

VOL. 02

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MAGNIFICO

SEPTEMBER EDITION

Voice of the Architect

Club President's Note

The Reaction - MAGNIFICENCE

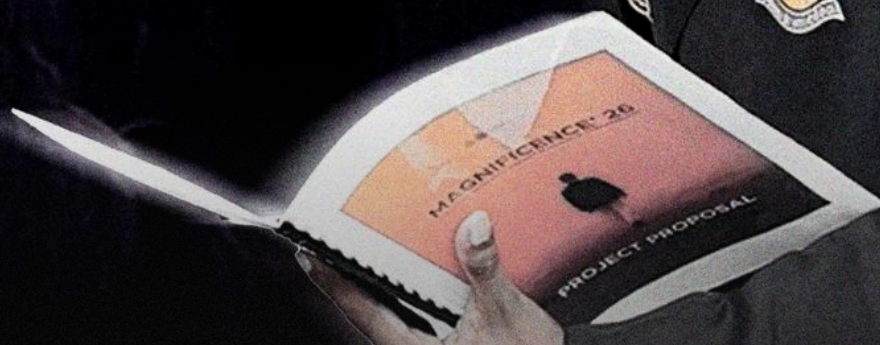
Installation Ceremony

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The Fear of Failure

Alpha Minds



LEO CLUB OF
THURSTAN COLLEGE
2026/2027
Rise to Lead. Live to Serve.

LEO CLUB OF THURSTAN COLLEGE
LIONS INTERNATIONAL
LEO DISTRICT 306 D7



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THE VOICE OF THE ARCHITECT

Dear Leos, Leo-Lions, and Readers,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to another edition of our club magazine.

As we continue our journey through the Leoistic year, September gives us another opportunity to reflect on the experiences we have shared, the people we have touched, and the impact we hope to create through service.

As Leos, our journey is not simply about organizing projects or participating in events. It is about learning to lead, building meaningful friendships, understanding our communities, and becoming individuals who are willing to make a difference.

This month, as we celebrate World Tourism Day, let us remember that every journey gives us an opportunity to discover something new. Whether it is a new place, a different culture, a new perspective, or even something about ourselves, every experience can help us grow.

I encourage every member to step beyond their comfort zones, embrace new experiences, and continue contributing with passion and purpose. The smallest act of kindness can create a lasting impact when we choose to do it together.

I sincerely thank all our members, advisors, supporters, and everyone who continues to stand beside our club and its vision. Your dedication and commitment are what make every achievement possible.

Let us continue to Lead, Empower, and Serve—not only as Leos, but as young individuals committed to creating a better tomorrow.

Together, let us make this Leoistic year a journey worth remembering.

Yours in Leoism,
Leo Avinash Dehigala
Club President
Leo Club of Thurstan College





THE LEGACY OF KNIGHTS

In 2015, a new chapter in the history of youth leadership and community service at Thurstan College began with the establishment of the Leo Club of Thurstan College.

Founded with the vision of empowering young Thurstonians through Leadership, Experience, Opportunity, and Service, the club has grown over the years into a strong and active community of young leaders. What began as an initiative in 2015 has evolved into a platform where students can discover their potential, develop leadership skills, build lifelong friendships, and make a meaningful impact on society.

The Beginning of a Journey

From its inception, the Leo Club has embraced the spirit of service as its guiding principle. The early members laid the foundation for a culture built on commitment, teamwork, fellowship, and the willingness to serve others. Every project conducted, every challenge overcome, and every friendship formed contributed to the identity of the club. Through community service projects, fundraising initiatives, awareness programmes, fellowship activities, and school-based projects, generations of Leos have continued to carry the club's vision forward.

Growing Through the Years

As the years passed, the Leo Club of Thurstan College continued to develop under the leadership of successive presidents and boards. Each administration brought its own ideas, ambitions, and achievements while preserving the values established by those who came before. The club became more than an extracurricular activity. For its members, it became a place to learn how to work with others, communicate effectively, take responsibility, overcome challenges, and lead with purpose. Behind every successful project lies the dedication of countless Leos who gave their time and effort. Their contribution, together with the guidance of Leo and Lion advisors and the support of the Thurstan community, has played an important role in shaping the club's journey.

