

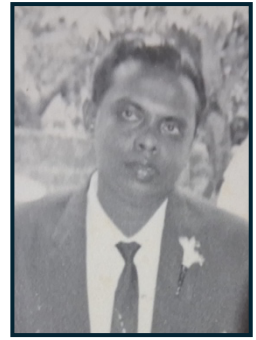
Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club General Committee 2025-26

Honorable President	Mr. Dulip Wijayanayaka
Honorable Vice President -1	Mr. Mahen Abeyratne
Honorable Vice President -2	Mr. Sasun Usarambage
Honorable Secretary	Mr. Thisura Athukorala
Honorable Treasurer	Mr. Ashan Fernando
Honorable Ground Secretary	Mr. Chaminda Fernando
Tennis Captain	Mr. Ashan Fernando
Committee	Mr. Ashendra De Silva Mr. Roche Fernando



Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club

Our history in brief



A note from our former President Elmo Fernando about our history of the club in 1988

The story of the club began in early 1930 on a scenic mound by the Kalu Ganga, near the Gangaramaya temple. Under the supervision of Executive Engineer Mr. J.W. Casinather, a small clubhouse and tennis court were constructed. The inaugural President, Assistant Government Agent (AGA) L. L. Hunter, envisioned a serene retreat for senior officials.

By 1933, the club's social profile expanded under Mr. P. Saravanamuttu, who introduced table tennis, bridge, carrom, and the club's first fully equipped bar. Despite a rapid succession of Presidents in the mid-1930s—including the talented tennis player Mr. R. B. Naish—the club remained a cornerstone of colonial official life.

The year 1938 marked a significant milestone when the "Senior Officials Club" was formally renamed the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club. Under Mr. J. N. Arumugam, a second court was added and coaching for beginners commenced.

The club reached new heights under Mr. P. J. Hudson (1939–1944), entering national competitions for the first time. This momentum continued into the post-war era:

1945: Mr. W. D. Gunaratne established the Annual Tennis and Bridge Tournament and the iconic Christmas Dinner Dance.

1950: The late philanthropist Sir Leo Fernando, MP, donated a brand-new piano, a contribution still honored today by his portrait in the pavilion.

Through the late 1950s and 60s, the club fluctuated between sporting success and "lean periods" caused by member transfers. Notable highlights included:

Becoming District Champions under Mr. A. M. S. Perera (1954–58).

A membership drive in the late 60s to stabilize the club.

The election of the first non-government President, senior planter Mr. Jim Murray, followed by the dedicated leadership of Mr. G. P. P. Karunaratne and Mr. Peter Dias.

A new chapter began in 1983 when Mr. Upendra Perera revived defunct activities like badminton and table tennis, leading to a steady rise in membership. Successor Mr. Camillus Silva, alongside Treasurer Mr. Renuk Nanayakkara, secured the club's future by organizing the 1986 Bonanza Raffle to fund court renovations.

The era was capped by the success of Tennis Captain Nalin de Silva, who won the Freshers Title at the University of Colombo, and the club's triumphant return to the semi-finals of the All-Island Inter-Club Tournament.



2004 Inter Club Tennis Tournament - **Champions**



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Team Activities



Internal Club Tournament 2010



On the way to Negombo



KLTC vs Army friendly Match 2025



KLTC vs Youngsters Tennis Club 2025



Coaching Session 2023



Coaching Session 2024



**KLTC vs Carlton friendly Match
2025**



**KLTC vs University of Moratuwa
friendly Match 2025**



Team discussion



**Coaching Session Program
2023**



KLTC vs Negombo Club 2025

President's Message



It is with immense pride and heartfelt gratitude that I welcome you to the 88th Anniversary Souvenir of the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club. Founded in 1938, our club has stood as a pillar of sporting spirit and community engagement in Kalutara for nearly nine decades, fostering friendship, competition, and a passion for the game of tennis among generations of members.

