

# LEO TIMES

VOLUME 07 | EDITION 07 | JULY 2023

*"YOU CAN'T LET YOUR FAILURES DEFINE YOU.  
YOU HAVE TO LET YOUR FAILURES TEACH YOU."*

— BARRACK OBAMA



BEST NEW LEO CLUB NOTE

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# THOUGHTS FROM

## DR. Madhubhashitha Herath

*It is with immense pride and enthusiasm that I, as the Advisor of the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University, bring this special message to our esteemed Leo community. With the recognition as “Most Outstanding Best New Leo Club Award” for both Sri Lanka and the Maldives, the Leo club of UWU stands as a testament to the relentless dedication and unwavering commitment to the community. Throughout their journey, the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University has consistently showcased an unwavering passion for community service and personal development. Their remarkable endeavors not only secured them this well-deserved recognition but also garnered them profound respect and admiration from peers and mentors alike.*

*As their advisor, I have had the privilege to witness their remarkable growth, as they hone their leadership skills and nurture their individuals while actively participating in impactful service initiatives. For individuals pondering the rewarding venture of Leo Club membership, I wholeheartedly extend my endorsement. The Leo Club offers a unique platform for young minds to refine their leadership acumen, nurture their personalities, and, simultaneously, foster meaningful changes within their communities. The experiences gained through active involvement stand unparalleled, serving as a cornerstone for personal and professional advancement. The triumph of the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University serves as an exemplar of how passion and purpose, when united, can lead to remarkable achievements. Their success resonates as an inspiration to us all, underscoring the potential for positive transformations when driven individuals embark on collective action. Looking forward, I extend a warm invitation to those who aspire to realize their potential as future trailblazers and community champions. Joining the Leo Club not only promises personal growth but also offers a unique avenue to significantly impact society at large. Here’s to the continued success and influence of the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University.*

*I have the prestige honor in installing the Leo club of Uwa Wellassa University in 2022. I take this opportunity to thank the sponsoring club lions club of Uva Capital for their active involvement too. Today LEO is the largest youth social service organization which comes under the lions international around the globe. UWU became the most outstanding new club for their hardworking, dedication and different approach in projects. This year my goal is to involve the LEOs with the lions district to make a difference in the social service arena with new ideas and new concepts. I wish the newly elected key club officers and members a positive leoistic year ahead.*

*“This is the time for your service. This is the country, and you are the generation.”*

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

**LION  
ISMATH  
HAMID**

**(PMJF/PMAF/LSF)**



DISTRICT PRESIDENT

# LEO LION

## LAKISHA PERERA

PFLM



*Dear Leos of Uva Wellassa University ,*

*It's with a great pleasure, I pen few words to your club newsletter. I am so glad that I have worked with your Leo club since its inception. I am so proud of your performances as a team in the past year in bringing pride to the District by being the most ourstanding new Leo club in Sri Lanka. There were many remarkable & innovative all time projects that Leos of UWU has conducted.*

*I always refer the Leo club program as a university where we are able to graduate with many degrees by the end. A degree in social science, Human Resource Management, Project Management, Strategic Leadership, Business Management, Marketing, Information & Technology, Digital Marketing, and anything you can name. There's a lot that you could learn and improve yourself on. I believe this is the best youth organization in the world where one can join and do great service to the community while also improving themselves. So don't be a member of this organization for the sake of it. Don't forget your moral values at the same time. Be a true Leo! That will definitely take you to greater heights. I wish all the very best for the club president Leo Kirula Pramod & team for a great Leoistic Year ahead.*

*At times, this might not be an easy journey, but "Never give up on anything that you truly love and believe in!"*

*Yours in Leoism,  
Leo Lion Lakisha Perera PFLM  
District President  
Leo District 306 C2*

*From the moment I joined to Leo club of Uva Wellassa University as a prospective member, to my role in the editorial team, and then chairing two successful projects – it's been an incredible journey of growth and accomplishment.*

*I'm proud to share that our hard work has been recognized, and we've been named the best new Leo club in Sri Lanka and the Maldives for the past year. This achievement is a testament to the dedication and passion each one of you bring to our club. As I step into this new role as Club President, my goal is simple yet ambitious: to elevate our club to even greater heights. Together, I believe we can achieve remarkable things by focusing on serving others and making a positive impact on our community.*

