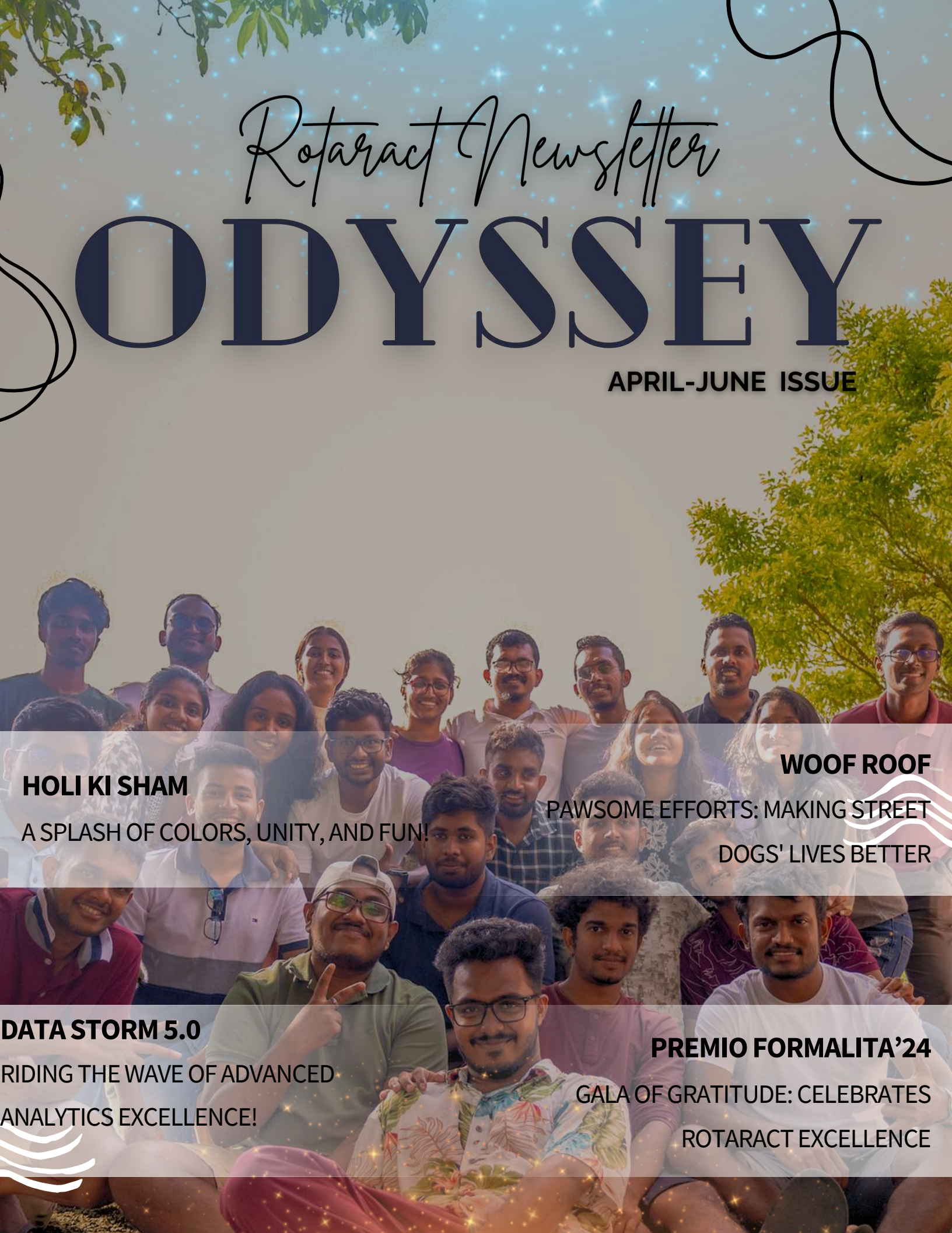
Rotaract Newsletter

ODYSSEY

APRIL-JUNE ISSUE



HOLI KI SHAM

A SPLASH OF COLORS, UNITY, AND FUN!

WOOF ROOF

PAWSOME EFFORTS: MAKING STREET DOGS' LIVES BETTER

DATA STORM 5.0

RIDING THE WAVE OF ADVANCED ANALYTICS EXCELLENCE!

PREMIO FORMALITA'24

GALA OF GRATITUDE: CELEBRATES ROTARACT EXCELLENCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	02
Editorial Message	03
Club Service	05
Community Service	10
Environmental Service	13
International Service	16
Information Technology	22
Membership Development	24
Professional Development	26
Sports and Special Service	33
Editorial	36
Joint Projects	38
Mirror Wall	40
Newsletter Team	49

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Looking back on our 28th year of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, it's been a wild ride of reviving the past and embracing the future. This year has been packed with challenges, achievements, and unforgettable moments. Despite the bumps along the way, we've wrapped up an incredibly successful Rotaract year, all thanks to the amazing dedication of our members and Board of Officials.



Over the past year, our team has poured their hearts into turning our shared dreams into reality. We've launched projects that really made a difference, spreading joy and support to those who needed it most. From organizing community events to diving into service projects and backing local causes, each effort left a lasting imprint on our community.

In the last quarter, we successfully completed several standout projects: Data Storm, which was highly popular among data enthusiasts; Grama Prabodhaya, ending with the heartfelt "Senehe Yatra"; the Woof Roof project, providing love and care for street dogs; and Premio Formalita, Annual Awards Ceremony of our club, which celebrated the achievements of our members and capped off the year.

Fueled by our members' enthusiasm, these projects sparked real change. We reimagined old initiatives, built new friendships with other Rotaract clubs, and strengthened our existing bonds. Our network grew, and collaborations blossomed.

As President, I'm thrilled to share my final thoughts for this year's Odyssey. I've been lucky to work with such a passionate and dynamic team that turned the impossible into possible, leaving a lasting impact with every project and creating a legacy we can all be proud of.

Rtr. Yasiru Athugaldura
President 2023-24
Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa



FROM THE EDITORS

What a journey it's been! From the initial spark of hope to revive the past and embrace the future, to wrapping up four incredible quarters of the Rotaract Mora calendar, we've truly become one big family. We've spread love, lent a helping hand, nurtured young talent, faced countless obstacles, and forged lifelong friendships. It's been a whirlwind of revival and achievement, all thanks to the dedication and charisma of our amazing members who keep the Rotaract wheel turning, come what may.

With such a passionate membership, we've etched another impactful chapter into the legacy of Rotaract Mora with the RI year 2023-24. As the Editorial team, privileged to capture the essence of every project and witness our own collective milestones, we're thrilled to present the final issue of Odyssey, the official newsletter of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa.

This quarter was jam-packed with amazing experiences! We were fortunate enough to witness the fruits of our efforts on Grama Prabodhaya, culminating in the successful initiation of 'Senehe Yathra,' our final subproject. Plus, we made history by bringing the first-ever Holi experience to the university with 'Holi Ki Sham,' teaming up with few other clubs to give everyone a taste of this colorful festival. And let's not forget about our furry friends, thanks to 'Woof Roof,' we've got beautiful souls stepping up to give homeless dogs the love and care they deserve. Then, we dove headfirst into the depths of knowledge with 'Data Storm 5.0' and wrapped up the RI year in style with our hearts bursting with 'Euphoria' at the prom night, back for round two!

But as they say, all good things must come to an end. With a mix of satisfaction for our achievements and a hint of sadness in our hearts, we close the chapter on the RI Year 2023-24. Yet, with eager anticipation, we look forward to unveiling the next captivating chapter of our saga in "Odyssey," our cherished chronicle, where the true hard work of our dear Rotaractors will shine.

It hasn't been a walk in the park, but what a memorable ride it's been! Packed with lessons, setbacks, laughter, tears, wins, and losses, we experienced the whole shebang. Yep, WE sure had ourselves one heck of a ride!

Officially signing off,
Rtr. Abineyan Ravichandran
Rtr. Buvani Guruge
Rtr. Uthpala Karunawardhana
(Co-editors 2023-24 - Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa)



CLUB SERVICES

HOLI FESTIVAL



Chairpersons: Rtr.Imesh Dasanayaka, Rtr.Shavinka Rushen , Rtr.Navodya Hettigoda, Rtr.Dilum Wijewardena, Rtr.Sonali Niduka

"Holi ki Shaam" was a collaborative project involving multiple clubs, including Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, Leo Club of University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Leo Club of University of Moratuwa, and Leo Club of Piliyanadala. This vibrant event marked the celebration of Holi, a traditional Hindu festival known as the "Festival of Colors," symbolizing the victory of good over evil and the arrival of spring.



