



XLIV

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



ANNUAL REPORT
2024/2025

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Committee of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union (OBU) is pleased to present the Annual Report for the year 2024 – 2025 to the membership of the Union.

This Report reflects another year of commitment, collaboration and progress as the OBU, under the guidance of the Headmaster, has continued to support the mission of S. Thomas' Preparatory School through a range of impactful initiatives.

BRANDING & MERCHANDISE

- Initiatives focused on creating a brand around Prep School
- New lines of limited-edition products to coincide with School and OBU events
- sales of nearly Rs. 500,000/=
- Branded unique merchandise for Prep Carnival 2025

FUND - RAISING

- Prep Carnival 2025 with an aim of raising Rs. 10,000,000/= for the development activities of the School

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Regular engagement with the Headmaster and administration of the School on infrastructure development
- On the invitation of the Headmaster, contributing to urgent and essential repairs and maintenance
- Developing the J. S. L. Fernando Memorial Room for alumni co-ordination and administration

LEGAL, RULES, PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES COMMITTEE

- Review of all the documents concerning the Union's framework to ensure that they meet current requirements
- Advising the Headmaster and the Executive Committee on legal and governance issues
- Drafting and review of letters and contracts for the School and the Union

MEDIA AND IT INFRASTRUCTURE

- Timely, accurate and consistent communication across multiple platforms

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Highest number of new members who have been enrolled in a year
- Scheme for automatic enrolment of all Prepites upon the students leaving School initiated

OUTREACH

- Strengthening alumni engagement with the School through networks that go beyond traditional affiliations

SCHOOL LIAISON



- Discussion with the staff and students to understand the professional development needs of teachers with a view to providing the necessary training

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

- Constructing two cricket nets in the School with assistance from Sri Lanka Cricket
- Coordinating the MoU with STCML on sports
- Identifying problems faced by teachers-in-charge and coaches and finding solutions for the same

We invite you to explore the detailed Committee reports that follow, which capture our achievements, challenges, and future plans. Your engagement and support remain vital as we look ahead with optimism, united in purpose, and determined to ensure that S. Thomas' Preparatory School continues to thrive for generations to come.

This Report is a reflection of the unwavering dedication and commitment of the members of the Executive Committee and the continued support from the alumni body and broader Prep School Community.

As we build on the foundation laid by our founder, Mr. William Thomas Keble, past Headmasters, dedicated staff, and alumni who came before us, we remain committed to upholding the values and spirit that define our beloved school.



2. MESSAGE BY THE HEADMASTER & EX-OFFICIO PRESIDENT OF THE OBU

It is with deep appreciation and heartfelt gratitude that I pen this message to be published in the Annual Report of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union on the occasion of its 44th Annual General Meeting.

The Old Boys' Union stands as a shining example for its unwavering allegiance to its beloved *Alma Mater*. Throughout the years, the OBU has been a pillar of support, consistently affirming the timeless values instilled within these hallowed walls. Your dedication to preserving the spirit and traditions of Prep School is both inspiring and commendable.

Your generous contributions have directly enriched the lives of our students - not only by way of scholarships and mentorship but also through steadfast support in academic, co-curricular, and pursuits on the track and field. The Union's hands-on involvement in infrastructure development has been instrumental in ensuring that our School remains equipped to meet the demands of modern education while still preserving its unique heritage.

As Headmaster, I am particularly grateful for the spirit of camaraderie and service that defines your Union. It is a reflection of the very character our School seeks to cultivate in every Prepitem who walks through its gates. Your commitment reminds us all that the journey of a Prepitem never ends at graduation - it simply transforms into a lifelong bond of stewardship and service as alumni.

On behalf of the students, staff, and the wider school community, I extend my sincere thanks to the OBU for your enduring service, and I wish you a successful and memorable 44th Annual General Meeting, which is being held on the 87th Founder's Day of Prep School, and is to be followed by the Prep Carnival.

The Lord is my Shepherd.

REVD. NIHAL FERNANDO
HEADMASTER
S. THOMAS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL, KOLLUPITIYA



3. MESSAGE BY THE HONY. SECRETARY OF THE OBU

Dear Prepites,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present the Annual Report of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union (OBU) for the year 2024 - 2025. This year has been marked by renewed energy, strong collaboration, and meaningful progress as we continued our mission to support our alma mater and foster unity among the Prep School community.

A key highlight eagerly anticipated by the entire Prep School community is the Prep Carnival 2025, which will take place immediately after the AGM on the 17th of May, coinciding with the 87th Founders' Day. Jointly organized by the School Administration, the Parent-Teachers' Association (PTA) and OBU, the event has been months in the making and stands as our flagship fundraiser for the year. We look forward to what promises to be a vibrant celebration of school spirit and community engagement, with the proceeds contributing to key development initiatives.

The OBU also continued to support infrastructure priorities, including input on the proposed middle school block and assistance with ongoing repairs. The Infrastructure Development Committee remained actively engaged with the administration to address urgent needs and long-term plans. The Fund-Raising Committee led efforts to mobilize resources through community-driven initiatives. The Membership Development Committee expanded engagement, facilitated the automatic enrollment of the 2024 batch, and launched a digital membership explainer to streamline onboarding.

Our subcommittees - spanning branding, media, outreach, legal, and school liaison - each contributed meaningfully across their respective domains. The School Liaison Committee helped lay the groundwork for upcoming student and faculty development programs scheduled to launch in the coming months.

As we reflect on the year, it is evident that our progress is rooted in the commitment of our members, the support of the school leadership, and the shared values that bind us as Prepites. I extend my sincere thanks to all batches, volunteers, and donors who made these initiatives possible. In closing, I express my heartfelt appreciation to the Headmaster Rev. Nihal Fernando, the Sectional Heads, members of the Staff, the PTA and the Executive Committee of the OBU for their continued support and cooperation. Together, let us carry forward the legacy of excellence that defines S. Thomas' Preparatory School.

The Lord is My Shepherd.

SITHAMBARAM SRI GANENDRAN
HONY. SECRETARY 2024/2025
S. THOMAS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL OLD BOYS' UNION



4. IN REMEMBRANCE

**“What we have once enjoyed deeply we can never lose.
All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.”**

Hellen Keller

As we reflect on the year gone by, we take a moment to honour and remember those members of the Prep School Community who are no longer with us. We uphold them in our thoughts and prayers, grateful for the lives they lived and the legacies they have left behind.

Members of Staff

Mrs. Ruth Paul
Mr. Maurice Ernest Weragoda
Mr. Ponnaiya Thirunavukkarasu
Mr. T.D. Arasaratnam

Our Brothers

Mr. Disella Elayaperuma
Mr. Chamikara Gamagedara
Mr. Adrian Russell Moses
Mr. Aminda Fernando
Mr. Glen Nugara
Mr. Ravi Barnes
Mr. Christopher Lappen
Mr. Devasiri De Silva
Mr. William Tissa Ellawala
Mr. Anton Suresh Rajendram
Mr. Ragulan Balendran

along with any other members of staff and alumni of S. Thomas' Preparatory School who have since passed on.

We give thanks for their lasting contributions, which have enriched the spirit and legacy of the Prep School Community. May their memory continue to guide and inspire all who walk the halls of Prep.



5. NOTICE OF THE 44TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18th April 2025

NOTICE OF 44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given in terms of Rule 4(a) of the OBU Rules that the 44th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union (STPS OBU) will be held on **Saturday the 17th of May, 2025 at 04:00 PM in the School Hall** followed by fellowship and refreshments hosted by the Headmaster. All Alumni are welcome (Registration for the AGM and the Fellowship are mandatory – see details below).

AGENDA

1. Notice convening the meeting.
2. Excuses.
3. Two minutes' silence in remembrance of Alumni and Members of the Staff who have passed on since the 43rd AGM of 15th June, 2024.
4. Adoption of Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting (*to be circulated*).
5. Matters arising from the Minutes.
6. Presentation of the Report of the activities of the Union by the Honorary Secretary (*to be circulated*).
7. Adoption of the audited Statement of Accounts for the financial period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 (*to be circulated*).
8. Presentation of the Audit Report and Financial Statements of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union Trust Fund.
9. Address by the Headmaster and *ex-officio* President of the OBU, Revd. Nihal Fernando.
10. Election of Office Bearers for the year 2025/2026.
 - I. Three Honorary Vice Presidents
 - II. Honorary (a) General Secretary & (b) Assistant Secretary
 - III. Honorary (a) Treasurer & (b) Assistant Treasurer
 - IV. Honorary Auditor
11. Election of Committee Members to represent the following age groups:

GROUP	YEARS AT SCHOOL	NUMBER OF MEMBERS
GROUP A	01-01-48 TO 31-12-57	3 MEMBERS
GROUP B	01-01-58 TO 31-12-67	3 MEMBERS
GROUP C	01-01-68 TO 31-12-77	3 MEMBERS
GROUP D	01-01-78 TO 31-12-87	3 MEMBERS
GROUP E	01-01-88 TO 31-12-97	3 MEMBERS
GROUP F	01-01-98 TO 31-12-07	3 MEMBERS
GROUP G	01-01-08 TO 31-12-17	3 MEMBERS
GROUP H	01-01-18 TO DATE	3 MEMBERS
12. Announcements.
 - 12.1 Conferring membership of the Old Boys' Union to the Batch of 2024



- 12.2 Felicitation
13. Any other business (of which due notice has been given).
14. School Song.

