainforests until much later." The researchers found evidence of prolonged human settlement in the region, evidenced by the large number of bones from monkeys which had been butchered by those early humans. "Hunting monkeys is very difficult - they live in the trees far above where humans are, they're very fast, very agile and very smart," Dr Langley said. "They're not the kind of animal where you can just grab them, it takes quite sophisticated technology to get up to them and hunt them." Dr Langley is a specialist in analyzing ancient bone tools, and looked at several small bone spikes believed to have been used as spear or arrow heads. It appears the ancient humans also used canine teeth from the monkeys they hunted as tools, turning them into pointed tools for piercing and cutting.

The people moving through the Sri Lankan rainforest 45,000 years ago were modern humans, meaning they would have been physically the same as people living today.

Dr Langley said the findings showed a population of people using human ingenuity to get the most out of a harsh environment without any of the benefits of the subsequent 45,000 years of technological advances. "The good thing about modern humans is we're very flexible in our behaviors, so put us in a situation and we'll work out very quickly how to live there," she said. "They've arrived [in the region] early on and they've stuck around, so they've worked out how to make a living there and not seen any reason to leave, so they seem to be quite comfortable." In addition to Dr Langley and the Griffith team, the project involved researchers from Sri Lanka's University of Sri Jayawardenepura, as well as an international group from universities including Oxford University and the University of Queensland.

The findings were published on in the journal Nature Communications.

## Ceylon Cinema

In 1898, a 55-foot-long documentary titled 'Early Morning in the Ceylon' was released by the Prestwick Company. This is the earliest known film about the island. The first private movie screening was held at Governor Joseph West Ridgeway's residence in 1901. An Englishman named Warwick Major introduced moving pictures to the public by screening Bioscope films in tents pitched in fields and open areas. India's Madan Theatre Company built Colombo's first movie hall in 1903 and achieved commercial success by screening popular Indian films. Rajakeeya Wickremaya was the first non-documentary short film to be made in Ceylon. Filmed in 1925, the lead role was played by a young Dr. N. M. Perera, a future minister of finance and one of post-independence Ceylon's well-known socialist politicians.

In 1934, filmmaker Basil Wright produced 'Song of Ceylon' for the Ceylon Tea Marketing Board. It is considered one of the finest achievements of the British documentary movement. In all, more than thirty documentaries were filmed in Ceylon during the first three decades of the twentieth century. All of them focused on the islands natural beauty, wild life or the tea industry. During the 1920s Hollywood talking pictures were popular with Ceylon audiences. However, by the 1930s, Indian films had surpassed English language films in popularity amongst the masses. In 1947, an Indian moviemaker named S. M. Nayagam produced Kadawunu Porondurwa (A Broken Promise) based on dramatist B. A. W. Jayamanne's popular play. This is considered the first Sinhala language full length film. Panned by critics for aping the South Indian musical format, Kadawunu Porondurwa nevertheless was popular with audiences. Following its success, Jayamanne produced a string of movies based on his plays, all of which followed the same Indian formula. However, in 1956 three employees of the Government Film Unit, Lester James Peries, Titus Thotawatte, and Willie Blake, broke away to produce Rekava, a serious drama that was in complete contrast to what was popular at the time. Although Rekava received widespread critical acclaim, it was a box office failure. In 1963, Lester James Peries directed Gamperaliya, a novel by Sri Lanka's foremost author Martin Wickramasinghe. Considered the most important movie in the island's film history, Gamperaliya was a serious drama that achieved both critical and commercial success without having to resort to any of the formulaic elements of song and dance, comic relief or fight scenes. Gamperaliya was awarded the Golden Peacock Award and the Critics Prize at the New Delhi Film Festival and won the Golden Head of Palenque at the Mexico World Review of Film Festival. Gamperaliya gave Ceylonese cinema the gravitas it had previously lacked and proved that artistic cinema was commercially viable.

