

# Yours Nabhaitely

*(This part of The eagle was compiled before the Golden Jubilee and contains material relating to 2009-10)*

## Thinking of the Teachers (Gurus)

**Mr Bhardwaj (History & Sports)** called me last night & it was a great pleasure having a long chat. I will, with good wishes from you all, do the needful as far as transport for Golden Jubilee is concerned. It helps that I am in related business. They want to go on 10th & return on 13th/14<sup>th</sup> of April. I am arranging Toyota Innova to be with them for this period. Will also coordinate with **Roger Miall (VSO 1962-63)** for his requirements----I wish they had asked for more assistance

**Col Hardeep Singh Dutta (J-64,1967)**

## Destiny

This is wonderful! Thank you for being a true ON! I regret much as I tried, I am not going to be able to make it for the celebrations. I am committed to a requirement in NY from 12th April and so will be in Delhi much later. I planned the April trip only to make it to PPS, but looks like it is not destined. It is like the House and School photographs which were taken when I was away for the NDA interview! I am not in any of them even though I was a Prefect etc!! You can not imagine how painful it is to be away and miss this.

The economy is bad, and much as my company tried I could not get the vacation at the exact time though it remains April as promised!!

**Captain Inderjit Arora (J-40, 1967)**

## The President is coming!

This is wonderful news! The contribution of so many ONs to our great country is being recognized. ".....With all of them to help we may uplift our motherland". My regret for not being able to attend is causing me even more pain. I know with you there, my heart will be represented by you and our classmates. If there are any mementos, do please purchase a set for me and I will be happy to pay for them when I come there----or maybe the School can keep a set for those of us who will not be able to attend.

My very best wishes.

**IJ Arora (J-40, 1967)**

## Your contribution

Sorry for the late reply. I have confirmed all the details on attached sheet. I would be depositing the registration fee through electronic transfer tomorrow stating the narration, "**Deposited by Amrik Singh Saini R-544.**" Being a busy doctor, your contribution to the ONA is outstanding. Please let me know if I could contribute in any manner.

**Amrik Singh Saini, (R-544, 1985)**

## Pleasant Memories and act of bravery

Thank you very much for your email. It is a pleasure to be writing to **S-52! I was S-32!** Brings back many pleasant memories.

I had googled "Old Nabhaites Association" and [www.ppsona.com](http://www.ppsona.com) was listed amongst other sites. However, there was a warning that "this site can damage your computer." Do you know what that is about? I would like to get on the site but I get so much of spam that I have changed my email service from [cox.net](http://cox.net) to [gmail.com](http://gmail.com). Gmail definitely has better filters. This message is coming to you on my gmail account. In case you are planning a trip to the USA, we hope you will put Norman, Oklahoma on your itinerary. We are in the middle of the country and this city is fairly representative of the mid-western, southern part.

Sorry, I could not get back to you earlier. Have been busy with a few things. Unfortunately, we lost our sister in May after a two-month illness during which she was in and out of ICU. Her name was **Indra**. **She was the first girl to enroll at PPS and her house-number was S-33**. I remember we used to cajole her into doing a bharatnatyam dance for the Suttlej House drama programme.

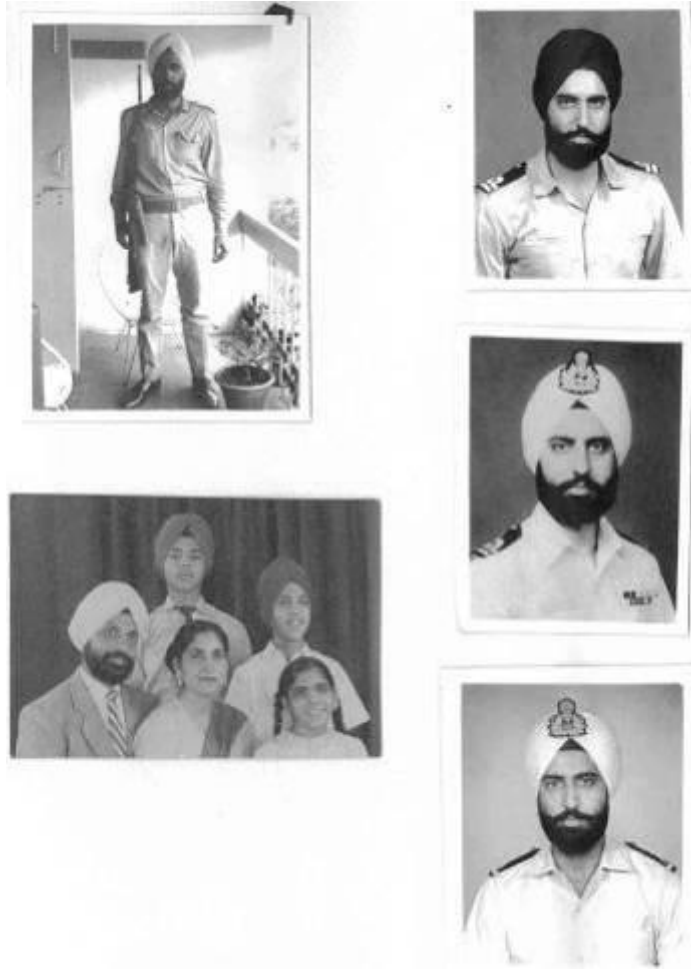
Our father, **Dr. Surjit Singh**, was the first Senior Master of PPS. He was on deputation from the Punjab Education Service and his last appointment was Principal, Sports College, Jullundur, from 1972-74. He passed away in Oklahoma City in December 2003.

I am sending a cheque for Rs. 10,000 for ONA to your address. Great site- thanks for making it possible. Regarding the **sinking of the Khukri**- I was a sub-lieutenant then. The Fourteenth Frigate Squadron had been dispatched for hunter-killer operations to patrol the northern approaches to Mumbai harbour. Khukri, Kuthar, Kirpan were proceeding in formation about thirty miles west of Diu Head when Khukri was struck by a torpedo. It hit us in the engine-room area, close to the ship's magazine. The resulting explosions must have torn some good-sized holes in the ship's side because we took on water very fast. Also, the entire after half of the ship caught fire. We had lost electrical power within a few seconds of the torpedo hitting us. Captain Mulla gave orders to abandon ship about a minute after we had been hit. It was a dark night. Everything had happened very fast and some sailors were standing by the shipside, reluctant to go into the water. We had not had a chance to lower the boats or slip the life-rafts. He urged them to get into the water. On hindsight, Mulla-sahib assessed the situation rapidly and gave his orders in quick succession. He had probably run this scenario through his mind a number of times when he planned for various contingencies that the vessel might face. He knew what to expect if the Khukri took a hit in the engine and boiler-room areas. I am sure that he had also decided then that he would go down with his vessel if it was stricken.

I left the vessel within half a minute of the order to abandon ship. My side of the ship was already in the water by then. I just swam into the sea, taking care to see that I did not get entangled in the guard-rails. I swam away from the ship as fast as I could. Within two minutes of my leaving the ship, it sank below the waves. Some life-rafts were automatically released from the ship when it sank to a pre-set depth. I was able to help some of my ship-mates on to these. We spent the night in an overloaded life-raft. The next morning we were picked up by Katchall.

We had lost many good and brave men that night, starting with Mulla-sahib.

**Madanjit Singh(S-32,1963)**, 1404 Peachtree Lane, Norman, OK-73071, USA, Profession : Retired realtor, Phone : 405-329-2338, 405-329-1553, Cell-405-255-9971, [Madanjitsingh7@gmail.com](mailto:Madanjitsingh7@gmail.com)



The Family, **Dr.Surjit Singh**, First SM of PPS, **Late Indra Surjit (S-33)** first PPS Girl and **Madanjit(S-32,1964)**, winner of Nau Sena Medal for Bravery, 1971 war.

## **Golden Jubilee**

**ON arranging a bus for Golden Jubilee from Gurgaon to Nabha**

Thank you Sir. I am following your footprints. We all must say thanks to you for putting in all the extra efforts to make this event successful.

**"TKV-Jitender" (J-04,1991)** [jitender@tkvsolutions.com](mailto:jitender@tkvsolutions.com)

**Sorry**

I would much like to attend the GJ function, but I will be in Mumbai, sorry.  
Enjoy & have fun.

**Aneesh Madan (J-254, 1975)**

## Communications from Lila Kak(Bhan)



### A Plaque for Miss Malkani

Here is what I have written for the plaque (attached). Personally I think it would be very effective to write the one sentence in Hindi and the rest in English. Her name was **Gopi Bala Malkani**. If you remember her signature, it was always **Gopi B. Malkani**.

Please do whatever you feel best. I would love to see what is finally written. Do not hesitate to send it to me even if it is totally different. I honestly have no ego problems and just want the best for the school and am very interested in everything.

It must be a really busy time for you. Are Mr. Y.P.B. and Mr Sibal coming? I bet there will be a super turnout. The VSOs are coming in full force. Wonderful!

### Nagging for Writing on Miss Malkani

Have JUST started! I will write it.

The Eagle was super and I so enjoyed Guddie's thoughts on her father. **Mr. Kate** was very remarkable I must say. Keep nagging, it is good to be reminded as there is so much school work that one gets submerged in that. Must retire as I am on wake up duty tomorrow morning in the dorm! Best wishes, and congrats on the good job you do for the Old Nabhaiites

### Article on Miss Malkani

I think I will add some bits from what you have mentioned in this letter to my article on Miss Malkani. I think this article should be in the coffee table book as a tribute to **Miss Malkani**.

Under the plaque it will need to be differently written - adapted - which I will gladly do. Please let me know how long you want it for the plaque. Unfortunately I do not have photos. As I mentioned a lot of my stuff was destroyed by militants from my mother's place in 1991. There is, however one very nice picture of her that I do have and need to locate. It was not unpacked after our return to the USA. So I need to look for it hard! In the meantime let us ask around for some. I will ask the VSOs.

Any further help, I am happy to jog my memory.

### Writings of Mr Kate, Miss Malkani, Mr Cowell and Mr Vodden

Thank you for your very nice letter. I am most touched by your having taken time to write to me in detail. I can see that even a simple thing like a CTB has all sorts of "problems"!!! But for the school and the founder members we want to honour, it is important to do all things in a polished and sincere fashion. I am sure it will turn out very well by the end. How wonderful it would have been to have some writings by **Miss Malkani, Mr Kate, Mr Vodden and Mr Cowell**, to name a few of the stalwarts of the '60's.

Very interesting about **Ranjitpal Mann(R-14, 1965)** and the Kasauli club. We were actually there a few times in October when my class celebrated their Jubilee. I would like his address, please. I wonder how his cousin **Rajpal(R-15, 1965)** is doing.

And yes I would love to see a picture of the Jubilee mug. So much to do in preparation. I bet you enjoy it. If I can help you in any way please do not hesitate to ask me.

My family and I lived in Kasauli for many, many years and I am still very attached to the place- quiet and beautiful.

### Finally it is ready

Attached is the article!! (*read elsewhere in this issue, Part2*)

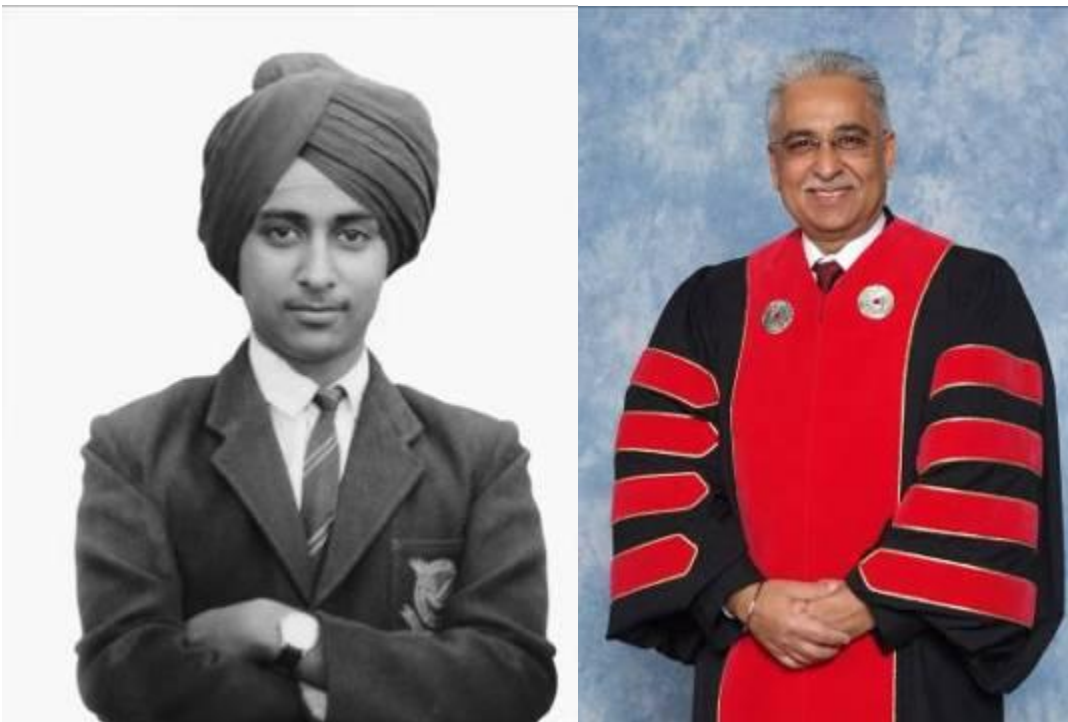
You are right. I didn't know **John Rigby**, but am in close touch with VSO s **Roger Miall, Roger Burrige, Rob Clarke, Janet Anderman and Anita Williams**. Can't locate **Dick Pine (Peace Corps)**, who lived in Lake Tahoe. In fact the VSO quotes are from most of these people. Very touching memories we all have! Have you got photos of Miss Malkani? If I find a good one, I will mail it. Many pictures got lost in the militancy problems in Kashmir - from my parents' place.

