

L A R T H I V I S T A

THE FUTURE IS HERE



Leo Club of Raththanapitiya

Leos of Sri Lanka
& Maldives
INSPIRING LIVES





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MESSAGE FROM THE MULTIPLE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Lead for a Change: Inspiring a New Era of Leoism in 2026/27

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings and convey my message for the Club magazine of the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya.

As the Multiple District President of Leo Multiple District 306 Sri Lanka and Maldives for the Leoistic Year 2026/27, I am deeply honored and humbled to serve this remarkable movement under the theme "Lead for a Change." This theme represents a commitment to inspire transformation within ourselves, our clubs, and the communities we proudly serve. Our vision for this year is to standardize the Leo community while bringing innovation, inspiration, and a renewed sense of purpose to create meaningful change.

In a world that continues to evolve, the role of Leos must evolve as well. Our service should go beyond short-term initiatives and focus on creating sustainable solutions that address real community needs. Every Leo has the potential to become a change-maker by identifying challenges, embracing creativity, and implementing impactful projects that empower communities and create a lasting difference.

The strength of Leo Multiple District 306 lies in our unity and diversity. Through collaboration among districts, clubs, and members across Sri Lanka and the Maldives, we can build a stronger, more connected Leo family. By sharing knowledge, encouraging innovation, and embracing new opportunities, we can elevate the Leo movement to greater heights.

