

Annual Report 2013 / 2014

The Annual Report for the year 2013 / 2014 of the Executive Committee is presented with great pleasure.

Year 2013 / 2014 was a very successful year under the leadership and guidance of President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne.

The 54th Annual General Meeting was held on 31st May 2013 at the Sasakawa Cultural Centre Auditorium, Colombo.

The following served in the Executive Committee:

Patron (per constitution) : His Excellency the Ambassador for Japan in Sri Lanka

Vice Patrons (appointed) : Mr. Akihiko Nakauchi (Japanese National), Mrs. Lalitha Rajapaksha, Mr. Daya Weththasinghe, Mr. Kosala Wickremanayake (Immediate Past President)

Following were elected uncontested:

President : Mr. Deepal Gunaratne

Vice Presidents : Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe, Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray, Dr. Vijaya Corea, Mr. Kumara Semage

Hony. General Secretary : Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka

Hony. Treasurer : Mr. Sunil Piyawardena

Hony. Asst. Secretary : Mr. Lal Wewala

Hony. Asst. Treasurer : Mr. M. D. (Tony) Saldin

Executive Committee (in alphabetical order)

: Mr. A. Anandagoda, Mr. Jayaraja Chandrasekera, Mr. Mahendra De Vaz, Dr. Prasad S. Gunaratne, Mrs. Janneth Ismail, Mr. Upali Jayasekera, Mrs. Gertrude Nanayakkara, Mr. Samantha Perera, Mr. Harindra Rodrigo, Dr. Sujeewa Suriyaarachchi, Mr. Shelton Thenuwara, Mr. Manoranjan Wijebahu, Mrs. Sunitha Wijepala, Dr. P.H.P.de Silva (Observer)

Resignation of Hony. Treasurer

Mr. Sunil Piyawardena submitted his resignation to the committee as the Hony. Treasurer with effect from 15th October 2013 on a very personal matter was tabled at the 5th Executive Committee Meeting held on 06th November 2013 and accepted" The entire Exco unanimously passed a vote of appreciation and congratulations to Mr. Sunil Piyawardena for a job well done ; and the Exco wished him the very best in his future endeavors.

Appointment of Hony. Treasure

At the 05m Executive Committee meeting held on 06th November 2013 President proposed from the chair the name of Mr. Rukshan Perera as the Acting Hony. Treasurer who was recommended by senior Exco Member Mr. Mahendra De Vaz. Acting appointment was made as Mr. Rukshan Perera has not completed the required period to enter Ex Co, which was brought to the notice by the President to the Ex Co and due to exigency in filling this vacancy and approved by the Ex Co.

Appointment to the Ex Co

To fill the two vacancies in the Ex Co President proposed the names of Mr. A.G.Wimalasiri and Mr. Sajitha De Mel to serve the Ex Co during year 2013 / 2014 at the 4th Ex Co meeting held on 02nd October 2013, which was unanimously accepted.

Achievements

Compared to year 2012 /2013 the achievements of this year a.re given in details as we had a very successful and a meaningful year. The cooperation of the members in general made it possible for our President to guide the Society with tremendous success with due dignity and decorum.

Membership

As at present moment we have recorded a membership of 851, and during the year nine members joined our fold. (04 Life Members & 05 Ordinary members).

Enrolment of New Members 2013 / 2014

No	Name	Date of enrolment	Category
01	Ms. Mangala Kariyawasa	02 nd October 2013	Ordinary
02	Ms. Shirani Cleopatra wijesekera	02 nd October 2013	Ordinary
03	Ms. Subashini Dias Abeygunawardene	02 nd October 2013	Ordinary
04	Mr. Don Marshal Vasantha Hapuarachchi	06 th November 2013	Life
05	Dr. Mrs. Claribelle Ivy De Fonseka	06 th November 2013	Life
06	Mr. Cumaragupta Jawaharlal Rodrigo	06 th November 2013	Life
07	Dr. Annesley Fernando	06 th November 2013	Ordinary
08	Ms. Niranjali Vijitha Samarasekera	06 th November 2013	Ordinary
09	Mr. Rathugamaqe Sunil Ranjith Fernando	04 th December 2013	Life

Ex Co Meetings

During the period we held 12 Exco meetings and our meetings were well attended. were conducted with dignity and decorum and all Ex Co meetings were held at the Sasakawa Cultural Centre Auditorium hosted by the President with refreshments.

