



Volume 2 Issue 11

1 November 2007

 Web Address: www.4eb.org.au~srilankan
 Contact: brisbaneradio@yahoo.com.au


A Super-charged Response to a Super-powered Radiothon Campaign

How committed are our listeners to the Radio 4EB? Do our listeners value its contribution to the community? To what extent will they go to help it out? Well, the response of our listeners by way of pledges to the Radiothon fundraising campaign conducted by the Sri Lankan Radio Group held on Sunday 14th October 2007 amply demonstrates that they care about 4EB and value it as an important community organization.

The purpose of the annual Radiothon campaign organized by the Radio 4EB is to generate the much needed funds for its on-going capital expenditure. The Radio 4EB is a voluntary organization primarily dependent on the contributions made by around 54 ethnic groups attached to it. Although it receives some minor funding from the Community Broadcasting Foundation, this funding has not increased over the last ten years.

The aim of this year's Radiothon is to raise the capital needed for the purchase and install a electricity generator that will allow 4EB FM 98.1 to broadcast non-stop with its own emergency power supply. This project is considered the largest capital development project that the station has undertaken since it started broadcasting on 98.1FM. This year it is intended to raise more than \$50,000 from the community to proceed with the project. Reflecting the magnitude of this task this year's campaign was named as **'Super-powered Radiothon 2007'**. Under this year's campaign, each programming group will receive a 10% commission on all donations received. Also, a total of 50% commission will be paid to each programming group for all donations that exceeds the total donations the programming group raised last year.

This year's Radiothon campaign was conducted over the period 5th to 14th October and during this period the ethnic radio groups attached to the 4EB actively campaigned for collection of funds using their program times. Listeners were asked to pledge their donations over the phone and some pledges were committed in advance. Listeners who pledged donations had the option of either entering a Major Prize Draw or claiming a tax deduction. The first prize was a return air ticket to a destination in Europe and there were other valuable prizes as well.

The Sri Lankan group was inundated with phone calls during their Radiothon on Sunday 14th October. Those who actively participated in the campaign on that day were Wimal Kannanagara, Aravinda Rubasinghe, Jay Wickrematunga, Ananda Samarathunge, Jayantha Weerasekera, Jayasiri and Prema Weerawardena, Nuwan Bellanthudawa, Sarath and Preethi Gunatileka, Ruwan and Nishanthi Welivita and Tilak Gunaratne. Derrick Fernando lined up a substantial number of pledges in advance. Our treasurer and the team had a busy time after the campaign to reconcile the collection before winding up the morning with traditional morning tea with Kiri-bath etc.

Currently, the value of total pledges stands at \$2930.00. Now the most important task - those who pledged must pay their donation on or before 14 December 2007 for them to qualify for the Major Prize Draw on 17 December 2007. The Sri Lankan Group of Radio Group is very grateful to the community for the Super-charged response extended towards the Super-powered Radiothon 2007.

Jayasiri Weerawardena

Convenor, Sri Lankan Group of the Radio 4EB



Super-powered team in action

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brisbaneradio@yahoo.com.au

New Faces

I am Samanmal Gunaratne, currently residing in Upper Coomera which is 55km south of Brisbane towards Gold Coast. I studied at Ananda College Colombo, and graduated from the University of Peradeniya as a Civil Engineer. Deepa, my wife, and I both hail from down south of Sri Lanka. We were living in Dehiwala before we migrated to Australia in July last year. I worked at the Road Development Authority, Sri Lanka, for 15 years before I found my new home in Australia. I joined the Department of Main Roads Queensland, and presently I am working for the South Coast Hinterland District office at Nerang.



Samanmal and family

I have been involved in a lot of social & cultural activities in Sri Lanka which I would like to continue in Australia as well. I was the Secretary of Alumni Association of University of Peradeniya Colombo Chapter in year 2005/06. It is my pleasure to join 4EB, as it provides me a good opportunity to meet fellow Sri Lankans with common interests. I enjoy gardening, reading & listening to Sinhala music, and I love sports. I won University colours for Cricket from 1980 to 1983. I have two daughters & a son who are presently attending school at Nerang. My two daughters have excelled in dancing & music in Sri Lanka. As a family we look forward to share our time, energy and skills for the enhancement of Sri-Lankan community spirit.

I have participated in two 'Sandella' programmes with the assistance of Ananda Samaratunge and I am looking forward to play an active role in 4EB radio programmes in future as well.