Bye for now and please do comment if any more changes should be made!

**Lila (Kak)- Bhan, Junior School 1962-66)** [lilabhan@yahoo.com](mailto:lilabhan@yahoo.com)

### **Your scolding**

I will respond to your emails more promptly. Your scolding is noted. No I am not in touch with **Harikirtan (S-24,1967 Hr Sec)** but I would love to catch up with him if you have his contact information. I would also appreciate receiving contact information on anyone else who was our contemporary. I have been delinquent in remaining in touch with people but now in the last few years I have bumped into **Manjit Saraon (J-94,1966)** **Charanjit Aulkah (R-108, 1966)** and **Haramol (J-104,1966)**.



AS Bubber in PPS and as Chancellor of Kwantlein University Vancouver, BC, Canada

I look forward to staying in touch with you and others once I get their contact information.

I am also working on getting you an old photo of me. I also have class and house photo of 1966 and 1964. Do you want me to scan and send you those pictures as well?

Lets work together on getting PPS students to our University (**my title is Chancellor and not VC.**) Let me know if I can be of any other help. Once again my apologies.

**Arvinder Bubber (J-44, 1966 ISC)** [abubber@gmail.com](mailto:abubber@gmail.com)

### **Old Nabhaites father and son**

I am **Vikrant Verma, Ex- R-0361**, a Marine Engineer by profession. I am planning to join a Post Graduation course in Naval Architecture at University of Strathclyde from Sept '09. Wonder if the ONA can let me have the contact details of Ex- Nabhaites in/and around Glasgow, United Kingdom. Also my father, **Col N K Verma, Ex R-139** requests his inclusion in the ONA group on net. His email Id is [nagenderverma1956@yahoo.in](mailto:nagenderverma1956@yahoo.in).

Many thanks for your prompt reply and thanks for the inputs too. Regards and best wishes....and yes thanks for confirming our status, we shall do the needful for the life membership soon.

**Vikrant Verma R-0361** [hunk2max@yahoo.co.in](mailto:hunk2max@yahoo.co.in)

### **Determined to be with you all**

I highly admire your initiative of informing Pune-based Nabhaites about my visit to Pune. Very well done! They got in touch with me and they have arranged a get-together tomorrow at lunch in an army mess.

With best wishes for a bright and happy NEW YEAR,

**O.P.Bhatnagar (Ex-Hindi, Arts, Drama, Jumna, Beas, Tabla etc)**

PS- We will be back in Meerut on 14.2.10. [opbhatnagar@gmail.com](mailto:opbhatnagar@gmail.com)

### **Troublesome website**

I am very much desirous of visiting PPS as and when the occasion arrives. Kindly keep me informed. However, I have been facing a lot of difficulty in opening ONA website as it seems to have been hacked. Kindly let me know if we have any alternate website to connect with. Presently I am posted at Jodhpur. Please do let me know if there are any Nabhaites around. Thanks

**Lt Col Amit Mohan Mathur (R-483, 1977 1982 after ICSE).** [amit6655@indiatimes.com](mailto:amit6655@indiatimes.com)

### **Faridkot Chapter**

We all at Kotkapura wish my fellow Old Nabhaites a very happy and fulfilling new year. Hope to see you all at PPS in April-2010

**Dr Manvir Gupta (J-371, 1979 ICSE)** [manvirarchana@hotmail.com](mailto:manvirarchana@hotmail.com)

### **Making Golf scoring easy**

Dear **Gashi (Brig.Harbax Gill S99-1965) and Karan (S-86,1970)**Sir,

Regards. Thanks a lot for announcing my name.Sending you the software.

This is presently fit for SEPTA (incl chosen secret holes). I wonder if the other software can do it faster.The following are available for editing..... Just put Name and Score on each hole

**And The Software Will Do The Rest.** Kindly **do try it out.** I am always available at your service Sir(s).

**Col Jaswant Dhaliwal (S-414)** [jastaran@yahoo.com](mailto:jastaran@yahoo.com)

### **Angling for a UNO job**

I am terribly sorry about being late in replying to your email. Just been tied up with a few issues. I had recently applied for a UNO job along with my detailed Bio-data in their prescribed format. I am forwarding a copy of this to you with the request that you may take up any portion which is relevant to the context in which you might like to use it. Looking forward to hearing from you.

### **Tracking me down**

Thanks for tracking me down. I am delighted to know that PPS is completing 50 years next year. I was not aware of this landmark and would like to participate in the proceedings.

Here are some facts which you asked for. I would send the pictures later.

1. Was the President's Gold Medal Winner for the year. Got 9 points in ISC. Stood at 2nd rank in school.

2. Did B.A. Hons in Economics from St Stephens College; Delhi, 1973-1976.

Did MBA from IIM Bangalore, 1977-1979

3. Worked with Lakme Limited from 1979 -1992. Started as a Management Trainee and the last post held was G.M. Sales and Marketing

4. Joined Cadbury India as Director Sales and Marketing in 1992-1996. Was Regional Marketing Director Cadbury, incharge of Africa, Middle East and India in 1997.

Took over as the Managing Director Cadbury India, in 1997 end till 2001.

In 2001 was posted to South Africa as Managing Director Cadbury South Africa

5. In 2001 end took over Pepsi India as Chairman till 2006 end.

In 2007 was posted to Hong Kong as Regional Commercial Director for Asia Pacific

6. From Feb 2008 till present, am the Joint Managing Director for ICICI Venture, located at ICICI Venture House, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025

Tel 022 6655 5050. Trust this will suffice as a start.

**Rajeev Bakshi (B-151,1966-1972)** [rajeev.bakshi@iciciventure.com](mailto:rajeev.bakshi@iciciventure.com)

*(Since writing this issue, Rajeev has been appointed Vice President, Managing Director designate of Metro retail with Metro,AG, the largest cash and carry German chain)*

### **Writing about Mr. Kate**

It would be my pleasure to write something on **Mr Kate**. Since I would have plenty of free time in Hong Kong I shall complete the article there and email it to you, Russeljeet and the Headmaster from there. I am also writing, absolutely in a lighter vein, on my experience as a young teacher at PPS. This, too, I would email to you all from HK.

When a medical doctor takes charge of someone he ensures that that person is fit as a fiddle and enjoys perfect health all his life. This should be with the publication as well. With you as a livewire and your unstinted support to the project, I am sure the commemorative volume would be an excellent tome. I couldn't agree more with you as far as the other points in your mail are concerned.

**Jagmohan Raju** is not back in TN; he is now Jt Secretary in the Ministry of HRD, New Delhi. I did speak to his PA yesterday and he promised to get **Jagmohan** telephone me as soon as his meeting was over. Unfortunately, there was no call from him yesterday. I shall try to speak to him today and let you know what he says.

I met **Col Hardeep Dutta (J-64,1967)** at his Toyota office yesterday. He has promised all help.

How do I contact **Hargovind Singh Dhaliwal (J-728, 1988)** who is presently Dy Commissioner, Police, in Delhi? I plan to invite **Hardeep (J-64)**, **Hargobind Dhaliwal (J-728,1988)**, **Lt Gen Vinay Sharma (S-127,1967)** and other Nabhaites for a get-together at our home after we return from HK.

**B S Bhatnagar (Ex-English)**

**(Email addressed to Russeljeet, S-026, teacher PPS, copy to ONA)**

Thank you for your mail.

I am glad that you liked what I have written about **Mr Kate**. If he were alive he would not have approved of it and, in fact, he would have pulled me up for writing it. What I have done is straight from the heart.

I am afraid I am unable to write on other headmasters as I hardly know them. I worked with **Mr A R Gupta**

only for about a year and a half and, except for his humane nature and gentleness and, sadly, for his fondness for cards, smoking and the bottle, there was nothing noteworthy about him. I have known **Manjeet Bedi** as my student because I taught him English for two years but I do not know what he did and achieved as head of PPS as I never visited the school when he was its head. I have never worked or interacted on social level with the other full time or interim headmasters. However, I could write on **Cmde Syal**, my friend and well wisher, and would gladly do that, but before that I need to talk to him to find out more about him.

I have already corrected the manuscript you sent me to Gurgaon by courier. It weighs about a kilo and the airmail postage on it from here would be quite high. I will send it to you once I reach India on August 31.

Do convey our regards to Cmde Syal, Mrs Syal and Dr Jashanjot, please.

**B S Bhatnagar, ( Ex-English, Housemaster, later Head of St Paul, Daly College, Lovedale Schools)**

*[vijaymeera.bhatnagar@gmail.com](mailto:vijaymeera.bhatnagar@gmail.com)*

### **Searching an Old Nabhaite**

1. I 'm sure this email will find you in good health and high spirits.

2. Today I want to request you for the contact details of an Old Nabhaite - **Mr Manpreet Singh Poonam(S-472,1980)**, Jt Commissioner, Deptt of Trade and Taxes, New Delhi.

3. Thanking you in anticipation.

**Lt Col Mangat Saini (B-506.1985)** *[harry23nov@rediffmail.com](mailto:harry23nov@rediffmail.com)*

### **Post retirement**

I retired from Government of India on Feb 28,2009. I'm currently serving on contract with the Government of Mauritius as the National Security Adviser in the Prime Minister's Office. Please see my bio which I sent to you as attachment with my letter of June 10.

**Guri Dhanoa,IPS (S-9,1964)** *[danoa49@hotmail.com](mailto:danoa49@hotmail.com)* (PPS Roll of Honour awardee)

### **Second Innings**

Dear Seniors, Colleagues and Friends,

1. I 'Hang Up' my military uniform on 31 Jul 09, after a most engaging and satisfying tenure with The Indian Army (IA). It has been a life-time journey of comradeship, commitment, pride and fun. I have been singularly fortunate, to have been associated with the finest professionals, not only from the India, but from across the entire globe. Individually, each one of you has been of tremendous inspiration and support and I greatly value that. Thank you.

2. I am looking forward to my 'Second Innings', in civvies, to consolidate and contribute on my experience in the entire spectrum of Conflict Management, with the same motivation and zeal.

3. Satinder and I are settling down at Chandigarh, a beautiful town in North India; the residence address will follow. It shall be our pleasure to host you - anytime !

My new cell number, effective from 01 Aug 09, is +**91-9915709259**. Please remain in touch. I am sure our paths will cross again.

**Lt.Gen.Jasbir Lidder (B-23, 1964).** (PPS Roll of Honour awardee) *[jasbirlidder@yahoo.com](mailto:jasbirlidder@yahoo.com)*





Gen Jasbir Lidder, UN Commander in Sudan on patrol

### **Matter of Pride (a letter from UN official) and great responsibility**

**Dear General Lidder(B-23,1964).** – warmest congratulations to you on your extraordinary career and achievements, and best wishes to you and your family for this next phase. I look forward to the contributions you will make next to conflict management and I am grateful that people with such a strong humanitarian commitment like you are able and willing to make this important contribution past retirement. I look forward to engaging with you in future on the protection of civilians and specifically on the prevention of violence against women. There was an excellent Security Council Open Debate on SCR 1820 last week by the way, based on a SG report on 1820 that among other things highlighted innovations in peacekeeping practice, some of which would look very familiar to you, drawing on your own contributions. With great respect and warm regards

**Anne Marie**, Chief Advisor Governance Peace and Security, UNIFEM304 East 45th street New York 10017 New York, USA tel: 1 212 906 6454,

### **My Times**

Reference our earlier communications. It is more or less confirmed that **Jasbir Singh Mann** died in an air crash prior to 71 ops. I am getting the date and place further confirmed. Will revert back to you on the same. **NN Dogra (Satluj,1963)** *n.dogra@amplifymind.com* has been spoken to and his Mob No: is 09881992592. He remembers you very well and looks forward to hearing from you. As you may be aware, he was the **first recipient of the President's Gold Medal in our School.**

As regards particulars about me, the same are appended below:-

(a) Joined School Apr 1960 and passed out in May 1964

(b) Joined the School when it started in class VIII and remained a member of the senior class with each passing year as the new class got added

(c) Presently retired from the Indian Navy after 40 years of commissioned service and settled in Pune. Address: 2442 Clover Highlands, Near NIBM, Pisoli Rd, Kondhwa, Pune-411048. MobNo:-09422943138 .