SITHAMBARAM SRI GANENDRAN
HONY. SECRETARY 2024/2025
S. THOMAS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL OLD BOYS' UNION

- For the full Notice / Documents for Circulation / Sample Nomination Form please refer the web-site of the STPS OBU www.prepobu.lk or e-mail the Administrative Assistant of the STPS OBU at prepobuadmin@prepobu.lk (Bill)
- Membership details could be ascertained by calling +94 71 773 7628 or sending an e-mail to prepobuadmin@prepobu.lk (Bill)
- Nominations / Notice of Motions - no later than **12 PM of Saturday 10th May 2025.**#
- Confirmation of participation at AGM / Fellowship hosted by the Headmaster (MANDATORY) by calling +94 71 773 7628 (Bill) or sending an e-mail to prepobuadmin@prepobu.lk no later than **12PM on Wednesday 14th May 2025.**
- The Prep Carnival 2025 will take place immediately after the AGM. Parking for alumni attending the AGM and Fellowship will be restricted to Marine Drive (at your own risk) with access to the School from the Marine Drive Gate.
- The portraits of the past Secretaries will be unveiled at the OBU Administrative Office immediately after the AGM.

The Notice of the 44th Annual General Meeting was circulated electronically by e-mail, Facebook and WhatsApp and was published in the Sunday Times and the Daily Mirror.



6. MINUTES OF THE 43RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday the 15th of June 2024 at 11:00 AM

Venue: School Hall, S. Thomas' Preparatory School, Kollupitiya

Presided by: Rev. Nihal Fernando, Headmaster/*Ex officio* President of the OBU

Attendance: Rev Nihal Fernando, Abdul Hafeel, Adheeb Anwar, Akram ur Rahman, Arjuna Arulananthan. Arjuna Gunawardena, Arshad Mohideen, Chanaka De Silva, Chandana De Silva, Dilshan Dissanayake, Dr. Dilan Illaperuma, Dr. N.F. Wickremasinghe, Dushantha Goonetillake, Fahdi Mohamed, Fayyaz Mukthar, Govindasamy Anuragavan, Gayan Keppetipola, Gihan Welikala, Haroun Cader, Hashintha Kodagoda, Hiran Molligoda, Imran Hassen. Jonathan Rajaratnam, Karthik Ramachandran, Kavindra Amaratunga, Krishna Ravindran, C. Kugadhep. M. Fazil Suhail, Manohara Jayasinghe, N.W. Wickremasinghe, Nalinaksha Wickremasinghe, Nihan Niles, Nirmal Wickremasinghe, Pradeep Mahalingam, Ramesh Anthony, Ranjan Vincent, Ravi Karunanayake. Ravishka De Mel, Romesh Tissanayagam, Ruchira G.W. Pannila, Saeed Jiffry, Samuel Rajendran, Sanjay Ulganathan. Senaka Rathnayaka, Shamin Jayawickreme, Shayan Waas, Sithambaram Sri Ganendran, Siva Balaratnam, Sreekanthan Selvaraj, Sribawan Kandasamy, Suresh De Silva, Sulaiman Nishtar, Suranjith Senanayake, Sushan Peiris, Thimal Indula Sumanasekera Uvindu C Amarasinghe, Vasantha, Vihan Herath. Vije Abinandan, W.T.N. Dep, Yohan Weerasinghe, Bill Richardson, Ms. Yvonne Charles (Staff Coordinator)

The Headmaster, Rev. Nihal Fernando, led the House in Prayer prior to the commencement of the Meeting. Thereafter, the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union (OBU) was called to order by the Headmaster, who presided over the Meeting.

1. Notice Convening the Meeting

Notice convening the meeting was posted on the website of the OBU < <https://prepobu.lk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/43AGM-notice-and-agenda-general-circulation.pdf> > on the Facebook Group, Page of the OBU, Instagram Page of the OBU as well as via Twitter, The Notice was also given publicity in The Sunday Times of 2nd June, 2024, Daily Mirror of 3rd June, 2024 and 5th June 2024, by e-mail and WhatsApp at various time intervals commencing from 17th May 2024.

2. Excuses

The following excuses were recorded:

Akbar Ali Deen / Noel Albert / Anomal de Soysa / Rajindh Perera / C P Richards / Rajindh Siva / Chathuranga Samarawickrema / Ramal Jasinghe / Delon Weerasinghe / Ransilu Perera / Dilshan Dissanayake / Ravin Wannithambi / Dilshan Perera / Rev. Pradeep Manawadu / Karthik Ramachandran /



Ryan Rockwood / Kishan De Silva / S. Rajkumar / Laksiri Senaratne / Sanjeev Ariaratnam / Lasitha Attygalle / Sarith Fernando / M Sundareson / Shanaka Amarasinghe / Navin Ratnayaka / Sujendra Mather / Nilantha Fernando / Shankar Dharmaratne

3. Two minutes' silence in remembrance of Old Boys and Members of the Staff who have passed on since the 41st AGM of 28th of May 2022

The following names were recorded:

STAFF

Mr. Jinadasa Hennayake
Mrs. Marvis Perera
Mrs. Ida Cecelia Patrick

ALUMNI

Mr. Tito Pestonjee
Mr. Jehan Algama
Mr. Yohan Ambrose
Mr. Druvi Sanjiv De Silva
Mr. Kuinton Keerthisenan
Mr. Hiran Wikramanayake
Mr. Balaratnam Sivakumar

All those in attendance stood and observed two minutes' silence, after which Rev. Nihal Fernando offered a prayer for the departed.

4. Adoption of Minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting.

The said Minutes were circulated by electronic means.

The Minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting were proposed and seconded respectively by Mr. Hiran D Molligoda and Mr. Romesh Tissanayagam and duly adopted.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

6. Presentation of the Report of the activities of the Union by the Honorary Assistant Secretary

The Secretary, Mr. S Sri Ganendran, stated that the Annual Report of the activities of the OBU for the period: 2023/2024 had been circulated by electronic means.

The Secretary presented the details of the report which was included in the Annual Report from Pages 18 to 32. The salient points of the activities of the Union were presented to the members *via* a power point presentation and some of the key matters were explained.



The Report was proposed and seconded respectively by Mr. Nalinaksha Wickremasinghe and Mr. Chandana de Silva and duly adopted.

7. Adoption of the audited Statement of Accounts for the financial period 1st April, 2023 to 31st March, 2024

The Treasurer, Mr. Sulaiman Nishtar, stated that the audited Statement of Accounts for the financial period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 had been circulated by electronic means.

He mentioned the financial position of the Union and the OBU Trust Fund. A comparative analysis of the key Balance Sheet values against the previous year were highlighted. The income and expense values were read out. He stated that either he or the Audit Representative who was present could take any questions. There were none.

The audited Statement of Accounts for the financial period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 was proposed by Mr. Chandan de Silva and seconded by Mr. Hiran D Molligoda and duly adopted.

8. Address by the Headmaster and Ex-Officio President of the OBU, Revd. Nihal Fernando

See Annexure 1 for the complete text.

At the conclusion of the address, the Secretary invited Headmaster, to present the following Certificates of Appreciation to the Members of the Executive Committee who had served in the Committee but were not seeking re-election. They were Raj Rasiah, Dushantha Goonethilleke, Akram ur Rahman, Hashintha Kodagoda, Nimesh Fernando, Arvind Vijayaratnam, Ramkishore Krishnamoorthy, Muthukrishnan Sundareson and Denver Balan.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Batch of 1998 for their service to Prep School during the year 2023/2024

9. Election of the Office Bearers for the Year 2024/2025

Since there was no contest for any of the posts the Headmaster read out the names of the Office Bearers who were duly elected:

Hon. Vice Presidents: Mr. Chanaka Silva PC, Mr. Haroun Cader, Mr. Asanga Seneviratne (*Uncontested*)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Sithambaram Sri Ganendran (*Uncontested*)

Hon. Asst. Secretary: Mr. Fayyaz Mukthar (*Uncontested*)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Sulaiman Nishtar (*Uncontested*)

Hon. Asst. Treasurer: Mr. Gayan Thilina Rajakaruna Keppetipola (*Uncontested*)



The Secretary, Mr. S. Sri Ganendran, stated that the practice of appointing an Honorary Auditor was no longer in place and that the services of an audit firm were retained for a professional fee. He stated that during the last annual general meeting it was discussed that the auditor should be rotated every 4 years and since the present auditor MGI KAL Rupasinghe & Co. was serving only their 3rd year and had provided a good service he recommended that their services be retained for the following year.

Thereby, MGI KAL Rupasinghe & Co. was duly appointed as the Auditor for the year 2024/2025.

10. Election of Committee Members to represent Age Groups

The Secretary explained that Age Groups A, B and H do not receive many nominations, and that Age Groups E, F and G receive more than three nominations. Therefore, as there was provision for twenty-four (24) vacancies, and only nineteen nominations had been received, the Secretary proposed and it was agreed with the consensus of the members present that there would be no contest for any of the Age Groups. Accordingly, the Headmaster read out the names of the Committee Members who were duly elected to represent Age Groups as follows:

1. Mr. Senaka Ratnayake
2. Mr. Nilantha Fernando
3. Mr. Surendra Thillainathan
4. Mr. Hiran D Molligoda
5. Mr. Romesh Tissanayagam
6. Mr. Govindasamy Anuragavan
7. Mr. Shankar Nuwan Dharmaratne
8. Mr. Emmanuel Kishore
9. Mr. Kishan R De Silva
10. Mr. Selvaraj Sreekanthan
11. Mr. Rajendram Samuel
12. Mr. Kandasamy Sribawan
13. Mr. Rajindh Perera
14. Mr. Mahalingam Pradeep
15. Mr. Dilshan Dissanayake
16. Mr. Kavindra Amarathunga
17. Mr. Adheeb Aakif Anwar
18. Mr. M. Akbar Ali Deen
19. Mr. Nitheeskanna Sivaraj

As there were five vacancies in the Executive Committee the Headmaster inquired if any of the Members in attendance would like to serve on the Executive Committee. The Secretary informed the House that two Members had shown their interest after the nominations were closed. Accordingly, based on their interest and consent the following Members were duly appointed to serve on the Executive Committee , namely:



1. Mr. Chandana William
2. Mr. C P Richards
3. Mr. Ramal Jasinghe
4. Mr. Ravi Sivasithamparam
5. Mr. Pankaja Weerasekara

11. Address by the newly elected Secretary

See Annexure 2 for complete text.