Due to the island's tropical beauty, Ceylon was also the location of choice for several



Hollywood productions during the 1950s. 'Outcast of the Islands' by Joseph Conrad, Somerset Maugham's 'The Beachcomber', 'The Purple Plain' by H.E. Bates, and 'Elephant Walk' by Robert Standish were popular novels adapted to the big screen and filmed on location in Ceylon. Unfortunately, none of these films enjoyed box office or critical success. All this changed in 1957 when David Lean's World War II masterpiece 'The Bridge on the River Kwai' won seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Actor. To this date, this film adaptation of French author Pierre Boulle's novel remains the most famous film made in Ceylon. Though commercially successful, these films did not contribute much in terms of artistic creativity.

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## WELCOME new members



Mr Annesley Caspersz  
Mr Chrysostom & Mrs Anoma Abraham  
Mr Adrian & Mrs Marie Barrington  
Mr Jeffrey & Mrs Winsome Koch  
Mr Neville & Mrs Marguerite Arendtsz  
Mr Vishan Vijayan & Mrs Tania Vijayan  
Mr Shoua & Mrs Ruth Liu  
Mrs Sharneez Backhouse  
Ms Melvonne Anthony  
Mrs Sharon Gweneth Rozairo  
Mrs Prisca Pantouw & Mr Bernie Newport  
Mr Ray Livera  
Ms Jennifer S Peries  
Ms Maureen Sincok  
Mr Adrian Caspersz & Ms Ellie Wang



## Nothing changes in life ..... And politics



In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm and three or more is a government.

**John Adams**

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.

**Winston Churchill**

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.

**George Bernard Shaw**

Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries.

**Douglas Casey, Classmate of Bill Clinton at Georgetown University**

Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.

**P.J. O'Rourke, Civil Libertarian**

Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavours to live at the expense of everybody else.

**Frederic Bastiat, French economist (1801-1850)**

I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.

**Will Rogers**

If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free!

**P.J. O'Rourke**

In general, the art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one party of the citizens to give to the other.

**Voltaire (1764)**

Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!

**Pericles (430 BC)**

No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session.

**Mark Twain (1866)**

Talk is cheap...except when government does it.

**Anonymous**

The government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other.

**Ronald Reagan**

The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.

**Mark Twain**



# **The real story of Jesus Christ's crown of thorns: Jesus Christ's crown of thorns was among prized relics saved from the inferno in Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, but how did it get there?**

Candace Sutton  
News.com  
April 20, 2019

Jesus Christ's crown of thorns was among prized relics saved from the inferno in Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, but how did it get there? Could the object Christians regard as among the most sacred of religious artefacts really have sat atop Jesus Christ's head as he was crucified more than 2000 years ago? As Christians around the world mark the anniversary of Christ's death and resurrection, it is worth looking at the origin of the crown of thorns and Christ's cross, a piece of which was also said to be inside Notre Dame. Simply the cross and the crown of thorns are symbols of Christ's suffering for mankind and his laying down of his life for the world. According to three of the Gospels, a woven crown of thorns was placed on the head of Jesus Christ leading up to his crucifixion after he had been condemned to death.

The crucifixion, or death by being nailed to a cross, was a form of execution in first century Palestine in which the person dies from suffocation as the body collapses in on itself. Jesus is reputed to have been crucified at the age of 33, which given that the anno Domini years or AD historical timing began at his birth meant the crucifixion took place around 33AD. Condemned for claiming to be the son of God, Jesus was put on trial and sentenced by Pontius Pilate to the punishment of being scourged and then crucified by the Romans. Scourging is whipping with a lash with multiple thongs, sometimes with metal attached to maximise injury.

On the day of his crucifixion, Jesus was stripped of all his clothing bar a loin cloth. To increase his humiliation and to mock his claim of being "king of the Jews", he was given a crown made from local thorn bushes twisted into a circlet for his head. It was employed by his captors to cause him pain and to mock his claim of religious authority. He was then suspended from a wooden cross, attached by nails being driven through his hands and feet, and placed between two thieves who were being crucified for their crimes. Jesus' suffering, his death by crucifixion while wearing the crown of thorns which precede his resurrection are referred to as "the Passion". After his death and the rise of Christianity as a religious movement, a relic was said still to be in existence, kept and worshipped by the faithful, of Jesus's crown of thorns. Also said to be kept was the cross on which he was nailed. In the year 409AD, a Roman poet Paulinus of Nola wrote about "the thorns with which Our Saviour was crowned" being held, along with the cross and the pillar on which he was scourged. Other writers in the fourth, fifth and sixth centuries write of it, one saying "we may behold the thorny crown, which was only set upon the head of Our Redeemer in order that all the thorns of the world might be gathered together and broken".