**Admiral Jaggi Bedi (J-3, 1964)** *jagjitsbedi@gmail.com* (PPS Roll of Honour awardee)

### **Run for charity**

Would it be a good idea to organize a cross country race (standard A-team route) for any ex-Nabhaite who would like to participate to raise money for the school?

What do you have to say? I would look forward to taking part in such an event.

**Preetam Singh (J-242, 1973)**, *preetamsingh1957@yahoo.co.in*

### **Any help from me**

It was nice to talk to you the other day on telephone. Thank you for thinking of me and informing me about this very important event. I will send the information you have asked to send within a day or two. I must thank you and your team who are making an extra effort for bringing the old Nabhaite together. Any help on my part, please let me know.

**Arvinder Singh Brar(R-189, 1974)**, *brar111@hotmail.com*

### **Only one regret**

I have enclosed some photographs which you may like to see. However, being scanned a long time ago, the quality of scanning is not very good.

1. Did both Addl Maths and Bio. Was a member of the school Athletics, Cricket and Football teams - also Basketball
2. Joined BITS Pilani but switched from BE to Business Administration. Completed in 1972 and joined FMS Delhi to do my MBA in Finance - completed in 1974.
3. Joined Tata Motors in 1974 in the Finance division at Jamshedpur. Shifted to Lucknow in 1986 as plant CFO and on to Corporate headquarters in 2000 as Head of Business Planning for Commercial Vehicles Business. Deputed to Singapore in 2005 as CFO of a subsidiary company -Tata Precision Industries and currently am the acting CEO of tata precision and director of two other subsidiaries of Tata Precision .
4. I guess I decided to try and savour life rather than join the great rat race- that is why I continued at Lucknow for 12 years and justified my school teachers' remarks (no matter how well I did) "...Good, but could have done better ..." .
5. Married in 1986. Wife currently teaches at an International School in Singapore. Have one daughter, Kavita who is studying in college at Singapore.
6. **One regret** that I was never able to visit Nabha after leaving school.

Even though I am a keen photography buff, I unfortunately do not have any good photographs of school days. I could not afford a good camera then.

A word on my 3 brothers who all studied at Nabha, two of them briefly:

Elder brother **Deepak J-130, 1965** left after doing the 10th std. to join Dufferin. He however left the merchant navy after getting married and is currently settled in London and has become an accountant. His wife is a doctor who has now retired. He was in **Ashok Balwanis' batch (R 70)** which passed out in 1966 .

Younger brother **Gautam (J-121, 1965 – 70)** joined the NDA and then the Navy on the technical side. He quit as a Lt Cmdr and is currently living in Vishakapatnam. Is married and has one daughter. Two years my junior. He had the longest spell of six years at Nabha amongst us brothers.

Youngest brother **Kamal (J-219 I think)** also studied at Nabha for a few years but left to join Bal Bharathi Air Force School Delhi as he wanted to do the all-India Higher Secondary and PPS did not offer Higher Secondary in those days. He did join IIT Kanpur and did his MS from Purdue. Currently works in Research in Purdue and never got married. I'm not sure of his period of stay. I am sorry to have sent this in late.

**Vikram K Kuriyan J-120 1965-1968 ISC** [vkkuriyan@tatamotors.com](mailto:vkkuriyan@tatamotors.com)

CEO, Tata Precision Industries Pte Ltd, 78 Tuas South St 5, Singapore 637 810  
(65) 6898 4330, Fax (65) 6898 4331

## Helping PPS students

I managed to get the following seven titles DVDs of debates from “*Intelligence Squared Organsation* “ from your list of debates to be used in PPS for students’ education.

1. The era of American dominance is over.
2. The rise of China spells the decline of the West.
3. Free-market capitalism is so 20<sup>th</sup> century.
4. Churchill was more a liability than an asset to the free world.
5. It is time to lift sanctions against Burma.
6. Can art be taught to the Facebook generation?
7. Happiness lies in making do with less.

They did not have any others from your list in stock and I was told that two or three from your list are not their DVDs. I also got the following:

1. We should never negotiate with terrorists.
2. Tyrants should be left free to tyrannise their own people.
3. The world in 2050.
4. Atheism is the new fundamentalism.
5. Our mission in Afghanistan is destined to fail. NATO should withdraw.
6. Nuclear energy must power our future.
7. Freedom of expression must include the licence to offend.
8. Tax the rich (more).

I hope these are suitable.

**Manjeet Buttar (J-149,1972)** [m.buttar@btopenworld.com](mailto:m.buttar@btopenworld.com)

## ONA DAY, April 2009

We unfortunately will not be able to make it. Wishing the ONA festive celebrations great times ahead.

**OP Nandrajog(B1)** [gyandevi@yahoo.com](mailto:gyandevi@yahoo.com) (PPS Roll of Honour awardee)

It was great receiving the mail but I feel unfortunate as I will not be able to join the ELITE crowd as I am out of station and am not likely to get back by then. Remember me to all.

**Jati (J – 60,1968)** [colrandhawa@yahoo.com](mailto:colrandhawa@yahoo.com)

Thanx Jashanjot but I will be out of the country, Best  
**Pawan(1973,S-163)** [pawanmunjal@herohonda.com](mailto:pawanmunjal@herohonda.com)

**From Bihar with thrills**

Received a copy of 'The Eagle' and was really thrilled. I left PPS in **1989**; have never been able to visit again. I would truly love to have 'The Eagle' in my mailbox. Presently, I am working as a Lecturer at a Govt. Hotel Management Institute in Hajipur (Patna), Bihar. I am from Bihar and would like to start the ONA Bihar chapter. Your kind support and guidance would be needed. Thank you very much for being what you are,

**Praveen Jha(J-730,1989 ISC)**, Lecturer, Institute of Hotel Management, Hajipur, Vaishali, Bihar- 844 101.  
M:9430485238. [praveenjha1971@yahoo.com](mailto:praveenjha1971@yahoo.com)

P.S. I am married to Puneeta and we have two sons, aged 8 and 2. Puneeta is a homemaker

I will try my best to be there in 2010.

**A.P. Sandhu (Ex J-298, 1976)** [arvinder.sandhu@ontario.ca](mailto:arvinder.sandhu@ontario.ca)

Great! Wishing you the best! Due to prior travel commitments I will not be able to join.  
Wishing you all the best! Best regards,

**Vimal Mahendru (J-344, 1978)**

Thank you very much for the info of the ONA Day 12 Apr. 09. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend due to exigencies of service. As you are aware I am presently posted at the Army War College, Mhow. I wish the celebrations all the success. We have a fair no. of ON's here headed by me.

**Lt Gen JS Lidder**, UYSM, AVSM, SM.

I am glad to learn about the event. Looking forward to attend.

Regards,

**Col M S Sahota(Retd) (R-306 ,1974)**

Wishing all ONA the very best and also regret attendance due to being away from Delhi. However will attend next year.Can you confirm my membership number I had paid the membership fee last year. Thanks and

Regards.

**Yash Samyal(S-43, 1967)**

Thanks for the message informing me the date for ONA day. Kindly send me messages at this address. Regards,  
**Sateekshan Sood (J-133,1971)** [sateekshan@yahoo.co.in](mailto:sateekshan@yahoo.co.in)

Thank you for your kind invitation to the ONA Annual Day celebrations on April 12. Much as my wife and I would like to attend the celebrations, we are afraid, we will have to deny ourselves this pleasure owing to our preoccupation here. However, we would like to wish the celebrations a roaring success. Blessings and best wishes to you, your family and all the members of ONA from my wife and me.

**B S Bhatnagar**, [headisg@omantel.net.om](mailto:headisg@omantel.net.om)

(Staff: 1967-1974; former Ravi Housemaster, Head of English and Editor-The PPS Chronicle)

Oh it will be good to be a part of celebrations on 12th. I am at Lucknow flying the politicians around UP. Let me see if one can manage to get out. Thanks for the info.

**BD Singh (S- , 1968).** [captbdsingh@gmail.com](mailto:captbdsingh@gmail.com)

Thank you for the mail, regret to inform that I cannot attend the ONA DAY 2009 as I am pre occupied with other things. But will make sure to attend the Golden Jubilee year of PPS.

**Ricky Chattha (J 271, 1975).** [chattha@cal.vsnl.net.in](mailto:chattha@cal.vsnl.net.in)

### **Unfortunate**

Thank you very much for the invitation.....unfortunately I will not be able to make it. I send my best wishes.....

**Dr Ved Parkash Beniwal (R-60, 1968)** [vedbeniwal@hotmail.com](mailto:vedbeniwal@hotmail.com)

Thanks for the invitation. I'm currently posted in ONGC, Mumbai. Therefore, I will miss this wonderful opportunity of meeting everyone on the Ona Day. You and all friends have a Great ONA Day!

**Regards,**

**Dr. Anish Madan ( J-254 )** [anish\\_j254@yahoo.com](mailto:anish_j254@yahoo.com), Tel. 011-26163705

Thank you very much for your e-mail. How much I wish to be with Nabhaites on ONA Day. But, I am sorry for having to miss this occasion. I cannot make it for a verity of reasons. My heart and soul will be with you. Please give my greetings to all ONA members. I wish everyone the best of luck.

**O.P.Bhatnagar, Meerut.** [opbhatnagar@gmail.com](mailto:opbhatnagar@gmail.com) , 10.4.09

Please accept my apologies for not attending this year. Have fun - Enjoy the ONA day with Pride and Joy. Also, Just FYI - **Dr. Paramvir (Ex Ravi)** along with his wife from Mohali is in Toronto visiting his sister (**Harleen Uppal**). Her Contact # (905) 495 7771. He will be going through his BMT in Baltimore by end of this month. **Agyapal Singh** (Ex Ravi) was very kind and generous to drive them here from US.

### **Ashwani's point**

PPS' middle name "Public" was rather forced on it and so, some ways, it was a "default option ". PPS, soon after inception, had to change its name from Sainik School. As a great tribute to the fledgling institution for being given the honour of official Govt. of India's recognition as the role model for the large number of Sainik Schools soon to be established in whole of the country, the first and trailblazing Sainik School, Nabha adopted the new name of Punjab Public School.

Since PPS did not consciously adopt the name "Public", it meant that it did not follow the historical public schools connotation. " Public" schools, in England and also in India, before PPS, essentially meant schools for grooming upper class students to become future rulers/ public administrators .

PPS was all this and, also, much more . It was truly "public". Its prime objective was to produce top class students who would serve the public and their country in all aspects of life. But, for the first time in history of public schools in the British Commonwealth, the gates were also opened to children of general public and not limited to children of the privileged classes.

So, PPS can take genuine pride in being an institution which produced leaders of the public from children belonging to ordinary Indian public.

*Thus, the mindset and aims of the Founders of PPS were similar to that of Mahatma Gandhi. The Mahatma on his return from South Africa changed the Indian National Movement from that of an exclusive body of privileged classes to a mass movement encompassing the entire nation.*

Hence, PPS embodies the true spirit and aspirations of a free India where opportunities are available to all.

**Ashwani Kumar Aggarwal(J-188,1974)** [akaj188@gmail.com](mailto:akaj188@gmail.com)



Ashwani and family with Gen Sapru

### **ONA membership**

Dear Sir, could you be kind enough to please mail an ONA membership form? Warm regards,

**Dr Atul Aneja(J-904)**,MBBS,DNB(Pediatrics),MNAMS

Senior Resident, Department of Pediatrics, University College of Medical Sciences and Associated Guru Teg Bhadur Hospital, Delhi-110092, [dr\\_atulaneja@rediffmail.com](mailto:dr_atulaneja@rediffmail.com)

### **Article on Michael Vodden, the most admired teacher by JK Kate**

Thank you for your polite reminder, and I have been remiss in not getting back to you sooner, however I am getting on with the article. One of the Vodden daughters has supplied me with an excellent photograph of **Michael** which can be used with the article. It may be that your school records have others as well.