Having served this esteemed club for many years and previously entrusted with the responsibilities of Treasurer, I am honored to now lead as President since March 2025. Over the course of my membership, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication, commitment, and camaraderie that define our club's enduring legacy.

Our history is not just measured in years, but in the countless moments of triumph and challenge on the court, lifelong friendships formed off it, and the unwavering support of our members, past and present. Together, we celebrate the traditions that have shaped us and look ahead with renewed enthusiasm toward a vibrant future.

On this special occasion, I extend my sincere appreciation to every member, supporter, and well-wisher for your continued dedication. May the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club continue to thrive and inspire excellence in sport and community life for generations to come.

Warmest regards,
Mr. Dulip Wijayanayaka
President
Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club

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Vice President Message

My journey with the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club (KLTC) began in 2013, a pivotal year that introduced me to more than just a sport. While the club taught me the "ABCs" of the game the grip, the swing, the footwork it did something far more profound; it made tennis a way of life. Over the past decade, this court have been my secondary classroom, instilling in me the core pillars of leadership, teamwork, resilience, and the relentless drive to never give up.

The foundation I received at KLTC was the bedrock of my competitive success. It allowed me to represent the University of Moratuwa for three years, earning three colors and participating in two SLUGS championships and an Inter-University Games Championship which was a direct result of the discipline and "base structure" I acquired right here at our club.

Now, serving as the Vice President of KLTC, along with my colleagues, we are working at our full potential to elevate the club's standards. Our mission is to ensure KLTC remains a sanctuary for the younger generation, a place where they don't just learn to hit a ball, but where they grow into individuals of great character and personality. We are committed to making the club better every day, ensuring that the next generation of players finds the same passion and purpose that I found back in 2013.

Mahen Abeyratne
Vice President, KLTC

Vice President Message

It is a pleasure to be part of the 88th Anniversary of the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club, an institution that has proudly served the sporting community of Kalutara since its establishment in 1938. Over the years, the club has upheld strong values of sportsmanship, unity, and dedication, making it a respected name in the local tennis fraternity.

Having joined the club in 2016, I have witnessed the commitment and camaraderie that continue to strengthen our membership. The club's progress is a testament to the efforts of past and present office bearers and members who have worked tirelessly to preserve its proud traditions while embracing growth.

As Vice President, I am honored to support the continued development of the club alongside a dedicated committee and membership. I extend my sincere appreciation to all members, sponsors, and well-wishers for their ongoing support, and I look forward to many more years of success for the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club.

With best wishes,
Mr. Sasun Manthuka Usarambage
Vice President
Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club

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Secretary's Message

It is a pleasure to be associated with this souvenir published by the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club.

Having joined the club in 2015 as a regular member and having represented it at inter-club tournaments, I consider it an honor to serve the club in the capacity of Secretary. I sincerely appreciate the cooperation and support extended by the President, fellow committee members, coaches, staff, and all members.

This souvenir reflects the spirit, achievements, and unity of our club. I wish the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club continued success in the years to come.

Thisura Athukorala
Secretary
Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club

Treasurer/ Captain's Message

Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club has been a defining part of my life since 2012, when my tennis journey began here as a young member. With the guidance, encouragement, and unwavering support of KLTC, I progressed to serve as Tennis Captain of D. S. Senanayake College, Colombo, and was fortunate to achieve several tennis titles and color awards along the way.

These accomplishments were made possible through the quality training, trust, and values instilled in me by this club. More than a place for sport, Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club became my second home a true family that shaped my character through discipline, sportsmanship, and lasting friendships.

I remain deeply grateful to KLTC for the role it has played in my life and proudly celebrate its rich legacy. I wish Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club continued success and a bright future as it marks its 88th Anniversary.

Ashan Fernando
Treasurer / Captain
Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club



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Special Thanking

Distance has proven to be no obstacle to the spirit of our community. We wish to extend our deepest gratitude to our well-wishers living overseas whose hearts remain close to home.

