

VIC HARTLEY NEWS



Issue 12
January 2006

HOPPERNITE

The Victorian Hartleyites after a short spell of dormancy, came back on track on the 10th. of December 2005 by celebrating a hoppernite.

The idea behind this event was manifold, make the Hartleyites assemble to meet, to know and then to enjoy the night. There was clear indication of enthusiasm and high energy coupled with apprehension as to how this committee organized this event so successfully. Members and families with their friends and well wishers flocked in huge numbers unprecedented, to enjoy the night. It was an ample demonstration that the Hartleyites 'can do it'. All what is needed is the collective re-

sponsibility and individual effort. In that, it should be appreciated that all the members have done their bit.

Let us continue to work hard to promote and uplift the Hartley College motto 'Let there be light'.

The number turned up exceeded the expectation. Two hopper men went on toasting the hoppers off two sets of 10 pans while the people fell in long queues to pick up the hoppers of different specifications— plain, milk and milk and juggery and eat them to their full stomach. The night that started with soft drinks went on till late night. It was a remarkable event.

Hartley Committee 2005/6

The new committee was elected in to office at the Annual General Meeting held on 15 August 2005.

President –

Mr. K. Palasubramaniam

Vice President –

Mr. C. Mahendran

Hon. Secretary –

Mr. N. Nanthakumaran

Treasurer –

Mr. M. Madanasenarajah

Committee Members:

Mr. M. Shanthikumar

Mr. S.R. Sivasubramaniam

Dr. C. Mathiyalagan

Mr. V. S. Sriamaseswaran

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Special points of interest:

- Hartleyites can do it
- Hartley Maintains educational excellence
- \$100 contribution from all members expected
- Tsunami was soft on Hartley College
- Military excesses at its worst in the recent history.

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Hartley college is once again shining in its educational performances despite the hindrances caused by the occupying army. The overall university entrance performance of the school increased from 26.1% in 2003 to 52.2% in 2004% and the

2005 results show, out of 262 students who sat the exam, 148 were qualified for entrance and it means that 56.5% are eligible for university entrance. Four students obtained 3A's and ten, 2AB, three, A2B and one, A2S

The GCE O/L 2004 results show that 136 students passed out of 149 which sat the examination and 132 students were qualified for advanced level. 4 students got 9AB, one 9AC, four 8AB and two 8ABC. Twelve students got 7A's, B's and C's.

SOME MORE NEWS

Carol Services Christmas 2005

Benedict Manuetpillai and Suganthan Blanchard represented Hartley College at the Carol Service committee organized by the Uduvil Girls College past pupils association.

The intended procession and function were postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The services will be held next season.

Donation for Multi Media Projector

Vic Hartley committee has consented to provide the necessary fund for the Multi Media Projector. It will cost around Rs. 140 to 150 thousand.

The equipment is expected to provide the necessary impetus for the new world of education.



Contact Vic Hartley Treasurer to donate funds to Hartley

Tsunami Disaster

J. Jeyakanthan, a year 12 student was killed by the Boxing Day tsunami on 26 December 2004. He had been a brilliant student at Hartley since 1988. The then principal Mr. V. Pathmanathan together with the staff and students paid homage at the funeral held at Visvakula lane, Point Pedro the next day.

Master Jeyakanthan was the march past leader of Paulpillai House both in 2003 and 2004. Hartley respected him by maintaining a two minute silence at the general assembly early 2005.

Although Tsunami took away the life of Jeyakanthan, it did not cause extensive damages to the school building fabric as it did to many buildings on the coast of Point Pedro and katkivalam areas. Thank God.

TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AT HARTLEY

Computers at Hartley

The fifteen computers that alleged to have been burnt on electrical defect have now been replaced by the HCPP New South Wales (Australia). The NSW past pupils association not only donated 20 computers

Hartley came back to the modern world of education

but also sent one of its members to the school to set up the infrastructure for the SELF LEARNING COMPUTER CENTRE. The computer lab is very much useful for the students who have no computers at home. The late principal of Hartley College

Mr. P. Venugopal strived hard to develop Information Technology at Hartley and the computer centre has been named after him. The centre was opened by the (acting) principal Mr. N. Gunaseelan on 14 September 2005 while relinquishing duties as principal at Hartley.