Throughout this year, our leadership will be guided by integrity, accountability, empathy, and adaptability. True leadership is not defined by a title, but by the ability to inspire, influence, and serve others with dedication. I encourage every Leo to step forward with confidence, explore new possibilities, and lead initiatives that create positive change.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya for their exceptional commitment and inspiring service to the community. Your dedication represents the true spirit of Leoism. I wish all past, present, and future Leos continued success, growth, and fulfillment as you continue building a legacy of service.

"Lead for a Change"

Yours in Service,

Leo Nisal Dulmith FLM
Multiple District President,
Leo Multiple District 306



MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Dear Leos,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to the editorial team and members of the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya on the publication of La Rivista – 7th Edition, 1st Issue.

A newsletter is more than a collection of memories, it is a reflection of your club's passion, commitment, and dedication to serving the community. Every page showcases the meaningful impact you create through leadership, fellowship, and selfless service.

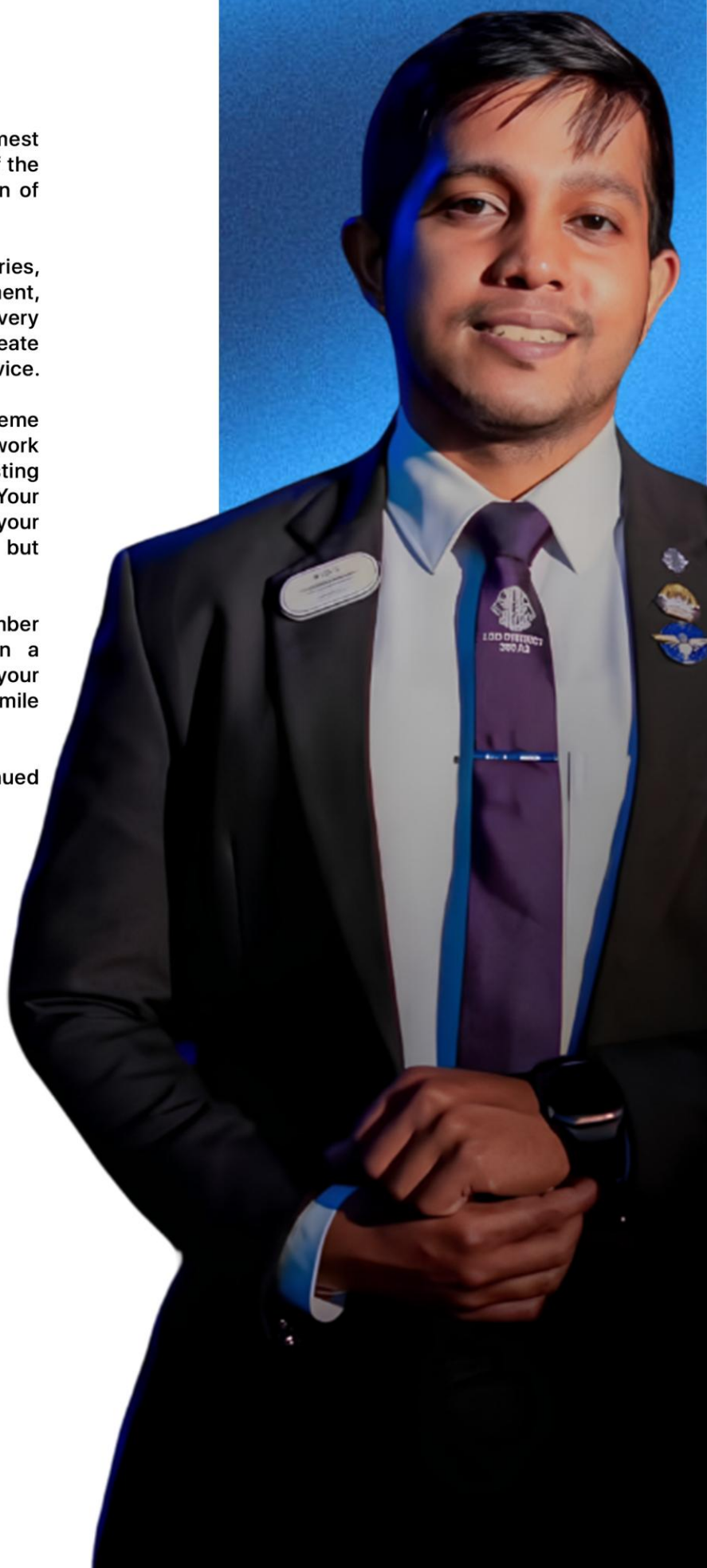
As we continue this Leoistic Year under the theme "United in Purpose," let us remain inspired to work together, embrace innovation, and create lasting change in the lives of those we serve. Your commitment to documenting and celebrating your journey will inspire not only your fellow Leos but also future generations of leaders.