The attendance at the meetings was as follows:

Vice Patrons	Attended	Remarks
Mr. Akihiko Nakauchi	01	
Mrs. Lalitha Rajapaksha	12	
Mr. Daya Weththasinshe	08	
Mr. Kosala Wickremanayake	03	

Executive Committee Members	Attended	Remarks
Mr. Deepal S. Gunaratne	12	
Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe	05	
Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray	12	
Dr. Vijaya Corea	06	
Mr. Kumara Semage	09	
Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka	12	
Mr. Sunil Piyawardena	03	Resigned as HT w.e.f. 15 th October 2013
Mr. Rukshan Perera	05	Appointed w.e.f 06 th November 2013 as Acting. Hony. Treasurer
Mr. Lal C. Wewala	11	
Mr. M.D. (Tony) Saldin	09	
Mr. A. Anandagoda	10	
Mr. Jayaraja Chandrasekera	05	
Mr. Sajitha De Mel	05	Appointed w.e.f. 02 nd October 2013 as an Ex Co member
Mr. Mahendra De Vaz	08	
Dr. Prasad S. Gunaratne	05	
Mrs. Janneth Ismail	08	
Mr. Upali S. Jayasekera	10	
Mrs. Gertrude Nanayakkara	09	
Mr. Samantha Perera	06	
Mr. Harindra Rodrigo	08	
Dr. Sujeewa Suriyaarachchi	06	
Mr. Shelly Thenuwara	06	
Mr. Manoranjan Wijebahu	08	
Mrs. Sunitha Wijepala	10	
Mr. A.G.Wimalasiri	02	Appointed w.e.f 02 nd October 2013 as an Ex Co member
Dr. P.H.P.de Silva- Observer	10	

Unveilings-the Photograph of First President- L.JIS Sir Wilfred De Soysa

Photograph of the first President Sir Wilfred De Soysa was unveiled at the LJFS Office by the President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne at 6:00pm on 07th May 2014, as decided at the 10th Exco meeting held on 02nd April 2014.

The photo (paper cutting) was made available, by Past President Mr. Frederick Mendis to a request made by the President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne and this was re produced, photographed and framed.

Activities during the year

01. Trip to Tree of Life Nature Resort, Kandy

Organizing Committee comprising of Mr. Shelly Thenuwara, HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatillek4 Mr. Mahendra De Vaz advised and assisted by the President organized. The event on 28th September 2013 was a tremendous success. Breakfast was served during the journey with a bottle of water.

Entire trip inclusive of breakfast, buffet lunch, entertainment by a calypso band, afternoon tea or coffee with a piece of cake, up and down transport in a fully air - conditioned luxury coach was only Rs. 2,600/- per person. All of us were given a grand welcome at the hotel, a typical Sri Lankan Lunch buffet with 29 items with Toddy. Cigars etc. After a dip, in the swarming pool everybody gathered in the pool side for a nice refreshing cup of tea with piece of cake. Our grateful thanks to Exco member Mr. Shelly Thenuwara who is the Managing Director of the Hotel Tree of Life Nature Resort for extending all VIP courtesies which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants. it was a trip to remember because we all enjoyed a beautiful day.

Our grateful thanks goes to Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe for having provided transport free of charge in a 19 seater AC coach, Mr. Shelly Thenuwara for a beautiful flyer printed in this connection without any cost to the Society, which attracted more participants. HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka provided 48 bottles of (500ml) water, 70 nos cheese & tomato sandwiches and Mr. A.G.Wimalasiri provided 65 packets of assorted savory biscuits.

Total of 68 members with their spouses and children participated. This excursion brought in a Surplus of Rs. 29,525/- to the Society.

02. Birthday Celebrations of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan - 30th November 2013

It is with pride we report that the 80th birth anniversary of His Majesty Akihito, Emperor of Japan was celebrated on 30th November 2013 at the Kings Court, Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo with His Excellency Nobuhito Hobo Ambassador for Japan in Sri Lanka and Patron Lanka - Japan Friendship Society and Madam Tomomi Hobo as Chief Guests.

Vice President Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray was the Subcommittee Chairman of the Organizing Committee with HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka, Mr. Mahendra De Vaz, Mr. Shelly Thenuwara, M.D. (Tony) Saldin & Dr. P.H.P.de Silva- as members of the committee guided by the President. This event was a Grand Banquet with a 4 course sit down dinner with Champagne, Scotch, Wines, Soft drinks, Bites etc. Participation fee was only Rs. 4,500/- per person.

