



The Rose Bowl

NEWSLETTER OF THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY

October 2005.

VOL. XXXVI No.4 If undelivered, please return to The Doon School Old Boys' Society, 1007, Bhikaji Cama Bhawan, 10th Floor, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110 066

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THE YEAR GONE BY

[By the Executive Committee of the DSOBS]

This is usually the President's prerogative – to bore you at the AGM with his recap of what the DSOBS has done in the year gone by. However, we thought we would bore you in advance with a brief recount of what has been happening at the DSOBS in 2004-2005. This does not mean that **Anoop (Billy) Bishnoi (112-J '75)** will spare you on 23rd October 2005 at the AGM. He will tell you all that we are telling you now and more – much, much, more – but at least we would have prepared you in advance on what to expect.

Like most years, this year too, has sped by in a flurry of activities and a blur of Class and Regional get-togethers, Golf and Cricket fixtures and many DSOBS dinners and outings. Already, Founder's 2005 is round the corner – the 70th since School was established and five years short of the platinum mark – which we are sure will be an occasion which every Dosco, past and present, is looking forward to with great anticipation and pride.

'The Rosebowl' and the Rosebowl Concerts'

On October 17, 2004, when **Nitan Kapoor (151-J '66)** handed over the presidential torch to **Anoop Bishnoi (112-J '75)**, he also handed over to Anoop one of his unfinished projects – raising funds for the renovation and expansion of our very own amphitheatre – 'The Rosebowl'. Anoop, in carrying this torch forward, conceived of the idea of the Rosebowl Concerts as fundraisers for this project.

The early part of this year saw the **Doon School Choir and Orchestra Ensemble** perform in Delhi on April 2, 2005 and thereafter, in Dubai on April 4, 2005 by way of fundraiser performances for renovation and expansion of the Rosebowl. Executed by **Mr. Gursharan Singh (219-H '68)**, Director of Music

at the Doon School, the performances were organized by the DSOBS and its Dubai Chapter. The performances were runaway successes.

On the one hand, the Rosebowl Concerts enabled 54 enthusiastic and talented young Doscos to showcase their talents before larger audiences in India and abroad and on the other hand **raised a much needed amount of Rs.24.09 lakhs for renovation of the Rosebowl.**

From Tunwala to Tamil Nadu ²

On December 26, 2004, a Tsunami of great magnitude and intensity ripped through the Indian Ocean, devastating our eastern coastal States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and our Andaman & Nicobar group of islands, coastal Sri Lanka, parts of Thailand and Indonesia – leaving in its wake tens of thousands dead, injured, homeless, orphaned, widowed or scarred for life. The DSOBS rose to the occasion and reached out to those who had been ravaged by this disaster and its aftermath.

On this black Sunday and during the few days thereafter, many Executive Committee members were away for their winter break. Not one to be daunted, **Gautam Chadha (389-H '71)**, who had donned the mantle of heir apparent and Vice President, DSOBS on October 17, 2004, spearheaded the fund raising and thereafter, relief and rehabilitation work in the Tsunami hit coast of Tamil Nadu.

Thanks to the generosity of the Doon School Old Boys fraternity, their relatives, friends and friends of the Doon School, Rs.29.78 lakhs were collected by way of contributions of

¹ See 'The Rosebowl Concerts' and the 'Delhi-Dubai Diaries' – pages 1-3 – 'Rosebowl' – Volume-XXXVI, No.2 – May 2005.

² See 'A Tribute to the Dosco Spirit' – 'Rosebowl' – Volume-XXXVI, No.1 – March 2005 – pages 1-4. 'DSOBS's Tsunami Relief Efforts' – 'Rosebowl' – May 2005 – Volume-XXXVI, No.2 – pages 1-3. 'All Tsunami, no Badnami' – 'Rosebowl' – July 2005 – Volume-XXXVI, No.3 – pages 1-3. Also see 'From Tunwala to Tamil Nadu' in this issue at pages 11-12.

which Rs.27.20 lakhs were utilized for relief and rehabilitation work. The balance amount of Rs.2.58 lakhs has been transferred to 'Navodya – a new dawn', a DSOBS account which will form the basis for relief work in case of any such future disaster. This Rs.27.20 lakhs has been used to provide over one million litres of **clean drinking water**, setting up of **water treatment plants**, **water wells** and distribution of **bicycles, sports gear and truckloads of other relief material** to those affected in coastal Tamil Nadu.

The DSOBS, in consonance with what we learnt in School, intends to continue to serve humanity – to give and not to count the cost – to labour and not to seek for any reward – except to see every tear wiped from every eye.

All work and no play make jack a dull boy

The Doon School alumni won the **Doon vs. Mayo Alumni Gibson Goodwill Golf Tournament** held on **November 27, 2004** at the **Classic Golf Resort**.

March 5, 2005 saw the **4th DSOBS Inter-House Cricket Match³** held at the **Central Secretariat Grounds at New Delhi** with Hyderabad House lifting the trophy in a nail-biting final against runners-up, Tata House. Last year's champs, Kashmir House, fell early to Tata House and ended up third.

Recently, we had the **8th Edition** of the **DSOBS Inter-House Golf Tournament on September 17, 2005** at the **Classic Golf Resorts, Gurgaon**. Again, Hyderabad House emerged the Champs. Do we see some conspiracy here??

Apart from these large scale fixtures, we have had smaller sports fixtures at the Class and Regional levels with the **Class of 1974's, 2nd Inter-House Golf Tournament held at Ranjit Nanda's [377-T '74] nine hole golf course next to the Golden Greens Golf Course in Gurgaon on February 26, 2005**. Hyderabad House picked up the trophy (yet again) beating last year's champions Tata House. As this issue will indicate, we have also had the Golfingly Inclined Doon Alumni (**GiDA**) **Golf Outing** in the **Washington DC** area on **August 6, 2005** across the Atlantic in the **US of A⁴** while the **United Kingdom** saw the **11th Bawa Vikram Singh Memorial Golf Tournament** held at the **Hatfield Golf Course on Sunday the 26th of June, 2005⁵**.

The future of sports in the DSOBS Diary seems bright with **Gurmeet Singh (883-T '82)** planning an old boys, inter-house soccer match closer to Founder's on **October 15 & 16, 2005 at New Delhi**. This will be the first ever **Inter-House floodlit soccer tournament**. We are told that many young ex-Doscos from all over the country and abroad are coming in to participate.

The **fourth Doon v/s Mayo Alumni Gibson Goodwill Gold Tournament** will be held on **December 10, 2005**. The Sports Sub-Committee will update you with details as we get closer to the event. All in all, a scintillatingly sporting year.

Get together make some bread

The year was also dotted with outings and get-togethers. **February 2005** saw the **Southern Chapter** of the DSOBS spend a weekend with families at **Ooti⁶** while **April 2005** saw the **annual Agra jamboree⁷**. Delhi and other regions had many get-togethers big and small – some after the cricket matches and golf tournaments and some de-hors such sporting events.

DSOBS get-togethers have been held in the **East and West coasts of the US of A, in the U.K., Australia and Dubai**. Several batches – most notably those of 1969, 1974, 1976, 1979 and of-course the jubilee batches have been having bashes in diverse places from Corbett to Delhi and Kolkata. Too many to mention, but by all accounts, ex-Doscos all over the world are really rocking.

An interesting event which has now become a formal, institutionalized and regular feature (introduced by Anoop) has been a meeting followed by **dinner of all Class and Regional Reps** (on the very evening when the Executive Committee meets) **with the members of the Executive Committee**. These meetings and dinners have helped the Executive Committee Members, Class Reps and Regional Reps interact, exchange information and offer suggestions to build a better and more closely knit alumni.

Miscellaneous

We have tried to make both the **DSOBS website** and the **Rosebowl** more uptodate and spiffier in an attempt to turn them into better communication tools for the fraternity. We have already published four issues of the Rosebowl (including this issue) this year while our website is constantly updated with the latest information.

The Bursary Sub-Committee disbursed a total of **Rs.3.10 lakhs** by way of bursaries most of which went to sons of nine old boys of the Doon School (Rs.2.70 lakhs) and some to the John Martyn Memorial Trust School-Salagaon Primary School (Rs.40,000/-). Anoop himself has personally committed to contribute Rs.1,10,000/- towards the bursary funds this year.

The Dosco Record 2006 is under preparation. Those of you who have not filled in the form sent as a flier with the July 2005 issue of the Rose Bowl must do so now and send it to the DSOBS Secretariat either in hard print or electronically.

Work on the ambitious "**History of the Doon School**" is underway. We attempted baiting **Arjun Mahey [477-J '74]** spearhead these efforts but litres of lager notwithstanding Arjun remains non-committal. We are hoping that another few gallons will do the trick. We also intend to rope in other eminent old boys, skilled in the written word, to help us with this project which would see the History of the Doon School being ready for release in the platinum jubilee year – 2010. The DSOBS would also welcome volunteers for this purpose (see last page of this issue).

³ See Report at pages 4-5 – 'Rosebowl' – Volume-XXXVI, No.3, July 2005.

⁴ See this issue, page 5.

⁵ See this issue, page 24.

⁶ See 'Tail Tiger Tales ...' in this issue, pages 6-7.

⁷ See 'Rosebowl' Volume-XXXVI, No.3 – July 2005 – pages 10-11 – 'Agra 2005 – A welcome break'.

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The Memorabilia Sub-committee has also introduced **new memorabilia** including designer collared T shirts, boxer shorts, overnight bags, etc.

While the **Admissions Advisory Sub-committee** has been supporting and guiding prospective old boy parents in getting their children/wards admission to the Doon School, the Sub-committee on **Post School Education Assistance and Job Placement** has also ensured that old boys not able to meet expenses of higher education are supported in their moments of need. Ex-Doscos have also been placed suitably with other ex-Doscos who have the capacity and need to absorb deserving candidates in their workforce. **'The Post School Education Assistance'** is a first – for which a corpus is being built up to disburse funds, strictly on need basis, to deserving ex-Doscos to pursue further studies.

What lies ahead

Another project on which the DSOBS is currently working is a fund raising endeavour for **re-building the Art School** for which it has planned the **DSOBS Art Show & Auction Ensemble**.

As you would have noted in the earlier issues of the Rosebowl⁸, we have requested eminent artists to work on paintings – to be combined with School paintings – which (combinations or ensembles) will be auctioned as a part of this fund raising effort.

A **fashion show and sit down dinner** is also being planned for Doscos and friends of the Doon School which will be sponsored by major companies and organizations. The collections will also go into this fund raising endeavour for re-building our Art School.

In December (**December 17 to 20, 2005** to be precise), we intend to have the **'Dosco Summit 2005' in Dubai**⁹ which has already received enthusiastic response. Being organized with tremendous support from the Dubai Chapter of the DSOBS, this event will have ex-Doscos from all over the world congregate at one venue to reminisce, confer, discuss and debate upon our Society, our School – and the way to take them forward. Though the September 30, 2005 deadline has come and gone, it may still not be too late for those who are (still) really keen on making it to Dubai to make their air travel bookings with Mr. Gurjit Singh Ahuja of Journey Mart and register with payments with the Dubai Chapter of the DSOBS. Ultimately, it must be remembered that the objects of the Society as spelt out in its Memorandum of Association include the following:-

“3. OBJECTS

- (a) To further camaraderie between the Old Boys of the School and with the Doon School itself;
- (b) To assist each other in furthering the aims and objects of the institution;
- (c) To encourage the Old Boys to take an active and abiding interest in the work and success of the Doon School in keeping with the ideals of the School;
- (d) To promote friendly relations between the Old Boys, the present boys and the Staff of the School;
- (e) To endeavour to live up to the motto of the Doon School i.e. 'Knowledge is light';¹⁰
- (f) To establish a bond of union among old boys and between them and The Doon School, to foster a

spirit of comradeship, to promote co-operation and to extend mutual help to the old boys of the school;

- (g) To organise and develop activities in areas of cultural, social, economic and educational fields, to keep alive the spirit of devotion to the pursuit of excellence in all the above areas and more particularly towards education and human resource development;
- (h) To help, encourage and assist the spread of education and to render assistance, award scholarships/bursaries to deserving students and for this purpose to take all steps as may be necessary;
- (i) To help in finding avenues of employment or occupation and in acquiring facilities for technical, vocational and professional training to students in India;
- (k) To create, associate, or co-operate with any other Society or Association having the same or similar objects in such manner and to such extent as may be desirable and possible;
- (l) To sponsor, promote and organise schemes for the protection of ecology and environment as well as total life support systems for nature and its conservation as well as for the promotion of arts and crafts, sports and activities connected therewith.
- (m) To organise workshops, seminars through members of the Society in different parts of the country for educating and upgrading awareness of the general public to issues related to nature and national resources in order to highlight the dangers of environmental degradation and pollution. To promote public participation for preserving the national eco and life support systems of nature;
- (n) To promote, sponsor, encourage schemes and projects and focus public attention on issues related to the preservation of our national heritage in all fields as well as to highlight the responsibility of the present generation in this regard and their accountability to the future generations;
- (o) To extend the experiment of The Doon School towards promoting national integration through the destruction of barriers of caste, creed, colour, race and regionalism by extending the same through the medium of the members of the Society on a larger national scale;
- (p) To provide leadership in promoting national integration by encouraging and supporting the spirit of adventure and discovery.”

This Executive Committee has been doing its utmost to further the objects of our Society. However, we leave you, the General Body of the DSOBS to be the ultimate judge.

We look forward to meeting up with all of you at Founder's 2005 between October 21 and 23. We also take this opportunity to wish the Classes of 1945, 1955 and 1980 – a super Diamond, Golden and Silver Jubilee year, respectively.

⁸ See page 15 – 'Rosebowl', Volume-XXXVI, No.2, May 2005 and page 14 – 'Rosebowl', Volume-XXXVI, No.3, July 2005.

⁹ See page 24 – 'Rosebowl', Volume-XXXVI, No.1, March 2005; page 15, Volume-XXXVI, No.2, May 2005 and page 15, Volume XXXVI, No.3, July 2005.

¹⁰ Is it 'Knowledge is light' or 'Knowledge – our light'?

OLD BOYS IN THE NEWS

- **Dr. Krishnamoorthy Srinivas (186-T '47)** has recently been elected an **honorary member** of the **American Academy of Neurology**. In 2003, he had been elected honorary member of the **American Neurological Association**. This makes him **the only Indian so far to have received both honours**. Our congratulations to Dr. Srinivas who is **also** (currently) serving on the **Board of Governors of the Doon School**.
- **Mr. Analjit Singh, (132-J '71)** has been nominated as a **Member of the Prime Minister's Joint Indo-US CEOs Forum** and the **Prime Minister's Task Force on socio-economic development for Jammu & Kashmir**.

