

COLOMBO SHEPHERDIAN'S IN THE UK NEWSLETTER JUNE 2017

TWENTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 26th Annual General Meeting of the Colombo Shepherdians in the UK will be held at Crystal - Sahara Lounge on Sunday, 25th June 2017 at 12.30 p.m. (doors open at 12.00 noon)

CRYSTAL- Sahara Lounge (Restaurant)

1 Poppin Business Centre

South Way

Wembley

HA9 0HB

Tel: 0203 576 5765

Car Parking - free (front of restaurant)

A Sri Lankan 3 course meal will be served after the meeting between 13.00 & 14.00. This will be followed by some games, music and raffle draw. Music will be provided by DJ Amal.

Tickets: £17 per person

Children between ages 6 and 11 years—£8.00 per child

Children under 5 years—Free

To confirm numbers for catering purposes please contact the following committee members as soon as possible.

Felicia James 07722379386

Margie Sivathondan 020 84402080

Sonia De Silva 07957479916





COLOMBO SHEPHERDIAN'S IN THE UK

26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

1. To approve the minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 25th June 2016 at Thistle Hotel, London UB7 0EQ.
2. President's Report for the year 2016/2017
3. Secretary's Report for the year 2016/2017
4. Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2016/2017
5. Election of Office Bearers for the year 2017/2018

(In accordance with the constitution the current appointees will be re-elected for the next consecutive year)

Existing Office Bearers:

President: Felicia James

Secretary: Malarvilli Umasuthan

Treasurer: Chandrika Varatharaja

Membership Secretary: Dr Nira Jeyakantha

Public Relations Officer: Sonia De Silva

Committee: Lilamani Kanapathy, Marie Martil, Shiranthi Wickramarachchi,

Dr Angela Kulanthaivelu, Shiromi Dabrera

6. Any Other Business

7. Future Events

8. Vote of Thanks

COLOMBO SHEPHERDIANS IN THE UK
Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the Colombo Shepherds in the UK was held at the Thistle Hotel, London UB7 0EQ on Saturday, 25th June 2016. It was well attended with around 64 members and their guests including founder members and past presidents. The formal proceedings commenced with a celebration mass and the President welcomed the members and their guests.

1. Minutes of the 24th AGM - The minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting was mailed out to all the members and was taken as read. The minutes were proposed by Annette Xavier and seconded by Lalitha Dayananda.
2. President's Report for the year 2015/2016 – The President, Astrid Blackson mentioned that it was a privilege to be part of the committee for the 25 years celebration. The Association started with just 14 members and now exceeds 170 which clearly demonstrates the dedication and tireless efforts of all past presidents and committee members involved in bringing the Association to this high standard. Astrid also thanked all the past presidents and founder members for attending the celebration.

During her two successful years as President, donations to the school had been provided and the scholarship for 5 underprivileged children will be ongoing. She thanked all her committee members who helped and supported her throughout her 2 years and wished the new president and her committee all the very best.

3. Secretary's Report for the year 2015/2016 – The Secretary, Felicia James said that the Association continued to perform well. The committee did meet regularly and the meetings were quite productive. The Valentine's Dinner Dance and Christmas Get-Together were both a success and enjoyed by all who attended. Also a trip to Walsingham Church was organised last August with a picnic in the church compound.

Felicia mentioned that during her short visit to Sri Lanka in early June, she did meet the Association's patron, Sister Renuka (present Principal of the school). A further £1000 was handed towards the scholarship of the 5 students whose families are struggling financially and she was introduced to the students. Sister Renuka also showed her the new building developments in the school and requested for help with the refurbishment of the upper school toilets which presently has a drainage problem. Felicia did tell her that once the estimated cost is notified to the Association, a decision will be made whether the entire project or part of it could be funded.

A suggestion to help obtain second hand books for the school library was also put forward to Sister Renuka.

4. Treasurer's Report for the year 2013/2014 - Treasurer, Malarvilli Umasuthan stated that the Association was in a strong financial position with a bank balance in excess of £10,000. The Valentine's Dance held in February was a successful event which brought in a profit and the total profit for the year is £1737 even after £1300 in donations were given to the school. Copies of the audited accounts for the year 2015/2016 were distributed.
5. Election of Office Bearers for the year 2014/2015 – Astrid Blackson continued as Chair and announced that a nomination had been received for Felicia James to be President and requested a proposer and a seconder. Astrid Blackson proposed and Annette Xavier seconded. Astrid then welcomed the new President who took the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

Felicia James thanked the members for electing her as President and said that she will do her best to continue the good work the past presidents have done for the last 25 years and hoped that with the help of the committee and all the association members, she will be able to see that the association continues to grow from strength to strength. She thanked Astrid for her hard work as President for the past two years and said that she had done a very good job.

Vice President:	Margie Sivathondan Proposed by Felicia James Seconded by Chandrika Varatharaja
Secretary:	Malarvilli Umasuthan Proposed by Lalitha Dayananda Seconded by Kumarie Ratnayake
Treasurer:	Chandrika Varatharaja Proposed by Annette Xavier Seconded by Sonia De Silva
Public Relations Officer:	Sonia De Silva Proposed by Margi Sivathondan Seconded by Malarvilli Umasuthan
Membership Secretary:	Dr Niranchana Jeyakanthan Proposed by Felicia James Seconded by Astrid Blackson
Committee :	Lilamani Kanapathy Hyacinth D'Almeida Dr Angela Kulanthaivelu Marie Martel Shiranthi Wickramerarachchi Shiromi Dabrera

To note ex-officio Past Presidents:

Nellie Fernando, Lalitha Dayananda, Nirmalee Anthony, Sonia Vitarana, Freda de Silva, Kumari Ratnayake, Astrid Blackson, Olga Foenander, Annette Xavier, Margie Sivathondan and Anglina Jothinath.