12. Any business of which due notice has been given

The Batch of 1998 announced that they were hoping to organise a fund raiser for the School in the month of September and sought the assistance of the School and the OBU to ensure the success of the event.

13. Announcements

It was announced that 1.) Lunch, hosted by the Headmaster, would be served in The Fortrose; and that 2.) Members of the Outgoing and Incoming Executive Committees should assemble near The Fortrose for the official photograph.

14. School Song & National Anthem

As there was no further business, the proceedings of the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the OBU were concluded by the Headmaster after singing the School Song and the National Anthem.

S. Sri Ganendran
Hony. Secretary 2024/2025
S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union



7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2024/2025



	Post	Name	Present	Excused	Absent	Total	Attendance
	<i>President (Ex officio)</i>	Rev. Nihal Fernando	7	3	0	10	70.00%
	<i>Vice Presidents</i>	Asanga Seneviratne	6	0	4	10	60.00%
		Chanaka de Silva	3	2	5	10	30.00%
		Haroun Cader	6	4	0	10	60.00%
	<i>Hony. Secretary</i>	Sithambaram Sri Ganendran	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	<i>Hony. Asst. Secretary</i>	Fayyaz Mukthar	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	<i>Hony. Treasurer</i>	Sulaiman Nishtar	7	3	0	10	70.00%
	<i>Hony. Asst. Treasurer</i>	Gayan Keppetipola	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	<i>Committee Members</i>	Adheeb Aakif Anwar	7	1	2	10	70.00%
		Akbar Ali Deen	1	7	2	10	10.00%
		C P Richards	6	1	3	10	60.00%
		Dilshan Dissanayake	3	2	5	10	30.00%
		Emmanuel Ramkrishore	8	0	2	10	80.00%
		Govindasamy Anuragavan	5	4	1	10	50.00%
		Hiran Molligoda	6	4	0	10	60.00%
		Kandasamy Sribawan	8	1	1	10	80.00%
		Kavindra Amaratunga	10	0	0	10	100.00%

Post	Name	Present	Excused	Absent	Total	Attendance
	Kishan De Silva	3	3	4	10	30.00%
	N.S.L. Fernando	1	6	3	10	10.00%
	Nithieskanna Sivaraj	6	4	0	10	60.00%
	Pankaja Arun Weerasekara	2	5	3	10	20.00%
	Pradeep Mahalingam	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	Rajendran Samuel	2	1	7	10	20.00%
	Rajindh Perera	8	1	1	10	80.00%
	Ramal Githan Jasinghe	2	2	6	10	20.00%
	Ravindra Sivasithamparam	6	2	2	10	60.00%
	S.Romesh Tissanayagam	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	Selvaraj Sreekanthan	7	2	1	10	70.00%
	Senaka Rathnayaka	6	1	3	10	60.00%
	Shankar Dharmaratne	1	0	9	10	10.00%
	Surendra Thillainathan	0	2	8	10	0.00%
<i>Administrative Assistant Staff Coordinator</i>	Bill Richardson	10	0	0	10	100.00%
	Ms. Yvonne Charles	2	4	4	10	20.00%



8. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 BRANDING & MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE

Chairperson - Mr. Mahalingam Pradeep

The Branding and Merchandising Committee played a key role in strengthening the identity of S. Thomas' Preparatory School while contributing to the financial goals of the Union. The Committee's objectives for the year 2024/2025 were focused on three core areas: 1) enhancing sales of existing merchandise; 2) introducing new and relevant product lines; and 3) creating event-specific items that aligned with key milestones in the life of Prep School. A target of achieving sales for the value of Rs. 500,000/= for the year was set at the beginning of the financial year.

To effectively plan product rollouts and ensure their timely availability the Committee obtained the annual events calendar from the School administration. This allowed the team to align the launch of merchandise with the events being organised by the School and the OBU. A credit facility was established with key merchants to enable smoother procurement and better cash flow management. Quantities of each item were intentionally limited, ensuring exclusivity and avoiding excess inventory.

Throughout the year, a mix of heritage-inspired and practical merchandise were developed and sold. These included: Parker IM ballpoint pens - finished in black stainless steel with gold accents and engraved with the school crest; customized stainless steel water bottles (650ml and 900ml, BPA-free, double-walled insulated); themed notebooks; and Sheaffer gift sets. For student-focused initiatives, the Committee introduced exercise books and stationery packs tailored for school use. The 2025 desk calendar was also proposed, featuring full-color printing on high-quality art paper, adding a refined touch to the annual calendar of events.

A significant portion of merchandise sales centered around high-traffic events for the alumni. Notably, sales during the 43rd AGM and the Sing Along event organised by the Batch of 1998 accounted for a considerable share of the total revenue during the year. Merchandise items for these occasions included custom water bottles, Parker pens, and other accessories with branding specific to Prep School. In total, the Committee recorded merchandise sales exceeding Rs. 400,000 by early 2025, showing strong momentum toward meeting the annual sales goal.

As the year progressed, preparations began for the Sports Meet, with new product lines such as drawstring bags, caps, and t-shirts to match the event's energy and further foster School spirit. Products such as backstring bags were also lined up for approval as part of ongoing efforts to expand the merchandise portfolio.

It is hoped that the Prep Carnival, a flagship community event on Founder's Day will see large volumes of merchandise sales. The Committee played an instrumental role in enhancing the festive atmosphere and school spirit by designing and supplying



exclusive Prep Carnival t-shirts, branded caps, and string bags. It is hoped that these items will not only contribute to the visual identity of the event but also generate substantial interest and sales among attendees, including parents, students, and alumni.

The Branding and Merchandising Committee remains committed to enhancing the visibility of the Old Boys' Union and the School's legacy through well-crafted merchandise. These efforts not only strengthen alumni engagement and school pride but also provide valuable financial support for activities of the Union.



Committee Members: Adheeb Anwar, Dilshan Dissanayake, Emmanuel Ramkrishore, Haroun Cader, Kandasamy Sribawan, Kishan De Silva, Nithieskanna Sivaraj and Rajendran Samuel.

8.2 FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Chairperson - Mr. Asanga Seneviratne

During the year under review, the Fund Raising Committee remained focused on securing financial support for both activities of the School and the operational needs of the Union. In line with its mandate, the Committee worked on identifying funding opportunities, managing allocations for key School events, and contributing to the development of a comprehensive budget to guide the activities of the Union.

One of the most anticipated events of the year, Prep Carnival 2025, is set to take place later this evening, on 17th May 2025, in celebration of the School's 87th Founders' Day. Jointly organized with the School Administration, the Parent-Teachers Association and the OBU, the Prep Carnival stands as the Union's flagship fundraising initiative for the year. The Fund Raising Committee has been instrumental in steering all aspects of its planning and execution including sponsor coordination and vendor management. The event is expected to attract a strong turnout and generate significant funds in support of the School's ongoing development goals.

In addition to event execution, the Committee also initiated discussions with S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia, to explore collaborative fundraising efforts. This partnership aims to align event calendars and pool resources in a way that supports the broader goals of both institutions. These discussions mark an important step toward strengthening cross-campus engagement and shared fundraising strategies.

Throughout the year, the committee also revisited ongoing projects and explored new opportunities for long-term financial sustainability. This included considering future fundraising ideas that support the School's 'Master Plan' and introduce cost-saving measures. As the drivers of the Union's fundraising efforts, the Committee remains committed to giving financial stewardship, supporting infrastructure development, and ensuring that the OBU can continue to meet its objectives in the years ahead.

Committee Members: Govindasamy Anuragavan, Haroun Cader, Kandasamy Sribawan, Kishan De Silva, Nilantha Fernando, Senaka Ratnayake and Sulaiman Nishtar.



8.3 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Mr. Haroun Cader

Over the past year, the Infrastructure Development Committee worked closely with the administration of the School, including the Board of Governors and the Manager of the School, in supporting efforts to uplift and maintain the infrastructure of S. Thomas' Preparatory School.

Regular engagements with the Headmaster and the Manager of the School allowed the Committee to contribute meaningfully to ongoing discussions around the school's long-term 'Master Plan' ensuring that the Union remained an active partner in shaping the future of the campus. Throughout the year, the Committee also participated in discussions on proposed renovation to the Middle School Block.

In addition to contributing to strategic planning, the committee also extended support for several immediate and essential projects. One such project was the reconstruction of the School's Western boundary wall, a section of which collapsed due to the proximity to the sea and structural weakness. The Committee, on invitation by the Headmaster, acted swiftly to address this critical safety concern. Temporary safety measures were first implemented and reconstruction work on the wall was completed while ensuring the safety of students.

The Union continues to provide financial assistance where required and remains committed to supporting school-led initiatives.

The Committee was also given the task of developing the J. S. L. Fernando Memorial Room which has been allocated for the use by the Union for alumni coordination and administration. Towards, this end the Committee is drawing up plans to make optimal use of the space for administrative and archive purposes of the Union for the benefit of the alumni. The first step in this plan will be taken on the 17th of May 2025 when the photographs of all the past Secretaries of the Union will be unveiled.

The Committee expresses its sincere appreciation to the Headmaster, Rev. Nihal Fernando, for his tireless efforts in preserving and enhancing the school environment, despite the many operational challenges and for seeking the involvement of the Union. The Committee also extends its gratitude to the membership of the Union and various batches who have consistently come forward to support infrastructure-related initiatives. Their generosity and responsiveness have been instrumental in ensuring that the Union can continue to contribute meaningfully to the development of our *alma mater*.

Committee members: Akbar Ali Deen, Fayyaz Mukthar, Govindasamy Anuragavan, Kavindra Amaratunga, Mahalingam Pradeep, Ramal Githan Jayasinghe and Shankar Dharmaratne



8.4 *LEGAL, RULES, PROCEDURES & PRACTICES COMMITTEE*

Chairperson - Mr. Chanaka de Silva PC

The Legal, Rules, Procedures & Practices Committee continued its mandate of upholding governance, compliance and legal integrity across all activities of the Union and advising the Headmaster, when requested.