Their generous contributions were a cornerstone of the successful re-claying of our courts. We proudly recognize and thank:

- **Mr. Mevan Fernando**
- **Mr. Thilak Liyanawaduge**
- **Mr. Revatha Silva**
- **Mr. Thushara Amugoda**

Your unwavering support from afar has ensured that our local talent has a world-class surface to play on. We are truly grateful for your patriotism and generosity.

The foundation of any great court lies in its materials and the effort taken to bring them to life. We offer our sincere thanks to **Mr. U. D. Gamini Abeyrathne** for his pivotal role in this project.

Through his selfless provision of the clay and the transportation support required for the project, he provided the literal and metaphorical "groundwork" for our success. We salute your dedication and practical contribution to the sport.

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We did it!

2023 Inter Club Tennis Tournament

First Rounds:

KLTC vs GSTC

- Kuruppu & Chamara won 6-1, 6-3
- Ashan & Kethmina won 6-2, 6-4
- Thisura & Dulip won 3-6, 6-3, 10-7

KLTC vs Carlton

- Thisura & Dulip lost 1-6, 4-6
- Kuruppu & Chamara won 1-6, 6-4, 10-4
- Ashan & Kethmina won 6-0, 6-0

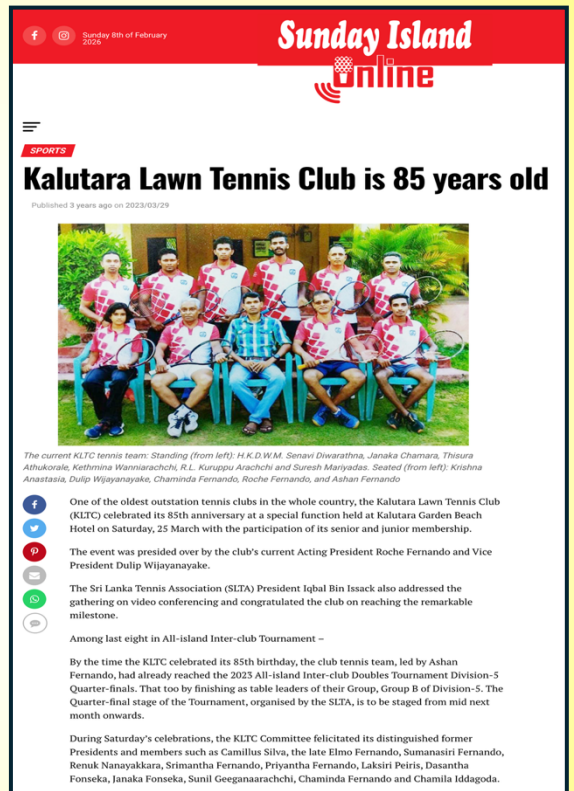
Semi-Finals: Walk-over

Finals:

KLTC vs Negombo

- Kuruppu & Chamara lost 2-6, 2-6
- Thisura & Roche lost 1-6, 1-6
- Ashan & Kethmina lost 1-6, 2-6

Finished as Runners-up



Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club turns 85 years

BY REVATHA S. SILVA

One of the oldest outstation tennis clubs in the whole country, the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club (KLTC) celebrated its 85th anniversary at a special function held at Kalutara Garden Beach Hotel on Saturday, 25 March with the participation of its senior and junior members.

The event was presided over by the club's current Acting President Roche Fernando and Vice President Dulip Wijayanayake.

The Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) President Iqbal Bin Issack also addressed the gathering on video conferencing and congratulated the club on reaching the remarkable milestone.

Among last eight in All-island Inter-Club Tournament

By the time the KLTC celebrated its 85th birthday, the club tennis team, led by Ashan Fernando, had already reached the 2023 All-island Inter-Club Doubles Tennis Tournament Division-5 quarterfinals. Standing from left: H.K.D.W.M. Senavi Diwarathna, Janaka Chamara, Thisura Athukorale, Kethmina Wanniarachchi, R.L. Kuruppu Arachchi, and Suresh Mariyadas. Seated from left: Dulip Wijayanayake, Roche Fernando (Player/Manager), and Ashan Fernando (Captain)

Island Inter-Club Doubles Tournament Division-5 Quarterfinals. That too by finishing as table leaders

of their Group, Group B of Division-5. The Quarter-final stage of the Tournament, organised by the SLTA, is to be staged from mid next month onwards.