A Legacy Built by Many

A club's history is not created by one person or one board. It is created by every member who has ever worn its identity and contributed to its journey. The presidents who led, the board members who planned, the members who worked behind the scenes, and the supporters who stood beside the club all became part of its story. Each Leo leaves behind something for the next generation—a lesson, an experience, a memory, or an achievement. In this way, the legacy of the Leo Club of Thurstan College continues from one generation to another.



**LEO CLUB OF
THURSTAN COLLEGE
2026/2027**
Rise to Lead. Live to Serve.

MAGNIFICENCE '26 — A New Chapter

On 25th September 2026, the club celebrated its 12th Annual Installation Ceremony, MAGNIFICENCE '26, at the Main Hall of Thurstan College. The ceremony marked another significant milestone in the club's journey and welcomed a new board to carry forward its legacy. With the support of the Leo and Lion family, the club entered another year with renewed determination to serve, lead, and create an impact.

The Journey Continues

From its humble beginning in 2015 to the present day, the Leo Club of Thurstan College has been shaped by a decade of service, leadership, friendship, and countless memories.

Yet its history is far from complete. The past serves as its foundation, the present is its opportunity, and the future remains a blank page waiting to be written.

2015 marked the beginning.

Every generation added a chapter.

And the story continues.

Leo Club of Thurstan College — A legacy of service, a tradition of leadership, and a future full of possibilities.

THE REACTION MAGNIFICENCE' 26



On 25th September 2026, the Main Hall of Thurstan College came alive with celebration and fellowship as the Leo Club of Thurstan College proudly held its 12th Annual Installation Ceremony, “MAGNIFICENCE ’26.”

The ceremony marked the beginning of a new chapter for the club, celebrating the spirit of Leoism, leadership, friendship, and service. It was a moment where responsibility was entrusted to a new generation of leaders, continuing the legacy built by those who served before them.

The prestigious occasion was graced by Leo Lion Nipuni Wijesekara, District President of Leo District 306 D7, as the Chief Guest. The event also had the distinguished presence of Lion Viduranga Maddumage MJF, 1st District Vice Governor of Lions District 306 D7, as the Guest of Honour. The ceremony brought together a large gathering of Leos and Lions, along with distinguished guests and well-wishers of the club. Their presence added great significance to the occasion and reflected the strong bonds of fellowship that continue to unite the Leo and Lion movement.

The installation of the new board was the highlight of the ceremony, symbolizing the transition of leadership and the acceptance of new responsibilities. Each newly appointed leader stepped forward with a commitment to uphold the values of the organization and contribute meaningfully to the community.



Beyond the formalities, MAGNIFICENCE '26 was a celebration of the journey of the Leo Club of Thurstan College—a journey shaped by service, dedication, friendship, and countless memories. It was also a reminder that leadership is not merely about holding a position, but about inspiring others and creating a positive impact. As the club steps into another Leoistic year, the new board carries forward the traditions and values of the club while looking towards new challenges and greater opportunities to serve.

MAGNIFICENCE '26 was more than an installation ceremony. It was the opening of a new chapter—a chapter of leadership, service, unity, and purpose.

A new board. A renewed spirit. A greater journey ahead.



JOURNEY OF A LEO

Being a Leo is more than wearing a Leo emblem or holding a position on a board. It is a journey that teaches us to lead, to serve, to connect with others, and most importantly, to grow into better versions of ourselves.

When I first became a part of the Leo Club of Thurstan College, I saw it as an opportunity to participate in projects and events.

But as time passed, I realized that being a Leo is much more than attending meetings or organizing programmes. It is about the experiences we collect and the people we meet along the way. Every project brings a new challenge. Sometimes it is planning, sometimes it is teamwork, and sometimes it is simply finding the motivation to keep going when things don't happen as planned. Yet, every challenge teaches us something. We learn to communicate, take responsibility, manage our time, and work together towards a common goal.

As an Assistant Treasurer, I have also learned that service comes with responsibility. Behind every successful project are budgets, planning, resources, and countless small details that need attention. This role has helped me understand the importance of accountability, organization, and teamwork.

But perhaps the greatest part of being a Leo is the people.