The Committee's primary objectives for 2024–2025 focused on the review of the Union's regulatory and procedural framework. This included a review of the Rules of the OBU, the Deed of the Trust Fund and the Guidelines for the work of the Executive Committee to ensure that these basic documents relating to the foundation and structure of the Union met the current needs of the Union and the School.

In addition, the Committee was called upon by the Headmaster and/or the Executive Committee to provide advise and support on matters of a legal or regulatory nature which included:

- **Facilitation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia:** the Committee drafted an MoU between S. Thomas' College Mount Lavinia and Prep School to facilitate enhanced cooperation on sports;
- **Advise to the Headmaster on labour laws and regulations**
- **Drafting and review of legal documentation:** all legal documents, including all the contracts for the Prep Carnival, were either drafted or reviewed by the Committee with the aim of protecting the interests of the School and the Union
- **Legal Advisory Support:** the Committee advised bot the Headmaster and the Executive Committee on issues requiring clarity in relation to governance, contractual terms, or procedural compliance.

The Committee remains committed to ensuring that the activities of the Union are governed by a legal framework and sound governance practices. The work undertaken this year reflects the Committees continued effort to promote accountability, transparency, and fairness in Schooland Union initiatives.

Committee members: A. Adheeb Anwar, Kishan De Silva, Rajindh Perera, Sithambaram Sri Ganendran.



Chairperson - Mr. Kavindra Amaratunga

The Media Team of the Executive Committee continues to play a vital role in keeping our alumni community connected, informed, and engaged. The mission of the Committee is to ensure timely, accurate, and consistent communication that not only updates but also strengthens the sense of camaraderie and pride among all Prepites.

Over the past year, the Committee has continued to enhance digital communication channels and maintain strong engagement across multiple platforms. The Committee's efforts have focused on promoting inclusivity, interaction, and participation within the Old Boys' Union and the wider alumni network.

Communication Channels & Outreach

OBU Website – www.prepobu.lk: The official website remains a central source of information for members. Launched in 2022, it continues to evolve as a comprehensive platform for alumni engagement. Prepites can now conveniently apply for their OBU membership online, as well as request replacement membership cards. The e-shop, introduced in 2023, saw a significant number of sales this year offering alumni the opportunity to proudly display their Prep heritage through branded merchandise. The web-site also provides access to Committee details, Annual and Audit Reports, and other essential updates.

Email Communication & Mass Mailers: members can reach out to the OBU via prepobuadmin@prepobu.lk for inquiries related to membership and general information. We also maintain a consistent mass email system to share event invitations, important announcements, and reminders - ensuring no member misses out on key updates.

Facebook Page: the public Facebook page continues to showcase a wide range of updates - from school news and event highlights to achievements of our alumni. It remains a powerful tool in expanding our reach and keeping the broader community informed.

Facebook Group: the private Prep OBU Facebook Group has grown to over 1,800 verified members. It remains a dynamic and interactive space where old boys can stay updated on OBU activities, share ideas, and engage with fellow alumni. The group requires a short verification process to ensure authenticity and exclusivity.

WhatsApp Batch Representatives Group: this platform continues to serve as a reliable, fast-paced communication channel between batch representatives and the Executive Committee. It allows for quick updates and coordinated efforts for events and initiatives. If your batch isn't represented, we encourage you to email us to get connected.

Instagram: the Union's Instagram presence (@prepobu) continues to resonate with younger alumni, featuring visually appealing content such as event recaps, school life snapshots, and community highlights. This platform helps bridge the generational gap and keeps younger Prepites engaged and involved.

Content & Engagement

Throughout the 2024/2025 period, the Media Team has consistently shared content that reflects the vibrant spirit of the OBU and our community. These include: School functions and results of sports encounters; obituary notices of teachers and alumni; greetings on holidays and festive occasions that highlights the diversity of the alumni; acknowledgement of donations made by alumni; and celebration of alumni achievements across academic, professional, and sporting spheres.



Prep Carnival 2025 Media Campaign

One of the major highlights of the year was the media campaign executed by the Committee for Prep Carnival 2025. The Committee handled the full spectrum of promotional activities including:

- Creative design and publishing of Facebook and Instagram posts and reels, which helped generate significant online engagement and excitement leading up to the event.
- Designing and installing billboards, dropdown banners, and posters around the school to create awareness and anticipation among students and parents.
- Coordinating and executing print advertisements across leading newspapers such as Daily Mirror, Lankadeepa, Sunday Times, and Daily FT.
- Expanding our reach through radio and television advertisements, further enhancing visibility and drawing attention to the carnival beyond our immediate community.

As we look forward to the year ahead, the Committee remains committed to strengthening connections within our community and celebrating the rich heritage of S. Thomas' Preparatory School. Thank you to all who continue to support and contribute our media efforts - it is your engagement that fuels our mission.

Committee Members: Fayyaz Mukthar, Gayan Keppetipola, Nithieskanna Sivaraj, Sithambaram Sri Ganendran, Sulaiman Nishtar, Bill Richardson

8.6 MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson - Mr. Gayan Keppetipola

The Membership Development Committee remained focused during the year 2024–2025 on expanding the Union's member base, enhancing the value proposition for members and streamlining membership management processes. Guided by its core objectives, the Committee pursued the following key focus areas:

- **Expand Membership Base:** increase engagement across batches and onboard new members through both direct outreach and strategic partnerships.
- **Enhance Value Proposition:** develop initiatives that strengthen the appeal of OBU membership.
- **Database Management:** maintain accurate, up-to-date records of all registered members.
- **Efficient Application Processing:** ensure timely processing of new member applications and improved access to membership resources.



To support membership growth, a structured outreach model was introduced by segmenting Executive Committee members to engage with different age groups. This helped facilitate communication with respective batches and follow-up. In parallel, a short informative video to guide prospective members through the application process was developed by the Committee. This video was successfully launched on social media on December 10th helping raise awareness and improve engagement.

Efforts to clean and update the Membership Database continued throughout the year, with a planned completion target of December 2024. Follow-ups were conducted with past applicants and batches previously engaged during earlier drives to ensure no interested members were left out.

A key milestone was the automatic enrollment of the 2024 batch, with the membership fee collected alongside the school fees for the third-term. This streamlined approach ensured membership to the entire batch and is expected to serve as a model for future onboarding efforts.

The committee also sought to leverage Character Certificates issued by School to identify and approach eligible students and their families for post-school membership engagement. Although no new certificates were issued in recent months, the initiative remains ongoing.

Additionally, collaboration with the newly established Parent Teachers' Association has been initiated to identify parents who are former Prepites and encourage their active participation in the Union.

The Membership Development Committee remains committed to building a stronger and more inclusive alumni network through efficient processes, targeted engagement, and ongoing member support. These efforts continue to enhance the presence and sustainability of the Union.

Committee Members: Dilshan Dissanayake, Emmanuel Ramkrishore, Nithieskanna Sivaraj, Pankaja Arun Weerasekara, Ravindrah Sivasithamparam, Selvaraj Sreekanthan, Sithambaram Sri Ganendran. Assisted by Bill Richardson.

8.7 OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chairperson - Mr. Sithambaram Sri Ganendran

The Outreach Committee's efforts during the year 2024–2025 were centered on strengthening engagement across the alumni community by building structured networks, enhancing communication channels and reviving key initiatives. With a clear mandate to widen the Union's reach beyond interactions which focused on batch/class groups, the Committee focused on inclusive, scalable approaches that cater to the diversity of the alumni.



Recognizing that the Union must evolve with its growing membership and the changing dynamics of alumni interaction, the Outreach Committee proposed a broader and more inclusive framework. The key goal was to create multiple, overlapping **networks** that enable alumni to connect with the School and each other in ways that go beyond traditional affiliations. These networks include:

- **Batch/Class-Based Groups:** covering alumni from 1938 through 2023, with WhatsApp groups set up and managed by batch representatives
- **School Activity-Based Networks:** alumni are grouped based on shared school interests and participation, in activities such as scouting, aesthetic interests such as drama and singing and sports
- **Professional Networks:** aimed at leveraging expertise and encouraging mentorship, these include:
- **Overseas Alumni Networks:** engaging Prepites domiciled abroad by establishing regional groups and facilitating virtual meetings.

To support the above vision, the committee initiated a timeline-based action plan that included:

1. **Creating WhatsApp Groups:** for registered batches, with formal representatives such as the President or Secretary added to ensure structured communication.
2. **Developing a Central Tracker:** to monitor and organize alumni networks formed around school activities and professions.
3. **Reconnecting with Overseas Chapters:** with efforts underway to identify active members and formalize representation across regions.
4. **Setting Up WhatsApp Groups for Overseas Communities:** enabling real-time updates and the coordination of virtual meetups.

The Outreach Committee remains committed to expanding and deepening engagement with the Prep School Community. Through these structured networks and communication initiatives, the Committee seeks to ensure that all alumni, regardless of age, location, or profession, have a meaningful and active connection to their *alma mater*.

Committee Members: Akbar Ali Deen, Emmanuel Ramkrishore, Fayyaz Mukthar, Gayan Keppetipola, Hiran Molligoda, Nilantha Fernando, Rajindh Perera, Ramal Githan Jayasinghe, Shankar Dharmaratne



Chairperson – Mr. Fayyaz Mukthar

The School Liaison Subcommittee continues to serve as a vital bridge between the Old Boys' Union and the School administration, with a primary focus on fostering meaningful engagement and contributing to the holistic development of both students and faculty. This year, the Committee focused its efforts on identifying key areas where targeted support and guidance could enrich the educational environment and overall well-being of the School's stakeholders.