During Saturday's celebrations, the KLTC Committee felicitated its distinguished former Presidents and members such as Camillus Silva, the late Elmo Fernando, Sumanasiri Fernando, Renuk Nanayakkara, Srimantha Fernando, Priyantha Fernando, Laksiri Peiris, Dasantha Fonseka, Janaka Fonseka, Sunil Gegganaarachchi, Chaminda Fernando, and Chamilla Iddagoda.

The KLTC is one of the handful of British colonial-era public tennis-playing institutions presently surviving on the island. It was founded as the "Senior Officials' Club" or SOC in 1928 by the then British Government officials working in the area. In 1938, it was rechristened the Kalutara Lawn Tennis Club and opened its doors to non-government-service members too.

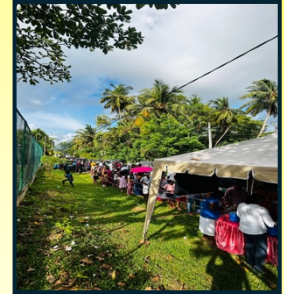
Other Club Activities



Annual Dansala Campaign 2023



Annual Dansala Campaign 2024



Annual Dansala Campaign 2025



Cyclone Ditwah Donation Campaign 2025



Sharamadhanaya Campaign 2025

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Rukshan Wijenayake

Hegemon is to lead. It's a word of a Greek origin. To de-hegemonize is to avoid a certain structure being submerged in a specific dominating force. While tracing the history of over 80 years of this outstation tennis club, situated in an area about 50kms South of Colombo, this book, published by the Gen. Committee of the KLTC, has included undertones of a certain socio-cultural characteristic that is apparently rare in any other similar public tennis club. It is hoped that this book would one day help change the (sports) world for the better. Therefore, our intentions here are essentially political.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF KLTC

**The period from 1928 to 1938, the KLTC was
named the Senior Officials' Club (SOC)**

1928-1929 - K.W. Casynadan (E. E.)	1963-1964 - L.I.J. Silva (C.C.S.)
1930-1933 - L.L. Hunter (G.A.)	1964-1966 - M. Siwanadan (C.C.S.)
1933-1938 P. Saravanmuttu (A.G.A.)	1966-1969 - H.L. Gunasekara (C.C.S.)
1938-1939 - J.M. Arumugam	1969-1972 - S.D.C. Samaratunga (C.C.S.)
1939-1944 - P.J. Hudson (C.C.S)	1972-1974 - Jim Murray
1944-1947 - W.D. Gunarathna (C.C.S.)	1974-1976 - G.P.P. Karunarathna
1947-1949 - R.L. Arnolda (C.C.S)	1976-1981 - Peter Dais
1949-1950 - C.J. Serasingha (C.C.S.)	1981-1982 - G.P.P. Karunarathna
1950-1951 - C. Balasingha (C.C.S.)	1982-1984 - Upendra Perera
1951-1952 - R.E.P. Paulus (C.C.S.)	1984-2002 - Camillus Silva
1952-1953 - A.D.S.M. Pullenayagam (C.C.S.)	2002-2004 - Kumar Gunawardena
1953-1954 - A.E.G. Moragoda (C.C.S.)	2004-2010 - Elmo Fernando
1954-1956 - A.L. Balasooriya (C.C.S.)	2010-2019 - Roche Fernando
1956-1958 - A.M.S. Perera (C.C.S.)	2019-2023 – No AGM held due to COVID-19
1958-1962 - Walter Pathirana (C.C.S.)	2023-2025 - Roche Fernando
1962-1963 - M. Siwananda (C.C.S.)	2025 - Present - Dulip Wijayanayaka