Sadly his children have not been able to put their hands on anything **Michael** wrote during his time at PPS, or afterwards, which gives an overall picture of his work and time there. I have therefore approached **The British Council**, for whom he worked, to see whether they have anything on their files, or whether I can speak to one of their officers who was based in India at that time. They have promised to get back to me shortly. Sorry for the delay.

**Roger Miall VSO 1962-63**

### **Calling on Ex-Teacher Lila Kak Bhan**

Dear Mrs. Bhan,

I am Surender Sood [ S - 116 ] PPS 1964 - 70. Today I received a copy of the **Eagle** after a long time as I am based in Dubai since 2002. From the Eagle I picked up your email address.

The Old Boys meet is scheduled for the 12th of April in a few days. I will not be able to attend as I am scheduled to travel to Dubai early morning on the 13th. But, I will make it a point to attend the Golden Jubilee celebrations next year.

My daughter got married on the 18th of Nov 2005 at Chandigarh. I had sent an invitation to you at the Daly College Indore. I think you may have left by then. Where are you located now?

Looking forward to hearing from you.

With Best Regards

**Surender Sood (S-116, 1970)**

**Praise for ONA**

Hats off to ONA. It was great to look at the new format of The Eagle. Congrats to the team. Kindly send me the copy of The Eagle via e-mail.

**Dr Major Singh Jawanda, Ex R-428, Batch 1976-82 (ICSE), [jawandamajor@yahoo.in](mailto:jawandamajor@yahoo.in)**

Jawanda Nursing Home,

**Good Samaritans or rascals**

Last night we all (rascals of **Mr. Onial**) met at Uppal residence in Brampton and had a marvellous time with all the *Parshade Bhun* – “Bloody Fools” of **PS Gill**

Any greetings or well wishes for **Dr. Paramvir (Billy)** would be highly appreciated from PPS fraternity. Tonight there is a get-together at my place. Open invitation to all the PPS lads and gals. Last night we decided to raise some funds for **Dr. Parmvir Singh's** BMT treatment.

There is a lot of support from Ex-PPS group. A flyer has been sent out via e-mail. Media will be contacted tomorrow and more functions will be arranged within Toronto to raise some funds.

Thanks for sharing this information. It will be shared among all ONs in Toronto. How is **Ranjan (B-633, 1989)** these days (after the treatment)? We will keep you posted with our progress.

**A. P. Sandhu (Ex J-298, 1976) Karela, (416) 702 5835 cell, [Arvinder.Sandhu@ontario.ca](mailto:Arvinder.Sandhu@ontario.ca)**

Deep regards,

**Brig TPS Waraich (J-155, 1975) [tpswaraich9@yahoo.co.in](mailto:tpswaraich9@yahoo.co.in)**

**Searching friends**

Would you help me to get the contacts for my batchmates i.e. 10<sup>th</sup> ICSE of the year 1980?

**Ashok Rajpal (R-448, 1980), Agri Impex, Opp. P.N.B. Regional Office, Karnal 132001, 0184-4043883, 09896050883, [rajpalhome@yahoo.com](mailto:rajpalhome@yahoo.com)**

Hello!!!

I am Rajinder Chauhan. I was in school from 1973-1981. I'll be obliged if I can have the Eagle mailed to me on my id. Thanks,

**Rajinder Chauhan. (B-376, ISC-1981) [rajinder\\_chauhan40@yahoo.com](mailto:rajinder_chauhan40@yahoo.com)**

**Respecting the Gurus**

Respected **OPB** Sir,

I am overjoyed to be in touch with you again! **Jashanjot** sent me the e-mail quite some time back but I lost track of it. I do apologize for that. The last I saw you was in WNC mess in Mumbai with Gary Sir! Sir I am now in the US and will stay in touch. I will surely make the pilgrimage to Meerut the next time I am in India.

Sincerely,

**Inderjit**

**Corrections**

Dear Doctor Sahib,

We wish to thank you and all the other organisers for making the ONA Meet very enjoyable. I am thankful to you for popularising my blog in "The Eagle". Please make the following corrections in the email copy of "The Eagle" :-

1) While mentioning my name in the article " *Chak De PPS*" my passing out year be corrected to 1974.

2) The address of my blog be corrected to [Punjabjalandhar.info](http://Punjabjalandhar.info)

We will work hard for the Eagle.

**Ashwani (J-188, 1974)**

Thanks, regarding celebrations next year could some brief Adm. Instrs. be issued?

**Yash Samyal(S-43,1966)** [yps.samyal@yahoo.co.in](mailto:yps.samyal@yahoo.co.in)

### **The Good Samaritans**

Thanks for your encouraging remarks. I would love to take up this assignment. However, it is getting harder day by day. I have a Preliminary inquiry into an attempt to murder today and court takes up a lot of time. I will try to write something.

Please be advised that we are involved in a similar situation where **Dr. Parmvir (R-325,1978)** is going through a Bone Marrow Transplant at Baltimore on 28 April 2009. **Agyapal (Ravi)** and I organized our ONA chapter into doing a Project where I gave out a Mission statement. The Mission statement was to raise x amount of dollars (\$150,000) by a dead line (May 31 2009). We called a meeting at my place and involved some local families. Then a group meeting was called at a local gurudwara with media present.

Our project by grace of God was very well accepted into our south Asian Punjabi community. It went into media like hot cakes. We went on live radio stations to accept pledges, designed a web page with donations on line. We begged at gurudwaras and a lot of volunteers joined us.

Yesterday, another meeting was called and assignments were given out to all our volunteers to collect funds at our Nagar Kirtan (a gathering that expects around 35,000 people). Our Mission is to collect only one dollar to two dollars from this large gathering. Then we are planning to have a walk-a-thon involving our children and youth and presenting a TV talk show to raise some funds and awareness about Leukemia.

So far we have raised \$80,000 (\$50,000 is in Dr. Paramvir's Trust account and \$ 30,000 is in circulation i.e. need to be picked up and deposited). I am NOT boosting myself but just making a point - WE The Students of PPS have a lot of talent amongst us but just need to organize ourselves. We need to create a VISION and passionate energy to do our part.

We must do our part and leave the results to all mighty God...

With High Regards

**I/C A. P. Sandhu (J-298, 1976) (Karela)** [Arvinder.Sandhu@ontario.ca](mailto:Arvinder.Sandhu@ontario.ca)

Ontario Provincial Police, Forensic Identification Unit, 55 Queen Street North  
Bolton, ONTARIO, Canada

### **Donations for Ranjan, True PPS Spirit!!**

Thanks for putting this appeal together. I had sent an appeal to everyone in US a month back. I got a very good response from few of the ONs. Thanks to **Rakesh Aggarwal, Gursharan Sekhon(R-527,1985), Birender Sandhu(Jumna, 1976), Shavinder Sandhu(R-262,1979), Dinesh Khurana (S-468,1980) and Rupinder Brar(S-291,1976)** who stepped forward to help.

I would like to thank in particular one ON who came forward and offered a help of \$10,000 but wants to be anonymous. This is true PPS spirit!!!! Thanks

**Seepja (J-388,1981)**

**All for a Good Cause**



I am an ex Nabhaite ( B 339) and have just read the mail and am willing to donate my bit for the cause. I am presently in Jalandhar and can give it in cash or in cheque. Just could you guide me as to how to deliver it. Shall be grateful and appreciate your efforts taken for the good cause.

**Harpreet Singh**, Mob; 09914241201, [gujar05@gmail.com](mailto:gujar05@gmail.com)

### **The ezine**

Just read The Eagle, My sincere thanks to you for having kept us ONs in touch. Great and sincere effort. Can you please inform me regarding administrative arrangements for our school founder's day next year? On 19th April I was with commandant OTA **General Bajwa**(J-151,1969) it was wonderful meeting him. He really looked after us. Great ONA.

**Yash Samyal(S-43, 1966)**

### **Error regretted!!**

The picture of mine happens to be of the Delhi half-marathon and not of the Hamburg marathon.

**Preetam Singh (Ex-J-242)**

Thanks! --

Best Regards,

**Ashok Balwani(R-91,1966)**, [Balwani.Ashok@gmail.com](mailto:Balwani.Ashok@gmail.com)

Dear Sir,

An update from my side. I got married to Artee Gupta on 3rd March 2009. Thanks a lot for this April issue of "The Eagle".

**Javesh Jindal (S-945) Paris Campus** [javesh2000@hotmail.com](mailto:javesh2000@hotmail.com)

### **Calling anyone in Bangalore**

Hi, Excellent work. Brought back old memories. Good fun. I want to be a life member and am putting the money into the HSBC account. Maybe I will contribute an article, like **Jyoti** has done. Will take some doing, though!! BTW. **Anyone from PPS in Bangalore can contact me** and we can at least start some meetings. Let me know, please.

**Vinay " chips" Chipalkatti, (Satluj,1965)**MD,K Pack systems P.Ltd.,Bangalore, 9886652105, [vchips@hotmail.com](mailto:vchips@hotmail.com)

### **A measured response from the best academic of PPS**

Thanks.

**Jagmohan Raju (S-125,1970ISC)** [rajuj@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:rajuj@wharton.upenn.edu)

Thank you

**Narinder Doraha (S-758)** [nindijhajj@sify.com](mailto:nindijhajj@sify.com)

I am **Lt Col Gurmeet Singh Pandher, ex B-242 (1969-75)**. Presently posted as SSO Jasai- Barmer (RAJ). Permanent home address: 39-B, Sarabha Nagar, Bhadson Road, Patiala(PB) 147001.

**Gurmeet Singh Pandher, (B-242 1969-75)**[gurmeet\\_pandher\\_0198@yahoo.co.in](mailto:gurmeet_pandher_0198@yahoo.co.in)

This is with regard to the membership of ONA. May I kindly request you to please forward me the requirements and the forms so that I can enroll myself with ONA.

Thank you and Regards

**Ripudaman Singh (S-07,ICSE 95)** [ripu350@yahoo.co.in](mailto:ripu350@yahoo.co.in)

Respected sir, thank you very much for caring. We would definitely make the ONA Bihar chapter, er, *pao bhangra*. (That was a matter of personal preference...). I am going to post postcards this weekend, as you suggested. The two guys on the mailing list, **Tarun Jha(R-552, 1985)** was my senior but I don't know Bhudeo personally. I shall keep you posted on the subject. Thanks once again for being our guiding angel. Best regards,

**Praveen Jha (J-730,1989)** ONA Bihar chapter, [praveenjha1971@yahoo.com](mailto:praveenjha1971@yahoo.com)

Can you publish the class photo in Eagle so that contact can be established amongst us. Thanks and Regards.  
**Yash Samyal(S-43, 1966)**

I am sorry for the delay in sending the LM fee. Jagbir enjoyed meeting you both as well.

Warm regards,

**Julka(J-101,1970)**. [julks@rediffmail.com](mailto:julks@rediffmail.com)

Many thanks for your letter. I am going to do my best to coordinate my annual leave to coincide with the Golden Jubilee of our beloved alma mater.

I have noted the content of your letter and will get back to you shortly. I'm deeply honoured by the esteem in which my school holds me, and would like to reciprocate by contributing in a significant manner. I was awaiting my retirement before embarking on that path....it would perhaps now be possible only on my return from Mauritius sometime in late-2010. My current coordinates are : Tel Home: 00230 696 1986 ; Cell: 00230 251 2055 ; Off : 00230 201 1129. With my warmest regards,

**Guri (S-9,1964)** [danoa49@hotmail.com](mailto:danoa49@hotmail.com) (PPS roll of Honour awardee)

**Cruel Editor!**

Hi Jash,

I remember putting PPS on my first biography for the Penguin edition. The editor took it out, not for any other reason than an introductory biography can't be treated as a CV and that's the pattern that has been repeated since. But there are umpteen times I have mentioned PPS in my interviews and TV things, how can I not! I was thinking precisely about writing around **John Mallon's** French records! And **Cowell** and I had a long relationship after school.

You surprise me by saying that the pix are not good enough. They are all supposed to be for the press, over 300jpg. I'll ask the concerned person to look into it and send.

Love, back to work,

**Vijay Singh (B-113,1967)**, [vijay@vijaysingh.net](mailto:vijay@vijaysingh.net)

Always a pleasure and an honour to be of assistance! When will you share the photographs and/or a brief write-up?