A **Member of the Boards of Governors of both The Doon School and the Welham Girls' School**, Analjit is the **founder and Chairman of Max India Limited, Chairman of Max New York Life Insurance Company Limited as also Chairman & Managing Director of Max Healthcare**.

Apart from other directorships and affiliations, Analjit is **Co-Chairman of CII's Healthcare Committee; Chairman of the CII Committee on Life Insurance and Pensions; Member, IRDA Insurance Advisory Committee; Special Invitee on the Board of the Tariff Advisory Committee on General Insurance; and Executive Board Member, Indian School of Business**. Analjit is also a **Non-Executive Director on the Board of IDBI Ltd. and Hero Honda Ltd.**

Our congratulations to Analjit on his various achievements and our best wishes to him for the future.

- **The French Government has conferred The Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) on Mr. Dhruv Sawhney, 37-K, 1961**, a former President of the CII, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Doon School and former President, DSOBS, for his talent and remarkable contribution to Indo-French relations. Our heartiest congratulations.
- Our congratulations to **Mr. Vikram Seth, 250-J '68**, whose eleventh book, **'Two Lives'**, has just been released. This is Vikram's fourth Novel.

OLD BOYS NEWS

- Our congratulations to **Soumendra Nath (Sluggo) Mookherjee, 52-J '79** who takes over as the **Regional Representative of West Bengal** from **Rajiv Sahaya, 269-K '71**.
- Our congratulations to **Rajbir Singh, 4-H '54**, on his appointment as **Senior Dehra Dun Representative** and to **Nirmal Gaur, 281-H '63**, and **Nalin Khanna, 563-H '80**, who take over as **Senior and Junior Delhi Representatives**, respectively, from **Vivek Seth, 915-J '82**.
- **Rohaan Kapoor (488-J, '01)** graduated from the University of Nottingham, U.K. this July with a Joint Honours Degree in Business & Computer Sciences. He is starting a job at Citigroup, Budapest from October 2005. His contact details are: CITIGROUP Rt., Bank Centre, Citibank Tower, 7 Szabadsag ter, BUDAPEST 1051, HUNGARY. (E-mail: rohaankapoor@gmail.com).

FOR THE RECORD

MARRIAGES & BIRTHS

- **Abhishek Saxena (222-J '91)** and **Neenu** have been blessed with a son on August 5, 2005. Our heartiest congratulations to them.
- Our Congratulations to **Sharon & Dev Lall (185-K '90)** on the birth of their gorgeous daughter, **'Amira'** on September 10, 2005.

OBITUARIES

- We regret to inform the old boy community of the passing away of **Lieutenant General F.N. Bilimoria (Retd.) PVSM, (76-K '48) on August 31, 2005**. A member of the IPSS, Lt. Gen. Bilimoria also served on the Board of Governors from 1994 to 1999. He was a member of the Project Planning and Implementation Committee of The Doon School. Our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family.

DID YOU KNOW

That beer baron and founder of 'Cobra' beer, one of the fastest growing brands in the world and the most popular beer in the United Kingdom (said to go rather well with Indian curries) is none other than **Karan Bilimoria, son of the late Lt. Gen. F.N. Bilimoria (Retd) PVSM (76-K '48)** who recently passed away on August 31, 2005.

Karan Bilimoria is one of the most visible faces of the Indian community in Britain with a brand that has a current retail value turnover of £80 million. He was appointed co-Chairman of the Indo-British partnership (IBP) by the British government a few years ago. Despite his packed schedule in London, he jumped at the opportunity of being part of Prime Minister Blair's delegation to India when asked by the officials at the Prime Minister's office.

Karan even named a brand of wine after his (now late) father – **'The General Bilimoria Wine'** brand – which is produced in France and is now a 'must have' in hundreds of restaurants in the UK.¹¹

DID YOU ALSO KNOW that the **first ex-Dosco to be on the Board of Governors** of the **Doon School** was none other than our revered **Kanwar Premlal (155-H '43)**. He was brought on the Board of Governors in the Silver Jubilee year of the Doon School in 1960 when Mr. Arthur Foot came over from the United Kingdom as Chief Guest.

¹¹ The Hindustan Times, New Delhi Edition, Friday, September 9, 2005.

DR. P.M. DAS, IPS

ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE - MAY 22, 1953 TO SEPTEMBER 24, 2005

AN OBITUARY By K.K. Lahiri, 30-K, 1974, The Editor – Rosebowl



The Doon School Old Boys community was shocked and deeply saddened at the untimely demise of **Dr. Parash Moni Das, 298-H '69**, who died a mountaineer's death on **Saturday, the 24th of September 2005** while leading a **National Level Expedition** to a high mountain in **North Sikkim along the Chinese border**. This five week expedition had commenced on September 7, 2005 but unfortunately, **Dr. P.M. Das, leader of the expedition and an IPS Officer**, perished alongwith five other expedition members in an avalanche in this treacherous terrain. Of the six who perished, three (including Dr. Das) belonged to the Punjab Police. Three other expedition members have survived.

Dr. Das hailed from Guwahati, Assam. Born on May 22, 1953 to Mrs. & Mr. L.C. Das of the Indian Forest Service and Conservator of Forests, he completed his **ISC** from **the Doon School** in **1969** and went on to **Graduate** and complete his **Post-Graduation** in **1973** and **1975** respectively from **St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, Delhi**. Dr. Das did a **brief teaching stint at Mayo College, Ajmer from 1975** and thereafter, **taught at the Doon School, Dehra Dun from 1977 till he joined the Indian Police service in 1978**.

Recently promoted as the Additional Director General of Police, Computerisation and Telecommunications, Punjab Police Headquarters, Chandigarh, Dr. Das, in the true Dosco spirit, lived for 'hills to climb' and 'hard work to do'. An avid mountaineer, Dr. Das had led many a mountaineering expedition to peaks such as Banderpunch, Hanuman Peak, Mamostang Kangri and Mount Everest. In September 2004, he led an Indian Team for training and mountaineering to the European Alps and made ascents of as many as seven peaks. Dr. Das himself reached the summits of Riffelhorn, Breithorn, Dufourspitz, Allalin (Sass Fe), Moonch ascent by the (different) South-Western Ridge and descent by the Eastern Ridge and Mont Blanc – the highest peak in Europe.

Married to **Chandana** on January 30, 1982, they have a son, **Shyamantak Das, 309-J '04**, who is currently pursuing his Graduation studies at Muskingham College, Ohio, USA and a daughter, **Teestha Das**, who is currently in Class XI in Welham Girls School, Dehra Dun.

Ultimately, the very mountains which he loved so dearly claimed him as their own. A true mountaineer till the very end, Dr. Das will always be remembered by the entire ex-Dosco community as someone who epitomized the Dosco's limitless zeal to '**climb every mountain**'.

The Doon School Old Boys community extends its heartfelt condolences to Chandana, Teeshtha, Shyamantak and his entire family. May Parash Moni's soul rest in eternal peace.

WASHINGTON DC-AREA 'GiDA' (Golfingly Inclined Dosco Alumini) GOLF OUTING

On a hot and humid morning on **August 6, 2005**, six Doscos spanning three decades at Chandbagh, met to play a friendly game of golf and reminisce about old times at the Westfields Golf Course in Clifton, VA. The morning started off with five players, playing in groups of three and two. The first group comprised of **Sandeep "Hustler" Sahai, Sunil "Birdie" Mukerjee** and **Travin "Tiger" Bansal**, while the second group comprised of **Rajiv "Smooth" Sarin** and **Gaurav "Birthday Boy" Agarwal**. **Ranjiv "Choppy" Chopra** made a dramatic, fashionably late entrance at the 9th hole. Sunil was a tear from the very start and managed a couple of early birdies. It is alleged that Sandeep Sahai played coy till money was wagered and then proceeded to shoot the lowest round of the group. The afternoon was capped off by the group enjoying cold beer and taking a nostalgic walk down memory lane.

Many thanks to Rajiv Sarin and Sandeep Sahai for organizing the event. Unable to make it to the outing were Karan "Chimp" Kapoor (J '81) and Param ("Paramecium") Iyer (517-K '74). The event is expected to become an annual fixture going forward.



Sitting left to right, Gaurav Agarwal (313-J '92), Rajiv Sarin (44-H '74), Ranjiv Chopra (57-T '74), Sandeep Sahai (825-K '81), Sunil Mukerjee (715-J '80) and Travin Bansal (798-J '81)

'OF TALL TIGER TALES – HEAVENLY FOOD AND EARTHLY PLEASURES'

DSOBS SOUTH: OOTY OUTING

[By Madhav Patwardhan, 68-H, 1970]

The Doon School party boarded the Nilgiri Express at Mettupalayam station on 27th February 2005 in the late evening quiet of Sunday, for the overnight journey home to Chennai. The old boys represented five decades of DoscOs from the 1950's to the 1990's.

Ravi Katari (204-H, 1959)
Tippy Brar (231-J, 1957-1962)
Dayalan Rajesh (93-T, 1962), Hema Dayalan and son.
Ajay Pratap Singh (214-H, 1966)
Angad Vohra (293-J, 1968)
Subir Hari Singh (418-J, 1968)
Madhav Patwardhan (68-H, 1970), Mrs. Patwardhan and their children - Shweta and Utsav.
Vikash Varma (18-K, 1971) and Maya Varma
Saam Chinoy (205-J, 1971)
Alok Bhargava (196-J, 1974) and Seema Bhargava
Nitin Asthana (424-H, 1975)
Mct. P. Chidambaram (135-H, 1976) and Valli Chidambaram
Tarun Ghai (122-K, 1990) and Arti Ghai
Shiv Sehgal (167-K, 1990)
Siddhartha Lulla (383-T, 1992)

The gang, alongwith spouses and children, was large enough to occupy almost half of an entire railway carriage. It brought back fond memories of the Bombay party. Even though we were far more varied in age, the bonhomie, laughter, and comfortable companionship was infectious. Just two days in Ooty had brought the group together in friendship and good cheer.

We must have been a sight with enough luggage between us to pile up on a large flatbed cart. The cart rattled loudly as we trundled down the platform to our bogie. Siddharth Lulla and I were trying to hold the bags and stop them from falling off – while also trying to avoid getting our feet run over by the metal wheels.

So engrossed were we as we settled down for the evening, that we didn't even notice that the train had slowly pulled out of the station and was heading for the first stop – Coimbatore. We were



Standing : L to R - Shiv Sehgal (167-K '90), Sushil Sahi, Shiv Dayalan, Madhav Patwardhan (68-H '70), Nitin Ashthana (424-H '75), Dayalan Rajesh (93-T '62), Ravi Katari (204-H '59), Saam Chinoy (205-J '71), Vikash Varma (18-K '71), Ajay Pratap Singh (214-H '66), Siddharth Lulla (383-T '92), Angad Vohra (293-J '68)

well equipped for the evening: food, drink, entertainment and best of all, good company. Siddharth Lulla pulled out his big-screen laptop, Utsav Patwardhan had a music CD, Valli Chidambaram unfolded a cute pair of compact Sony speakers and *voila*, we had music videos for entertainment.

I don't know if anyone was really listening to the music, because of all the animated conversations. "Oh, this was so much fun." "Can we do this again?" "How soon do we have to go to bed?" – this from Utsav and Shweta. They would have to wake up at the crack of dawn the next day when the train rolled into Chennai Monday morning, and go to school.

Tall tiger tales on the flight from Chennai to Coimbatore on 25th February 2005. **That's how the trip began.** Ajay Pratap Singh, with a regal silver beard that would do credit to any lion's mane, regaled us with wildlife stories as the South OB's set out



Standing : L to R - Madhav Patwardhan (68-H '70), Maya Varma, Seema Bhargava, Dayalan Rajesh (93-T '62), Utsav Patwardhan, Hema Dayalan, Angad Vohra (293-J '68) Sitting : L to R - Shweta Patwardhan, Jaya Patwardhan



Standing : Nitin Asthana (424-H '75), Alok Bhargava (196-J '74), Vikash Varma (18-K '71), Saam Chinoy (205-J '71), Lt. Col. Sachin, Angad Vohra (293-J '68), Lt. Gen. T.P.S. Brar (231-J '62), Shiv Sehgal (167-K '90), Mct. P. Chidambaram (135-H '76), Madhav Patwardhan (68-H '70), Tarun Ghai (122-K '90), Subir Hari Singh (418-J '68). Sitting : L to R - Maya Varma, Jaya Patwardhan, Hema Dayalan, Ravi Katari (204-H '59), Mrs. Das, Seema Bhargava, Sachin, Arti Ghai Kneeling : L to R - Siddharth Lulla (383-T '91), Shweta Patwardhan, Utsav Patwardhan, Valli Chidambaram, Shiv Dayalan

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Angad Vohra (293-J '68), Saam Chinoy (205-J '71)
Alok Bhargava (196-J '74)



Saam Chinoy (205-J '71) & Ravi Katari (204-H '59)

on a trip to Ooty in the last weekend of February. Coimbatore felt warm in the bright, late afternoon sun as the Chennai group boarded a bus at the airport.

We drove through Coimbatore to our rendezvous with Angad Vohra (293-J 1968), who had driven from Pondicherry. The road to Ooty winds its way through villages, coconut groves and areca nut plantations to Mettupalayam before entering the Nilgiris. Chidambaram (Chidu) told us that the climb to Ooty is marked fourteen hairpin bends, each with its own yellow signpost. He led us to a restaurant at the fourth hairpin.

The sign at the entrance promised "**heavenly food and earthly pleasure**". The heavenly food (tea, coffee and bhajias) was a long time coming, which gave us a chance to admire the setting. Perched on a wooden platform above a babbling brook – as Chidu described it – we admired the tenacious vegetation on the mountainside and took pictures of a Malabar flying squirrel hopping back and forth from branch to branch, building a nest. When the snacks finally arrived – so did a pack of monkeys – uninvited, aggressive and unwelcome guests that finally had to be driven away with a slingshot.

Everyone gathered at the Ooty Club that evening. The Chennai party was joined by Saam Chinoy (205-J, 1971) and Nitin Asthana (424-H, 1975) from Hyderabad and Bangalore respectively. Dayalan Rajesh (93-T, 1962) and Hema with their son from Yercaud; and Sushil Sahi turned up from Kotagiri. Mrs. Tara Sinha and Mrs. Pran Prasad, both wives and mothers of Doscocs, were there as well.

Twenty-five plus OB's and spouses at the bar and a crackling fireplace, there was plenty of hand shaking, laughter and animated conversation, which inevitably extended the evening. Fortunately, the Ooty Club staff stayed late and served us an excellent dinner.

