# Palmyra LET THERE BE LIGHT

# July 2014, Leaf 25 by Hartley College Past Pupil Association NSW

### Editor's Note

Once again, I am delighted to present our Winter 2014 edition of Palmyra on behalf of the Hartley College Past Pupil Association NSW Branch.

This edition contains number of interesting forthcoming events including "Kalaizh Chuwei 2014" which is a fund raising cultural event to support disadvantaged Tamil families in Sri Lanka through Community Projects. Thank you all for the success of this event. Also, this edition provides HCPPA NSW's initiation towards the "School Sporting Facilities Improvement Project" and on-going support to the community projects.

Palmyra plays an important role in supporting our association's objectives by bringing our Hartley Community together, providing a forum to consolidate and communicate reports, articles, ideas, news and feedback from our Hartleyites.

On this occasion, we would like to warmly invite you for other major annual events as outlined in the "Upcoming Events" column.

Once again, We would like to thank the people who have been contributing to this newsletter and supporting in various aspects of our vision. Rease feel free to communicate to us your comments, suggestions and feedback.

#### S Fredrick Thinesh, Editor, HCPPA – NSW

#### Message from the President

Hello again, I am very happy to meet you all with another edition of the newsletter. It is **Kalaizh Chuwei** time and we need every one of your support to make this event very successful. This annual fund raiser is very important for us to continue to carrying out good community and school projects. There are lots of needs on both sides.

This year's Kalaizh Chuwei will be a memorable one. We have two performances and awards ceremony. Niroshan Sathiyamoorthy's Puthya Poobalam, one of the leading bands from Melbourne, will be performing live music this year. The band is very young and energetic. I am sure they will do a rocking performance.

The second program is stand-up comedy act (**Kalakkapovathu Yaru?**) and we are expecting participants even from Melbourne this year. We would like to wish all the participants very best.

We have expanded our annual awards and introduced two more awards. The following categories will be awarded:

- Best Year 12 (HSc) student in 2013
- Best Young Community Ambassador
- Young Talent (Non-academic)

Please come and enjoy on 13 Sep 2014.



#### Initiatives at Hartley College

First of all I would like to inform you that Mr.N.Theivendrarajah who had been the Principal of Hartley College for nearly 5 years has taken up a new role with the Ministry of Education. I would like to thank Mr.Theivendrarajah for the excellent services towards school and support for our initiatives.



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#### **Upcoming Events:**

- Family Dinner
  with Atputhanathan Master
  Monday, 11 August 2014.
- Kalaizh Chuwei 2014 Seated at 5.45 pm for 6.00 pm start, Saturday, 13 September 2014 Bahai Centre, Silverwater.
- Annual Cricket Match Hartley College Vs Jaffna Hindu College Monday, 6 October 2014. Jones Park, Parramatta.
  - AGM & Family Day 11 am, Sunday, **19 October 2014** West Pennant Hills Valley Community Centre, 42a Hill Road, West Pennant Hills.

#### School Sports Facilities Improvement Project





We have supported and funded the following initiatives to school for this year:

- > Initiation of feasibility studies to improve the condition of playing field and provision of sporting facilities;
- Ten (10) new computers;
- School furniture repairs
- Link class at School
- > Additional coaching class for English language among grades 6 -11
- Basic necessity fund for needy students
- Purchase of Land next to the Hostel within the Sports Complex

The feasibility study (master plan) to improve the condition of sporting facilities is not progressing as we expected. There are some delays. With the initiatives from some of our key and interested members we have now managed to bring Mr.Mathivanan on board to help things out. I would like to thank Mr.Mathivanan for his support and helps.

#### **Community projects**

We funded building a community/educational facility at Vishvamadu and continuing to support this Centre by employing two teachers to help needy students during after school hours. For this year (2014) we also funded for books, power connection to the centre, and roof repair works for an existing facility next to the one we built.