**Gurdarshan Gill (S-587,1988)**

[md@imperialassociates.com](mailto:md@imperialassociates.com)

**A brilliant career**



**Ashok Balwani**

I am leaving for an extended trip to Canada, so I am giving the answers below to the best extent possible. I took the Indian School Certificate examination in December 1966. I generally did well in class and was third, behind **P S Lamba (Beas, 1966)** and **Jaspal Chatha(R-89, 1966)**. My Indian School Certificate results were also along the same lines. **P S Lamba (Beas) was 1st, Chatha(R-89) was 2nd and I was 3rd. I had 12 points.** I went on to the Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani to study Electrical Engineering. I was there from 1967 to 1972 and graduated with a B. E. (Hons) in Electrical Engineering with 71.5% marks. After Pilani, I was at Faculty of Management Studies (FMS), University of Delhi from 1972 to 1974 and obtained an MBA with 68.3%. Later my employers (Larsen & Toubro Limited and Det Norske Veritas) sent me for residential Senior Management Programmes at Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (**IIM, A**), **IMD**, Lausanne, and **INSEAD**, Fontainebleau.

**I joined the School Band when it was formed and played the bagpipes. I was the "leading piper" and was given the band prize in 1966.**

I was the **first Indian and only the second Asian in Det Norske Veritas** to reach the level of a Director for a geographical area (Director - Middle East, India, South-East Asia, ANZ) and the Senior Management Group of the company.

I am now a Director on the board of directors of Hitachi Home & Life Solutions (India) Ltd, I am Director of Strategic Resources, my own management consultancy company, and am a visiting faculty at BITS, Pilani. Recent photograph is attached. I will try to locate an old photograph. Possibly there may be one in the school archive from Founders' Day 1966. I won the Band Prize in 1966.

I had a great time in school; learnt a lot and made good friendships.

Any memories, I had written an article for the Eagle. That about sums it up.

**Ashok Balwani, R-90, (1963-1966 ISC), [Balwani.Ashok@gmail.com](mailto:Balwani.Ashok@gmail.com)**

Please refer to ONA PPS last meet.

I wish to make some contribution to The ONA Benevolent Fund. Kindly let me know the procedure etc.Regards and God Bless ONA & PPS,

**Col Manjit Sahota (R-306 ,1974) [manjitsahota59@yahoo.com](mailto:manjitsahota59@yahoo.com)**

## Wealthy Thoughts and a Very Lucky Person



After passing out from PPS I joined the Pre-medical course in DAV College Amritsar and then joined the Medical College, Amritsar in July 1976. I completed my MBBS course in December 1981 which included one year internship.

Thereafter I did one year's House Job in Ophthalmology in 1982 and completed my DOMS in 1984 which was also a year of great turbulence in Punjab.

I joined PCMS in 1984 and served for five years in rural areas. The experience in villages was a humbling one and made me a little wiser about the needs of an average citizen living in a backward border area. In spite of the odds and the obstacles I was able to perform eye surgery in the village and was respected and loved by the staff and the people there. After spending 5 years in PHC Lopoke, it was time to move on once again. I was offered a Fellowship in Vitreo-Retinal Fellowship in Sankara Nethralaya, Madras under Dr. SS Badrinath, and I jumped at the offer. This was an exposure to a whole new world. I joined the institution in Madras in February 1990 and exactly after one year after having completed my Fellowship, found myself on the Tamil Nadu Express headed for home on the 1st of February 1991. My only possessions being my books and the skills and knowledge I had acquired in Madras.

I reached Amritsar on the evening of the 3rd of February 1991 by train and was received by my wife Reena, my elder son Veer who was then 3 years old and my in-laws, at the railway station. I joined my brother Dr. Rajbir Singh in practice the next day. Ever since then, I have been in practice gaining experience, honing my skills, imparting those very skills that I gathered over the years to a younger generation of surgeons. I consider myself today as an average surgeon with average skills. If some people have benefitted by these skills, then I consider myself to be very lucky. Then the ultimate purpose of life, is to have a life of purpose.

As to the achievements, recognitions, awards and honours, I really can't think of any. However I consider myself to be extremely lucky and wealthy. **My true wealth** is the number of patients who have benefitted from my average surgical skills. Just like I was an average boy in PPS. Lucky to have a good robust health especially when I see so many sick people all around. Lucky to have a devoted and a loving wife like Reena, lucky to have normal healthy children. Lucky to have siblings who love and respect each other, and above all lucky to have a father who at the age of 93 years still leads an active life full of zest and energy.

However in the journey of life, I did acquire a few skills which you might find interesting. I was a qualified pilot with a Private Pilot's Licence for many years. The licence however is no longer valid. My wife has an intense dislike for flying. I learned German and am able to speak and write the language fairly well. I studied German privately and appeared for all my exams at the Goethe Institute in Delhi. I cleared my advanced level German in 2007.

Long distance running, as you know, I only started recently in 2007. My first marathon was in Hamburg in April 2008. This changed my perspective towards life as a whole. I ran my second marathon in September 2008 in Berlin and my first half-marathon in Delhi in November 2008.

As to my present status, I just happen to be a consultant in an eye hospital named after my grandfather Dr.Sohan Singh who was a well known eye surgeon of Punjab in pre-partition India. Our hospital is now like a family which has grown over the years. More about the hospital can be found on the website [www.sbsseh](http://www.sbsseh) We have patients also coming in from Uzbekistan and Nigeria, so that we sometimes have a very international surgical list. I and my colleague Dr.Vig have been several times to Lahore,Pakistan to attend the Lahore Ophthalmology, deliver lectures and to build bonds of friendship and also to learn from our Pakistani colleagues.We have also trained doctors from Uzbekistan and Pakistan and have developed deep bonds of friendship. To be continued, if you like the story.

**Preetam Singh (Ex J-242, 1973)** [preetamsingh1957@yahoo.co.in](mailto:preetamsingh1957@yahoo.co.in)

## Tracking Vodden

Friday, 5th June 2009.

My apologies for taking a while to write an article on **Michael Vodden**, but I have not been idle. I have over the last three months been trying to research his career in The British Council in India. Unfortunately the Council has moved from London to Manchester and its records from the 1960s are in storage but not on computer. I have also not been able to contact any of his work colleagues who are still alive. My attempts to trace **Dick Pine**, the Peace Corps volunteer with whom I set up the poultry unit in 1963, to date have not been successful.

On a more positive note, I have a suitable photograph (attached) and I am in correspondence with his children. I am also in touch with **Roger Burrridge (VSO volunteer at PPS 1963-64)** and **Mike Binnie (his wife composed the music for School song-Jashanjot)**, who was a teacher in Patiala at that time, and a good friend of the **Voddens**.

So I should be able to give you something by the end of this month, but it will not be as good as I had hoped, in view of the above. Have you tried looking through the school records for information about him? Please send me a copy of **Mr Kate's** article about **Michael Vodden** so I do not replicate things he has said. Are you going to use **JK's** article in the next edition of **The Eagle**? If so, please save my photograph of **MV** for my article and I shall try to show a different angle on the man, though I only knew him in India.

**Janet** is considering coming to the 50th Anniversary and I think **Roger Burrridge** at Warwick University is going to come with his wife. I know nothing about **Lord Rigby**.

It would be helpful if you could indicate where we will stay in Nabha. My guess is there will be between 6 to 10 of us from the UK, so we might hire a mini bus in Delhi and drive up. Good luck with your preparations.

With kind regards,

**Roger Miall** Saturday, 6th June 2009.

## Regrets!

Thanks for the invitation for the 50th anniversary. Unfortunately I will not be able to make it as my academic calendar makes it impossible for me to take time off in April. Also I do not wish to be included in the list of eminent old boys as I do not know what kind of filtering process was used for inclusion. I am a loyal student at heart and my affiliation is with what **Mr Cowell** called "the anti social gang" of the class of 1966. I will send you my piece on SCC in next day or two. Thanks again.

**Jaspal Chatha (R-89)1966 ISC** [jaspal.chatha@verizon.net](mailto:jaspal.chatha@verizon.net)

## And Affirmation

I am herewith enclosing my short Biodata as well as write up about my self, as requested. I am also planning to be at PPS for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

Thank you very much for taking this leadership role to keep the ONA and PPS flag flying high  
Best wishes,

**Dr Kamal Sud, (S-345,1976)** [kamalsud@hotmail.com](mailto:kamalsud@hotmail.com) (Sydney)

Thanks, we are planning to make it for April celebrations.

**Dr Satpreet Gill ,** [satpreetsgill@hotmail.com](mailto:satpreetsgill@hotmail.com)

### **Appreciation**

I must appreciate the interest you are taking and the time you are spending out of your busy schedule to make this event a success. I am still looking for an old school photograph in my records. I will shortly send you my bio-data- but let me locate the picture first. Regards,

**Arunjit Miglani (B-248,1975)** , [mailmiglani@gmail.com](mailto:mailmiglani@gmail.com)

Reference our earlier communications. It is more or less confirmed that **Jasbir Mann (1965 batch)** died in an air crash prior to 71 ops. I am getting the date and place further confirmed. Will revert back to you on the same. **NN Dogra** has been spoken to and his Mob No: is 09881992592. He remembers you very well and looks forward to hearing from you. As you would be aware that he was the first recipient of the President's Gold Medal in our School.



Lt Gen TK Sapru, Lt Gen OP Nandrajog and Admiral Bedi

**Admiral Jaggi Bedi(J-3,1964)**

## Article on Kate

How pleasant to hear from you: please pass my greetings and good wishes to your fellow **Nabhaites** and former staff.

I visited India and **JK Kate** in 1984 while on leave from Caracas and on my way to a new posting as Representative and Director of The British Council in Portugal. I went to Dehra Dun and Mussoorie prior to a walking tour in the foothills of the Himalayas. I could not get into Punjab as there was conflict in the state (The Golden Temple) and went on to Pune and Goa to see the **Kates**. I shall look out some photographs. In the meantime let me know how long an article you want for the **PPS** anniversary book.

**John Mallon**



Farewell 1967 Fancy Dress Party. **John Mallon (British Council)** with **Anita (VSO)** in the centre. Extreme right is **VP Bindra (B-51,Robinhood)** and on left of Mr Mallon is **Inderjit Arora(J-40)** as Cleopatra. Extreme left is **Jashanjot**; next to him is late **Vijay Gehlot**; **Vijay Kanwar(B-113)** is next to Anita as Ms Universe.

## A Tragedy!

That is a tragedy...too sudden...too deep for words..

We have lost a friend and a thorough gentleman.

God bless **Avtar Waraich's(R-27,1966)** soul and give strength to the family to cope.

**Satindra(J-19,1967)** [satindra.n21@gmail.com](mailto:satindra.n21@gmail.com)

## PPS Hospitality

**Dr. Satish Jain MD** of Hauz Khaas Delhi, was here in Seattle with me, to attend an Epilepsy Conference at University of Washington for few days. He enjoyed himself and left with heartfelt warm feelings. I extend my humble hospitality to all near and dear ones, if and when they happen to pass by this side of the globe.

**Surinder Gill (B-53, 1967)**

206-313-2920 (cell), Sleep Disorders Center ,HMC UoW [surinder@u.washington.edu](mailto:surinder@u.washington.edu)

**Info from the top Brass of Army**

Dr Jashanjot Bhangu as always is doing the School yoeman service, now he is targetting the Jubilee in Apr 10. He needs some of your Data to include in a Publication. So kindly forward detail.

Some other detail :-

**Lt Gen Vinay Sharma (S-129,1967)** - 9910224397

**Lt Gen G S Dhillon (B-69,1967)** - 9945616625

**Maj Gen SP Tanwar (B-59,1968)** - 9818469992 stands approved for Lt gen

**Maj Gen JS Bajwa (J-151,1969)** - stands approved for Lt gen.

**Lt Gen Bikram Singh(B-71,1968)** stands approved for Army Commander.



**Now and in PPS**

Love and Take Care

**Lt Gen. Raj Sujlana(B-134,1967)**

I will miss the DONA as presently I am in Auckland New Zealand. Here I have got in touch with **Basanti** and was nice to meet after 1967. Anybody from school here in this country or in Melbourne in Australia whom I can contact? I will be back in Delhi before Diwali possibly first week of Oct. I will be staying for a few days in Dubai on return journey so anyone there may also be forwarded. Bye from

**Amarjit (S-46, 1967)**

**Concern for the Guru**

Respected OPB Sir,

I am sorry you could not meet PD. He is a great doctor and may have been useful to meet him. I am sure if he knew he would have come to see you. Your being unwell is of great concern to me personally, as also to all of **ONA**. I do hope you are better now.

You may be in Meerut by now, and perhaps more comfortable and recuperated by now. I wish you well always. I do pray and hope you recover your health and feel better.

I will surely follow up by writing and staying in touch as also plan to see you when I am next in India. In the mean time if there is anything I can do please do email.

