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CSJPPA & CTF

Chundikuli - St John's Past Pupils Association

Chundikuli Trust Fund

Registered Charity in England & Wales ® no: 1009205



"Lux In Tenebris lucet"

CSJPPA/CTF Spring 2025 Newsletter

Greetings to you all.

We are excited to connect with you through our Spring 2025 newsletter! The committee takes pride in this initiative, as it reflects our commitment towards transparency and open communication with our valued members and alumni of SJC and CGC. Our goal is to keep you informed and engaged with the latest updates, events, and initiatives within the Chundikuli St. John's Past Pupils Association (CSJPPA) and the Chundikuli Trust Fund (CTF). Thank you for being an integral part of our community!

2025 Events

We are thrilled to invite you all to the annual events hosted by CSJPPA! Please save the date in your diary and bring along your friends and batch mates. The main intention of the CSJPPA is to create opportunities for alumni of both Chundikuli Girls' College and St. John's College to connect, strengthen our network, and foster support within our community. We look forward to seeing you there and making these gatherings memorable together!

March 29, 2025: Malayan Cafe & Medical Chat

The CSJPPA committee had great pleasure in serving a traditional Sri Lankan breakfast featuring live hopperts and dosas, along with providing valuable insights on health and wellness. Special thanks to our speakers Dr Ranjathayalan, Mr Royce Arasaratnam and Mr Ganesh Sittambalam.



May 10, 2025: Annual General Meeting (AGM).

We warmly invite all alumni of CGC and SJC to attend our Annual General Meeting. This gathering is a valuable opportunity to

Venue: St Andrews Church,
89 Malvern Avenue,
Harrow, HA2 9ER.

Time: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
A fellowship lunch will be followed after the AGM.

Web: www.csjppa-uk.org

Email: CTFsecretary2022@gmail.com

Address: CSJPPA/CTF, 1 Beauchamp Court 10 Victors Way BARNET, Herts EN5 5TZ



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reflect on the association's progress and contribute ideas for future initiatives. Please note that only active members are eligible to vote. If you haven't already, you can become a member by completing the membership form and paying the appropriate subscription fee.	
May 26, 2025: Big Match - Battle of the North & Netball match: We're bringing the spirit and memories of the Battle of the North to the UK! Join us in supporting our players and reconnecting with your fellow Johnians. Several matches are lined up against Jaffna Central College, and we'd love to hear from anyone who is interested in participating.	OAKFIELD PARKONIANS CRICKET CLUB Oakfield Playing Fields, Forest Road, Ilford, Essex, IG6 3HD.
June 14, 2025: Ladies only Walk in the Park We hope to rekindle the joyful spirit of our school Sports Day! Join us for a day of fun-filled activities at the park.	Venue & Time: To be confirmed
September 06, 2025: Annual Kool Party Cherishing the Seniors & Connecting the Young and Old: Following the success of last year's Kool Party, we're delighted to invite you once again for a special gathering in the park, featuring delicious home-cooked Kool and traditional Sri Lankan dishes. This event is a heartfelt tribute to our beloved seniors who have paved the way for us, and a joyful opportunity to connect across generations.	Venue & Time: To be confirmed
November 08, 2025 – Annual Dinner & Dance	Venue: Radisson Hotel Bath Road (Building B) West Drayton, Heathrow UB7 0DU



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Limited spaces, please book in advance to avoid disappointment!	Time: 18.30pm – 1.00am
December 13, 2025 Christmas party Step into the magic of the season at our Christmas Party—a heartwarming evening filled with laughter and festive cheer! Come along with your family!	Venue: St Andrews Church, 89 Malvern Avenue, Harrow, HA2 9ER. Time: 18.30pm – 22.30pm

We would like to remind everyone that **CSJPPA is the only official Old Girls' Association for Chundikuli Girls' College in the UK**. We continue to operate with great enthusiasm, commitment and in full spirit, guided and supported by our esteemed patrons—the current principals of both schools.

In 2024, we proudly hosted seven successful events, including Indoor Cricket at Lord's, the Annual General Meeting, the Big Match, Walk in the Park, the Kool Party, the Dinner Dance, and the Christmas Party as well as supporting the Eagle Choir in November 2024.

