

Appendix I

SCHARENGUIVEL THE MAGNIFICENT

A hundred and more years ago James Arthur Scharenguivel, ILLUSTRIOUS THOMIAN CAPTAIN OF 1898, from the prominent Scharenguivel family of Kalutara, played in and for Scotland soon after he left college. He became the FIRST CEYLONSE to play for a FOREIGN COUNTRY. So little is known about Scharenguivel, so little written about one who must have truly been one of our great cricketers and like so many others, an unsung hero.

How good was James Arthur Scharenguivel? This question can only be answered by looking at the limited writings, of some that saw him play, and others who have written about him at infrequent intervals. I do know that his batting record in Royal – Thomian matches was not significant, but he did capture 19 wkts in the three matches he bowled including a match bag of 11 wkts. He was CAPTAIN OF THE FIRST EVER COMBINED COLLEGES XI IN 1898.

The erudite, articulate Leonard Arndt wrote in the 1951 S Thomas' College Centenary number a most interesting paragraph in a lyrical, colourful article: GREAT THOMIAN CRICKETERS –

"I pass swiftly to our greatest name: Scharenguivel the Magnificent. Heard for the first time in 1894, it has reverberated for half a century having been heard also in Scotland and Malaya. Still going strong, Scharenguivel remains our wonder while with the modest charm of greatness he helps the school at Gurutalawa. Names dwarfed by his scale are: Julian Heyzer, C. Orr, O. G. d'Alwis, the Edirisinghe brothers, the Abeykoon brothers.

When Arthur Scharenguivel left as Cricket Captain, he was the best all round player in Ceylon. He had made 77 against the Colts; he had bowled 8 wickets of the Colombo Club for 24 runs and again 7 for 25. In 1897 and 1898 from 18 innings he got a batting average of 52, and in bowling he took 77 wickets with an average of 4. Within a few months of arrival in Scotland he was in the British News.

Just as the habitat of the balls he hit with grace and ease was the tops of the trees beyond the verges, so he continued to top the averages (once it was 47) in Aberdeen while he studied medicine. He figured in international games though not against England by a mischance.

Douglas de Saram stood for election as Captain with Scharenguivel. Rarely is a syzygy of two such brilliant stars seen. Beau Douglas (as a later generation was bound to have styled him) more sturdily but less generously built eclipsed his rival in some respects. At any rate he was nearer our time and always in our eye, for he remained in Ceylon"

The hugely built Scharenguivel the Magnificent and the debonair Beau Douglas – what a duo they must have been as schoolboys annihilating Royal in the only two “Big Matches” they played together. What a tragedy they were not seen playing together in maturity, combining to demolish our colonial mentors! What a tragedy so few have been made aware of his contribution to our rich cricket history. As F. L. Goonewardena has stated in his memoirs “They were unquestionably the greatest pair ever turned out by a Ceylon School.”

S. P. Foenander, the doyen of our cricket historians, in his classic history – SIXTY YEARS OF CEYLON CRICKET 1863 – 1923 had this to say.” Dr. J. A. Scharenguivel has claims to rank as one of the six greatest cricketers Ceylon has ever produced. In his school days at St. Thomas’, he enjoyed a remarkable reputation as an all-round cricketer, and before he left school he had the honour of playing in representative cricket for the Colts against the Europeans. His achievements with bat and ball at S. Thomas’ were such as to stamp him as an exceptionally gifted cricketer. As a schoolboy he equaled the record for the highest score ever made, up to that time, against the Colts. After leaving school he studied medicine at Aberdeen University and while in Scotland he shone both as a brilliant left-hand batsman and a deadly left-hand bowler. He was INVITED BY A. C. MACLAREN TO PLAY FOR LANCASHIRE, and was qualifying for that honour, when he was called away to the Far East by the serious illness of his father. In Singapore he has proved himself one of the greatest all round cricketers that the Straits have ever had.

S. P. Foenander’s book was published in 1924, long before Dr. Scharenguivel came back to his native land in the late 1920s.

The recent (1999) Janashakthi Book of Sri Lanka Cricket compiled by S. S. Perera reveals more and records that Scharenguivel was CAPTAIN OF THE FIRST COMBINED COLLEGES XI – “The first time a Combined Colleges XI was raised to play the powerful Colts CC was in 1898. J. A. Scharenguivel of S Thomas’ Mutwal, captained the schoolboy team. The others in the team were D. L. de Saram and C. E. Arndt (S. Thomas), M. L. Warish and C. L. Wickramasinghe (Wesley), C. H. K. Scharenguivel, F. A. Obeysekera, A. W. Beven and E. Weerasooriya (Royal), J. Fernando and C. O. de Silva (St. Joseph’s). The Scores: Colleges XI 99 and 136 for 6 (Scharenguivel 77 not out, the highest score against the Colts up to that time) drew with Colts CC – 194 (Scharenguivel 5 for 38). The match was played at Galle Face”.

The Janashakti book further records that “THE FIRST CEYLONESE CRICKET PROFESSIONAL, THOMIAN ALFRED HOLSINGER, (Ceylon’s fastest bowler) and probably the first “coloured cricket pro” was performing great feats in English League Cricket in 1902, when another old S Thomas’ boy, James Arthur Scharenguivel, was proving equally efficient with the bat (left-hand) and ball (left arm) for Aberdeenshire in Scottish County Cricket.

