

# Laugh and the world laughs with you!

**ROMAYNE DIAS**  
Toastmasters  
PR Governor and  
**BEVERLEY JANSZ**

**E**ight of the best humorous speakers of Toastmasters International Division A of District 92 made the world laugh with them, as they took centre stage at the Humorous Speech Contest last week at the HNB Auditorium Colombo 10.

Apart from a time restriction of 5 to 7 minutes, the contestants were free to choose their topic and use the power of words and

skilled gestures to bring out the lighter side of life. The topics spoken of were wide and varied - ranging from the trials of driving on the roads of Colombo to the reason why Usain Bolt broke world records, from the need to stand up of our rights to the troubles faced by people using public transport, from the joys of marriage to the advantages of having good friends, from lunch time discussions to a rural politician taking wing to the USA.

The one common ingredient was humour - humour which had the audience rolling in their seats, and making the room ring with their laughter.



**Winner Humorous Contest Ramesh Schaffter (CIMA Toastmasters) receives his award from District Governor, Arunasalam Balraj. Looking on is Division Governor Bhatthiya Hettiarachi.**



**Winner Evaluation Contest Priyanka Mendis receives her award from District Governor, Arunasalam Balraj. Looking on is Division Governor Bhatthiya Hettiarachi.**

It was obvious that these were people to whom

humour came naturally, because even in the conversation that they had with the Contest Chair, Chrisanthi

Emmanuel, when she interviewed each of them prior to the announcement of the results, they had the audience laughing.

While it wasn't easy to narrow the field down, the judges finally selected the following as the top three: Second Runner up - "Raise it and show the world" - Dayan D.L. Fernando (Serendib Toastmasters), First Runner up - "Happily married Toastmaster" - Premalal Brahmanage (Colombo Toastmasters), Winner - "Citizen Silva goes to America" - Ramesh Schaffter (CIMA Toastmasters). These three Toastmasters

will now go on to the District Finals to be held in Chennai at the end of November.

Also going on to the District Finals are the three winners of the Evaluation contest held the same evening. They were judged on the skills they used to evaluate a model speech - the skills of listening, of analysing and of giving positive constructive suggestions for improvement.

The following were the three placed: Second Runner up - Prasad Galhena - Colombo Toastmasters, First Runner up - Lasantha Wijewera - CIMA Toastmasters, Winner

## Livewires in Service

Have you rendered extraordinary service to the needy? Let the world know it so that others will follow suit. Send in details (with a colour photograph) about services rendered by you to the underprivileged since you joined a service club, and positions held by you to the Features Editor, Daily News, Lake House, Colombo 10. Please mark "Livewires in Service" at the top left hand corner of the envelope.

## Peace Poster Exhibition

The Peace Poster Contest 2008 Exhibition organised by the International Association of Lions Clubs District 306 A2 will be held at the National Art Gallery, Colombo 7 on Monday November 10 at 10.00 a.m.

International Board Appointee 2007/2008 and Endorsed Candidate for the office of International Director, MD 306 Sri Lanka, Past Multiple Council Chairperson, Lion Sunil Watwala MJF accompanied by Lion Lady Manel will be the chief guest.

Text and PIX by **NIMAL PERERA**  
Wattala group corr.

**F**irst Charter Anniversary and District Governor's Official visit of the Lions Club of Wattala City was held under the patronage of District Governor 306 B1 Lion Nimal Rajapakse MJF and First Lady Geetha at Sanara Mandira Hotel Kiribathgoda recently.

The Chief Guest and the other invitees were welcomed by the Club President Dinesh Perera and Lion Lady Nisansala by Bag Pipers of Sri Lanka Navy. A colourful Fashion Show and Latin American dancing event were among the entertaining items. A wheel chair sponsored by the Club Secretary Lion Lalith de Soya was donated to a 6-year-old disabled child.