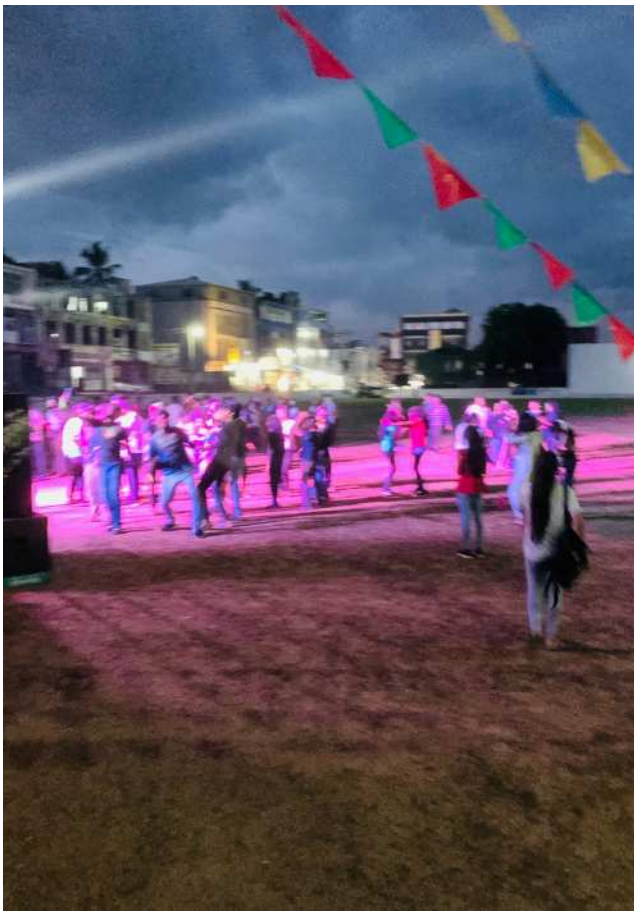
Holi ki Shaam, the first-ever Holi fest in the university, offered students a new adventure into the rich cultural experience of this colourful festival. Held on April 28th, the event exceeded expectations by attracting a larger participant count than anticipated. Participants were provided with coloured powder by the organizing clubs to join in the fun of the celebrations, creating a lively and inclusive atmosphere for all attendees. After the colourful festivities, an exciting DJ after-party added to the fun and excitement. Additionally, a photo booth was set up at the venue to capture memorable moments as souvenirs of the vibrant day.

For many, it was their first opportunity to immerse themselves in the festive spirit of Holi, making it a memorable and meaningful experience. It not only provided a platform for students to celebrate and enjoy but also strengthened the bonds between the collaborating clubs, highlighting the effectiveness of teamwork and collaboration in organizing successful events.





Overall, Holi ki Shaam was a resounding success and was a memorable celebration of colour, joy, and unity, setting a new standard for cultural events on campus.





ARTI GRAFICO

Chairpersons: Rtr.Nishani Abeysekara, Rtr.Themiya Yasith

Arte-Grafico, a graphic designing competition organised by the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and Rotaract Club of Mid-City, opened its doors to participants of all age groups and from all islands. The competition, themed around tropical landscapes, aimed to showcase the creative talents of graphic designers across the region.



To equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge, a workshop on graphic designing was conducted by Mr Athukorala, who also served as a judge for the competition. Registrations for the competition opened on April 15th, and participants were encouraged to submit their graphic designs in JPEG or PNG formats by May 15th. The competition garnered significant interest and participation from graphic designers across the region, showcasing a diverse range of artistic talents and creative perspectives. On 19th May an online webinar was conducted by Mr Pathum Athukorala, creative assistant manager- Digital media the Royal Institute of Colombo where he explained the intersection of graphic design and AI; industry overview and impact.



Overall, Arte-Grafico provided an opportunity for participants to showcase their talents, learn from experts, and engage with fellow enthusiasts in the community. The collaboration between the Rotaract clubs of University of Moratuwa and Mid-City contributed to the success of the event, demonstrating the power of partnership in organizing impactful initiatives.

TREKKONNECT

Chairpersons: Rtr. Theoda Hettiarachchi, Rtr. Theekshana Perera, Rtr. Sarindu Wijekoon



TrekKonnect, part of the RacKonnect event, aimed to enhance camaraderie among Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa board members, offering a chance to unwind. It featured a weekend getaway to Mandaramnuwara and an evening packed with enjoyable games and activities, resulting in lasting friendships among the board members.

The goal of this particular phase was to allow the hardworking board members of the club to unwind and immerse themselves in the serene landscapes of the central province. Away from their stressful responsibilities and academic work, the trip offered a chance to experience stunning viewpoints, waterfalls, and natural reservoirs unique to the region. It provided a welcome break, fostering camaraderie and relaxation among the group.







The trip included a barbeque party and gathered together under the stars, they sang songs, shared stories, and savoured the moment, creating memories that would last a lifetime. Additionally, they had the opportunity to bathe in a waterfall, further enhancing the experience of nature's wonders. The board trip to Mandaram Nuwara was more than just an escape into nature; it was a journey back to simpler times, filled with warmth and camaraderie. It was a nostalgic experience that reignited a sense of joy and unity within the board, leaving an indelible mark on their hearts.





In the end, the trip was a resounding success, fulfilling its goal of providing members with a nostalgic retreat into nature. It created lasting memories of laughter, friendship, and adventure for the participants serving as a reminder of the beauty and joy found in the simplest of moments.

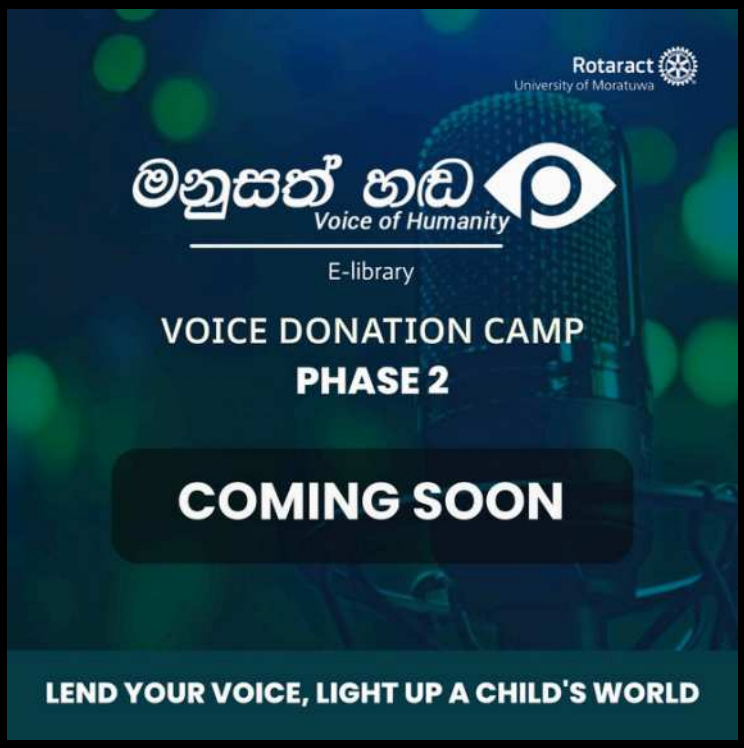


COMMUNITY SERVICES

MANUSATH HANDA

Chairpersons: Rtr. Chamudi Vihanga, Rtr. Tharusha Adithya, Rtr. Ravindu Thamodya

Under the community service avenue of Rotaract Club, this project is about providing equality in cutting-edge quality education and entertainment for blind children, who are nurtured through the help of people around. With the goal set to provide all the support to the visually impaired citizens of the society, **Manusath Handa** is one of the significant projects, acclaimed both globally and internationally.



With the collaboration of Vijaya Newspapers and the Department of Examination, Manusath Handa has been a successful journey through its time, reaching a broader audience than expected. By setting up the maintenance of an e-library as our main task, we have been able to include audiobooks, magazines, and stories as well as papers and hands-on computer science programs which you can easily access via **manusathhanda.rotaractmora.org.**



This site hosts a collection of 600+ audio clips that were volunteered and voiced by the students of University of Moratuwa through our Voice Donation Campaign.

Moreover, as the second phase of the project Rotaract Club of Moratuwa, was able to donate computers to the school for the blind in Rathmalana and to hold several seminars and tutorials on how to use the E-library of Manusath Handa.

As all good things must have an end, the project Manusath Handa, which had an effective journey was concluded for RI year 23-24 in the middle of April contributing immensely to the society's goodwill.