To note Patron and Vice Patrons:

Patron: Rev. Sister Renuka Silva

Vice Patrons: Nellie Fernando, Canice Rajamahendran, Sonia Vitarana, Lalith Dayananda.

6. Any Other Business: Trip to Walshingham Church during the month of August to be organised, date to be confirmed. Christmas Get-Together also to be organised. Valentine's Dinner Dance for 2017 is scheduled for Saturday, 11th February 2017 at Holiday Inn, Wembley
7. Vote of thanks: Felicia James thanked the Committee, their husbands, past Presidents for their continued support and thanked all members and friends for attending the meeting.

The meeting was followed by a buffet lunch, raffle draw, some games, dancing, tea/coffee and cutting of the 25 years celebration cake.



CHRISTMAS PARTY 2016

Our Christmas Party was held on Sunday, 11th December 2016 at the C&L Club. There were 70 attendees. All guests were welcomed with an orange juice and starters. There was a Sri Lankan Buffet and for dessert fruit salad & Ice Cream.

The party began with some Christmas Games, followed by carols to bring in the Christmas Cheer. Throughout the evening members and guests danced to the beat of some great music provided by DJ Amal. There were also raffle prizes and the 1st and 2nd prizes were Christmas Hampers.

The highlight of the evening was the arrival of Santa with gifts to everyone. Santa was all lively and bubbling with energy to keep the crowd excited.

It was a lovely evening enjoyed by all.

We will be planning a similar event in December this year too and more details will be mentioned in the November Newsletter. Hope to see as many of you.



Dear Members

I am pleased to see a continued increase of membership.

Membership application forms can be made through the CSUK website (www.shepherdians.org) or by contacting me on 07951727614/nira_jey@hotmail.com.

I would appreciate it if the members could make arrangements to pay their annual membership fee to the CSUK account- Account Number- 01101471; Sort Code- 60-07-10

If any of the members would prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please email me.

Thank you for continuing to support the Colombo Shepherdians in the UK.

Dr Nira Jeyakanthan

Membership Secretary



POLOS CURRY

Ingredients:

3 cans of Young Green Jak fruit
1 onion, chopped
1-2 green chillies
2 tsp garlic, chopped
2 tsp ginger, chopped
1 sprig of curry leaves (optional)
1-2 tsp chillie powder
1 tsp turmeric powder
2-3 tsp curry powder
3-4 cardamoms
3-4 cloves
1 inch piece of cinnamon
2-3 pieces of goraka
1 can of coconut milk
salt to taste

Method:

Fry the onions, green chillies, ginger, garlic and curry leaves in about 1 tbsp of oil till golden brown. Next add all the spices, fry for a minute or two.

Now add the rest of the ingredients, except coconut milk and stir well. Add salt.

* Transfer the mixture to a slow cooker, add coconut milk stir well and cook on low heat for at least 6 hours. The curry would turn a dark brown colour when done. (best is to let it cook overnight)
Serve hot.

* You can cook this also in a pressure cooker. Cook for about 20-25 minutes at steady pressure (Since cooking times, vary depending on the type of cooker you have, use your judgment here)

** If you want to cook on the stove, cook on a low heat in a heavy bottom pan.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE 2017



The Colombo Shepherdians in the UK held its 17th Valentine's Dinner Dance at the Holiday Inn, Wembley, at 7.30 pm on Saturday 11th February 2017.

On arrival, Members and their Guests were offered a Welcome Drink at the reception, and the ladies attending the Dance were presented with a hand fan as a gift. This now-traditional event and procedure was also an opportunity for the 142 guests to mingle with old friends and acquaintances, and make new friends prior to the main event.

The formal proceedings opened with the singing of the school song followed by an introduction from the glamorous Master of Ceremonies, Dr Pam Sivathondan, who kept the guests entertained with her humorous comments throughout the evening.

The President's speech touched on the humble beginnings of the Association 25 years ago, and emphasized that its success over the years was largely due to the dedication and hard work of the Association's past presidents and their committees. She also reminded everyone attending the Dinner Dance that it was an opportunity to raise funds to help initiate and support various projects for our Alma Mater, and she then described, in some detail, the present contributions made by the Association to the school.

The Silver Service Menu for the evening was a three course Sri Lankan meal with a variety of dishes including the ever favourite Fish Ambulthiyal. There were also two tasty desserts followed by coffee/tea and mints.

The ballroom was tastefully decorated for the occasion and the seating was well organized. Each table was provided with 3 bottles of wine and the flower arrangements and decorations on the tables were very stylish and colourful.

The surprise event of the evening was the cabaret by two Brazilian Samba Dancers: their colourful costumes and spectacular dance routines provided great entertainment for the guests. Following this cabaret, the band, 'Exceed', then invited Committee Members and their partners to formally open the dance. This was followed by a wide selection of music for dancing throughout the rest of the evening. As usual, the last dance session was left for the ever popular traditional "baila" music in Sinhalese and Tamil. The dance floor was always filled to capacity with members and their guests enjoying themselves.

Prizes for the raffle draw were all donated by the committee members. The first prize was £250 cash: the winner, very kindly, donated £50 to the Association. The generosity of the members and their guests helped to raise £970 from the raffle ticket sales alone.

■ ***Felicia James, President***