It has been a rewarding and vibrant year for our committee members, and we look forward to welcoming new members at the upcoming AGM to continue building on this momentum.

CTF Update

Eagle Nest Sponsorship Programme:

Our Scholarship and Sponsorship Programme has been established to support students from both schools in achieving higher academic and athletic standards. The initiative provides assistance to three main categories:

- **Academic Merit-Based Students**
- **Needy Students**
- **Students Excelling in Sports**

The sponsorship packages may cover one or more of the following expenses:

- School fees
- Hostel fees
- Extra tuition classes
- Travel expenses for students residing outside Jaffna



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- Sports-related costs

We are grateful to all our current sponsors and well-wishers whose continued support has made this programme a success. Your contributions have been instrumental in the progress of these students over the years. Both schools would be delighted to welcome additional sponsors for these categories in the future. We provide regular updates on students' progress and achievements, ensuring transparency and connection with our valued supporters. We sincerely thank you and look forward to your continued support.

No. of students who received financial support through this programme in 2024 –

- St. John's College – 25 students
- Chundikuli Girls' College – 12 students
- University Students – 6 students (Two visually challenged students)

CTF is actively seeking sponsors to support underprivileged students at both schools. Due to the current economic situation, many children are struggling to afford their tuition fees and continue their education. We are requesting for monthly contributions of £30, which can help cover the essential costs for either a boarder or two day scholars.

Your support can make a lasting difference in a child's life—providing not just financial relief but also hope and opportunity. If you are able to sponsor a student or would like more information, please get in touch with us. Together, we can help change a life.

Update on Late Dr John Fussey's fund.

The trustees of Chundikuli Trust Fund would also take this opportunity clarify the situation on of John Fussey Trust Fund,

Background information

1. Dr Reginald John Roy Fussey's Will and the relationship with CTF

- Dr Fussey passed away on 21st February 2017. In his will, he had bequeathed funds to G R Handy Memorial Trust.
- In 2017, the executors of John Fussey's will expressed their intention to donate the fund to the **G R Handy Memorial Trust Scholarship Fund**, which was one of the SJC scholarship trust funds managed by CTF. This decision was made because the **Handy Memorial Trust** had become defunct. After conducting their research, the executors discovered the **Dr. G R Handy Memorial Scholarship**, which is managed by CTF, and chose to contribute the fund accordingly.



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- The executor's lawyers wrote a letter addressing to then CTF President, Mr Tharma Chrishanthan on April 13, 2017, requesting clarification of CTF and connection between Handy Memorial Trust.
- ⊖ CTF committee discussed and agreed to accept the donation.
- The first cheque of £70,000 was received on February 27th, 2018.
- The letter from the lawyers on behalf of the executor is very clear; **there are no conditions attached to the donation.**
- A second cheque of £170,000 on October 19th 2018.
- A third cheque of £19,503 was received on December 14, 2018.
- **All the money were banked into CTF, no conditions were imposed on these gifts by the executors.**
- Subsequent AGM minutes and CTF reports confirms the above.
- CTF's constitution states "The Trust is established for the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, suffering and distress amongst the students of Chundikuli Girl's College and St John's College and their families in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, in part by the provision of scholarships at the said colleges."

Formation of Eagle Care Trust in Sri Lanka

- From the total amount received, CTF sent £68,000 to SJC and £2,000 to CGC. Some money was also sent to SJC for medical project.
- CTF had requested SJC to use part of the funds to help a child with severe medical condition in Jaffna; the child sadly passed away
- The administration of SJC at that time and CMS Governing Body requested CTF not to send funds asking to conduct medical work.
- Until 2021, remainder of the John Fussey's funds were with CTF bank account in the UK.
- Eagle Care (guarantee) Trust Ltd incorporated on 13th Jan 2021 with the nature of the principal activities: "The objective for which the company is established are to advancement of education of the children at the school and higher education level in Sri Lanka by providing and assisting provision of facilities for their education".
- Rev. Jameson Gnanaponrajah (former principal of SJC), Mr Antonipillai (former vice principal of SJC), along with Mr Tharma Chrishanthan (the president of CTF) and other CTF trustees of that time - Mrs Nancy Gunaratnam and Dr Meera Gowripalan were appointed as directors of ECT and CTF trustee Mr Shailendra Sothinathan was appointed as a member of ECT.
- The remainder of the John Fussey fund was transferred from CTF account to Sri Lanka to be deposited into the ECT account.
- Agreement was that the fund was to be deposited on a fixed term deposit, interest to be used for the projects and **Eagle Care Trust shall remain**



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under the care of CTF and that ECT shall produce audited accounts and forward to CTF.