Faculty Engagement

Initial discussions were held with school faculty to better understand their professional development needs. Through these conversations, several focus areas were identified that extend **beyond** conventional teaching methodologies:

- **Legal Aspects of Education** – understanding the rights and responsibilities of educators in the context of evolving laws and policies on education
- **Psychological Approaches to Teaching** - applying psychological insights to enhance classroom engagement and support diverse learning styles
- **Stress Management & Mental Wellness** - providing tools and techniques for managing occupational stress and maintaining overall well-being

In response, the Committee connected with subject matter experts who have expressed willingness to conduct targeted training sessions and seminars on these topics. While arrangements are in progress, scheduling challenges due to a busy school calendar have necessitated a delayed rollout. Faculty involvement in various events, often extending into term holidays, has made it difficult to coordinate sessions during the school year. However, with continued support from the administration, the Committee aims to initiate these programs in the coming months.

Student Engagement

Parallel consultations with student leaders and counselors highlighted several areas where the student body could benefit from additional support and awareness-building. Based on these insights, the subcommittee is working on a series of programs covering:

- **Health & Nutrition** - educating students on balanced diets, lifestyle habits, and the impact of physical health on academic performance
- **Peer Pressure & Emotional Resilience** - addressing common social pressures faced by adolescents and promoting positive mental health practices



- **Balancing Academics & Sports** - helping students manage time and expectations across both academic and extracurricular pursuits
- **Career Awareness & Guidance** - introducing a wide range of career options and helping students make informed decisions about their futures.

These programs will be implemented in close coordination with the school administration on a staggered basis. The proposed cadence is one session every two months, allowing ample time for planning, execution, and follow-up while avoiding disruption to core academic activities.

The collaboration between the Committee and the leadership of the School has been instrumental in shaping these initiatives. The willingness of the administration to allocate time, space and personnel towards these efforts has laid the foundation for impactful engagement. The coming months will see these plans take form, as we continue to support the holistic development of the Prep School community through meaningful and timely interventions.

Committee Members: Chanaka de Silva, Emmanuel Ramkrishore, Hiran Molligoda, Kavindra Amaratunga, Rajindh Perera, Selvaraj Sreekanthan, Sulaiman Nishtar

8.9 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson - Mr. Romesh Tissainayagam

As in the past, during the year under review, the Sports Development Committee once again took initiatives to enhance the sporting culture at S. Thomas Preparatory School.

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee on 17th July 2024 the Sports Development Committee presented its year plan for 2024 -2025. The plan was an ambitious one with no less than seven (7) initiatives / projects being identified by the Committee in consultation with the administration of the School.

The most ambitious project that was identified was the construction of a cross fit centre for students along with artificial turfing of the School grounds (at the rear). The cost of the project was estimated to be in excess of Rupees Fifty Million and the Committee hoped to raise the funds primarily from the alumni both in Sri Lanka and from overseas. Initiatives were well underway to get the assistance of the alumni when the project had to be stopped in view of uncertainties that prevail with regard to the extension of the Marine Drive. Despite this setback the Committee, through the good offices of one of its active members Vice President Mr. Asanga Seneviratne, was successful in getting two cricket nets constructed free of with the assistance of Sri Lanka Cricket at the school premises to enhance the facilities for cricket practices within the school premises.



The Sports Development Committee also played a significant role in coordinating and finalising a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between S. Thomas College Mount Lavinia and S. Thomas' Preparatory School on sports.

The Sports Development Committee continued to hold quarterly meetings with the Teachers-in-Charge and Coaches of all the sports. These meetings were fruitful since it gave an opportunity for the Committee to understand the requirements of the students, teachers and coaches that needed to be addressed. During these discussions two important matters were identified, namely: 1) the fact that there was no proper scheme to reimburse teachers and coaches for incidental expenses they incurred such as for travel and meals; and that there wasn't a uniform contract for coaches. The Committee is in the process of addressing both these issues. A review is underway of the present scheme for reimbursement of incidental expenses incurred by teachers and coaches with a view to proposing a new formula for reimbursement and the Legal Committee is in the process of drafting a uniform contract for all coaching staff.

The Sports Development Committee takes this opportunity to thank the Headmaster for inviting the membership of the Union for the Youth Rugby Carnival which was organised by Prep School for the second successive year on 15th June 2024 and also for the press conference held to launch the event.

In conclusion, the Committee acknowledges the support given by the stakeholders who have helped the Committee in numerous ways in carrying out their tasks successfully.

Committee Members: Adheeb Anwar, Asanga Seneviratne, Kandasamy Sribawan, Mahalingam Pradeep, Pankaja Arun Weerasekara, Ravindra Sivasithamparam, Shankar Dharmaratne and Surendra Thillainathan



9. FINANCIAL REPORT

In the fiscal year 2024/2025, the Old Boys' Union continued to maintain a strong financial position despite a reduction in income due to external market conditions. Total income for the year stood at Rs. 880,000/=, down from Rs. 1.27 million in the previous year, primarily due to a decline in interest income following a drop in prevailing interest rates.

On a positive note, total expenses were significantly reduced from Rs. 753,445/= to Rs. 430,823/=, reflecting effective cost control measures and prudent financial management by the Union.

The total assets of the OBU increased from Rs. 20.38 million to Rs. 20.94 million, further strengthening the Union's financial base. This growth demonstrates continued stability and positions the OBU well to support upcoming school development initiatives.

While income was impacted this year, the Union's efficient expense management and steady asset growth reflect its continued commitment to financial stewardship and long-term planning. The OBU remains focused on supporting infrastructure development and other programs by the School. These results reaffirm the Executive Committee's commitment to ensuring that the Union's resources are managed responsibly and strategically, always in service of the enduring progress of S. Thomas' Preparatory School.



10. REPORT ON NEW MEMBERS

The following alumni obtained membership of the Old Boys' Union since the last Annual General Meeting. It is the highest enrolment of new members according to the available records.

Membership No	Name	Membership No	Name
2374	S.Y.C.D. WICKREMASINGHE	2420	S J JOSEPH
2375	N.I. THOTAWATTE	2421	UUKDP PERERA
2376	H.G. FERNANDO	2422	K VASEEHARAN
2377	D.M. KODIKARA	2423	B.RIFFAZ
2378	JAYASEKARA K.A.T.D.	2424	DEVANAND S
2379	CADER A.R.	2425	D.LAKSHMIKANTH
2380	WICKRAMAGE V.M.	2426	R.P.R NILNUKA
2381	SENATHIRAJAH D.A.	2427	S.CHANJAYAN
2382	ABRAHAM P.N.	2428	MOSES D.P
2383	M.N.L.S. MENDIS	2429	M.S.SHAMIL
2384	KANDASAMY D.	2430	R.A SRIYATHAWAN
2385	MANSOOR S.S.	2431	M.N.DEVARAJ
2386	KOSGAHAKUMBURA K.N.M.S.L.	2432	Y.THAVACHELVAN
2387	S. VIKASH	2433	D.J.D.A.SUBASINGHE
2388	S.H. KARUNAMOORTHY	2434	K.M.S.S.B.KEERTHISINGHE
2389	R.SANJAIE	2435	NAGARATNAM A. S
2390	C. L. JAYASINGHE	2436	B.K.S. SAMARASINGHE
2391	M.D.H.I PERERA	2437	K.H.A.FERNANDO
2392	T.E. RAHIM	2438	A M LOGARAJ
2393	MANUWELGE D.M.	2439	A.S.DELPITIYA
2394	M.S. SHAMSUDEEN	2440	S.AAKARSAN
2395	S.J. JOSEPH	2441	A . SASSVINTH
2396	R.Y.R. SOURAJ	2442	D.L.D.S.T.JAYASINGHE
2397	PANANGALA S.P.K.	2443	MOSES D.P
2398	C.L.B. PETHIYAGODA	2444	N.YUKHAPPIRIYAN
2399	K.H.A. THEVINDU KEMITHA	2445	DISSANAYAKE J.D
2400	V V JAYASINGHE	2446	N.D. AUGUSTINE
2401	JAYASINGHE J.A.H.A	2447	T.M SENADHEERA
2402	SUNDARARAJ	2448	J.A.RAJADURAI
2403	DISSANAYAKE Y.I	2449	R.JAYDON
2404	N R DIAS ABYESINGHE	2450	S S ARAMBAWATHTHA ARACHCHI
2405	M J GNANAPRAGASAM	2451	S.V.WELAGEDARA
2406	M. A. DEEN	2452	BANDARA R.M.O.S.
2407	JAYASINGHE J.A.H.A	2453	W. M. O. L NAVARATNE
2408	K.N.M.S.L. KOSGAHAKUMBURA	2454	S.L.N.R.HANSANA
2409	S A DE SILVA	2455	T.U. WELIKALA
2410	GUNAWARDENA B.Y.	2456	J. Y. ASHOKKUMAR
2411	M.D.H.I PERERA	2457	M.S.MUTHALIF
2412	D. ROBERT	2458	T.D.T.D.ALWIS
2413	R.SANJAIE	2459	N.SHARAU
2414	S GNANIAH	2460	WEERASUNDARA N N B
2415	SUNDARARAJ	2461	S KIRUTHHIKES
2416	B M R LYE	2462	M. N. I. WICKREMATILAKE
2417	DISSANAYAKE Y.I	2463	SHIBLY M D T
2418	N R DIAS ABYESINGHE	2464	K.D.T.P GUNARATHNA
2419	T. SUWARNNASABAESAN		

11 ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

11.1 OBU Activities

11.1.1. Prep Carnival 2025 – A Community Fundraiser for Our Alma Mater

Prep Carnival 2025 is a shining example of what can be achieved when the S. Thomas' Preparatory School community comes together with purpose and unity. Taking place on 17th May 2025, the event holds added significance as it aligns with the celebration of the school's 87th Founders' Day, marking a meaningful moment in our shared journey.

This flagship fundraising initiative is the result of close collaboration between the School Administration, the Old Boys' Union (OBU), and the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). These three pillars of the school have worked collectively to shape and deliver an event focused on enhancing school infrastructure and enriching student programs.

