



Newsletter

November 2016

“
*The best feeling of Happiness is
when you are happy that you
have made somebody else happy*”

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History & Benefits of Joining

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Members' Benevolent Society

**The Institute of Chartered
Accountants of Sri Lanka**

**No. 30A, Malalasekara Mawatha,
Colombo 07**

The Institute of Chartered Accountants Members' Benevolent Society was formed over 3 years ago with the intention of lending a helping hand to needy members, amongst a few other objectives. Over the years the Society has extended a helping hand to many a member in numerous ways, while also expanding the reach amongst the members.

A needy person, in the Society's opinion does not cover only those in need of financial assistance. Mental, emotional, educational, development and entertainment needs are also of paramount importance. MBS at present meets most of these needs amongst our membership and their families, while also trying to give back to the society in a small way whenever possible, with the assistance of our members.

The Society is able to extend these services to its members and CA members due to the assistance extended by our membership, income generated from the significant fund base accumulated over time and the constant support from the Institute.

Immense joy and happiness is experienced by the Society and those involved when such assistance is extended to our members and when the Society has been instrumental in lighting the burden of someone. We wish to remind you that you have throughout the years been a part of lighting the burdens of our fellow members in need, and we hope that you will continue to do so. Keep in mind the famous saying, "A Shared Joy is a Double Joy; A Shared Sorrow is Half a Sorrow".

Executive Committee of Management

PRESIDENT	Mr. C Kalupahana
VICE PRESIDENTS	Mr. D B Gamalath Mr. W D L Dushmantha
SECRETARY	Ms. R K A Ranaweera
TREASURER	Mr. B K K Ranasinghe
EDITOR	Mr. M Thiyagaraja
INTERNAL AUDITOR	Mr. D P N Jayasinghe
ASST. SECRETARY	Mr. T A Kariyawasam
ASST. TREASURER	Mr. G Samarasekera
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Mr. S Munaweera Mr. L P Liyanaarachchi Mr. W L B Siriwardana Mr. L Waragoda Mr. G N Lakmin Ms. K K C Karunasena Mr. K S Welivita Mr. A Rathnaweera



“*Alone we can do so Little;
Together we can do so Much*”

Helen Keller -

Helen Adams Keller was an American author, political activist, and lecturer. She was the first deaf-blind person to earn a bachelor of arts degree.



Newsletter Editor's Note

It is a great pleasure to present the second MBS Newsletter for the year 2016. Our first newsletter for the year was released in May 2016 and was well received by our members. We are thankful for your comments and suggestions for improvement. We have incorporated the suggestions wherever possible.

This Newsletter has been prepared for the primary purpose of keeping you informed of the progress of the Society and its events, during the period from May - November 2016. A detailed description of the events organised by the Society together with an insight into its administration is provided in the President's Message.

We are heading towards the end of 2016 and a new Committee of Management will be

appointed at our next AGM. The events planned for 2017 will be communicated once it is finalised.

As mentioned in the previous edition, knowledge enhancing is one of the key objectives of the Society. We would like to extend an invitation to our members to share with us interesting and knowledge enhancing articles which we could include in future editions of the newsletter.

We welcome our members comments on this edition of the newsletter.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the members of the Executive Committee for the assistance extended in publishing this edition of the MBS newsletter.



Muhammad Ali, a professional boxer, activist, and one of the most significant and celebrated sports figures in the 20th century, once said that "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth".

So let us encourage you to keep helping others and join hands with us in our efforts to help our needy members.

Amani Ranaweera
Secretary/Newsletter Editor

MBS President's Message

Greetings!

Well we've arrived at my final President's Message for this esteemed Newsletter. I am happy that we were able to publish a second Newsletter in 2016 which is the first time in the history of CA Sri Lanka Members' Benevolent Society (MBS) that two Newsletters were published in a year. We thought it is important that we give an overview of the progress your Society as my term as President is winding down.

As I have promised, it was my commitment to make sure our Society continues to grow in member numbers and our numbers continue to grow. In 2014, our membership was 790. During my Presidency, 2015 & 2016 to date, 269 new members have joined the Society and membership now stand at 1,059. In 2016 to date, we have been able to register 144 new members exceeding the new recruitments of 125 recorded last year. This is the highest number of new CA members in a year during past 32 years' period. This was as we planned and stated in the previous newsletter that we would exceed the previous highest number of new registrations for a year of 125 new members being recorded in 2015. As you can see, interest in the MBS is growing. We have given priority for membership development with special attention being given to attracting young people. Majority of the new members represent the younger generation. I believe that we were able to make this great Society more visible to the overall membership and ensured the future sustainability of the Society.

Our first newsletter reported the activities carried out during January to April 2016. From May 2016, we have organized a series of programs for members with the aim of creating greater awareness; on health related issues, for corporate success, entertainment events, day outings and a CSR Project.

Janapadha Vidyalaya in Kiriella was selected, to assist the students who have been facing difficulties in sourcing their school requirements mainly because they were from daily wage families. We made a charitable donation of school shoes, notebooks and stationery to around two hundred children. This important CSR project was funded through the Rs. 281,689 income over expenditure that was recorded from the New Year event held in April this year, thanks to our sponsors. In addition, the committee members personally contributed to donate books to the school library. Our Assistant Secretary, Mr.