Scharenguivel scored THE FIRST CENTURY BY A CEYLONESE OVERSEAS. Scharenguivel returned to Ceylon in the late 1920s and played for the Kalutara Town Club and the Nondescript CC. In the last years of his life, he migrated to Australia and passed away there in his 90th year. In 1938 when he was 58, he opened the batting for the NCC with D. Vollenhoven an 18-year-old from Royal. In 1940 he represented the Kalutara Town Club in the Daily News Trophy Tournament. Kalutara Town club in 1938 were the winners of the inaugural Daily News Trophy Tournament, the first organised cricket tournament in Ceylon.

Neil Leitch and Tim Lamb (prominent cricket administrators in U K) have revealed to me that one of the Aberdeenshire club histories notes the following: -.

"J A Scharenguivel was a noted player with Aberdeenshire.

Although Aberdeen University had long been a rich source of talent for Aberdeenshire C C, 1899 introduced a fresh vein with the introduction at Mannofield of overseas student cricketers. The first of these was J. A. Scharenguivel, a native of Ceylon, who for 7 seasons proved himself to be one of the most talented left-handed bats in the Club's history. In each of his best seasons (1899, 1903 & 1904) his runs aggregate exceeded 500, while in each of the other years his contribution was such that he finished in the top five in the Club. In the light of such batting success, it seems strange that he had been recommended to the Club as a bowler, a role in which he produced only slightly less formidable results, still, however, taking well over 100 wickets for the Club.

The history also confirms his score of 105* against Stirling County in 1902. He also scored 7 50s in Scottish County matches and once took 5 wickets in an innings. Scharenguivel does not however appear on the list of Scottish Cricket Caps as he never played in any recognised as a full Scotland game. He did however play for "15 of Scotland" in July 1905 against Australia. The match was played at West of Scotland's ground in Partick, Glasgow, Scharenguivel scoring 15 & 5. The match against South Africa may have been in 1901 when the tourists travelled to the North of Scotland to play R Williams Aberdeenshire XI and also Aberdeenshire".

Dr.J. A. Scharenguivel became one of the leading cricketers in the Straits Settlements and did play against a visiting Australian side led by Monty Noble, (the then current and famous Captain of Australia) in November 1909 on the Singapore Padang. Unfortunately, he failed to score in that match. The Singapore Matches had other players, N. E. Grenier, A. W. Beven and Martensz who surely must also have been Ceylonese. The Australian visitors had with them Warwick Armstrong (subsequently a remarkable Captain of Australia), Albert Cotter (the fastest bowler of his time), Frank Laver and A. J. W. Hopkins. I am indebted to Imran Khwaja of Singapore for the material he has provided about Scharenguivel in Singapore.

Many of this huge family migrated to all corners of the globe. Despite this, from those who were left, many figure prominently in our sports history. A very close relative, (half brother or young uncle) Albert Julian Richard Scharenguivel played for STC from 1899 - 1901 and subsequently went on to hold high office in the PWD. Cousin C. H. K. Scharenguivel, an outstanding wicketkeeper for Royal (1897 – 98). Lloyd Scharenguivel, an uncle but younger than James Arthur played for STC in 1904. Lloyd's eldest grandson Wyvill Captained the water polo and swimming teams and coached at STC in the late '50s.

CHK's granddaughter Deanna married the record-breaking batsman, Ronnie Reid; grandson Cecil was a prominent schoolboy athlete in the late '50s. The distinguished Thomian tennis player Rupert Ferdinands and Royalist cricketer and ruggerite, Lorensz Pereira were mothered by younger cousins of James Arthur.

The Scharenguivel dynasty lives on, young cousin Hugh, schooled in Kalutara, was an enormously successful bowler for Kalutara Town Club playing a huge part (88 wkts in 11 matches) in the Daily News Trophy triumph of 1938. Present Sri Lanka Captain Marvan Attapattu and his cousin Marlon Von Hagt are direct descendants of James Arthur through their grandmother. Incidentally their grandfather Adrian Francke was a member of the winning 1938 Kalutara Town Club side. Douglas Scharenguivel, Ceylon Davis Cup player who played regularly at Wimbledon and won the West of England Tennis title was a young cousin.

Appendix II

ALBAN OF THE COLTS

At this Juncture it is appropriate to make mention of A.V. Fernando who is a honorary life member. But he was a Colt through and through and a true stalwart. If injury hadn't cut short his career while still at school, he would have played for the Colts in the forties and no doubt would have been recognized as a stalwart.

The chronicler attended his funeral in 1970 which took place at the Kanatte cemetery. Forty-five years later he recognises the contribution he made to the Colts. In addition to what he learnt from Trevor Jansz, Darrell Lieversz conceded that it was A.V. who taught him how to grip the ball and opened his path to bowling craftsmanship.

Trevor Jansz said that he joined the Colts in 1938 at the age of fifteen on the urging of A.V. who was his Sunday school teacher. And there were many others, particularly Wesleyites, who joined the Colts because of him. The following tribute by *A. Friend* appeared in the Colts Centenary magazine and I quote it in its entirety –

'A cricket coach once came to Wesley College in the late forties to drill into the players a little basic sense about the game.