The centre will be kept opened during school hours and maintained by a team of teachers.

DEATHS AND BIRTHS

Obituary

Dec. 2005—Mr. K. S. Shanmugaratnam, a founder member of Vic Hartley passed away. He leaves his wife and 5 children

22/11/2005—Mrs. Navamani Rasanayakam passed away. Mrs. Rasanayakam is the beloved wife of Mr. V. Rasanayakam, former physics teacher of Hartley College and Official of the Colombo branch HCPPA.

27/10/2005—Mr. C. J. T. Thamocharam Passed away. Mr. Thamocharam was the son of the late principal of Hartley College. He leaves behind 3 sons, 3 daughters, 6 grand children and 2 great grand children.

New Born

Mr. Ponniah Venthan and Mrs. Dawina Venthan are blessed with a baby boy Athithya on the 24th December 2005. He adds up to the family of two girls.

DONATION

\$100.00 Donation

The Hartley College reconstruction committee has appealed to all Hartleyites to donate generously for the reconstruction of Hartley College.

Many Canadian Hartleyites have set examples to provide the funds and now is the turn for the Victorian Hartleyites.

DEVELOPMENT CONTEMPLATED

Two decades of destruction caused by the army atrocities saw the demolition of many classrooms and the burning of the treasure— the Hartley library. The boxing day Tsunami, though soft on Hartley, added fuel to the fire.

Looking at the state of affairs at present, especially the political instability and government's attitude, it is evident that it will take ages for government to support Hartley College to come back to its own resplendent majesty and magnificence that it had been displaying for so long.

The school expects the Old Boys to help it out although there are pledges from the government machinery to provide funds.

The following items of work are urgently needed.

Auditorium

Plans have been drawn up to construct a Rs.10 million auditorium to house 1200 students. It will take two years minimum to complete and function in full swing. The Hartley Trust and school is exploring various options to hold the usual assemblies in a temporary structure until the completion of the auditorium. The Ministry of Education North and East has promised to finance on a two stage basis.

Classrooms

The college needs 17 classrooms. NECORD, a Non Government Organization is funding the construction of 12 classrooms at a cost of Rs. 15.8 million and

the work is off the ground. Decision on furnishing the classrooms is pending. SDC, a Swiss based NGO has given a promise as a new year gift to construct a combination of single and two storey structures for 4 classrooms and 2 other rooms with associated toilet facilities for extra curricular activities.

Multi Media Projector

The out cry is that Hartley College has no multi media projector which is an important tool to provide better education and that many schools in the northern region possess one and Hartley college doesn't.

The cost of multi media projector is in the region of rupees 140 to 150 thousand. Vic Hartley has come forward to fund this worthy cause. Actions are being taken to communicate this decision to the Hartley Trust, Point Pedro.

Trees and Landscaping

The school requires a conducive learning environment in line with the international standards. Trees, turf, landscaping and concrete benches provide a better educational environment where students can sit around, discuss and get involved in innovative thinking. Funds should be allocated sooner than later to create environments that reverberate educational rhythm.

Sports Facilities

Much cannot be done for sports for the sports ground is occupied by the armed forces. However, the school is looking

at constructing a grand stand with changing facilities, kitchen and dining hall, basket ball court and a gymnasium. The estimated cost is Rs. 12 million. The Trust has bought a piece of land adjoining the grounds for this purpose. Colombo branch is sponsoring the sports gears.

Library

With the assistance of NECORD, the library is being rebuilt at a cost of Rs. 3 million. The school has asked the NGO to extend the library to accommodate an IT room, the intention is to computerize the library operations.

Laboratories

The premises are a temporary one and requires a new building, equipments and furniture.

Staff Room

The teaching team requires an appropriate space to rest before they start their next lessons once again. This will cost Rs. 1.3 million.

Extra Curricular Activities

At least 7 rooms are needed for activities related to music, photography, art and the like. That would cost Rs.3 million.

Canadian individuals are funding classrooms and other areas.

