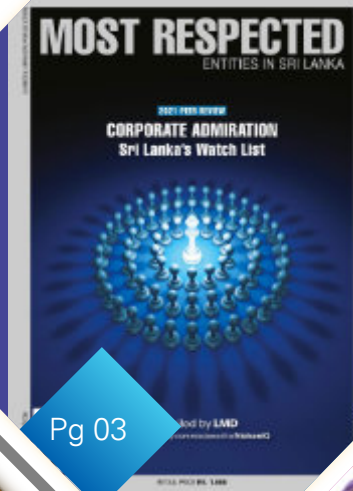


JKTIMES

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Chairman's Message

Extracted from the JKH quarterly financials for the 3 months ended 30th June 2021



Krishan Balendra
Chairman

- Group EBITDA recorded a significant improvement to Rs. 4.76 billion during the quarter under review, which is a 494 per cent increase against the comparative period [2020/21 Q1: Rs. 802 million].
- The comparative performance with the first quarter in the previous year, is distorted since there were varying impacts on account of the travel restrictions due to the third wave to the Group's businesses in the current year, although the country had an island-wide lockdown for a similar length of time.
- The Group's businesses, except for Consumer Foods, recorded an improvement in profitability compared to the first quarter of the previous year.
- Since the easing of the restrictions from early July 2021, barring inter-provincial travel for non-essential services, business activity has seen a strong recovery to 'near normal' levels.
- The handover process of the residential apartment units at 'Cinnamon Life' commenced, resulting in the recognition of revenue and profits from sales for the first time in the project.
- The Group's Port business, SAGT, recorded an increase in profitability against the corresponding period of the previous financial year, driven by an encouraging double-digit growth in volumes since the third wave had a limited impact on port activity and demand, unlike with the onset of the pandemic in the first quarter of last year.
- Further to the execution of a Letter of Intent (LOI) to develop and operate the West Container Terminal in the Port of Colombo, work is progressing well towards meeting the conditions stipulated in the LOI, including finalisation of the project design and costs and other structuring arrangements.
- The performance of the Supermarket business continued its strong quarter-on-quarter recovery momentum with same store sales recording double-digit growth prior to the outbreak of the third wave, with the month of April 2021 recording higher than anticipated sales.
- The Office Automation business recorded a strong increase in profitability driven by a triple-digit growth in volumes in the mobile phone segment, with sales crossing over two billion rupees in the month of June 2021.
- The Beverages, Frozen Confectionery and Convenience Foods businesses continued their strong recovery momentum as all three segments recorded double digit growth in volumes. While this growth in volumes and revenue translated to higher gross profits, the overall profitability of the industry group was impacted due to higher selling and distribution expenses and, to a lesser extent, increased factory related costs due to COVID-19 health and safety protocols.
- The Maldivian Resorts segment continued its recovery momentum from the previous quarter where the occupancies at our hotels were higher than anticipated during this quarter, while the forward bookings continue to be very encouraging.
- Nations Trust Bank PLC recorded an increase in profitability driven by robust loan growth and lower impairment charges despite the impact on margins. Union Assurance PLC recorded an increase in profitability driven by encouraging growth in all channels.
- The Group's carbon footprint per million rupees of revenue decreased by 21 per cent to 0.59 MT while the water withdrawal per million rupees of revenue decreased by 34 per cent to 12.10 cubic metres.

Recurring EBITDA * (Rs.'000)	Quarter ending 30 th June		
	Q1 2020/21	Q1 2021/22	%
Transportation	1,023,326	394,743	159
Consumer Foods	317,682	487,149	(35)
Retail	1,562,792	501,851	211
Leisure	(648,773)	(1,461,187)	56
Property	542,404	(28,881)	1,578
Financial Services	769,679	536,726	43

* EBITDA includes interest income and the share of results of equity accounted investees which is based on the share of profit after tax but excludes the impact of exchange losses and gains on its foreign currency denominated debt and cash, to demonstrate the underlying cash operational performance of the business.

Awards and Recognitions

In the Most Respected Entities in Sri Lanka rankings released on 3rd August 2021 by LMD, John Keells Holdings PLC (JKH) retained the No.1 position, for a record making 16th year! Further, JKH was ranked No. 1 in all 12 attribute rankings - Financial Performance, Quality Consciousness, Management Profile, Honesty, Innovation, Dynamism, Corporate Culture, CSR and Sustainability, Vision, National Perspective, HR & People Management, and Crisis Management.



At the Insurance Asia Awards held on 16th August 2021, Union Assurance PLC (UA) was recognised as the Domestic Life Insurer of the Year and UA's digital life insurance product Clicklife, was named the New Insurance Product of the Year, in Sri Lanka, for 2021. UA was recognized by Insurance Asia for its deliberate efforts to provide exceptional value to its stakeholders.