Thushara Kariyawasam has agreed to give a scholarship to a very talented Grade One student who delivered a speech which touches all our hearts. The Principal, teachers, parents and others who were present at this occasion expressed their gratitude. I thank my committee members who tirelessly arranged donation items and actively participated at this charity event which was held in Kiriella on a week day.

“We make a living by what we get, But we make a life by what we give.”

- Winston Churchill

A Paduru Party was organized in June at the Members' Lounge of the CA Sri Lanka with the contribution of a talented group of artists from the University of Visual & Performing Arts and popular artists, Rodney Warnakulasooriya & Ms. Rathna Sheela Perera. This event was open to all CA members and many enjoyed the event.

The guest lecture on 'Managing your Emotions for Corporate Success' conducted by Mr. Ravi Jayawardena – Platinum Honours (PIM Alumina) and paper presenter at the Annual Business & Economic Forum of the Cambridge University-UK, was a well attended, very informative and interactive programme. This guest lecture attracted the highest number of participants for any guest lecture with most of them being young people. The guest lecture on 'Surviving Blood Cancer' by Dr. Saman Hewamanna, was educational and of interest to members. Normally a guest lecture time is limited to 45 minutes to an hour, however both these lectures took more than two hours due to the high participation of the audience, especially during the Q & A session.

A day outing to the Pegasus Reef Hotel Wattala was organised for the entertainment of MBS members, CA members and their families. For the first time in the history of the Society, we received an overwhelming request from members to participate for this event. Initially we planned for 150 participants based on our prior experience, finally the participants exceeded 250 members & families. Whilst the buffet lunch, refreshments and drinks were provided free for members of the Society, the family members were charged only half the cost. Guests of members and non-MBS CA members were charged only the cost. Other events like



cricket matches, beach volleyball, football, water games in the pool and various games were organized for the kids and adults. Mr. Lasantha Wickremasinghe - President CASL and his family also graced the event.

We also organized a guest lecture on 'Food Patterns and Prevalent Diseases', for which we invited a lecturer from traditional Ayurvedic medicine, in order to provide a different view point to our members. All our guest lectures followed by dinner have become a happy social occasion for MBS members and they always make it a point to attend such events both for the expansion of their knowledge as well as an opportunity to network.

During the period under review, we have assisted several needy members for their medical requirements.

The Finance Committee headed by the President, has carefully reviewed the best available investments in the market with minimum risks and has invested the Society's excess money in prudent securities to earn the maximum possible interest in the best interest of the members of the Society.

We have scrutinized the Society's constitution which was prepared at the inception. The sub committee, headed by the President, appointed to review it, had several meetings on this and reviewed it very carefully and came up with very constructive suggestions to update it and to ensure that the constitution is in line with the recent changes and requirements. We have given all our suggestions/amendments to be reviewed by a consultant before submitting to the membership. We will circulate it to all our members with our suggested amendments seeking your approval at the next Annual General Meeting before implementing the suggestions.

I take this opportunity to thank the Committee Members of MBS especially Mr. Kapila Ranasinghe - Treasurer and Ms. Amani Ranaweera - Secretary, without whose unwavering commitment & support it would have not been possible to make the above events a reality.

Chandrasiri Kalupahana
President

Events Concluded for 2016—From Last Edition

March 2016

Medical Camp

A free medical camp was organized in collaboration with Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC, for the benefit of all CA members and CA staff.

Over 200 individuals enjoyed the services provided at this medical camp which included a eye sight test, BMI measuring, blood sugar and pressure monitoring, a one-on-one consultation with a dietician and a medical professional.

March 2016

“Healthy Heart—Healthy Life” Guest Lecture

The Guest Lecture followed the Medical Camp and was delivered by Dr. M R Mubarak, MBBS, MD—Consultant Cardiologist - Lanka Hospitals.

The Guest Lecture was very informative and engaging, with many questions being asked and clarifications being sought from the doctor.

The importance of maintaining a healthy heart was emphasized by Dr. Mubarak along with the procedures that would be carried out in the event of a heart related ailment. The emphasis that needs to be placed on preventing heart ailments was explained in great detail and we believe this was of immense help to the members in order to ensure that heart ailments are kept at bay.

April 2016

Sinhala & Tamil New Year Celebration

The main event in the MBS event calendar, the Sinhala & Tamil New Year Celebration was organised for the 4th consecutive year. The full day event was held on 10th April 2016 at the CCC grounds with the participation of 475 CA members and their families and CA staff and their families. The event was fully funded from the sponsorships extended to us by our generous sponsors, which helped us to host this event free of charge for the CA members, CA staff and families.

The event was given a traditional twist in 2016 with the introduction of new events such as Kotta Pora and Elle Matches in addition to the games that are conducted every year including Singithi Avurudu Kumariya and Kumaraya, Aliyata Esa Thabeema, Kana Muttiyata Gaseema, Banis Kaama, etc. The heated Tug of War brought the event to a close in the early evening. Similar to the past occasions, the winners walked away with valuable prizes, while all participants were provided with breakfast, lunch, tea, drinks and ice cream.

