



சென்றல் வேம்படி 2002 CENTRAL VEMBADI 2002

Annual Dinner Dance

Wandsworth Town Hall
9 November 2002

வேம்படி பழைய மாணவியர் சங்கம் – ஜ.இ.
Vembadi Old Girls' Association, UK

யாழ் மத்திய கல்லூரி பழைய மாணவர் சங்கம் ஜ.இ.
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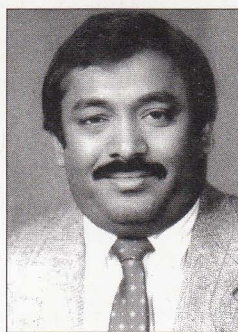


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Message from the president Jaffna Central College Old Boys and Girls Association, UK Branch

As president of the Jaffna Central College Old Boys and Girls Association, UK branch, I extend a hearty welcome to all of you present here tonight. Our Joint Nite, an event which started in 1989, has gone from strength to strength.

We are greatly indebted to all the office bearers, past and present members, well wishers, advertisers, sponsors and others who have helped to continue the good work. The profits from this function will be shared by our two associations.

Thanks to the generous contributions made by our members, we have started a scholarship scheme to assist deserving A'Level first and second year students at Jaffna Central College.

This year four of our members donated Rs.2,500 each to be awarded to four students at Jaffna Central College for achievements in cricket, soccer, athletics and college prefect.

According to the Latin dictum "MENS SANA IN CORPO SANO" which means 'A healthy mind in a healthy body'. We hope to start a sports fund to help promising sportsmen to achieve better standards. With many young centralites and children of centralites waiting for opportunities, we hope that this fund will meet a deserving cause. As usual our cricketers kept the chocolate and blue flag flying.

In conclusion our sincere thanks to the Vembadi Old Girls Association, our members, guests, advertisers and all others, who have contributed their mite to make this occasion a great success. Enjoy yourselves and come back next year. Keep the college flag flying.

David M .Rajeswaran

President

Jaffna Central College Old Boys & Girls Association UK branch

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great pleasure I send this message of felicitation to the Souvenir to be published on the occasion of the Annual Dinner Dance Celebration in UK.

This year, the Annual Dinner Dance event is a combined effort by Vembadi Old Girls' Association UK, and Central College Old Boys' Association UK.

Year 2002, marks the 18th year for VOGA UK since it was founded by the Late Miss Mable Thambiah in 1984. During the last two decades, amidst our Peoples' struggle for freedom, we have managed to keep our flag flying and helped our Alma Mater with our fund raising activities to the best of our ability. Do we see rays of Sunshine amidst the dark clouds?

I am pleased to mention that our Membership Drive this year has been a success. I earnestly hope our Association will grow from strength to strength.

Apparently, Vembadi Girls High School is the Leading Girls School academically in Jaffna year after year, which is indeed gratifying. They are doing equally well in sports as well.

The sprit of the Vembadi Old Girls' Association in UK to rebuild the School with various Scholarship programmes and other projects for needy children is gaining momentum day by day, and we pledge to continue our support to our School in the future to the best of our ability.

I sincerely thank the Committee, other Members and friends of Vembadi Old Girls' Association for assisting me in making this Annual Event a success.

Mrs Kamala Shanmuganathan
President VOGA UK

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Message of Felicitation

It indeed gives me great pleasure once again to send this message to Vembadi OGA-UK Vembadi, one of the oldest academic institutions in South-East Asia grew from strength to strength under the dedicated services and guidance of the principals. Even though the unfortunate incidents that took place in Jaffna caused considerable damages to the infrastructure it is with pride I mention that we still maintain the high standard of the school.

Our tutorial staff take great measure to involve students in different activities to enrich their personality. The following number of students selected for the University entrance this year show promise for a bright future to our school.

Medicine	08
Dental	02
Agriculture Science	10
Biological Science	03
Applied Science	01
Engineering	03
Computer Science	01
Physical Science	07
Management	05
Arts	13

At the G.C.E Ordinary level Examination held in 2001 December all the students qualified for the advance level class.