The school has obtained a 21 seater bus, under Tsunami relief fund. A good mode of transport for the school team

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees on completion of their three year period since its inception in 2002 has handed over the office to the new committee on 29 July 2005. The new trustees are:

Mr. Shan Shanmugananthan—Chairman

Mr. Chella Pathmanathan

Mr. M Sivagnanasundram

Mr. V. Selvarajah

Mr. K. Balasubramaniam

Mr. S Balachandran

Dr. Nithi Chinnaiyah

For the period between 1 September 2002 and 30 September 2005, the Trust received a total sum of Rs. 3,914,299 mainly from the Hartley College PPA branches. The contributions came from

UK—Rs. 1,030,505, Canada— Rs. 2,422,687, New South Wales—Rs.172,442 and Victoria—Rs. 162,391. Of the funds received a total of 1,577,147 has been spent mainly for the purchase of land and sports gears.

The land will be used to build an auditorium for the school.

15th Anniversary HCPPA VICTORIA

It's hard to believe that Hartley College Past Pupils' Association of Victoria has come of age! On June 29, 2006 HCPPA, Victoria Branch, would be able to celebrate its 15th anniversary - if things go well as planned - at a venue yet to be decided. There is no doubt all our members are quite enthusiastic about the prospect of participating in this event. While the Executive committee hasn't got down to making detailed plans as yet, it welcomes suggestions and ideas from its members as to how best the anniversary could be celebrated.

As we make plans to commemorate our 15th anniversary, I think, it is good to cast our minds back a little to refresh ourselves about some of the facts that led to the formation of our association, and the key figures who helped to create the Victorian Branch of HCPPA and keep it alive and vibrant. At the last Annual General Meeting some members asked why the HCPPA was formed and what role can it play in helping our alma mater? Well, the HCPPA, Victoria Branch, website cool page sets out clearly the aims and goals of our association. college authorities and students." improving the standards of the past."

I feel that we should honour those who worked hard to form our association and see it grow and prosper in the way it has - especially people, such as the late Professor C.J. Eliezer, Mr. Maheswaran, Dr. Radan Subramaniam, Mr C. Kathirkamanathan, Dr.K. Thirugnanasunderalingam and Dr. C. Senathirajah. Let us all take pride in the fact that today we can hold our heads high and sing Hartley's School anthem starting with the lines " Hartley, thy sons are we/ To thine honour always wed..." even in the land of the antipodeans!

Army Excesses at Hartley college

On the 5th of December 2005, the students from both Hartley College and Methodist Girls High School set up road blocks and protested against the continuous widening of the army camp and setting up of more check points in the pretext of "High Security Zone".

The students protests continued the next day and tense situation gripped the Vadamaradchy area.

Jaffna Students Consortium on the 7th December decided to expand the protest across Jaffna if the army did not heed to the call of the Hartley and Methodist students for immediate halt on their expansion strategy. The army continued with their construction of more and more check points.

On December 8th, the University of Jaffna protested in Kallady in support of the demands of the school students. The protest turned violent when the army fired in the air to disperse the protestors.

The Scandinavian Cease Fire monitors arrived the scene unsuccessfully to persuade the army to stop their violent actions against the students.

Cultural Programme 2006

The HCPPA committee is drawing up plans to conduct a cultural programme in which the off springs of the Hartley Past Pupils would take part in big numbers together with other outside professional players to entertain the audience.

The event is to take place on the 7th of May 2006 at the rendezvous Kelwatson Theatre of the Foresthill Secondary college, the tickets of which will be sold close to the event. The committee invites participants of all calibre to contribute and you may contact one of the committee members, if anyone so wish to do so.

The committee also invites constructive suggestions from the members to make this event a success. The items that are to be played must interest all walks of life, from the very children who can speak and understand Tamil to those who cannot.

Membership

All members are requested to pay up their membership fees at their earliest convenience. Please bring in more members; physical strength is the prime strength of an organization.

www.HartleyCollege.com

Or

www.HartleyCollege.org

Please send your written contributions to the

Editor:

V.S.Sriamareswaran

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge with gratitude Mr. N. Nadarajah for his contribution on the 15th anniversary and Mr. S. Parameswaran on the board of trustees.

my thanks are also due to the Canadian Harleyites Association for some of the information have been gathered from their website and without which this publication would not have a success.

Editor: V.S.Sriamareswaran