The chief guest District Governor 306B1 Lion Nimal Rajapakse addressing the gathering said Wattala City is one of the active young Lions Clubs in the District which had launched several valuable projects during a limited time. "I thank the sponsoring club the Lions Club of Wattala for identifying talented group of service minded people having extended this new club the Lions Club of Wattala City and guiding them in the first year to be an active club in the district. The President Lion Dinesh

## First Charter Anniversary Lions Club of Wattala City



**District Governor Lion Nimal Rajapakse and First Lady Geetha being conducted to the venue by the Wattala City Club President Dinesh Perera and Lion Lady Nisansala. Below: Donating a wheelchair to six-year-old disabled child. District Governor Lion Nimal Rajapakse, Club President Dinesh Perera and Club Secretary Lion Lalith de Soya were also present.**



Perera has been a very effective leader and as the charter president was able to undertake projects with the full co-operation of the membership and also with the neighbouring clubs in Wattala and Mabole."

Vice District Governor Lion Lakshman Wijesinghe said that the Lions Club of Wattala City extended by the Wattala Lions Club is moving forward while maintaining high standards expected of a good Lions Club.

"I am proud to be the Extension Chairperson when the Lions Club of Wattala extended this club. The club president Dinesh Perera has shown himself to be an emerging leader with much enthusiasm to serve the less fortunate," Vice Governor said.

Past International Director Lion Chuck Wijewardhana highly praised a well conducted meetings, good membership attendance and effective preparation of the charter celebrations under the correct leadership of club president Dinesh Perera.

Immediate Past District Governor Lion S. Raghavan, Past Council Chairmen Lion Sunil Watwala, Lion Mahadeva Silva, Lion Dr. C.J. Ian, Lion S. Sivanathan, Past District Governors Lion Lalith Fernando, Lion S. Sivapathasundaram, Lion Chitral Amarathunga, Region Chairman Lion Dr. Saba Jayamaha, Zone Chairman Lion Shumendra Goonasekera, Presidents of Wattala, Mabile North and other neighbouring Lions Clubs also attended the



**District Governor 306A1 Lion Dr. Senarath Rekogama handing over a pair of shoes to a student. Matara Millennium Womens' Lions Club Chairperson Lion Lady Yasodara Galappatti is also in the picture.**

## Multi service project Matara Millennium Womens' Lions Club

Text and pic by **A.W. GUNAWARDHANA**  
Matara central corr.

**A** multi service project organised by the Millennium Womens' Lions Club of Matara was held at the Sanath Jayasuriya Stadium Kotuwegoda, Matara recently.

The chairperson - Lion Lady Yasodara Galappatti organised the event in collaboration with the seven Lions Clubs in the Matara District. Over 300 people attended the project which included presentation of spectacles, wheelchairs, shoes for the students of low-income families and presentation of four scholarships.

District Governor 306 A 1 District Lion Dr. Senarath Rekogama was the chief guest at the occasion. President of Golden Jubilee Lions Club Matara Lion N. Rajapakse and Deputy Cabinet Secretary Lion Kantha

## Lions International District 306B2 distributes white canes

**JAYAWEERA SUGATHAPALA**  
Attanagalla special corr.

**L**ions International District 306B2 distributed white canes, sewing machines, braille writing papers to visually impaired inmates of the Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped (ICPH) Doolmala Thiharaya in Attanagalla to mark the International White Cane Day.

The presentations were made by District Vice-Chairperson, Lion Kingsley Bernard, Lion Hassim Omar, Lion Anil Ranatunga and ICPH Director Lion, Al Haj Jiffy Haniffa.

The District Vice Chairperson Lion Kingsley Bernard said that the services this centre provides for the physically handicapped are highly commendable. Those who receive basic education and training in one vocation of one's choice are helped to find employment enabling them to lead useful and independent lives in the society.



**Lions International District 306B2 Vice DG Lion Kingsley Bernard presenting a White Cane and a parcel of braille writing papers to visually impaired inmate Mohamed Ashtar who gained admission to Colombo University.**



**ICPA Director, Al Haj Jiffy Haniffa presents a white cane to visually impaired inmate Nissam Nalawansa.**

PIX by Jayaweera Sugathapala, Attanagalla special corr.  
Lion Stanley Sarna and ICPH chief of staff Mohamed Nilam were also present.