With respects and regards,

**IJ(J-40)**



## Evite from CONA for their Annual Meet



### Message about CONA Annual Meet

Hi - Please note that venue of the meeting has been changed to

Golden Peacock Banquets  
3681 Peralta Blvd  
Fremont, CA 94536

**Host:** CONA Nabha

**When:** Saturday, July 18, 6:00PM 2009

**Phone:** 510 409 0148

Thanks,

Seepja Khurana (J-388,1981) ,510-409-0148

### A helping hand

Thanks for checking back I gave **Dr. Sekhon's (R-414)** no. to him. We viewed the CD you sent for **CONA**. It was good, encouraging us to get more into this. Hopefully I will be able to meet you in April on the premises.

Navdeep Gill (R-722, 1990) ,510-386-7005© ,510-573-3424(R)

### Career graph

I hope this will find you and your family in good health and spirits.

Sorry to learn that ONAPPS site is inaccessible at present but happy to note that you all are making efforts to revive the same ASAP. I reached Dalhousie from Delhi on 03rd July.

Due to persistent efforts of **Col. Hardev Singh Bajwa(S-25, 1966)**, we had a couple of get-togethers at my house and **Jaspal Chatha's(R-89, 1966)**. I was meeting both **Col Mulkjit Sandhu(S-54, 1966)** and **Mr. C.S. Aulakh(R-108, 1966)** after about 44 years since passing out. I am still sailing as Chief Engineer on board Merchant Ships. Although I live permanently at S-382, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi, I have a summer cottage situated just below Alps Hotel in Middle Bakrota/Dalhousie.

Kindly update my profile in your ONAPPS data.

House & School Prefect

Sports: represented school in Cricket. Played right out in Football & Hockey for House teams.

1967: After All India Competition and all India rank 13th position, joined The Directorate of Marine Engineering Training ( DMET) at Bombay

1971: In Nov, joined South India Shipping Corporation/Madras as Fifth Engineer officer

1977: Got married to NIRJA KOHLI from Jammu on 07-02-1977

1978: after doing the stipulated sea-time on board ships as a Marine Engineer and clearing various exams, achieved the rank of Chief Engineer Officer.

1978: Blessed with daughter Pallavi, born on 09-08-1978 at Jullundur.

2009: still sailing on board as Chief Engineer Officer on board various kinds of Merchant ships.

Contact details in Dalhousie:

**Vijay Plaha, ( J-51, 1961-1965)**

Oak Hill Cottage,( just below Alps Hotel/01 kms from DPS school),Middle Bakrota,

Dalhousie-176304, Himachal Pradesh , *surkhigala@yahoo.com*

### **Golf Freak**

Hope you and your family are all well. I will be grateful for some help from you.

I would like to play golf when I am in India next. I understand one either has to be a member of the golf club or can play as a guest of an existing member. Unfortunately I do not know any members of the golf clubs in Punjab. Given the time I spend in India, I do not feel it is cost effective for me to join a club. I know there are two or three golf clubs in Chandigarh but Phillaur is the nearest to Ludhiana. I hear that there is one in Patiala as well. Then there may be some golf clubs for military officers etc e.g. in Jalandhar. Do you know anyone, who is either a member of a golf club or knows a member and will be able to help? Thanks.

I recently heard from **Mrs Anita Scammell VSO 1967 to 1969**. She will be in India in early April 2010 and is going to PPS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the first VSO at Nabha, and **Mr Roger Miall** who was there in 1962. Before this she intends going to Haridwar for the Kumbh Mela and then Simla.

With best wishes and regards to everyone.

**Manjeet Buttar (J-149, 1972)** *m.buttar@btopenworld.com*

## **News**

### **Those who are no more**

The following passed away during the last year

**Avtar Waraich(R-27, 1967, Hr Sec)**

**Baljit Mann (B-94, 1970)**

**Harinder Khatra (J-597, 1988)**

**Mukesh Garg (J-482, 1983)**

**Swaran Singh Shanni (Punjabi)** died due to terminal illness in Nabha. Many of his students and staff members of PPS did what ever they could to help the family in troubled circumstances.

Please publish in the next Eagle...sent to me by her daughter Priya

As for my dad **Dr. Bhagwan Singh**, he passed away on July 30th . He retired as the Chief Medical officer of Nabha General Hospital. He was the PPS doctor from 1975 to 1984 (under both Mr. Kate and Group Capt. APS Grewal).

**Priya K. Rao**, J.D., Ph.D. ([RaoP@michigan.gov](mailto:RaoP@michigan.gov))  
Consulting Forensic Examiner  
TEL (734) 295-4334  
FAX (734) 429- 1817

ONA is grieved by this loss to the Nabhaite fraternity.

### **Bereaved**

**Navin Talwar (S-71, 1969)** lost his father.

**Dr RS Dhaliwal's (S-153, 1972)** father passed away.

**Brig Harbux (S-99, 1965)** and **Mohanjit Gill (S-110,1969)** lost their mother.

**Inderjit Singh (J-319, 1978)** lost his mother.

**Col IP Singh's (J-77, 1965)** father passed away last year.

The ONA shares the grief of the concerned Old Nabhaites.

### **Illness**

**Col Jagdeep (Pinka) Virk (S-428, 1977)** suffered a stroke but is fine now.

**Gp Captain AJS Grewal**, former Headmaster underwent coronary surgery at Apollo Hospital and is now at home

**Capt IS Dhami (R-257, 1976)** has been stricken by Lukaemia and is under treatment in Jalandhar.

ONA wishes them good health and fine recovery.

### **Finally The Good News**

**Arvinder Bains(B-298)** has been promoted to IAS in Punjab cadre.

**Pratap Bajwa (R203)** has ben elected as MP from Gurdaspur

**Vinita Goyal (B-0136,2001)** has been selected to IAS obatch of 2009

**Maj Gen SP Tanwar (B-59,1968), Maj Gen JS Bajwa(J-151,1969)** have been approved for Lt General.

**Brig. Anil Kaystha (S-63, 1968)**, AMC has been approved for Maj General.

**Maj Gen Daljit Sood (B-81)** has become GOC Romeo Force.

**Col Jasdeep (J-459, 1979), KS Nijjar (S-323, 1978)** have been approved for Brigadier rank.

**Suresh Mittal (R-271, 1976)** becomes Commissioner Appeals, Income Tax, Panchkula.

**Mehardeep Dullat (R-743, 1991)** promoted to DAG in Punjab Advocate General office.

**Brig TPS Waraich (J-155, 1972)** approved for Major General

**Brig Anil Mehta (R-232, 1975)** approved for Major General

## Retired

**Lt Gen JS Lidder (B-23, 1964)**

**Admiral Jagjit Singh Bedi (J-3, 1964)**

**Lt Gen TK Sapru (S-42, 1964)**

## Chapter Meetings

CONA, Nabha, Jalandhar, Gurgaon, Faridkot and DONA held meetings for their chapters during the year.

## Poona Chapter launched

What was striking this year was the launch of Poona Chapter in the first week of December. We hope with **Admiral Bedi (J-3)** and **Col Narinder Dogra (Satluj, first President's Medal Awardee)** there, it should have a good future. The following were present at the meeting.

Sr .	Name	House No.	Batch	Landline	Cell Phone	Mail Id	Address
1	Abhijit Singh	J-860	1994		99221 - 11921	<a href="mailto:abhijit.singh@amdocs.com">abhijit.singh@amdocs.com</a>	C301 , Konark Indrayu Enclave, NIBM Road, Pune
2	Amit Bhalla	R-790	1991		97644 - 42805	<a href="mailto:amit.bhalla@icicibank.com">amit.bhalla@icicibank.com</a>	N-15, Krishnakewal Housing Society, Behind ICICI Bank, Kondhwa, Pune
3	Anil Chadda	R 224	1974	2688-0222	97653 - 90522	<a href="mailto:anil.chadda@gmail.com">anil.chadda@gmail.com</a>	G-1 Ganga Park, B- Wing Mundhwa Road, Near AFSC, Pune 411036
4	Brig. Jaswinder S Chamba	J-39	1964		94231 - 74499	<a href="mailto:jassiechamba@rediffmail.com">jassiechamba@rediffmail.com</a>	B-31 Gera Greens, NIBM Road, Kondhwa Khurd, Pune 411048
5	Col Narinder Dogra				92255 - 70661	<a href="mailto:n.dogra@amplifymind.com">n.dogra@amplifymind.com</a>	D8/1 Salunke Vihar, Pune 411022
6	Jagtar Bhatia	B-47	1964		98230	<a href="mailto:jagtarbhatia@gmail.com">jagtarbhatia@gmail.com</a>	

					-		
					52056		
7	Jyoti Mahajan (nee Kate)	R-52	1967	2588-4665	99220 - 01490	<a href="mailto:jyoti_mahajan1@rediffmail.com">jyoti_mahajan1@rediffmail.com</a>	E-6 Clarion Park, Aundh Pune 411007
8	Lt. Col. M.S.Salaria			2633-0441	93714 - 85185		K-4/16, AWCHS Colony, Salunke Vihar, Khondwa Kurd, Pune
9	Nirmala Kate (wife of Late JK Kate)			2589-6961			B502 Sylvan Heights, Sanewadi, Aundh Pune 411007
10	Shreesh Kathavate	S-159	1968	2727-2807	98214 - 22993	<a href="mailto:kathavate@vsnl.com">kathavate@vsnl.com</a>	17 Rakshak Society, Opp Military Camp, Aundh, Pune
11	Sunil Bedekar	S141	1971	2565-9681	98602 - 56789	<a href="mailto:sb4@vsnl.com">sb4@vsnl.com</a>	Vihang, Dani Lane, Off Law college Road, Pune 411004
12	Vice Admiral Jagjit S Bedi				94229 - 43138	<a href="mailto:jagjitsbedi@gmail.com">jagjitsbedi@gmail.com</a>	
13	Vilas kate	S-96	1970	2589-7577	98508 - 33050	<a href="mailto:vilas_kate@persistent.co.in">vilas_kate@persistent.co.in</a>	B502 Sylvan Heights, Sanewadi, Aundh Pune 411007
14	Col Randhir Deshmukh	B-353	1980		99224 - 41587	<a href="mailto:rhdeshmukh@hotmail.com">rhdeshmukh@hotmail.com</a>	
15	Col G J Singh	J-263	1976	2582-1011	94239 - 16475	<a href="mailto:gjshara@hotmail.com">gjshara@hotmail.com</a>	512 Army base Workshop, Khadki
16	Brig. Chanderkant Sood	R-268	1976	2680-4312	91586 - 38516	<a href="mailto:chandersood@rocketmail.com">chandersood@rocketmail.com</a>	HQ S.C./D-402 Citadel Empress, Sopan Baug, Pune
17	Param Dayal Singh					<a href="mailto:pdsingh2001@yahoo.com">pdsingh2001@yahoo.com</a>	
18	Col Navchetan S Garwel	S-337			92255 - 62952	<a href="mailto:navchetansinghgrewal@hotmail.com">navchetansinghgrewal@hotmail.com</a>	Flat 10, Sidharth Enclave, Kalyani Nagar, Pune
19	Dr. Jashanjot				92169 - 50004	<a href="mailto:onapps@yahoo.com">onapps@yahoo.com</a>	
20	Bhave Sir					<a href="mailto:yvnbhave@rasik.com">yvnbhave@rasik.com</a>	
21	Col Jasjit S Nijjar	R336	1977	2680-6677	98605 - 07463	<a href="mailto:jasjeetnijjar@gmail.com">jasjeetnijjar@gmail.com</a>	504, Lotus Flower Valley, Wanworie, Pune 411040
22	Gurvinder S Chahal	S-644	1986			<a href="mailto:gurvinder.singh7@hdfcbank.com">gurvinder.singh7@hdfcbank.com</a>	C-51, Nyati Serenity, Pune
	<b>Total Count</b>						

## Moved

**Mr KC Tandon and Mrs Keerat Tandon** have moved to Panchkula. Mobile: 09501333366

**Bhudeo Kumar B-484**, HQ 2 Sector Rashtriya Rifles, c/o 56 APO; Mob - 9622540777, email [bhudeokumar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:bhudeokumar@yahoo.co.in).

**Surender Sood ( S- 116) 1964 – 70**, H.No. 10, Sector 15 - A, Chandigarh, Tele : 0172- 4617810, 0172-2549219, Cell : 9915337944

**Maj Gen Daljit Sood(B-81)** , 3043/28D, Chandigarh, 09419109220, 0172-2657086

**Praveen Jha (J-730,1989)**, Lecturer, Institute of Hotel Management, Hajipur, Vaishali, Bihar- 844 101.  
Contact no. 9430485238.