The Carnival is set to bring together students, parents, alumni, and friends of Prep for an evening of celebration, featuring games, stalls, food, music, merchandise, and entertainment for all ages. More than just a fundraiser, it is a celebration of the vibrant spirit that defines Prep School—where tradition is honored and innovation is embraced.

Funds raised from the Carnival will go directly towards school development priorities, supporting our continued mission to provide a well-rounded and future-ready educational experience for all students.

The OBU extends its sincere thanks to the Headmaster, Rev. Nihal Fernando, the school administration and staff, the PTA, the students, and all organizing teams for their hard work and dedication. We warmly invite the entire Prep community to be part of this effort and help make Prep Carnival 2025 a resounding success.



GET READY FOR THE PREP CARNIVAL



Bubble Balloon House



Catching Sticks



Rifle Shooting



Dunk Tank



Jet - Merry go around



Horror House



An evening of fun for the whole family with exciting rides, games and loads of food



S.THOMAS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL, KOLLUPITIYA

**PREP
CARNIVAL
2025**

17TH MAY 6 PM ONWARDS

11.2 OBU Participation

11.2.1 Youth Rugby Carnival

The OBU participated in and extended its support to the Youth Rugby Carnival organized by the school. The event featured teams from leading schools in Colombo and outstation, with matches played across under-10, under-12, and under-14 age groups, along with an open A-side tournament. It was a spirited day of youth sports, and the OBU was proud to be present in encouragement of the young Prepites.











11.2.2 Prep Night Pulse 2024

The OBU was pleased to support Prep Night Pulse 2024, a vibrant evening carnival organized by the school prefects as a fundraising initiative. The event brought together students, parents, alumni, and well-wishers in a lively atmosphere filled with music, games, and food, all in support of ongoing school development efforts. It was a great opportunity for the OBU to engage with the wider school community and encourage student-led initiatives.



The poster for Prep Night Pulse 2024 features a vibrant background of a night carnival with people dancing and colorful lights. At the top, it says 'STPS PREFECTS BODY 2024' next to the school crest. The main title 'PREP NIGHT PULSE 2024' is prominently displayed in large, bold, white letters. Below the title, it says 'POWERED BY SEYLAN BANK PLC'. The event date and time are listed as '09TH AUG | 05.00PM ONWARDS'. A list of activities includes 'MUSIC DJ', 'FOOD STALLS', 'GAMES', 'RIFLE SHOOTING', 'BOUNCY CASTLES', 'MERRY-GO-ROUND', and 'FACE PAINTING'. At the bottom, various sponsors are listed with their logos: Gold Sponsor (Maru), Bronze Sponsors (dsf, Loyds, DICTA), Educational Sponsor (PCHE), Official Electronic Media Partner (tvG), and Ticketing Partner (Sarasavi).

STPS
PREFECTS BODY
2024

**PREP
NIGHT
PULSE** 2024

POWERED BY **SEYLAN**
BANK PLC

**09TH
AUG** | 05.00PM
ONWARDS

TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

MUSIC
DJ
FOOD STALLS
GAMES
RIFLE SHOOTING
BOUNCY CASTLES
MERRY-GO-ROUND
FACE PAINTING

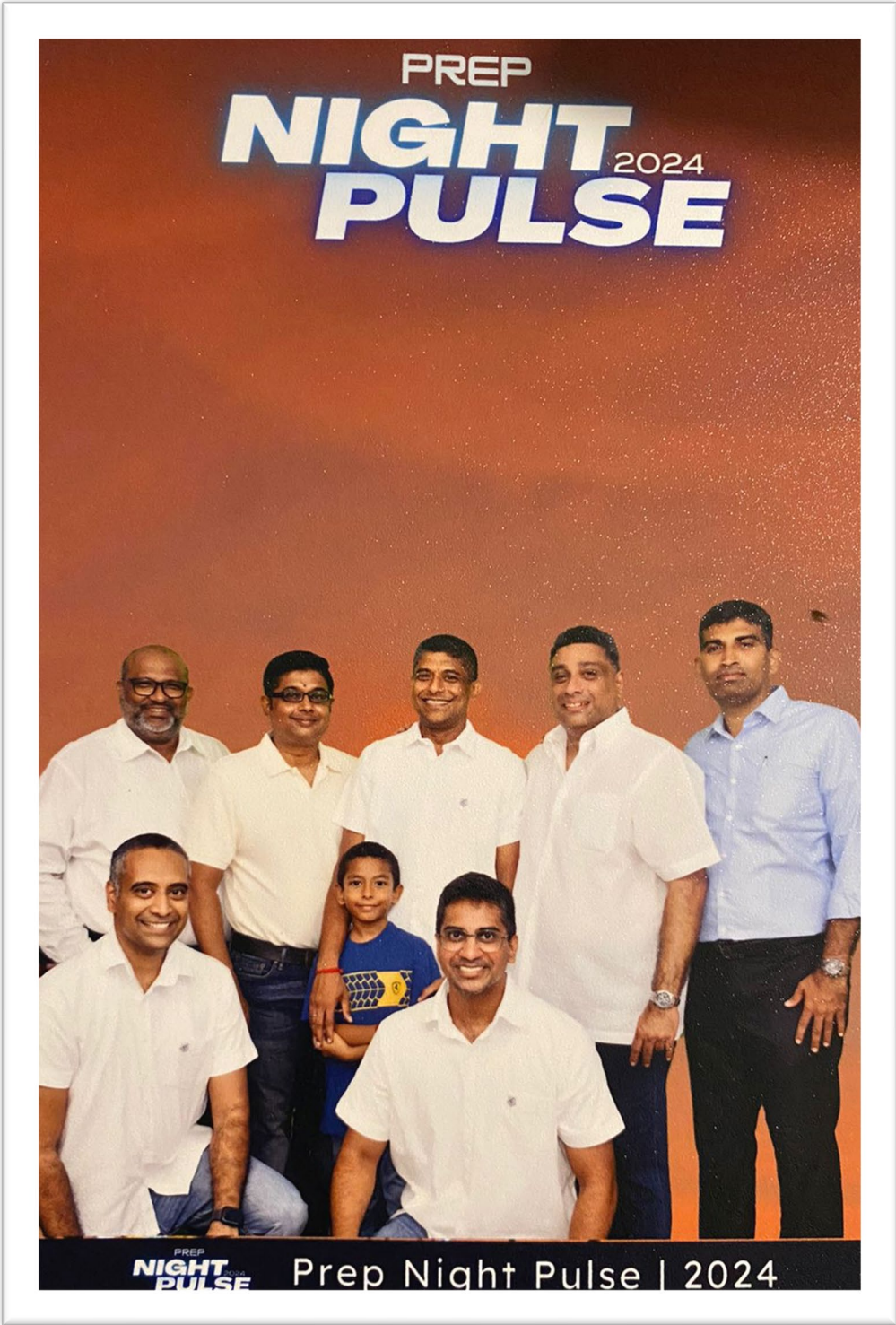
GOLD SPONSOR
MARU

BRONZE SPONSORS
dsf
Loyds
DICTA

EDUCATIONAL SPONSOR
PCHE

**OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC
MEDIA PARTNER**
tvG

**TICKETING
PARTNER**
Sarasavi
bookshop (pvt) ltd





11.2.3 Sing Along with Lunu Dehi by the batch of 1998

The OBU participated in and supported the Sing Along with Lunu Dehi event organized by the Batch of 1998. Held as a fundraising initiative, the evening brought together past Prepites and well-wishers for a night of music and fellowship.



 COMMITTEE OF S THOMAS PREP
BATCH OF 1998 

SING ALONG WITH **LUNU DEHI**

A FUNDRAISER TOWARDS SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

14TH
SEPTEMBER
7 PM
GRAND MONARCH,
THALAWATHUGODA

RS 6500/- | **BYOB**
(DINNER INCLUDED)