Our students have shown their colours in sports too. This year our basketball team and carom players become district champions while the PT squad Badminton team and Table Tennis team become zonal champions. At the National level Chess tournament we were able to get the 6th place. Two of our athletes were able to participate at the National level Athletic meet.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for your financial assistance to support the projects.

1. Financial help to the most vulnerable students
2. Providing Refreshment during PT
3. Supply of pair of school shoes and socks to the most requiring students

I would like to suggest you a project. There is an adjoining land near our school, which is for sale. I am sure the purchase of this land will assure the progress and the facilities of the school.

It will give room to erect new buildings to extend our educational plans to students. If you are interested you can consider this project.

It is indeed that your cooperation and friend hands have enhanced and assured the successes of our students

Wish you all success in the years to come. You will be kept informed about our future endeavours.

May God Bless you

Mrs. K. Ponnampalam
(Vembadi Girls' High School Jaffna.)

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JCC OBA JOINT SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Last February we launched a Joint Scholarship Scheme to assist bright and needy children of our Alma Mater. Unsurprisingly, all our OBA branches in UK, Canada and Australia assistively participated by contributing their own collected funds to this scheme. At this time, this scheme supports 20 Advanced Level students and 10 university students by providing them the bursary of 5000.00 (Five Thousand Sri Lankan Rupees) and 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Sri Lankan Rupees) per annum per student.

In this regard, we called Applications via Daily News and Uthayan News papers and you can see those call for applications here. As you might guess, more the fund more the number of students supported by this scheme, and it is certain that our children will walk towards better supportive future.

So, we wish to make a personal appeal for each Centralite to contribute to this worthy cause. Either approach your local OBA branch or approach the Colombo OBA branch directly, at

Mr. M. Arulanantham
Hony. Secretary,
Jaffna Central College OBA- Colombo Branch
No. 263/4 Galle Road,
Colombo 03.
Sri Lanka

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Fax : (+94) 1 575610
email: obacolombooiaffnacentral.com

JAFFNA CENTRAL COLLEGE OBAs

Since the time that Our Alma Mater came into being, she has produced professionals in all walks of life who have occupied and are occupying prominent positions in all parts of the world. Old Boys Associations (OBAs) are the gateways for camaraderie, communication and linkage between the school leavers and the College and her Old Boys. OBAs that are reported to be active are listed here. Omission of any known branches or omission of information for any listed OBA is only due to lack of coordination or lack of contacts. The Principal is the Patron for all Old Boys Associations. If you have any relevant information or want to comment on the listings provided please contact the webmaster of this site.'

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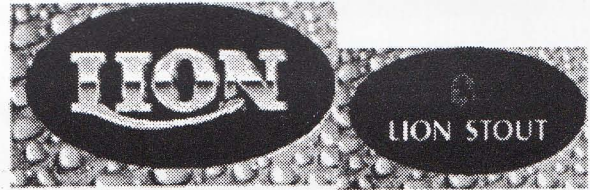
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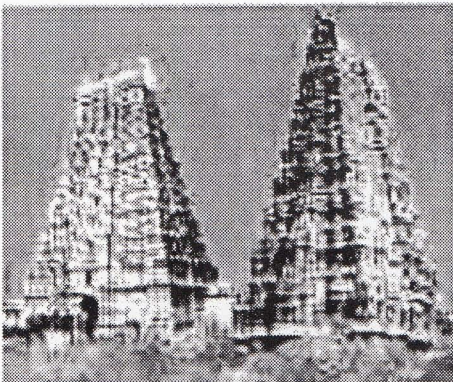


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Old Girls' Association - 2002-2003

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31st October, 2002

President
OGA/UK

Dear President,

I am very pleased to inform you and your Executive Committee that our new Executive Committee elected for the year 2002 to 2003 has taken action to implement the Projects for which you have funded. The New committee took over office on the 3rd of August 2002. You're funding of RS. 150,302.00 was received for three projects.

On the 15th of October the Vijeyathasamy celebration day we handed over to hundred students Rs.200/= each for one term to purchase required stationary. This would continue for the two terms in year 2003. Another hundred students were handed over Shoes and Socks. All the 200 hundred beneficiaries were selected by the sectional heads and approved by the Principal

The funds to support the students of the PT squad will be made use during the training next year.

We are thankful to you for your great support to the students and the School.