**Col Narinder Singh Saini (R-57,1968)** 438-C,Sector 29,NOIDA-201303.Mob. 9911150672.

**Col SS Aujla (S-246, 1976)** , Senior Manager Business Development, Tricolor Consultants Pvt Ltd CW 57(GF), Malibu Town, Sohna Road, Gurgaon(Haryana) -122001, Mob :+91 9711117210

**Deepak Nath, (S 437, 1975-1981)**

C - 15 , Sector 40, Noida., Pin 201303, M 98-101-18795, [deepak @atlantistrading.in](mailto:deepak@atlantistrading.in)

**Rajinder Chauhan, B-376, ISC-1981** batch, in school from 1973-1981.. [rajinder\\_chauhan40@yahoo.com](mailto:rajinder_chauhan40@yahoo.com)

**BS Sidhu(S-243, 1971)** IPS, Mumbai, Chief Commissioner, Security, Central Railways.

### **Victimised**

An upright revenue officer **Gurjinder Benepal (S-420,1981)** was victimised by land mafia and manhandled leading to physical injuries in Ludhiana. He has resolved to fight it to the end. ONA issued a strong statement to the Press. Many Old nabhaites rushed to his side to be of help.



### **THE OLD NABHAITES ASSOCIATION**

**Dated 20-6-2009**

#### **Press Note to all News papers**

*(in light of the incident of manhandling of govt official Maj. GS Benepal in Ludhiana)*

The ONA (Old Nabhaites Association) is proud of the fact that its alma mater, The Punjab Public School, Nabha, has produced many dedicated, honest and upright defence and civil officers, Major G S Benepal being one of them. The shameful incident of his cruel manhandling by some hoodlums (in Ludhiana while discharging official duty) claiming to be workers of a political party has come as a rude shock.

The Association, that has over 5000 members in Punjab and around the world, expresses its solidarity with Major Benepal, and urges the Government to take strictest possible exemplary action against the hooligans who chose to take law into their own hands. No one connected with the incident should go unpunished. A lenient approach will not only put fear in the minds of government officials, but also lead to anarchy. Such repulsive lawless behaviour is highly deplorable. In order for people to repose faith in the government, and in order to portray a clean image, not only should the Government severely punish the guilty but also spare no efforts to make government officials feel secure.

**Old Nabhaites Association** (Chandigarh / Delhi /Canada /USA /UK /Australia)

*The following letter was written to Old Nabhaite **Ramandeep Khatra(R-491,19191)** wife of **Harinder Khatra (J-597,1988)** an active ONA member.*



**THE OLD NABHAITES ASSOCIATION**  
**ONA Secretariat, 4538, sector-68, Mohali-160062**

**Dated: 7-6-2009**

Dear Ramanjeet,

With a heavy heart I am writing these words to express the great sadness that has struck all Old Nabhaites by the sudden and early demise of your husband Harinder Khatra and our friend and ONA family member.

He had been a source of strength to this association. We knew we could depend on him when the need arose. Every ONA Day he sponsored some event or the other. He would send his farm generator to enlighten the occasion. Because of him these events were so successful. While providing help he was always humble and unassuming, qualities that make a person noble.

God has his own ways otherwise we would not fear him. He strikes mercilessly where least expected or wanted. Such a blow he has struck you and your family and also the ONA family.

I on behalf of the Association pray to the same almighty to give you and the family strength to face this tragedy. We the Nabhaites share your grief and sorrow. With these words I offer condolences on behalf of ONA.

May his soul rest in peace!

Sadly

Col BS Grewal (S-50, 1967), (Gen Secy, ONA)

### **Golden Jubilee Horse Show**

As a part of the ongoing celebrations for the Golden Jubilee, a PPS equestrian show was organised at the TA Btn grounds in Chandigarh. Being meant as publicity for the PPS, it had to be extremely well organised and publicised. That is what it exactly turned out to be. **Gen TK Sapru**, GOC Western Command, provided the infrastructure support for the event, The PPS put up the refreshments for all those who came to watch. The

Tricity ONA was given the job to bring in the crowds and the PPS riders had to perform at their best. All jobs were accomplished with aplomb.

The Tricity ONA did its home work very well and quickly as they had just few days. It quickly formed a small committee of **Lovejit Saraon (J-156, 1971)**, **Col Harjit Chahal (J-49, 1967)**, **Mrs Neelinder Sandhu (B-807, 1988)**, **Inderjit Sidhu (J-319, 1978)** and **Jashanjot(S-52)**. Lists of schools in Chandigarh, Mohali and Panchkula were prepared. Each school was allotted to be covered by one of the members of the team. Posters with pictures of trick riding, lists of various tricks to be performed and a map to reach the venue, were prepared by the Ons with their own resources (see some of the photos below). An invitation card forwarded to the Tricity ONA by the Headmaster, PPS, was given to all Headmasters or Principals. A press conference was organised to get press coverage and media attention where Comdr Syal also came down from Nabha.

In spite of the prevalent swine flu menace, and in spite of the numerous notices and warnings from Chandigarh Health department to schools, so many school children turned up that some had to be accommodated on the wrong side of the track. For this credit goes to the Tricity ON team

Ultimate credit must go to the PPS riding team because they were talked about in schools in Chandigarh long after they had gone. This made all of us here proud of PPS. We got many compliments from some Heads of schools.





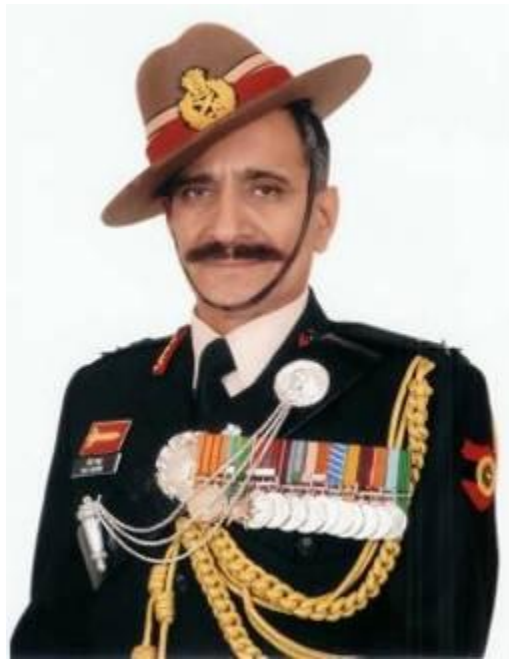


### **Farwell to Lt Gen TK Sapru (S-42, 1964)**

As Gen **TK Sapru** was to retire at the end of November, 2009, a farwell party was organised to give a suitable send-off to a man who had repeatedly proven to be a great and exemplary Old Nabhaite. The ONA executive had decided to honour him. To make it a grand farewell for a big but humble Nabhaite the invitations were sent out by letters, emails and SMSs on mobiles. The invitations were sent out with the comments “Be **there to bid adieu to an upright Old Nabhaite who has not only raised the prestige of the PPS and ONA but also shown PPS spirit time and again by being accessible to all Old Nabhaites whenever they called in spite of being on one of the hottest posts in Indian army. He has always stood by and made himself available for any help PPS asked him for.**”

He has also demonstrated other attributes consistently

1. He has always recognised and given credit to his alma mater PPS for his success.
2. He had shown Nabhaite spirit by organising get-togethers where ever he was posted through out his career.



Tej in PPS and at Retirement

The **Tricity Chapter** graciously offered to organise the dinner on behalf of ONA. The team of organisers comprised

**Lovejit Saraon (J-156,1971)9815006745, Col DPS Waraich (J-281,1976)09815013171; Col Inderpal (J-77,1965), 9814607760; Col HS Chahal (J-49,1966) 9872695656; Rajinder Jain(R-266,1976) M:9815547194 Inderjit Singh(J-319,1977); Col Jasdeep Chatha(1979) 9464836362, Abninder Grewal (J-4,1960), Paramjit Mohi (9872608309), Sandeep Sandhu, (R-512,1986) 9417200031, Supreet Singh (S-836, 1994), Secy Chandigarh, Inderjit Singh (J-319, 1977), M: 987252902, and Jatinder Randhawa (J-60, 1968)**

The response was beyond imagination. Old Nabhaites came from far and wide to be there in Chandi Mandir Golf Course to say good bye to an Official **Gen TK Sapru** and welcome him into the Civvy Street. The following pictures and captions will do the talking about the event.

Tej as he is known to friends has settled down in Panchkula just next to Gurudwara Nadha Sahib. As he joked, “ you are welcome to meet me any time and if I can’t offer you a meal I can always take you for *langar* to Nadha Sahib “



A magnificent venue “The Refuge” at Chandi Mandir Golf Course



The inside view before the crowd filled it. Slide show on the right had pictures from different events attended by Tej



"The Bunker" where sit-in dining was arranged



Crowded reception



The Ladies



Escorting the guest



Meeting Old Nabhaites



and the ladies.....



Backdrop with Sapru's school photo on the left and in uniform on the right. PPS building in the Background



A view of the gathering



Few formal moments and the attentive crowd







A gift for the personal desk, acclaiming “Tej you have done us proud”



A horse-shoe gift of fibreglass for Good luck for the future, courtesy **Abninder Grewal Family (J-5)**.



Watching the cork hit the ceiling.



Three cheers for Tej and for PPS



A Gurkhali toast



The Man of the Moment!!



Cutting the Cake with a helping hand from ONA and the youngest Nabhaites present



With Young ones!! (Col IP included)



With The Old Brigade



Lady Tandon with 1977ers



Photo with Madam Tandon (Pannu)



Young Old Nabhaite Couples!!

## The Dancing Twosomes





An occasion to meet friends from busy schedules





Finally The Dinner is served!!

### **ONA Day “2K9” 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**

The ONA\_Day started with old Nabhaites gathering at the basketball court in Junior School for a “Past Vs Present” basketball match. The teams were introduced to the President of ONA **Harpatap Ajanala (B-45, 1967)**. Needless to say, the Present was literally mobbed off the court. The Present played well but the oldies too showed sparks of brilliance especially Bhupi Khatra. Any referee that did not show partisanship (which way I leave it to your imagination) was quickly removed. The Past won by their sheer bulldozing power, leaving no space for Present to manoeuvre on the court. After the sweat and toil it was over to the adjoining Lawn where tea had been laid out.

As a prelude to the Tea, President **Harpatap Ajanala (B-45, 1967)**, in a small ceremony, gave away Tracksuits as prizes to the PPS Athletics Team for winning IPSC Championship. **Iqbal Kooner (R-19)** read out the names. The ONA had got special tracksuits made for the team and coaches. The tea was well organised and having it in the PPS lawns made it even more pleasurable. The Headmaster, some staff members, the Athletics Team and Class XII students also joined the Old Nabhaites for tea.



Introduction of team with ONA President Harpartap. Best of Luck!!!

A few coaching tips



The cheering audience



A basket too far...



Mind the man not the Ball



The IPSC Winning Team members honoured by ONA



Shaabaash!!!



And last but not the least, one for the Oldest Nabhaite in PPS, **Iqbal Kooner**

### **The ONA Meeting**

After a break of an hour a meeting was held in the auditorium.

Chairman, Organizing Committee, **Anil Bansal (J-233, 1976)** welcomed everyone.

**Gagandeep Kaur (B-678, 1987)**, who conducted the meeting, invited HM to say a few words to the Old Nabhaites.

Headmaster addressed the gathering and exhorted everyone to come for Golden Jubilee next year in great numbers.

The gathering paid homage to the departed Old Nabhaites by observing two minutes' silence in memory of

- **Dr Shivinder Sandhu(Ex Beas)**
- **Sunil Gupta(B-127)**
- **Daljeet Shaheed (B-54)**
- **Jasmel Singh (B-250)**

Mr Iqbal Coonar conducted the Assembly. After the Assembly and prayer everyone sang the School Song. A bunch of school girls singing the song was commented upon for the line “while we are boys in....”. Some said it was time we changed the word “boys.”

After the staff left, all present were welcomed by the **Joint Secretary HS Dhaliwal**. This was followed in sequence by President’s address, Secretary’s report, Treasurer’s report and The Eagle report (see below)

As per the agenda, **Gen Tiwari** appraised the ONs of Golden Jubilee programme and emphasised that every one should attend.

**Harvinder Singh Dhaliwal (B-627, 1988) Jt. Secy, ONA**, presented the vote of thanks.

The meeting was closed thereafter and the dinner announced.



## THE OLD NABHAITES ASSOCIATION

### President’s Address

First I would like to welcome all Old Nabhaites to ONA Day 2K9 at the occasion of ONA fellowship.

In the year of Golden Jubilee, it may be worthwhile to reassess where ONA stands today and what can be done to take it further.