FOR TICKETS:
Jushan 0717828940 | Julian 0773953673





11.2.4 Kalai Madhuaram

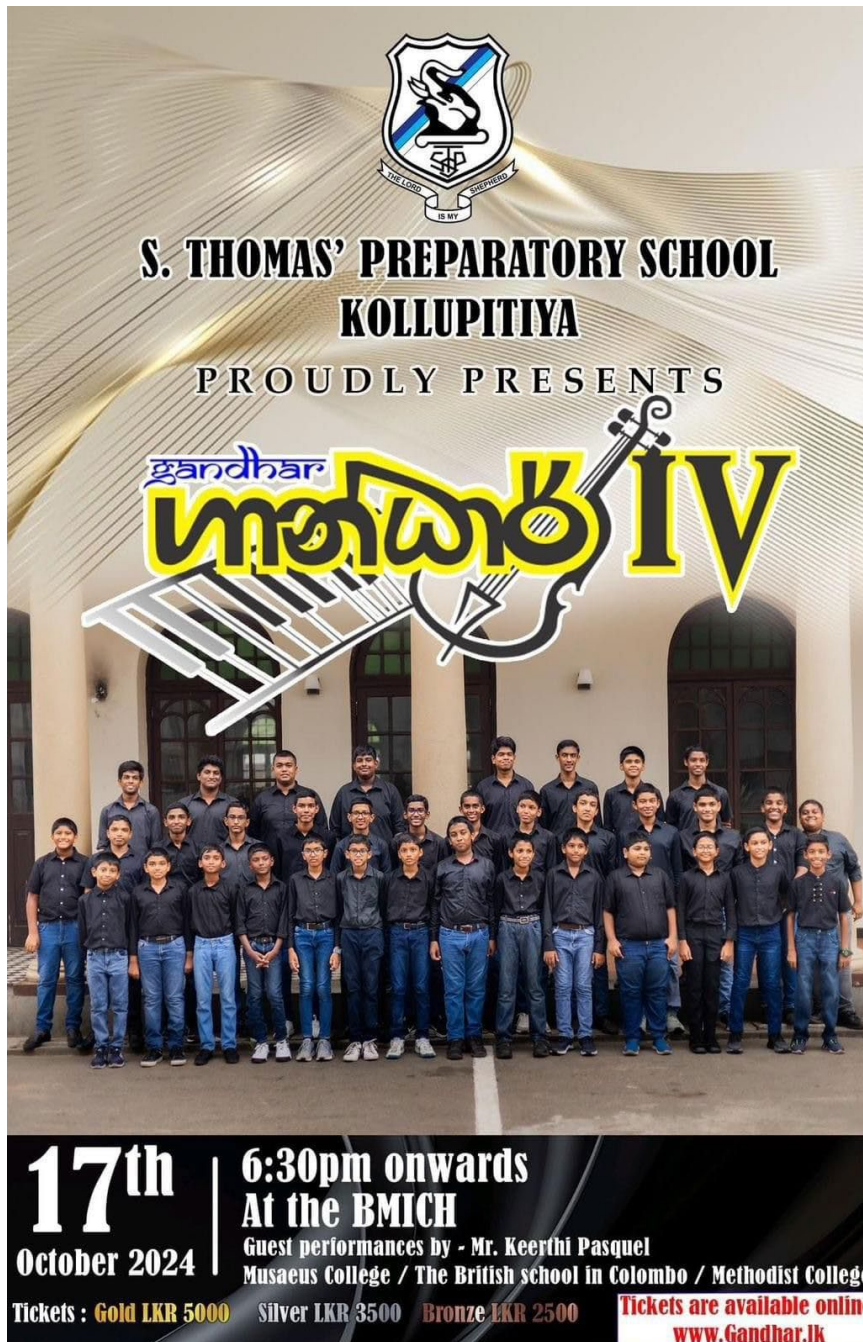
The OBU extended its support to Kalai Maduram, a Tamil cultural show presented by the Tamil Union of S. Thomas' Preparatory School. The event showcased the rich heritage of Tamil music, dance, and drama, highlighting the diverse cultural fabric of the school.





11.2.5 Gandhar IV

The OBU was proud to support *Gandhar IV*, the annual orchestral concert by the talented students of S. Thomas' Preparatory School. The evening featured a captivating blend of classical, contemporary, and orchestral performances, showcasing the musical talents of the young Prepites. It was a memorable celebration of creativity, discipline, and school spirit.



**S. THOMAS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL
KOLLUPITIYA**
PROUDLY PRESENTS

gandhar IV

17th
October 2024

6:30pm onwards
At the BMICH

Guest performances by - Mr. Keerthi Pasquel
Musaicus College / The British school in Colombo / Methodist College

Tickets : Gold LKR 5000 Silver LKR 3500 Bronze LKR 2500

Tickets are available online
www.Gandhar.lk





11.2.6 Swimming Meet 2024

The OBU was pleased to be present at the Inter-House Swimming Meet 2024, held to encourage healthy competition and athletic excellence among Prepites. The event saw enthusiastic participation from all houses, with students showcasing their talent and team spirit in the pool. The OBU extends its continued support for school sporting events that promote discipline, determination, and camaraderie.



11.2.7 Little Legends Live – Primary School Concert

The OBU was delighted to support Little Legends Live, the Primary School concert of S. Thomas' Preparatory School. The event showcased the enthusiasm and talent of the youngest Prepites through vibrant performances filled with music, dance, and storytelling. It was a joyful celebration of creativity and confidence, warmly received by parents and the school community.



11.2.8. The Knights' Rise – Organized by STC Bandarawela OBA

The OBU was pleased to participate in The Knights' Rise, the annual Thomian Dinner Dance organized by the Old Boys' Association of S. Thomas' College, Bandarawela. Held on 30th November 2024 at the Golden Rose, Boralesgamuwa, the event brought together Thomians from across the branches for an evening of fellowship, music, and celebration. With lively performances by Taxi and Redeemers, and a warm atmosphere of camaraderie, the night reflected the enduring spirit of the Thomian family.



11.2.9 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 2024

The OBU participated in the Annual Carol Service of S. Thomas' Preparatory School, held on Sunday, 8th December 2024, at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Polwatte. This much-loved tradition, known as the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, brought together students, staff, parents, and alumni for an evening of scripture, worship, and moving choral performances. The service beautifully captured the spirit of Christmas, offering a message of joy, peace, and unity to all in attendance.





11.2.10 Prize Giving 2024

The OBU was proud to be present at the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Prize Giving 2024, an event that celebrated academic excellence, co-curricular achievements, and student leadership. It was a moment of recognition for the hard work and dedication of students and staff alike, and the OBU remains committed to supporting and encouraging the pursuit of excellence within the school community.





11.2.11 Sports Meet 2025

The OBU proudly participated in the Annual Sports Meet 2025 of S. Thomas' Preparatory School, which celebrated athleticism, teamwork, and school spirit. The event saw energetic participation from all houses, with students showcasing their talents across a range of track and field events. The OBU continues to support such initiatives that foster discipline, determination, and camaraderie among Prepites.





12 CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE ALUMNI

12.1 Batch of 1990 Celebrates 50th Birthdays with a Meaningful Contribution

In 2024, the Batch of 1990 of S. Thomas' Preparatory School came together to celebrate a significant personal milestone—their 50th birthdays. To mark this special occasion, the batch collectively raised Rs. 4.5 million to give back to their beloved alma mater in a lasting and impactful way.

With the funds raised, the batch donated three smartboards and fifteen laptops, significantly enhancing the school's Information Technology Lab and fulfilling a long-standing need for expanded digital learning resources.

Additionally, to coincide with the upcoming 2025 School Carnival, part of the donation was allocated for the purchase of new sports equipment and much-needed improvements to the school's infrastructure—further supporting the holistic development of current students.

The smartboards and laptops were officially handed over to the Headmaster, Rev. Nihal Fernando, during a simple ceremony, where he graciously hosted the batch for tea and expressed his heartfelt appreciation for their generosity and continued support.

This thoughtful gesture by the Batch of 1990 stands as a testament to their enduring connection to the school and their shared commitment to the future of its students.





12.2 Donation by the Batch of 1996

The Past Prepites of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Batch of 1996 generously donated funds toward the Cricket Nets Project, an initiative undertaken to enhance the school's in-house cricketing facilities. The donation was officially handed over to Headmaster Rev. Nihal Fernando by representatives of the Batch of '96, in the presence of the Honorary Treasurer of the OBU.



12.3 1998 Batch Contributions

The Batch of 1998 has continued to play a vital role in supporting the development and well-being of the S. Thomas' Preparatory School community. This year, they once again organized a health screening program for the school's academic and non-academic staff, carried out in collaboration with Hemas Hospitals. This initiative, held annually, offers essential healthcare services at no cost to the staff and has become a much-anticipated event on the school calendar. In a time when access to affordable healthcare is increasingly challenging, this project stands out as a meaningful and practical expression of gratitude toward those who serve the school daily.

In addition to their continued commitment to staff welfare, the Batch also organized a vibrant fundraising event titled Sing Along with LUNUDEHI, held on September 2024. The event brought together members of the extended Prep community in an evening of fellowship and entertainment. All proceeds from the event were donated to the school and allocated toward the establishment of a dedicated Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab, further supporting Prep's efforts to integrate modern technology into its academic programs.

The Old Boys' Union extends its heartfelt thanks to the Batch of 1998 for their unwavering support over the years. Their consistent and thoughtful contributions have made a lasting impact on the school, and we remain deeply grateful for their continued involvement and generosity.





13 ACHIEVEMENTS

Anura Meddegoda, PC - Appointed President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka

We are proud to recognize distinguished alumnus Anura Meddegoda, President's Counsel, on his appointment as the President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL). As a leading figure in the legal profession, his election to this esteemed position is a testament to his dedication, integrity, and service to the legal community. His achievement brings great honour to S. Thomas' Preparatory School, and we celebrate this milestone with immense pride as part of our ever-growing legacy of leadership and excellence.



Chamin Kalubowila

Winner of the CSACL Chairman's Gold Medal and Multiple Academic Awards

We are proud to recognize Chamin Kalubowila, an outstanding alumnus of S. Thomas' Preparatory School, for his exceptional achievements at the City School of Architecture (CSA). Chamin was awarded the CSACL Chairman's Gold Medal for the Overall Best Student, the highest honour presented by the institution. In addition, he received four other prestigious awards, including:

- Forum CSA Award – Student of the Year 2024
- CSA Research Award – Larsen A & CE Award in Memory of Archt. Ole B. Larsen
- Overall Best Student Award – Design & Dissertation
- Excellence in Design Award

Chamin's dedication to excellence in design and research exemplifies the spirit of discipline, creativity, and academic rigor instilled at Prep. We extend our heartfelt congratulations and look forward to his continued success in the field of architecture.



14 LOOKING FORWARD: SUSTAINING PROGRESS, INSPIRING THE FUTURE

As we look to the future, the S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys' Union reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the long-term development of our beloved alma mater. Guided by the school's evolving Master Plan, we have worked closely with the Headmaster and the school administration to prioritize key initiatives and support ongoing improvements to facilities and student life.

One of the major projects in focus is the proposed new middle school block—a modern, purpose-designed facility that will feature classrooms, laboratories, and multipurpose areas. This initiative reflects our vision of creating an enriching, future-ready learning environment and remains a top priority as we progress through the stages of planning, approvals, and fundraising.

Prep Carnival 2025, scheduled for the 87th Founders' Day, marks a major step forward in our fundraising journey. This event, jointly organized by the school administration, PTA, and OBU, brings together the broader Prep community in a celebration of unity and school spirit. The funds raised will directly support development priorities and reinforce our mission of contributing meaningfully to the school's growth.