Undaunted by the lateness of the hour, the golfers – a determined lot, like all golfers – were out early the next morning and were joined by Subir Hari Singh (418-J, 1968). The rest of us started later with a leisurely breakfast at the beautifully appointed, colonial style dining room at the Ooty Club, complete with hunting trophies and row upon row of pictures of Englishmen on horseback – leaders of fox hunts from the days of the Raj. A throwback to a bygone era indeed.

While the golfers made the round at the Ooty Gymkhana Club, the rest of us were free to visit the famous Ooty Botanical Garden.

It was too early for flowers in February, but there was a nursery and some majestic odd trees native to the area, with their Latin names clearly marked for those botanically inclined. Dodabetta – perhaps the highest point in the Nilgiris – gave us a panoramic view of the surroundings.

After lunch, we discovered a table tennis table at the Gymkhana Club. Spontaneously, we played two spirited games of Rounders, after which most retired to rest. At Arti Ghai's suggestion though, a few of us visited the Hunt Club where the Army is breeding purebred foxhounds. It was a treat for dog lovers – from the well groomed, dignified male leader of the pack, down to the litter of cuddly, two-month old pups.

In the evening, it was down to the Wellington Gymkhana Club where we were joined by the Commandant of the Defense Services Officers' Training Center, Lt. Gen. T.P.S. Brar (231-J, 1962) and Lt. Col. Sachin. A '**DJ**' provided by the Doscocs made for a rocking evening. The wives and the children made the most of it, jiving to the music. Mrs. Das (S.R. Das' daughter-in-law) did us proud by being on the dance floor at age 87, beautifully attired.

The next morning saw the golfers dragging themselves out of bed, yet again to drive down to Wellington for a golf match with the officers from the Training Center. While the OB's fought a losing battle, the ladies and children had a putting contest at the 18th hole. Shweta Patwardhan (age 10) and Mrs. Sachin, were the winners. The prizes for the golf winners were hand made ceramic mementos from Angad Vohra's pottery works in Pondicherry.

After lunch it was a relaxed afternoon overlooking the fairway at the Club. Conversation flowed freely, as did the tea, and then it was time for everybody to drive back down to the plains.

All had a great time. **Thanks to the Jaipur house triumvirate of Ravi Katari, Alok Bhargava and Saam Chinoy for organizing the trip and to Alok for taking the trouble to coordinate.** "It was fun. Let's do this at least once a year" was Chidu's comment. "On the whole it was a great success", said Maya Verma. "I wish we had more wives and kids and a little less golf," added another.

"Just a **super trip. Let's do it again**" was how Arti Ghai put it and Jaya Tambay-Patwardhan summed it all up with "It was **such a total family feeling**".

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GURU DOES GUJARAT

[By Pete Pratap Singh Jasdan, 162-H, 1954]

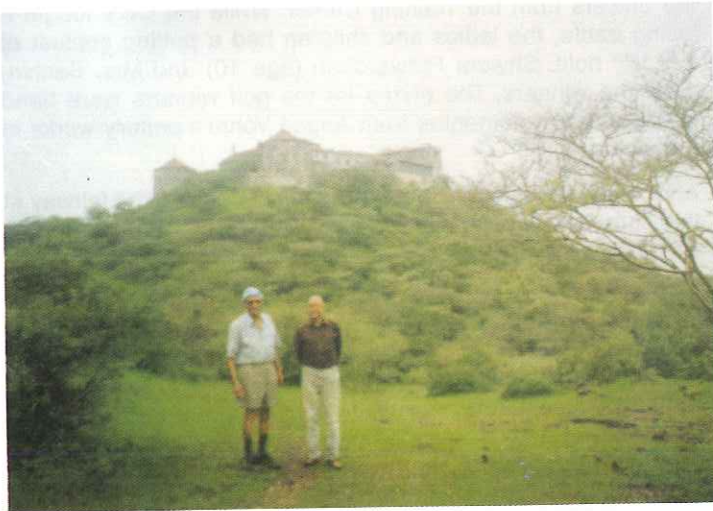
At our last get-together during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Class of 1954 held in **October 2004**, **Guru had mentioned that he had never visited Gujarat**. Since he is a very good friend of my cousin, Lavkumar Khachar, we set the ball rolling and a visit to my ancestral Family Castle at Hingolghadh, Jasdan, Dist Rajkot, Gujarat, was planned by both of them, while Guru was on a visit to Lavkumar's Manali Camp, near his home, Chandigarh. Our host Darbar Satyajit Khachar of Jasdan was pleased to invite all of us.

Guru visited Pune and Goa before landing at Mumbai on 9th August 2005. He was picked up from the Airport by Pesi Wadia and brought directly to the Wellington Sports Club. Here, a fairly large gathering of Doscocs was arranged, at short notice, by Rajbir Singh (038-J). Amongst others, the following were present: **Pesi Wadia (116-K), Rajbir Singh (038-J), Uday Mallik (258-K), Sanjiv Mukerjee (001-K), Suresh Advani (149-J), Timmi Kandhari (121-J), Pashupati Advani (220-J), Shamsunder (053-K), Jehangir Billimoria (048-K), Anil Chopra (313-T), Suraj Rai (063-J), Pradeep Bhatia (144-K)**.

After this informal meeting at 6 PM, Guru was dropped at Mumbai Central Station, where he was met by me [Pete Pratap Singh (162-H)] and we proceeded to Ahmedabad by overnight train. Unfortunately, Pesi had to cancel his travel plans at the last moment and missed out on this adventure. We were met at Ahmedabad by my cousin, Lavkumar and after a hearty breakfast at a nearby farm, were driven to Hingolghadh, some four hours distance. **We spent three delightful days and nights in this historical Family Fort, which partly houses a "Kathi" Museum**, opened by my nephew Darbar Satyajit Khachar of Jasdan, a year ago. Daily walks along the trails in the Sanctuary surrounding the Fort kept Guru in good health! We also visited my nephew's renowned **"Fir" Cattle & "Kathi" Horse Farm, Lakes, Gardens and The Palace at Jaso** which also partly houses a day Prep School with some 600 students. Guru was highly impressed by the arrangements and student activities. This school has been set up by Rani Alaukika Devi of Jasdan who is also incharge of the newly established Prep School at Rajkumar College, Rajkot. Incidentally, her brother Samarjitsinh Gaiekwad (380-J) and both Uncles – Jaisingh Jadhav (171-J) and Dhanjay Jadhav (025-T) were also in Doon. Therefore, she is very much a part of our family!

On our last day, we had a brief but welcome visit from **Akhilesh Manglik (310-H)** who drove down all the way from Gandhidham, on being summoned by Guru on the telephone! He is in the Timber import business.

On 13th Aug we drove down to Rajkot where Guru was put up at Rajkumar College as their guest. The next day he took part in some presentation ceremonies as the Chief Guest after which, Guru left for Chandigarh. Plans are however, already afoot to get him back to re-visit Gujarat and Kutch in the near future. I do hope **Prithviraj Sinhji (155-J)** can coordinate and arrange his visit sometime next year. Guru can be contacted in Chandigarh at Telephone number 0172-2782407.



'Guru' and Pete Pratap Singh Jasdan, (162-H '54), with the castle in the background



Mr. Gurdial Singh ('Guru') being conducted around classes in the Jasdan Palace School

L to R: Kishore Kadiwar, Guru, Pete Pratap Singh (162-H '54), Lav Kumar Khachar and the Rani of Jasan (Founder)

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Dr. H.D. Bhatt "Shailesh"

Once in a while we need to jog our memories and remind ourselves of the great teachers we had while at School. Many of them were and are prolific writers and academicians. Dr. H.D. Bhatt 'Shailesh' was and is one of them. A former **Housemaster (Kashmir-'A')** and **Head of the Indian Languages Department of the Doon School, Dehra Dun**, he is presently settled as a freelance-writer in Shail Shikhar, Mussoorie. Dr. Bhatt's wife, Mrs. Bhatt was Dame of Kashmir House after Mrs. Heinz retired in 1973. Parents to **Himani (409-K '73)** and **Himanshu, (518-K '81)** and grandparents to **Katyayan Shivpuri (156-K '2003)** – Mrs. and Dr. Bhatt were parents to us all. Many of us envied those in Kashmir-'A' who were so fortunate to have Dr. Bhatt as their Housemaster.

Dr. H.D. Bhatt 'Shailesh' is one of the foremost modern writers and a trend-setter in Indian Literature. He pioneered fiction-writing woven around mountaineering and life in the hills. **To his credit go 41 published books and about 450 short stories, features, articles, one-act plays, travelogues and reminiscences.**

Many features and short stories, written by him, have been broadcast over the AIR, the BBC and the TV. He is also a regular contributor to Hindi and English journals and magazines. Many of his short stories have been translated into different languages. He has produced and directed a number of plays and acted as President and Secretary of many a literary and cultural society.

He was honoured by the President of India for his contribution in the field of Child Education and by the Delhi Sanskrit Academy Uttarakhand Sroth Sansthan, Uttarakhand Kala Manch, Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Rashtrabhasha Hindi Parishad, ONGC, Himalay Paryavarn Society, the Kalidas Samaroh Samiti etc. He was twice awarded cash prizes by the U.P. Government for his books on mountaineering. He was also awarded a gold medal for his one-act plays.

We have requested Dr. Bhatt to keep his books available on display in School during Founder's 2005 to enable his former students and other ex-Doscocs to purchase or order them. A list of his books are given below

BOOKS WRITTEN BY DR. H.D. BHATT 'SHAILESH'

Sl.	SS.	BOOK	YEAR	PUBLISHER	PLACE
NOVELS (Hindi & English)					
1.	1.	Shikhar aur Shikhar	1988	Samyik Prakashan	New Delhi
2.	2.	Aage aur Aage	1989	National Publishing House	New Delhi
3.	3.	Call of the Mountains	1996	Shree Almora Book Depot	Almora
4.	4.	Himalayas My Haven	2000	Indian Publishers & Distributors, 156-D, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-110007	Delhi
COLLECTIONS OF SHORT STORIES					
5.	1.	Kala Ke Swar	1965	Jugal Kishor & Sons	Dehra Dun
6.	2.	Ghumate Chehare	1966	Sahitya Sadan	Dehra Dun
7.	3.	Barf aur Barf	1978	Umesh Prakashan	Delhi
8.	4.	Sapane aur Sapane	1995	Jay Shree Prakashan	Delhi
9.	5.	Vapsi aur Doosari Kahaniyan	1996	Parag Prakashan	Delhi
10.	6.	Meri Ekkesh Kahaniyan	1997	Samayik Prakashan	New Delhi
11.	7.	Snow and Snow	1987	Jai Shree Prakashan	Delhi
12.	8.	With Love	2001	Bharat Prakashan	Delhi
13.	9.	Meri Satrangi Sau Kahaniya	2004	Indian Publishers & Distributors, 156-D, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-110007	Delhi
ON MOUNTAINEERING					
14.	1.	Everest Abhiyan	1965	Nav Bharati Prakashan	Delhi
15.	2.	Abhiyan Aur Abhiyan	1967	Maulik Sahitya Prakashan	Delhi
16.	3.	Everest Ki Kahani	1971	Hem Kunt Press	New Delhi
17.	4.	Parvatarohan	1972	Chinmay Prakashan	Jaipur
18.	5.	Romanchak Parvatarohan	1990	Maulik Sahitya Prakashan	Delhi
19.	6.	Himalaya Ki Romanchkari Jhalkiyan	2000	Indian Publishers & Distributors, 156-D, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-110007	Delhi
GENERAL BOOKS					
20.	1.	Sudhir Khashtgir	1958	Vak Publication	Lucknow
21.	2.	Kalidas Jeevan Path Par	1959	Mohini Prakashan	Dehra Dun
22.	3.	Krishna Sambandhi Lok-Kathayen	1960	Atma Ram & Sons	Delhi
23.	4.	Rabindra Nath: Kuchh Sanmaran	1961	Jugal Kishore & Sons	Dehra Dun
24.	5.	Dharti Ke Phool	1963	Himalaya Prakashan	Dehra Dun
25.	6.	Gharwali Bhasha Aur Uska Sahitya	1976	Hindi Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
26.	7.	Kuchh Sansmaran: Kuchh Jhalkiyan	1986	Maulik Sahityan Prakashan	Delhi
27.	8.	Bhooli Bisri Yaadein	1997	Maulik Sahityan Prakashan	Delhi
28.	9.	Kalidas	1975	Deep Prints	New Delhi
29.	10.	Tales of the Great	1979	Hem Kunt Press	New Delhi
30.	11.	Story of Kalidas	1992	Publication Division	New Delhi
31.	12.	Men and Memories	1997	Shree Almora Book Depot	Almora
32.	13.	Of Places and People	2000	Indian Publishers & Distributors, 156-D, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-110007	Delhi
COLLECTIONS OF ONE-ACT PLAYS					
33.	1.	Chakkar aur Chakkar	1970	Umesh Prakashan	Delhi
34.	2.	Admi aur Admi (Play)	2000	Maulik Prakashan	Delhi
GHWALI					
35.	1.	Naubat (One-act Play)	1953	Jugal Kishore & Sons	Dehra Dun
36.	2.	Hari Doob	1954	Jugal Kishore & Sons	Dehra Dun
SANSKRIT					
37.	1.	Gadya Presoonam	1954	Sahitya Sadan	Dehra Dun
38.	2.	Sanskrit Sopanam	1961	Allied Publisher	New Delhi
IN THE PRESS					
39.	1.	The Glory of Garhwal Himalayas		Indian Publisher & Distributors	Delhi
40.	2.	Aar aur Paar			
41.	3.	Kavita Ke Kitane Rang (Poems)			

FROM TUNWALA TO TAMIL NADU

*[DSOBS's continuing efforts at relief and rehabilitation along the
Tsunami hit Tamil Nadu coast – by Angad Vohra, 293-J, 1968]*

I have now made two trips down to **Sirkazhi** and **Mayiladuthurai**. Sirkazhi is just south of Chidambaram, where the famous temple dedicated to Bharat Natyam is, and Mayiladuthurai or Mayavaram is further south. **Both these towns fall within the Cauvery delta**, a region that is criss-crossed by numerous channels and **much of it is low lying land. This is why it was pretty badly hit by the Tsunami of December 2004.**

The first trip was together with **Alok Bhargava (Chennai Rep. of the DSOBS, 196-J '74)** in May, when we attended a meeting held to review the relief and rehabilitation efforts in Mani Shankar Aiyar's constituency. At this time we met the Minister and presented a (token) sports kit and discussed the logistics to get the bicycles and sports kits donated by the DSOBS to his people in the constituency. He was very pleased to see us and thanked the DSOBS for the efforts made by the Dosco fraternity. He insisted that one or more of us should come there again in June and tour the constituency



Angad Vohra, 293-J, '68 and Mani Shankar Aiyar, 55-T, '57 with the bicycles gifted by STAR India Pvt. Ltd. and the DSOBS (subsidised by Hero Cycles Ltd.) and their recipients.

with him and participate in the actual distribution of the materials.