SENEHE YATHRA

Chairpersons: Rtr. Shakil Ilham,
Rtr. Senuthi Kariyawasam

Recognizing the challenges posed by poverty on maternal and child health Rotaract Club of Moratuwa took on a vital mission to support pregnant mothers in underserved communities of Kukulewa, Kahatagasdeniya, and Samadhigama. The club assembled relief baskets filled with essentials like pampers and milk packets. The initiative aimed to empower expectant mothers by providing crucial resources during their pregnancy journey.

In addition to supporting pregnant mothers, the club also extended their efforts to school students by providing writing books, pens, and pencils. This thoughtful gesture aimed to improve educational opportunities and access to essential learning tools for children in these marginalized communities.

Through collaboration with local authorities and healthcare professionals, the club ensured the comprehensive reach of their intervention, promoting community health and well-being. The Rotaract Club of Moratuwa's commitment to bridging gaps in maternal care not only alleviated immediate hardships but also fostered a culture of support and empowerment within these communities







ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

WOOF ROOF

Chairpersons : Rtr. Lasini Pallewatta, Rtr. Lithasa Dolapihilla , Rtr. Sahan Siriwardhana







In recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in awareness and concern regarding the well-being of street dogs within our community. In response to this, the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa initiated the **'Woof Roof'** project, aiming to support these innocent lives and encourage community members to take responsibility for their care. The project's core belief is that every dog deserves a life filled with health and happiness.





To achieve the project's objectives, an engaging Street Dog Photography Competition named "Woofy's Gallery" was launched on Facebook. Participants were invited to submit their street dog photographs, which were subsequently posted on the Rotaract Mora Facebook page. Through a voting process, the Most Popular Photograph was selected by the community, while the Best Photograph was chosen by the PR Directors. The winners were then awarded vouchers worth 3000. This competition served as a platform to both showcase the beauty and highlight the challenges faced by street dogs, with the aim of fostering empathy and compassion towards them.



Continuing their efforts, the 'Woof Roof' team visited Baw Baw Hospital in Kuruinegala on May 1st to spend the day with the dogs there. Throughout the day, they engaged in cleaning, providing medical care, and donating essential supplies to meet the dogs' needs. Through these actions, they not only raised awareness but also actively involved the community in a meaningful manner. In summary, 'Woof Roof' stands as a commendable initiative that not only underscores the significance of animal welfare but also serves as an inspiration for others to take action and contribute towards creating a more compassionate society.





URBANSCAPE

Chairpersons : Rtr. Ashen Perera, Rtr. Thamali De Silva



The primary objective of **Urbanscape** was to promote and educate people living in limited spaces about concepts such as vertical gardening, rooftop gardening, and other low-living area-required gardening practices. As the first step of the program, selected buildings at the university were used to create low-room gardens. Some of the balconies of the chosen buildings were converted into vertical gardens with hanging plants.





To raise funds for the Urbanscape project, the Rotaract Club organized a pot painting competition on the 30th of April. The competition was open to any student, with entries allowed as single-person entries or pairs. The competition entry fee was Rs. 150 for any entry, and gift vouchers were awarded to the top three places. Colouring materials and pots were provided to the participants.The competition attracted a significant number of participants, showcasing widespread interest and support for the Urbanscape initiative. The variety and quality of the painted pots reflected the enthusiasm and talent of the university community.



Overall, the pot painting competition was a testament to the success of the Urbanscape project and the Rotaract club's ability to mobilize resources and engage the university community in meaningful activities that promote sustainability and creativity.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

PRESSICRAFT

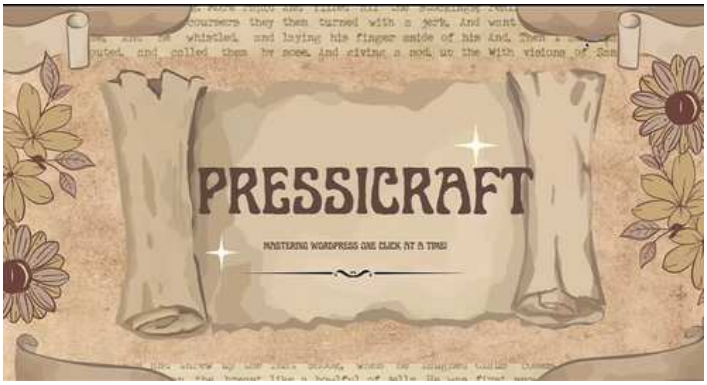
Co-chairpersons - Rtr. Akindu Kalhan, Rtr. Ravindu Wanigasuriya

The Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa successfully initiated the **"Pressi Craft"** project on 7th of April, aiming to foster education and skill development among participants. Throughout the project, participants engaged in the production of instructional videos centred around web development using WordPress. These videos were meticulously crafted to provide detailed insights and guidance, catering to both beginners and those seeking to enhance their skills.



Two videos were shared per week, and these were disseminated via YouTube, reaching a wide audience. Additionally, a weekly quiz was given as an assessment tool to evaluate participants' comprehension of the material. This multifaceted approach of video tutorials and interactive quizzes created an effective and engaging learning environment.

The success of the "Pressi Craft" project was evident in various ways. Firstly, participant engagement remained consistently high throughout the project, indicating a keen interest in the content provided. The quality of the instructional videos was praised for their clarity and comprehensiveness, with participants reporting significant improvement in their understanding of web development concepts. Moreover, the quizzes served as an effective measure of learning outcomes, with participants demonstrating a strong grasp of the material.





BOON DIGITI

Co-chairpersons : Rtr. Bhathiya Kulathunga, Rtr. Kavindu Harshana

The second phase of the "**Boon Digiti**" project for this year was launched by the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, marking a significant step forward in the initiative. 'Boon Digiti' is an ambitious service project with a mission to enhance the foundational understanding of Information Technology (IT) among undergraduates, students, and educators in Tanzania. The first action taken was to upload content from previous phases onto the website. Since the website was built on WordPress, this phase focused on embedding all the YouTube videos onto the site.



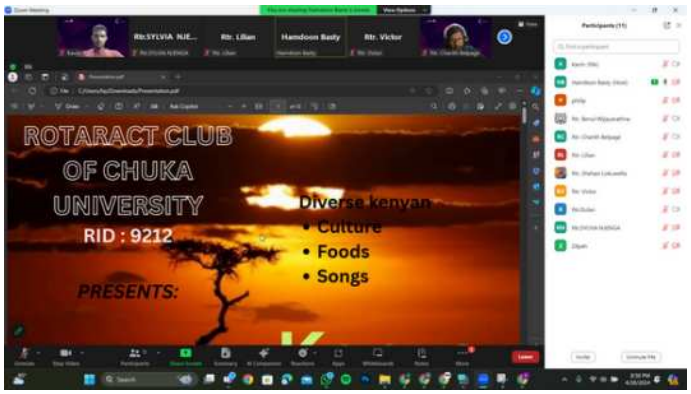
In parallel efforts to broaden outreach and engagement, the club strategically leveraged various social media channels to share informative and visually appealing flyers, aiming to reach a wider audience. They also distributed these flyers to contacts in foreign clubs, expanding the project's reach beyond their immediate community.

Overall, the second phase of the "Boon Digiti" project was a testament to the club's dedication and innovative approach. By combining technology, social media, and international networking, they successfully advanced the project's goals and expanded its influence, making a meaningful difference in education and community engagement.

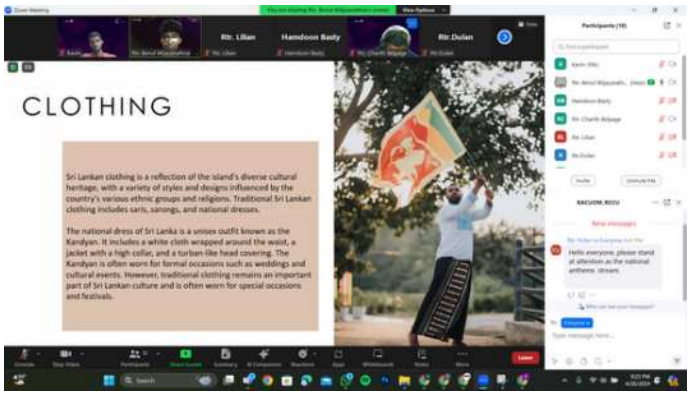
TROPICAL RHYTHMS

Chairpersons: Rtr. Dulan Bandara, Rtr. Kavin Siriwardana

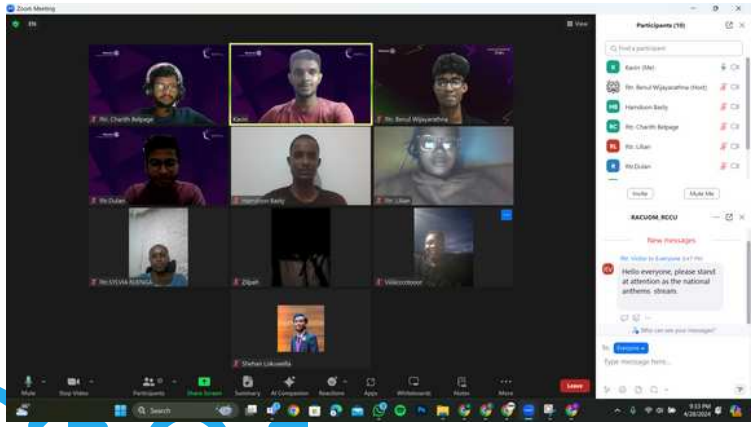
This aim was to establish a twin club agreement between Rotaract Mora and the Rotaract Club of Chuka University, Kenya, with the Tropical Rhythms event serving as the second meeting in this collaborative effort. Emphasizing cultural exchange, it sought to deepen understanding and foster connections between the diverse communities involved.