Music was provided by Nalin & the Star Combination which was sponsored by Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe. Sunil Thalagoda's 'Fantasy' Dance troupe gave 3 beautiful dance performances" Following Exco Members contributed towards the success of the event in many ways.

President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne found sponsorships from National Lotteries Board for Rs" 50,000/-, Associated Motorways through Mr. Thilak de Zoysa for Rs. 25,000/- Commercial Bank for Rs. 10,000/- Mr. Jayaraja Chandrasekera sponsorship of Rs. 25,000/- from HNB Ltd. Dr. P.H.P.de Silva found sponsorships to the value of Rs.315, 000/- and sold 32 tickets to the Japanese community. 2 Japanese dancers were also organized by Dr. P.H.P.de Silva who performed the opening dance item. Mr. Harindra Rodrigo sponsored 25 bottles of Champagne for the toast. Mr. M.D. (Tony) Saldin for printing of Program Cards and for putting up and removing of banners assisted by Mr. Samantha Perera.

Also Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray. Mr. Kumara Semage. Mr. A. Anandagoda, Mr. M D. (Tony) Saldin, Mr. Shelly Thenuwara, Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka, Mr. A.G Wimalasiri, Mr. Daya Weththasinghe found banner sponsorships of Rs.10,000/- each, Mrs. Janneth Ismail (2 banners x Rs 10,000/-) Mrs Sunitha Wijepala (2 banners x Rs. 10,000/-) and Mr. Mahendra De Vaz (2 banners x Rs. : 10,000^) Mrs. Sunitha Wijepala made a very beautiful lamp for the opening ceremony, All Participants were given a entrance gift for which Mr. Dayasiri Warnakulasuriya offered a very Special discount. Mr. Shelly Thenuwara all the way from Kandy brought the tasty roasted Cashew nuts mixed with garlic & curry leaves which were served to the tables. Vice President Dr. Vijaya Corea did a great honorary job of Compeering the entire event very efficiently. Everyone who participated at this dinner were very highly impressed and satisfied of the arrangements made which finally gave an impression of the efficient manner in which the banquet was organized.

HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka & Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray assisted conducting the entrance ticket Draw.

We are proud to announce the publicity afforded to the Society on the above event by the print media with a full page on Daily Financial Times on 13th December 2013 arranged by the , President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne and Subcommittee Chairman Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray also got coverage on the Sunday Island, Daily Mirror and Dinamina new papers. We had a surplus of Rs. 432,603/- :

03. Felicitation Dinner for Mr. Hideki Ishizuka - Minister and Deputy Head of Mission on 22nd February 2014

Mr. Ishizuka who was very close to the LJFS in many ways, when he was leaving the country to take over another position in Sweden after completion of his term in Sri Lanka, President and Exco decided to organize a farewell dinner for him and HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka was requested to organize same. Dinner was organized at the Private Dining Room, in the 'Long Feng' Chinese Restaurant of Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo on 22nd February 2014. 17 Ex Co members participated. A gem studded elephant was presented to Mr. Ishizuka by President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne with "Bon Voyage" card signed by all those present, There was a surplus of Rs. 5,985/-

04. Honoring of Past Presidents and Fellowship Evening on 22nd March 2014

This is the first time that the Society felicitated the Past Presidents since the inauguration of LJFS in 1956.

A novel concept to honor the Past Presidents an idea by the President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne to combined with the Fellowship Evening was held on 22nd March 2014 at Ape' Gama Banquet Hall at Jana Kala Kendraya, Battaramulla. Chief Guest was His Excellency Nobuhito Hobo, Ambassador for Japan in Sri Lanka accompanied by Madam Tomomi Hobo. Subcommittee Chairman of the Organizing Committee was Dr. Sujeewa Suriyaarachchi and subsequently President requested HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka to be the Co-Chairman.

Committee members were Mr. Mahendra De Vaz, Mr. M.D. (Tony) Saldin, Dr. P.H.P.de Silva and Mr. Shelly Thenuwara and President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne as Ex-Officio member. Participation fee per person was Rs. 2,250/- inclusive of a sumptuous buffet dinner, scotch, wines, soft drinks and bites etc. Music by Nalin and the Star Combination and dance performances by Sunil Thalahagoda Dancing "Troupe" Vice President Dr. Vijaya Corea was the honorary compeer.

