

Royal College Colombo

GROUP OF 2007

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1, 1st December 2010



The Bradby Express

It was Saturday the 26th June. Island's busiest Railway station, the Colombo Fort Railway Station, was not as busy as it is on weekdays. However, platform No. 9 (it was as magical as platform 9 and three quarters) at the far end was buzzing like a bee hive with a blue and gold crowd eagerly gazing at the visible far end of the rail track towards Slave Island. Among the bees were quite a few Queen Bees adding to the glamour. Suddenly the buzz of the bees changed the note as the locomotive emerged, dressed in blue and gold, dragging 8 heavy compartments garnished with Royal Blue and Gold.

An Old Royalist among the crowd was relating a story to youngsters. He was probably in his sixties but sounded very young at heart. "Oh! We used to fill up the regular morning train on the day of Bradby Kandy Leg. It was covered with Royal flags and the minority non-Royalist crowd enjoyed the trip a lot. We could never come back on the same day by train as there were no trains by the time the match is over. So we stayed overnight in Kandy. But the bradby train stopped as the war broke out."

Royal and Trinity, the two great schools had fought 65 times for the coveted Bradby Shield in the rugby field. That Saturday was the 2nd Leg in Kandy when they are clashing for the 66th time. There was just one point's lead by Royal at the Colombo leg so the game was still on.

The bees boarded the train with haste and some adult bees had not forgotten to bring their honey. Some 500 early birds who caught the "Reserved Seat" tickets found their seats while the rest 300 occupied the dance floor between the seats. The passengers included the Deputy Speaker Hon. Priyankara Wijerathne, the Principal of Royal College and a number of distinguished Old Royalists with their families. By the whistle and the green flag of the head guard and the horn which was inaudible with the deafening R-O-Y-A-L, the train started moving. It was a dream coming true.

continued on 3rd.

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www.royal2007.com



Group of 2007 donates for a worthy cause

100 school children from the North were hosted in Colombo by Royal College recently. The project was handled by Sri Lanka Army. The RCU was responsible for supplying food for the children and Group of 2007 was privileged to be part of this worthy cause by donating a sum of Rs. 30,000 at the request of Mr. Manju Ariyaratne, Hony Secretary of the RCU.

Voluntary Teaching

The Principal recently requested several members of Group of 2007 to send some volunteer scholars to mitigate the unprecedented shortage of teachers occurred in the A/L section of the College, due to retirements of several senior teachers.

The Principal highly appreciated the quick response in volunteering at the needy hour by Akbo Rupasinghe from Faculty of Engineering, Peradeniya; CIMA student Ayesh Rajapakse; Akila Fernando, Inas Jenabdeen, Kumudu Dissanayake, Susanjeewa Wanniarachchi, Ganidu Prabhashana, Pasan Wijesinghe, Dhanushka Mudalige from Faculty of Engineering, Moratuwa; Chinthana Amarasinghe from Faculty of Science, Colombo;

Inter Batch Soccer & Cricket Tournaments

Inter batch soccer and cricket tournaments organized by Group of 97 and Groups of 87 and 2001 respectively, were participated by the 2007ers. 2007ers emerged finalists at the soccer tournament and semi-finalists at the cricket tournament.

Achievements by 2007ers

- Dilshan Perera - Selected as Mr. Sri Lanka for Mr. International Pagent. Further he won the Mr. Photogenic mini pagent at the finals of the Mr. International held in Indonesia. Dilshan would like thank all his batch-mates who voted for him.
- Charith Mendis - CIMA FA - Sri Lanka Prize (4th in the World)

2007ers in the Royal Parade Committee

Ayesh Rajapakse, Manura Gajanayake, Jeya Krishna, Ramitha Walgama, Ulfath Uwais, Suresh De Silva, Pradeeptha Pathirana

2007ers in the EDEX 2011 Committee

Ayesh Rajapakse, Akbo Rupasinghe, Hasitha Athawuda, Ulfath Uwais, Harsha Pitawala, Isuru Liyanarachchi, Lakruwan Gunawardana,