**A commemorative ceremony to mark the 63rd United Nations Day was held at the Devi Balika Vidyalaya Auditorium, Colombo. Pictured here is the winner of the oratorical contest P.A.D. Geethani Priyadarshani of Rahula Balika Vidyalaya Malabe (Centre) with first runner up Udara Karunaratne of Balika Vidyalaya (left) and 2nd runner-up W. Poornima Kumarnal of Gonthani Vidyalaya.**

PIX by Nanda Ekanayake, Kotte Central Group



**Sri Sankapala Lions Club donated 10 cupboards, a large number of tables and chairs and other equipment to a number of pre-schools in the Embilipitiya area at the house of club Cabinet Officer Vijith Perera, Here Ven. Miriswelpotha Ananda Thera Viharadhipathi Sri Sankapala Raja Maha Vihara, Embilipitiya, Walawa Lions Club Regional President Lion Gunapala Hewage, Cabinet Officer Lion V.G. Piyasena at the ceremony held to hand over the gifts to the school.**

Picture by A.M. Gunasekera Banda, Balangoda central group correspondent

## Lions District 306A2 Annual All Island Essay Contest

**T**he international association of Lions Clubs - District 306A2 is pleased to announce that its annual essay contest on prevention of Drug Abuse & HIV/AIDS will be conducted this year too. Special significance of this contest which is in its 17th consecutive year is the fullest support and assistance extended by the Colombo Plan under its Drug Advisory programme (DAP) to make this event a great success. This is sponsored by The Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme.

This contest is one of the major programmes conducted continuously by the Lions District 306A2 to create much needed awareness among the younger generation of our country.

How of the Drug Advisory Programme have extended their guidance and co-operation to our efforts to create demand reduction through these programmes. District Co-ordinator Lion S. Ramachandran MJF assisted by Regional Co-ordinator Lion Richard Dissanayake MJF both of the Lions Club of Dehiwala North is organising this event for the 17th consecutive year under the leadership of District Governor 306A2 Lion S. K. Karunasekera MJF.

### Relevant Details of the contest:

1. Participation: Open to all schoolchildren in the age group of 15 to 19 years. 2. Topics: a. "Our Goal - A Drug Free Sri Lanka", b. "HIV/AIDS - A Killer in Disguise". \*\* Participants can enter their essays either on one topic or both, but they should be separate entries. 2. Language: Sinhala, Tamil or English. 4. Closing Date: January 15, 2009. 5. Awards: Cash prizes, beautiful trophies and attractive certificates will be awarded to all winners. 6. Conditions: a. Essays should not exceed 06 A4 size pages (preferably on one side of sheet) and not less than 4 pages. They could be either hand written or typed. b. Certification by the Principal is a must in respect of the Date of birth of the participating student and that the entry is the original work of the student concerned. c. Name and address of the participating student including the residential address to be either written or typed in bold English letters to facilitate the preparation of the Certificates/Trophies of the winners. d. Decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entertained. e. Scripts will not be returned. f. Mailing Address: District Co-ordinator, (Prevention of Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS), 12/3,

## Walkers Club donates wheelchairs



**The Colombo Walkers Health Club donated a consignment of wheelchairs to the National Nephrology Hospital Maligawatte. Here Dr. A.C. Ludowyke (right) Medical Officer in charge of the hospital accepting the wheelchairs from President Colombo Walkers Health Club, Ashroff Hussain.**



**Kiriabathgoda Lions have carried out seven projects during September for the benefit of less fortunate people of our society. Here Lion Lady Padma Abhayawickrama donating a cheque to provide electricity for the newly built house for Sriyani and her daughter Udesika, a student of Vihara Maha Devi Balika Vidyalaya of Kiribathgoda. Chief Incumbent of Nigrocharayama Temple Rev. Poddagoda Wansanrakara Thera, President of the Club Lion Nuwan Wimalana and Secretary Lion Sumith Abeywickrama are also in the picture.**