I arranged to send two copies of the magazine released on the AGM to your Secretary Mrs. Geetha. Vijayadeva in August. I hope she received them.

The situation in Jaffna has changed very much and we are really excited over this improvement. We are looking forward to work with you very closely in the future too.

Best Regards to All
Gnana. Sivapathasundaram

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JCC OBA & GA UK, BRANCH SECRETARY'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to send this message for the joint nite which was inaugurated in 1989 by the both associations, notably by Mrs Pathma Thiruchelvam. These associations not only bring us together to build the friendship between the two schools it also brings nostalgic memories of our college days in Jaffna. Both committees worked very hard to make this occasion a memorable one. Central old boys association already started a scholarship fund to support the deserving students to continue there education with the peace is imminent in Sri Lanka. In the field of sports Jaffna central urgently needs the financial assistance from the old boys associations all over the world. Our association will co ordinate with the other old boys associations and do our best to improve there performance.

I welcome and wish to thank all the centralites and well wishers who encouraged us and helped us to organise this event successful. I also wish to extend my sincere thanks to Vembadi O.G.A for unstinting support and co-operation. Vembadi being our sister school we centralites must and will co operate with them and provide all the necessary assistance all the way through

In conclusion I wish to thank our committee members who support me and help me in various ways to organise this event within a very short notice. Last but not least this occasion would not have been successful if not for the hard work put in by Vembadi O. G. A. Once again thanks to one and all.

May the God bless Vembadi. Centrals flag must never be lowered.

Vallavan Rajasingham
General Secretary

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REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

It gives me great pleasure to present this report about the activities of our association since the AGM this year.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the 27th April 2002 and the new office bearers were elected.

At our AGM the following Financial decisions were made:

- Sum of £2,000 to be sent to the Jaffna OGA. £1,000 to be deposited in a saving account and the monthly interest to benefit the school projects. £1,000 has been sent to support some of the projects.
- To introduce Life Membership. We appeal to you to become a life member by sending a one off payment of £100, two instalments of £50 or four instalments of £25 to reach us within the same year.

Ratnam Foundation organised a Cultural Evening on the 29th June 2002 and they have donated the profit of £501 to VOGA UK. I take this opportunity to thank the Foundation for their generous support.

Our sponsored walk organised by Kalaimagal took place on the 14 July 2002 at Richmond Park. For unavoidable reasons not many members participated. However the weather was favourable to us, which made it an enjoyable day.

Mrs Pathma Perinpanayagam, our last year's president and one of the senior dedicated founder members of VOGA UK returned to Sri Lanka for good in August 2002. Miss Mable Thambiah founded our VOGA UK in 1984. Since then Mrs Perinpanayagam has worked very hard to strengthen this organisation, particularly during the last two years as a President of VOGA UK. She will be greatly missed.

Tonight we stand together with Jaffna Central College proudly celebrating "The Golden Nite" joint event. Actions such as these bring us closer together and build bridges among our separated nation. I hope that our younger generation of this vibrant community will take a lead and bring this organization to further heights and new aspirations.

We organized a successful "Kalai kathambam" early this year. Mrs Raja-ratnam, former principal of Vembadi and a life member of OGA Canada was honoured as the chief guest. Our next "Kalai Kathambam" will be held on the 1st March 2003 at Winston Churchill Hall and I can assure you that it will be a spectacular event for all of us.

Organising an event of this magnitude needs careful planning, time and energy. I would like to express my thanks to the entire Executive Committee for their untiring efforts in ensuring all necessary preparation is completed on time for a grand finale.

Finally, we wish all our sponsors, friends and well-wishers a happy and memorable evening with us and thank all of you on behalf of the Executive Committee for your continued support!