In the present phase of ONA which started in 1998 we have come a long way from starting point of almost a scratch. The achievements have been many

- Almost thirty Old Nabhaites discussed a draft of the constitution prepared by **Col Tejinder(S-70, 1968) and Col SP Singh(R-84, 1968)** at Ludhiana and adopted it.
- The body was registered by **Capt IS Dhami(R-257, 1976)** at Jalandhar under Punjab Societies Act 1860.
- A very successful “**Rendezvous 2000**” was held in style when **Navin Talwar, Jashanjot and Kedarnath** were at the helm.
- The address list has been built up from less than 100 to almost 3000.
- **The Eagle** was started in late nineties and is still being brought out to keep Old Nabhaites informed and motivated. It carries only positive attitude.
- Chapters of Nabha, Jalandhar, Chandigarh, Mohali, Patiala and Ludhiana participate in deliberations and decision making of ONA on and off.
- Website [www.ppsona.com](http://www.ppsona.com) has been set up by ONA courtesy **Jimmy Singh(J-452,1982)** to keep ONs in touch and informed. It spells the future. We are grateful to him.
- Today from about 100 members we have strength of almost 1000 members- though still very short of target.
- Every year through sponsorships by few Ons, we provide awards and incentives worth over Rs1.25lacs to PPS students, teachers and *karamcharis*. In between too some needy students have been given financial help without disclosing names of the recipients.

- Except for last two years due to confusion of dates (April or October) , ONA Day is held every year, with Old Nabhaites rather than school sharing the financial cost.

While achievements have been many there should be no hesitation in admitting failures.

The ONA has failed to **institutionalise** itself. In spite of our best efforts we have not been able to get many chapters going with participation being limited to few. We are close to forming Bhatinda and Sangrur chapters which have large number of ONs. To take the organization further following steps are required

1. Each one of you Old Nabhaites must get involved in ONA by yourself. Nobody will come to ask you.
2. All of you must become Life members. Those who are, should convince others to become one.
3. Local units of ONA should be formed by local ONs .Every district in Punjab must have a Chapter apart from one in Haryana, Himachal, Delhi, Defence and Girls as enshrined in the constitution.
4. The Chapters should meet at intervals and elect two representatives for ONA Executive.
5. **The executive thus formed should act as parliament of ONA and by consensus, as established by Constitution, choose President, Secretary and other Office Bearers. This is a unique feature of ONA as very few can participate in a General Body Meeting, due to distances and time constraints and professional commitments.**
6. The ONA must then find ways to add inputs to PPS and its students through various talks, workshops and projects undertaken in PPS.
7. Finally, if we want PPS to be considered **Number One School of Punjab, we have to provide leadership in social causes.** This organization should be the flag bearer in Punjab and get involved in public issues which are strictly non-political. These issues could be related to environment, health or education. The PPS and ONA must play a leading role in these areas to be labelled the best school in Punjab. Officers, doctors and engineers are okay, but social & environmental leaders and writers and artists should also be products of this great school.
8. You must contribute to and build up the **ONA Benevolent fund**, the guidelines for which are laid. This fund can be used for all the noble objectives of ONA while Life Membership fee can be used for running ONA. The two have a distinct role to play from each other.

I would like to end with these thoughts and I hope I have stimulated you enough to get involved in ONA.

I wish you to enjoy the evening and I welcome Batch of 1984 pass outs who are here since it is their silver jubilee and wish them good luck! A happy Baisakhi to all of YOU!

See you next year same time same place during the Golden jubilee.

Thank you.

**Harpatap Ajnala (B-45, 1967) President, ONA**

*(The President of ONA Harpartap Singh Ajnala announced a donation of Rs 50,000 from his pocket to the ONA Benevolent Fund after his address to give it a momentum)*

### **Secretary's Report (April 12, 2009)**

This year, as in previous years, the ONA has continued to progress further, apart from consolidating its previous achievements.

1. We had mandatory meetings of the Executive Committee during the year



2. I welcome school passouts of 2008 who became Life members of ONA to the fold. We are grateful to Comdr IL Sayal for it. Similarly 14 NRI life members and four others who became life members in 2008 are formally welcomed today.
3. A Grand Pre Christmas Dinner function was held in Chandigarh on 12 Dec 2008 to promote ONA Association.
4. PPS Golf competition was held in Chandi Mandir on 25th Jan with Chandigarh golfers and **Lt Gen TK Sapru(S-43,1964)** being the force behind it. The experiment was a big success in promoting fellowship across batches, golf being the common factor. Similar efforts maybe made in other areas too.
5. Thanks to **Jimmy Singh (J-452)**, the website [www.ppsona.com](http://www.ppsona.com) is functioning well. However we are still trying to rectify errors that have crept in. One project is a new website.
6. The Eagle has been brought out off and on to keep the ONs informed.
7. This year the ONA has awarded scholarships worth Rupees **Seventy Thousand** to merit students of class IV to Xth, courtesy **Dr Rupinder Brar (S-299)**.
8. This year also the ONA awarded "**The ONA late KK Katyal Memorial Award**" a cash prize for deserving *karamcharis* of PPS worth a total of Rs 10000/ in memory of late Biology teacher **Mr KK Katyal**. It has been made possible courtesy **ONs Vandana(R-344, 1978), Archana(R-307,1978) and Puneet(R-425,1981)** children of Mr Katyal.
9. Creative writing workshop will be held soon. Money for getting an expert for it has been received by School. It has been donated by **ON Dr Preetam Singh(J-242,1973)** of Amritsar.
10. **Sandeep(R-512, 1986) and Puneeta Sandhu(J-540,1987)**, in the memory of Sandeep's father, gave prize money of Rs 10,000 for the most improved child with rural background.
11. Best Teacher award of Rs 10, 000 for Junior and Senior School sections was donated by **ON Gurkiran Singh Dhillon(J-735,1990)** in the name of his uncle **Sardar Sukhbir Singh Cheema** who was instrumental in putting him into PPS.
12. Award of Rs 5000 each was given to best all round girl and boy for activities other than sports donated by **Harvinder Singh Dhaliwal(B-627,1988) Jt. Secy, ONA**.
13. I am grateful to all ONs who have donated for a good cause. In future we plan to raise funds for scholarships in PPS. Anyone of you wanting to honour someone in the family can do so by starting a scholarship in his or her name. There is no better way to pay back to PPS than by helping some bright students. For this a beginning has been made by floating the **ONA Benevolent Fund**. It was officially announced two years back and is part of our payback to PPS.
14. I request anyone of you who is not a member of ONA to become one today and take advantage of the ONA Day concessional fee for the same.
15. We want more members to be involved in running ONA by becoming executive members from different Districts. They should activate their district chapters. If there are any volunteers please come forward and offer yourself. We want to dedicate the next year to increasing Life Membership and involvement of ONs in running ONA from different areas of the state.

I would like to thank all of you for having come to attend this meeting and ONA Day. I will end by saying become a Life Member if you are not. The ONA runs on these funds. Please donate as much as you can for the ONA benevolent Fund to start scholarships and other projects in PPS. This is the only way we can show our gratitude to PPS.

**Lt Col BS Grewal(S-50, 1967)**  
*Secretary, ONA*

## **ONA Life Membership**

The ONA is presently being run with the efforts of a few Old Nabhaites working voluntarily. Since no money has been taken for basic running of PPS by **Dr Jashanjot**, there has been no expenditure of ONA for last two years. However, we have to pay expenses of hard copy of two issues of The Eagle and ONA day this year.

We have crossed the basic stage. The next step should be to have a strong vibrant ONA run efficiently for future. For this, we need funds so as to build a strong organizational set-up and infrastructure. This requires an office of our own, maybe in Chandigarh, which can be the hub. The office should be well equipped with computers and good communications set-up, including tele-link and Internet connection. We need regular running of *The Eagle* and *the Website* so that these do not fail even if there is no one to take responsibility. We need at least two or three regular employees who can maintain records, update databank on specific software, receive and file mail and send out replies or information. Also needed is an accountant to keep accounts and file tax returns every year in consultation with a Chartered Accountant. He should also send out balance sheet to all members every year. Even postage cost is enormous.

This set-up of quality may require few lakh rupees every year as running costs. The money for running ONA comes from interest on the life membership fee kept as a corpus FD by ONA in a Nationalized or recognized Bank. At present we have less than 1000 members who have in the past paid from Rs300 -1000 only as life membership, giving a total amount of only Rupees 15 lakhs raised in 46 years. The target should be at least a crore if we are to come near any other organization of similar nature from established public schools. ONA should not have to depend on individual sponsorships for the sake of its self esteem.

There are more than 4000 Old Nabhaites. We need at least 3500 members who can pay Rs1500 (Indian residents) and Rs 5000 (Non Resident Indians) each to build a large corpus. By just enrolling 1000 more members at Rs 2000 we could easily up our kitty by Rs 20 lacs. Would we then need to depend on any one individual? So play your role in ONA. Strengthen it by becoming a Life Member today. If you are not sure of your membership status, write to us and confirm your membership. Membership of local old Chapter does not always mean you are member of the Main Body. Certain advantages will accrue only to Life Members in future.

**Make your cheque /draft payable to ONA at Nabha.** Send with your full name alongwith School House number with all zeros, to *The ONA Secretariat, 4538, Darshan Vihar, Sector-68, Mohali-160062.*

Or transfer electronically to ONA account (Ac/ **no 01561000137045 HDFC Bank, Nabha.**)

### **The Eagle Report (12<sup>th</sup> April 2009)**

My job is to disseminate information about Old Nabhaites to Old Nabhaites through The Eagle. I have just two points to make.

1. Please have an email ID as ONA can not afford printing of hard copies of The Eagle and its postage.
2. Please send in information about yourself and other Old Nabhaites regularly to [onapps@yahoo.com](mailto:onapps@yahoo.com)  
For The Eagle, every Old Nabhaite is a roving Journalist.

Thank you

**Dr Jashanjot(S-52, 1967), Life Member Executive and Incharge "The Eagle"**

### **The Vote of Thanks**

Dear Old Nabhaites.

It is my privilege to thank all those who have worked to make this event The ONA Day happen. First of all I would like to thank the Headmaster Commodore IL Sayal and Bursar Col Alamjit Singh and the school staff without whose help we can not even think of an ONA Day celebration. We would like to thank the students who have helped us at the registration.

Next, I have to thank the Organizing Committee members who have taken pains over last one month to plan and execute this event. Believe me no one today has time for things other than those of personal interest .Only a dedication towards a cause brings out volunteers and sponsors. I will mention here the names of **Anil Bansal (J-233,1976)**, Chairman Organising committee, “ONA Day 2K9 , Fellowship ONA” **Amit Bansal(J-022)**, **Sandeep Jindal(J-428,1982)**, **Navdeep Singla(R-706,1989)**, **Sureshwar Tiwari(J-34,1964)**, **Anil Chowdhary(J-20,1967)**, **Kedar Bansal(J-4,1964)** **JPS Aulakh(S-400,1978)**, **Gurdarshan Gill(S-587,1988)**, **Harinder Khattrra(J-597,1988)**, **Gagandeep Kaur(B-678,1987)**, **HS Dhaliwal(B-627,1988)**, **Lovejit Saraon(J-156,1971)**, **AS Minhas(R-120,1971)**, **Satinder Khattrra(J-77,1993)** and the schoolgirls who were a big help at the reception as usual. If I overlooked any name I apologise , it is by oversight and not any lack of gratitude.

Finally I would like to thank all of you who have taken out time to come for ONA Day to make it a success. I wish you to enjoy the evening and I welcome Batch of 1984 pass out and wish them good luck! A Happy Baisakhi to all of YOU!

See you next year same time same place during the Golden Jubilee.

Thank you.

**Harvinder Singh Dhaliwal (B-627, 1988)**, Joint Secretary ONA

## **The Dinner, Fellowship and Winding down**

The dinner was very well attended. Col Alamjit, the bursar had done a grand job of decorating the venue. The drinks were well organised. Interaction was good.The dinner was wonderful and the DJ was just fantastic. Everyone was soon on the floor and dancing away till it was time to leave.

**See below The Evening in pictures**







The ladies



The guys who created ruckus few years ago are now sobered down. Effect of time?



The Young and the Old



Happy moments





Anil Choudhary(J-20,1967) in a class of his own as Bhupinder Grewal (S-50) watches







DJ was courtesy **Gurdarshan Singh Gill(S-587,1988)** as it is every year



Bursar Col Alamjit , (back to camera) rocks to the foot tapping music belted out by the DJ







Arrangements courtesy Col Alamjit Singh, Bursar, PPS, seen here with IS Kooner and Anil Bansal