.In 870, a pilgrimage was made by the monk Bernard to see the crown of thorns at Mount Zion, the hill in Jerusalem regarded as the holy temple mount and used as a metaphor for God's holy, eternal city.

It was believed that a purported crown of thorns was venerated at Jerusalem from the fifth century for hundreds of years. The entire crown was then meant to have been transferred to Byzantium — the ancient name for what became Constantinople and is now Istanbul, chosen by Emperor Constantine as the “new Rome”. It was Constantine who embraced Christianity in 330AD and ensured its spread throughout his empire. Meanwhile, however, thorns from the crown were appearing and being sold or presented to rulers Charlemagne, the Anglo-Saxon king Athelstan, and a Spanish princess. There are around 500 of these supposed holy relics in existence in reliquaries today, meaning many of them cannot be genuine. In the year 1238 the Latin Emperor of Constantinople, Baldwin II, offered the crown of thorns to Louis IX, the King of France. It was a gift Baldwin made to garner support for his crumbling empire from a powerful potential ally.

The crown then was held as collateral for a heavy loan by the Venetians for the sum of 13,134 gold pieces after Baldwin II pawned the relics to prop himself up. King Louis built Sainte-Chapelle on the Ile de la Cite in the River Seine to receive and hold it, along with other holy relics. Sainte-Chapelle is located opposite Notre Dame on the same island.

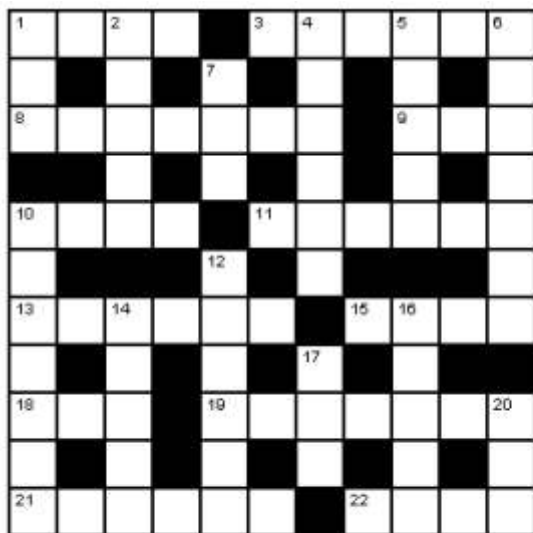
The crown of thorns and other relics were carried from Venice into the city of Paris by two Dominican friars. King Louis held a week-long celebration. The king then dressed himself as a barefoot penitent and carried the crown of thorns and relics into the chapel.

The relics were stored at other chapels until a large silver chest, called the Grand-Chasse had been specially made to hold them.

Fragments of Christ's Cross were acquired for Louis's collection. On April 26, 1248 the chapel was consecrated and the crown of thorns, fragment of the cross and other relics were moved into the chapel and stored in the grand-chasse. The crown of thorns remained in Sainte-Chapelle until the French Revolution, during which the priceless relics were hidden in the Abbey of Saint-Denis in 1790. In 1806, they were transferred to Notre Dame to be worshipped by all the people of Paris. The crown of thorns, now preserved in a gilded and crystalline reliquary, is brought out for the faithful every Good Friday at a special service at Notre Dame. The crown is comprised of a twisted wreath of rushes from the *Juncus balticus* plant, perennially flowering rush native to northern Britain, the Baltic and Scandinavia. The thorns preserved in many reliquaries, including in the rooster which sat atop Notre Dame's spire until the first broke out, are from the *Ziziphus spina-christi* plant. Known as Christ's thorn jujube, the plant native to the Levant and East Africa.