I congratulate the Editorial Team and every member who contributed to making this publication a success. May La Rivista continue to capture your remarkable journey and inspire many more mile stones in the years ahead.

Wishing the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya continued success in all your future endeavors.

United in Purpose, United in Service.

Leo Lion Buddhika Abenayake
District President
Leo District 306 D2
Leoistic Year 2026/2027



MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST CLUB PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Leos, Lions, and Esteemed Readers,

It is a privilege to share a few words through another edition of La Rivista, the official newsletter of the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya. Serving as the Club President during the Leoistic Year 2025/2026 was a truly rewarding experience that strengthened my belief in the power of service, teamwork, and visionary leadership.

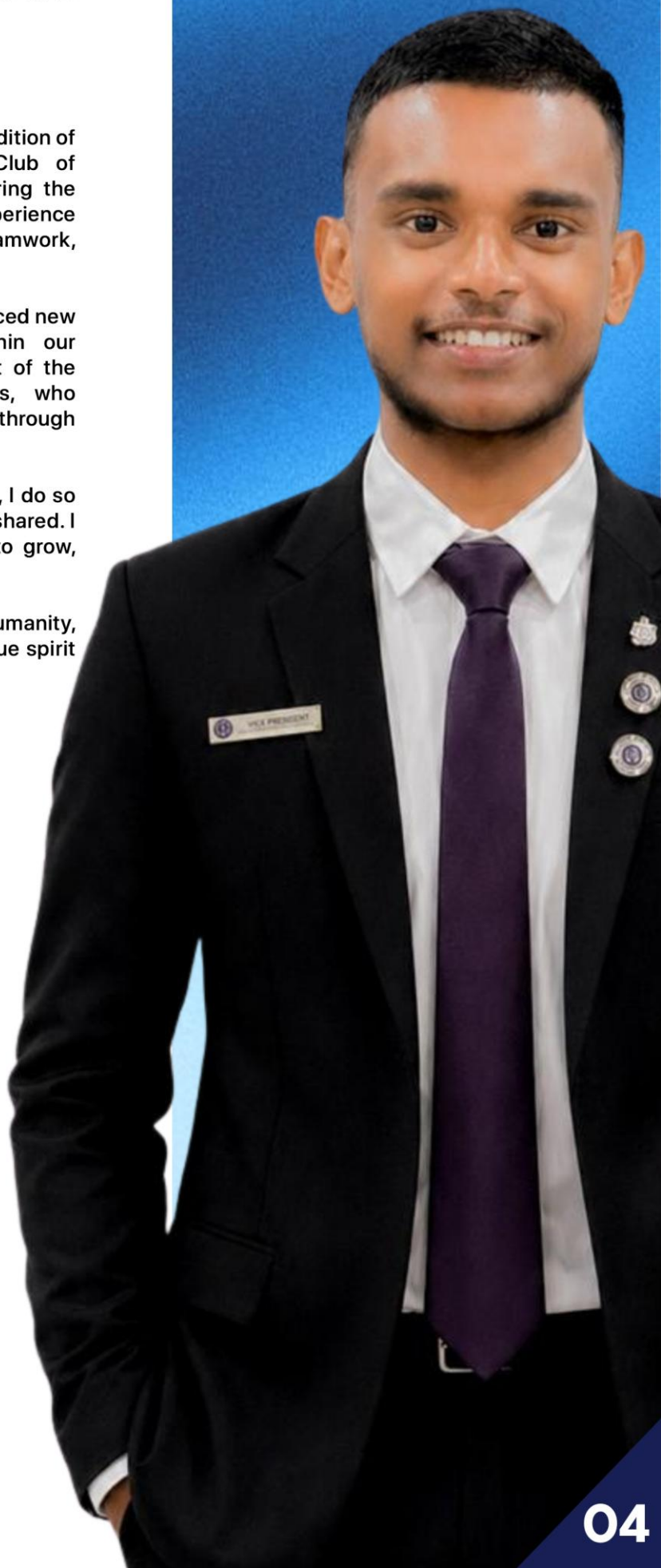
Together, we achieved remarkable milestones, embraced new challenges, and created meaningful impact within our communities. Every accomplishment was the result of the dedication, passion, and unity of our members, who continuously proved that greatness is achieved through collective effort.

As I now serve as the Immediate Past Club President, I do so with immense pride and gratitude for the journey we shared. I have every confidence that our club will continue to grow, innovate, and inspire under its new leadership.

May we always remain committed to serving humanity, empowering one another, and carrying forward the true spirit of Leoism with integrity, passion, and purpose.

Yours in Leoism,

Leo Chathuka Nilakshana
Immediate Past Club President
Leo Club of Raththanapitiya



MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB PRESIDENT

Fellow Leos, Prospects, and Friends,

Welcome to a brand new Leoistic year.

Stepping into this term feels like a true full circle moment. It is an incredible honor to be addressing you from this column after spending the last year behind a screen, carefully laying out and designing 12 successive issues of this newsletter.

