

It gives me great pleasure to present before you, the Secretary's Report for the year 2015 – 2016 together with my Joint Secretary Niroshini Waidyaratne. This report outlines the projects and details of other relevant activities carried out by the Executive Committee of the Bishop's College Past Pupils' Association during the past 12 months.

The Executive Committee had 11 regular meetings with an excellent level of attendance presided by the President Delani Mitchell.

Our first event was an evening organized by the Reach-Out Committee held on the 3rd of August 2015 at the Auditorium foyer. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the Reach out committee lead by Mrs. Indrani Dias for the excellent work done. The event was a great success with senior members joining in to make it a memorable event. This committee has made a valuable contribution to past pupils and retired teachers by making visits and keeping the bond of our Alma Mater strong within our PPA community. We would like to appreciate their efforts and thank them all for their time and commitment made on behalf of the PPA.

The next event was the "Christmas Buzzz" held on the 27th of November at the Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo where many a past pupil enjoyed fellowship. A series of exciting activities were lined up with lots of special giveaways organized by the committee. The evening was a fun filled event and everyone enjoyed.

The 9th Sisters of St. Margaret's Oration was delivered by distinguish past pupil, the honourable Prime Minister Mr. Ranil Wickramasinghe to a large gathering of members and distinguished guests. He spoke of the need and his desire to find ways and means of increasing representation for women at all levels of decision making in the government in keeping with the percentage of women in the country. It should be mentioned that Mr. Wickramasinghe's mother, the late Mrs. Nalini Wickramasinghe, had been the first Buddhist Head girl at Bishop's College at the time of Sister Mary Kathleen who was a visionary far ahead of her time.

"Divorce Me Darling", a musical, was held on the 18th, 19th and 20th of March 2016, a joint production by the BCPPA and STC OBA – a first of its kind. The standard of entertainment was high and this was mirrored by the demand of the drama being "sold out" on all three nights. Congratulations to the director, producers, cast, crew and many who supported us from the sidelines to make this an event to remember.

We also wish to thank Anne Cooray, our membership coordinator for her excellent commitment at the membership drives which are carried out bi-annually with great care year

after year. It would not have been possible to have a 4000 plus strong membership without her tireless efforts and dedication.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to our President Delani Mitchell who continues to lead her team with strength during her term in office, Advisors Savithri Wijesekera and Shyama Perera for their advice and guidance. We also thank Vice Presidents Zahara Maruzook and Minal Ranatunge for their unwavering support at all times.

We are proud to say that our members have continued to support the giving of prizes and the PPA in gifting of the Gold Medal to the Head Prefect at the Annual Prize Giving. We have also been successful in providing a scholarship to an O/L student due to your generous donations. We take this opportunity to thank the Principal Ms. Sharmila Gunatilleke and Vice Principal Mrs. Chemali Herath for the cooperation extended to us.

We also remember Ms. Enakshi Wetthasinghe and the team at the Auditorium for being a great source of strength and readily supporting us in our activities.

Niroshini Waidyaratne & Sachinthika Goonetilleke Jt. Secretaries