Samanmal Gunaratne

Radio Programme Schedule

Tuesday-Sandella 10.00 PM	Producer/ Panel Operator
30 October 2007	Wimal (bi-lingual)/Wimal
6 November 2007	Youth/Sandun
13 November 2007	Prema/Jayasiri
20 November 2007	Samanmal Gunaratne & Ananda/Ananda
27 November 2007	Sam (bi-lingual)/Wimal

Sunday Radio 8.30 AM	Producer/ Panel Operator
4 November 2007	Aravinda/Aravinda
11 November 2007	Jay Weerasekera/Jayasiri
18 November 2007	Nishnathi/Sandun
25 November 2007	Jayasiri/Jayasiri
2 December 2007	Ananda/ Ananda

Send us an email so that we can include your address in our mailing list.

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The current issue of this newsletter is edited by a guest editor, Jayantha Weerasekera.
If you are interested in being a guest editor, please contact brisbaneradio@yahoo.com.au

CHILDREN'S CORNER

THE TWO SIDES OF THE COIN**By Nipuni Thilakaratne****YEAR 8****BRISBANE STATE HIGH SCHOOL****"The bliss of the movements"**

Sounds of drums, sounds of bells, sights of dancing and cooking smells spread across the auditorium, as little girls and boys entered the hall giggling and laughing, to get a seat in the audience.

Little sounds of bells were jingling and creeping around the changing room next to the storage door a small wave of

hush flew through the crowd, as the beautiful dancers walked on to the stage. In a slight second the music was turned on and the charming 'Tabla' moved us all, as the dancers took us in to a world of beauty and peace.

And here we live, unaware of the world beyond.....

**Nipuni Thilakaratne****"War does not decide who wins; it merely decides who is left"**

The smells of gun powder woke me up on my ragged bed, to be truthful; I wouldn't even describe it as a bed. I got up and went outside to the door when I realized the door didn't exist any more. The rusty hinges were hanging dry and half the roof was broken down. As I went in to my parent's room (which now was destroyed) my little brother entered the room shouting and crying when he noticed my parents lying on the floor, "wake up" he cried, "Wake up mum! I'm scared!" he shouted even louder.

I held my beloved brother with my two hands as tears slid down my cheeks when I realized my parents were no more.

"I can't handle this" I whispered, still clutching my distraught brother in my arms.

"No..." said a stronger voice in my head, "I must keep going... I will fight for my beloved mother and father... I will fight for my mother country... I am no coward"

.....And there live the REAL heroes.....

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi,

I would like to congratulate Sachinka Ranasinghe, for the excellent poem he has written. We have seen a lot of talented young dancers and singers among the Sri Lankan community in Brisbane. However, talented young writers are hard to find. So, first of all, I have to thank you for discovering these young talent.

Sometimes, when we compare ourselves with the generation who were born in Australia and brought up in Aus culture, we generally feel that we are from two worlds apart. It's amazing that this poem took me back 9 years ago, when I had the chance to come to Australia, the ordeal I was facing. Leaving everything familiar at once and be a stranger in a place I have never been before or taking the "road less travelled by" at that time. As it was for Sachinka, it has made all the difference for me too.

Once again, I would like to say 'well done' to a young bloke who has been adventurous enough to take the less travelled road, and for being able to put that adventure in a touching poem which I think is even harder.

Thisara Srimal

We welcome contributions from children of any age. Send us your letters, stories, poems, drawings etc. We will make every effort to publish them in future issues.



This is a free newsletter distributed by email every month. If you wish to be included in the mailing list please send us an email: brisbaneradio@yahoo.com.au

**This is Your
Radio
Join and be Part
of It
4EB FM 98.1**



**The Radio Station at
Kangaroo Point,
Brisbane, Queen-**

Radio 4EB Sri Lankan Group actively encourages youth to participate in programming, panel operating and other activities. Free training is provided for those who wish to get involved in panel operation. Listen to the programme every Tuesday 10pm to 11pm and send in your song requests and birthday/anniversary greetings to be broadcast. Contact the youth coordinator - Sandun

Sandella.youth@hotmail.com

රැස් වෙහෙර බුදු පිළිමය

කලාවැව අභියස ඇති අවුකන බුදු පිළිම වහන්සේ ගැන විස්තරයක් සිරිලක පුරා ඇවිද ඇති ඔබට අමුතුවෙන් කිවයුතු නොවේ. එහෙත් මා මේ ලියන්නට යන්නේ කලාවැවට හුදුරන් ඇති විවැනිම තවත් පූජනීය ස්ථානයක් වූ රැස්වෙහෙර නොහොත් සෙසු වෙහෙර බුදු පිළිම වහන්සේ ගැනයි.