The oldest known *Ziziphus* is reputed to be 2000 years old and growing south of Jerusalem in Ein Hatzeva, Israel. Locals believe this is the tree from which Christ's crown of thorns was made.

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## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Nil (4)
3. Cask (6)
8. Security device (7)
9. Water barrier (3)
10. Terse (4)
11. Rudderless (6)
13. Technical terminology (6)
15. Zealous (4)
18. Written record of events (3)
19. Countries (7)
21. Currency unit (6)
22. Labyrinth (4)

### Down

1. Fastener (3)
2. Detection instrument (5)
4. Japanese martial art (6)
5. Armbones (5)
6. Restricted (7)
7. Adult male swan (3)
10. Coaxed (7)
12. Part of the eye (6)
14. Majestic (5)
16. Stringed instrument (5)
17. Consumed (3)
20. Litigate (3)

## Solution



## **Ceylons contribution to the war effort**

### **by John O'Regan**

On the cover of my Memoir "From Empire to Commonwealth" is a photograph of D. S. Senanayake proudly standing on the steps of the Parliament Building in Colombo at the time of Ceylon's independence as the Dominion of Ceylon's first Prime Minister. And what an appropriate image, for Ceylon had not only played a leading role in the defeat of Japan, but under his leadership had set an example to the rest of the Empire on the way to achieve independence by peaceful means and by encouraging co-operation among all those concerned.

This article, by one who was proud to be a member of the Ceylon Civil Service during this period, is a short personal tribute to Ceylon and the example it set; an example all the more poignant in view of the myriad troubles besetting Sri Lanka subsequently. In 1938, 3 years after joining the Ceylon Civil Service, the new Governor, Sir Andrew Caldecott, appointed me his Private Secretary. For me what a fortunate appointment, for he had been instructed by the Secretary of State to make recommendations for constitutional reform and at the many meetings he held I got to know personally the leading politicians. In 1941, after marrying Sir Andrew's daughter Joan, I went to Kandy as Assistant Government Agent. With the lessons of the fall of Singapore in mind, it was decided that liaison officers should be appointed in areas where troops were stationed or military exercises held and I was chosen as liaison officer for the Central Provinces - an interesting and rewarding assignment as I got to know the senior military authorities. General Inskip was G.O.C. Ceylon in 1941 and 1942 and on his departure, he wrote to me expressing his gratitude for my assistance and adding "it is certainly a great wrench leaving this island . . . The last 9 months of my service have been the most interesting in my career and I shall return to India with the happiest memories of Ceylon". I also got to know General Moore who commanded the 34th Indian Division in 1942 and 1943 and who, in a letter to me in April 1943, wrote: - "I shall never forget the friendly relations which have existed between the civil and military at Kandy and I only hope that we shall all meet in happier times."

Although Ceylon was a rice producing country, large quantities of rice were regularly imported before the War - over 500,000 tons in 1938. The Japanese invasion of Malaya and attack on Burma and the air raids on Colombo and Trincomalee not only brought the war unpleasantly close to Ceylon, but badly affected the rice supply to the Island. Drastic

cont'd .....

measures therefore became necessary and the post of Civil Defence and Food Commissioner was created, to which Sir Andrew appointed Oliver Goonetilleke: - an excellent choice for he was a Ceylonese, an outstandingly capable civil servant and closely in touch with and respected by the leading politicians including especially D. S. Senanayake to whom he was responsible.

In order to distribute the limited supplies of rice available, a Food Control Scheme was started, followed by an Internal Purchase Scheme for the compulsory purchase of locally grown rice in which I became intensely interested, with the result that I was transferred to Colombo as Assistant Civil Defence Commissioner and Controller, Internal Purchase Scheme. Goonetilleke gave me full encouragement and support and the compulsory purchase of rice rose from 9,000 tons in 1942 to 30,000 tons in 1944 - an achievement that could not have been reached without the political backing we enjoyed.

