



OBA Calling

AUGUST 2020



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OBA Day 2020 and AGM deferred

August 12, 2020

To All Old Boys

We have all had an anxious 2020 with our lives collectively and individually disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant Lockdown. Our School and the OBA have not been immune. Class X and XII examinations were deferred and partly cancelled for the School and the OBA's events scheduled from March onward have been deferred until further notice.

Your Managing Committee has had to change gears too and yet, we have kept in step with our School and the statutory requirements of accounting and audit — the books of accounts have been audited and closed as on 31.03.2020. Financial snapshots have also been circulated to Old Boys via WhatsApp.

Our Articles of Association mandate that the Annual General Body Meeting must be held within 6 months of the close of books of accounts. Ordinarily, our AGM is held on the 15' weekend of September on OBA day, but this year it may not be possible to have the AGM on schedule because of the COVID- 19 situation.





The Registrar of Societies vide its Circular No. RCS/RSR/XMC/11/2020-21 dated 16.06.2020 extended the time limit by which the AGM is to be concluded to 25.12.2020. Although we are not a registered society, in the interest of good governance, we must follow as many of the Rules and Directions as is practicable.

I know that like me, you all look forward to OBA Day. However, this year we may not be able to hold the OBA Day and the AGM as scheduled until the Union and State Governments permit gatherings in the School. Accordingly, your Managing Committee vide its meeting dated 07.08.2020 decided

- a. To defer the 2020 AGM and Election for now and to conduct the AGM and Election as soon as it is possible under the present circumstances,
- b. To continue to manage the affairs of the Association till such time that the AGM and Election are held.

In this regard, we have also consulted the School's Management and they also endorse our decision. I wish that events could have happened as scheduled but am positive that you will understand the constraint that we presently function under.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Lewis

President (2019-20)





OBA Lifetime Achievement Awards 2020

Dr S Chinny Krishna (Class of 1959, Senior Cambridge)



- Engineer, entrepreneur, internationally recognized pioneer in Anti-Rabies and Animal welfare.
 - Back in 1958, Chinny had refused to dissect a frog in Biology Lab at SJBHS!
 - In 1959, co-founded Blue Cross of India.
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- In 1964, introduced the Neuter Programme (Animal Birth Control – Anti Rabies), legislated by the Government of India and other countries in 1997, resulted in saving thousands of human lives worldwide.
 - In 1973, manufactured the world's first vegan tennis racquet.





- In 1975, built radio telescopes and satellite arms for Dept. of Space (DoS) Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) project, still in use.
- Introduced Computer Aided Dissection, enabled the ban on animal dissection in Biology labs.
- In 2011, advised the United Nations on Rabies Control, won Indian and international awards.





Dr Tacey Viegas (Class of 1973, ISC)



- Internationally recognized Scientist, Inventor, Author, Professor, Entrepreneur and Pharmaceutical Executive.
 - Received achievement awards and grant funding from the American Association of Clinical Pharmacology (ACCP), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the local chapter of the Smithsonian Institute.
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- Written over 60 manuscripts, abstracts and book chapters on Pharmaceutical Sciences, Clinical Applications and Drug delivery.
 - Issued over 50 patents (US and Worldwide) in Chemistry and Clinical Sciences.
 - Co-invented two drugs, Movantik™ (Astra Zeneca) for opioid-Induced constipation and Onzeald™ (Daichi Sankyo) for glioblastoma.
 - Chief Operating Officer (R&D, Manufacturing, Regulatory, Finance), Serina Therapeutics, Inc., Huntsville, Alabama, USA.





Awards for Significant Achievement 2020

Gautam C Ijoor (Class of 1989, ICSE)



- Serial entrepreneur, specializes in Start-ups & Turnarounds (Government Contracting), Contract & Project Delivery, Program and Project Management, Client Relationship Management, Business Development & Capture Strategy, Mergers & Acquisitions, P&L Management, Technology Implementation, Process and Productivity Improvement, Federal Acquisition Regulation.