"As a bowler" he told the boys, "you hate all batsmen, every single one of them. As a batsman, don't waste any of your hate on the bowlers, they are not worth it, save all your venom for the ball and hate that for all you are worth."

The person who passed us this little information was not cricketer enough to make use of the down to earth advice given by the late Mr. A.V. Fernando, who until his death in April 1970, was a staunch, loyal, and full-blooded member of the Colombo Colts Cricket Club.

But the man who heard the words of a famous coach, whose name is still respected by cricketers and officials alike, had the pleasure of watching Mr. A.V. Fernando's protégés show the knack of following his preliminary words to the hilt, Wesley College became a name to conjure within School Cricket. The brilliance of cricketers Brian Claessen, Abu Fuard, Lou Adihetty to mention a few, is proof enough of their coach's innate ability to develop cricketers.

The Colts C/C. also thrived at the same time as Wesley. For the boys from this College flooded the club's ranks after leaving school. And for A.V. (as he was fondly known by his friends and colleagues) it was "joy enough" to realize that his club gave the boys a break that they deserved. Because A.V. was a Colts man, imbibing the finest traditions of his club and serving it to full measure till his untimely demise.

The turf wicket that the club has for its use all these years is due to A.V.'s valiant effort in seeing that the matting wicket was discarded if cricket in the Colts was to serve the game better. He believed that the chances of Colts cricketers in representing the country was not too good without a turf wicket. And the proud day for A.V. and the Colts dawned in 1957 when after hours of ceaseless labour and toil the turf wicket was ready. For his unstinted devotion to the Club and its ideals A.V. Fernando was later made a Life Member.

A.V. was a dedicated cricketer who studied the games technique almost obsessively. Though passionately interested in cricket, as he had every right to be, he was also a coach of genius. Not only as an inspiring guru: he understood what was meant by discipline.

As a sportswriter for "the Times of Ceylon" particularly under the pen name of 'Alban' his cricket commentaries were acknowledged as the best in the country. Tolerable, dignified, humorous and humane, he had a unique feeling for words. 'Alban' also had a gift of praise that was polished, re-shaped and made perfect.

A.V. Fernando was unfortunate in not being one of the giants of the game. An Accident during an inter school game between Wesley and Royal cut short his promising career. Or else he would have been among the best in the Colts teams of the forties. As a batsman he was stylish and aggressive. And when his turn came up with the ball, all the adroitness and subtleties of guile and spin were there, to play havoc with opening batsmen. A.V. had to concentrate on coaching after this early mishap and he established himself as a coach and writer of repute to command the attention of those involved in the higher echelons of the game. As a former cricket selector revealed: 'A.V. never criticised our selections. He would offer useful advice and pin point mistakes without as much as making any noise. That was essentially 'Alban' by character.

What endeared him most to his protégés was the common touch. 'Alban' always gave personal attention to his pupils. He never made a brou-ha-ha when his charges continued to make mistakes. Indeed, he summoned them individually and without the others knowing what was said, offered advice on how to overcome any particular handicap. And it was a miracle the next time the boy was out. There was at least 90% improvement and the game itself found another player and would do the country proud.

A.V. Fernando's company at the Colts was enjoyed by everyone. He was a genuine friend, outspoken and frank in his views on cricket and the club itself. Many are the times when members used to rock with laughter at A.V.'s cracks and jokes that had a flavour all of its own. Once when the car he was traveling in was involved in an accident. When asked to make a statement by the Police officer, A.V. was high and not knowing the situation made signs of ordering another half and soda.

'Alban' believed intensely that a cricket club was meant for cricket only. At the Colts one Sunday, he was infuriated that a table tennis table was in use. Symbolic of his lighthearted brevity, A.V. stood on the table and made known his feelings as all and sundry broke into hysterics. During his cricket rounds as a writer, he always made it an enjoyable assignment for others by making the occasion evaporate from all seriousness into one of gaiety and joy with his fund of jokes and witticisms. To tender reporters on their nervous first assignments he was more than a friend and guru. He made it very easy for them by offering valuable tips on what to comment and the things to avoid.

At the same time, 'Alban' was a lonely man. He was a bachelor, and Sundays were very lonesome days for him. His friends were with their families while A.V. spent his time all by himself in his little room in the Fort, till some good friend walked in and broke the monotony of this Sunday boredom.

He used to tell one of his colleagues in the "Times" that his biggest ambition in life was to publish a book in Sinhalese, on cricket. He had the articles ready but most unfortunately could not find a translator or a sponsor. He needed a sponsor so that the village lad could get the book at a very small price, if not free. This was essentially A.V.