Rotaract Mora took the initiative to present insights into Sri Lankan culture, offering a comprehensive exploration of cuisine, tourist attractions, and various cultural aspects. In return, the Rotaract Club of Chuka University showcased the richness of Kenyan culture, highlighting its culinary traditions, scenic wonders, and the diverse array of wildlife that defines the nation.



The session commenced with warm introductions, allowing members from both clubs to establish personal connections and set a welcoming tone. Following these introductions, heartfelt welcoming speeches were delivered, and the atmosphere was further enriched by the playing of the national anthems of Sri Lanka and Kenya, symbolizing the unity and shared values of the participating clubs.



The meeting concluded with a gracious vote of thanks extended by a member of one of the participating clubs, expressing gratitude for the enriching experience shared by all. This cultural exchange served as a catalyst for strengthening the bonds between the two clubs, fostering mutual respect, and deepening appreciation for each other's countries.

UN DAYS

Co-chairpersons : Rtr. Gagana Sri, Rtr. Lithasa Dolapihilla

The **"UN Days"** project, initiated by the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa continued in the 3rd quarter of RI year 2023-24 as well, aimed to raise awareness about significant UN observances such as Earth Day, English Language Day, and World Creativity and Innovation Day, among others, many of which are often unknown to many.



To engage a wider audience and disseminate information effectively, the club took proactive measures. They shared informative flyers highlighting the importance of these special UN days, ensuring that others could learn about them. Additionally, they launched a series of eye-catching flyers and engaging blogs across their various social media platforms.





The success of the project was evident in its impact. Through their efforts, the Rotaract Club successfully educated and informed their online community about the significance of these global observances. The distribution of informative flyers reached a wide audience, sparking interest and conversation about these important UN days. Furthermore, the project's success extended beyond mere awareness-raising. It fostered a sense of global citizenship within the University of Moratuwa community, encouraging individuals to reflect on and appreciate the importance of these observances in addressing pressing global issues.





Overall, the "UN Days" project was a triumph for the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa. It not only raised awareness about lesser-known UN observances but also empowered individuals to become more informed and engaged global citizens.

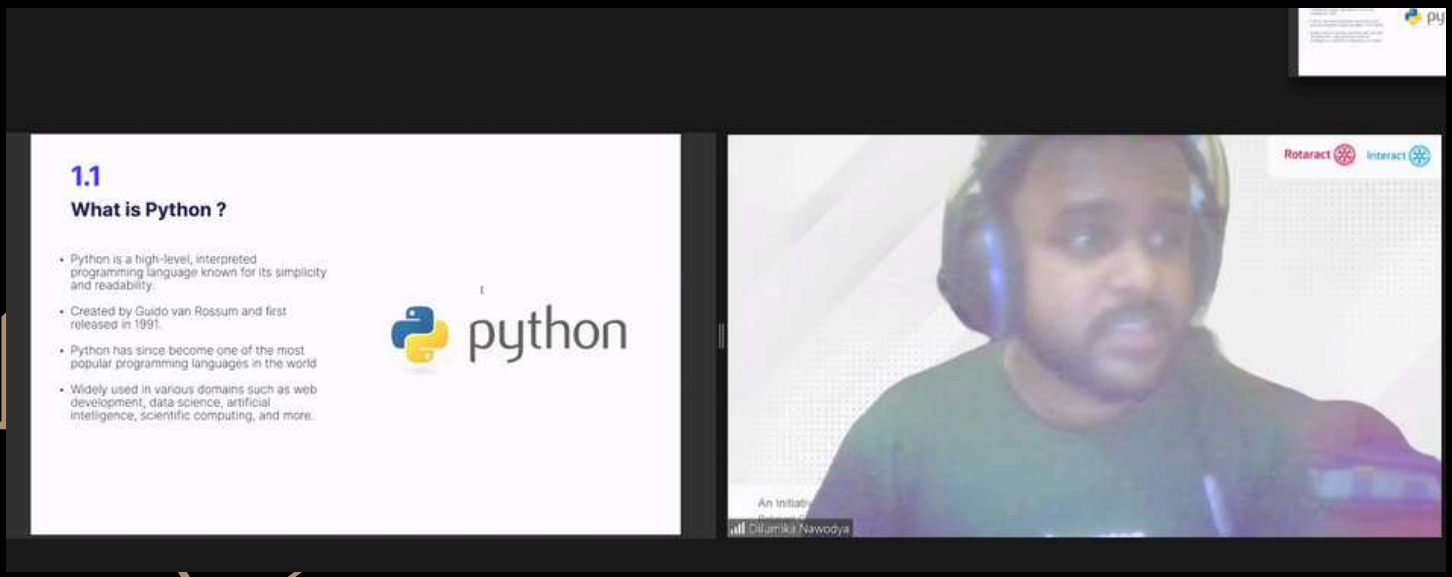
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MIND FORGE

Chairpersons: Rtr. Thusith Wijewardena, Rtr. Nethmi Divyanjalee, Rtr. Anuhas Paranavithana, Rtr. Bihan Siriwardhana, Rtr. Sachini Dewasurendra

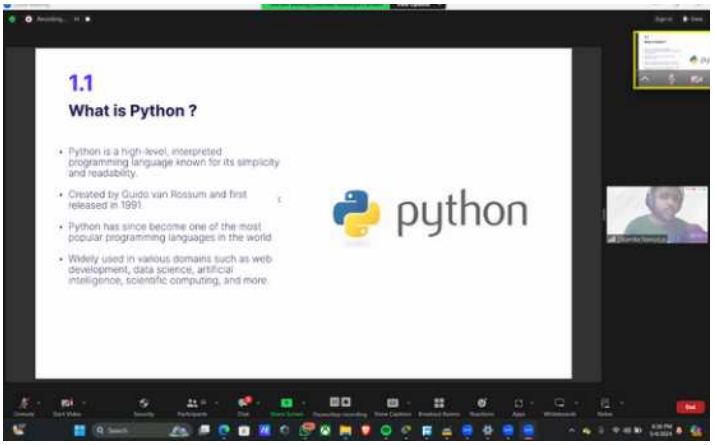


In a dynamic collaboration between the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and the Interact Club of Ananda College, Mind Forge 1.0 was successfully concluded, leaving a trail of inspired young tech enthusiasts in its wake. **Mind Forge 1.0** was a transformative workshop series tailored for school students, aimed at fostering a deep understanding of technology and enhancing problem-solving skills.

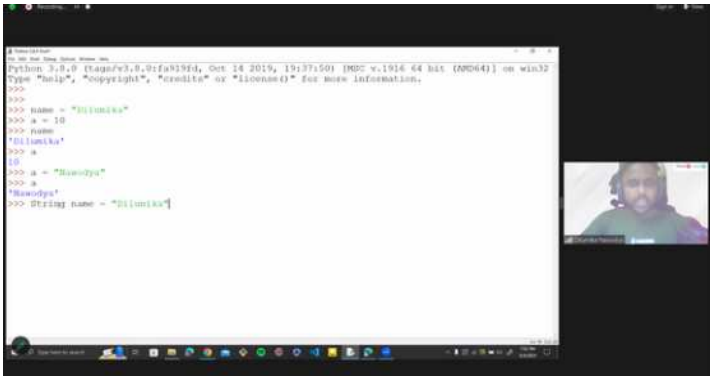


Throughout the workshop series, participants embarked on an immersive learning journey, guided by our seasoned mentors. Interactive sessions provided hands-on experience, allowing students to grasp fundamental coding concepts and develop practical skills. From basic coding principles to advanced problem-solving techniques, Mind Forge equipped participants with the tools they needed to thrive in the digital age. The culmination of Mind Forge 1.0 featured a thrilling School Hackathon, where participants showcased their newfound skills and innovative projects.