Royal College Group of 2007 - Outgoing Committee

- Ayesh Rajapakse (President)
- Akbo Rupasinghe (V. President)
- Pandaka Karandana
- Gamith De Alwis
- Isura Liyanarachchi
- Mayaran Subramaniam (Secretary)
- Sabri Rauf (Asst. Secretary)
- Safr-az Razeel
- Ulfath Uwais
- Harsh Pitawala
- Hasitha Athawuda (Treasurer)
- Samudu Hasala (Asst. Treasurer)
- Lakruwan Gunawardana
- Nishanthan Subramaniam
- Lishan Wickramanayake

Additional Members of Bradby Express Committee:-

Suresh De Silva	Ramitha Walgama	Manura Gajanayake
Ashad Ahamed	Akila Chandrasiri	Jaya Krishna
Sajith Wijesuriga	Akila Fernando	Himal Tennakoon

REUNION 2010 Organizing Committee

Himal Tennakoon	Dilanka Moggakara	Hasitha Athawuda	Isura Liyanarachchi	Danura Wanniatth
Rakitha Rajapakse	Mayaran Subramaniam	Prashak Mathugala	Lakruwan Gunawardana	

07 AGM
Annual General Meeting

11th DEC 2.00 PM onwards

Saturday
11th December '2010
@ Navarangahala

*Dress code: Smart Casual with College Tie

Be present and be part of the
Renewed fellowship
Bradby Express
Stag & many more
Contact 0773090477

Reg. fee
RS. 300
STAG
RS. 1200



The Bradby Express cont...

Young lads of Royal College Group of 2007 had the dream of reviving Bradby Train while they were still at school as prefects. All their efforts were ruthlessly stopped by then prevailing security situation. They never gave up. As the war ended they made their dream come true in collaboration with Royal College Union. "Bradby Express" saw light this way.

The swift passage of the train through the paddy fields in Gampaha, through the tunnel in Botale through the wind blowing across the rail track promised an exciting journey up in the first phase itself. The banana leaves wet with the morning dew brushed the many Royalists who were enjoying the ride. Papare bands inside the train kept the tempo while the service providers made sure that the breakfast and thirst are taken care of. The organising committee found it very hard to move between the compartments as the dance floor was very busy but they made sure that their passengers were happy.



After the short halt at Rambukkana, the train entered the hill country but the chilly air could never quench the heat of the Royalists on board. They cheered their hearts out and danced their way up while their mothers, sisters, girl friends and to-be-girl-friends watched them and joined them singing along. The teachers' compartment too was a happening area. Occasional passage through a dark tunnel left the whole atmosphere deafening as the Royal grit supported by the female screams was trying to split the tunnel apart.

Everyone turned their heads to the right hand side of the train with awe as the train was climbing the Kadugannawa pass. They were sucking the beauty of the Bible Rock and the misty valley below. It was a great experience to the first-timers on train. The whole atmosphere was singing a song to welcome the old tradition back to the hills. After passing Peradeniya Junction everyone was eagerly waiting for the entry to the hill capital. The roar got louder.

The Kandy Railway Station was visible at the far end of the rail track. The red carpet and the Hewisi Band from Trinity College Kandy were waiting to receive an age old tradition back to their city. The train stopped. A sea of blue and gold flooded on to the platform. Everyone loved everything that was there. The Principal of Royal College was garlanded by young Trinitians. The Principal of Trinity College officially welcomed the crowd lead by the Royal Principal and the distinguished guests. Before the Hewisi Band escorted the eight hundred odd crowd out of the station the Royalists did not forget to rattle the roof with



their cry of joy R-O-Y-A-L. As the blue and gold sea flooded out of the station, the Senior Brass Band of Trinity College played Royal's anthem. It was a moment that made the eye's of some royalists, wet. The Royalists never forgot to thank the Trinitians with a T-R-I-N-I-T-Y.

The train-ride back to Colombo had the same heat after the Royal victory 34-17. While the victorious Royal Rugby Team made news on the back page of the papers, Bradby Express made news on the front page. Whoever the winner was it was a victory for those who awaited the revival of a great tradition and the lads from Group of 2007 of Royal are ready to make it happen forever.

-Akbo Rupasinghe



Group of 2007

REUNION

SING | DANCE | REMINISCE

GET TOGETHER

18th December 2010

7 pm onwards

Steam Boat

Nawala

info

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