At The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Awards on 8th September 2021 Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts was awarded the PATA Grand Award, under the category of Sustainability and Social Responsibility for the 'Cinnamon Travel Pledge' initiative. Cinnamon was the only Sri Lankan organization to be recognized at the award ceremony this year.



Union Assurance PLC, currently placed 9th in Sri Lanka rankings, was ranked No. 70 in the Best Workplaces in Asia rankings for 2021 by Great Place to Work®, (in the large company category). The recognition was awarded on 20th July 2021 and the Awards Ceremony was held on 10th August 2021.

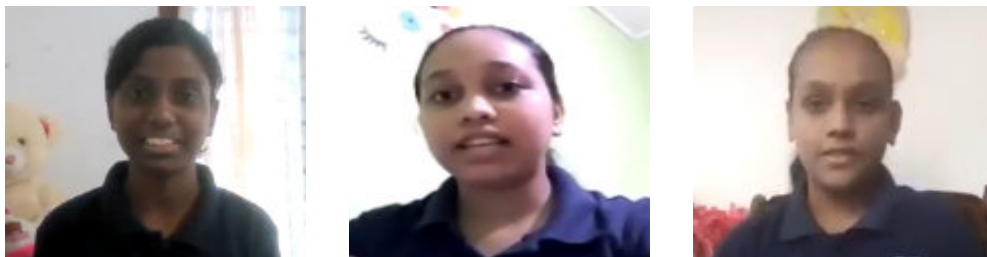


John Keells English language scholars shine at the first virtual speech competition

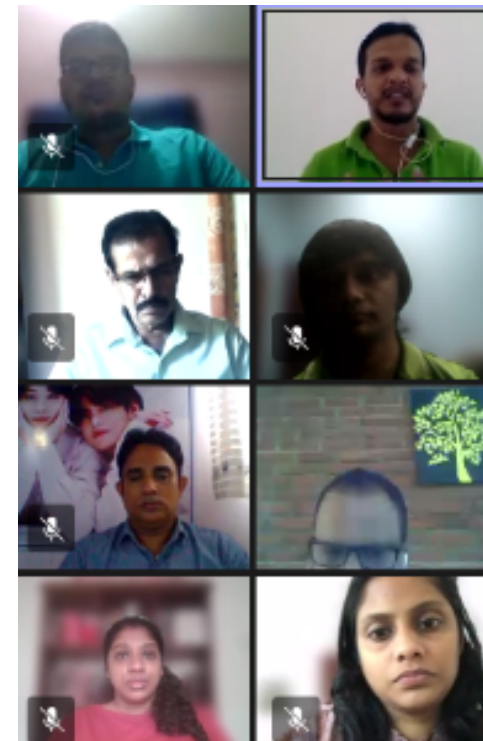
134 scholars participated in the location-wise preliminary rounds of the first virtual English Language Speech Competition for Tier 2 students of English for Teens, conducted by JKF with Gateway Language Centre in June and July 2021. These preliminary rounds were judged by staff volunteers, Imani Perera, Eneeshya Perera, Desree Krause, Kanishka Herat, Russel Valentine, and Wishanth Wijesingha.

Of the 134 scholars, 12 Finalists from Kandy, Rajawella, Ratmalana, Beruwela, Galle, Sooriyawewa, Trincomalee, Vavuniya, and Colombo were selected for the Finals of the Speech Competition on the topic "My Experience during the COVID-19 Pandemic". The Finals held on 17th August 2021 were judged by JKF's Head of Operations, Carmeline Jayasuriya and General Manager of Cinnamon Red, Terence Fernando – who commended the contestants for their efforts and standard.

The winner of the Speech Competition was a scholar from Galle, while scholars from Ratmalana and Colombo were placed 2nd and 3rd respectively, all of whom were awarded book vouchers, as a contribution towards their continued educational needs.