The friendships created through late-night planning sessions, long days at projects, unexpected laughter, shared struggles, and moments of achievement are memories that stay with us. We may join a Leo Club to serve our community, but along the way, we become part of a family.



Leoism has also taught me that leadership is not about being the person at the front all the time. Sometimes leadership means listening. Sometimes it means helping someone else succeed. And sometimes it simply means being there when your team needs you. Every act of service, no matter how small, has value. A helping hand, a kind word, a successful project, or even a moment spent making someone smile can make a difference. Looking back, I realize that life as a Leo is a collection of lessons, friendships, challenges, and unforgettable memories. It is a journey that shapes not only the communities we serve, but also the people we become. Being a Leo is not just something we do during our school years. It becomes a part of who we are. And as we continue this journey, I hope we continue to Lead, Empower, and Serve—with purpose, with passion, and with heart.

Leo Sandaru Aroshana
Assistant Treasurer
Leo Club of Thurstan College



PROJECTS

TREE PLANTATION CHALLENGE 2026

Leo CLUB OF THURSTAN COLLEGE HAS SUCCESSFULLY PARTICIPATED AND CONTRIBUTED THE TREE PLANTATION CHALLENGE 2026 ORGANIZED BY THE LEO CLUB OF JAPURA LEGACY. THE PROJECT WAS HELD ON 27TH OF SEPTEMBER 2026 AT UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYAWARDENAPURA



MONTHLY SPECIAL

Beyond the Postcard: Discovering the Hidden Side of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is often described through its famous beaches, ancient cities, misty mountains, and breathtaking wildlife. But beyond the places that fill travel guides and social media feeds lies another Sri Lanka—quieter, less explored, and equally beautiful. From secluded waterfalls tucked away among forests to peaceful villages surrounded by mountains, the island is filled with places waiting to be discovered. What makes these destinations special is not simply their beauty. It is the experience of reaching them. Sometimes, the journey involves a long walk through a forest, a conversation with a local, or a road that leads somewhere you never expected. These moments turn an ordinary trip into a story worth remembering. Travel With Curiosity For young people, travelling is an opportunity to learn beyond the classroom. Every destination has something to teach us—about nature, history, culture, traditions, and even ourselves. A visit to a lesser-known location can introduce us to communities and traditions that we might otherwise never experience. It reminds us that there is always more to discover, even in a country we call home. Leave Only Footprints. Discovering hidden destinations also comes with responsibility. The more popular a place becomes, the greater the pressure on its environment and local communities.

As travellers, we should protect what we come to admire. Avoid littering, respect local customs, protect wildlife, support local businesses, and leave natural spaces as we found them—or better.

The world is waiting—and sometimes, the most beautiful places are closer than you think.



SERVICE WITHOUT SPOTLIGHT

Why the Most Impactful Service Isn't Always Seen

In a world where almost everything can be photographed, posted, and shared, it is easy to believe that impact must be visible to be meaningful. We celebrate the projects we complete, the moments we capture, and the achievements we share.

But some of the most meaningful acts of service happen far away from the camera.

Service does not need an audience to have an impact.

A helping hand offered quietly, a person who stays behind to clean after an event, a Leo who spends hours planning a project, or someone who simply listens when another person needs support—these moments may never appear on social media, but they can mean everything to someone.

Beyond the Photograph

As Leos, we often see the final result of a project: the photographs, the smiles, the certificates, and the celebration. But behind every successful project are countless unseen efforts.

There are early mornings and late nights. There are members arranging equipment, preparing documents, making phone calls, solving unexpected problems, and working when no one is watching.

These moments rarely receive recognition, yet they are what make service possible.



The Value of Doing Good

True service is not about receiving praise. It is about recognizing a need and choosing to do something about it. When we help someone without expecting appreciation, we discover something important: the value of service comes from the difference we make, not from the recognition we receive.

A simple act can have a lasting impact. Helping a child understand a lesson, providing a meal to someone in need, cleaning a public space, supporting a struggling friend, or giving someone hope can change a moment—and sometimes even a life.

Lead Without Needing the Spotlight

Leadership is often associated with being visible. But some of the strongest leaders are those who quietly make things happen.