In a tribute to A.V. his colleague in the "Times" had these words to say "AV has left a void in Ceylon cricket both as a coach and a writer

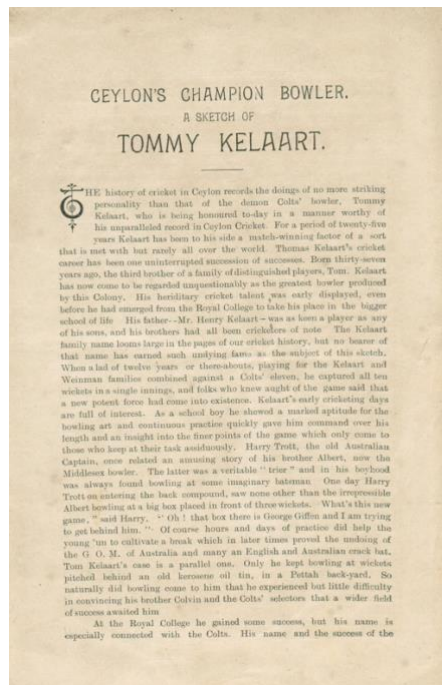
"Examples of his honest love for the sport and player are too numerous to mention. He thought, spoke, and wrote and lived for cricket.

What I learnt about cricket was not through books but through discussions with AV for which I am ever grateful. And I am certain that there are others like me who have improved their knowledge and technique of the game merely by talking to this maestro of cricket.

"Players and writers will miss him at matches, but I am sure they will not forget him. May his soul rest in peace"

Appendix III

The souvenir article in association with the Right Handers versus Left Handers game of 1910.



premier club are but synonyms. To talk of Kelaart's deeds is but to speak of the Colts' struggles and victories of the past 30 years. No bowler had such a marked influence over his comrades as the left-hander. Kelaart's success with the ball meant the batting success of the side. His failure meant a Colts' defeat. Twenty-five years a bowler in first-class cricket and yet an unspent force, brimful of energy, as cunning and wily as of yore, with none of that spin lost or his length a matter of uncertainty,—such is Kelaart. His triumphs are not confined to success over local batsmen. Did he not lead the great W. G. Grace on Galle Face? Then what of the wickets of McGregor, Peel, Lyons, Briggs, and other visiting notabilities which he once upon a time caused to slant. When the Madras team played in Ceylon, Kelaart made such an impression on them that the Hon. Mr. Weldekumar, the visiting Captain, confessed he had never seen such "a marvellous little chap." Kelaart was then barely out of his teens.

Among the many memories that Kelaart cherishes with pardonable pride is that of the G. O. M. of cricket tapping him on his shoulder and complimenting him on having taken his wicket. Praise from the great "W. G." was praise indeed. It would take me pages to recount a part of the doings of Kelaart. Such deeds are well-known wherever cricket is discussed. No bowler has captured more wickets in all grades of Ceylon Cricket or has been such an object of dread as the "demon". There are scores of batsmen who are usually bowled before they step out of the pavilion towards the wickets where Kelaart awaits them with that "unplayable." Kelaart's name is known to sportsmen beyond the boundaries of this sea-girt isle of ours. All who have come in contact with him have been impressed by such a meeting. There is to-day no more popular figure on the Ceylon Cricket field. The crowd adore him and look on his little mannerisms with indulgent admiration. That little twitch of the arm, that settling of the Elbow hat after every ball bowled, that twinkling glaze in the eyes when the wickets are upset, and that sudden uplifting of both arms when the vanish of the wicket has been wiped away but the wickets remain intact, are all characteristic of the champion.

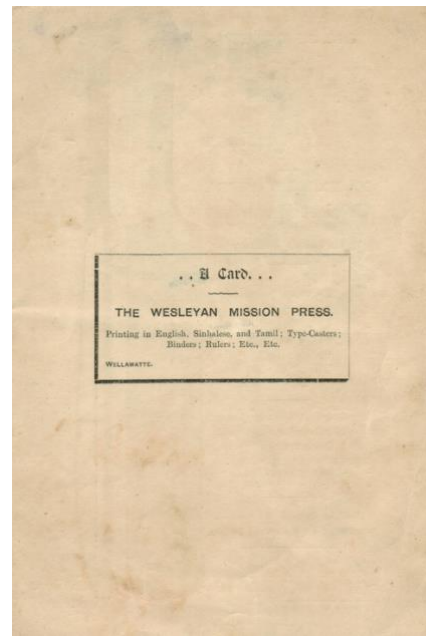
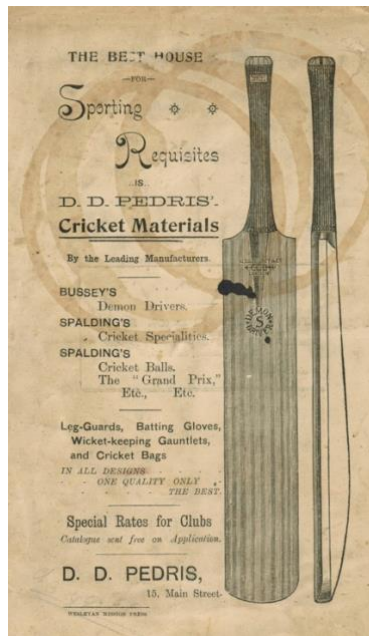
I asked Kelaart what has helped him to become the great bowler he is. He admitted that bowling came to him naturally, but that the coaching of his brother "Colvin" had been of much assistance to him. Those who remember the old Colts' Captain cannot have forgotten his doings behind the sticks. There used to be a code of signals understood by only the bowler and the wicket-keeper, and with its help much damage was done to the opposing batsmen. One little move of the hand and a Yorker followed, another sign and the result a bigger break than usual, and so on.