The competition was held at University of Moratuwa, which provided a platform for participants to demonstrate their abilities, competing for prestigious awards and recognition.

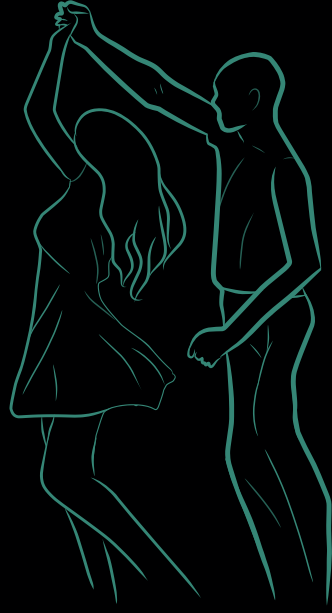


Mind Forge 1.0 not only equipped participants with technical skills but also instilled in them a sense of confidence and determination. This proved to be a catalyst for nurturing young talent and fostering a culture of innovation.



Furthermore, in a demonstration of collaborative spirit, the IT Avenue extended its efforts to contribute significantly to the community by creating two official websites for Fashion Forge and Manusath Handa. This exemplifies the remarkable dedication of the IT team within the club, transcending their usual responsibilities to make a tangible impact on the community.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



EUPHORIA

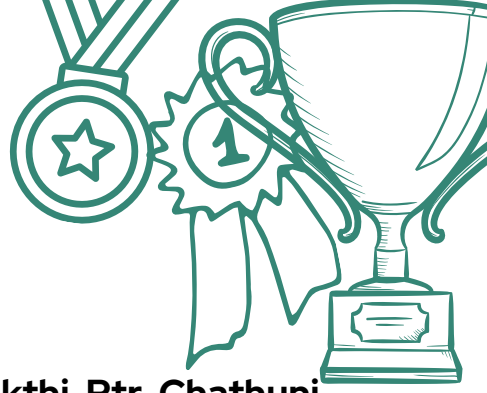
Chairpersons: Rtr. Nirmala Warushavithana, Rtr. Rasini Vimukthi, Rtr. Chathuni Dewmini, Rtr. Rashmika Madaela, Rtr. Ihithisham Fazaal

Euphoria '24, the second consecutive spectacular celebration orchestrated by Membership Development Avenue, aims to provide university undergraduates with an unforgettable prom night experience. This year's event will not only commemorate the exceptional year for Rotaract but will also serve as a grand finale, bringing together club members, district Rotaractors, and university students in a magnificent gathering. Every detail has been meticulously planned for the event scheduled on June 9th, 2024, anticipating approximately 150 participants.



An awe-inspiring band will grace the occasion, accompanied by a DJ to keep the crowd entertained till the end. Guests can indulge in a sumptuous buffet and capture memories at a charming photo booth, ensuring both gastronomic delight and entertainment. Additionally, an exciting array of games, including the crowning of prom king and queen, promises to create lasting memories for couples and singles alike. The organizing committee of Euphoria '24 eagerly anticipates a resounding success, aiming to leave a lasting impression on all attendees' hearts.





PREMIO FORMALITA

Chairpersons: Rtr. Nirmala Warushavithana, Rtr. Rasini Vimukthi, Rtr. Chathuni Dewmini, Rtr. Rashmika Madaela, Rtr. Ihithisham Fazaal

"Premio Formalita," the esteemed Annual Awards Ceremony of the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, marks the pinnacle of the Rotaract Mora calendar. Scheduled for June 9th, 2024, at the Rubert Peiris Auditorium, University of Moratuwa, this event is set to honor the unwavering commitment of the club's members throughout the year.

The ceremony will commence with esteemed guests and traditional performances, setting the stage for an extraordinary evening of recognition, introspection, and jubilation. Members who have actively participated and demonstrated exemplary service will be acknowledged and celebrated. Certificates of appreciation will be bestowed upon these dedicated individuals, while those who have shown exceptional acts of service will be honored with medals under the distinguished category of "Spirit of Service."

Inspirational speeches from key figures, including the President and senior club members, will highlight the collective achievements, instilling a sense of pride and nostalgia. Beyond honoring club members, Premio Formalita seeks to inspire prospective members and extend recognition to project stakeholders.

The event will showcase the rewards and recognition earned through devoted service, nurturing passion and enthusiasm for Rotaract. It aims to provide a platform for knowledge sharing among past and present Rotaractors and foster fellowship among participants from diverse backgrounds within the university community.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BRAND ETIQUETTE MASTERY

Chairpersons : Rtr. Shehan Maleesha



The inaugural workshop on communication etiquette, conducted by Mr. Yukthi Gunasekara, CEO Coach and Specialist in CEO Communication, marked the beginning of a collaborative project between the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and the Rotaract Club University of Moratuwa Alumni, titled **"Brand Etiquette."** The project aims to uplift individuals' personal development through a series of workshops focusing on branding etiquette, communication etiquette, and personal branding etiquette via online platforms.



During the first workshop, Mr. Gunasekara delved into the importance of authentic communication, improving negotiation skills, and provided valuable insights into conflict resolution techniques. Participants gained practical tips and strategies to enhance their communication abilities and navigate professional interactions effectively.



Following the success of the communication etiquette workshop, the project continued with two more insightful sessions. The second workshop on personal branding was led by Ms. Rasini Bandara, a Psychologist and mental healthcare professional. She discussed strategies for magnetizing opportunities and people, building lasting influence, and dominating one's niche.



The project concluded with the third workshop on corporate etiquette and personal branding, facilitated by Mr Kumar De Silva, a Personality Development and Corporate Etiquette Trainer. Participants learned about personal presentation, navigating social events with grace, and mastering professional communication skills.

Through these workshops, participants gained valuable knowledge and skills essential for personal and professional growth. The collaborative efforts in organizing these workshops have made a significant impact on individuals' personal development journeys. The "Brand Etiquette" project stands as a testament to their commitment to empowering individuals and fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement.





CAREER PILOT

Chairpersons: Rtr. Hasindu Warnapura, Rtr. Pradeepa Jayaweera





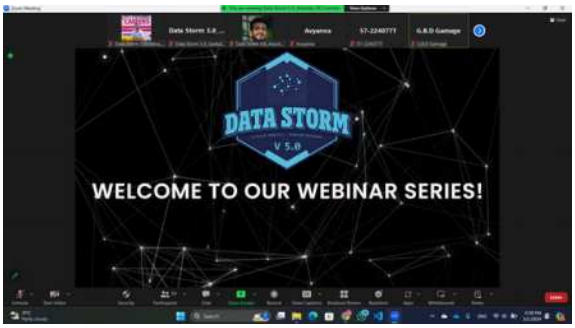
Career Pilot marked a significant milestone in the Rotaract Club's professional development avenue. It was a transformative project designed to guide and support school students in pursuing their dream career paths. The project included workshops, expert talks, and various activities tailored for GCE A/L students of government and semi-government schools.



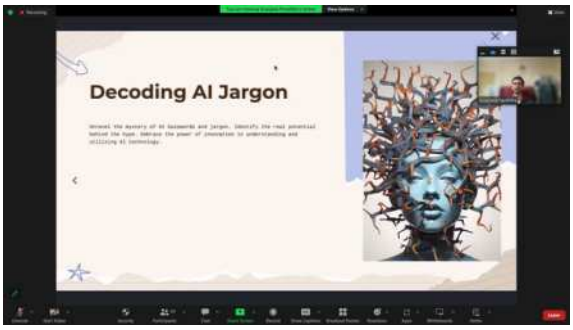
Through Career Pilot, the aim was to empower the next generation with the knowledge and skills essential for success in the professional world. The project was a resounding success, with participants gaining valuable insights and guidance to help them navigate their future careers effectively.

DATA STORM

Chairpersons: Rtr. Sankalya Tharindi, Rtr. Navindu Prabhath Jayalath, Rtr. Jalina Hirushan, Rtr. Chethmin Edirisinghe

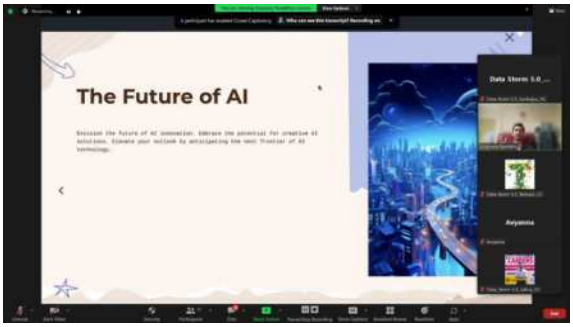


Data Storm 5.0, the premier Advanced Analytics Competition in Sri Lanka, invited young people interested in data and undergraduates from public or private universities to participate in the event. This collaborative initiative was led by the Rotaract clubs of University of Colombo and University of Moratuwa. For the fifth consecutive year, OCTAVE, the John Keells Group, and the Data and Advanced Analytics Centre of Excellence served as the official sponsors of Data Storm 5.0, providing crucial support to the event.