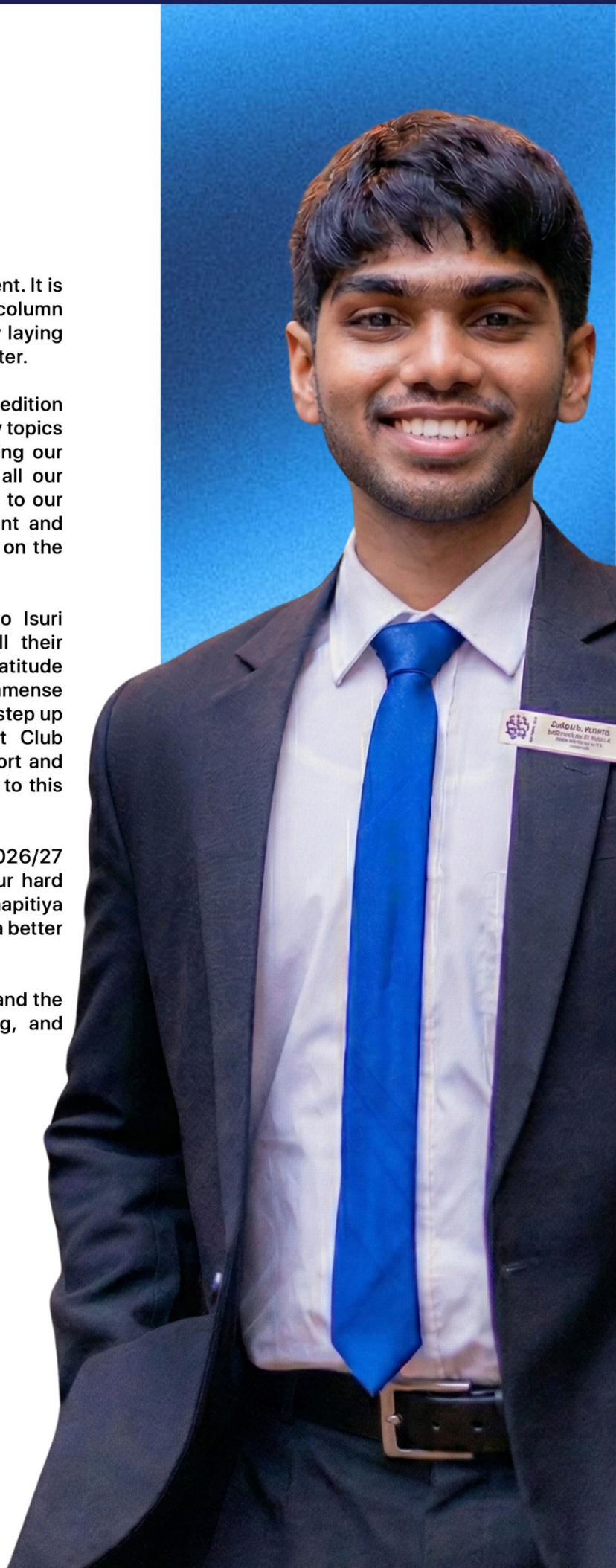
So it is my privilege to share a few words to the newest edition of La Rivista as the Club President. We covered so many topics on these pages last year! This year, we are sharpening our focus. As the President, my goal is to ensure that all our actions, and all our documentation, is directly related to our main mission, community impact, youth empowerment and Lions International's global mandates. We're focusing on the ground where our work is happening.

I would like to thank our Past Club Presidents Leo Isuri Jayakodi, Leo Aditha and Leo Pramod Sean for all their support at any given point. I would like to express my gratitude to you, for constant support, motivation, and the immense trust you have placed in me gave me the confidence to step up to this role. Special thanks to our Immediate Past Club President Chathuka Nilakshana for his constant support and guidance on all aspects of our work so far, leading up to this moment.

Congratulations to our newly appointed Leoistic Year 2026/27 Board of Officials. Thank you for stepping up, for your hard work and for continuing the proud legacy of Raththanapitiya Leos. There's a lot of work here to do and I can't ask for a better team to do it with.

The groundwork is laid, the administration is in place, and the wheels are rolling. Let's be intentional, encouraging, and impactful this year!

Damithu Fonseka
President, 2026-27
Leo Club of Raththanapitiya



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Leo Leaders,

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I welcome you to Volume 07, Issue 01 of La Rivista, the official newsletter of the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya. This edition holds a special place in my heart as it marks my very first issue as the Editorial Director for the Leoistic Year 2026/2027.

As we begin this new chapter, my vision is to elevate La Rivista to even greater heights, not only by enhancing the quality and consistency of every publication but also by ensuring that each edition truly captures the essence of the Leo movement. Through every story, every achievement, and every shared experience, we hope to inspire, connect, and celebrate the spirit of service and leadership that defines us as Leos.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Multiple District President, Leo Multiple District 306 Sri Lanka & Maldives, Leo Nisal Dulmith, for his inspiring leadership and unwavering dedication to the Leo movement. My sincere appreciation also goes to our District President of Leo District 306 D2, Leo Lion Buddhika Abenayake, whose guidance continues to inspire us to strive for excellence.

A special word of thanks goes to our Immediate Past Club President, Leo Chathuka Nilakshana, for laying a strong foundation and continuously supporting the growth of La Rivista. I also extend my sincere appreciation to our Club President, Leo Damithu Fonseka, for his trust, encouragement, and unwavering support as we launched this very first edition together.

This issue marks more than just the beginning of a new volume it represents the start of a new era and a new chapter for La Rivista. With this strong beginning, we look forward to bringing you even more meaningful stories, innovative content, and memorable moments in the months ahead.