Before bringing this brief imperfect sketch to a close, may I express the hope, which will be shared by all his admirers, that Kelaart may for long be spared to help his club and that success may be his till then; and when the time does come for the snapping of the link that for so long held together victories of the past and present, may he have the satisfaction of finding his son—a great bowler perchance in embryo—a worthy one on whom his mantle of fame may fall.

The following figures show at a glance the principal performances of the famous left hander, during his long and brilliant career:—

T. K's. Records against European Teams.						
	O.	M.	R.	W.	Against.	Ground.
1893	20	10	36	4	Ashley Walker's XI.	Galle Face
"	13	6	20	6	"	"
"	10	7	7	8	T. Moorhouse's XI.	Nuwara Eliya
"	10	4	12	6	"	"
"	17	9	23	6	Col. Churchill's XI.	Barrack Square
"	23	6	39	7	"	"
1895	31	13	30	4	G. Vanderspar's XI.	Galle Face
"	9	4	5	4	"	"
1896	18	9	17	2	G. Vanderspar's XI.	Kandy
"	19	11	17	7	"	"
1898	37	17	36	4	C. Ward Jackson's XI.	Galle Face
"	29	13	20	1	"	"
1899	16	7	29	2	S. M. Burrows' XI.	Nuwara Eliya
"	34	21	29	4	"	"
1900	33	13	32	2	W. E. Davidson's XI.	Nuwara Eliya
"	16	9	47	0	"	"
1901	22	9	25	2	R. Pousonby's XI.	Kandy
"	13	4	29	2	"	"
1902	6	3	14	0	Wace's XI.	Kandy
"	7	2	26	2	"	"
1905	12	3	29	4	G. H. Gibson's XI.	C. C. C.
"	25	2	69	4	"	"
1910	19	3	9	30	4	W. E. M. Paterson's XI.
"	28	2	4	65	3	C. C. C.
465 195 718 88					Average 8'1	

T. K's. Records against touring Combinations.						
	O.	M.	R.	W.	Against.	Ground.
1890	19	5	42	3	Australians	Galle Face
1891	12	4	25	3	Lord Sheffield's XI.	Galle Face
1892	16	4	34	4	Lord Hawke's team	Barrack Square
"	17	4	37	5	"	"
"	14	4	45	6	Madras	Galle Face
"	17	6	36	9	"	Kandy
1894	13	5	17	2	A. E. Stoddart's team	Barrack Square
1904	29	5	11	59	5	Parsons
"	20	4	38	2	"	C. C. C.
1898	16	4	30	0	M. C. C. Amateurs	Galle Face
1899	13	4	24	4	M. A. Noble's XI.	Galle Face
"	5	0	31	1	"	"
"	12	2	31	6	P. Mac Abister's XI.	Galle Face
"	6	0	42	3	"	"
210 37 461 53					Average 8'6	



Courtesy of Richard Kelaart

Appendix IV

Wisden's tribute to William Greswell, 1972

"GRESWELL, WILLIAM TERRITT, who died on February 12, aged 81, was reputed to be the first bowler to introduce the in-swinging delivery to first-class cricket. Gaining his colours at the age of 15, he was in the Repton XI from 1905 to 1908, heading the bowling figures in the last season with 59 wickets for 12 runs each. He began playing for Somerset in 1908 and continued to do so from time to time until 1933. Meantime he represented Gentlemen against Players three times.

In first-class matches in England, he took 525 wickets for 20.77 runs each with bowling of slow to medium pace, deceptive flight and spin. His best analysis was nine wickets for 62 for his county against Hampshire at Weston-super-Mare in 1923. As a batsman, he hit 2,499 runs, including a century against Middlesex at Lord's in 1909, for an average of 14.95, and he held 91 catches, mostly in the slips, where his fielding reached a high standard. He became President of the County Club in 1962.

It came as a blow to Somerset when Greswell left for Ceylon in 1909 to take up a position with the family tea and rubber estates, though he continued to turn out for the county when on leave. In Ceylon cricket he achieved great things and he became known as the best European player to appear there. Between 1909 and 1923, he disposed of 1,016 batsmen for 8.72 runs each, nearly all of them in first-class fixtures. Twice he took all 10 wickets for Colombo C.C.--for 26 runs against Malay C.C. in 1911 and for 21 runs against Mercantile XI ten years later--and on no fewer than 29 occasions obtained at least eight wickets in an innings. He dismissed four men with consecutive balls against Galle C.C. and three other times in first-class cricket he performed the "hat-trick". In 1911, he set up a Ceylon record with 232 wickets for just over eight runs apiece.

Besides his cricketing ability, Greswell showed aptitude at other ball games. He played hockey for Somerset and the West of England and captained hockey and Association football teams in Ceylon. He also won the Ceylon A.A.A. half-mile championship."