To prepare participants for the competition, a series of webinars, master classes, brainstorming sessions, case studies, and mentoring sessions were organized. These activities aimed to hone participants' intuitive abilities and analytical skills. On the 1st of May, The 1st webinar was conducted, featuring Mr Avarjana Panditha, a senior software engineer at WSO2, visiting lecturer at UOM and UCL, and head of technology and photography at photoboothme.



The success of Data Storm 5.0 can be attributed to its comprehensive approach to skill development. Participants were given practical challenges and opportunities to apply their knowledge in real-world scenarios, enhancing their problem-solving capabilities and analytical skills. Overall, Data Storm 5.0 has solidified its reputation as a premier platform for young talent to showcase their abilities, learn from industry experts, and make meaningful contributions to the field of advanced analytics in Sri Lanka.

FASHION FORGE

Chairpersons : Rtr. Dewanga Kuruppu, Rtr. Kaweesha Udani, Rtr. Janudi Disara

Fashion Forge marked an exciting new chapter in the history of fashion by the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa. This groundbreaking project was a significant first for Rotaract Legacy, which was able to make waves in the fashion world. Utilizing a fusion of styles and the language of fashion, Fashion Forge was able to communicate with the community in innovative ways.

As renowned New York fashion designer Ralph Lauren once stated, "Fashion is about something that comes from within you." With this philosophy in mind, Fashion Forge was able to inspire creativity and self-expression among participants and attendees alike.





The success of Fashion Forge was evident in its ability to bring together fashion enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds and create a platform for them to showcase their talents. Attendees were treated to a showcase of unique designs, creative collaborations, and innovative concepts that left a lasting impression. Overall, Fashion Forge was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on both the local community and the fashion industry. It demonstrated the power of creativity, collaboration, and community engagement in creating meaningful experiences and driving positive change

MENTHER

Chairpersons: Rtr. Pawani Uthpalawanna, Rtr. Dewanga Alagiyawanna, Rtr. Devini Kariyawasam



Rotaract Mora proudly presented a new chapter of **"MentHer,"** a women's mentorship program led by trailblazing female industry leaders, in a splendid display of empowerment and revelation this year. University of Moratuwa undergraduates were paired with accomplished mentors through MentHer, providing them with invaluable direction, knowledge, and tools to lead and motivate others.

The project's success can be attributed to its tailored approach to mentorship, catering to the unique needs and aspirations of each mentee. Mentors provided personalized guidance and support, helping mentees navigate challenges and capitalize on opportunities in their respective fields.

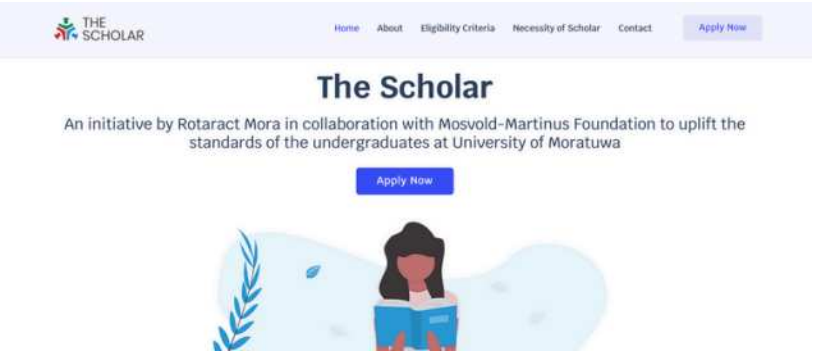
Furthermore, the three field visits for undergraduates of Fashion Designing, Engineering, and Quantity Surveying Departments were a resounding success. These visits provided students with hands-on experience, exposure to real-world scenarios, and opportunities to interact with industry professionals, enriching their learning and broadening their perspectives.



Overall, the MentHer program has been a triumph, empowering resilient young women to unlock their full potential and achieve endless success in their academic and professional endeavours. It has not only equipped them with the necessary skills and knowledge but has also instilled confidence and resilience to overcome any obstacles they may encounter on their journey.

SCHOLAR

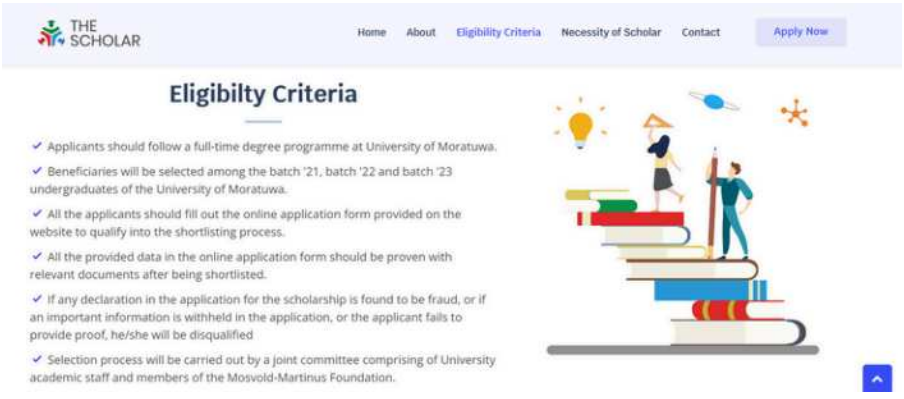
Chairpersons: Rtr. Nethra Bandara, Rtr. Charith Belpage



Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa recently concluded its **"Scholar"** scholarship distribution program with great success. The program aimed to provide economically disadvantaged students with much-needed financial support to continue their education without the burden of financial constraints.

Throughout the duration of the program, the club worked tirelessly to identify deserving candidates and ensure that the scholarship reached those who needed it most. The selection process was thorough and transparent, with careful consideration given to each applicant's financial needs and academic performance.

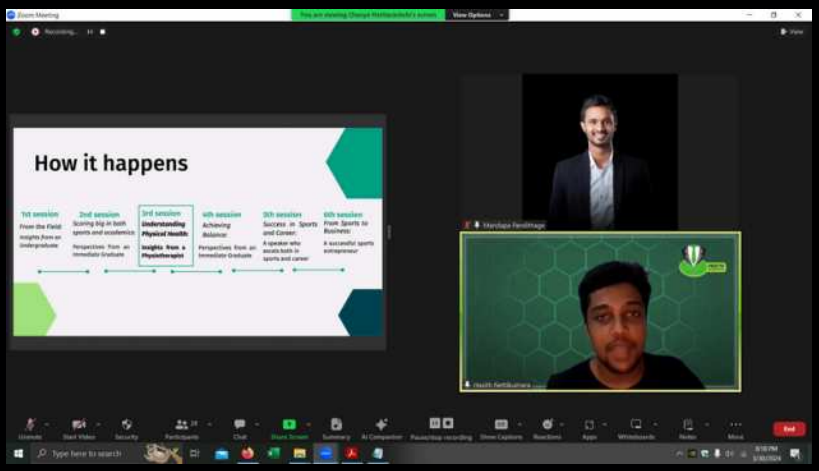
Moreover, this project showcased the Rotaract Club's commitment to social responsibility and making a tangible difference in the lives of others. By providing financial assistance to economically disadvantaged students, the club has made a meaningful impact on their academic journey and future prospects.



SPORTS AND SPECIAL SERVICE

FIELD TO BOARDROOM

Chairpersons: Rtr. Chanya Nethmini, Rtr. Uthsara Manul





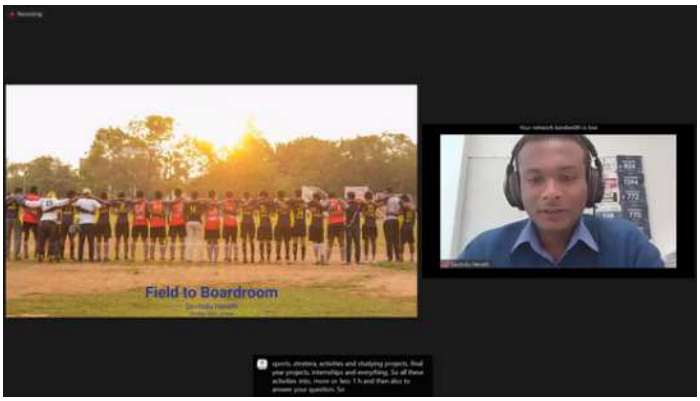
Through the project **'Field To Boardroom'**, Rotaract Mora delivered a comprehensive series of six online sessions guided by distinguished figures from the realms of sports and academia. Those sessions acknowledged the distinct hurdles encountered by university students managing these dual commitments and empowering them to effectively balance their athletic passions with academic aspirations while preparing for future careers.