Finally, the La Rivista Editorial Team stands ready to breathe new life into the Leo journey through creativity, passion, and excellence. Together, we will continue to showcase the stories that define our legacy and inspire the future.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Yours in Leoism,

Leo Sanuka Jayasooriya
Editorial Director 2026/2027
Leo Club of Raththanapitiya





Global Unity in Action

Behind the scenes of the 108th Lions International Convention

This was a historic example of global solidarity, marking the beginning of the 2026-2027 Leistic year. In July 2026, the vibrant city of Hong Kong played host to the 108th Lions Clubs International Convention (LCICon). It was an impressive achievement, and the most significant of its kind that the world's largest service organization could offer, with over 18,000 committed Lions and Leos from 140 countries in attendance.

LCICon is far more than a ceremonial event for the Leo movement, it is the essence of our global operations. During the convention, delegates held top level leadership seminars, marked the successful delivery of over 345 million meals to people around the world in the last year, and outlined humanitarian priorities for the remaining months. One of the highlights of the convention was the swearing-in ceremony for Mark S. Lyon, the 2026-2027 International President. His central theme "Service and leadership working together to strengthen communities" is a message that is very much appreciated by Leo clubs that are planning their projects at the grassroots level.

The convention also emphasized the tremendous cultural exchange that is our organization. Youth leaders shared solutions to global crises on a worldwide stage in international forums and in the heart of Hong Kong through service projects, such as packing vital supplies for low income families. They have demonstrated that although languages are different, and borders are different, there is no difference in impact. As we get started on our own initiatives this year, we are reminded of what we did in Hong Kong: When We Serve Locally, We Move the Needle Globally.



HONG KONG 2026
108th Lions International Convention

THE FIRST LEO CLUB IN SRI LANKA



The great impact that the Leo movement has on the Sri Lankan community was not an automatic consequence. 1969 was the year the beginnings of one of the world's most influential youth service networks was formed. The country's first-ever Leo Club was inaugurated in Sri Lanka as the Leo Club of Wattala.

The first membership of this groundbreaking club had been made up of a team of cricketers, interestingly. This athletic team became so much more than that, it became a humanitarian cause. This program proved to be popular amongst the Lions, and they paved the way for many of the youths by starting more Leo Clubs.

The quick growth triggered a ripple effect that would radically alter the trajectory of youth empowerment in the island. In 1978, the Lions Multiple had enough Leo Clubs to form Sub-Districts to help with administrative tasks. This resulted in Multiple 306 being split into 306 A and 306 B.

This single spark in 1969 at the Leo Club of Wattala has morphed into Leo Multiple District 306. Today this network is a huge network of more than 210 clubs with over 8,000 Leos registered island wide. Those founding members were instrumental in our unparalleled legacy we carry today by stepping up to serve.





Inaugural Conference

• Key Awards • Projects



Annual District Conference 2026

Club Awards • Club Awards

Leo Isuri Jayakodi

Most Outstanding Immediate Past Club President
of Leo District 306 D2

Winner

Most Outstanding Line Officer of Leo District 306 D2

Winner



Leo Chathuka Nilakshana

Most Outstanding Club President
of Leo District 306 D2

4th Place

Most Popular Leos of Leo District 306 D2

Top 5

Top 10 Club Presidents of Leo District 306 D2

Leo Pankaja Veenavi

Most Outstanding Club Treasurer
of Leo District 306 D2

2nd Runner Up



Leo Damithu Fonseka

Most Outstanding New Leo of the Year
of Leo District 306 D2

Top 5

Most Outstanding Bulletin Editor
of Leo District 306 D2

Top 5



Leo Minushi Weerasinghe

Most Outstanding New Leo of the Year
of Leo District 306 D2

2nd Runners up



PROJECT

- Balaporothishuwa - Best service
- Arogya Parama Laba - Best Project
- Eka Ittaka Mal - Best Project for Helping
- Golden Ticket Gala - Best project
- Akyala- Best project for poverty
- Arogya Parama Laba - Best project
- Golden Ticket Gala - Best Intra
- Eka Ittaka Mal - Best Project
- Balaporothishuwa - Best Project for
- Parissamen Gihin enna - Best project for Cri