- An early business ventures was a direct response to providing electricity to remote villages in India, secured \$10M investment for the development of a biodiesel fuel company that was so successful that the plant was taken over by the Indian government and is still serving the community today.
- Entrepreneurial ventures include founding an Environmental Services firm in Alternative Energy, in 2006.





- Gautam is President of Alpha Omega Integration, LLC in Tysons Corner, Virginia, named to the Inc. 500 (500 most successful and fastest-growing privately held companies in the U.S) two years in a row
- Alpha Omega is also #11 on the Washington Technology Fast 50 and the winner of the 2020 Virginia Vanguard Award for Service from the Virginia Chamber of Commerce.





Sajju Jain (Class of 1992, ICSE)



- Sajju Jain is a serial entrepreneur and mentor. Since 2008, he has helped build several early-stage impact start-ups that have grown to deliver large-scale global social impact.

- D.light is a global leader and pioneer in delivering affordable solar-powered solutions for the developing world, has impacted 100 million lives till 2020.
- Embrace Innovations is a social enterprise that enables premature and underweight babies in the developing world get a better chance at life, has impacted 300,000+ babies till now.
- Chirag Rural Development Foundation aims at providing every rural household with their right to light through solar based home lighting systems, has lit up over 450 villages across India till 2020.
- His ventures have been featured or awarded by The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, CNBC, BBC, CNN, ABC, TOI, ET, Mint, Forbes, WEF, Fast Company, and other organizations.
- Sajju has mentored social impact start-ups all over the world - from Australia, Singapore, India, Africa, UK, to the US.





Sudhir Krishnaswamy (Class of 1991, ICSE)



- Sudhir is an academic, administrator, and civil society activist, co-founder and trustee of the not-for-profit research trust Centre for Law and Policy Research (CLPR).
 - DPhil (Oxford University), Teaching Fellow in Law at Oxford University.
- Worked in the Prime Minister's Committee on Infrastructure and the Kasturirangan Committee on Governance of Bangalore.
 - Authored a book 'Democracy and Constitutionalism in India', published several articles and won numerous awards.
 - His main areas of interest are constitutional law, legal education, legal theory, intellectual property law and administrative law.
 - Was Professor at Azim Premji University and Visiting Professor at Columbia Law School.
 - Facebook appointed him to its Content Oversight Board on May 6, 2020.
 - Sudhir is the Vice-Chancellor of National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, the first alumnus of NLSIU to be appointed as the VC of the institution.





Vishwas Anand (Class of 2004, ICSE)



- Vishwas Anand is an award-winning B2B marketing thought leader.
- Top 25 Innovators (Asia-Pacific Class of 2019) - The Holmes Report, Top 13 Content Moguls (JAPAC) - CMS Asia 2019, Brand Leadership (CMO Asia), awardee of LinkedIn Content 50, Oracle FAST 100, Adobe Content 100 among others.

- Published white papers and articles for leading publications.
- Featured and interviewed by leading business publications.
- Conducted programs to improve quality of education in over 100 schools across Telangana
- Raise funds for healthcare and education community service projects through Rotary Bangalore
- Supported campaigns to help patients in critical conditions recover fully with life-saving treatments.
- Vishwas is working as Content Marketing and Communications Lead at Infosys Knowledge Institute, the research and thought leadership arm of Infosys.





JOSEPHEIGHTS!

Arun Kumar (Class of 1980, ICSE)



'Faith & Toil, conquerless alliance', I never thought these words would ring so true, so many years later!

I recall our mischievous interpretation of some of those lines in the school assembly. I entered those corridors of learning in 1973, from St. Anthony's.

I enjoyed English & Science classes, was in awe of my music teacher Ms. Furtado and the arts teacher, Mrs. Rego. The chords of 'killing me softly', learnt there, continue to haunt me, and yes, I still sketch and paint.