As its first session, the club invited Rukshan Athapaththu, vice-captain of the National Basketball team, who offered participants an insight into navigating through the balance of sports and academics, drawing from his personal experiences. The session followed an interactive Q&A session where participants were able to clear out the doubts they had about these complexities.

For the next session, Mandapa Pandithage, a mechatronics engineer and a former national player in both Football and Water Polo, grabbed the torch to offer valuable guidance on effectively managing the equilibrium between sports and academics. In the 3rd session, Mr Savinu Herath, Biomedical Engineer, Former president of sport council and Former hockey team captain joined to reveal his secrets to a balanced sports and academic life. In the 4th session, Dr Pasindu Weerasinghe, civil engineer, (gold medalist) University colours for badminton and former captain of men's badminton team joined to talk about the perfect balance of academic brilliance and sportsmanship. Following the footsteps of the first session, all the sessions were also followed by an interactive Q&A session and concluded as another successful session.

As students endeavour to succeed both in sports and their future professions, Field To Boardroom served as a guiding light, arming them with the expertise necessary to flourish throughout their university experience and into the professional realm.





SKILLS FOR LIFE

Chairpersons: Rtr. Hasarangi withanawasam, Rtr. Hasindu Warnapura

The Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, in partnership with UNESCO and the YKG Association, collaborated to create a video series aimed at educating students about essential 21st-century skills. This initiative marked a significant step forward in equipping young individuals with knowledge and capabilities as well as driving positive change and empowering them. With generous funding from UNESCO, the team worked tirelessly to create a high-quality video series and by uploading it to a dedicated website, they ensured widespread accessibility, reaching a broader audience and maximizing the impact of the initiative.

What made this project truly remarkable was its focus on equipping students with skills that are crucial for success in the modern world. By engaging with the Interact Club of D.S. Senanayake College and holding productive meetings with the YKG Association, the project organizers ensured that the content was relevant and tailored to the needs of the target audience.

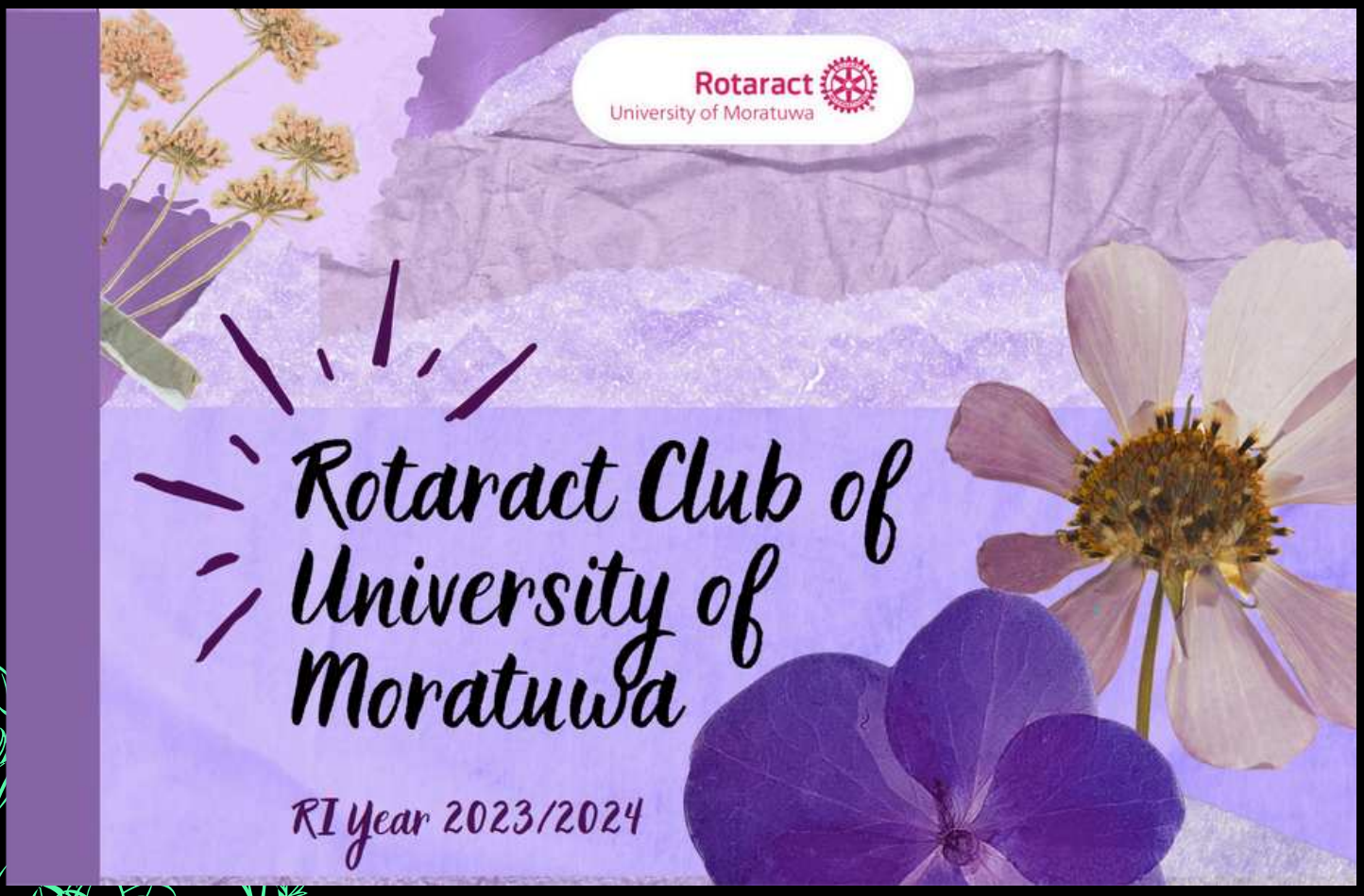


This initiative went beyond mere education; it was about empowering young minds, inspiring them to strive for excellence, and preparing them for the challenges of the future. By providing valuable resources and guidance through the video series, the Rotaract Club, UNESCO, and the YKG Association made a significant contribution to the personal and professional development of students.

EDITORIAL

ROTARACT YEARBOOK

Chairpersons: Rtr. Abineyan Ravichandran, Rtr. Buvani Guruge, Rtr. Uthpala Karunawardhana



Within the expansive narrative of this year's Odyssey, a fresh narrative emerges with the debut of the "Rotaract Yearbook." This heartfelt tribute meticulously captures the treasured moments and triumphs of the 2023/24 Board of Officials, etching their collective journey in Rotaract Mora into permanence. These meticulously crafted yearbooks will be revealed as a delightful surprise during the club's esteemed annual award ceremony, serving as enduring mementos that encapsulate the spirit of service and camaraderie fostered within the Board, elevating the lives of those in our community.



JOINT PROJECTS

LEONARDO

Chairpersons: Rtr. Venuja Udukumbura, Rtr. Brinstan Pieris, Rtr. Miyuranga Rajakaruna

Leonardo, an eagerly awaited project of this quarter, was launched by International Services Avenue in collaboration with Professional Development Avenue. It comprised a series of online workshops focusing on software-based designing. The webinars covered various areas including video editing, graphic designing, and editing, providing participants with comprehensive skills in these domains.





The event offered a brand new experience for design enthusiasts, allowing them to learn and enhance their skills from the comfort of their homes. The success of Leonardo was evident in the overwhelming response from participants and the positive feedback received. Many attendees expressed their satisfaction with the quality of content and the interactive nature of the workshops. Overall, Leonardo proved to be a successful endeavour, equipping participants with valuable skills and providing them with a platform to explore and excel in the field of software-based design.





MIRROR WALL

නිදොස් ලයෙහි පුල් පියුමන්
නෙලා නුපුරුදු කෝල හැඟුමන්
යලිදු නොපුල් ඒ හැඟුම් සරසන්
දැවී යන සිතේ කොපමණද රිදුමන් .....

රැදුරු පිටුපෑම ප්‍රේමයේ අභිමන්
මල්සර දෑසින් වැටෙනා සෝසුසුමන්
වරදීද වැයෙනා පන්සිළුගේ වැයුමන්
සන්තාන පාමුල තබා ආ සිතුමන්.....

කම්පාවන වන කොමලීය මෙතරම්
ප්‍රේමයේ දායාදය මෙයද එතරම්
හැඟුම් උදුරා දැමූවෙද කොතරම්
ගලක් වූ හද අරණ මෙතරම්.....

