



# OCA Newsletter

Volume 1, 2016



## Message from the President



My Dear Columbans,

The time spent in your alma mater is always the most cherished one and the memories we gather in these hallowed corridors stay with us for life! On passing out from SCS, I am sure that - just like I had - we all look for channels to stay connected with our school and school mates and constantly search avenues in which we can contribute towards keeping the SCS flag flying as high as possible. To achieve this end, the Old Columbans' Association (OCA) has been an extremely effective tool in working to keep us all connected as a strong fraternity, while supporting our alma mater through innovative methods!

Just to give you some more insight into the history of the Association, the OCA was earlier functioning as an unregistered body since 1942 with the active support of several alumni. Eventually, under the aegis of Bro. Pinto, it was registered as a Society in 1987. Thereafter, the OCA has been organising social/cultural/sports events and contributing on several fronts to the School.

Many of the OCA members have selflessly worked and contributed in several ways to the efforts of OCA and have, over the years, been successful in taking the formal membership of the Association from a meagre 200 in number, to over 3100 at the time of writing this communique.

We have set an ambitious calendar for the year ahead and would urge you all to visit the OCA website [www.oldcolumban.net](http://www.oldcolumban.net) to read further about this. On the anvil are several events and activities including Annual Dinners, Golf Tournaments, reviving the OCA Car Rally, Cricket Tourney, Goan Night, Cultural Evening etc. to be held during our tenure and would like to see more new faces participating therein and enjoying the same. We are also in the process of re-launching the OCA Discount Scheme and Loyalty Programme which was very popular when it was first introduced. The greater the participation by you all, the better the benefits will be for all! So join in to increase the fun!

Another area which requires highlight is that this is a very crucial term for the School and the entire Alumni, as SCS completes 75 years of existence in 2016. I am sure you will all participate actively in ensuring that the "Platinum Jubilee" celebrations of the School in 2016-17 are a stupendous success!

At this point, I would like to appeal for support and participation from each and every individual reading this message! While the OCA has been endeavouring towards building a strong base for helping the School in putting up various projects over the past 25 years, there is a requirement to see more youngsters come up, take charge and act as catalysts in driving this movement forward! The active participation of each and every present and old Columban is the only way this can be achieved. It is our sincere request that all come together and work towards making this a reality, since we all owe this to our Alma Mater!

In order to ensure that the Association strengthens its active status and for a successful run-up to the landmark Platinum Jubilee year, it is an earnest appeal to all:

- a) Present Columbans, who are passing out in 2016 or will be passing out in 2016 to please register, on-line or off-line, with the OCA and take the life-membership of this prestigious Association.
- b) Old Columbans, who are members, should assist in updating their records, for which relevant details such as Name, Batch, Address, Email id, Mobile no and job details with Organization name, be made available to the Association, either through an email to [website@oldcolumban.net](mailto:website@oldcolumban.net) or to [ocacentre@gmail.com](mailto:ocacentre@gmail.com). Alternately, one may login-in and update the data at [www.oldcolumban.net](http://www.oldcolumban.net).
- c) Every Columban who has relatives and friends, and are alumni of this school to request them to enroll as members on [oldcolumban.net](http://oldcolumban.net) or contact 01123748666 /9811426401, if offline membership is desired. This would help to increase the reach of the association to a larger part of the fraternity, thereby ensuring active participation in events and especially the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Signing off on this note and looking forward to interacting with all of you in the days to come! Remember - Dare to be wise always, sincere and constant we!

Cheers!

Dalip Mehra

President, Old Columbans' Association

## *Meet the OCA Executive Committee (2015-16)*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Batch</i>	<i>Post</i>
1	Dalip Mehra	9811084919	dalipmehra@yahoo.com	1983	President
2	Melvin A. D'Souza	9811426401	melvin_dsouza@hotmail.com	1985	Secretary
3	Viraj Chadha	9810016541	virajchadha@gmail.com	1991	Treasurer
4	Sanjay Hans	9811034340	paperscape@airtelmail.com	1982	EC
5	Karan Khanna	9810154778	mlkktax@gmail.com	1976	EC
6	Kunwar Pranav Uppal	9811020865	pranav.uppal@ndeh.com	1989	EC
7	Sanjiv Chopra	9810228703	sanjiv1964@gmail.com	1984	EC
8	Gaurav Khandelwal	9910396678	khagaurav@gmail.com	1992	EC
9	Sonu Khurana	9818130644	khurana.sonu@yahoo.com	1981	EC
10	Sanjay Bhatia	9810046132	s_anj_u@hotmail.com	1986	EC
11	D.V.S. Rajan	9212028807	dvsrajan@gmail.com	1988	EC
12	Anurag Aggarwal	9250005030	aggarwalanurag@yahoo.com	2002	EC



### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE OF OLD COLUMBANS ASSOCIATION**

The Annual General Meeting of the Old Columbans Association is to be held on 30th March, 2016 at 5:30 pm at St. Columba's School, Ashoka Place, New Delhi-110001. We look forward to your presence and request you to spread the message to other OCA members.

