



Hartley College Principal Mr. N. Theivendrarajah

# The 24th Annual Hartley Nite



## ■ Current Principal from Sri Lanka, the guest of honour received standing ovation

### ■ Rajezwaran re-elected as President for the 3rd term

The 24th Hartley Nite and Annual General Meeting of Hartley College Past Pupils Association's Canada/USA branch were held at the Queen's Palace Banquet Hall on the 3rd day of November, 2012. The event was attended by around 200 past pupil, well wishers and their families marked the end of yet another successful year in the history of the association. Mr. N. Theivendrarajah, the current principal of Hartley College and the patron of the association graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour.



Hartley College Principal Mr. N. Theivendrarajah presenting Mrs. Mathuram Pathmanathan with "Service Excellence Award"



Hartley College Principal Mr. N. Theivendrarajah presenting Mrs. Thilaka Thanvendiran, mother of Shiyam Tahavendiran with "Achievement Recognition Award" on his behalf. Shiyam Thavendiran won the International Master (IM) title, the second highest titles in chess in 2012.



Raj Rajezwaran, President, Hartley College Past Pupils Association Canada & USA on right

The Canada/USA branch of the Hartley College association was formed in 1988 by old Hartleyites who were eager to contribute back to the society they came from. During the past twenty-four years, the association has been a firm proof that individuals can come together and function successfully towards a common cause regardless of various backgrounds and differences. The association has 230 Life members and is well represented by a committee which is a perfect mixture of youth and experience combining really well. During this time the Association has collected close to one hundred thousand Canadian dollars from members, well-wishers and through various fundraising events for the benefit of the school and other worthy humanitarian causes. As part of many initiatives of the Association, we host our annual general meeting and get together to facilitate fellowship among Hartleyites living in Canada and USA. This year's event was the 24th such occasion.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was presided over by Mr. R. Rajeswaran, the president of the Association. Secretary of the Association Mr. A. Rabikanth presented the activity report of the association for the year and the Treasurer of the Association Mr. N. Navaneethan presented financial statements. The election of the new executive committee was conducted by Mr. V. Eeswaranathan, one of the vice-patrons of the Association. Most members of the 2011/12 executive committee were re-elected unanimously for the 2012/13 committee. Mr. R. Rajeswaran was re-elected as the president for a third consecutive term.

After the AGM, the annual Hartley Nite took place. Re-elected President Mr. R. Rajeswaran thanked the Association, patrons and executive committee for giving him the opportunity to serve as the president of the Association and expressed pride about the achievements of the Association.

The most anticipated item in the agenda was the speech of our Guest of Honour, the Principal of Hartley College, and Mr. N. Theivendrarajah. They say excellent leaders are excellent public speakers, and Mr. N. Theivendrarajah was one such leader. In a bilingual one hour speech (In Tamil and English) that got a deserved standing ovation the principal demonstrated his commitment and sheer passion towards the school. His speech was divided and delivered in three parts, Pre-Theivendrarajah reign, Theivendrarajah reign and Future. He was very frank about the difficulties he faced in taking over a school in an environment

that is no longer an easy ride for administrators, and his track record is there as a proof for his handling of those difficulties. Hartley College's outlook has taken a new shape infrastructure-wise during Mr. N. Theivendrarajah's tenure. And if his future plans are to be implemented successfully the students at Hartley will enjoy state of the art educational facilities. He requested all the old Hartleyites to come forward and support the school and the community. He stressed the fact that it might be a considerable contribution or not, but the contributors will be rewarded by the almighty in some way or another. Mr. N. Theivendrarajah's time at Hartley College is already illustrious and he will surely be remembered as a great visionary in the history books of Hartley College.

Following the principal's speech, Mrs. Pathmanathan, an active and the only female member to serve in the committee as vice-president was honoured by Mr. S. Sivarajah on behalf of the association. Mr. Shiyam Thavedran, who became the first International Master of Chess from Srilankan origin, was also honoured by the association. The association had 5 new life members and they were introduced to the rest of the members by the master of ceremonies Mr. Vel Vivekananthan.

The last part of the Hartley Nite was the fellowship and entertainment for Hartleyites and families. Games for kids and adults kept the crowd engaged all the way through the night. Dinner was served for all while happy Hartleyites were busy chatting to their friends and families. Nostalgias were aplenty. The event came to a happy conclusion with the distribution of prizes for the winners of the games. The 24th Hartley Nite and Annual General Meeting of Hartley College Past Pupil Association's Canada/USA was a grand success and the association enters its 25th year in 2013 rejuvenated and confident.



Hartley College Board Members with Hartley College Principal Mr. N. Theivendrarajah