පාදපරි චාරිකාවේ සැරුමන්
නිමාවක් පෙම් කවක ලියුමන්
මෙයින් මතු නැත කිසිත් පැතුමන්
වෙන්වීම වැලපේද මෙලෙසින්



Pavithra Wickramasinghe
Department of Textile & Apparel Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
22nd Batch



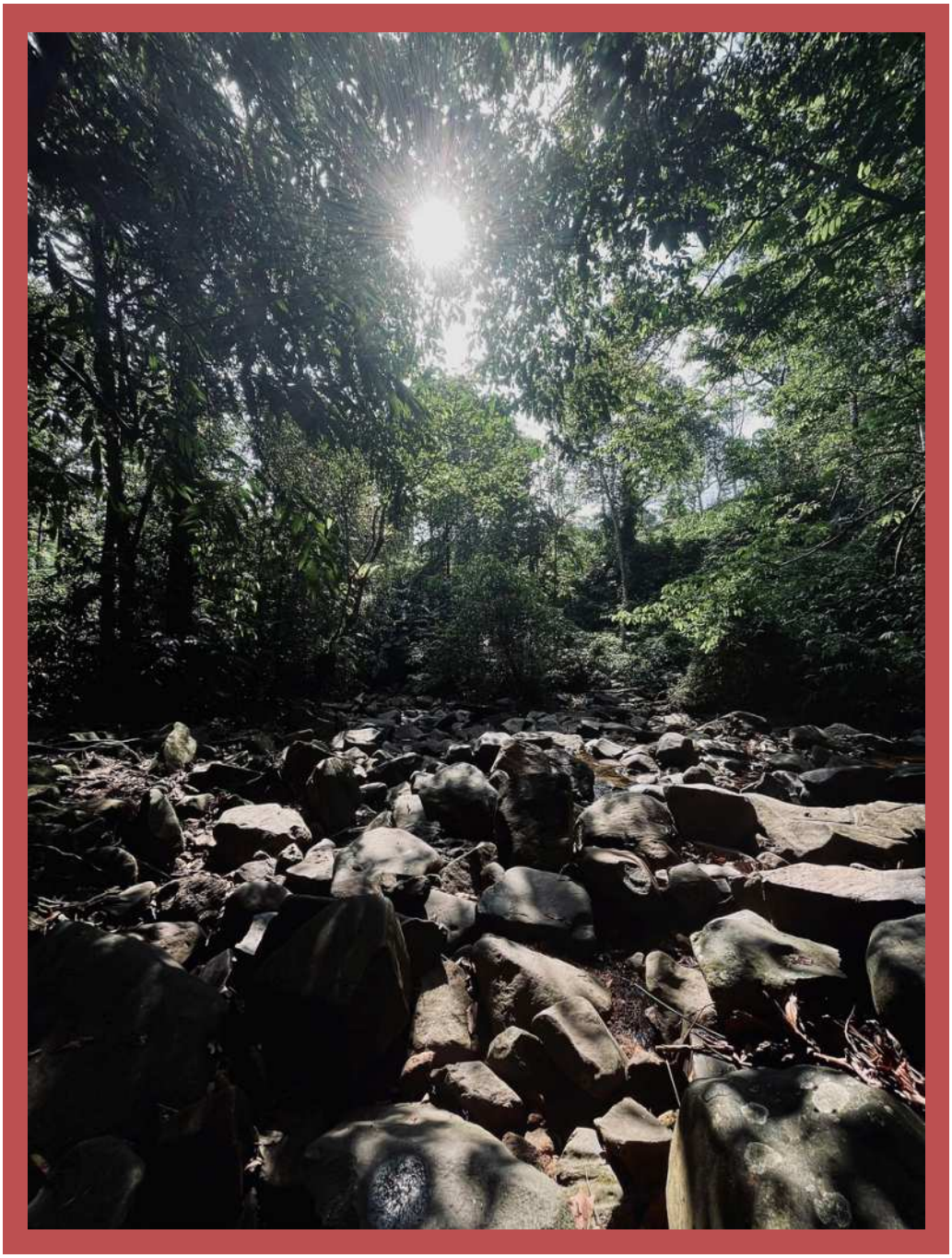
Adeshika Wijeyasinghe
Department of Integrated Design
Faculty of Architecture

පරඩැල් හීන පණ අදිනා පාපයක
අළු කළ හැකිද මේ අවසන් කටයුත්ත.
කටු කබොක්ක ඉරි තැලි ගේ හතර ඉම,
වැරහැලි සාරි පටි ඉරුවල කිරි කුසුඹ...

තනියට තනි නොකර ඇහි පත් වල කඳුල..
සීමාවක් නැද්ද උහුලන දුක් කන්ද...
තුත්තිරි කැලෙත් පත්තිනි සළු නැතුවාද?
දොස් කී උන්ගේ පැටිකිරියේ කණ පැත්ත..
හිරිකිත නැද්ද උන් හරි මන් වැරදීද?..

වස් කවි කිපි කිපී තණ පට තෙත් වේය....
හෙම්බත් වියරුවෙන් හදවත එක්තැන්ය.
අවසන් හුස්ම උඩු හුලගේ අවතැන්ය...
මළකද තාම පිළිකන්නේ දන් නැද්ද?....

Sanduni Nisansala
Department of Textile and Apparel Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
22nd Batch



Vinma Mandawala
Department of Integrated Design
Faculty of Architecture
22nd Batch

I found myself selfish,

When i wanted you to be mine

Not out of love,

But craving something unclear

Because for once in my lifetime,

There was something i could not have

For you were too pretty,

And i longed the world to know,

That i was the one who got to claim you, hold you, tease you,

Break you and make you cry

And the fact that you weren't mine?

How that bruised my pride..

Thiyara Ranasinghe
Department of Textile and Apperal Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
22nd Batch



Shavinka Rushen
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
22nd Batch

ගිම්හානයේ ලෝකයට...

තෝරගෙන ඇවිටිලි.... බාරගෙන අඩුවැඩි....
අළුත්ගමටත් එහා ඉඳගෙන ආපු හුළං කැටි...
වේලිච්ච හදවත් උස්සාන
බොන්න බැරිමුත් පාගන්න ඇහැකි වතුර මායිමට...
ගොඩ බානකොට .. මේවා ඇහෙන්න ඇති...
මේවා දැනෙන්න ඇති...
ගිම්හානයේ ගල්කිස්සට...
ගිජුලිහිණියොත් නිවාඩු යන අව්වක...
තෙත බැහැපු වැලි අත පත ගගා...
ගොඩක් උන් ... වැලි මාලිගා හදන්න ඇති...
සමහරෙක් පොඩි එවුන් වගේ අඩි තියා..
අවදින්න ඇති...
ඒ මතක... ඒ සමරු... බල බලා...
හිනා වෙන්න ඇති... අඬන්න ඇති...
විනාඩි ගාණක්... පැය ගාණක්...
ගියාම ආයෙමත්...
ලයිට් දාපු උස බිල්ඩින් මැද... ඒ හදවත්...
බන්ධනාගාර ගත වෙන්න ඇති...
-දැන් ඇති-... ඒත් මට හරි දුකයි...
උන්ටත් නොකියාම... උන් ගියහම...
කාලයේ වේෂයෙන් රැල්ල අවුදින්...
වෙරළේ හැමදේ මකන බව...
උන් දන්නෙ නැතුව ඇති...

Tharusha Jayasundara
Faculty of Engineering
23rd Batch



Sewmini Sandaranga
Nightingale and the Red Rose
Faculty of Architecture
22nd Batch

NEWSLETTER TEAM

CHAIRPERSONS



THIYARA RANASINGHE



SINELI MALAVIARACHCHI

CONTENT WRITERS



DEHAN
WALAKULUARACHCHI



MILITHE
WIJENARAYANA



RANUDI
NAMARATHNA



T. A. NELINDI
NIMETHMA



GAYUNI
GIHANSA

DESIGNERS



UPEK KALUARACHCHI

OUR TEAM



YASIRU ATHUGALDURA

PRESIDENT



CHYAGA HANDUNPATHIRANA

SECRETARY



MALINTHA FERNANDO

VICE PRESIDENT - ADMINISTRTION



CHATHUPA SANDEEP

CO-DIRECTOR PUBLIC RELATIONS



THARUSHA WIJEWARDENA

CO-DIRECTOR PUBLIC RELATIONS



ABINEYAN RAVICHANDRAN

CO-EDITOR



BUVANI GURUGE

CO-EDITOR



UTHPALA KARUNAWARDHANA

CO-EDITOR