Beyond large-scale infrastructure efforts, the Union has continued to provide targeted support for ongoing projects—from facility maintenance to wellness programs and student development initiatives—demonstrating our responsiveness to both short-term and long-term school needs. We commend the Headmaster and his team for their steadfast commitment to executing these improvements, even amidst significant challenges.

In the coming year, we aim to broaden our fundraising reach, deepen engagement with Prep networks overseas, and build stronger partnerships with our Thomian sister schools to share resources and insights. Our path forward is one of collaboration and continuity, rooted in the values that have defined Prep School for generations.

As we embrace this next chapter, we call on all Prepites, parents, and supporters to be part of this shared journey. Together, let us continue to build on our legacy and ensure S. Thomas' Preparatory School remains a place of excellence, tradition, and transformation for years to come.



15 SCHOOL SONG

Cheer, Cheer, Prep School Boys,
For our home by the roaring billows,
That sound their song in our ears all day,
And lull us at night on our pillows.

Chorus:

Cheer, Cheer, Prep School Boys,
Sing we in cheerful chorus,
We'll cherish the School of our youthful years
Through Life that lies before us

Cheer, Cheer, Prep School Boys,
For our Flag with its colours flying,
Dark blue, Light blue and Gleaming White,
Gaily the breeze defying

Cheer, Cheer Prep School Boys,
Though we're small we've brains and muscle,
And have shown we can hold our own ere this
In many a friendly tussle

Cheer, Cheer, Prep School Boys,
For the games we play together,
Play with vim in the sunshine bright,
Nor less in a rainy weather

Cheer, Cheer Prep School Boys,
For our tasks (Tho' we often shirk them),
History, Grammar, Science, Sums,
Which are wrong as a rule when we work them

Chorus:

Cheer, Cheer, Prep School boys
Sing we in cheerful chorus,
We'll cherish the School of our youthful years
Through Life that lies before us

L. A. L. Blanchard



16 APPENDICES

Annexure 1 – Ex-Officio President, Revd. Nihal Fernando’s Speech

Good morning to all of you!

Members of the Old Boy’s Union of S. Thomas’ Preparatory School and distinguished guests, I welcome you all to the Annual General Meeting for 2023. It is my honor and privilege to address you as the headmaster of Prep School and the President of the OBU. In my keynote address today, I take this opportunity to fill you in on the goings on at Prep School.

Let me begin by thanking the Lord for making regular face-to-face meetings of this nature a possibility again. This year is a very special one as Prep School celebrated its 85th anniversary on the 17th of this month. It was indeed wonderful to have our dear Bishop his Lordship, the Rt. Rev. Dushantha Rodrigo grace the occasion alongside many other distinguished guests. As we celebrated founders’ day this year, it is important to highlight the rich heritage of the school, which is what makes it such a special place.

Back in 1938, Mr. W. T. Keble had a vision for the school he founded. An Oxford graduate who came to Sri Lanka in 1929 to work at S. Thomas’ College Mount Lavinia, he was a strong believer in the benefits of preparatory schools, prompting the development of Prep School in 1938 under his tutelage. Known to be a teacher who taught by precept and example, it is said that he would not ask a boy to do what he would not. Suchlike leaders have been instrumental in making the school one of the most sought-after educational institutions in the country.

According to the school history book, it was during the time of the first headmaster Mr. N.G. Abeynaike, precisely on the 10th of July 1948 that an OBU was first formed. This is an interesting fact because we are gathered here today at the AGM, and it is important to know how it all began.

Looking back at the likes of Mr J.T.R. Perinpanayagam, Mr. J.S.L Fernando and the more recent Mr N.Y. Cassie Chetty and The Rt. Rev. Dushantha Rodrigo, the Bishop of Colombo, Prep School has always been blessed with the best. They have all upheld the values of the school and strived hard to sustain excellence.

As we recall all the great people who have made Prep School what it is today, we cannot forget the teachers who have always been its pillars of strength. Among them are those who served the school for 25 years or more. One cannot miss the early teachers like Miss Mary Karunaratne and Mr J.S.L Fernando himself. Among the more recent names, at the mention of the likes of Mrs Sathasivam, Mrs J.S.M Jacob, Mrs S.Sureshchandra and Mrs E.L Benedict, one may be taken back to one’s early years as a student at Prep School. I must mention the sectional head of the middle school, Miss Yvonne Charles and the Sectional Head of the Primary School, Mrs Nishanthi Logaraj, who have both given their best to the school and continue to do so.



As I mention those who have contributed towards bringing recognition to the school, I am obligated to mention the Prep Alumni, who have kept the school flag flying high across the world. I am confident that we will continue to produce students who will make us proud.

Prep School, although small, has always been mighty in matters of importance. We have proven time and again that the grit of the Thomian fraternity is unmatched. Our boys have maintained an excellent track record in academics by once again producing the best results among the 4 Thomian schools.

Also, in the field of extra-curricular activities, our boys continue to shine. While we have produced many great sportsmen through the years, we have students who are part of the national teams of their respective sports.

In terms of our education system, it is a relief to be able to go back to the traditional face-to-face learning method for which the current syllabus was originally designed. While we all learnt many invaluable lessons as we played our respective roles at Prep School, our endurance levels were enhanced through all those trying times. Now that we are able to function normally, we must remember, most importantly, that we are now handling children who have been in close contact with technology and devices. It is a learning experience for us to manage them and use these newfound facilities optimally. I feel like they need a lot of exposure outdoors to make up for the artificial setting that was normalized due to the pandemic.

As an institution known for its excellence, what exactly makes it possible to sustain this through many decades one may ask, I believe the response lies in the concerted effort put in by the school administration, the tutorial staff and the parents who are also the Old Boys. Once we are part of this great school, we learn its ways and adapt and then strive to uphold its values and impart this to our students. This is why, at an event such as our Annual General Meeting, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of continuing this journey as a team. It is only with the support of each and every one of you that we can continue to upkeep Prep School, our second home.

As the school is in its 85th year, we have plans to develop the school in many spheres. Whilst optimizing overall results pertaining to education, we must provide students with modern day facilities and a state-of-the-art environment that is conducive to their education. Similarly, they must be given the best training and facilities to bring out the best in them in the field of sports. There have also been many new clubs and societies introduced to students while they continue to develop many skills as members. I firmly believe that it is essential for our boys to partake in as many activities as possible, which will only help develop a well-rounded individual. Therefore, it is essential that the school provides them with the best support system.

As we are gathered here today, I am honored to be among the crème of the Past Prepites who remain connected with their school. We are all proud about how our old boys have reached soaring heights in their respective fields and stand proud as members of the Thomian family with their counterparts. It is essential that we continue to teach our young ones what our ancestors have taught us. In order to do this, I urge the old boys to give me their fullest support as I journey through my task.



Thank you for your presence today, and I am grateful to each and every one of you who took time out of your busy schedules to be here. I pledge my fullest support to uphold the true spirit of Prep School and hope we collectively continue in our mission to preserve the true spirit of the school.

Thank you.

“The Lord is my Shepherd.”

God Bless you all.

**Rev. Nihal Fernando
Headmaster, Ex-Officio, President
S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys Union**

Annexure 2 – Re-appointed Hony. General Secretary Sithambaram Sri Ganendran's Speech

Good morning! I stand before you today with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and enthusiasm as I take on the role of Secretary for the second consecutive year at the S. Thomas' Prep School, Old Boys' Union. This moment fills me with immense pride and a deep commitment to serve this esteemed organization with ardent passion.

First, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Bishop of Colombo, Rt Rev Dushantha Rodrigo, whose unwavering support, and guidance have been the driving force behind our collective achievements. His visionary leadership has instilled in us the values of integrity, compassion, and excellence that we proudly carry in our hearts as Prepites.

I must also extend my deepest gratitude to our Headmaster, whose untiring dedication to our institution has transformed countless lives. Under your inspiring leadership, S. Thomas' Prep has flourished into an institution of academic excellence, fostering the holistic development of our young Prepites. Your commitment to nurturing young minds and shaping future leaders is nothing short of remarkable.

To the members of the Executive Committee, I cannot thank you enough for your tireless efforts and relentless pursuit of our Union's objectives. It is through your hard work and dedication that we continue to uphold the rich legacy of our alma mater. Together, we have created a vibrant community that cherishes its past while embracing the future with open arms.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the staunch support of our fellow alumni, whose passion and involvement have been the lifeblood of our Union. Your contributions, whether through mentorship, financial assistance, or simply showing up at our events, have made an indelible impact on our shared journey. It is your love for S. Thomas' Prep that unites us and propels us forward.



As I stand here today, I am reminded of a powerful modern quote by Steve Jobs: "The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do." Let us embrace our Prep spirit, harness our collective potential, and dare to dream big. Together, we have the power to make a real difference in the lives of our fellow Prepites, our community, and the world at large.

Quoting Miss L. A. L Blanchard from our School Hymn, I would like to remind and call upon each of you.

***Live with us in the school we love,
Be our companion day by day,
Against all evil make us brave,
And share our work and play.***

Many members of the Prep Community have supported us in many ways during the last year for the projects, events, and day to day operations of the OBU and the ExCo. I would like to specifically record my sincere appreciation and gratitude to a Past Prepite from Class of 1994, Indrajit Kanagasabai for his continuous support with his creative artwork, designing and technical support. Bill Richardson, our Administration Assistant, for all his efforts with a cheerful outlook. Special mention to our Junior Prepite, Aadhil Mukthar, who has been assisting us with his photography skills at events.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your trust and confidence in me and the team. We are eager to embark on this journey with renewed vigor and passion, fueled by the shared goal of upholding the legacy of S. Thomas' Prep. Let us rise to the occasion, seize the opportunities that lie ahead, and create a lasting impact that will resonate for generations to come.

Thank you and may the Lord be our Shepherd and guide us on this remarkable journey.

"Cheer! Cheer Prep School Boys"

**S. Sri Ganendran
Hony. Secretary 2024/2025
S. Thomas' Preparatory School Old Boys Union**