රැස්වෙහෙර බුදු පිළිමය කලාවැව සිට කිමී 30ක් පමණ ඇතිත් ඇති රැස්වෙහෙර සංරක්ෂිත වන ප්‍රදේශයේ බොහෝ පෞරාණික පූජනීය බිමක යෝධ ගල් පර්වතයක කපා කැටයම් කර ඇත. මෙම ස්ථානයේ ඇති ඉපැරණි රජ මහා විහාරය ක්‍රි.පූ(89-77) කාලයේදී වළගම්බා රජු විසින් කරන ලද්දක් යැයි සැළකෙන අතර එම ගල්ගුහා එකල්හි තික්ෂුන් වහන්සේලා බොහෝ දෙනෙකුන් භාවනා කිරීම සඳහා පාවිච්චි කර ඇතැයි පුරා විද්‍යාඥයෝ දක්වා ඇත. මෙහි ඇති එක් ගල් ගුහාවක විශාල සැතපෙන පිළිමයක් ඇතුළුව තවත් පිළිම ගණනාවක් ඇත. රැස්වෙහෙර භූමියේ ඇති බෝරුක අනුරපුර ශ්‍රී මහ බෝධියේ පළමු අංකුර 32න් එකක් ලෙස සැළකෙන අතර මෙම බෝ පැළය සිට වූ දින මුළු පළාතම වර්ණාවත් කරමින් ඉතා ආකර්ශනීය රැස් වළාවක් විහිදුන නිසා එතැන් පටන් මෙය රැස් වෙහෙර නමින් හැඳින්වූ බව ද කියැවේ.

අවුකන බුදු පිළිමයේ නිවුන් පිළිමයක් සේ සැළකෙන රැස්වෙහෙර බුදු පිළිමය උසින් අඩි 39 අගල් 3 ක් වේ. වෙනත් ආකාරයකින් කිවහොත් එය අවුකන බුදු පිළිමයටත් වඩා තරමක් උසය. (අවුකන පිළිමය අඩි 38 අගල් 10 කි.) පිළිරුවේ දකුණත විවෘතව ආශීර්වාද කරන අයුරින් තනා ඇති අතර වමතින් තම සිවුර උර නිසා ට අසලින් අල්ලා සිටින දර්ශනයක්



ඇතිව කැටයම් කර ඇත. ජනවහරේ එන කථාවකට අනුව අවුකන හා රැස් වෙහෙර පිළිම

දෙකම ගුරු-ගෝල දෙදෙනෙකු විසින් තරගයට නිම කරන ලද්දක් බවත් ඒ අනුව අවුකන බුදු පිළිමය කළ ගුරුතුමා තමාගේ ප්‍රතිමාව නිම කළ බවට සංඥා කළ පසු ගෝලයාද රැස්වෙහෙර ප්‍රතිමාවේ වැඩ සම්පූර්ණයෙන් අවසානයක් නොකොටම නතර කරන ලද බව ද කියැවේ.

කෙසේ වෙතත් අනෙක් ජනවහරට අනුව ක්‍රි.පූ 2 වන සිය-වසේදී දුටුගැමුණු රජ තම සේනාව සමග ඉදිරියට ඇදෙමින් සිටිද්දී ඇතිවූ මහා වැසි සමය හේතුවෙන් වූ ජල ගැල්ම නිසා පිරිසට කලාභිය හරහා යාමට නොහැකි වූ නිසා රැස් වෙහෙර කැලයේ ලැගුම් ගත් බව ද කියැවේ. තම සේනාවේ අය වැසි සමයේ නිකරුනේ කාලය ගත කරනවා වෙනුවට ඔවුන්ට විවිධ වගකීම් පැවරුණු බව ද එයින් එක් කොටසකට මෙම ස්ථානයේ බුදු පිළිමයක් හෙළීමට පවරා තිබූ බව ද කියැවේ. පිළිමය නිමා වෙමින් පවතින විට වැසි සමය නිමව තිබුන බැවින් රජතුමා

අකමැත්තෙන් වුව ද තමාගේ මූලික අරමුණ වන යුද කටයුතු සඳහා පිටත්ව ගිය බව ද කියැවේ. කෙසේ වෙතත් කලාභිය ළඟටම ගියවිට රජතුමා නැවත වරක් ගංවතුරට කොටුවූ බවත් මෙම කාලය තුළදී කලින් කල පිළිමයේ අනුරුවක් කලාවැව අභියස කරවන ලද බවත් එය අවුකන පිළිමය වන බවත් කියැවේ. රැස් වෙහෙර පිළිමයෙහි හොඳ නිමාවක් නොවුවද අවුකන පිළිමය ඉතා අලංකාර ලෙස නිමකර ඇත්තේ මේ හේතුව නිසා යැයි ද කියනු ලැබේ.