Come Sports Day, Mr. Luke's 'figure running' and his swift, bony hand that once landed on my back, is vivid in my memory, as also the 'club-swinging' by the relatively mild 'Papa Yates'. The same corridors spelt terror when 'chucked out' of class, praying that 'cop' (Rev. Fr. Hedwig da Costa) wouldn't come on his rounds. I recall shoving the school calendar in my shorts, and receiving two additional lashes sans the calendar, when he detected its presence there. Lab experiments were a joy, as long as you were on the





right side of Mr. Chatterjee's quick temper; else, his strong hand would grab your collar and propel you out of the door. This, once made me run towards the door even before he began the process of my expulsion from class. The 'birds & bees' classes were a favourite, as also Geography taught by Mr. Jagan. Math was never my forte, though we had a very patient teacher in Mr. Vijaya Ranga Rao. Was an eternal back-bencher, bringing baby squirrels in my pocket to class, using the barrel of my BIC pen as a pea-shooter, and yes, those 'pea-cattys' landed me in a lot of trouble. My Class Teacher in 6th Std, Mrs. Britto once threw the Math book at me for being distracted in class. I used to enjoy 'House Games' being in St. George's and also the occasional dip in the pool. My heroes then were the sprinter Joseph Lobo, the swimmer Zamir Mirza and the 'goalee' Oliver Pais, who saved many a 'tie-breaker' match. At the time, PTA meetings were not something I looked forward to, but realised years later when I stepped out into the unfamiliar world outside, that I had imbibed so many values during those formative years there.

Inclined to the sciences, I ended up in St Joseph's Arts & Science College and also took up athletics seriously, going ahead to represent Karnataka in 4 events during the National Games. I joined Government service in 1988, as a direct recruit officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Beginning from a posting in a remote jungle unit in Mizoram with the daunting responsibility of securing our borders with Myanmar & Bangladesh, my career path spanning 32 years took me across shores including various Internal Security assignments, a 5-year stint in the elite Special Protection Group (SPG / proximate security of the PM), three years with the Indo-Tibetan Border Force in Leh (Ladakh) and a 6-year diplomatic stint in East & Southern Africa handling Security, Protocol & Consular Affairs of the Indian Missions in Nairobi & Pretoria. I am presently an Assistant Director in the MHA, heading a counter-terrorism unit.





During this eventful journey, if receipt of the Indian Police Medal for meritorious service is any measure of success, I would attribute it to a solid foundation comprising an all-round education and respect for human values / cultures, acquired in my Alma Mater, SJBHS. This enabled me to deal with every challenge & milestone enroute; whether addressing environmental issues affecting the migration of black-necked cranes in Ladakh (2004), a hostage situation involving Indian sailors held captive by pirates in Somaliland (2009), facilitating emergency medical travel of Lesotho based Indians to India, handling logistics in mega events like the BRICS summit in Durban (2013), Nelson Mandela's funeral in Johannesburg (2013), cultural exchanges between countries or tackling the omnipresent menace of terrorism in the country. These values are enshrined in an institution built on pillars inscribed with the words 'Fide et Labore', a 'conquerless alliance' indeed!





Dr Dilip da Cunha (Class of 1973, ICSE)



I followed my brother Francis from St Anthony's to St Joseph's, into Mrs. Alvarez's class, 4B, and into St. George's House. It was the 1960s when Bangalore had trees, traffic islands in bloom and gardens. It was a Bangalore that did not require a fan. I remember our walks to school from our home in Langford Gardens down Richmond Road and Convent Road with my two older sisters who went to Sacred Hearts. It was boys vs girls.

Mrs. Alvarez's class was the furthest down the corridor of the northeast arm of the H-shaped building. The ceilings were considerably higher than of St Anthony's, a clear measure of the new level of challenge. Over the next few years, I duly travelled south down that northeast arm to 5A (Mrs. D'Souza) and 6A (Mrs. Pinto) before moving on to 7th standard and out of St Joseph's, returning for PUC in '74. My time in St. Joseph's is filled with memories that weave and flood—the names and faces of classmates I have not met for decades, Sports Day, the terror of Hindi exams, the struggles in PT class; the list goes on.