*The journey ahead won't be without its challenges, but I'm confident that with our collective efforts, innovative ideas, and unwavering determination, we can overcome anything. Let's continue to build on our successes, learn from our experiences, and work together to redefine what our club can achieve.*

*I am grateful for the trust you've placed in me and excited to embark on this new adventure with all of you. Our potential is limitless, and I can't wait to see where this journey takes us.*

*Here's to an incredible year ahead!*

# LEO KIRULA PRAMOD

**PRESIDENT OF LEO CLUB OF UVA WELLASSA  
UNIVERSITY**



## Uva Wellassa University's Leo Club Shines as the Most Outstanding Newcomer Across Sri Lanka and the Maldives

Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University has captured the spotlight as the 'Most Outstanding New Leo Club in Sri Lanka and the Maldives', at the Leo Multiple Awards 2023, held on the 15th of July at Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo. Expanding 'Uva Wellassa University Leo' footprint beyond the country's boundaries, the Club was powerful enough to showcase its colors from the very first year of acting, marking an extraordinary achievement in its debut year since its installation in 2022 under the supervision of the three Club Advisors, Dr. Madhubashitha Herath, Ms. Chathurika Bhanagala, and Ms. Gayathri Rathnayake, with the sincere guidance of Leo Lion Indunil Palihawadana, the Leo District President 306 C2 (2022/2023).

Relying upon the proud theme 'Servite Vel Relinquo' (Latin, 'to serve or to leave' in English), Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University has been flourishing upon the motto of "Let's build a team, Let's build a vision, Let's build a plan, Let's build success" which also reveals a lot about the Club's dedication and loyalty to serve and stay committed to a particular path or purpose. Despite the Club's newness, since its very first board meeting which took place on the 25th of July 2022, the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University has consistently raised its excellence and prestige day by day, standing out for its unique, exemplary young enthusiasm, and dedication followed by the true, genuine need to serve for the betterment of the society and community. Having undertaken diverse projects that address critical societal needs, from empowering marginalized youth through educational programs to actively working towards environmental stewardship with tree-planting drives, their dedication has known no bounds. The inspiring leadership of Club President Leo Erandini Ambalampitiya, put on their unbelievable journey alongside Club Secretary Leo Prasanshi Dewmini, Treasurer Leo Ravindu Bandara, Vice President Leo Manoj Peiris, and the rest of the Board of Directors, has harnessed the collective energy of over 400 club members to achieve this much within just one year period of time with significantly high recognition around the globe.



Other than the 'Leo Multiple Awards 2023', the 'Insperenzo Awards 2023', which took place at the 18th Annual District Conference of Leo District 306 C2, which is the largest Leo district in Sri Lanka, was another significant milestone that reinforced the club's deserving honor and recognition. Held on the 24th of June, the event witnessed the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University surprisingly securing a grand total of 9 of the most prestigious awards, including the 'Most Outstanding New Leo Club in the Leostic Year 2022/2023', seconded by the achievement at Leo Multiple Awards, honoring the club to be the 'Most Outstanding New Leo Club in Sri Lanka and the Maldives'.

### Awards won by Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University during the Leostic Year 2021/2022

- Most Outstanding New Leo Club in Sri Lanka and the Maldives
- Most Outstanding New Leo Club of Leo District 306 C2
- Top 10 Presidents awards - Leo Erandini Ambalampitiya
- The Sincere and Distinguished Service Leadership and Dedication Awards for the Betterment of the Leo Movement
- Best Project for Infrastructure Development – Project ‘Suwasarini’, a project initiated by the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University to renovate the infrastructure of Passara District Hospital, which was in need of repair and renovation to provide better healthcare services to the community
- Best Project for Youth Empowerment – Project ‘Hetadawasa’, a project launched intending to benefit many students in Passara Illipathuthanna school, many of whom face significant barriers to educational and economic success. By providing inspiration and support, this project is a successful project that has made a huge impact, helping those students break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future for themselves and their families
- Best Project for Fundraiser – ‘UWU Expo’
- Best Serving Together Project (Joint with Lions Club) – ‘Moringa Tree Plantation’
- Best Sustainable Development Program Achievements 2nd runner-up

