



# SERVE

June 2024 Edition

The quarterly eNews Bulletin of the Old Royalists fraternity

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Published by the **ORGACO** on behalf of the **Royal College Union (RCU)**

## About Us

Old Royalist Groups Associations and Clubs Organizers (ORGACO) is a Statutory Committee of the Royal College Union (RCU) and acts as the conduit that connects RCU affiliated groups, associations and clubs and The Royal College. We serve and collaborate across borders. With the objective of solely and wholeheartedly serving The Royal College and the RCU, we endeavour to add value to our members and derive synergies to achieve the objectives set forth.

Given the diversity and the expansive global presence of our membership we

always foster secularism, unity, camaraderie, and the passion to 'repay the debt we owe', as our core values.

We will work steadfastly and with all our might to achieve common goals that will nurture well rounded, value-centric citizenry; create a better place, for present and future Royalists; and will benefit broader communities..





# Eligibility for ORGACO Membership:

Any Old Royalists Group, Association, Club, Society or Organisation that has been established and functions as a collective of Old Royalists is eligible to obtain membership of ORGACO.

Membership is subject to a joining fee and an annual renewal subscription.

For membership inquiries write to us at [orgaco@rcu.lk](mailto:orgaco@rcu.lk).

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**Floreat !**



# Royal Welcome to Scholars

The School Bags and Stationery Pack distribution for grade 6 scholars, an annual project by the Group of 2006 carried out under the guidance of ORGACO, completed its fourth year(2021-2024). Each year, the new entrants who gain admission to Royal, having excelled at the grade 6 scholarship exam receive stationery packs, including a school bag, valued at over Rs.7,000. With over 250 scholars benefiting, the project costs approximately Rs.1.3 million.

Funded by RCG2006 members, this initiative fosters academic excellence, nurturing young talent and providing recognition, motivation and crucial resources in support of the education of high achievers.







## “Mind Guides” A Mentoring Program by **OREPA**

Recognizing the importance of mentorship in academic success, the Old Royalists' Engineering Professionals Association launched the Mind Guides project aimed at empowering A/L students to excel in their examinations. By providing mentoring and guidance, the aim is not only to increase the number of students pursuing engineering studies but also equipped them with the necessary skills for higher education.





## EDEX- 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

EDEX, Sri Lanka's largest education exhibition and job fair, took place from February 9 to 11 at the SLECC in Colombo and on February 17 and 18 at the Kandy City Centre. Celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year, EDEX has become a 'go to' event for youth exploring higher education and career options.

With its theme of "Live Your Dream" EDEX is dedicated to providing comprehensive insights into a diverse range of opportunities in higher education, training, gainful employment and entrepreneurship for the Sri Lankan youth.

120 exhibitors participated in the exhibition which saw a record footfall of close to 10,000 across both legs.











## RCUAC Challenge Shield Water Polo tournament

Sri Lanka's largest junior Water Polo competition, concluded at Royal College Pool on 11<sup>th</sup> February. Organized by Royal College Union Aquatic Club, it featured 30 teams from 11 schools across U9, U11, U13, and U15 categories. Sanctioned by the Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union, it adhered to international standards including the use of a shot clock.

Now in its third consecutive year, the tournament celebrated the theme "For the Love of the Game," and has now become a staple in the schools water polo calendar.





# The Paddock@Mustangs

"The Paddock@Mustangs" was introduced as new enclosure exclusively for Royal supporters at the 47th Mustangs Trophy encounter by the RCU and coordinated by ORGACO. Designed to foster camaraderie among RCU members and families while fundraising, the tent quickly sold out its initial tickets within three days, prompting the printing of an additional 150 tickets taking the total headcount to 800. Spectators at the enclosure were provided live music by an ever popular band, a DJ, and the match essential - a papare band, with a designated kids' area featuring a bouncy castle.









## Re-launch of the **RCU website**

The RCU website underwent a comprehensive revamp and was re-launched on March 6, 2024. With this update, the RCU aims to foster dynamic engagement with members, both locally and internationally, utilizing the platform as a hub for communication and interaction.







# Helping hand to an underprivileged School

The Group of 2010 came together to provide the sports equipment needs of Gonagala Central College, an underprivileged school, brimming with talented students in various sports. The committee personally visited the school, providing essential sports gear to empower the talented students.





## Royal College Sports

is a Mobile Application  
Developed by the Royal College  
Computer Society.

Real-time game updates, Live  
updates and latest news across  
all sports in College.

Powered by  
group of  
2010



Download on  
App Store



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Google Play



## Royal College Sports app

The Group of 2010 provided financial support and technical expertise for the development of the Royal College Sports mobile app by the Royal College Computer Society. This app enables real-time game updates, live feeds, and the latest sports news. Recently honored as the Best Digital Project, the Group of 2010 is committed to sustaining and enhancing the app's functionality.