It so happened that I was able to be there

in July when I accompanied Mani Shankar Aiyar to the village of **Thirumulaivassal on the coast, east of Sirkazhi**. The ruins of many houses greeted us along the sandy shore but so too did a large crowd of villagers and children. I was certainly not prepared to participate in a crowded meeting in the hall of the temple, receive a shawl from the Panchayat leaders and have a microphone thrust into my hands and asked to say a few words on behalf of the Doon School Old Boys. Somehow, having managed this in my broken Tamil, I was relieved to hand the mike over to **Mani Shankar Aiyar** who **proceeded extol the virtues of the Doon School to the gathered villagers and they applauded the efforts made by you all to get these 500 bicycles and 300 odd sports kits to them.** It became obvious that **the gifts were very welcome and useful** – though as the Minister said, they could have easily distributed 20,000 bicycles and even that may not have been enough! **The bicycles were given to children who had lost both or one parent in the Tsunami and the sports kits were handed over to the members**

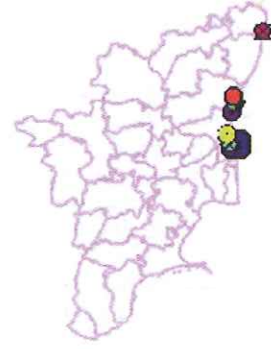
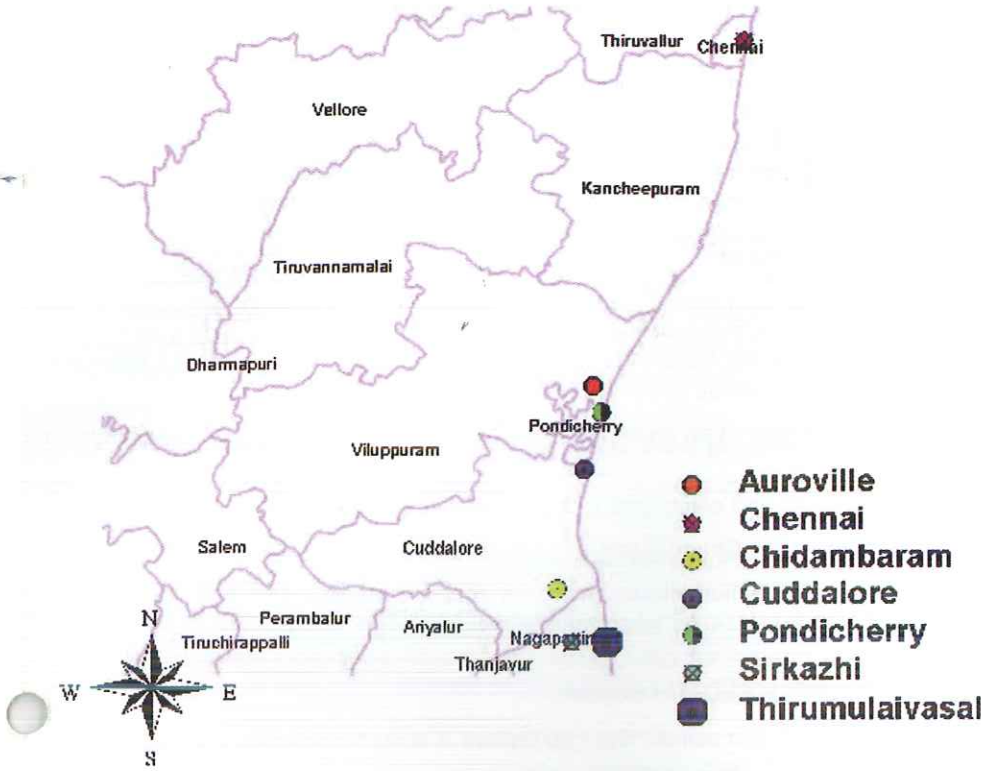


Angad Vohra, 293-J, '68 and Mani Shankar Aiyar, 55-T, '57 with the bicycles gifted by STAR India Pvt. Ltd. and the DSOBS (subsidised by Hero Cycles Ltd.) and their recipients.

With Compliments from

*K.K. Lahiri, 30-K, Class of 1974 and
Karan Lahiri, 306-K, Class of 2004*

Thirumulaivasal in Tamil Nadu



of the Youth Clubs that are there in every village.

It takes a lot of time to go through these meetings and speeches and Mani Shankar Aiyar certainly has a very strong and genuine bond with members of his

constituency. He made himself accessible to all and listened patiently to all the problems and grievances that had to be aired, given the opportunity that had presented itself. We were able to only cover two villages on this part of the coast as access is not always easy. We stopped

for lunch that had been organized at a farm nearby and I left afterwards as I had a 3 hour drive home. I have received a list of 127 children who have received bicycles as of now and as and when Mani Shankar Aiyar comes to visit his constituency the distribution goes on.



Angad Vohra, 293-J, '68 and Mani Shankar Aiyer, 55-T, ' 57 distributing sports equipment gifted by the DSOBS.



The Cricket Bats, Carromboards & other sports equipment gifted by the DSOBS.

I think you should all be pleased with the results of all the efforts made, first to raise the funds for the relief, then to get the materials over to Tamil Nadu and now, the distribution to the right people. I feel privileged to have been a part of the chain.



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‘A TSUNAMI THANK YOU’ [MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (55-T, 1957)]

Now that the worst of the Tsunami, which hit my constituency and other parts of the country on 26 December 2004, is substantially behind us, I would like to thank each one of the following DOSCOs who put so much of their innate humanity into coming to the aid of the victims, in particular those in my constituency. Now, all along the coast one sees school children riding bicycles supplied by DSOBS and playing with cricket bats festooned with the DOSCO symbol. Few places in our country could be as remote from the Doon School as my constituency and yet, thanks to all of you, the DOSCO name has passed into the common vocabulary of the people. That, I think, is the most enduring tribute which my constituents can pay to the really noble efforts mounted by DSOBS for Tsunami relief and rehabilitation. **So, a big Thank You from me to :**

Aamir Ali (214K-1939) whose book on the Buddha made a profound impression on me at school and who was subsequently at his most sympathetic when I tried to get into the ILO during the dark few months that, on suspicion of my being a communist, our security agencies were conspiring to keep me out of the Indian Foreign Service in 1963. (I am glad that I eventually persuaded the authorities to recognise that while I was a Marxist, it was more of the Groucho variety!)

Gautam Chadha (389H-1971), who, like a master conductor of an orchestra, pulled together a dozen different instruments to come to the aid of my people

Ranjan Bhalla (386J-1972), whose untiring spirit, efforts and commitment ensured delivery on all fronts

Alok Bhargava (196J-1974) who coordinated matters at the Chennai end

Angad Vora (293J-1968) who kept a beady eye on our distribution efforts, taking the trouble to wander with me in the blistering heat from village to village to overcome arguments and tussles over who should get the bicycles and who could justifiably be left out!

Sunil Kant Munjal (180K-1973) for his assistance towards the Hero bicycles.

(We DOSCOs are often accused of being elitist, snobbish and selfish. But I do believe it is no coincidence that the following DOSCOs were/are deeply involved in promoting Panchayati Raj:

- Sunil K. Munjal (180K-1973), who co-chairs with me the CII-Gol Joint Council on Rural Business Hubs, an initiative to bring together village Panchayats and the biggest business houses in the country to promote income-enhancement and employment-generation in rural India.
- Rajiv Gandhi (203-K-1960), the fountainhead of this, the greatest social revolution to sweep through the country since Independence and the proclamation of the Republic.
- B.George Verghese (150J-1944), the most impassioned advocate of Panchayati Raj in the media and academic circles
- Wajahat Habibullah (266-H-1961) Secretary, Panchayati Raj
- L'il ole me, the first Minister of Panchayati Raj ever

That is how far the tentacles of Tunwala extend!

A.Vellayan (87T-1968) for his assistance with procuring TI cycles. Are you from the family of my classmate, the late Murugappan (133T-1958), if I am not mistaken?

Peter Mukherjea (17H-1971), the Star of Star TV,¹² who donated 300 of the 500 bicycles

Sanjay Aggarwal (143H-1972) who supplied the 289 kits of sports equipment under supervision and assistance from DSOBS (**Ranjan Bhalla and Nalin Khanna 563H-1980**) and contributed by the **Indian Womens Association of Singapore**

Gurmeet Singh (883T-1982), who rushed to our rescue at the worst moment of the crisis – the immediate aftermath of the Tsunami

Darshan Singh, who, notwithstanding his Great Betrayal of becoming Chairman of the Board of Governors of Welham Boys, has dotted the schools of the affected villages with toilets for girl students and other desperately needed facilities.

Gautam Khanna (897K-1982) and Ajay Pratap Singh (214H-1966) for clean drinking water facilities, which I hope will finally get installed very shortly, and

Last but not least the 160 anonymous donors who have covered the good name Doon School with glory in this great humanitarian crisis.

Thank you all.

¹² Please note the 'Errata' at page 13 of this issue which clarifies that the 300 bicycles were donated by STAR India Pvt. Ltd.

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'ERRATA – A LESSON IN HUMILITY'

[By the Editor – The Rose Bowl]

There have been a few errors in the March, May and July 2005 issues of the Rose Bowl under my Editorship. Some have been insignificant, some minor, some a little more significant, but none worthy of being published in a subsequent issue. **This particular error**, which I seek to correct in the **July 2005 issue of the Rose Bowl** relates to the sentence at the bottom of the cover page (last two lines of the right hand column) and carried over to the top of page 2, which said "Of the 500 total 300 bi-cycles were donated by Peter Mukherjea (17-H '71) STAR T.V. India."

Peter wrote in to say that these 300 bicycles were donated by STAR India Pvt. Ltd. and not by him. He was only a facilitator. He has accused us of giving him credit for something he allegedly did not deserve.

Peter! We have noted your correction but more importantly we have noted your humility and selflessness. It makes us proud to note that Doscos are not only generous but humble. Thank you, Peter! Let the Dosco readership note a correction at the bottom of page 1 right hand column carried over to the top of page 2 of the July 2005 issue of the Rosebowl, which should read as follows:

"Of the total 500 bicycles, 300 bicycles were donated by STAR India Pvt. Ltd."

Incidentally, Peter is the Chief Executive of STAR India Pvt. Ltd. His letter of September 09, 2005 to us is extracted below:-

"I'd like to draw your attention to a correction we need to make it in the latest issue of 'The Rose Bowl' (July 2005).

In your lead article "All Tsunami no Badnami", you have very kindly given me credit for something which I do not justifiably deserve. You have credited me for having donated 300 bicycles to Mani Shankar Aiyer. This should read that 300 bicycles were donated by STAR India Pvt. Ltd. and not me as indicated.

I would really appreciate if the letter is published in the next issue or a correction to this effect is made in the next issue.

Many thanks & regards,
Peter Mukherjea"

"WHERE THE MIND IS WITHOUT FEAR AND THE HEAD IS HELD HIGH"

[By Vinay V. Deshpande – 101-J, 1983]

It is with these revered words of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore that a young Dosco ventured into the vast world of art. Surely all art is the result of one's having gone through an experience all the way through the end, without a way beyond. The further one goes, the more private, the more personal, the more singular an expression becomes. Therein lies the need to express oneself, and young **Pushparaj Deshpande (442-J)** has turned to painting in his **oils and watercolours** wherein one discovers an insight to human psyche for a mere seventeen year old.

Following his Art Master's, Mr. Bhowmick's advice, **he put up his works for an exhibition at the Nehru Art Centre, Worli, Mumbai from May 31 to June 6, 2005.**

The uniqueness of this exhibition was that it was a **group show** which **included works by Mr. Alope Tirtha Bhowmick, the Head of the Art Department at the Doon School, Mr. Satish Bathla, Asstt. Master at the Doon School, Mr. Vinaykumar Deshpande (101-J '83) and Mrs. Sonal Deshpande**, the latter being Graphic Designers from M.S. University, Baroda and young Pushparaj's parents.



"What lies beyond....."

By Pushparaj Deshpande, (422-J 'SC form)

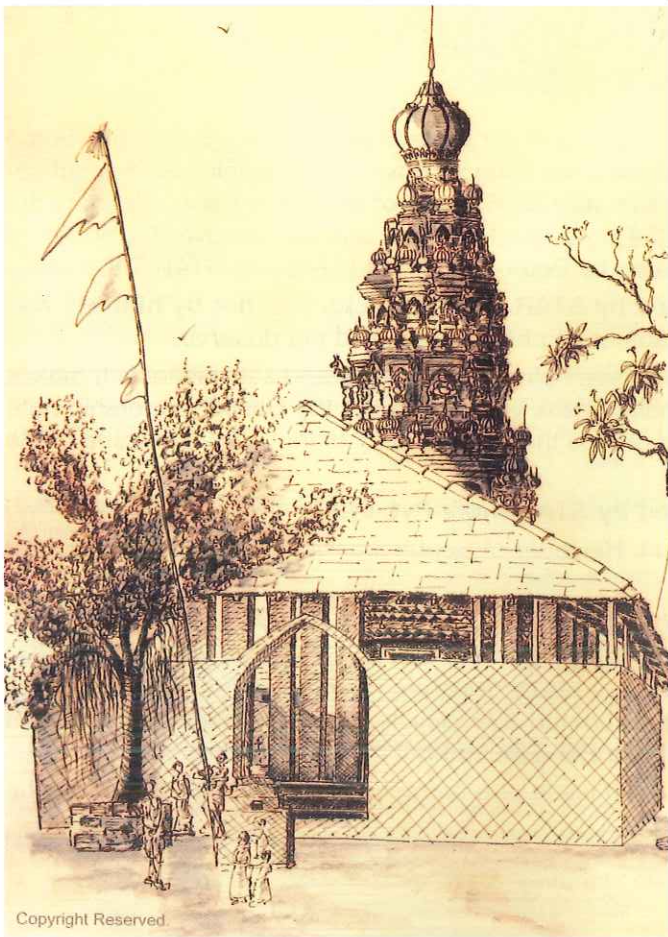
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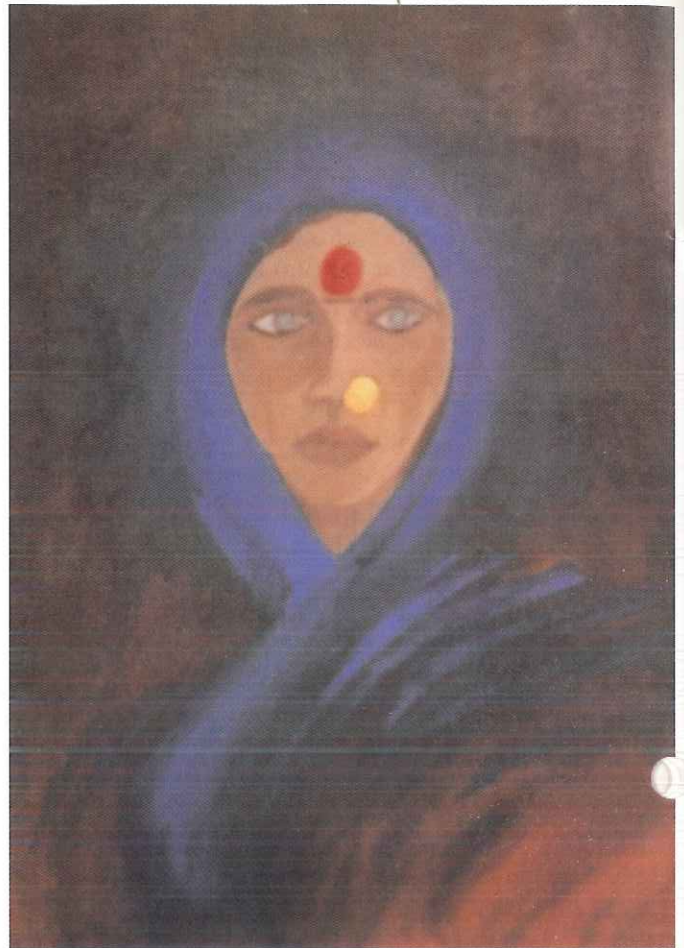
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"Radha Krishna Mandir, dating 17th Century A.D. by Vinay Deshpande, (101-J '83)