Departed Past Presidents of the LJFS were remembered by Past President Mr. Frederick Mendis. Following Past Presidents were honored and presented with a plaque and a certificate. President invited His Excellency Nobuhito Hobo to do the presentations.

Past Presidents honored: Mr. Daya Weththasinghe, Mr. Thilak de Zoysa, Mrs. Lalitha Rajapaksha, Mr. Frederick Mendis, Mr. Kosala Wickremanayake

National Lotteries Board was the Gold Sponsor with a sponsorship of Rs. 100,000/- found by President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne.

Colombo Dock Yard was the Silver Sponsor with a sponsorship of Rs. 50,000/- by Mr. Akihiko Nakauchi Chairman CDL, and Vice Patron LJFS

Bronze Sponsors: Rs. 25,000/- each - Tree of Life by Ex Co member Mr. Shelly Thenuwara, Mr. Daya Weththasinghe - Vice Patron and Tokyo Cement.

Selling 24 tickets to the Japanese Community from the Japanese Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka and finding sponsorships and banners for this event by Dr. P.H.P. de Silva made a great contribution, Mr. Shelly Thenurwara made arrangements to handle the registration desk with his staff and Mr. Mahendra De Vaz as usual involved with the operational tasks made things easy for all of us.

Bereavement

We are sorry to record the passing a way of Hon Dr. Jayalath Jayawardena, Ex Co Member 2012 / 2013 - Mr. V.R.Vadivethkarasan. Mr. Nawalage Asoka Lakshman Cooray, Past President Dr. Pandu Liyanage who did a yeoman service to the Society. We miss them so much and offer our deepest sympathies to the bereaved families. Our condolences were intimated.

Directory of Exco Members

For the second year in succession we printed and published the Directory of Exco members without any cost to the Society compiled and sponsored by the Hony. General Secretary Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka.

LJFS New Bulletin

News Bulletin 2013 with six pages edited by Mr. Upali S. Jayasekera was posted to all members.

We are happy and proud to report that our members participated in the following events:

06th July 2013 – 'Bon Odori' - Summer Festival organized by the Japanese Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka at the Shalika grounds, Park Road, Colombo 5. Many of our Society members, spouses, & children participated.

12th October 2013 - Punarjewa Heart Walk for Life 2013 organized by Vice President Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe. 17 of our members participated.

26th October 2013 - 20th Bunka Awards 2013 Presentation Ceremony organized by Japan - Sri Lanka Friendship Cultural Fund held at the Sri Lanka. Rupavahini Corporation - Studio 3 to recognize the talents of middle level artists. Many members of the Exco and their spouses participated.

12th December 2013 - Invitation from The embassy of Japan to a Reception from 18:30hrs to 20:30hrs at the Official Residence of the ambassador to celebrate the Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor. President, Hony. General Secretary and Vice patrons with their spouses were invited by His Excellency the Ambassador for Japan.

19th February 2014 - The Symposium and Workshop on "Cool - Japan; Wisdom of Japan - Traditional 'Kyogen' Art Performances to promote bilateral exchanges of Japan and Sri Lanka at the Auditorium of Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo 7. Attended by President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne, Vice president Mr. Rajah Sinnathurai, Vice Patron Mrs. Lalitha Rajapaksha, Hony. General Secretary Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka and Mr. Upali S. Jayasekera.

22nd February 2014 - Opening Ceremony of the Spirit of Budo (The History of Japan's Martial Arts) at the J. D. A. Perera Gallery, 46, Horton Place, Colombo 7. Attended by Mr. Rajah Sinnathurai, Mr. Lal Wewala, Mr. & Mrs. M.D. (Tony) Saldin, Mr. & Mrs. A. Anandagoda and Mr. Chandra Jayatilleke.

Our appreciation to the Embassy of Japan for invitations.

Meeting with Ms. Asako Okai - newly appointed Minister and Deputy Head of Mission of Embassy of Japan

President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne was invited by the Embassy of Japan to meet the newly appointed minister / Deputy Head of Mission Ms. Asako Okai on 11th March 2014, who replaced Mr. Hideki Ishizuka. President requested HGS Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka to accompany him for this meeting. All photo albums of the past events, copy of our Membership Directory, Newspaper cuttings, and copy of the recently published News Bulletin etc. were taken and she was highly pleased and assured her fullest cooperation in all Society's future endeavors.