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# Donation to the Past Teachers Association's Medical Fund

The Group of '87 made a donation to the Past Teachers Association's medical fund with the proceeds from their dinner dance to celebrate the batch reaching the ripe retirement age of 55. The event themed "The Emerald Men" was a grand success and enabled the Group to contribute Rs. 1,000,000/-. The ceremony to hand over the contribution was held on January 13, at College, was attended by the Principal and Group of '87.



# Support of Old Royalists to Loyalty Pledge

Loyalty Pledge: managed by the Loyalty Pledge Management Committee under the guidance of the Royal College Union, has been rendering a silent but a yeoman service to Royalists for more than two decades. Loyalty Pledge has donated more than 2000 scholarships to date, and it is currently providing educational scholarships to 149 Royalists studying in school and the state universities. Loyalty Pledge has earned its reputation among Royalists as a professionally managed organization under the Royal College Union to support young Royalists.

The financial contributions of old Royalists has been the primary source of funding of Loyalty Pledge to maintain its scholarship schemes. Old Royalists' groups of 1969, 1996 and 2013 recently made generous donations to Loyalty Pledge demonstrating their confidence in Loyalty Pledge as an important channel to support the student community at Royal College. The economic situation in Sri Lanka has directly impacted the financial resources of Loyalty Pledge posing a serious challenge to maintain its scholarship and skills development programmes and, in this context, these donations offer an immense support.

Recently, the **Group of '96** donated funds equivalent to 14 scholarships utilizing funds raised from their members in Sri Lanka and overseas. The Group of '96 has been a generous donor to Loyalty Pledge in the last few years and they have pledged their continuous support to Loyalty Pledge in the years to come.

Moreover, the **Group of 2013** donated 48 study packs to the recipients of Loyalty Pledge scholarships studying in from grade 7 to 10 in the College. These study packs included texts







books and other materials required to meet their educational needs when the new school term started in 2024.

The **Group of '69** deposited funds for a perpetual scholarship in the name of their group. The minimum donation under the perpetual scholarship scheme is Rs. 500,000 and the donation will be utilized as a deposit to earn an interest income which will be used to service an educational scholarship on a continuous basis.

The Royal College Union extends its sincere appreciation to these groups of old Royalists as well as other groups of old Royalists who have been supporting Loyalty Pledge. The LPMC requests all old Royalists to join hands with Loyalty Pledge to ensure today's young Royalists will have a brighter tomorrow.

The information about scholarship programmes and how to make donations can be found in the website [www.lpmc.lk](http://www.lpmc.lk).





## RoyTho Airbus 2024

A visionary initiative by Royalists from the batch of 2004 currently residing in Australia, saw the conception of a remarkable project: a charter flight to ferry their fellow alumni from Melbourne to Colombo, delivering them right to the doorstep of their cherished Royal-Thomian cricket match at SSC. What began as a spark of an idea quickly ignited into a widespread phenomenon.

As enthusiasm surged, the project's scope transcended the confines of the college community, embracing not only Royalists but also Thomians keen on participating in the annual pilgrimage to the revered RoyTho. Driven by a shared mission to foster unity among a diverse array of Royalists and Thomians, the endeavor sought to revive treasured childhood memories and celebrate the camaraderie and revelry of the Royal-Thomian.







The journey was marked by poignant moments as the Sri Lankan Airlines Airbus A330 taxied from Melbourne Airport, proudly displaying the Royal and S. Thomas flags side by side from the cockpit, symbolizing unity and camaraderie in the safe hands of three Royalists at the cockpit.





## Financial Support for Royal College Hostellers

In a heartwarming gesture, the Class of '94 extended financial aid to three hostellers whose parents were finding it difficult to cover hostel fees. This initiative underscores their commitment to supporting deserving students in their academic pursuits.

A amount of Rs. 216,000/- was deposited as the hostel fees for the year for the three students.





# Felicitation Ceremony to celebrate **Right Royal Sportsmanship**

Staying true to the dictum, "learn to play the game", Thilina conceded points to the opponents on two occasions despite the umpire ruling in his favour, and despite the fact that it was a closely contested game. Although the match and the ensuinh tie were lost by the smallest of margins, Thilina's sportsmanship came into praise by both Royalists and by Peterites, and received much publicity.

The Royal College Union Tennis Club hosted a felicitation to recognize and celebrate this sportsmanship on 14th February 2024. It was held under the patronage of Principal Sir, and attended by Senior Games Master Mr. Riyaz Aluher, Secretary Royal College Union, representatives from St.Peter's OBU and the Royal College Games Council, Thilina's parents and his grandfather, who is none other than former Principal of Royal College Mr. B. Sooriyaarachchi. A plaque and a letter of appreciation by the Rector of St. Peter's College were presented to Thilina in recognition of his sportsmanship.

Thilina takes over as the Captain of Royal College Tennis in 2024.