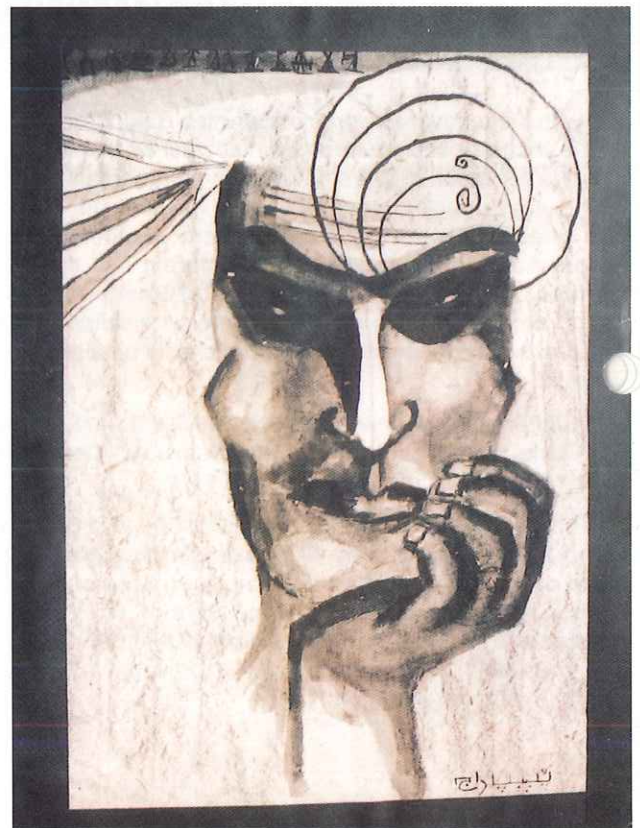


"Verdant world....." By Sonal Deshpande

Sonal paints from the heart and one can see a wide spectrum of her varied interests in folk dancing, singing and choreography reflected in her works and one can judge, without doubt, the commitment of the artist to the medium. She runs a design studio in Kolhapur, designing various articles for weddings.

Vinay's works are of special significance as he has made excellent pen and ink drawings of rare buildings from the historic city of Kolhapur, also known as Dakshin Kashi, where he lives. Over a period of time these buildings have acquired a distinct character and personality, unique in their histories, largely due to the people who have inhabited them over generations. The beauty of these (rapidly disappearing) architectural buildings brings to mind the age of splendour, the golden age of India. The artist's perseverance at finesse is evident as one observes the minutest details that have been captured by the eye.

"Mind - What a simple geometry the mind..... If you are confused, you go round in circles. If you are in a contradictory mood, all you can do is think angularly, while if you are set to do something, you think in straight lines..."
By Pushparaj Deshpande, 422-J (SC form)



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MINUTES OF THE 65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY HELD IN THE DOON SCHOOL AUDITORIUM AT 12.00 NOON ON SUNDAY, THE 17th OF OCTOBER, 2004.

PRESENT : The President, Vice President, Mr. Mahesh Sahai - Chartered Accountant, Exec. Secretary, Chandbagh Representative and 142 Members. The Meeting was called to order.

I. The President welcomed all Members present at the Meeting.

II. A **condolence resolution** was passed and two minutes of silence was observed in respectful remembrance of the following members of DSOBS and the Doon School's former teaching community:-

1. Mr. Mahesh Chandra	(Ex 038-J)	Class of 1939
2. Mr. N Tripathi	(Ex 179-T)	Class of 1939
3. Mr. Ram Sathe	(Ex 032-K)	Class of 1940
4. Mr. Daljit Singh Jamwall	(Ex 203-J)	Class of 1943
5. Mr. Mohd Wasi Saigal	(Ex 128-J)	Class of 1944
6. Dr. George Philip Modayil	(Ex 291-J)	Class of 1946
7. Maj Gen John Verghese (Retd.)	(Ex 150-J)	Class of 1948
8. Mr. Surendra K Kandhari	(Ex 122-T)	Cass of 1951
9. Mr. Subrata Kumar Roy	(Ex 273-K)	Class of 1951
10. Lt. Col Shahaji A Mohit (Retd.)	(Ex 146-K)	Class of 1953
11. Mr. Mohinder B Nanda	(Ex 139-T)	Class of 1955
12. Mr. Indrajit Singh Jhala	(Ex 182-J)	Class of 1961
13. Mr. Ranjan Sawhney	(Ex 167-J)	Class of 1975
14. Mr. Pushkin Chandra	(Ex 180-J)	Class of 1984
15. Mr. Rahul Kumar	(Ex 514-K)	Class of 1987
16. Mr. Anurag Agarwal	(Ex 577-O)	Class of 1994
17. Mr R. N. Kunzru	Ex Master	1952 - 1985
18. Mr.P. N. Raina	Ex Master	1972 - 1984
19. Mr V. Hensman	Ex Master	1955 - 1985

III. The **Minutes of the 64th Annual General Meeting** had been circulated to all Members present at the commencement of the meeting. The following points arose from the said minutes for discussion during the meeting.

(a). Mr Saroj K Mehera (Ex 122-K '44) informed the members present that Mr. Shahenshah Hussein (Ex-246-K) and Mr. Rajendra Vikram Singh (Ex- 056-H) were from the Classes of 1942 and 1943 respectively, and not from the Classes of 1944 and 1945, as mentioned in the Minutes of the 64th AGM. He requested that the minutes be corrected accordingly.

(b). Mr Jaspreet Singh (Ex 285-T '76) raised the subject of selection of Vice President of the DSOBS which has been a contentious topic for several years.

It was decided that once the nominations for the post of Vice President were received by the President, these would be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the Society where the Past Presidents and the Regional Representatives are invitees. The Executive Committee would meet to deliberate on the names received and from among them, select one name for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

In the event of a disagreement and if no consensus was achieved, the names concerned would be published on the Website and in the Rose Bowl with their respective qualifications so as to receive the views of the Members of the DSOBS. This should help the Executive Committee to arrive at a consensus. If even after this, the matter was not resolved, the names would be put up at the Annual General Meeting for the House to make a selection.

With the above clarifications, the Minutes of the 64th AGM was proposed for approval and confirmation by Mr Baljit Singh Malik (Ex 73-K '55), seconded by Brig B N Singh (Ex 76-T '54) and confirmed and approved by the House.

IV. **Annual Report by the President : -**

The year Oct 2003 to Sept 2004 had been an eventful and busy year. The Executive Committee of the DSOBS, apart from meeting 4 times in the past 12 months, decided on a major issue i.e. purchase of Permanent Secretariat for DSOBS. The Society acquired the Office premises in Bhikaji Cama Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. I would like to summarize the activities of the society, including the excellent work done by various sub-committees each headed by a member of the Executive Committee. Many members from the fraternity, outside the Executive Committee, have also contributed from time to time, their valuable time and efforts and I wish to record my thanks to all.

Before I report on the various sub-committees I wish to briefly inform you some important milestones achieved by the society:

1. **DSOBS Permanent Secretariat** : The thought of having an independent office for DSOBS has been there for a very long time. I have the pleasure of informing you that we could achieve this in the year 2004. I am happy to inform you that the Society could collect a total of Rs. 95.15 lakhs. The new office is an excellent 1450 sq. ft property situated in Bhikaji Cama Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. The property enjoys a breath-taking view of Delhi and is centrally air-conditioned.

I would now like to read out the list of sponsors (in alphabetical order) who have generously contributed Rs.5 lacs each for this project :

Ajay K Swarup & Anoop Bishnoi	245-J & 112-J	Kamal Nath	366-H
Ajay S Shriram	161-K	Lalit Nirula & Deepak Nirula	142-K & 165-K
Analjit Singh	132-J	Rajan Nanda	12-H
Anoop Bishnoi	112-J	Raman Kapoor & Nitan Kapoor	69-J & 151-J
Arjun Malhotra & Shiven Malhotra	325-K & 82-K	Ranjit Pandit	297-H
Dhruv M Sawhney	37-K	Shanti S Bery	30-T
Eckhard Schuetze	Hon Member	Sunil K Munjal	180-K
Gautam Thapar	200-H	Vikram Srivastava	345-J
Harpal Singh & Jaivir Singh	322-H & 244-H	Old Boys of United Kingdom	
J J N Masani	6-J		

I wish to record my sincere gratitude on behalf of the entire DOSCO Fraternity to these generous sponsors with whose help, this dream has become a reality. I also thank everyone for their assistance in acquiring this office.

I along with other members of the Society, wish to extend our special gratitude to Mr. Arun Bharatram (Ex 36-K '58) for his unstinted support to the Society for over 20 years, without which, our Sub-Secretariat in Delhi, could not have functioned.

- Our congratulations to the **Class of 1979** who celebrated their **Silver Jubilee** this year. I take pleasure in informing you that they have collected approx. Rs. 35 lakhs for this occasion. Apart from the jubilee, which they celebrated on a grand scale, they propose to donate the balance amount to the School for the various projects. I thank all Old Boys of the Class of 1979 for their efforts and generous contributions. Another Rs. 5 Lacs has been promised yesterday.
- DSOBS contributed Rs. 35,000/- for **Homes for Happiness Project of the Leprosy Mission, Dehra Dun** by releasing advertisements in the Souvenir received from the members of our fraternity. I express my thanks for this.
- During last year, the Society received an appeal for **financial help for Mr H D Manocha** who served the School for near, 40 years before retiring as Admission Officer. The Society donated Rs. 56,000/- towards this; Rs.36,000/- being contributions from the Old Boys and Rs. 20,000/- being the Society's contribution. I do hope Old Boys would be forthcoming towards this noble cause in future also.
- The Society, continuing the "**international flair**", held get-togethers in various parts of the globe including **Singapore, U.K., UAE, Nepal, Philippines** and apart from the domestic ones in many cities in India. This interaction of Old Boys has given an opportunity for a much larger body of the fraternity to be actively involved in the society's affairs and progress. I am sure that members of our fraternity have been following these events through the website and the Rose Bowl.

I would now like to briefly report on the various sub-committees and their activities over the past 12 months:

- BURSARY** - This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Chudamani Ratnam and assisted by Mr. Ravibir Singh. This year DSOBS awarded bursaries/scholarships to 13 Old Boy's children amounting to Rs. 3,58,000/- including 10 bursaries amounting to Rs.30,000/- to The John Martyn Memorial Trust, which runs Salangaon Primary School. The total sum disbursed was Rs.3,88,000/- - I would urge all Old Boys to donate as much as possible towards the DSOBS Scholarship Fund.
- CREDIT CARDS** - This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Anoop Bishnoi and actively assisted by Mr. Ravibir Singh. Presently the society has successful Affinity Card programmes with Citi Bank for the Diners Club Card and Standard Chartered Bank for a Visa/Master Card. At present we have a total of 707 cardholders, which is less than 20% of the Dosco OB's community within India. As you may be aware we have a voluntary contribution scheme whereby an Affinity cardholder contributes Rs.250/- per month to the society. Of the total 592 Standard Chartered Bank cards issued ONLY 40 have signed up for this monthly contribution. I would request more Old Boys to come forward and apply for the affinity cards and sign up for the monthly Rs.250/- contribution. This will help support your society as well as the School.
- COMMUNICATIONS - DSOBS Website and Rose Bowl** Sub-Committees have been combined to form the Communication Sub-Committee headed by the Vice President, Mr. Anoop Bishnoi. Other members are M/s. Ajay Swarup, Ajay Mehta, Ravibir Singh, Sharad Sharma and Ratan Kapoor.

DSOBS Website: The Society has arranged a contract with an old Boy, Mr. Hemant Sharma (Ex 459 - JA '81) of Trisoft for the Website. The DSOBS website is undoubtedly the most powerful medium of communication for all members of the fraternity. It is therefore the endeavour of the society to keep improving this facility so that our widely spread fraternity can be in touch with activities of the society and be able to share information on a daily basis. The website is being constantly redesigned to meet current needs but a lot more work needs to be done. The Doon School directory has been integrated with the website and an online search facility is available using either the name, roll number, batch, city, etc. The Rose Bowl is also added to the site almost simultaneously when the publication is mailed to members. To increase revenue for the Society we could advertise on our website. All members are requested to please make a note of this and give advertisements for our website.

ROSE BOWL - The excellent work done by Mr. Ratan Kapoor (Ex 124-JA '84) and the sub-committee is reflected in the quality and content of this publication. This year we have published 3 issues with the fourth due towards the end of this year. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Gautam Thapar (Ex 200-H '79) for his generous contribution in donating high quality paper for publication of Rose Bowl. Each issue of the Rose Bowl is financed by means of strip ads and I would urge members of our fraternity to come forward with ads and more importantly send in articles/photographs to the editor. I wish to thank those who have contributed towards advertisements in the past year and others who may come forward. As you all may already know a copy of the Rose Bowl is mailed free of cost to all members of the society whose addresses are current and updated. I would like to thank Manu Vohra (Ex 289-JB '85) for assisting the Rose Bowl Sub-committee. He has done an excellent job in coordination and in getting the issues printed.