Geetha Vijayadeva
The Secretary of VOGA UK

VEMBADI OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION, UK BRANCH

OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR 2002/2003



*Seated (L to R): Mrs Balayogini Mahadevan, Mrs Kamala Shanmuganathan, Mrs Bavani Maheswaran
 Standing (L to R): Mrs Miruthubashini Karunaharan, Mrs Sarvalogeswari Ananda Kumararajah, Mrs Niranjana Ratnam, Mrs Vasuki
 Suthakaran, Mrs Geetha Vijayadeva, Mrs Sumathi Balendra, Mrs Arasanayakie Cooke Kanagasunthari, Mrs Kalimagal Thavatheva
 Absent: Mrs Vimala Balendra, Mrs Thavabalathevi Wijyanayagam, Mrs Shanthini Yoharajan, Mrs Pathma Perinpanayagam, Mrs Leela
 Chadrakumar, Mrs Subathra Dayanantharajah, Mrs Yasothara Nagendra, Mrs Sivakantharuby Ramakrishnana,
 Mrs Rajani Sachchithanantham*

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Vice Presidents

Secretary

Asst Secretary

Treasurer

Asst Treasurer

Co-ordinator (UK)

Adviser

Sports Secretary

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Mrs Vimala Balendra

Mrs Thavabalathevi Wijyanayagam

Mrs Shanthini Yoharajan

Mrs Geetha Vijayadeva

Mrs Arasanayakie Cooke Kanagasunthari

Mrs Bavani Maheswaran

Mrs Niranjana Ratnam

Mrs Miruthubashini Karunaharan

Mrs Pathma Perinpanayagam

Mrs Kalaimagal Thavatheva

Mrs Sarvalogeswari Ananda Kumararajah

Mrs Sumathi Balendra

Mrs Leela Chandrakumar

Mrs Subathra Dayanantharajah

Mrs Balayogini Mahadevan

Mrs Yasothara Nagendra

Mrs Sivakantharuby Ramakrishnan

Mrs Rajani Sachchithanantham

Mrs Vasuki Suthakaran

COLLEGE SONG

Wet the ground and wind opposing,
Just ten minutes yet to play;
Play up Central, no reposing
On the gains of yesterday
Now's the time for combined action;
Pass the ball from – man to man;
Never selfish play nor faction,
Proved worthwhile since sport began.

Chorus:

Central Rally for the school then,
Take the field with one accord;
Keep your courage cool and clean then
Central's flag must ne'er be lowered.

On the field of life when striving, .
Keep your honour true and bright.
Play up Central! Ever thriving
On the fruits of grace and light;
For your comrades of the old days,
Scattered far though they may be;
For your school, for her true praise
Live in service glad and free!

Chorus:

Programme

6.30 pm	<i>Doors Open</i>
7.00 pm	<i>Lighting of the Lamp</i>
	<i>Followed by:</i>
	<i>Welcome speech by the Presidents</i>
	<i>College Anthems</i>
	<i>Dance</i>
8.30 pm	<i>Dinner</i>
9.30 pm	<i>Dance</i>
11.30 pm	<i>Raffle Draw</i>
	<i>Vote of Thanks</i>
12.15 am	<i>Close</i>

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Menu

Main Meal

Pilau Rice

Mutton Curry

Chilly Paneer Curry

Brinjal (Aubergene) Curry

Dry Beans Curry

Red Onion Salad

Chutney

Papadam

Dessert

Pavalova

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(உண்மையிலே..)

by - Miss G Vadivelu

COLLEGE HYMN

Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
You have a work, that no other can do
Do it so bravely, so kindly so well.
Angels will hasten the Story to tell.

Chorus

Dare, Dare dare to do right!
Dare, dare, to be true!
Dare, to do right, dare to be true
Dare to do right, to be true!

Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
Other men's Failures can never save you;
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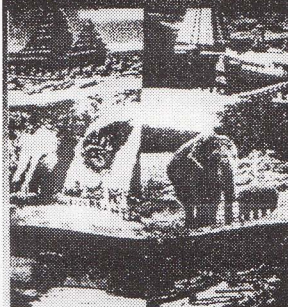
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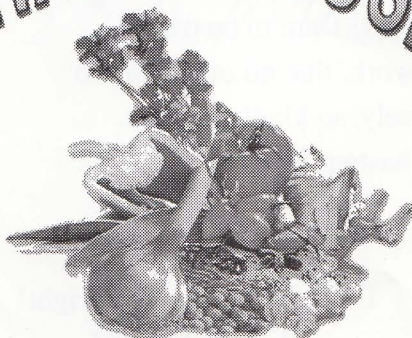
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Message from the Sports Secretary JCC OBA & GA