They don't always stand at the front. They work behind the scenes. They encourage others, solve problems, take responsibility, and make sure that everyone has a chance to contribute.

That is the kind of leadership Leoism should encourage.

Not leadership for recognition, but leadership through service.

The Real Measure of Impact

At the end of the day, the number of likes, views, photographs, or certificates cannot truly measure the value of an act of service.

The real measure is the person who benefited from it.

If someone went home with a smile, if a community became a little better, if someone felt less alone, or if one person was inspired to help another—then the service mattered.

So, the next time you serve, don't worry about whether someone is watching.

Do it because it matters.

Because the most powerful acts of service are sometimes the ones that happen quietly, without applause, without cameras, and without recognition.

Service doesn't need a spotlight.

It only needs a willing heart.



THE FEAR OF FAILURE

Failure is something we all fear. We worry about making mistakes, disappointing others, or not being good enough. But failure isn't the opposite of success—it's part of the journey towards it.

Every mistake teaches us something. Every setback gives us a chance to learn, improve, and try again.

As Leos, we are encouraged to step beyond our comfort zones and take chances. We may not always succeed, but every attempt makes us stronger and wiser.

So don't let the fear of failure stop you from trying.

Sometimes, the biggest failure is never having the courage to begin.

TRAVEL BEYOND THE DESTINATION

Travel Beyond the Destination

Every journey begins with a destination, but the true value of travel lies in what we discover along the way. From breathtaking landscapes to ancient cities, from unfamiliar traditions to the warmth of people we meet, tourism allows us to experience the world beyond the boundaries of our everyday lives.



Celebrated annually on 27 September, World Tourism Day reminds us of the importance of tourism and its contribution to communities, cultures, economies, and the environment. But for young people, tourism can mean much more than simply visiting new places.



Discover. Connect. Learn.

Travelling introduces us to perspectives different from our own. A visit to a historical site can turn a lesson from a textbook into a living experience. Exploring a village can teach us about traditions that have existed for generations. Meeting people from different backgrounds can remind us that despite our differences, we share many of the same hopes and dreams.

Sri Lanka is a perfect example of this diversity. Within a relatively small island, we can find misty mountains, golden beaches, ancient kingdoms, wildlife-rich forests, vibrant cities, and countless stories waiting to be discovered.

Tourism With Responsibility

However, being a traveller also comes with responsibility.

The places we visit are not simply backgrounds for photographs. They are homes, ecosystems, and cultural spaces that deserve our respect. Avoiding litter, protecting wildlife, respecting local customs, supporting small businesses, and leaving natural places as we found them are simple ways to become responsible travellers.

As young people and Leos, we have an even greater opportunity to promote responsible tourism. A journey can become more meaningful when it contributes positively to the community we visit.

The Journey Matters

In a world where social media often makes travel look like a collection of perfect photographs, it is easy to forget that the most valuable souvenirs are not always things we can buy or post. They are the memories we create, the people we meet, the stories we hear, and the lessons we bring home.

This World Tourism Day, let us not simply ask, “Where should we go next?”

Let us ask:

“What can we discover, who can we connect with, and how can we leave the place better than we found it?”

Because tourism is not just about seeing the world.

It is about understanding it.



LEO OF THE MONTH



LEO THENUL SASVIDU
CO-EDITOR
LEO CLUB OF THURSTAN COLLEGE

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this edition of our club magazine. A magazine is more than a collection of articles and photographs. It is a way of preserving our memories, sharing our experiences, and giving a voice to the people who make our Leo journey meaningful.

This edition brings together stories of service, leadership, friendship, and growth. From the history of our club and the journey of being a Leo to the memorable moments of MAGNIFICENCE '26, every page reflects a part of who we are. As we turn these pages, I hope you find inspiration in the stories shared and perhaps see Leoism from a new perspective. Behind every project and every achievement are people who gave their time, energy, and heart. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this edition and helped bring these pages to life. Your support and creativity have made this magazine possible.

May we continue to capture our moments, celebrate our journey, and create stories worth remembering.
Happy Reading!

Yours in Leoism,
Leo Thenul Sasvidu
Editor
Leo Club of Thurstan College





THANK YOU!