Most Outstanding
Community Based
Omega Leo Club
1 Runner Up

**1ST
RUNNERS-UP**

**Most Outstanding
Community-Based
Omega Leo Club**

Leo Club of
Rattanapitiya

Presented at
D2CON'26
FORGED TO LEAD
Leo District 306 D2
20.06.2026



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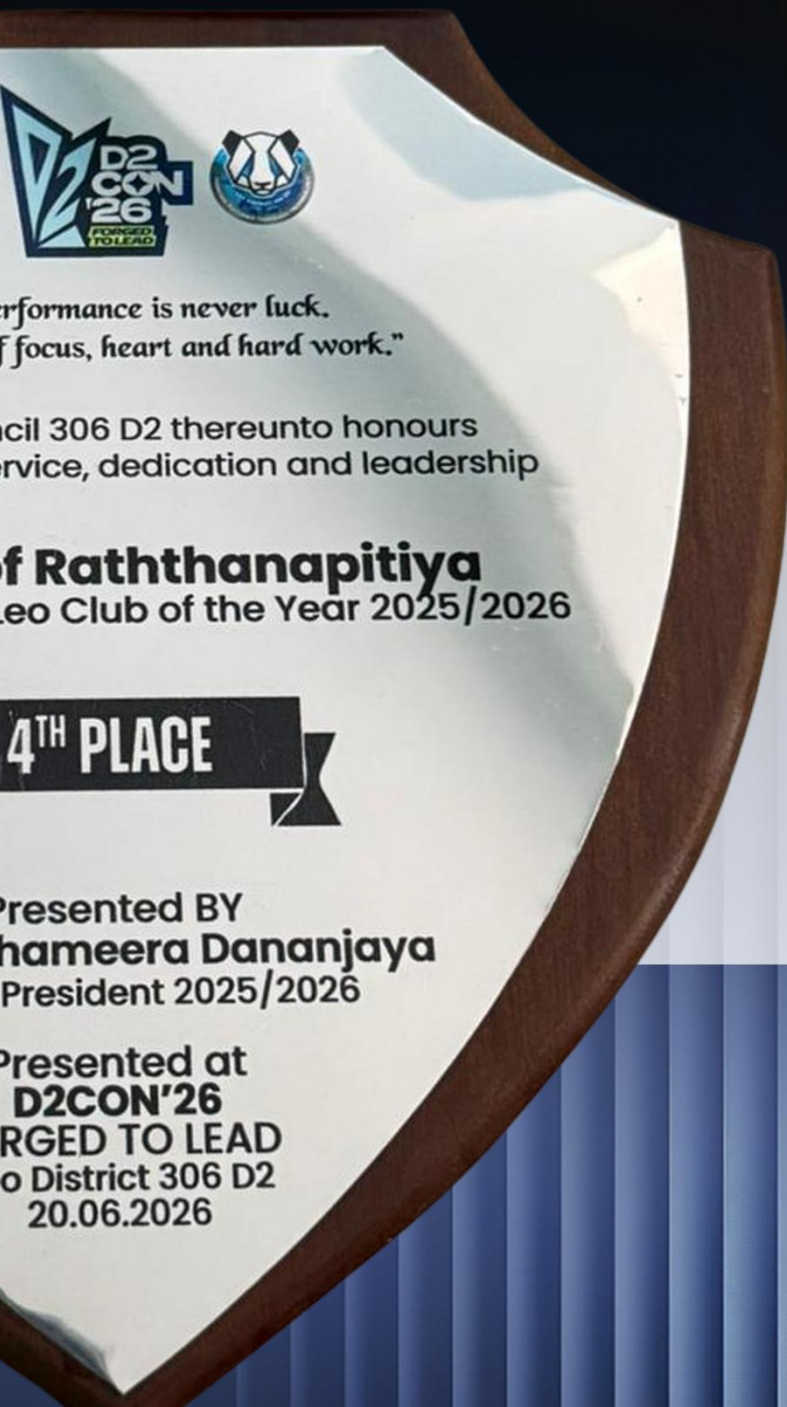
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AWARDS

e project by a new Leo - Winner
 oject for vision - 2nd Runner Up
 hand to Differently Able - 2nd runner up
 ct for Fundraiser - 2nd Runner up
 y and better life - 2nd Runner up
 oject for Diabetes - 1st Runner up
 District Project - 2nd Runner up
 Inter District - 1st Runner up
 r Childhood Cancer - 1st Runner up
 me and Accident prevention - 2nd Runner up



Most Outstanding
 Leo Club of Leo
 District 306 D2
4th Place

MEMBER

Spotlight

"A university journey is not only measured by academic achievements, but also by the experiences gained, friendships created, and positive impact made on society. One young Leo member's remarkable journey reflects the true meaning of leadership, teamwork, and service."