රැස්වෙහෙර සිද්ධස්ථානයට තිබූ දුෂ්කර ගමන් මාර්ගය හේතුවෙන් බොහෝ කාලයක් දුර පළාත්වල අයට වන්දනා කිරීමට අපහසුව තිබිණි. නමුත් මහවැලි ව්‍යාපාරය සමග නිමකළ මාර්ග සංවර්ධන කටයුතු නිසා දැන් කලාවැව, නැගම හෝ ගල්නැව හරහාත්, එසේ නැතිනම් ගල්ගමුව, කත්තෝරුව හරහාත් පහසුවෙන් මෙහි යා හැකිය. එහෙයින් දැන් රැස් වෙහෙර දේශීය වන්දනාකරුවන් දහස් ගණනක් ඇදෙන ස්ථානයක් බවට පත්වී ඇත. ඉතින් ඔබත් නැවත ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සංචාරය කරනවිට මෙම ඓතිහාසික පුද බිමට යාමට සටහන් කර ගන්න.

සරත් ගුණතිලක

(පසු සටහන : 1976 සිට 1981 කාලයේදී මහවැලි සංවර්ධන මණ්ඩලයේ නේවාසික ඉංජිනේරුවරයකු වශයෙන් සේවය කල කාල වකවානුවෙහිදී කලාභිය ආශ්‍රිත පෙදෙස් හි රාජකාරි කල බැවින් මෙම ස්ථානය වැදගත්කමින් නිතර ගැවසීමටත් මම ඉතා ප්‍රිය කෙළෙමි.)

Sri Lankan Group of Radio 4EB
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to publish articles on places of interest in Sri Lanka.
You could tell us your story of visiting a beautiful
place in Sri Lanka with pictures and road maps

Historical value - Environmental value
Tourism interest

To help our readers gain an interest,
enhance knowledge
and add value to their holiday in Sri Lanka
in gaining a unique experience

Editorial committee reserves the right to decide on
all matters related to publishing such articles

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SARALANGA—Yuga Pelahara 2007

Saralanga, the cultural showcase of Sri Lankan talent in Brisbane for the last 15 years, was staged again in Brisbane last month. This year's theme,

Yuga Pelahara, captured the history of Sri Lanka, from Vijaya's arrival to British occupancy. The early history was based on the famous Chronicle Mahavamsa, which was compiled in Pali in the 6th century.

From the arrival of Prince Vijaya and the romantic meeting of beautiful yakini princess Kuveni on the

golden beach of Thammenna through the periods of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Dambadeniya, Yapahuwa, Kurunegala, Gampola, Kotte, Kandyan era and finally to the colonial era, Yuga Pelahara brought alive, on stage snippets from the fascinating story of Lanka.



After the intermission, the stage belonged to post independence era – dance and song representing the colourful mix of cultures and traditions that shaped modern Sri Lanka.



Some parents described the show as a history lesson for their young children with the historian "Mahawansa" explaining the past glory and beauty of Sri Lanka. For the community it was a pleasant experience of unity and harmony generating a feeling of 'we are not alone'.

Throughout the evening the extending hands of willing volunteers were evident. Stage decorations, stage management, lighting, music, video recording, catering, canteen management, cleaning etc were done by volunteers from the community.

Aren't we fortunate to belong to such a community?

Sujeewa Wanigatunga



Upcoming Events



SILVER FAWN CLUB

SATURDAY 10th NOVEMBER**Club Night**

Members \$16, Guests \$20, Students \$12.

SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER**Golden Years Christmas Party**

Members \$20, Guests \$25.

SATURDAY 15th DECEMBER**Children's Xmas Party + Xmas Carols**

(Price of tickets to be announced later)

MONDAY 31st DECEMBER**New Year's Eve Dance**

For information

Davenal Flanderka 041 902 4506

Email: dfla@bigpond.net.au

Sri Lankan Cricket Tour**TOUR MATCH**

Queensland v Sri Lanka at [Brisbane](#)

Allan Border Field, Breakfast Creek

Nov 2-4, 2007 (10:00 AM)

Adults \$8 Children \$2

1st TEST MATCH

Australia v Sri Lanka at [Brisbane](#)

Nov 8-12, 2007 (10:00 AM)



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Editor - Jayantha Ameratunga Guest Editor of November Issue - Jayantha Weerasekera

Advisory Committee: Vasanthe Vithanage, Jayasiri Weerawardena and Wimal Kannangara