Embarking on a series of transformative projects during the Leostic Year 2021/2022, the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University has left an indelible mark on the community. Besides the previously mentioned award-winning projects – ‘Suwasarini,’ ‘Hetadawasa,’ and ‘Moringa Tree Plantation,’ the club has passionately engaged in a myriad of other impactful initiatives such as ‘Nena Arunalu’, an educational program designed to empower and enlighten young minds, ‘Grantharaya,’ that which the club inaugurated a new library at D. S. Senanayaka College, Kandy, ‘Kalutara Beach Restoration’ a project that made to reduce the leaching off of Kalutara beach by planting 35 Watakeiya plants, with a bunch of other projects such as ‘Sewanata Sawiyak’, ‘Shilpa Yathra’, ‘Uva Sahashra’, and ‘Haritha Werala’ also known as ‘The Green Coast’.

By staying true to their mission and values, the Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University continues to shine as a beacon of service and excellence, making an evident impact on the community, environment, and humanity. In its debut year since installation, the Club has not only earned widespread recognition but also brought immense pride and recognition to Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, both within the country and beyond. Extending heartfelt applause and best wishes as they continue their journey of making a positive impact in the world, Let us eagerly anticipate the remarkable contributions they will undoubtedly make in the future. Good luck to them!





## The LEO Leader's Gathering 2023

The LEO Leader's Gathering of the year 2023 was successfully held at Thurstan College Auditorium Colombo on the 1st of July 2023. It was organized to showcase the spirit of the LEO Club of Sri Lanka to young LEO club members. The event was fueled by the following three LEO speakers.

- Leo Lion Indunil Palihawadana – District President 306 C2 (2022/23)
- Leo Rahul Attanayake – IPMDP/ District President 306 C2 (2020/21)
- Lion Amodh Jayasinghe – District President 306 C2 (2014/15)

They lit up the gathering with their thought-provoking speeches and novel attitudes which was indeed the highlight at the event. The young audience was immersed in their speeches and gained some valuable ideas on their life skills and beyond.

This grand event was initiated with immense support and leadership by many proud and young LEO members. They dedicated their time and energy to make this event successful which were applauded by many senior LEO members.

A landmark event for the club and its members, the young LEO members had a memorable chance to share their ideas and thoughts with senior members and unleash their talents in front of them.

The LEO Leader's gathering 2023 gathering was a great success and it showed a glimpse of the LEO Club of Sri Lanka's talents to its proud LEO members.

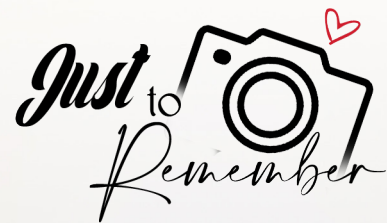
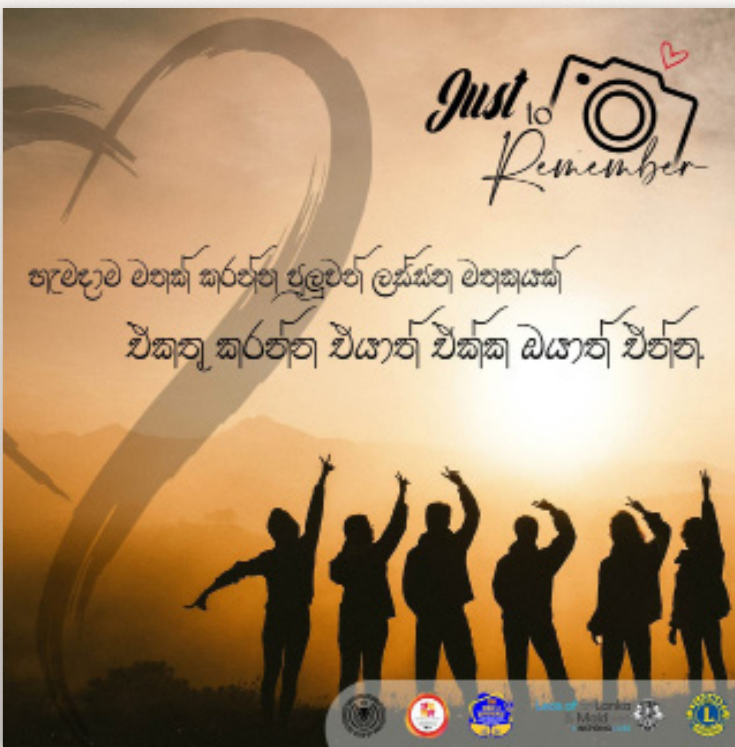
 **By LEO Harith Abeykoon**