The inspiring Leo journey began in 2024 with joining the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya as a member while pursuing a B.Sc. (Hons) in Food Business Management at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. What started as a simple step towards community service soon became a transformative experience filled with leadership opportunities, challenges, and unforgettable memories.

Throughout the journey, the Leo Movement became a valuable part of university life, providing opportunities to develop essential skills beyond the classroom. Balancing academic responsibilities with social commitments, the journey highlighted the importance of teamwork, responsibility, communication, and dedication.

Serving as the Club Treasurer of the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya became one of the most significant milestones. The role was not only about managing financial responsibilities but also about learning how to lead, coordinate with members, and handle different situations effectively while contributing towards meaningful community service projects.

Creating Memories Through Service:

One of the most memorable achievements was successfully conducting the Golden Ticket Gala – Leo Raffle Draw Season 2, a remarkable fundraising project that brought together Leo members from different clubs. The project created a platform to strengthen collaboration, build friendships, and experience the true spirit of the Leo Movement.

The programme became a successful example of teamwork and dedication, receiving recognition at the district level by achieving Second Runner-up for the Best Fundraising Project and Second Runner-up for the Best Intra District Project.

Beyond the awards, the greatest achievement was the opportunity to work together with fellow Leos, overcome challenges, and create unforgettable memories through a shared vision of service.



Recognition of Leadership:

The commitment and dedication shown throughout the Leo journey were recognised at the Leo District 306 D2 District Conference, where the achievement of Second Runner-up Most Outstanding Club Treasurer was awarded.

This recognition reflected the passion, commitment, and leadership demonstrated while serving the club and contributing to the growth of the Leo Movement.

In 2026, completing the B.Sc. (Hons) in Food Business Management at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka marked the beginning of a new chapter. However, this journey was not only about earning a degree; it was about becoming a person with experiences, values, and a commitment to making a difference.

Leaving university as a Leo member who contributed to society through community service remains one of the greatest achievements. The Leo Movement provided a platform to transform knowledge into action and develop the confidence needed for future challenges.

A heartfelt appreciation is extended to Leo Chathuka Nilakshana, Club President, for his leadership, encouragement, and guidance throughout the journey.

Special gratitude is also given to Leo Lion Kalpa Hasanka, Past Club Treasurer (2024/2025), for sharing valuable knowledge and providing continuous support, and to Leo Isuri Jayakodi, Immediate Past Club President (2024/2025), for her advice, encouragement, and contribution.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Leos:

This journey proves that the true value of university life goes beyond academic success. It is about discovering leadership, building lifelong friendships, serving communities, and leaving a positive mark behind.

The Leo Movement creates young leaders who do not simply dream of change but take action to create it.

"A degree opens the door to a career, but service creates a legacy."

Leo Pankaja Veenavi

Club Treasurer
Leoistic Year 2025/26
Leo Club of Raththanapitiya

GOLDEN TICKET GALA

The Golden Ticket Gala – Season 03 is an exciting collaborative fundraising initiative organized by the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya, bringing together the Leo Club of Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine-FISSMS, Leo Club of Panadura Alubomulla, Leo Club of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ), Leo Club of Taxila Central College, and Leo Club of Sri Lanka Technology Campus.

Launched in July 2026, the project will continue until the end of September, when the much anticipated raffle draw will be held to select three lucky winners. E-tickets are available at LKR 200 each or 3 for LKR 500, with each participating club retaining the full proceeds from the tickets they sell, making this a unique and mutually beneficial fundraising model. By encouraging each club to sell a minimum of 70 tickets, the initiative aims to strengthen inter club fellowship, promote teamwork, and support future community service projects through sustainable fundraising.

GOLDEN TICKET GALA LEO RAFFLE DRAW

season 03



COMING SOON...

07 leo clubs

REMARKABLE PROJECT

3 WINNERS

LEO DISTRICT 306 D2



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"Sihina Mantheeruwa" is a heart touching community service initiative organized by the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya to bring joy, comfort, and hope to children currently undergoing treatment at the cancer hospital. The main goal of this project is to uplift their spirits and offer a peaceful escape through engaging and uplifting activities.