We also funded to buy 100 easy learning English books through Ramakrishna Mission. These books will be distributed to needy students throughout North and East of the Island. We are also funding an after school tuition facility for G.C.E A/L students for the entire Mullaitivu zone (about 325 students in total) Vanni area through AssistRR. We donated books to five feeder schools to Hartley College. This will help those schools those have difficulties in raising fund as they do not have strong PPAs in overseas.

In addition, we raised money separately through you (members) to support Vision 2020 to buy necessary materials for cataract surgery and this project will be implemented through AssistRR.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for your excellent support.

#### R.Krishnakumaran President, HCPPA NSW

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## Sports Secretary's Message Gopinath Satcunarajah

Dear Hartleyite,

The annual tennis games against the J/Hindu OBA teams were held on 30 March 2014 at Barton Park, North Parramatta. There were five (5) teams representing HCPPA, NSW & JHC OBA, NSW for group tennis trophy. The best of the five teams from respective schools played for an individual team trophy. We played close games and lost the trophies by a little margin, but either way it was enjoyable experience and good opportunity to meet Hartley College and JHC old boys & their families with nice lunch sponsored by both schools.

Next year we are planning to have the tennis in similar format as like our annual cricket, there will be an open age games and over 40 games separately and 3 teams will be allowed in both forms of the games. This gives us opportunity to add one more team to our camp, i.e. instead of 5 teams we would have 6 teams.

Our upcoming cricket annual event with JHC is on Monday, 6 October 2014 on the Labour Day at Jones Park Parramatta. There will be an over 40 and open age matches be held in two grounds and food and drinks are sponsored by both OBAs. Spectators welcome.

We would like to thank you again for your support and welcome you to our tennis and cricket annual event with JHC. These sports events would be a good opportunity to meet the Hartley College and JHC communities. Also, I would like to inform in this occasion that our committee is working with some dedicated individuals from NSW on Hartley Sports facility Improvementt project back home and we will inform the progress in the future newsletters and KC 14 souvenir. Anyone who would like to participate or be part of these sports events please contact us.



# Social Secretary's Message

# Paramatheva Paramanirupan

எம் உறவுகளே வணக்கம்,

எமது சங்கத்தின் இன்னொரு "பனைமரம்" என்கின்ற செய்தித்தாளின் ஊடாக உங்களை சந்திப்பதில் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன்.

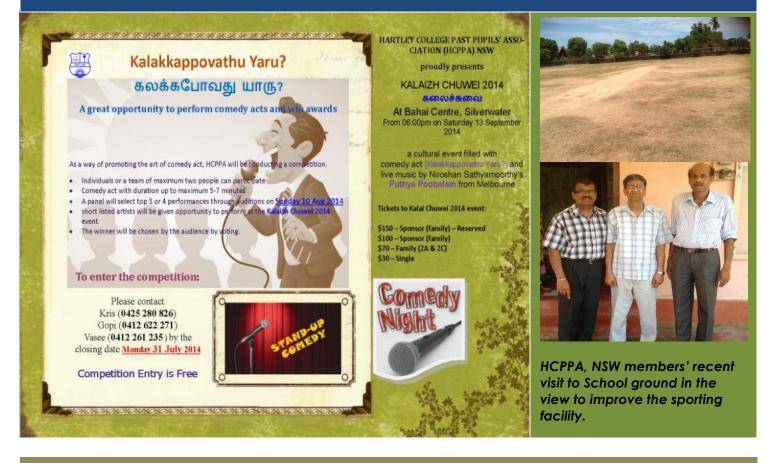
எமது சங்கம் உங்களின் தொடர்ச்சியான ஆதரவின் ஊடாக எமது பாடசாலைக்கும், தாய் நாட்டிலுள்ள மற்றைய பாடசாலைகளுக்கும், அத்தோடு உதவி தேடி நிற்கும் போரினால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மாணவர்களுக்கும் காலத்திற்கேற்ற செயற்பாடுகளை ஆற்றி வருகின்றது.

மேலும் நாங்கள் வாழும் மானிலத்திலுள்ள (நியுசவுத்வேல்ஸ்) தமிழ் இளையோரின் கல்வி மேம்பாட்டிற்காகவும் சில செயற்திட்டங்களை முன்னெடுத்து வருகின்றது.