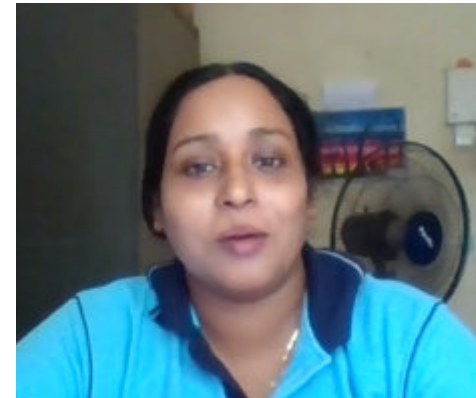
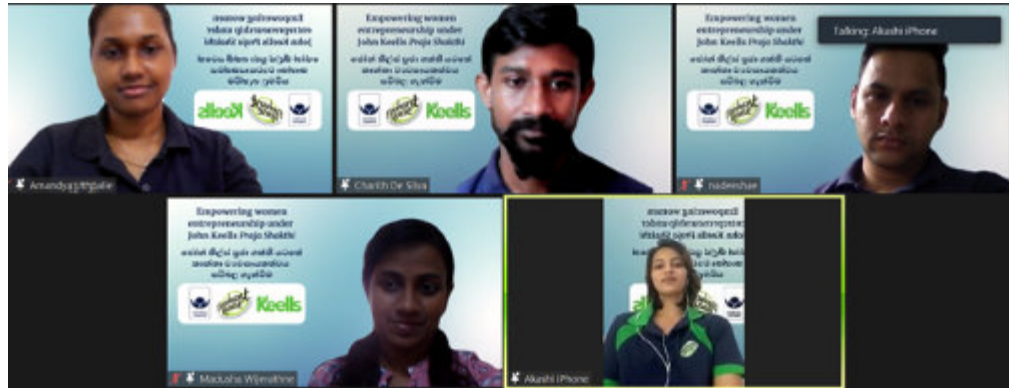
John Keells Foundation partners with Keells to upskill Group suppliers under SKIP (Skill Into Progress) programme



The Skill Into Progress (SKIP) programme, which was conducted for Keells suppliers, concluded with an online event on 15th July 2021, with the 11 participants who successfully passed the final examination. The programme spanned 36-hours and, as with the previous SKIP curricula, it was customized to the needs of the suppliers, covering topics such as presentation skills, negotiation skills and e-mail etiquette.

SKIP is an initiative of John Keells Foundation to support the upskilling of identified stakeholder groups in the supply chains, operating within the John Keells Group. Implemented by Gateway Language Centre, the programme seeks to address the suppliers' skill gaps and enhance the quality of service they provide, in turn increasing their income opportunities in the post-pandemic environment.

Bolstering female's entrepreneurship under John Keells *Praja Shakthi*



As part of John Keells Foundation's ongoing support for gender empowerment under John Keells *Praja Shakthi*, a personal effectiveness programme was organized for 15 members of the Batewela Ranliya Women's Society in Ranala on 21st July 2021, following a request from the Kaduwela Divisional Secretariat and the project team of Ceylon Cold Stores. The virtual programme conducted by volunteer resource persons, Charith De Silva, Nadeesha Nirmala and Madusha Wijeratne, empowered the women with knowledge on entrepreneurship, good customer service, SWOT and how to identify future opportunities.

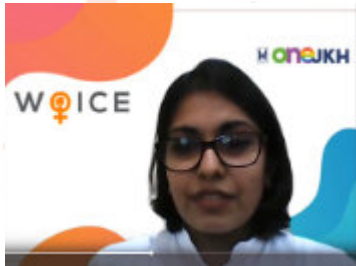
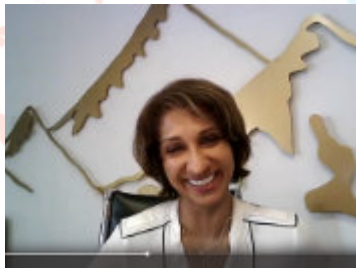
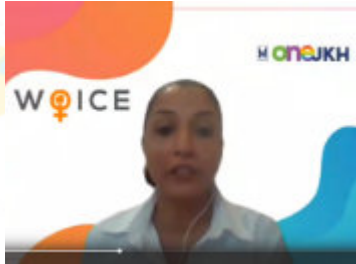
John Keells Foundation provides essential equipment to hospitals during the COVID-19 Pandemic

John Keells Foundation collaborated with ChildFund's 'Sri Lanka Gives Back' campaign, by donating a multipara monitor worth Rs. 275,000 for the new COVID Treatment Unit at the Puthukkudiyiruppu Divisional Hospital in Mullaitivu. This engagement took place subsequent to the recent conclusion of JKF's seven-year Village Adoption Project in Mullaitivu. The equipment was handed over on 10th August 2021 with the support of Mr. Arirasa Thushyanthan, the Regional Sales Manager of Union Assurance.

As part of John Keells Praja Shakthi initiative in Ranala, JKF in collaboration with Ceylon Cold Stores donated a wall oxygen system for 5 HDU (High Dependency Unit) beds along with 5 bed top Oxygen flow regulators worth Rs. 455,685 to the Nawagamawa Divisional Hospital, which is currently functioning as a COVID treatment hospital. The handover took place on 22nd August 2021.