# Unveiling the Kaleidoscope of Upcoming Events by Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa

In a world bustling with activity, the Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa stands as a beacon of service, compassion, and innovation. As the winds of change and purpose sweep through, the club is all set to unravel a series of events that promise to touch hearts, minds, and lives. From celebrating creativity to alleviating stress, and from extending a helping hand to raising funds for those in need, the Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa is gearing up to make a lasting impact. Let's take a sneak peek into the kaleidoscope of upcoming events that will illuminate our journey.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Every photograph tells a story – a glimpse frozen in time, a memory etched forever. The Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa is all set to celebrate the magic of photography with the event “Just to Remember.” On this Photographic Day, the campus will come alive with the click of shutters and the whirl of cameras. Through this event, we aim not only to appreciate the art of photography but also to immortalize the moments that shape our journey as Leos. From candid clicks to profound portraits, every photograph will narrate a unique tale, a story of our unity and spirit.



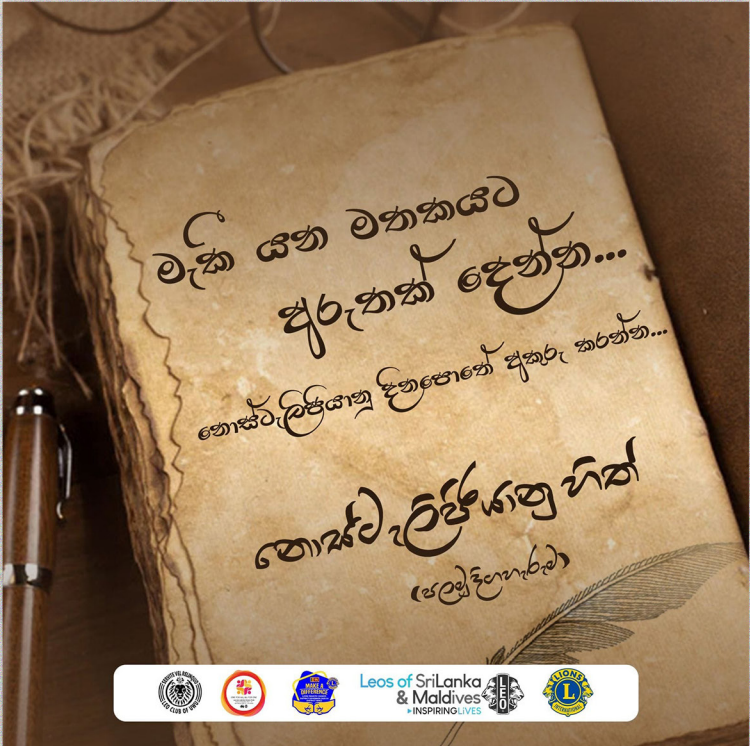
Navigating Stress Through Workshops

Amidst the demands of academia and the pressures of life, the Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa recognizes the need to provide a breather. "Blitzaway" is a workshop designed to help students reduce stress, regain focus, and embrace balance. The Guest speaker of this session will be Mr. Gunendra Gayantha, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, University Of Kelaniya Through interactive sessions, mindfulness exercises, and practical techniques, this event aims to equip students with the tools to manage stress and excel in both their academic and personal lives. Because a lion's strength lies not just in its roar, but also in its ability to find serenity within.