எமது சங்கத்தால் ஆண்டுதோறும் நடாத்தப்படும் "கலைச்சுவை" எனும் நிகழ்ச்சி இன்னும் இரண்டு மாதங்களில் உங்கள் முன் பிரமாண்டமாக அரங்கேற உள்ளது. இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியின் மூலம் எமது தாய்மொழி மற்றும் கலைகளை ஊக்குவிப்பதோடு இளைய சமுதாயத்தினரையும் எங்களுடன் இணைத்துக்கொள்கிறோம்.

இந்தக் கலை நிகழ்ச்சிக்கும் எமது சங்கத்தின் தொடர்ச்சியான செயற் திட்டங்களுக்கும் உங்களின் அன்பான ஆதரவை வேண்டி நிற்கிறோம்.

> "வாழ்க எம் இனம், மலா்க எம் மண்" "வாழ்க எம் கல்லுாரி, மலா்க எம் கல்வி"



## Community Projects by HCPPA(NSW)

#### Cataract Surgery Project through Vision 2020

In partnership with Vision 2020, Assist RR has organised five cataract surgery camps restoring vision to more than 500 patients within the last 12 months in North and East of Sri Lanka. They also provide lenses and consumables to assist surgeries to needy patients at hospitals, where there are house surgeons. Vision 2020 mostly depends on donors to supply lenses and consumables. If we could donate lenses and other necessary items at a cost of around \$30 dollars per surgery and they will supply these to hospitals in the North and East of Sri Lanka. Vision 2020 confirmed that they will arrange list of patients benefiting from these surgeries and provide acknowledgement letters from Vision 2020 and the surgeons.

Our target was to donate 50 lenses and other necessary items at a total cost of \$1,500. We are delighted to inform you all that many members came forward and donated generously. Therefore, we were able to collect \$1900 within a short period of time. Lenses and medicine required for 66 surgeries will be donated to Hospitals in need. A report will be provided when the project is completed.

#### Support Feeder Schools to Hartley College.

HCPPA (NSW) decided to support Book donation to five Schools from Vadamarachchi East. Each school received Rs.20,000 as the stage 1 support (plus transport cost, total of \$970). Stage 2 will be considered at a later stage based on the need.



#### Swami Vivekananda Educational Centre Visuvamadu

Visvamadu Educational Centre run by Ramakrishna Mission is running very well. Our committee member G.Thirukumaran visited the centre recently and met the teachers and students. The centre is being efficiently managed and the students are doing well. The existing cadjan roof of the second temporary building is currently being replaced using our contribution of Rs 25,000. Electricity connection has also been completed at a cost of 35,000. 100 English learning books were also donated to the centre and is being distributed to the children as and when it is needed.



# Special Meeting on 2 June 2014

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# The auditorium at Hartley College, Point Pedro

HCPPA (NSW) has facilitated a special meeting on 2 June 2014 at the school auditorium to discuss the progress of the "School Sporting Facilities Improvement Project" and to appoint a local interest group to drive the project from Point Pedro.

Three members, J. Reginold, B. Kuganesan & R. Manimaran from HCPPA (NSW) have attended.



The meeting was chaired by K. Mathivanan, former secretary and vice president of Sri Lanka Cricket. A number of representatives from HCPPA (Colombo and Point Pedro), President of HCPPA (Canada) and the global trust have also attended to this special meeting.

The forum discussed the slow progress of the feasibility study initiated by the HCPPA (NSW) and nominated members to the local interest group.

Discussions were had on the re-establishment of the first eleven cricket team and the immediate sporting requirements, in terms of equipment and also sports coaches.



"Hartley College Day" has been proposed by HCPPA(NSW) and well received. This was agreed upon to have it on the second Sunday of February each year. Sports Meet is usually held on the second Saturday of February. Therefore, it will provide an opportunity for those visiting Point Pedro from other parts of Sri Lanka and overseas during that weekend to be present and enjoy the fellowship of other Hartleyites on both days.

There was also a brief discussion about the need for student award(s) given to all-round students.