Congratulations

Vice President Mr. Kumara Semage, Senior Advisor of World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth Sri Lanka was awarded the World Buddhists Outstanding leader Award at a presentation Ceremony held in 15th February 2014 at Museum Auditorium, National Office of Buddhism in Thailand.

Hony. General Secretary Mr. Chandra Jayatilleka was elected as the Vice President of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle for year 2014 / 2015 at the 92nd AGM held on 06th April 2014 and as Secretary of the Lions Club of Nugegoda of the international Association of Lions Clubs District 306 C2 Sri Lanka for the 5th consecutive year at the 48th Charter Anniversary Celebration held on 07th March 2014 at the Lotus Room, Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo 01.

Legal Matters

Mr. M.G.M.S Zurfic Vs LJFS

The judgment has been delivered and recorded in Sinhala. It was noted that the copy of the judgment has been delivered by a messenger to the Sasakawa Trust office, which is not official. Ex Co decided to await the judgment delivered through the proper judicial process.

Financial Status

Our financial status includes:

Current Accounts and Savings Accounts with Hatton National Bank and Bank of Ceylon.

Fixed Deposits:

Amount	Interest	Period	Maturity
Bank of Ceylon			
669,000	9.5%	1 year	29/12/2014
Hatton National Bank			
733,720	10%	1 year	28/12/2014
250,000	11%	1 year	02/09/2014
250,000	11%	1 year	02/09/2014
300,000	11%	1 year	27/09/20t4
2,202,720	Total		

Payment of Tax - Year of Assessment 2012 / 2013

On the basis of the audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2013 Tax payable for the final quarter was Rs. 89,049/- to the Inland Revenue and this amount was paid to the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue.

Donations

Two Intraocular Lenses to the value of Rs. 15,000/- were donated to the Help Age Eye Care Centre from the surplus funds of the excursion to Kandy, on a request made by Deshabandu Mr. Thilak de Zoysa, Chairman Help Age Sri Lanka requesting for Eye Care facilities.

Our Thanks

We offer our sincere and grateful thanks to the His Excellency Ambassador of Japan for Sri Lanka and Patron Lanka - Japan Friendship Society Mr. Nobuhito Hobo and Madam Tomomi Hobo for their patronage and cooperation in regard to the activities of the Society. Our thanks also goes to Mr.Hideki Ishizuka, Minister & Deputy Head of Mission Embassy of Japan and Mr. Janak Bandaranayake for their assistance extended to us at all times and a big thanks to the members of the Japanese Embassy. i...

Our deep appreciation and grateful thanks to our vice Patron and Chairman Colombo Dock yard Mr. Akihiko Nakauchi and Dr. P.H.P.de Silva of the Japanese Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka. Colombo Dockyard has sponsored many events.

We want to remember and thank the following who have given us assistance without reservation:
Board of Trustees of the Sasakawa Memorial Sri Lanka Japan Cultural Centre
Mr. S.H.M .Zuhar - Administrative Secretary - Sasakawa Trust Office
Ms. Shakila Dissanayake - Asst. Secretary - Sasakawa Trust Office
Chairman - Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority - for releasing the car park for our events
Mr. Bala Tampoe - General Secretary CMU & his staff in releasing their car park for our functions.

Special appreciation for the support given by the following Ex Co Members:

Mr. Daya Weththasinghe, Dr. Mrs. Soma Edirisinghe, Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray, Mr. Kumara Semage, Dr. Vijay Corea, Mr. M.D. (Tony) Saldin, Mr. Jayaraja Chandrasekera, Mr. Mahendra De Vaz, Dr. Prasad S. Gunaratne, Mrs. Janneth Ismail, Mr. Harindra Rodrigo, Mr. Shelly Thenuwara, Mrs. Sunitha Wijepala, Mr. A.G.Wimalasiri

May we also wish to place on record Dr. Vijaya Corea who stood by us all the time and made our functions very colorful, useful and meaningful.

We are grateful to our President Mr. Deepal Gunaratne for his good guidance, efficient administration and solid decisions which without doubt have made our Society a strong unit. We thank you President for the generous contributions and hospitality in the year through and for having found sponsors for all our events. These have made our Society very strong and efficient. The entire membership of the Exco thanks from the bottom of our hearts and look forward for your guidance in the future.

The Annual Report is presented to the general membership of the Society on 14th.lune 2014 at the 55th AGM.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee.



Chandra Jayatilleka
Hony. General Secretary
04th June 2014