Internationally, Ceylon became best known as Lord Louis Mountbatten's Headquarters for, with Sir Andrew Caldecott's consent, he took over King's Pavilion, Kandy, one of the Governor's residences, when he was appointed Supreme Commander, South East Asia Command. This proved an ideal arrangement since Mountbatten had chosen Peradeniya, only a few miles away, as his Ceylon Headquarters. The War had prevented early action on Sir Andrew's recommendations for constitutional reform, but in 1943 on the recommendation of Sir Andrew, backed by Sir Geoffrey Layton, Commander in Chief, a Commission on constitutional reform was appointed - the Soulbury Commission. The choice of members was an excellent one - in particular the Chairman, Lord Soulbury, whose intelligence was matched by his easy manner illustrated by the remark in the Commission Report, and whose later appointment as Governor-General was warmly welcomed:- 'The enlargement of liberty is always attended by risk, but it is well to bear in mind a wise observation attributed to Aristotle, "The only way of learning to play the flute is to play the flute".' - a saying I have kept in my mind ever since!

Ceylon attained independence on 4 February 1948 when Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore was sworn in as Governor-General. There seemed little doubt that under Senanayake's leadership Ceylon's success as the newest Dominion was assured. And so, I believe, it would have been if he had lived. Sadly, however, he died in March 1952, having suffered more severely from diabetes than was generally recognised - as is stated in the biography of J.R. Jayawardene of Sri Lanka by K. M. de Silva and Howard Wriggins. To me the example he set has remained in my memory ever since and it is a pleasure to pay this short tribute to him and to the Ceylon of his day that he guided so well.

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# NEWS

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE TRAVELLING OVERSEAS THIS SUMMER

JANUARY 11, 2019 MEDIA HUB

### SHARE

If you're planning to travel overseas this summer, it's important to understand how it may affect your Centrelink and Medicare payments, and how to travel safely with PBS medication.

### Centrelink payments

The rules for travelling outside Australia vary according to your payments or concession card. Some payments or concession cards will automatically stop as soon as you leave the country, and may reinstate upon your return. Income support payments such as Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance, Austudy, Sickness Allowance, Dad and Partner Pay and Parental Leave Pay will stop when you leave unless you have approval to travel temporarily with these payments. Other payments may allow you to travel overseas for a short period before your payment stops or adjusts.

For example, generally you can travel:

- Up to 28 days in a 12-month period if you receive Disability Support Pension
- Up to six weeks at a time if you are a Family Tax Benefit, Carer Payment or Carer Allowance customer
- Up to 19 weeks if you are a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holder.

Age Pension recipients who travel overseas for six weeks or less will not experience any change to their payment.

After six weeks, the rate of Age Pension might change as some supplement payments stop or reduce, and your concession cards will cancel. After 26 weeks outside the country, your payment rate will be based on how long you have been an Australian resident.

### Tell us about your travel

It's important to let us know when you plan to travel overseas so we can assess if it may affect your payments. The easiest way to do this is through your Centrelink online account on myGov. You'll get a receipt confirming your travel details have been received. We'll tell you if your travel affects your payments or concession cards and if we need any extra information. You can also do this by calling us on your regular payment line or visiting a

cont'd .....

service centre. The immigration department will also notify us when you leave or enter Australia.

### **Taking Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medications overseas**

There are strict rules for taking PBS medications out of Australia. It's illegal to take PBS medication out the country unless it's for your personal use or for the use of someone travelling with you. If you plan to take your PBS medication with you, make sure you check it's legal to take it to the country you're visiting and if you're permitted to take it out of Australia. You can check if your medication is legal by contacting the country's embassy, high commission, or consulate. You should also take a letter from your doctor with you, which specifies the medicine you take for personal use, and how much of it you use. If you can't do this, you can print and fill in the Medicine Export Declaration form and take this with you through customs. It's also important to speak with your doctor beforehand to confirm if your medication will last you for your trip.

### **Medicare coverage**

Medicare doesn't cover any health or medical treatments you receive overseas.