# *OCA Annual General Meeting and Elections*

On 20th December 2014, the Annual General Body Meeting was held in the school which witnessed a historic participation of over 300 Old Columbans! While the attraction of the ever-famous Middle School Canteen patties and chhole bhature is always a crowd puller, it was a heartening sight to see the corridors of our alma mater flooded with members from across over 60 years!



*OCA Executive Committee Election process underway in Dec. 2014 at Br. Edmund Rice Hall*



*The recent OCA General Meeting & Elections in Dec 2014 witnessed the highest ever turnout of 300 Old Columbans*



*Seniormost OCA Member Casts his vote - Col. Tankha 1952 Batch*



*Old Columbans reliving their days of Patties in the Middle School Canteen*



*Old Columbans gather outside the OCA Centre in the Middle School Building*

## *OCA Annual Dinner*

The OCA Annual Dinner was held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at Q'BA, Connaught Place. It was an occasion to let your hair down and party the night away! Over 100 members, many along with their spouse, turned up for this fun event, where special celebrations were also made for the batches of Golden Jubilee (Batch of 1964) and Silver Jubilee (Batch of 1989).



*Cake cutting of the 1964 Batch*  
*Harbinder Narang, Bro. Beddoe and Peter Menezes*



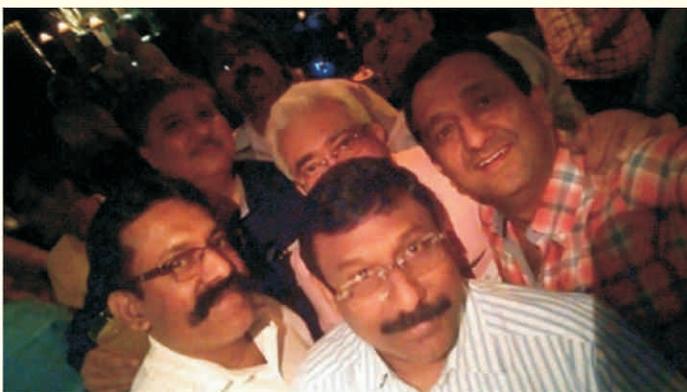
*Cake cutting of the 1989 Batch*  
*Rajiv Sabharwal, Bro. Beddoe, Pranav Uppal & Atul Jain*



*Bennett Pinto, Prashant Gondal, Sanjay Bhatia, Rajiv Sabharwal,  
Karan Khanna, Melvin D'Souza*



*Hitesh Arora, Sanjiv Chopra, Vikramjit Ahluwalia,  
Manish Wadhia, Ravi Khullar, Dhruv Goel, Shailendra Seth*



*Bringing in the OCA selfie!*  
*Melvin D'Souza, Rajiv Sabharwal, Sanjiv Chopra, Karan Khanna,  
DVS Rajan, Anurag Aggarwal & Viraj Chaddha*



*Prashant Gondal, Virender Malik, Peter Menezes,  
Harbinder Narang and other Old Columbans  
catching up on good ol' times*

# OCA Sports Carnival

An opportunity to bring out the sportsman within you, an opportunity to pace yourself against the fresh SCS blood and – most importantly – an opportunity to meet our beloved evergreen coach Mr. Joginder Singh – that's what the OCA Sports Carnival promises to one and all! On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2015, the Annual OCA Sports Carnival was held in the School grounds consisting of cricket and football tournaments between the OCA and the current SCS Teams. While the SCS Team won the Cricket Match, we witnessed the OCA Team bagging the Football Trophy yet again!



*SCS Cricket Team*



*Bro. Beddoe, OCA and the SCS Football Teams*



*Football Team celebrates!*



*Bro. Beddoe with the Cricket Team*

## OCA Website ([oldcolumban.net](http://www.oldcolumban.net))

This year, the OCA website <http://www.oldcolumban.net> has gone through some major transformations and upgradations, allowing a richer experience and a better platform for Old Columbans to connect! Some of the new features are:

- ◆ HTML5 & CSS3 designing language to meet the current internet trends and give the website a contemporary look and feel
- ◆ AJAX & JS Script to display the website beautifully and make it more User Friendly
- ◆ The website will now be Mobile Responsive, which means you can easily access it from any of your Smartphone Devices!
- ◆ Provision for the Blogs/Articles and publishing latest updates, information and bio of Old Columbans
- ◆ New Gallery feature containing videos and images
- ◆ Provision for extensive search on the website

### Other features include:

- ◆ Automatic Registration
- ◆ Receive Email with Member Login details on Registration
- ◆ Make Membership payments through Payment Gateway and receive instant confirmation
- ◆ Manage Own Account Details
- ◆ Receive Monthly Newsletters
- ◆ Receive Occasional Invitations for the Events
- ◆ Access to Special Coupons and Discounts
- ◆ Access to Search, View & Connect with other Members



*The revamped OCA website is courtesy sponsorship from Oxolloxo.com*

### OCA Membership/Affiliate Cards

OCA Membership cards were sent and several received back due to various reasons. The data has been complied and will be put up on the website. Those desirous of collecting these cards may please contact Admin Secretary Ms. Naina at the OCA Centre (011-23748666) or write to [ocacentre@gmail.com](mailto:ocacentre@gmail.com)