I remember going home in the afternoon to don St George's colours for games in the evening that required going the other way via Richmond Circle to St Joseph's Indian





High School grounds. It made us aware that we attended St. Joseph's European High School, an early brush with colonial divisions that persisted, making memory a mix of nostalgia and critique.

After completing my undergraduate in architecture at UVCE Bangalore, I completed a Master's in Housing at the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi. I worked for a while in Delhi and Bangalore before an Inlaks scholarship enabled me to pursue a Master's degree in city planning at MIT. I went on from there to do a PhD at the University of California, Berkeley.

In 1993, my wife, Anuradha Mathur and I moved to Philadelphia to teach at the University of Pennsylvania. We have since authored several books including Mississippi Floods: Designing a Shifting Landscape (2001); Deccan Traverses: The Making of Bangalore's Terrain (2006); Soak: Mumbai in an Estuary (2009); and co-editor of Design in the Terrain of Water (2014). In 2019, my book, The Invention of Rivers: Alexander's Eye and Ganga's Descent was published by University of Pennsylvania Press. The book has been awarded the J.B. Jackson Prize and the American Society of Landscape Architecture Honour award. I am currently working on a sequel titled 'Ocean of Rain' that makes a case for ubiquitous wetness as the milieu of design.

Anu and I have received several awards over the years. In 2017 we were awarded a Pew Fellowship Grant. And only last month, I received news that I was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for 2020. I currently teach at Columbia University and at Harvard University.

Along with our daughter Tara, who is studying astrophysics at the University of Pennsylvania, we try to spend as much time in Bangalore. Our book on Bangalore, Deccan Traverses: The Making of Bangalore's Terrain, continues to be in print. It came





out in 2006 but was preceded by an exhibition at the Glass House in Lalbagh in 2004. The aim was to change the direction of Bangalore's development, to call attention to the importance of its low grounds (not just its tanks) among other things.

You will find more on our work on our website <https://www.mathurdacunha.com/>

Although I have spent the last three decades in the United States as an architect and teacher, my world revolves around Bangalore and St. Joseph's is one of several anchors that hold the centre.





Shivram Warrior (Class of 1973, ICSE)



I joined school in Std 9 and will never forget the two best years of my school life thereafter. Rev Fr Hedwig Da Costa was Principal at that time. I was in St Patrick's House and involved myself in every possible activity whether it was Dramatics, Debating, Table Tennis, Cricket, Football, Swimming or taking part in Sports Day events like Cricket ball Throw, Shot Putt or Sack Fighting.

To be honest, studies took a second place! I still remember fondly the Kabaddi games we used to play every lunch break in the small ground near the Swimming Pool.

In the six months holiday between finishing school and joining PUC in St Joseph's Arts and Science College, I started playing Badminton and over the next few years in college (PUC and Degree and a few years thereafter) represented Karnataka in the Junior and Senior teams for several years and was one of Prakash Padukone's sparring partners before he won the All England Badminton Championship. I also represented and captained the Bangalore University Team for three years. My exposure to Dramatics and Debating in school prepared me for my active participation





in college in Debates, Jest-a-Minute and Dramatics competitions at festivals all over India and I believe that taking part in these activities prepares you so well for a career in corporate life.

After graduating from college with a BA degree, I worked for a year and a half as a Junior Sales Executive with Graphite India. In 1981, I then joined Brooke Bond India Ltd (BBIL) as a Management Trainee and over the next 13 years, first became a trained Tea Taster and thereafter a Coffee Taster posted in the various auction centres around India buying and blending tea and coffee for the domestic market while also being involved in developing the export market, especially in coffee. BBIL was acquired by Unilever and I was then moved from being in a specialist function to general management and was made the Business Head for the Garments Business (2 years) and thereafter the Marine Division (11 years) from where I retired in 2008 as Vice President.