However, some of your medical costs may be covered under a Agreement if you visit a country that has an agreement with Australia. Make sure you take your Medicare card with you if visiting one of these countries. If travelling on a cruise ship between two Australian ports, you're entitled to claim Medicare benefits for eligible services provided by a registered medical practitioner. The practitioner must be registered in Australia for Medicare benefits to be payable. You aren't eligible for Medicare benefits if you're travelling between an Australian port and a foreign port, or two foreign ports.

In any case, you should consider organising an appropriate level of travel insurance, to assist with any unforeseen medical costs.

### **More information**

#### Travelling

- Outside Australia with your payment
- Taking PBS medications
- Reciprocal Health Care Agreements
- Australians Overseas
- Advising of your travel outside Australia through your Centrelink online account

### **Check out the link below for more information:**

<http://mediahub.humanservices.gov.au/news/what-you-need-to-know-before-travelling-overseas-this-summer/>

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# Lexophilia for you!



No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

If you don't pay your exorcist you can get repossessed.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

When chemists die, they barium.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool .

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore

I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.

I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.

-----

## Pants' Pocket

A woman came up behind her husband while he was enjoying his morning coffee, and slapped him on the back of his head. "I found a piece of paper in your pants' pocket with a woman's name written on it," she says, furious. "You had better have an explanation."

"Calm down, honey" says the man. "Remember last week when I was at the dog track? That was the name of the dog I bet on." The next morning, his wife smacked him again. "What was that for?" asked the angry husband. "Your dog called last night" she said.





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## Recent Lunch Photos

### Lucky Dip! are you there?



2019/20 Subscription Reminder

Dear Member

If you have not paid your subscriptions for the previous or current year Financial Year, we will not worry you with further reminders except to say that you are a valued member of the Burgher cultural identity and we, through this Association, endeavour to maintain a focal point for the continuity of our cultural community traditions and unique identity. Please consider renewing your Membership.

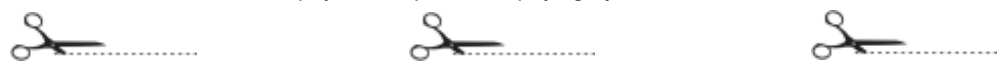
Please refer to the address label and if the “Paid to Date” is a prior financial year we would appreciate your continued support of the Burgher Association. The Annual Subscription is \$20 and is payable on 1st July of each year. If you prefer you may make payments in advance for a future year’s subscription. Please send your remittance to:

**The President**  
Burgher Association (Australia) Inc  
No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142

OR, pay by Direct Deposit at the nearest National Australia Bank quoting your Membership Number & Surname:

**BANK:** National Australia Bank  
**BSB:** 083 297  
**A/c No:** 51 547 7094

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**FROM:** .....  
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**MAIL TO:** The President, Burgher Association (Australia) Inc. No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142.

**COMMENTS:** .....  
.....

## OBITUARIES

Compiled by Victor Melder  
(APRIL 2019)

**DON PAUL – MAXINE HEATHER** (nee Palewandrem), July 11, 1942 – March 1, 2019), wife of Veronne, mother of Jerome (Sherrielee) and Robert, grandmother. Sister of Maurice (Caryl), Yvonne and Robert, in Canada. (Contributed)

**FELSINGER – ALAN CARL**, husband of Rachel, father of Evelyn, late Tyrone, Marilyn and late Dalrene, father-in-law of Ranjan, Rohith and Judy, grandfather of Dinali, Manori, Rakitha, Shanil, Shimara, Stephan and Trevin. Brother of late Herbie and Douglas., in Sri Lanka. – 110/14, Jubilee Mawatha, Mirihana, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka. (Daily News 2.4.2019)

**PEREIRA – BRYAN**, father of Shalini de Silva, father-in-law of Rohan de Silva, grandfather of Akaash de Silva. Son of the late Prof. E.O.E. (Eustace) Pereira and the late Mavis Pereira (nee Scharenguivel), brother of Lorenz and Alan Pereira (Aust), brother-in-law of Margot Pereira, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 5.4.2019 and Contributed)