4. **JOB PLACEMENT** – This sub-committee is handled by the Executive Secretary DSOBS. The society is in constant touch with the Old Boys requiring placements. We have about 40 applications, which have been forwarded to prospective employers and Placement Agencies. In addition we have also published details on DSOBS Website. As Old Boys who get placed, do not inform the Society, there is lack of such information with the Society. I request Old Boys in the corporate sector to help out in getting placements for needy persons. Further, when Old Boys get placed suitably or relocate, the Society should be informed.
5. **MEMORABILIA** – This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Jayant Sahai and assisted by Mr. Ajay Mehta. Dosco memorabilia is available from Mr. Ajay Mehta's office in Safdarjung, in the General Store at School and on-line through dsobs.org. Many new items have been introduced. These have been published through website and Rose Bowl. I would request Old Boys to buy memorabilia regularly and wherever possible use these as corporate or personal gifts. With on-line sales being made possible we expect to increase the sales of memorabilia considerably.
6. **SPORTING ACTIVITIES** – This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Gautam Chadha and assisted by Mr. Gurmeet Singh. As in the previous years, this year too the sporting events were excellent which included the DSOBS Annual Golf Tournament at the Golden Greens Golf Course in Gurgaon on 9th Oct. 2004. There were a total of 136 contestants, who played at this challenging course. Congratulations to Jaipur House on winning the trophy. Hyderabad House was runners up. The tournament was followed by a well-attended dinner at the Maurya Sheraton on Oct 10, 2004. On behalf of the society, I wish to record my thanks to the sponsors Cholamandalam Investments, EID Parry – Murugappa Group, Star India, Yes Bank, Voltas, Tiger Sports Management, etc. for this event.

In Dec 2003, the 2nd Gibson Goodwill Golf Tournament between the Doon School and Mayo College alumni took place at Jaypee Greens Golf & Country Club, Greater NOIDA, U.P., which ended in a tie.

In Feb this year the Inter-house Cricket Tournament was held at the Central Secretariat Grounds which was followed by a dinner at Thai-Wok, Delhi. Kashmir House won the tournament and Hyderabad House was declared as Runners up. Many DOSCOs attended this both from Delhi and places outside Delhi. Another sports fixture was the Patiala Golf in March 2004 which was also well attended.

To sum up, the year has been an active one on the sports front and this Sub-Committee has excelled in its efforts. Our appreciation to both Gautam and Gurmeet for putting up such great events.

7. **ADMISSION ADVISORY** – This sub-committee is chaired by the Vice President, Mr. Anoop Bishnoi and assisted by M/s. Chudamani Ratman, Sharad Sharma and Gurmeet Singh. This year, out of 37 boys who appeared for admission, 25 were selected. Many Old Boys have contacted the Sub-Committee for help and guidance with regard to admissions. I would like to mention here that the sub-committee cannot assure admissions, but can only help in giving out information, providing past test papers, etc. The sub-committee cannot in any manner whatsoever, interfere with the Board/School on admissions. The responsibility rests entirely on the parents to prepare their wards well, so that there are fewer disappointments.
8. **The DOSCO Register/Record** — This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Lalit Bhadwar and assisted by M/s. Ajay Swarup and Ratan Kapoor. The last DOSCO Register was published in 2002 and the Record in 1996. The next issue is due in 2006 and the work is under process. If there are any suggestions from the house please contact Mr. Lalit Bhadwar. Any member wishing to sponsor the above would be most welcome.
9. During this year the following **DSOBS Reps** have been appointed:

A. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES :

1. Mr. Navneet Singh (Ex 185-H '66) as Regional Representative for Philippines.
2. Mr. Nirvana Chaudhary (Ex 473-J '00) as Regional Representative for Nepal
3. Mr. Arjun Jolly (Ex 275-T '91) as Regional Representative for Singapore
4. Mr. Lalit Bhardwaj (Ex 273-K '64) as Regional Representative for Florida in USA
5. Mr. Himmat Singh (Ex 20-K '89) as Regional Representative for Australia.
6. Mr Rajeev Lal (Ex 103-K '66) as Regional Representative for UAE.
7. Mr Anirudh Chandra (Ex 524-J '94) as Regional Representative for H.P.

B. CLASS REPRESENTATIVES :

1. Mr. Sushil Dubey (Ex 30-T) as Class Representative for the Class of 1956.
2. Mr. Prithipal Singh Dugal (Ex 588-T) as Class Representative for the Class of 1980.
3. Mr. Amarinder S Bedi (Ex 523-J) as Class Representative for the Class of 1994.
4. Mr Gaurav Dhavan (Ex 263-O '98) as Class Representative for 1998.
5. Mr. Dhruv Puri (Ex 141-K '84) as Class Representative for the Class of 1984.
6. Mr. Arun Murugappan (Ex 272-T '85) as Class Representative for the Class of 1985.
7. Mr. Puneet Sardana (Ex 78-T '95) as Class Representative for the Class of 1995.

I would like to welcome the new representatives and wish them the very best in future. Their role in arranging get-togethers and generally motivating camaraderie is the underlying strength of our fraternity.

10. **Regional get-togethers** were held in Delhi, Agra, Chennai, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Kerala, Philippines, Singapore, U.K., USA, Australia, Nepal and UAE.
11. **Class get-togethers** were held for Classes of 1944, 1954, 1963, 1974, 1979 and 1994 during the year.
Kindly keep the Secretariat informed of all such occasions with write-up and photographs to enable us to publish these events in the Rose Bowl.
12. I would like to congratulate the following classes who celebrate their respective Jubilees this year – **Class of 1944** – on their **Diamond Jubilee**, **Class of 1954** – on their **Golden Jubilee**, **Class of 1964** – on their **40th Year jubilee**, **Class of 1974** on their **30th Year Jubilee**, **Class of 1984** on their **20 years jubilee** and **Class of 1994** on their **10 years jubilee**.

13. During the last year, the DSOBS & Old Boys have contributed Rs.40 lacs to The Doon School and over the past 10 years the total contribution to the School has been Rs. 1.93 crores.
14. **The Board of Governors** have established a **Fund Raising Committee** under **Mr. Analjit Singh** to raise funds of approx. Rs. 18.0 crores for various development Projects at The Doon School. This is an onerous task which needs to be addressed very seriously and I would call upon all members of our fraternity to come forward and donate generously to this fund.
15. **A Joint Meeting of DSOBS Executive Committee and Board of Governors of the School** was held on 10 April 2004 at the India International Centre where the Policy for admission for Old Boys' children was discussed. The following points were agreed upon :
- Old Boys children will only be called for the interview if they score at least 45% in the written exam.
Candidates will be allowed to sit for the entrance test more than once as long as they meet the age requirement.
The HM could, at his discretion, admit Old Boys' children on the waiting list out of turn.
16. **DSOBS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION:** It has been agreed to increase the one time membership subscription fee from Rs.2000/- to Rs. 3000/- from this year.
17. **INCOME TAX EXEMPTION UNDER SEC. 80-G :** I take pleasure in informing you all, that the Society has obtained renewal of Exemption under Section 80- G of the Income Tax Act. This is valid for the period 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2007. I request all Members to contribute generously to the Society, which will be exempt from Income tax.

Gentlemen, it has been a privilege and pleasure to be the President of DSOBS. This is a great institution, and I am sure the old boys, EC members and invitees, the Vice Presidents and the Presidents in future will continue to maintain the high standards and the Society will grow from strength to strength. I would like to thank the Regional and Class representatives, the EC members and invitees for their input and support. I would also like to thank the past Presidents, the Vice President, Mr. Anoop Bishnoi and the Hony. Secretary, Mr. Rajbir Singh for their assistance to me in fulfilling my obligations and duties.

Thank you.

V. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS:

The Accounts for the period ending 31st March 2004 had been circulated to all Members. Bawa Gurvachan Singh (Ex 193-K '44) proposed and Mr. Gulab Ramchandani (Ex 225-T '42) seconded and the House unanimously resolved to approve the Accounts.

VI. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS :

A. The President informed the House that in accordance with the accepted conventions and the existing rules of the society, the following members of the Executive Committee were retiring from the Executive Committee:

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| a. | Mr. Nitan Kapoor | - | President |
| b. | Mr. Anoop Bishnoi | - | Vice President |
| c. | Mr. Chudamani Ratnam | - | Member |
| d. | Mr. Gautam Chadha | - | Member |
| e. | Mr. Ajay K. Swarup | - | Member |
| f. | Mr. Ratan Kapoor | - | Member |
| g. | Mr. Prateek Khurana | - | Member - Univ. Rep - Resigned |

In accordance with convention and the rules of the society, the following members of the Executive Committee were eligible for re-election.

- Mr. Lalit Badhwar
- Mr. Jayant Sahai
- Mr. Gurmeet Singh
- Mr. Sharad C. Sharma
- Mr. Ravibir Singh

The house unanimously resolved that all the 5 Members should be re-elected for another year (proposed by Kr. Prem Lal Malhotra (Ex 155-H '43) and seconded by Mr. Hemant Sharma (Ex. 459-J '87)

B. Election of New Executive committee Members: -

The President, Mr.Nitan Kapoor had received the following names for nominations to the Executive Committee:.

- Age Group 50 and above – one vacancy : Received 4 nominations as under :-
1) Nirmal Gaur (Ex 281-H '57), 2) Raj N Khosla (Ex 349-K '70), 3) Arvind Prasad (Ex 284-H '69) & 4) Rajbir Singh (4 -H '54).
- Age Group 40 – 49 years - two vacancies: Received 4 nominations as under :-
1) Sidharth Prasad (Ex 709-T '81), 2) Ranjan Bhalla (Ex 368-J '72), 3) Kishore K Lahiri (Ex 30-K '74) & 4) Vivek Seth (Ex 915-J '82)
- Age Group Upto 29 years –one vacancy: Received 2 Nominations as under :-
1. Prateek Khurana (Ex 554-J '01) & 2) Vivek Narain (Ex 564-K '94) .

During the Executive Committee Meeting held on the 13th of August, 2004 the following have been selected for ratification at the Annual General Meeting

- Age Group 50 and above – Raj Nath Khosla (Ex 349-K '70)
Mr. Manoranjan Dugal (Ex 401-K '74) proposed and Mr. Nikhil Kochhar (Ex 41-K '73) seconded the election.
- Age Group 40 – 49 years – Kishore K Lahiri (Ex 30-K '74) & Ranjan Bhalla (Ex 368-J '72)
Mr. S.D. Srivastava (Ex 454-K '74) proposed and Mr. N Dudhoria (Ex 310-T '74) seconded the election

3. Age Group Upto 29 years - Vivek Narain (Ex 564-K '94) .
Mr. Jaspreet Singh (Ex 285-T '76) proposed and Mr. Nalin Khanna (Ex-563-H '80) seconded the election.
4. University Rep. – Mr Prateek Khurana had stepped down and nominated Mr. Justin Burrett (Ex 60-JB '02) in his place as University Rep.
Mr. Kishore K.Lahiri (Ex 30-K '74) proposed and Mr. Pradeep Narain (Ex-431-T '73) seconded the election.

C. Election of President.

The President informed the House that as per the convention of the Society, the Vice President, Mr. Anoop Bishnoi takes over as the President.

Brig B N Singh (Ex 76-T '54) proposed and Kr. Prem Lal Malhotra (Ex 155-H '43) seconded the election.

D. Election of Vice President:

The following two nominations were received for the Post of Vice President:

Mr. Gautam Chadha (Ex 389-H '71), Aged 49 years.

Mr. Haripal Singh Gill (Ex 328-H '66) Aged 55 years

However, Mr Haripal Singh Gill withdrew his nomination for the post of Vice President.

As per the convention of the Society, during the Joint Meeting of the Past Presidents and the Executive Committee Members held on 21st Aug, 2004, the Members unanimously accepted the selection of Mr Gautam Chadha as the next Vice President.

Mr. Ranjan Bhalla (Ex 368-J '72) proposed and Mr. Jaspreet Singh (Ex 285-T '76) seconded the election.

The House unanimously approved the above resolution.

After elections, **the Executive Committee for the year 2004-2005** was declared constituted by the President, Mr. Nitán Kapoor as under :

1. Mr. Anoop Bishnoi	(Ex 112-J)	President	-	-
2. Mr. Gautam Chadha	(Ex 389-H)	V President	-	-
3. Mr. Lalit Badhwar	(Ex 173-T)	Member	A	Above 50 Years
4. Mr. Raj Nath Khosla	Ex 349-K)	Member	A	-do-
5. Mr. Jayant Sahai	(Ex 36-H)	Member	B	40 - 50 Years
6. Mr. Kishore K Lahiri	(Ex 30-K)	Member	B	-do-
7. Mr. Ranjan Bhalla	(Ex 368-J)	Member	B	-do-
8. Mr. Gurmeet Singh	(Ex 883-T)	Member	C	30 – 40 Years
9. Mr. Sharad C Sharma	(Ex 334-J)	Member	C	-do-
10. Mr. Ravibir Singh	(Ex 19-K)	Member	C	-do-
11. Mr. Vivek Narain	(Ex 564-K)	Member	D	Under 30 Years
12. Mr. Justin Burrett	(Ex 060-J)	Member		(University Rep.)

VII. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Bawa Gurvachan Singh (Ex 193-K '44) proposed and Brig. Y.M. Desai (Ex 61-T '39) seconded and it was unanimously resolved that M/s. V. Sahai & Company, Chartered Accountants, G-68 Connaught Circus, New Delhi – 110 001 be and are hereby reappointed as the Statutory Auditors of The Doon School Old Boys' Society for the Financial Year 2004-2005 on an Honorary basis.

VIII. Any other business with the permission of the Chair.

- A) (i) Mr. Baljit Singh Malik (Ex 73-K '55) stated that he had three points to convey to the House on his observations during his stay for 3 days during the Founders' Day Celebration. He was of the opinion that Old Boys' should not have '*Quid-Pro-Quo*' attitude towards the School. He wanted Old Boys to go all out to improve the School with no expectations in return. He feels that they should not ask what the School has done for them but instead ask what they have done for the School.
(ii) Secondly, he noticed that the supporting staff of the School, perhaps do not get provided for, so they have a sense of belonging to the School.
(iii) Lastly, he thought that since there are girl students also passing out of the school and are Alumni of the School, the name of the Society can be amended from 'The Doon School Old Boys' Society' to 'The Doon School Alumni Society'.
 - B) With regard to Admissions of Old Boys' wards, Mr. Ravibir Singh (Ex 19-K '83) suggested that any vacancy, which may arise during the mid term, would be given to Old Boys' children in future. This suggestion was welcomed by the House.
 - C) Mr. Nalin Khanna (Ex 563-H'80) wanted to know the reason why a certain member had not been selected for Membership of the Executive Committee. According to him, this member had done lot of work for the Society in the past. The President, Mr. Kapoor informed him that the concerned candidate was also the Delhi Regional Representative and in his said capacity was always invited to attend all EC Meetings and could continue to contribute further in this capacity too.
 - D) Mr. Satinder Puri (Ex 49-K '52) referred to Mr. Rajbir Singh's letter to the President regarding change in the Society Conventions. He wanted Mr. Anoop Bishnoi, the President to read the letter, discuss it and reply suitably to Mr. Rajbir Singh. The President has confirmed that he will discuss with the EC its contents and take suitable action.
- IX.** Mr. Anoop Bishnoi, the incoming President addressed the House by informing the House that the Society represented the Members' vision, their feelings and equality and transparency of processes therein. He stated that he was honoured to be a Member of this fraternity. He assured everyone that he would do his best for the Society and its growth.