It gives me a great pleasure to send this message to the souvenir on behalf of the JCC OB & GA sports committee. Our college takes the credit for introducing cricket, football and scouting to Jaffna. Our college song itself is clearly denote the importance of sports. Central and Vembadi are the two schools most affected in Jaffna due to the civil war. In spite of all these difficulties both schools stood firm and continue there activities. Central always have been in forefront in the field of sports. If I recall the past Central scored 126 runs in 48 balls against the defending champions Ananda in 1990 and in 1991 Central scored 150 runs in 48 balls against St Thomas at the Sri Lankan festival of cricket tournament. I have no doubt in my mind its impossible to meet that score in near future. Full credit must go to Mr.S.Sivakumaran's immense effort for this victory. Central's progress always steady, I hope this trend will continue for many years to come. I make this opportunity to thank the present sports committee members Mr David Rajeswaran, Mr Harlod Alakeson Mr T.G.Singham, Mr P.Paul Pragalathavan, and Mr.N.Annadurai for their co operation, valuable advice and the sheer determination to promote sports for Central. The sports committee at present is planning to organise sports night to attract youngsters in to the fold, and to provide financial assistance to promote sports for Central in Jaffna and in U.K. Possible Central St Johns get together after the encounter is in the pipe line. I wish to make this opportunity to appeal all the Central old boys to come forward and become the members of our association. Your support is our strength. Central's flag must never be lowered.

Vallavan Rajasingham
Sport secretary

Jaffna Central College Old Boys and Girls Association UK Branch Committee Members

President:	David M. Rajeswaran
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Asst. Secretary:	Mr P Ganeshalingam
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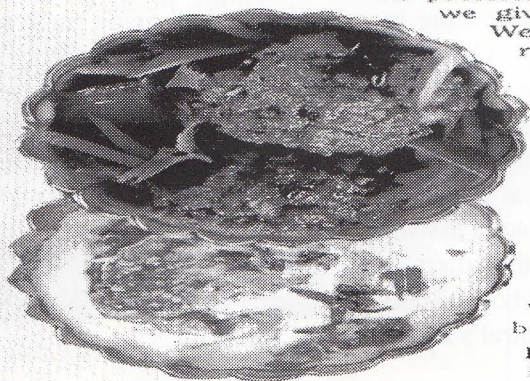
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Mrs. Ponmani Sabaratnasinghe Kumarasingham

(Died on 16/06/02) in Paris, France

The late Ponmani Sabaratnasinghe is one good example where it goes to prove the well accepted statement “it is all in the family”. Tracing down her family since early 19th Century, there is clear evidence of intellectual brilliance and noble values running down the family and manifesting in different forms. Just to mention one example – the great Saravanamuthus of Colombo are uncles and grand uncles of Ponmani who were people of great eminence in almost every field – medicine, sports, law, politics and public service. Her aunt Mrs. Nesam Saravanamuttu, an old girl of Vembadi, was the first Tamil lady Member of Parliament from Colombo in 1931, and her husband Sir Ratnajothi Saravanamuttu (MBBS) was the first Mayor of Colombo and elected Member of the Ceylon State Council from Colombo constituency.

Her father, the late Mr. Sabaratnasinghe, a descendant of the illustrious family was an educationalist himself being Vice Principal of Jaffna Hindu College and Principal of Vaddukoddai Hindu College. This sub family of Singhe master came to be well known in Jaffna as the Singhees and Ponmani as Singe Teacher.

Ponmani, sister of five illustrious brothers, showed all the hallmarks of the family in many ways particularly, in intelligence and values. Her educational career, provided ample opportunities for the manifestation of these qualities to the maximum she had served at Jaffna Hindu Ladies College, Uduvil Girls School but it was at Vaidyeswara Vidyalaym and Vembadi Girls High School that she made the lasting impression among children and others. Her linguistic ability combined with her deep knowledge of her subject and her soft, kind and pleasant disposition helped her to be loved by her students.

Children always enjoyed her childlike disposition and her characteristic smile which is displayed with greater, Intensity when she is reminded of her nice hair style or the elegance of her sari.