Appendix V

Competition cricket results

Daily News Trophy

1938 Kalutara TC
1938-39 Sinhalese Sports Club
1939-40 Sinhalese Sports Club
1940-41 Saracans Sports Club
1941-42 No competition
1942-43 No competition
1943-44 Sinhalese Sports Club
1944-45 Sinhalese Sports Club
1945-46 Tamil Union C&A Club
1946-47 Sinhalese Sports Club
1947-48 Sinhalese Sports Club
1948-49 Sinhalese Sports Club
1949-50 Sinhalese Sports Club

P. Saravanamuttu Trophy

1950-51 Tamil Union C & A Club
1951-52 Sinhalese Sports Club
1952-53 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1953-54 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1954-55 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1955-56 Burgher Recreation Club
1956-57 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1957-58 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1958-59 Sinhalese Sports Club
1959-60 Sinhalese Sports Club
1960-61 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1961-62 Sinhalese Sports Club
1962-63 University
1963-64 Bloomfield C&A Club
1964-65 Nomads Sports Club
1965-66 No competition
1966-67 Sinhalese Sports Club
1967-68 Nomads Sports Club
1968-69 Sinhalese Sports Club
1969-70 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1970-71 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1972-73 Sinhalese Sports Club
1973-74 Sinhalese Sports Club
1974-75 Sinhalese Sports Club
1971-72 Sinhalese Sports Club
1975-76 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1976-77 Nondescripts Cricket Club

1977-78 Sinhalese Sports Club
1978-79 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1979-80 Colombo Cricket Club
1980-81 Bloomfield C&A Club
1981-82 Bloomfield C&A Club
1982-83 Bloomfield C&A Club
1983-84 Sinhalese Sports Club
1984-85 Colombo Cricket Club

Lakspray Trophy

1985-86 Sinhalese Sports Club & Nondescripts Cricket Club
1986-87 Sinhalese Sports Club
1987-88 Colombo Cricket Club
1988-89 Sinhalese Sports Club & Nondescripts Cricket Club
1989-90 Sinhalese Sports Club
1990-91 Sinhalese Sports Club

P. Saravanamuttu Trophy

1991-92 Colts Cricket Club
1992-93 Sinhalese Sports Club
1993-94 Nondescripts Cricket Club
1994-95 Sinhalese Sports Club & Bloomfield C&A Club
1995-96 Colombo Cricket Club
1996-97 Bloomfield C&A Club
1997-98 Sinhalese Sports Club & Bloomfield C&A Club

Premier Trophy

1998-99 Bloomfield C&A Club
1999-00 Colts Cricket Club
2000-01 Nondescripts Cricket Club
2001-02 Colts Cricket Club
2002-03 Moors Sports Club
2003-04 Bloomfield C&A Club
2004-05 Colts Cricket Club
2005-06 Sinhalese Sports Club
2006-07 Colombo Cricket Club
2007-08 Sinhalese Sports Club
2008-09 Tier A: Colts Cricket Club
Tier B: Saracens Sports Club
2009-10 Tier A: Chilaw Marians Cricket Club
Tier B: Lankan Cricket Club

2010-11 Tier A: Bloomfield C&A Club
Tier B: Moors Sports Club
2011-12 Tier A: Colts Cricket Club
Tier B: Sri Lanka Army
2012-13 Sinhalese Sports Club
2013-14 Nondescripts Cricket Club
2014-15 Sri Lanka Ports Authority Cricket Club
2015-16 Tamil Union Cricket and Athletic Club
2016-17 Sinhalese Sports Club
2017-18 Chilaw Marians Sports Club
2018-19 Colombo Cricket Club
2019-20 Colombo Cricket Club
2022-23 Colombo Cricket Club

Wins by clubs (courtesy of Wikipedia)

CLUB	WINS	WINNING YEARS
Singhalese Sports Club	32	1938–39, 1939–40, 1943–44, 1944–45, 1946–47, 1947–48, 1948–49, 1949–50, 1951–52, 1958–59, 1959–60, 1961–62, 1966–67, 1968–69, 1971–72, 1972–73, 1973–74, 1974–75, 1977–78, 1983–84, 1985–86*, 1986–87, 1988–89*, 1989–90, 1990–91, 1992–93, 1994–95*, 1997–98, 2005–06, 2007–08, 2012–13, 2016–17
Nondescripts Cricket Club	16	1952–53, 1953–54, 1954–55, 1956–57, 1957–58, 1960–61, 1969–70, 1970–71, 1975–76, 1976–77, 1978–79, 1985–86, 1988–89*, 1993–94, 2000–01, 2013–14
Bloomfield Cricket and Athletic Club	9	1963–64, 1980–81, 1981–82, 1982–83, 1994–95*, 1996–97, 1998–99, 2003–04, 2010–11
Colombo Cricket Club	8	1979–80, 1984–85, 1987–88, 1995–96, 2006–07, 2018–19, 2019–20, 2022–23
Colombo Cricket Club	8	1979–80, 1984–85, 1987–88, 1995–96, 2006–07, 2018–19, 2019–20, 2022–23
Colts Cricket Club	6	1991–92, 1999–00, 2001–02, 2004–05, 2008–09, 2011–12
Tamil Union Cricket and Athletic Club	3	1945–46, 1950–51, 2015–16
†Nomads Sports Club	2	1964–65, 1967–68
Chilaw Marians Cricket Club	2	2009–10, 2017–18
Kalutara Town Club	1	1938
Saracens Sports Club	1	1940–41
Burgher Recreation Club	1	1955–56
†University	1	1962–63
Moors Sports Club	1	2002–03
Sri Lanka Ports Authority Cricket Club	1	2014–15

- † Extinct Clubs * Shared title

Appendix V

THE UNIVERSITY CRICKET TEAM OF 1962-3

In 2013 the Island of 18 March 2013 covered the reunion of the University of Ceylon cricket team of 1962-3 which took out the Sara trophy of that year.