He stated that some Members felt that the Executive Committee Members, especially the President had accumulated power but he wanted to assure them that there was nothing like that. He hoped that the Members should try and understand what the President was endeavouring to accomplish and realize that there are limitations. He said that the Executive Committee Members were not crusaders or warriors but had more responsibility to the fraternity and requested the Members to continue to repose faith in them. He promised the House that he would do his best. He then briefly informed the House, the major issues facing the Old Boys' at present:

- a) Every Member wants admission for their children in the School. Since the last few years, the Board of Governors had interacted with the Executive Committee and had assured the Committee that they would do their best to help Old Boys' with

regard to Admissions. He felt that they are sincere to the cause and were doing their best for Old Boys' progenies. He requested everyone to communicate directly with him on this issue.

- b) The cost of education for higher studies had gone up tremendously. Some Old Boys' children leaving school, had to relinquish their aspiration for higher studies because of ever increasing expenses. The President hoped to establish a Corpus for this and he requested everyone to support and render help for this cause.
- c) He appreciated the efforts of Mr. Nitán Kapoor for his unstinted and excellent work done in the past many years. He stated that he had the highest respect for Mr. Kapoor and would always have the fraternity's and school's interests at heart.
- d) The President wanted Members to focus on the fraternity and suggest ways and means to improve this.
- e) The President stated that there was plan for a Dosco Summit next year where IPSS, BOG and EC Members would meet and discuss all important issues.
- f) Finally, he expressed his gratitude to all Members and assured them that he would not let them down.

Mr. Saroj K Mehera (Ex 122-K '44) proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing President who had served the Society so admirably during his tenure. He also thanked all outgoing Members for their work and welcomed the incoming President and the New Committee members.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting came to an end.

Geeta Bhaskaran, Executive Secretary.

AGENDA FOR THE 66th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY TO BE HELD AT THE DOON SCHOOL, DEHRA DUN ON SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2005 AT 11.00 A.M.

- I. To pass a condolence resolution and observe two minutes silence on the sad demise of the following members: -
 1. Mr. Uma S Bajpai IFS (Retd.) (Ex 041-H) Class of 1937
 2. Mr. A. N. Haksar (Ex 049-K) Class of 1940
 3. Dr. M.K. Senapati, FRCS (Ex 219-K) Class of 1941
 4. Mr. Jai Krishna Garg (Ex 064-T) Class of 1942
 5. Mr. Bansi Lal Dhar (Ex 231-T) Class of 1943
 6. Lt Col Satish Chandra Rai (Retd.) (Ex 273-K) Class of 1946
 7. Lt Gen F N Bilimoria (Retd.) (Ex 076-K) Class of 1948
 8. Mr. Debi Prosad Tribedi (Ex 217-K) Class of 1948
 9. Mr. Hasan Saif Tyabji (Ex 183-T) Class of 1950
 10. Mr. Birendra Singh (Ex 136-J) Class of 1953
 11. Dr. Parash Moni Das IPS (Ex 298-H) Class of 1969
- II. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 65th Annual General Meeting.
- III. Discussion of matters arising out of the Minutes
- IV. A report by the President on the activities of the year.
- V. Approval of Accounts as at 31st March 2005 .
- VI. Re-election of Office bearers.
- VII. Appointment of Auditors.
- VIII. New Membership :
 - a) Arun Ahuja - Ex 206-K, April 1985 – August 1986 - 3 terms
 - b) Tarak Sood – Ex 147-TB, April 1990 – August 1992 - 5 terms
- XI. Any other business with the permission of the Chair.

DSOBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS - ATTENDANCE - OCTOBER 2004 TO OCTOBER 2005

S. No	Name	Status	Age Grp	Elected in	To retire in	ECM 3 Dec 04	ECM 11 Feb. 05	ECM 24 Mar 05	ECM 20 May 05	ECM 18 Aug 05	ECM 30-Sep 05	Total attendance
1	Anoop Bishnoi	President	-	04 (98)	2006	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	6 of 6
2	Gautam Chadha	V. President	-	04 (00)	2006	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	4 of 6
3	Raj Nath Khosla	Member	A	2004	2008	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	1 of 6
4	Lalit Badhwar	Member	A	2001	2005	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	0 of 6
5	Jayant Sahai	Member	B	2001	2005	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	4 of 6
6	Kishore K Lahiri	Member	B	2004	2008	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	4 of 6
7	Ranjan Bhalla	Member	B	2004	2008	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	5 of 6
8	Gurmeet Singh	Member	C	2001	2005	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	6 of 6
9	Ravibir Singh	Member	C	2002	2006	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	4 of 6
10	Sharad C Sharma	Member	C	2001	2005	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	4 of 6
11	Vivek Narain	Member	D	2004	2008	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	4 of 6
12	Hari Pal Singh Gill	Pres.Nom	-	2004	2006	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	4 of 6
13	Moin A Qureshi	Pres Nom	-	2004	2006	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	5 of 6
14	Justin Burrett	Uni Rep	-	2004	2008	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	0 of 6

With Best Wishes from

Darshan Singh, 90-T, Class of 1962

(Pan India)

**THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2005**

AS AT 31.03.04	LIABILITIES	AS AT 31.03.2005	AS AT 31.03.2004	ASSETS	AS AT 31.03.2005
GENERAL FUND			FIXED ASSETS		
5,594,327.16	Balance B/F	5,594,327.16	-	Flat 1007 Bhikaiji C.Place, N.Dlhi	4,959,014.00
	Add : Cl. 66 - Ambulance(Transferred)	12,954.50		Less: Depreciation @ 5%	247,950.70
	Cl 62 - Library Books -do-	5,000.00			4,711,063.30
		17,954.50		Furniture & Fixtures	96,347.00
		5,612,281.66		Less : Depreciation @ 15%	14,452.05
	Less : Excess Expenditure over Income	277,888.82	2,254.00	Fax Machine	-
		5,334,392.84	1,600.00	Computer set	-
COMMITTED FUND			INVESTMENTS		
8,200,213.51	PMT Sectt Fund	9,623,555.28		GENERAL FUND	
1,050,000.00	Bursary - DSOBS	1,050,000.00	2,200,000.00	H.D.F.C	1,100,000.00
685,398.20	Bursary - Singapore OBs	738,398.20		GOI BOND - HDFC	1,200,000.00
134,334.00	Hyd.House Renovation	134,334.00		Syndicate Bank	2,216,000.00
165,335.00	Jaipur House Renovation	3,653.00	2,316,000.00		4,516,000.00
5,000.00	Class 62 - Library Books	-		COMMITTED FUND	
12,954.50	Class 66 - Ambulance	-		PMT Sectt Fund - GOI BD & HDFC FDs	4,775,000.00
511,510.00	Class 67 - Expdn Doon School	535,404.59	8,035,000.00	BURSARY - HDFC/Syndicate Bank	1,750,000.00
438,579.40	Class 75 - Archives	478,579.40	1,714,000.00		
3,129,873.00	Class 79 - Silver Jubilee	993,255.53		CLASS 67 - EXPDN - SYN. BANK	500,000.00
	Class 80 - Silver Jubilee	1,140,000.00	429,000.00	CLASS 75 ARCHIVES PROJECT - HDFC	400,000.00
	Class 81 - Silver Jubilee	165,000.00	400,000.00	CLASS 79 - SILVER JUBILEE-SYN BK	750,000.00
80,114.60	Class 82 - Silver Jubilee	170,542.60	1,370,000.00	CLASS 80 - SILVER JUBILEE -SYN BK	1,139,000.00
89,718.50	Madras Region	92,529.60		CLASS 82 - SILVER JUBILEE - SYN BK	170,000.00
49,492.00	Publications - DSOBS	49,492.00		MADRAS REGION - C.B.I.	46,146.00
	Rose Bowl Project	525,723.94	45,151.00	Fr Templeton/Syndicate Bank- Misc.	1,985,864.30
280,515.10	Sporting Activities	701,934.10	825,000.00		11,516,010.30
	Tsunami Relief Efforts	587,232.07		STOCK	
12,500.00	Website - DSOBS	-	16,989,634.31	Memorabilia	453,495.53
				DOSCO Record 96	630.00
				The Doon School Book	1,840.00
				For Hills to Climb	23,050.00
					479,015.53
				ADVANCES	
				Doon School Current A/c	112,710.00
				Grant Accrued but not due	52,500.00
				Tax Deducted at Source	10,118.54
					175,328.54
				CASH & BANK BALANCES	
				Central Bank of India C-A/c-Chennai	46,383.60
				Syndicate Bank - S/B A/c- Delhi **	797,752.93
				Cash in hand	578.00
					844,714.53
20,439,864.97	TOTAL	22,324,027.15	20,439,864.97	TOTAL	22,324,027.15

**Note : Balance in Savings Bank A/c with the Syndicate Bank includes Rs. 680665.76 relating to Committed Funds.

In terms of our separate report of even date
For V. SAHAI & CO.
(CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS)

New Delhi
18-Aug-05

(Executive Secretary)

(President)

(Mahesh Sahai)
Partner

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2004 TO 31.03.2005.

01.04.2003 TO 31.03.2004	EXPENDITURE	01.04.2004 TO 31.03.2005	01.04.2003 TO 31.03.2004	INCOME	01.04.2004 TO 31.03.2005
	- Loss from sale of Memorabilia	36,786.10	359,782.15	Advertisements - Rose Bowl	238,997.00
	- Loss from sale of 'For Hills to Climb'	90,686.00	8,365.00	AGM/Founders' Day - Surplus	32,991.00
	- Loss from sale of 'The Doon School - 60 yrs on'	6,760.00	106,457.50	Std Chartd Bank Cr. Card.	162,981.50
5,137.00	Bank Charges	1,394.56	81,504.90	Citibank -do-	24,483.08
293,300.00	Bursary/Donation to The Doon School	175,500.00	78,500.00	Donation	3,600.00
80,000.00	Bursary/Scholarship - Salangaon Pr. School	40,000.00	2,000.00	DS Weekly Subscription	-
	- Donation to Leprosy Mission	5,000.00	626,596.23	Interest received	456126.75
	- Depreciation on Fixed Assets	262,402.75	70,000.00	IPSS Grant	70,000.00
279,355.00	Establishment	340,134.00	210,000.00	Membership Subscription	232,000.00
51,000.00	Fin Aid - H D Manocha	-	42,106.02	Memorabilia	-
3,380.00	Fixed Assets written off	3,854.00		DOSCO Record 1996	1,340.00
650.00	Misc exps	-			
6,788.74	Postage & Telegram	3,298.00			
19,367.00	Printing & Stationery	13,986.00			
290,229.00	Rose Bowl Newsletter	287,192.00			
71,900.00	Telephone Exps	19,557.74			
104,753.00	Travelling Expenses	91,357.00			
	Website	122,500.00			
					1,222,519.33
379,452.06	Excess income over expenditure	-		Excess of Expenditure over Income	277,888.82
1,585,311.80	TOTAL	1,500,408.15	1,585,311.80	TOTAL	1,500,408.15

In terms of our separate report of even date
For V. SAHAI & CO.
(CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS)

New Delhi
18-Aug-05

(Executive Secretary)

(President)

(Mahesh Sahai)
Partner

THE SIXTY NINERS CELEBRATE THEIR THIRTY FIFTH

[By Sanjiv K. Kapoor – 32-K, 1969]

The batch of '69 celebrated their 35th reunion with a trip to a jungle resort in Corbett Park in December. It was just the right weather to sit around bon fires and relive old memories. It was a decent gathering with spouses and some children. We all had a great time together wining, dining and of course jeep and elephant rides in the jungles.

With the children growing up, there were two weddings during the year – of Ravinder Kumar's son, Siddharth (668-J) and Arvind Prasad's son Vibhas (184-H '97). It was great to have Mr. Vohra and Mr. Gurdial Singh amongst us at the weddings.

The year saw some of us slow down in their careers and settle for things dear to their hearts, while some (like Ravinder) decided to venture into new businesses – manufacturing low priced tractors, which are much in demand.

This is also an appeal to all batchmates to update their telephone numbers/e-mails/addresses, etc., if there are any changes.

P.S. My phone number has changed from 2621350 to 29233550, please make a note.



Standing - L to R - Harendra Singh (318-T '69), Mantaj Singh (204-J '69), Sanjiv Kapoor (32-K '69), Tejendra Garg (7-J '69), Navtaj Singh (350-T '69), Bharat Swaroop (312-H '69), Arvind Prasad (284-H '69), Rajesh Wadhwa (285-J '69), Mukesh Sawhney (203-J '69)
Sitting - L to R - Sujata Singh, Jaya Kapoor, Kirenreet Singh, Nishi Garg, Damini Wadhwa



L to R - Bharat Swaroop (312-H '69), Arvind Prasad (284-H '69), Rajesh Wadhwa (258-J '69) and Harendra Singh (318-T '69)

P. M. DAS, MY FRIEND¹³

[By Bharat Swaroop, 312-H, 1969]

The Last Post has sounded. A brilliant career comes to an end. **Dr. Paras Moni Das, Additional Director General of Police in Punjab**, is no more.

It was exactly 40 years ago that a small, timid boy in 'D' Form wrote an article for this Weekly titled, 'My Friend Bharat'. How was I to know then that I would attend his funeral in Patiala on 28 September 2005 accompanied by some of our classmates and roommates. With all pomp and ceremony, PM was consigned to the pyre amidst a devastated family and grieving friends and colleagues.

"Posh Dosh", as he was sometimes called by us, was a fine runner and excelled in track events. He played for Hyderabad House in the team sports, but did much better in individual activities like boxing and cross-country. Always an achiever, he went on to win the Markers Cup for Maths and got a high 1st grade in the Senior Cambridge examinations.

A roommate of mine throughout our schooling, PM was a brave boy and would stand up to the toughest kids (even me) when required. A kindly soul, he was ready to help where he could (Maths, in my case). An individualist by nature, he formed his own opinions about everything and everybody, sometimes against popular beliefs. A hero, both in his professional and personal life.