**VAN CUYLENBURG – ALEC (BUNTY)**, husband of Malani, father of Victoria and Leon, father-in-law of Jerome, grandfather of Aiden and Everly. Brother of late Sylvia, Winston (UK), Geoffrey (UK), Olive (Can), late Ernest, Hans and Ronald (USA), in Canada on March 31, 2019. (Daily News, 6.4.2019)

**FERNANDO – ANOMA NILANTHI** (27.7.1949 – 29.3.2019), wife of Jayalath Sunil (dec), mother of Sumudu and Surani, mother-in-law of Gareth, grandmother of Kiyomi and Anwen. Daughter of Alvin (dec) and Julie, sister of Sriyani, Priyangani, Dewantha, Preethika and Anushan, sister-in-law of Jayantha (dec), Santha and Premila, in Sydney. (Sydney Morning Herald, 6.4.2019 & Sunday Observer, 7.4.2019)

**DE SAYRAH – SAVITHRIE** (nee Jayasundara), wife of Anslem, mother of Anil, Sonali and Rohana, mother-in-law of Lilamani, Yohan and Ayeshini, grandmother of Amalini, Shamindri, Sassanka, Devinka, Shenelka, Anisha and Senuthi, in Sri Lanka. – 8A, Kuda Edanda Road, Wattala, Sri Lanka. (Contributed)

**OORLOFF – JEAN**, wife of late (Blue) Oorloff, mother of Yasmin, Bernadine (Aust), Hiran and Jacqueline, mother-in-law of Stanmore Morrison (Aust), Samantha and Russel Jacobs, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 7.4.2019)

**GUNSEKERA – ERROL**, husband of Honorine, father of Johann and Joanne, father-on-law of Debbie and Simo, grandfather of Ayesha and Tariq, Kyan and Soraya. Brother of Allan, Esther and Mark, in Melbourne. (Contributed)

**VANDERWALL – FREDERIC ANTHONY**, husband of Amitha, Indrani, father of Sean, father-in-law of Upeksha Perera, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 10.4.2019)

cont'd .....

**DE LILE – REX**, husband of Marie, father of Milan, Tania and Ryan, father-in-law of Luisa, Travis and Mareena, grandfather of Travin, Melisha, Christian, Katelyn, Melinda, Tiffany, Bryan, Micheala and Ryon. son of the late Vane and Pancy De Lile, brother of Ronald, Allen, late Irvin, late Gladwin, Tony, Stanley, Maureen and Cynthia, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 13.4.2019)

**MENDIS – JAMES LAKSHMAN ARTHUR**, husband of Ruvani (De Silva) and he late Indrani (Tambiah), father of Sonali and Dharshani, father-in-law of Asoka De Silva and Stanley Corera, grandfather of Nuwan, Minura, Minuri, Dino and Sheran. Brother of the late Devadasa and of Lilamani and Swinitha, brother-in-law of Esme Mendis, the late Dr Jayasiri Mendis and the late Roy Fernando, in Sydney, aged 85 years. (Sunday Observer 14.4.2019)

**JURIANSZ – TYRONE**, husband of the late Rose-Mari Juriansz, father of Sabrina, Denver and Claudia, father-in-law of Marlon, Sabina and Chandimal, grandfather of Andrea, Andrew, Davner, Destiny, Gabriel, Daeron, Shenaya and Tylor, in Sri Lanka. – 65/7, Halpe Lane, Kandana, Sri Lanka. (Sunday Island, 14.4.2019)

**STEWART – ROAMYNE MARY**, wife of Glenroy, mother of Petula, Chris, Brent, Francine, Alana and Gary, grandmother of Alexander, Jacob, Jacinta, Joshua and Grace, in Melbourne on April 15. 2019. (HeraldSun, 17.4.2019)

**ABEYASIRIWARDANE – CHULA**, in Perth, WA. (The West Australian, 18.4.2019)

**PEREIRA – NELSON**, in Adelaide, SA (The Adelaide Advertiser, 18.4.2019)

**DE COSTA – AYESHA ROWAN ANN**, daughter of late Rowan and Noel De Costa, sister of Alan De Costa, on April 20, 2019, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 21.4.2019)