As a mother, she had shown excellence and ability in shaping her only child Muthukumar, President JCC OBA France into a person of responsibility and respectability. It is with him and his family, she found much needed care and relaxation during her final years.

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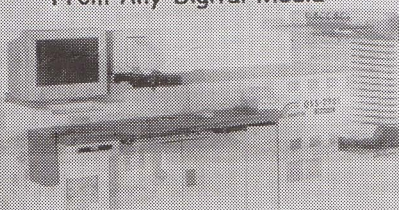
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FROM THE TREASURER

The priority of the new committee elected this year is to launch a membership drive to recruit more Vembadites to the Alumni Association in U.K. A larger membership will serve as a forum to meet, long lost friends to establish contact and respond to the Vembadi in this hour of need.

With the support of the members and well wishers, the funds raised in the past years have been sent to Vembadi. In 1999/2000, a sum of £1,500.00 was sent towards the purchase of a Photocopier for the School. For the year 2000/2001, a sum of £2,500.00 (Rs.313,610/-) was donated to the Jaffna Old Girls' Association to help them set up a Computer Laboratory for the 400 A/L Students in Vembadi. In the current year 2001/02, a total sum of £2,000.00 has been allocated for the School.

Out of this, a sum of £1,000.00 has been sent in June towards the following :

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Project Budget : Rs.20,000/- per Term or Rs.60,000/- per year
- (2) To supply 100 pairs of school shoes and socks
to a different sent of students in need identified by the School
Project Budget : Rs.50,000/- per year
- (3) To provide Refreshments to Children
During PT Training at the rate of Rs.10/- per student per year
Project Budget: Rs.25,000/- per year

Balance £1,000.00 is to be deposited in a savings account to be opened in Sri Lanka for the School by the VOGA (UK) shortly and the monthly interest to go towards School Projects, when the need arises.

VOGA (UK) is thus able to increase their contribution to the School in the last year, but as you are aware, we will be able to meet the increasing needs with greater membership. We are appealing to the Old Girls to help the School by enrolling as Members. We also welcome your active participation in the Annual Dinner Dance and contributions in whatever way possible to strengthen the Association.

Our Annual Membership is only £10.00 or Life Membership is £100.00. Please forward the completed Membership Form to the following Address.

Thanking you.

Bhavani Maheswaran
TREASURER

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REPORT FROM THE SPORTS SECRETARY

I am pleased to report on the sports activities of Vembadi Old Girls' Association (UK). The main activities this year are our usual participation in the British Tamil Association sports tournament, Tamil Rehabilitation Organisation and Tamil School Sports Association UK. At the TRO Tournament and BTA Tournament our Netball team reached the semi final level and in the TSSA our team reached the final and lost by one.

With pride and joy I like to mention TSSA UK once again selected Devalatha and Jenny to play for their netball team. This year the team was invited by TSSA Canada to participate in their summer tournament

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the netball team for their efforts in the participation in tournament. My special thanks go to Shantha our manager, Devalatha and Suba our Captain for their excellent organisation of events. Our congratulations to Suba and Pratheeban on their engagement that took place recently.

I also have to mention the Sponsored 5 miles walk participated by few members. My special thanks go to Vathana and her daughter for their tremendous support I thank each and every one who took part in this event.

We welcome more participants to our future tournaments and those who are interested please contact me on 01923 835751.

My best regards to everyone

Kalaimagalselvi Thavatheva
Sports Secretary

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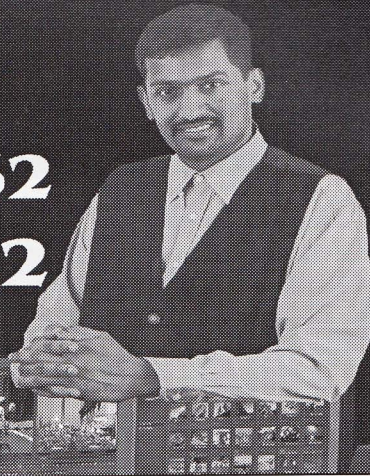
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- ❖ Black Velvet for their lively music
- ❖ Our members and friends

Last but not the least a very big THANK YOU to all of you present here with us tonight. Your support and fellowship has helped this event to be an enjoyable and a successful one.



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