'Former members of the University of Ceylon '62/63 will gather at the NCC on the morning of March 23 to celebrate their winning the Sara Trophy 50 years ago. Their feat has never been achieved by any other university team. In spite of the heavy burden of studies, they had to contend with, they were able to excel in their chosen sport to win the Sara Trophy in the 1962/63 season. The team consisted of a very talented group of youngsters who were not at all overawed by the might of the opposition, sporting All Ceylon players of that era. They, in their youthful exuberance, overcame all odds in capturing the title. Their conduct off the field was exemplary. They were gentlemen to the core in their behaviour.

Many of them were also accomplished musicians. All these cricketers, without exception have reached the pinnacle of their chosen careers as doctors, engineers, architects, civil servants and veterinarians, both locally and abroad.

The year 1962 saw the coming together of a number of very talented students from various schools in Ceylon of that era to be members of a fantastic cricket team to represent the University of Ceylon in cricket in the local premier tournament, vying for the Saravanamuttu Trophy. These young students of that era, mainly from the Colombo schools, entered university, after passing the very competitive university entrance exam of the era.

The team was skippered by **Carlyle Perera**, a Josephian, a no-nonsense leader and a fourth-year medico at that time. He was a hugely talented batsman with an astute cricketing brain and the incredible skills of man management to extract the best efforts from his team members. His deputy was a Thomian – **Buddy Reid**, another fourth-year medico, who was a great cricketer with a never say die attitude and possessing true Thomian grit.

The other members were:

Mano Ponniah – Thomian – Opening bat and superb fielder in the covers. Engineering student.

NJS de Mel – Royalist – Diminutive and dashing opening bat with no respect for reputations of the opponents.

Nihal Gurusinghe – Thomian – Tall and elegant and attractive batsman to watch when set. Smart in the slips. Medico.

Lareef Idroos – Thomian – A great all-rounder. Leading leg spinner of the era, sound batsman and an excellent slip fielder. – Medico.

Cyril Ernest – Benedictine – Another great all-rounder – Lethal off spinner, dashing bat and a brilliant close in fielder. – Medico.

Mohanlal Fernando – Anandian – All-rounder – Opening bowler with excellent control of swing; middle order batsman and fantastic fielder in close, in and in the deep.

V. Sivanandan – The only outstation schoolboy cricketer in the team – from St. John's, Jaffna. A fabulous wicket keeper and lower order batsman – Veterinarian.

Harsha Samarajiva – Royalist – Opening bowler, with a vicious well concealed bouncer who intimidated many an opposing batsman. Lower order bat. Close in fielder. Medico.

URP Goonetilleke – Thomian – A solid opening bat; fielded in the covers and also bowled medium pace cutters when needed. Medico.

K. Wimalaratne – Royalist – A stubborn batsman and a medium pace bowler. Fielded in the outfield.

Nanda Senanayake – Royalist – Superb allrounder – middle order bat, off spinner and a great fielder in the covers. Physical Science student.

Kingsley Fernando – St. Sebastian's College, Moratuwa. A dashing bat, leg spinner and excellent fielder close in fielder. Engineering.

Merril Guneratne – St. Peter's College – Left arm medium pace swing bowler with excellent control of line and length. Fielded in the mid-on and mid-off positions. Underrated batsman who sold his wicket very early. The only student from the Arts Faculty.

Adiel Anghie – Peterite – Reserve wicket keeper. Solid Middle order bat. Medico.

Unselfishness and team camaraderie were the foremost attributes instilled into the minds by their leader, Carlyle Perera. This did pay dividends. It must also be mentioned that in the following season, the university were runners-up to Bloomfield and lost by the barest of margins of 0.04 points due to one missed catch. Well, that's cricket.

The team has since lost some of their members, and the surviving members of the champion team are back in Sri Lanka to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of winning the championship and they will be celebrating at a couple of events in a resort hotel down South, and at the NCC, at a reception for the team.

It has to be noted that six members of that great team subsequently played in representative Ceylon sides – Buddy Reid (also played for Ceylon in Table Tennis), Mano Ponniah (also played for Cambridge, England.), Nihal Gurusinghe, Lareef Idroos (also played for USA), Cyril Ernest (also played for the USA and in the World Cup - Birmingham, England) and V. Sivanandan.

Where are they now?

Carlyle Perera – Melbourne, Australia. Consultant Psychiatrist.

Buddy Reid – Melbourne, Australia. Consultant Surgeon.

Nihal Gurusinghe – Tepuke, New Zealand. Consultant Internist.

Mano Ponniah – Back home in Colombo. Renowned Architect.

Lareef Idroos – Los Angeles, USA. Consultant Nephrologist. Retired professor UCLA.

Cyril Ernest -Lancaster, California. USA. Consultant Cardiologist.

Harsha Samarajiva – Back home in Colombo. Much sought after Internist.

Mohanlal Fernando – Wales. Retired Rheumatologist and specialist in Sports Medicine.