# Let us thank our Mother Royal for her unwavering care

Own your RCU Affinity Card today!

The **RCU Affinity Credit Card** is a remarkable offering, especially for Royal College alumni. Let's delve into its features:

## 1. Contribution to our Alma Mater:

The essence of this card lies in its ability to give back to our alma mater. When you use the RCU Affinity Credit Card for physical and online transactions, **0.2% of your monthly usage** is contributed back to Royal College Union (RCU). These funds can be utilized for various school development projects.

## 2. Eligibility:

- Sri Lankan residents below **70 years of age** with a satisfactory CRIB report are eligible.
- Non-residents can opt for the card against a **PFC account balance** with the bank.
- Being an RCU member is mandatory.

## 3. Salient Features:

- **Credit Limit:** The bank will match any other bank credit card limit owned by you, up to **Rs. 1 million**.
- **Pre-Approved Limit:** Current and fresh members without an existing credit card will receive a pre-approved credit card limit of **Rs. 100,000**.
- **Higher Limits:** Higher limits can be accommodated based on income proof details and credit evaluation.
- **Monthly Contribution:** **0.2% of your monthly card usage** goes back to RCU.

- **Renewal Benefit:** **50% of the card renewal fee** is also given back to RCU.

- **Application Process:** Any member can apply for this card via the following link: RCU Affinity Credit Card Application.  
<https://forms.office.com/r/qHd447xL3P>

## 4. Required Documents:

- Signed card application
- NIC / DL / Passport with NIC number
- RCU membership card (if available, but not mandatory)
- Address proof (if different from NIC / DL address)
- Employment/business confirmation (business card, salary slip, employment confirmation letter, or business registration)

A dedicated bank officer from the RC '99 batch, **Ravi Silva (071-8306267)**, is assigned for any support or clarifications.

Remember, every swipe with this card contributes to Royal College's growth. So, **swipe more and support more!**







# Group of 2000

## Dinner Dance

The Royal College Group of 2000 organized a dinner dance under the theme of "A Night of Timeless Ties" on October 21, 2023, at Mövenpick Hotel Colombo. The event marked the launch of a welfare arm with the Royal Cares: Wellness Connect app and a Group Insurance Plan. Highlights included awards, contests, and a raffle draw.





## Group of 2000

### Family Wellness and Remembrance Day

A Family Wellness Day, organized by the Group of 2000, was held on February 25th at Nawarangahala. The event offered various health screenings and consultations, including lab tests, ECGs, dental, vision examinations, and pharmacy services, all free of charge, emphasizing member wellness. The Group also held a remembrance for the dear departed batch mates.









## Group of '88

### Remembrance and tribute to members in Armed Forces

The Group of 88 celebrated their 55th year with a special ceremony to pay tribute to its members who are serving in the armed forces.

# Group of '2018

## 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration

The Group of 2018 celebrated their 5th anniversary of leaving College with their first-ever Members' Night on August 19, 2023, at the Opulent River Face Hotel.









# Group of '2013

## 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration

In 2023, the Group of 2013 celebrated their 10th-year anniversary with a festive gathering at Marino Beach Hotel on November 25th, attended by over 200 batch-mates.



# Infrastructure projects that require **Urgent Attention**

The Infrastructure Management Committee of the Royal College Union (RCU) has been working diligently to address the infrastructure needs of the college. The committee has finalized the architectural drawings, Bill of Materials (BOMs), and costing for several infrastructure projects that require urgent attention. These projects are critical to maintaining the safety and functionality of the college's facilities and ensuring a conducive environment for learning. The RCU is now seeking the financial and logistical support of its affiliated groups, associations, and clubs in implementing these projects. The support of these groups is crucial in ensuring that the projects are completed on time and within budget. The RCU recognizes the important role that these groups play in the college community and is confident that they will rise to the occasion to support this vital initiative. The RCU requests the Groups, Associations, and Clubs affiliated to the RCU, both here and overseas, to volunteer their commitments via ORGACO, the coordinating body of the Groups, Associations, and Clubs affiliated to the RCU.

## **‘SERVE’** Quarterly News Bulletin

This newsletter is the relaunched eNews of the Royal College Union (RCU) and is being published by the ORGACO. We aim to connect all Royal alumni living and working across the world with news from the Royal College Union as well as what the old boys are up to in their respective groups, clubs, and associations. We are proud of our alumni and are humbled by the energy and effort all of us channel towards our alma mater, our home away from home. It is this synergy that binds us together. Advertising space is available in the ‘SERVE’ eNews Bulletin. It is circulated to all members of the Royal College Union (RCU) and have registered their email addresses with the RCU secretariat. Currently the database consists of +7,000 emails of members located across the world.

For advertising opportunities please contact us on [orgaco@rcu.lk](mailto:orgaco@rcu.lk) or call any of the office bearers of ORGACO.



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