During the event, Leos will spend quality time conversing with the children, playing lighthearted games, and sharing moments of happiness. A key highlight of the program will be interactive coloring sessions, where children will receive specially designed sheets featuring animals and nature to bring to life with colors, encouraging their creativity and self expression. Taking place at Indira Cancer Trust, this meaningful project aims to brighten these brave young souls' days and leave them with cherished memories and renewed hope.



PEDAL WITH **PURPOSE**

CHARITY CYCLING EVENT

TAKE TO THE ROAD FOR A PURPOSE AND CHANGE LIVES!

Now, the Leo Club of Raththanapitiya is excited to announce that it will soon embark on a community cycling project called Project Pedal with Purpose for healthy living and a meaningful cause.

Throughout Sri Lanka, there are many young sports talents who would like to pursue sports to the highest level, but the only problem is that they don't have the basic sports equipment to develop their skills. These future champions don't have the necessary equipment, such as balls, bats, and volleyballs, to fully realize their potential.

The idea is to shift this reality by delivering these essential resources and empowering underprivileged schools. As a member of our community cycling program, accessible to youth and the general public, you can help make these aspiring athletes a reality. Proceeds from participant registrations will go directly towards the purchase and donation of sports equipment to schools that do not have adequate equipment. Our goal is to create an environment where all students can have the same opportunity to engage in sports and physical activity.

If you are a fitness enthusiast, or just someone who wants to be able to make a difference, your involvement is important: every time you're out pedaling, you're helping to support a student in need. Please keep an eye out as this exciting and transformative project will be available in September!

VOICES OF LEADERSHIP



1. What is one hard truth about leadership or teamwork that you learned exclusively through the Leo Club?

Leadership is not just about completing a project successfully, it's about managing people. The hardest truth I learned through the Leo Club is that every Leo comes with different personalities, emotions, personal challenges, and responsibilities outside the club.

As a leader, you have to keep everyone motivated and united toward one common goal while also understanding and supporting them as individuals. Balancing the project's objectives with the emotions and well being of the team is one of the most difficult responsibilities of a leader. I believe that a true Leo leader is someone who can successfully manage both people and the mission.

2. If you were handed an unlimited budget to execute one dream project for our community, what would it be?

As Leos, we organize many social service projects, but if I had an unlimited budget, I would focus on supporting kidney patients, especially in the Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa regions where chronic kidney disease has affected many families. At the same time, I would launch a long term mental health and emotional support program for cancer patients. While financial and medical assistance are essential, I strongly believe that a patient's mental strength plays a significant role in their recovery.

Sometimes, hope, encouragement, and emotional support can make a life changing difference. My dream project would combine medical assistance with psychological and emotional care to improve patients' overall quality of life.

3. How has the experience of being a Leo impacted your professional, academic, or university life outside of the club?

The Leo Club has shaped me into the person I am today. It has strengthened my leadership, communication, teamwork, problem solving, and time management skills, which have been invaluable in both my university and professional life. Managing projects while balancing academics taught me discipline and responsibility.

It also gave me the confidence to communicate with people from different backgrounds, handle challenges under pressure, and make decisions with greater maturity. Beyond the skills, Leoism taught me to always think about how I can create a positive impact wherever I go.

4. If you had to describe your entire Leo journey in just three words, what would they be?

Growth. Purpose. Legacy.

Growth, because every challenge helped me become a better leader and a better person.

Purpose, because Leoism gave meaning to my efforts by allowing me to serve others.

Legacy, because I hope the work I have done and the people I have inspired will continue making a positive difference even after my Leo journey ends.

5. What would you tell others who want to join the Leo movement?

Everyone joins the Leo movement with different goals. Some want to improve their leadership skills, some want to serve the community, while others simply want to make new friends. Whatever your reason is, it doesn't matter as long as, by the end of your Leo journey, you have achieved that goal and become a better version of yourself. If you feel you haven't, take a step back, reflect, and ask yourself what more you can do to make the most of this opportunity.

Leoism is one of the best platforms for personal growth, leadership development, networking, and community service. Opportunities like this don't come often, so embrace every challenge, learn from every experience, and strive to become someone who inspires others through your actions.

Leo Isuri Jayakodi

Club President
Leoistic Year 2024/25
Leo Club of Raththanapitiya



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