Manage Your Emotions for Corporate Success

A Guest Lecture was organised in May 2016 on the topic of “Manage Your Emotions for Corporate Success”. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Ravi Jayawardena, CEO (Sales & Marketing) of Maliban Biscuits.

The Lecture was well attended, interesting and thought provoking, with Mr. Jayawardena providing tips on how to maintain work-life balance and to achieve your personal goals.





Kindness is when you meet 'in-need' strangers and yet you can't stop yourself from helping them.

"The best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your own arm"

"Carryout a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."

- Princess Diana



-Swedish Proverb-

CSR Event at Ayagama Janapadha Vidyalaya

A CSR event was organised at the Ayagama Janapadha Vidyalaya in July 2016, to distributed essential items to the students of this rural, underprivileged school. The school is situated in a rural area off Kiriella and the students were all from underprivileged families with parents earning daily wages.

The Society distributed school shoes to the students and books for the library as per the request made by the Principal. These donations were funded through the excess funds raised from sponsorships received for the events organised by the Society. In addition to this, the Society also donated school stationery including note books, funded through the donations received from CA members and MBS Committee Members.



Paduru Party



A paduru party was organised in June 2016 for MBS members and their families as well as CA members and their families. Many participated and the event featured traditional music, a sing-along session, a raffle draw as well as well known artists such as Rodney Warnakula and Ratnaseela Perera.

A talented group of musicians and artists provided the music and musical entertainment for the night.

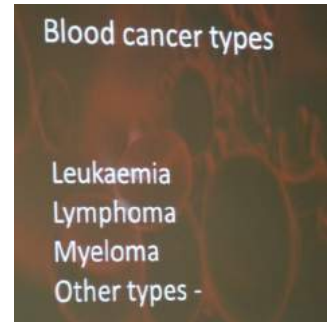


Surviving Blood Cancer



A guest lecture on 'Surviving Blood Cancer' by Dr. Saman Hewamanna, Consultant in Clinical Haematology/Haemato-Oncology (UK) was organised in July 2016, which proved to be a educational and interesting programme.

The doctor explained the types of blood cancers, the symptoms, risk factors, survival statistics etc, and the audience was given an opportunity to clarify their doubts as well.



Members' Day Outing



The annual Members' Family Day Outing was organised in September at the Pegasus Reef Hotel, Wattala, and saw the attendance of over 250 participants of all ages.

The participants had a fun filled day with many activities and games that were organised, while they enjoyed networking with fellow members and enjoyed a buffet lunch, afternoon tea and other refreshments.





Food Patterns & Prevalent Diseases - Ayurvedic Medicine



A guest lecture on 'Food Patterns & Prevalent Diseases' by Ayurvedic Dr. Lal Ranasinghe, BSAC, PG (Hospital Management) was organised in October 2016. This guest lecture provided a different perspective from our normal western medicine based guest lectures and was attended by over 100 members.



Pictures from the events are available for viewing on our facebook page.



Join us on
Facebook

Members' Benevolent Society - A History of 32 Years

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka - Members' Benevolent Society (MBS) was founded in 1983 owing to the untiring efforts of late Mr. Dayalan S R Tharmaratnam.

The Society was formed on the foundation of three objectives;

- Creating a fund to help members and their families who are in need of financial and moral support
- Promoting the general welfare of the members and fellowship among the membership
- Create greater awareness amongst members on a wide range of subjects

After an existence spanning over three decades spattered with many ups and downs and times of defunctness, the MBS today stands strong and is humbly proud of its achievements. The Society extends a helping hand to members who request for financial assistance and to the families of deceased members whilst also organizing many events over the year for the benefit of its membership.

Benefits of Joining...

Objectives of Our Society

- Creating a fund to help members and their families who are in need of financial and moral support
- Promoting the general welfare of the members and fellowship among the membership
- Create greater awareness amongst members on a wide range of subjects.



Benefits to Our Members

- **Prudent investment of the members' contribution** – the contribution made by the members (minimum of Rs. 3,000 p.a) will be an investment in the nature of a savings investment, where the total contribution plus investment income will be repaid at anytime to the Member upon a request by the member.
- **Death Donation to Members** – The Society pays a death donation to the relevant members' family in the case of a death, where the donation will be decided at the rate of Rs. 200/- per active member. In addition, under the insurance cover, a death benefit of Rs 50,000/- up to 70 years and Rs 20,000/- from 70 to 75 years is paid. For members over 75 years, a death benefits of Rs 15,000/- is paid by the Society.
- **Assistance for needy CA Sri Lanka Members** to meet their medical expenses – the Society provides reimbursement of medical bills of needy members up to Rs. 100,000/- per annum or Rs. 200,000/- in the case of critical illness upon evaluation by the committee.
- **Regular evening lectures** conducted by prominent personalities on a wide range of topics bearing interest to members, followed by fellowship with light dinner. These events are held free of charge for Benevolent Society Members.
- **Other Events** for the benefit of Members – the majority of these events will accommodate the immediate family members of the member as well.

Interested in Joining?



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Visit

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