**DRIEBURG – SONIA**, daughter of the late Dora Elizabeth (Betty) Drieburg and Tristram (Tris) Clement Smith, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 21.4.2019)

**FERNANDO – SHEILA** (nee Henry), wife of Gordon, sister of Merl, Collinette Basanayake and Daria (all dec), in Sri Lanka, on April 12, 2019. (Sunday Observer, 21.4.2019)

**PAUL – FRANKLYN (MONTY)**, husband of Mano, father of Mystica (UK) and Malcolm (Barbados), father-in-law of Shehan (UK), grandfather of Tashiya, Trevin and Tanisha. Son of late Gertrude and Dharmaraj Paul, brother of Molly, Jenny, late Maurice, Geoffrey and Neville, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 21.4.2019)

**JOSEPH – BRIAN REX**, (11.5.1942 – 24.4.2019), husband of Yvonne, father of Maryanne and Paul, father-in-law of Carol and Marcus. Grandfather of Tomas, Georgia, Rebecca, Lauren and Nash. Son of Thomas and Marie Joseph (both dec), son-in-law of Hazel and Ron McDermott (both dec), brother of Trevor, Irene, Kate, Lawrence, Alan, Donald, Constance (all dec), Neil and Gwen, in Adelaide. (The Adelaide Mercury, 26.4.2019)

cont'd .....

**RAJANAYAGAM – JAMES JEBARATNAM**, (29.4.1926 – 18.4.2019) husband of Manel (dec), father of Joseph, Dushyanti and Sonali, grandfather of Alexander, Indira and William, in Sydney. (Sydney Morning Herald, 24.4.2019)

**SENEVIRATNE – DR CHULA**, wife of Dr Lakshman (dec), mother and mother-in-law of Parakrama & Anoma and Nissanka & Arosha, grandmother of Uditha, Manish, Sachini and Sushan. Sister of Kalyani and Vinitha (SL), in Sydney, on April 23, 2019, aged 86 years. (The Sydney Morning Herald, 26.4.2019)

**CANAGASABEY – SAVUNTHARAJAH WILFRED**, son of the late Albert & Manon Canagasabey, grandson of the late A. S. T. Canagasabey. Husband of Sharmala, father of Sheona, Nishan and Suresh. Brother of Suganthi (dec), Thivian (dec), Chandra, Jeby and Ranja, in Sydney, on April 23, 2019. (Sunday Observer, 28.4.219)

**MACK – LORNA MAUREEN** (nee Hardy), wife of the late Winslow, mother of Gillian and Gayle, mother-in-law of Adrian Daniels and Carlyle De Zilwa, grandmother of Aaron and Tamara, Tracy and Kaaren, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 28.4.019)

**FONSEKA – MARY JOAN** (formerly Trembath), wife of Stanley and Clive (both dec), mother and mother-in-law of Leonie and Stanley., grandmother of Christina & Tony and Stephanie, great grandmother of Alessia, in Adelaide on April 19, 2019, aged 92 years. (The Adelaide Advertiser, 30.4.2019)

**PIETERSZ (nee Bertus), Gwendoline Emelia**. Born 27 October 1922, passed away peacefully on 7 April 2019. Loving mother of Randy, Cheryl, Tregartha, Desmond, Geoffrey & Glenn. Mother-in- Law of Marie, Marlene, Virginia, Michelle & Jane. Loving Grandmother of Rosanne, Candy, Johann, Warren, Sean, Bronwyn & Ethan and, loving Grand Nanna to fourteen Great Grandchildren. We will never forget you.

**FERNANDO – HYLTON** loved husband of Pamela, adored father of Sabrina, Sandra, Adrian, Tania, Cheryl, Diedre & their partners and, beloved Papa to his nine grandchildren. Brother of Yvonne, Leslie & Audrey La'brooy (nee Fernando). Called to rest March 9, 2019.

**R.I.P**





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