# නොස්ටැල්ජික් ගැනු වත්

හිත් අඟන රැඳුණු ජීවිතේ සුන්දරම මනස නොස්ටැල්ජික් ගැනු දිනපොතක අකුරු කර ඔබ පවණක් දක්නා ඒ රස මනස මතුරක් කමඟ රසවිඳින්නට හැකිවෙයි තරම් අඟනේදැයි විටහා දෙන්නට, මැකිසන මනසකට අරුතක් දෙන්නට "නොස්ටැල්ජික් ගැනු හිත්" කමඟින් උච්ච වෙලඳුකස විශ්ව විද්‍යාලයේ ලියෝ කමාරය සුදානම් වී සිටිමු. ආදරණීයයන් කමඟ ගෙවුණු සුන්දරම මොහොතක මනස නොස්ටැල්ජික් ගැනු දිනපොතේ පිටු අකුරු කරමින් ඒ සුන්දර මනසකට පණ දෙන්නට ලියෝ අපි "නොස්ටැල්ජික් ගැනු හිත්" කමඟ හුදුරෙදීම පැමිණෙන්නට හිසමිතයි.





# කාන්තාවෝ වාන

දැනට මහඟරැණු කොඳුරු දකුණු කැමරා කාචයට මඟ නොගැහැරෙනු ඇත. ලෝක ජායාරූපකරණ දිනය නිමිති කොට ගෙන දැනට ජායාරූප ඔල්ලින්නේ කැමරා කාචයේ කටකත් වුනු වෙල්ලස්සේ අතිරිස ඇඟසිම පිණිස දැව වෙල්ලස්ස විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ ලියෝ කමාජය විසින් කටවිධානය කරනු ලබන "ජායාමාන - 2023" පැවැත්වීමට නියමිතයි. මිදුම් කළු පැටලුනු වෙල්ලස්ස කොමලියගේ කුසදරුන්විය රැගෙන "ජායාමාන" ලෝක ජායාරූපකරණ දිනයේදී දිගහැරෙනු ඇත.

As the Leo Club of University of Uva Wellassa prepares to unfurl these events, it's a testament to the power of unity, the depth of empathy, and the commitment to service that defines our club. We invite you all to join us on this journey of impact, where creativity, well-being, and compassion intertwine to create a tapestry of change. Stay tuned, because with each event, we are not just hosting an occasion – we are scripting stories that resonate with our values and echo in the hearts of all who are a part of our Leo family.



# PUZZLE TIME

**Across**

- 1. Little terror
- 5. Wet bar?
- 9. Knife wound
- 13. \_\_\_\_ of thumb
- 14. Church V.I.P.
- 16. Bounce back
- 17. Soon, to a bard
- 18. Throw for a loop
- 19. Garbage hauler
- 20. Complex unit
- 22. Deadly mushroom
- 24. Schongauer work
- 26. Toni Morrison's "\_\_\_\_ Baby"
- 27. Tabloid twosome
- 28. Noble position
- 32. Retro phone feature
- 35. Established
- 37. Indigenous
- 38. Not quite right
- 39. Full of bounce
- 41. Fishing equipment
- 42. Like cows and sows
- 44. Campaign pro
- 45. Shrek, for one
- 46. Bomb
- 48. Certain tide
- 50. Computer capacity
- 51. Emphatic
- 56. New Year's Eve staple
- 59. X, in math
- 60. Tim Conway film, "The Billion Dollar \_\_\_\_"
- 61. Factory
- 63. Quitter's word

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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64				65						66		
67					68					69		

- 64. Word sung on 12/31
  - 65. Concise
  - 66. Flu symptom
  - 67. Arborist's concern
  - 68. Numerical suffix
  - 69. Give the eye
- Down**
- 1. Hold steady
  - 2. Talk at length
  - 3. Follow follower
  - 4. Plant stem extension
  - 5. Mermaid's milieu
  - 6. Veteran
  - 7. Annex
  - 8. Animal fur
  - 9. Type of psychology

- 10. Word in a 1978 John Irving book title
- 11. "Get lost!"
- 12. Kennel cry
- 15. Primary color
- 21. Cereal grass
- 23. Dogcatcher's catch
- 25. Evening bell
- 29. "Brokeback Mountain" director
- 30. CBer's term
- 31. Dole (out)
- 32. Tip, as a hat
- 33. Brainchild
- 34. Deserving of respect
- 36. Word of advice
- 39. Dry spell

- 40. Mumbo-jumbo
- 43. Pie preference
- 45. Type of illusion
- 47. Young raptor
- 49. It may be framed
- 52. Capture
- 53. Likeness
- 54. Locale
- 55. Aromatic compound
- 56. Chew the fat
- 57. Rush follower
- 58. Envelope abbr.
- 62. Half a score

## The Tale of Cherry Blossoms at Uva Wellassa University

Cherry blossoms, commonly known as Sakura, hold a special place as the national flower of Japan. These delicate flowers symbolize the arrival of spring, a season of renewal. As nature's paintbrush strokes the sky with pink and white, the mindsight of cherry blossoms transforms the landscape into a dream cloud.