PM was a Master in School for a short stint and then joined the Indian Police Service in the Punjab cadre. His hobby and passion was mountain climbing. Living day-to-day through these dangerous activities, PM cheated death on numerous occasions. He was shot in the chest as a policeman and escaped from a mountaineering accident. Death finally overtook him and his colleagues last month when a massive avalanche buried them on a mountain slope in Sikkim. He was a good friend from start to finish.

¹³ From the Doon School Weekly, Saturday, October 8, 2005, Issue No. 2098.

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[By Vijay Rastogi¹⁴, 27-T, 1957]

It all started with a page out of "Serving Crazy With Curry," a recent novel by Amulya Malladi, one of the many new Indian authors who write about the immigrant experience in America. Very briefly, it is a story of a family in crisis with complex relationships between mothers, daughters, husbands, fathers, and sisters. A distressed daughter finds an emotional outlet through cooking, which gets spicier when she is angry. It is a dark comedy, delightful and entertaining. In the book, one of the guests at a party at an Indian Californian home happens to be a has-been Bollywood actress. Of course, she becomes the central focus of the party and, enjoying the limelight, is encouraged to talk about her on-screen experiences. A proficient name-dropper, she casually mentions acting opposite Shashi Kapoor. She holds her audience keenly attentive and totally captivated when she talks about Shashi's personal life like she was his closest and dearest friend and discloses how devastated Shashi was when his wife Jennifer passed away.

Jennifer? Jennifer, I thought. Heck, I knew Jennifer. I knew Jennifer when I was about 15 and in Doon School. My gosh, that one sentence in the book brought back so many memories.

Jennifer Kendall was the daughter of the Kendalls of Shakespeareana fame. They and their troupe traveled the world over, performing Shakespeare, George Bernard Shaw, etc. in which Jennifer usually played the female lead. About once a year, they visited the School for about a week and performed in the Rose Bowl. Sometimes schoolboys

performed with them though mostly in secondary roles and as extras, except for Deepak Lal (H-319, SC '55, ISc '57). Deepak (I hope he will forgive me when he reads this) was a celebrated actor of his time, and he looked and acted especially well when he performed female leads – such as Ophelia, or was it Juliet? But I digress from Jennifer.

I, too, sometimes got a chance to act with the Kendall troupe or if not, I tried to volunteer for stagehand or just a gofer so I could be close to Jennifer and look at her. Jennifer, at the time, was, I would say, about 22 years old. She was a blonde English beauty who was in the dreams of all who I knew. At 15 or 16, all those I really knew consisted of other 15 and 16 year olds whose hormones were forever in a state of high ecstasy (those are Anil Anand's (T-39, SC '55) words in 1955, so I want to give him due credit).

Jennifer was tall. Jennifer was slim. She was always so charming with us boys, flirting sometimes with the fortunate ones. She lit our fire. She gave us an unusual but somehow indescribably delicious ache in the solar plexus. I think she had this effect on all, because so many just hung around with open mouths. I know for sure she had that effect on me. My best friend, Madhukar Saran (T-97, SC '55), could vouch for that.

A few years later I heard that she had married handsome actor Shashi Kapoor of the Bollywood Kapoors, a dynasty that reigns supreme even now, some fifty years and two generations later. But life intervened and I never thought of Jennifer again, until I read

this novel.

I was curious. What happened to Jennifer? She died? When? She wasn't that old. What was her life like? She had given so many of us so much pleasure at our tender ages and left us with so many unfulfilled, yet pleasurable, dreams and fantasies. I wanted to find out.

So, I did what one does these days. I Googled "Shashi Kapoor" and I found hits galore about the Kapoors. I studied the family pictures, a couple with Jennifer with her children.

Children?! Well, why shouldn't she have had children. After all I have grown older and I have children. Just because I hadn't thought about Jennifer, didn't mean she was standing still as the world moved on and I got older. But this wasn't enough. I wanted more.

On a hunch, I Googled "Jennifer Kendall" and there it was. An entire page on Jennifer Kapoor. Perhaps it was written by Shashi. Perhaps by someone close to them. It told the poignant story of how they met and fell in love and their trials and tribulations as they tried to get their families' to accept their union. It talked about their love for one another and their twenty-six year marriage, three children and tragically, cancer claimed her in 1984.

Reading "Serving Crazy with Curry" and Googling Jennifer brought back so memories of school and friends, teachers and the campus. Although there are so many I will never see again, I hope to refresh the memories when I visit the school again and walk over to the Rose Bowl.

¹⁴ Vijay Rastogi has lived in USA since 1961. He can be reached at mvti@aol.com.

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THE 11TH BAWA VIKRAM SINGH MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

[By Deepak Dhawan, 377-T, 1963]

An absolutely wonderful day!

The 11th Bawa Vikram Singh Memorial Golf tournament has grown in size and stature and has truly become an event in the social calendar for Vicky's friends, Doscocs and those unfortunate enough not to belong to either of those two categories. Vicky most certainly must have been smiling.

Hatfield Golf Club, U.K., was the venue again - **Sunday the 26th of June**. The golfers, photographers and caddies started trickling in around 11 AM for breakfast with tea or coffee or something stronger. The Cigars were in full flow well before noon. Nitan Kapoor was there as the official photographer (I am told that next year, his wife Abha, will take over - as she has in every other aspect of his life. Sorry Abha!) and he will participate in the golf tournament. We shall see - but no imminent danger to the pro's. Saw Daman Raj Singh, Anand Bhatia - to name a couple of new old Doscocs. And to top it, there was Jay Bawa - Vicky's son. It was perfect.

And then it was 'tee off' time. 10 groups of 4. The game was on. Much yelling, screaming, cursing - a few high fives, many lost balls. Told some superb golf was played (mostly the youngsters - meaning under 50!). I was in a group with Tiny Chowdhry, Ravi Ghai and Bitloo Sethi - plus my caddie and son Danny. The tag team.

Much banter between some excellent golf.

Tiny to Bitloo: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?" Bitloo: "Eventually."

Tiny to Ravi: How do you like my game, RG ?

Ravi: "Beautiful, but personally, I prefer golf."

Tiny to Deepak: I'd bloody move heaven and earth to break 90 on this damn course."

Deepak: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

Bitloo to Ravi: "Hey, don't you think my game is improving?"

Ravi: Of course. You miss the ball much closer now."

And then back to the Club House - and moaning, groaning, fudged handicaps, *jaappees*, laughter - remembering 'Daru' and

the "both of you three - on the double...". Boy - it was down memory lane - a happy memory lane and really this day was thanks to our love and friendship with the Bawa.

At 8 PM we gathered at Gaylord - and now there were nearly a hundred of us - wives, kids, mistresses - the works. This being hosted by Ravi Ghai. And it was great. Plenty of drinks - and I mean plenty. Brilliant snacks. And I mean brilliant. The 'Shamey Kebab' was superb. Result - a very cheerful, if noisy group, plenty of youngsters (under 50!), lots of beautiful women (Oh temptation!) - and the prize giving. An introduction by Bitloo Sethi (Chief Organiser - and a good one at that), a short speech by Deepak (last year's winner) recalling Vicky - and that Vicky would have said - Chill out and have a ball!

We were graced by Vicky's sister Punnie (and Mickey) and the prizes were given out by Punnie and Jay. **The Champion was Karam Sethi** - benefiting from the family golfing genes which skipped his father's generation fortunately - and with a 4 over par he also easily won the lowest gross. **Second was another Sethi boy - Jyotin** and **third was Ravi Ghai** with a lowly 40 points on the Stableford system. **Tiny got closest to the pin and Dhanu the longest drive** - a monster 310 yards. Moral - for brute force and precision you need to be an oldie - and we encouraged the youngsters by letting them win. Note: Ravi Ghai came 3rd - to show that we are in fact, in controll!

More drinks - and sumptuous food and photographs. Ex Doscocs, Ex Tata House, Class of 63, friends and more friends. Brilliant.

And next year, 2006, is the Year of the Bawa (206-J). And somehow, I know it will be even more memorable.

Vicky we do miss you.

Doscocs who took part included Ravi Ghai [ex 269 K '61], Arvind Chowdhry [ex 89 J '63], Deepak Dhawan [ex 377 T '63], Vijay Thapar [ex 295 J '64], Arvind Bhatia [ex 70 T '63], Ashish Bhatia [ex 636 T '95], Haren Di Silva [ex 67 H '61], Jay Bawa [ex 206 J '97], Rahul Jit Singh [ex 640 K '95].

Sponsors of this BVS Memorial are Nitan Kapoor, Harash Sethi, Vijay Thapar, Deepak Dhawan, Tiny Chowdhry, Anil Sabharwal, Pratap Dube, Inni Bawa, Dimpy Mehra.



The BVS Sponsors - L to R - Anil (Dimpi) Mehra, Ravi Ghai [ex 269 K '61], Vijay (Tanz) Thapar [ex 295 J '64], Harash Sethi, Deepak Dhawan [ex 377 T '63], Nitan Kapoor [ex 151 J '66], Arvind (Tiny) Chowdhry [ex 89 J '63]



The DOSCO contingent - Back Row: Tiny, Ravi, Seth, Tanz, Haren Di Silva, Deepak, Nitan, Daman Raj Singh, Middle - Sitting: Rajan Mehta & Vijai Kapur Front Row: Jay Bawa, Rohaan Kapoor, Pranav Sahai & Rahul Jit Singh

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Appan Nair, 250-T '53 – May 30, 2005

"My dear K.K. Lahiri,

On 14th May, 2005 A.D., fell the **Birth Centenary** of a most noble human being – my late father, **Mr. K.N.P. Nair, the first Indian Housemaster of Tata House, the Doon School, Dehra Dun.**

The date drifted, gently, away in the steady stream of time, without fanfare — but , with much affection. I just felt you may wish to know.

He was so intensely dedicated — as a friend, a son, a brother, a husband, a father, a grand-parent, a teacher, a guardian and as an educationist of the finest caliber. I am '67' now, and have yet to meet a better man. His students, both rich and poor, were most dear to him.

Both, my address and phone number must change soon — the phone number till mid-June '05 was: 0484-2363325 (Res).

I had written to your President well before 14.5.05 — but, to the old address of the 'DSOBS'. I am not sure whether he received it. I am out of touch with 'the Rose Bowl' — if you have been sending me copies of it, please stop it, till I provide you with a new address.¹⁵

I have not been receiving them. **An old boy sent me 'the RB' of March, 2005 A.D. — I look forward to your articles in it, to be read soon.**

Of course, you never knew my father, nor me¹⁶ — I was a house-captain of un-divided T House in the mid-1950s, and was keen on both sports and studies.

On 14.5.05, a good many old boys made it a point to phone me; 'Gu-Sir' (Geography) too phoned — so good and thoughtful of them! Earlier, and later, others did too, including 'Mr. Chary' who taught English at 'Doon' in the early years, and is now '85; retired from the IFS. So kind of all of them. 'Gu-Sir' & 'Mr. Chary' were truly nostalgic — may God bless them!

With my very best wishes to all of you,

Sincerely,
Appan"

Appan Nair, 250-T '53 – September 12, 2005

"Dear Sir

Since my father passed away in mid-July, 1993, my address¹⁷ has kept changing often.

Now and for the next few years, it is, and should be:

Appan Nair

(A.H.N. Nair)

Inmate

'Vanaprastha Ashramam'

Sree Ramakrishna Sevashramam

Azad Road, Kaloor, Kochi-682017 (KERALA)

The Office Phone No.: 0484-2342361

I am well over 67 years of age now and a former House-Captain of 'T' House of the mid-1950's.

With my very best wishes to the old School and all of you

Yours faithfully

Appan Nair

(A.H.N. Nair)"

Aamir Ali (214-K – 1939) – July 28, 2005

"Thank you for the circular of 25 July. It was most helpful and satisfying to know what you and your colleagues have achieved. Congratulations and thanks for keeping us informed.

Since you have mentioned my name (alphabetically, I often have an advantage over others!) I think it worth telling you why I chose to make my humble contribution to you rather than to the scores of other collections In Geneva (where I live), just about every international organization and many NGOs organized collections; however, I am rather allergic to these large impersonal collections. One always has the niggling suspicion that a lot of the money goes in administration, coordination, studies and pure waste. One donates money to these more to salve one's conscience than with any expectation that it will be fully and well used.

So when I got your first appeal and learnt that some of our colleagues on the spot were doing something practical, it seemed the most satisfying way of trying to help.

I applaud your intention of setting up a permanent fund, making it possible to respond speedily to emergencies.

Does the DS still send relief expeditions to disaster areas¹⁸? If so, there could be an occasional link up with them.

Thank you and all your many colleagues for this effort.

With best wishes,

Aamir Ali (214 K - 1939)

P.S. This is meant to be a personal letter but, if you wish, you are free to publish it, or extracts from it."

Parvesh Swani (106-T '52) – July 29, 2005

"Thanks for your excellent letter. I was delighted to see what the DSOBS did for the Tsunami victims.

In our own little world here in Baltimore, USA, we have built a temple. We collected over \$ 40,000 from the Indian community here and sent it to NGOs in India and Sri Lanka for the Tsunami victims. I am sure there are many NGOs who undertook similar efforts around the world. It would be interesting to hear from them.

Thanks

Parvesh Swani

(Ex 106-T, 1952)"

KPS Menon, 215-J '45 - September 20, 2005

"Sir,

May I congratulate you on the July issue which I found of more than usual interest? (The March issue did not reach me). I also read with much enjoyment and some nostalgia Manucha's reminiscences. Perhaps I might throw some light on the Bhanwar Singh incident and add some snippets, if your space permits.

Bhanwar Singh, and some others, attended the Assembly on April 13, the anniversary of the horrendous massacre at Jallianwala Bagh, with black armbands. Foot said at the end of Assembly that he noticed an addition to the school uniform and asked that it be removed. Dinesh Singh told me many years later that he and some others had met Foot later in the day. Evidently, they could not dissuade Foot from expelling Bhanwar. I did not know about what happened at the playing field but I doubt very much that Foot, being the sort of man he was, would have bowed to the remonstrances of the boys. I think it more likely that he obtained an undertaking from Bhanwar's parents, and had always intended to, that Bhanwar would not indulge in politics again while in school. This might explain why he came back a different person: perhaps he felt that he had been let down by his parents.

But Foot was by no means a dyed-in-the-wool colonial Britisher. He had written to a national newspaper during the war objecting

¹⁵ Mr. Nair, we will now send you this issue alongwith the last three issues to your permanent address given in your subsequent letter of September 12, 2005.

¹⁶ Our loss! Mr. Nair.

¹⁷ We will now make good our promise of sending you this issue and the last three issues together to your new but permanent address.

¹⁸ The School still does, Mr. Aamir Ali. The Doon School sent teams of boys and teachers to help out in earthquake affected Gharwal and later to earthquake ravaged Gujarat. I can check the details for the last decade and let you know.