2. Complications and Proposals

- Until the formation of ECT, Dr G R Handy and Mr Fussey Memorial Trust Fund was with CTF and SJC.
- Funds were transferred to Sri Lanka ECT limited, deposited with NDB bank on 2-year and 3-year fixed deposits.
- Funds started maturing from April 2023.
- Presently, the current directors of ECT are not serving members of CTF or SJC.
- 31/3/2022 audited accounts of ECT was sent to CTF on request by the accountant.
- Since then, no annual reports of ECT has been sent to CTF.
- **CTF trustees are not kept informed about the status of the funds or how they are spent.**
- CSJPPA members also identified fiduciary duty to safeguard the assets and sked this to be done properly at the 2024 AGM.
- A proposal to put ECT into proper governance under CTF supervision, by appointing of current CTF trustees and the current principals of SJC and CGC has been in discussion.

3. Efforts to Retrieve John Fussy Funds

- In 2024, CTF made numerous efforts to retrieve the John Fussey funds and bring them back under CTF control.
- At the 2024 AGM, the members unanimously agreed to take all necessary steps to resolve this matter once and for all.
- The proposal to return ECT under the control of CTF and the schools, was officially approved by both schools and governors.
- The proposal was that ECT directors shall be replaced by the current two principals of SJC and CGC along with 3 CTF trustees.
- Legal advice was obtained by CTF and letters were sent to Mr Tharma Chrishanthan through a solicitor to take the necessary action and replace the ECT directors.
- **Lawyer's letter asserts the grounds in which CTF is requesting regularisation the ECT held CTF funds and the potential of further legal action.**
- **No court action has been started yet, either in the UK nor in Sri Lanka**
- Letters were sent to current ECT directors to freeze the ECT funds and not to dissipate the assets until the matter is resolved amicably.
- Charity commission in UK was updated with the above processes.
- In the absence of cooperation from the ECT directors, negotiations were conducted through Mr. Benard Sinniah, Governor Mr. Sethukavalar, and the former SJC Principal, Rev. Gnanaponrajah. **Unfortunately, all three were**



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unable to obtain any information regarding the funds or negotiations with Mr. Tharma Chrishanthan, who served as the Chairman of ECT and President of CTF when most of the money was transferred from the CTF account to ECT.

- CTF came to know by checking the company registers in Sri Lanka, that Mrs Nancy Gunaratnam and Dr Meera Gowripalan have resigned as ECT trustees, and two former archdeacons have replaced them.
- Later, through Mr Benard Sinnaiah and Gov. Mr Sethukavalar, CTF has been informed that Mr Tharma Chrishanthan has resigned as the director of ECT in 2024.
- But the replacement of the ECT directors with the two principals and 3 CTF trustees had not been put in place.
- As per Governor Mr. Sethukavalar's advice, a letter was sent to the Bishop of the Church of Ceylon, asking him to intervene and resolve the matter without having to approach court proceedings.

4. Proposed Actions

Further actions are being tabled and shall be followed through with a set period of time to achieve an amicable resolution to retrieve ECT Ltd's governance back into the status that is satisfactory to safeguard the charity's assets and ensure that the funds are appropriately allocated per the aims and objects of the charity

At the recent AGMs, senior members and trustees began questioning the ECT directors due to a lack of transparency surrounding ECT.

Current CTF trustees and the CSJPPA committee members urge the former ECT directors, members, CTF trustees and CSJPPA/CTF members to come forward and help resolve this matter.

We hope this newsletter provides clarity on the situation regarding the donation that CTF received from Late Dr John Fussey

The CSJPPA/CTF remains committed to transparency and working in the best interests of our Association, Charity and members. Your continued support and advice are invaluable as we work towards resolving these issues and ensuring the proper management of resources

Best Regards,
The CSJPPA/CTF Team