



# SERVE

May 2025 Edition

The quarterly eNews Bulletin of the Old Royalists fraternity

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

# About Us

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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).

**SERVE'** is a quarterly eNews Bulletin that will be published by the ORGACO on behalf of the Royal College Union (RCU).

**Floreat !**





# Royal College welcomes its new Principal

Royal College welcomes its new Principal, Mr. Athula Wijewardana. With a distinguished career in educational leadership, Mr. Wijewardana brings a wealth of experience and a visionary approach to this esteemed institution.

## A Legacy of Leadership

Mr. Wijewardana's journey in education spans several decades; marked by significant contributions to various institutions. He has previously served as the Principal of Rajapaksa Central College, Weeraketiya, Lumbini College, Colombo 06, and Mahinda College, Galle.



# Academic and Professional Credentials

Holding a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed) and a Master of Education (M.Ed) in Education Management, Mr. Wijewardana's academic background is both robust and diverse. His qualifications include a Postgraduate Diploma in Education Management (PGDEM), a National Certificate in Education (NCE) Diploma, a Higher Diploma in Sports Management, and an IT Higher Diploma. This extensive educational foundation equips him with a multifaceted perspective on school administration and pedagogy.

## Roles in Educational Development

Beyond his roles as a Principal, Mr. Wijewardana has been instrumental in shaping sports education in Sri Lanka. He has served as the Sports Director for both the Southern and Western Provinces and held the position of Sports Director at the Ministry of Education. His tenure as Director of Education Development further underscores his dedication to advancing the nation's educational landscape.

## Personal Life and Interests

Balancing his professional endeavours, Mr. Wijewardana is supported by his wife, a dedicated primary school teacher, and their two sons. His personal interests include a passion for sports and science, and he is an avid music enthusiast, reflecting a well-rounded personality that resonates with both students and staff.

## Vision for Royal College

- At the helm of Royal College, Mr. Wijewardana is poised to implement strategic improvements focusing on three core areas:
- **Education:** Enhancing academic programmes to foster critical thinking and innovation among students.
- **Co-curricular Activities and Sports:** Strengthening extracurricular and sports initiatives to promote holistic development.
- **Good Governance:** Upholding transparency and integrity within the school's administrative processes.
- Mr. Wijewardana's appointment heralds a promising chapter for Royal College Colombo, as the institution continues its legacy of excellence under his experienced leadership.



# RCU Dinner Dance 2024

The Royal College Union's annual Dinner Dance was held on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Shangri-la, Colombo in grand style.







Group of 1985

# Toilet Refurbishment Project

The Royal College Group of 1985 completed the refurbishment of college toilets, a project valued at over 7 million rupees. The revamped facilities were officially opened on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



# Upgraded Table Tennis Facilities

The Royal College Table Tennis Advisory and Management Committee upgraded the Table Tennis facilities with the addition of four new ITTF-standard tables, valued at nearly one million rupees. The official handover was held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.











# EDEX Expo 2025

Sri Lanka's premier education exhibition and job fair, EDEX Expo 2025, took place from January 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> at the BMICH, attracting a wide range of visitors and exhibitors. Over 6,000 participants in Colombo and over 2,600 in Kandy with 215 stalls in Colombo & 85 stalls in Kandy.











# Valentine's Sing-Along by ORAC

The Old Royalists' Athletics Club hosted a Valentine's Day Sing-along and party, "An Evening with Chandimal," on February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Monarch, drawing a vibrant crowd who enjoyed an unforgettable evening.





# Applied AI in Education Training Program

for School Teachers funded by the RCU

The “Applied AI in Education” program which is held over two and a half days, was designed to provide educators with practical knowledge on integrating AI into their classrooms. The initiative was made possible through the joint efforts of the University of Moratuwa, College Administration, and the Academic and Skills Development Advisory of the Royal College Union.









# Tennis Court Safety Upgrades

The RCU Tennis Club completed safety enhancements to the Grade 10 building to protect the courts from debris, ensuring a safe playing environment. Project was undertaken by RCUTC and funded by RCOBECF and was completed by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025.





# ORANZ Inauguration in New Zealand

The Old Royalist Association of New Zealand (ORANZ) was officially inaugurated on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, uniting 46 Royalists and distinguished guests.

Dr. Nilkanth De Zoysa was appointed the first Patron.





05.10.20



18

05.10.20



# Victory at the 12<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Blues NZ

Old Royalists triumphed over Old Thomians in the 12<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Blues - New Zealand Cricket Encounter on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Stellar performances by Bhagya Wijeratne, Dulan Egodawatte, and Kasun Menda secured a thrilling victory for the Royalists.













## Group of 2010 Contributions

The Royal College Group of 2010 sponsored live streaming of school games and co-sponsored Water Polo jerseys for the Dr. R.L. Hayman Trophy 2024. They also refurbished the Principal's Lounge. These activities were funded by monies raised through a vibrant "Baila Night 2024" which also contributed to strengthening fellowship amongst members of the group.









# Safety Enhancements

by Groups of 1994 and 2008

The Groups of 1994 and 2008 handed over 40 fire extinguishers to enhance fire safety at College, demonstrating their continued support and commitment to their alma mater.





## Project "Akura" by Group of 2013

The Group of 2013 concluded the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of "Akura," tutoring O/L students in mathematics at Somadevi Balika Vidyalaya, Kudabuthgamuwa, demonstrating a commitment to Social Service through educational support to underprivileged schools.