Currently, I am a Director of Future Seafood Asia Co Ltd HK. My partner and I run a seafood manufacturing and trading business specialising in "Surimi" (fish paste) and have our companies set up in Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam, China and Japan and we source, manufacture and trade in the entire region besides Europe, Russia and other Baltic countries. I am also the Managing Trustee of the Ujwal Trust and am actively involved in the governance of the Mallya Aditi International School and Srishti Institute of Art & Design in Bangalore.

Our wonderful and dedicated teachers at SJBHS taught us so many valuable life lessons such as discipline, timing, teamwork and following instructions implicitly, as Luke did during Figure Running, sometimes with his hard hand on our behinds!





M R Srinivas Prasad (Class of 1974, ICSE)



“The stronger the foundation, taller the building” and this is exactly what SJBHS did to my life, by laying a strong foundation in both academics and sports, for me to become the person I am today. After completing ICSE in 1974, I completed my BE in Electronics and MBA in Finance. Spending time with Hitachi in Japan as a Hindu Hitachi scholar helped me later on in my career.

It was an honour to Captain the School Senior Cricket Team. The focus on sports along with the physical training classes at school by Mr. Wilson set the stage for bigger things to come in my cricketing career. After captaining Bangalore University and the State Under-22 team, I went on to represent the State Ranji Trophy team for eight years. I also Captained the State team on a couple of occasions, including the pre-World Cup matches against New Zealand and Zimbabwe. Representing South Zone on several occasions included playing against West Indies. It was a proud moment to represent the country in 1983 on its tour to Zimbabwe (Under-25).





I started my professional career in 1982 at Indian Telephone Industries as a Telecom R&D Engineer. After calling it a day with my cricketing career, I moved to Paris to work for Alcatel, leading a team designing telecom software. I came back to India to head the Sony Software Centre in Bangalore, which I set up from scratch. The centre was nominated for the prestigious Sony President's Global Award. This was followed with a stint at Fidelity, as Vice President. My career finally culminated at Philips as CEO of the Innovation Campus in Bangalore, Board of Director for Philips Home Care and Chairman of Philips India Provident Fund and Gratuity Trust. During my professional career, I have served on several advisory boards and national committees including the roll out of broadband in India.

It's been a humbling and a fulfilling journey, learning from and helping others to succeed. I am extremely grateful to SJBHS, my teachers, my parents and all those who have helped me in this life journey.





Josephite Wordsmiths

Memoirs of an Average Joe

Rajesh Nayak (Class of 1985, ICSE)

Rajesh Nayak has written several articles about his days in school and several other topics, peppered with wonderful humour and insight. Many of us would relate to the interesting and emotional themes.

A blog post describing the Scout troop and Scout camps

<http://www.memoirsofanaveragejoe.com/2020/07/22/scout-camps/>

MEMOIRS OF AN AVERAGE JOE

Memoirs of a regular guy who has no claim to fame whatsoever





What's Wrong with You, Karthik?

By Siddhartha Vaidyanathan (Class of 1997, ICSE)

“Sid Vee” is a writer and editor based in Seattle. He has worked at ESPNcricinfo and Wall Street Journal and contributed to Guardian, Forbes and Wisden. “What’s Wrong with You, Karthik?” is his debut book set in Bangalore of the early 1990s and apparently includes ‘characters’ from SJBHS.





Josephites, Unforgotten

Obituaries

The OBA regrets the sad demise of the following Old Boys. Our deepest condolences to the bereaved families. May their souls rest in peace.

Vivesh Moola	1991	August 17, 2020
Francis Da Costa	1949	July 7, 2020
Arun Malpani	1966	June 29, 2020
Andrew Pancratius Hoover	1969	June 28, 2020
Lester Hartnett	1971	May 29, 2020





Get in Touch!

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The OBA invites you to contribute to future editions of the OBA Calling.

Write to us at communications@sjbhsoba.net

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