V. Sivanandan – Resides in Malaysia. Emeritus Professor in Veterinary Sciences, University of Minnesota.

Kingsley Fernando – Colombo. Retired Chief Engineer, Colombo.

Nanda Senanayake – Colombo.

Adiel Anghie – Virginia, USA. Retired Consultant Pulmonologist.

Merril Guneratne – Colombo. Retired DIG.

Unfortunately, NJS de Mel, K. Wimalaratne and URP Goonetilleke are not with us anymore. NJS was an executive at Ceylon Tobacco. He died in Sri Lanka. K. Wimalaratne, a consultant Cardiologist tragically drowned in California, while URP Goonetilleke, a Consultant Pathologist died in England.

Mohanlal Fernando represented Wales at tennis. Buddy Reid represented Australia in the Masters Table Tennis International tourney and Cyril Ernest achieved the distinction of gaining his Black Belt in Tae Kwondo [an also played for USA in Cricket at the World cup in UK].

All of them were university students first, though they were in the limelight due to their sporting abilities and that studies did supersede sports. For those representing the country today in various sports, the members of the '62-63 team are an example. It would be pertinent to mention that they were able to combine the two. Some of them represented the university in cricket, but other sports as well.

Buddy Reid – Cricket and Table Tennis

Cyril Ernest – Cricket and Hockey

Mohanlal Fernando – Cricket and Badminton

V. Sivanandan – Cricket and Soccer.

URP Goonetilleke – Cricket and Hockey

K. Wimalaratne – Cricket and Hockey.

Nanda Senanayake – Cricket, Hockey and ?'

Appendix VI

CARLYLE PERERA

The following tribute by Maxie Kariyawasam appeared in the Sunday Times of 11 July 2020.

'Individual brilliance in any sport does not necessarily make one a leader of men/women. Dr Carlyle Felecian Haig Perera not only had individual brilliance as a cricketer from his early days at St. Joseph's College, Colombo but he also had one other characteristic that is elusive to most and that is charisma. He made ample use of this to steer the Colombo University Cricket team to a unique achievement in 1962/63 when he led them to capture the plum of Sri Lanka Cricket, the Sara Trophy. Never before or since have the Colombo University been able to achieve this historic Milestone.



Dr. Carlyle Perera

It all started at St. Joseph's College Colombo, when Carlyle was drawn to Cricket like a moth to a flame where he showed early signs of leadership captaining the U-14 and U-16 teams. At just 16 plus in 1955 his enormous talent saw him play for the College 1st Eleven under Ralph Brohier and in 1958 Carlyle was entrusted with the captaincy of the College Cricket team. He distinctly remembers how he missed a century against Trinity College being dismissed for 99 and his brother Dr Travis bowling Eric Roles of Trinity with the last ball of the day to give St. Joseph's a memorable win. He also vividly remembers his knock of 77 in the Joe-Pete big match of 1957.

In 1960, he entered medical college and his prodigious talent saw him represent the University Cricket team under Dr. H.I.K. Fernando. In the 1962/63 cricket season Carlyle's leadership qualities were duly recognized by the University authorities and he was elevated to the captaincy of the team, and this proved be the turning point for the University Cricket team. To say that he led from the front is "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth".

The fact that during the season Carlyle scored 3 centuries including one against the star studded S.S.C. team saw his team mates also raise their level of performance and the rest is now history. The one and only occasion that the Colombo University ever won the prestigious Sara Trophy, the pinnacle of Sri Lanka Cricket. Among his teammates were B.G. Reid, Mohanal Fernando, Lareef Idroos, Nihal Gurusinghe, Mano Ponniah, Nihal de Mel, Cyril Earnest, U.R.P. Goonetilleke, Harsha Samarajiva, Kingsley Fernando and Adiel Angie. On paper they were a talented lot, and it certainly would have been a travesty, of justice if the Colombo University did not carry away the premier Division Trophy with the capabilities of the team ably led by their charismatic leader Carlyle.

In the words of Dr. B.G. Reid, "Carlyle was the best captain that I ever played under" only one other cricketer comes to mind that being. Arjuna Ranatunga who piloted the Sri Lanka team to the World Cup in 1996, both Arjuna and Carlyle were sheer class as leaders and it'll be a long, long time before Sri Lanka can produce another Carlyle or Arjuna, Certainly National representative honours would have come Carlyle's way if he did not Migrate to Australia although he did skipper a C.C.A. XI in 1962/63.

While in Australia Carlyle turned out in the Ballarat Division for 1 year and through a number of 50's saw his club rise right up from the bottom of the table to head of the table. This then is the Saga of Dr. Carlyle Felician Haig Perera, a chief Physiatrist in Melbourne whom we will always remember as someone "who came, saw and conquered " the cricketing turf of Sri Lanka."

An alternative view

But to put things in perspective Perera would not have been a hero if the LBW of today prevailed in 1963. For today, Buddy Reid would have been given out to a ball pitched outside the off stump for which he didn't offer a stroke. And the Colts only needed to obtain another wicket to take the competition.

In the chronicler's opinion the true heroes of the game were Darrell Lieversz and Buddy Reid. Carlyle Perera is a highly overrated captain who became famous through dint of luck.