Steeped in Japanese culture, cherry blossoms carry profound meanings. They embody the duality of life and death, beauty and violence. As spring awakens with the promise of new beginnings, cherry blossoms evoke a sense of vitality. Yet, their ephemeral nature also serves as a reminder of life's fleeting moments.

Typically, cherry blossoms bloom from March to May, enveloping the surroundings in a mesmerizing spectacle. However, their beauty is transient, lasting only about a week for each tree within the month-long season. Flourishing primarily in temperate regions, especially East Asia, flowering cherry trees demand specific conditions such as sun exposure, watering requirements, and seasonal adjustments. Consequently, cultivating and blossoming this plant in tropical climates poses a significant challenge.

Nevertheless, despite Sri Lanka's tropical climate, the seven diverse climatic and topographical conditions found in the Uva Province led to the selection of Badulla for an experimental cherry blossom plantation, aiming to enhance tourism development.

In line with this initiative, ten cherry blossom plants were imported from Japan for a collaborative project involving Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, Meijo University of Japan, and District Secretariat, Badulla. Coordinators of this cross-cultural endeavor were Professor Ananda Kumara of Meijo University and Dr. P.H.T. Kumara of Uva Wellassa University. Overseeing the nurturing process and research was Dr. Evon Kaliyadasa of Uva Wellassa University.

After years, the long-awaited moment arrived, and the aesthetic magnificence of Sakura flowers graced the grounds of Uva Wellassa University. This enchanting spectacle proves that the climatic conditions in Badulla align with the requirements necessary for the Sakura tree's flourishing existence.

Since the research worked successfully, the project will now expand to include the planting of 1000 Sakura trees, along with the creation of a captivating "Sakura Path" within the Badulla area. Tourists and visitors alike will be attracted to traverse this pathway, offering them an awe-inspiring and unforgettable experience among the calm beauty of cherry blossoms.

Hence, with the advent of each spring season, this gorgeous display of pink and white beauty Sakura will continue to grace the misty grounds of Uva Wellassa University, enchanting all who are fortunate enough to behold it.

 Poornima Rathnasinghe



# EDITORIAL CREW VOL : 06



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MEMBER



# Editor's Note

Greetings to all readers! Welcome to the inaugural edition of the sixth volume of "LEO TIMES," the official newsletter of the Leo Club at Uwa Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, District 306 C2. It is with immense joy that I append this editorial message to our very first issue of the 23/24 logistic year.

Amidst the global turmoil of the past year, we, as Leos, managed to make meaningful contributions to our community. Through our engagement in diverse social service initiatives, our club members honed a range of valuable skills, including leadership, human resource management, public relations, and communication. As the Chief Editor, it is an honor for me to be part of the esteemed Editorial Panel of this club.

'LEO TIMES,' the official newsletter of UWU LEOS, is the fruit of relentless dedication from our team, aimed at offering readers an engaging and captivating experience. Our primary focus lies in inspiring young individuals to become responsible and compassionate citizens who actively contribute to society. Additionally, 'LEO TIMES' serves as a platform for individuals to showcase their talents, share knowledge, and exchange experiences among our readers. The valuable ideas and insights encapsulated within this publication illuminate the path towards personal growth and improvement. The Editorial Panel meticulously ensures the quality and excellence of the final product.

Collaborating with fellow members of the Editorial Panel in creating remarkable content for 'LEO TIMES' has been an enriching journey. I extend my gratitude to all those who provided guidance and support, contributing to the success of this endeavor. Special thanks go to the Leo Club members and UWU students, who have consistently been a pillar of strength for our team.

**Leo Abishek Haththakage**  
Chief Editor  
Leo club of Uva Wellassa University



# LEO TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UVA WELLASSA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA



Leo Club of Uva Wellassa University



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