# “අකුර”

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### BY RCG13

Yesterday, the “Akura” Phase 4, Session 2 has been successfully completed at Somadevi Balika Vidyalaya, Kudabuthgamuwa, with dedicated focus on O/L Mathematics.

**Tutors**  
 Malindu Pawan  
 Pavan Supul  
 Kasun Bamunuarachchi  
 Kushan Senanayake  
 Uvindu Jayasiri  
 Lilan Siriwardena

The ExCo extends its heartfelt gratitude to our batchmates who selflessly dedicated their valuable free time to this noble cause.

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”**  
 - Nelson Mandela -



A Project by Royal College Group of 2013





Group of 2004

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The Royal College Group of 2004 marked their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an elegant Dinner Dance at Waters Edge on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Chief guests included Assistant Principal Mr. Riyaz Aluher and RCU Secretary Mr. Aruna Samarajewa. In his welcome speech, The Group's President Mr. Chameera Laknath honored former teachers, recognizing their invaluable contributions.







# "Cheers to 30"

## Dinner Dance by Group of 2013

Group of 2013 celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> birthdays in style with the "Cheers to 30" Dinner Dance on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Lotus Tower, reflecting the enduring spirit of friendship and camaraderie.









# 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 (BOBs), 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 +12,000 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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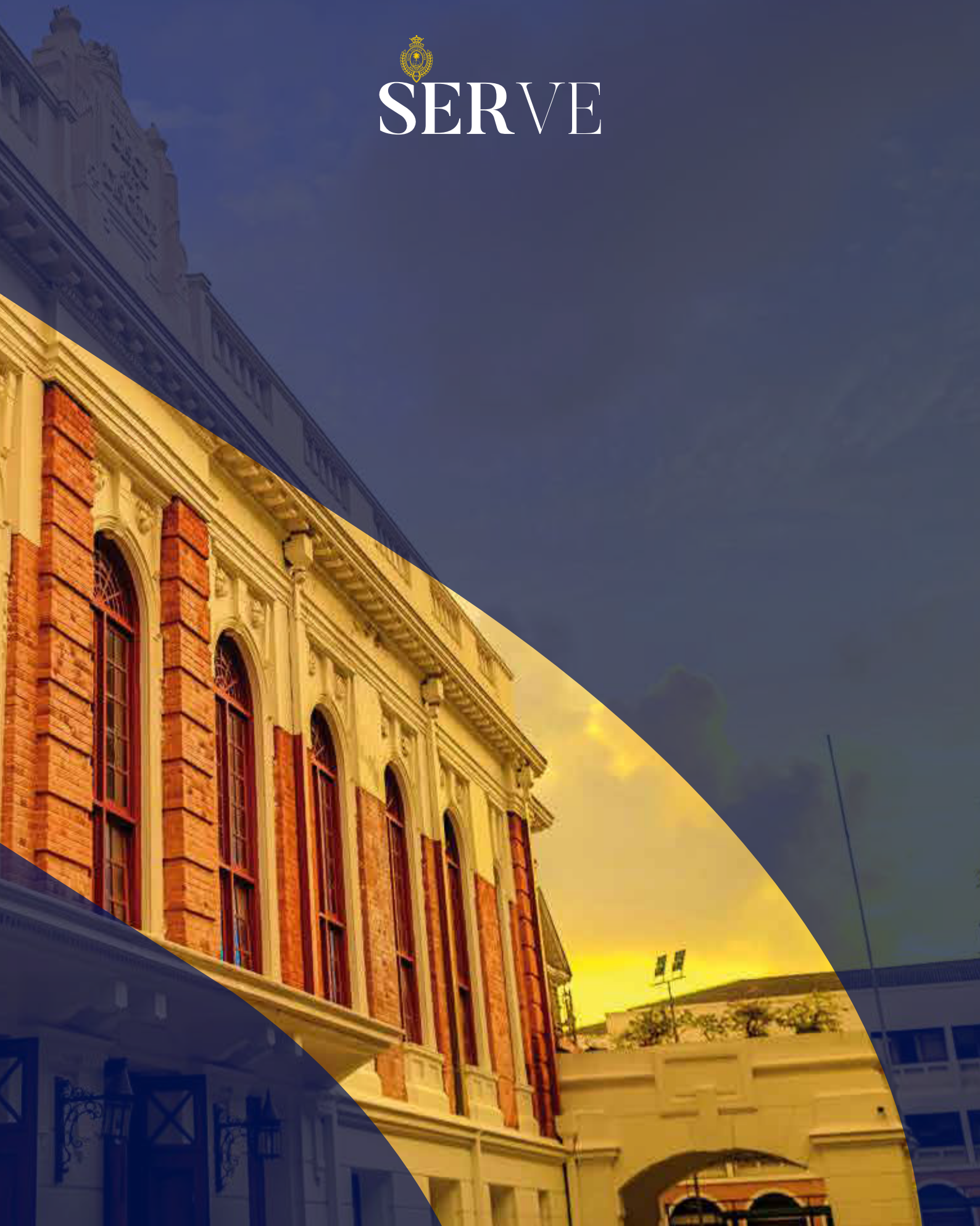




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# Let's Make Progress a Habit

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**Partner with Union Assurance where everything we do is aimed to empower your progress towards a fulfilled life.**