



NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2022

MEMORIES

Golam Kibria (Batch 41)

The idea of brotherhood is as old as humanity and it is no surprise that the camaraderie we developed in our formative years, is still here with us. On a Sunday evening, I am writing for this newsletter, is a testament to that feeling. We are long past our teenage years, the most mischievous among us are domesticated enough to follow their household commandments, and adrenaline, my friend, not in abundance anymore, in any of us. I came to Australia 10 years back and the guy who received me was my batch-mate. I haven't seen him for 12 years but both of us knew that it doesn't matter. My first dwelling place, my first blue collar job, my first white collar job in Australia... all had Faujian connection. This connection gives us an edge in an alien land and I am sure that this is the case that happens to all of us, in Australia or in Canada or America or wherever you are. Man is the only animal that has the ability to look back, to retrospect and be enchanted by memories. Memories, my friend, are life savers. An ode to those beautiful memories...

NEW FAUJIAN IN THE BLOCK!

Name: Radif Chowdhury

Batch: 60

House: Rabindra



Recently arrived in Melbourne to pursue his studies (Bachelor of Computer Science, Swinburne University, Melbourne). During his college years Radif was active in sports & several clubs. OFA Melbourne welcomes its junior most member yet OFnRadif to the community.

MOHIUDDIN BHAI UPDATE

Amerul Haq (Batch 32)

Mohiuddin Bhabi's return from Bangladesh had a very positive impact on the family. The children have gone back to regularly attending school. Mohiuddin bhai has some longer term complications for which the doctors are being consulted.

Ex-Faujians from Sydney are in contact with his family and have arranged a clean up of the house and helping with other amenities. We still have some of the funds collected. Recently we paid a visit to Mohiuddin bhai to consult with his family about the most urgent requirements and the funds will be spent accordingly. We will give an update in due course. Thanks to every Faujian coming forward to help Mohiuddin bhai. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.



MELBOURNE GET TOGETHER - FEB 2022

Ziaul Bashar (Batch 34)

OFA Melbourne has a tradition of organising a get together at least once a year. Due to pandemic the tradition was disrupted for more than 2 years. Finally, on 26th Feb 2022 a get together was held again at Jells Park, Melbourne. Any outdoor event in Melbourne is challenging, if it is not in summer, because of its unpredictable weather. This time the mother nature was in our favour.

Faujians and their families were eagerly waiting for this long pending event. 21 Faujians (among 34 Faujians from Melbourne) attended the event with their families. Bhabis arranged snacks followed by a dinner. The dinner was cooked by Arju Bhabi (wife of Mahbub Bhuiyan Bhai, 27th batch). Tora Bhabi (wife of Mushfiq Bhai, 6th batch) baked a cake for celebrating 25 years of first faujians gathering in Melbourne. Other Bhabis made/prepared snacks and desserts.

OFA Melbourne welcomed the most junior Faujian Radif (batch 60) to the community. Radif attended the event with his friend from JCC. Tora Bhabi and Mushfiq Bhai shared their memories on the first OFA get together in Melbourne. Faujians, their families and the kids enjoyed the evening a lot.



SydneyOFA Iftar – Apr '22



Khurshid Reza (Batch 35)

On the 23rd of April, OFA NSW team organised an Iftar party for Faujians living in Sydney. The event was organised on a rather short notice. The Sydney Iftar Scene has become quite popular these days and venues for Iftar are quite hard to come by during Ramadan if not booked well in advanced. With a few suggestions from Faujians a restaurant (Himalaya) was booked.

Due to the limitations, we couldn't get the extended families this time around. The lesson was learnt! Despite the short notice quite a few Faujians participated in the Iftar. While we missed the Faujians who could not participate due to other commitments, it was most encouraging to see a number of young Faujians from Batch 40 and above participate in the event. Ishaq bhai (Batch 17, fifth from right to left above) was visiting Australia and on this occasion was able to join us. This was also the last Faujian event that Masud bhai (Batch 31, seventh from right to left above), could attend before his departure back to Bangladesh from this post of Consul General, Bangladesh Consulate in Sydney.

All in all, it was a pleasant evening in the company of fellow Faujians. No doubt this event should be a regular one in Sydney's social calendar in the future, hopefully with more participants and families.



FAUJIAN HEARTS AND CADET COLLEGE PORIBAR(CCP) FOUNDATION - THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Saiful Alam (Batch 29)

The “Faujian Hearts” initiative was germinated during the Cadets Day Out event in Sydney (September 2016), from the idea that we as an ex-cadet fraternity could give back/ fund some noble causes in Bangladesh. A few of us were looking for options and eventually started this initiative to sponsor a CCP (Cadet College Poribar) school.

Cadet College Poribar (CCP) Foundation was formed during 2010, by ex-FCC teacher late Mr. Nurul Haque, with the support of some ex-Faujians & retired teachers from other Cadet Colleges. CCP currently manages 2 schools and a farm:

1st school - Bararchaor, Polash Noshingdhi
2nd school & farm – Shondhyakura, Halua Ghat, Mymensingh



Both schools are registered and provide primary education from Kindergarten to class 5. Total around 250 students are enrolled and increasing. All students are from under privileged background. School uniform, daily lunch, books and stationery are provided. Introduction of internet-based education is planned during this year.

The Faujian Hearts participants has now grown to nearly 50 regular donors comprising from cadets living in Australia, Bangladesh & USA. Currently we generate nearly BDT 125,000/ month on average. The need however is always increasing and we are always looking for further contributions. We would like to encourage all Faujians living in Australia to contribute in this noble initiative and be part of a very worthwhile journey. This is “giving back to the community” at the very grassroot level.

If you are interested, please contact me on 0452202951 or send an email at saiful_alam@yahoo.com.

2022 OFA APAC GET TOGETHER

You should have received an email confirming the 2022 OFA Get Together in Canberra. So please block the dates in your diary – 30th September to 3rd October 2022. We have booked 25 cabins in Eagle Hawk Park in Canberra. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.