Group Diversity, Equity and Inclusion activities



Women Centric Training is one of the focus areas within the ONE JKH initiatives, aimed at increasing female participation in the workforce. To support this, WOICE a women-centric learning initiative was launched to inspire and educate female employees of John Keells Group on 28th July 2021. The participants received the opportunity to hear first-hand from Sri Lanka's iconic entrepreneur Otara Gunawardene, on how she built a well-recognized brand from the ground-up, how her strengths of being passionate, and dedicated towards achieving goals, and doing things differently helped in her professional career as well in her personal life. The recording is available on the Group L&D channel on MS Stream.

The John Keells Group introduced an **Employer Supported Childcare (crèche)** facility on 28th September 2021 to assist our parents with young children. Thus reinforcing our commitment to further enable an inclusive and equitable workplace. Employer-supported childcare is a key focus area of the Group's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives, as it assists a smoother transition back to work from maternity and paternity leave, reduces absenteeism of working parents, and supports increasing women in our workforce.



Employer Supported Childcare, is another focus area of ONE JKH, to improve the return rate of employees further to maternity and paternity leave and support, towards working parents. "Parents Connect" - the John Keells Group Parents' Network, was launched to the Group staff. Further, through Parents Connect, two webinars by Dr. Asiri Hewamalage - Consultant Community Physician, National Program Manager - Child Care, Development & Special Needs, Family Health Bureau, Ministry of Health Sri Lanka were conducted on "Parenting during the Pandemic". The first session was conducted on 29th July 2021 for parents with children over 13 years, and the second session was conducted on 4th August 2021 for parents with children below 13 years.





With the success of the pilot session in June 2021, over July and August, under the ONE JKH initiative, online discussions on awareness and **addressing Unconscious Bias** were rolled out for the Assistant Vice President and above team at the Group. These discussions facilitated by Keshini Jayawardene, who is affiliated with several boutique training and consultancy firms such as the The Centre for Inclusive Leadership (UK), Bridge Partnership (UK, USA, APAC), and Kinetik Solutions (UK), further to her career in the Sri Lankan corporate sector at both

NTB and HSBC, focused on overall awareness on the different types of unconscious biases that exist in the workplace, assisting participants to identify the different types of unconscious biases they have, and navigating and addressing the different types of biases they have. Each of the interactive sessions concluded with the participants making a commitment on addressing unconscious bias and increasing inclusivity. The introduction to addressing Unconscious Bias commenced for all Group staff through the monthly tri-lingual DE&I flyer "U&I for DE&I" from July 2021 onwards.



Further to John Keells Group having the distinction of being the first Sri Lankan company to include the terminology "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" in all people related policies since 2015, which was followed by Group-wide awareness sessions through EQUAL GROUND in 2015 and 2016, towards making our workplaces more inclusive to the LGBTIQ community, John Keells Group was also the first corporate in Sri Lanka to employ a transgender person at an

executive level in a customer facing role. In order to strengthen the inclusivity in our workplace to the trans community, the Group partnered with the National Transgender Network (NTN) and the Grassrooted Trust to conduct an employee survey. The two-part survey concluded on 22nd July 2021, after completing a Group-wide tri-lingual online questionnaire-based survey as phase 1 and tri-lingual focus groups as phase 2 for executive and non-executive staff. The survey findings along with key informant interviews with the LGBTIQ community, the NTN plans to put forward a parliament bill towards increasing employment opportunities for the trans community.

Policy Update

The Group's Anti-Sexual Harassment policy was updated in August 2021, to expand the channels for reporting. In addition to the formal options currently available, of reaching out to their respective supervisors HR heads, the Group sexual harassment review committee, 'Chairman Direct' or the Ombudsperson, staff now have the option of reaching out to the following persons to report an incident of sexual harassment or bullying.

Name	Designation and BU
Suneth Jayamanne	Head of Finance, Asian Hotels & Properties
Jehani Kanagaraj	Financial Controller, Ceylon Cold Stores
Thushari Dissanayake	Senior Manager Life Ops, Union Assurance
Neomal Perera	Chief Operating Officer - SAP Solutions & Services, JKIT
Shanez Wijesinghe	AVP - Brand & Quality Assurance, CHML
Sudarshani Basnayake	Manager - Employee Engagement/ Industrial Relations, JMSL
Anushka Weeraratne	CEO Lanka Marine Services
Lorraine Luke	Assistant Manager, Human Resources, John Keells Properties

Colombo West International Terminal (Private) Limited

The Build, Own and Transfer (BOT) Agreement between the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) and the Colombo West International Container Terminal (Private) Limited was executed on 30th September 2021, with regards to the development of the West Container Terminal-1 in the Port of Colombo.



John Keells Office Automation

JKOA partnered with Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation and Channel Eye, the official broadcasting partners in Sri Lanka for the Tokyo Olympics, on 21st July 2021, by contributing two interactive smartboards. These smartboards were used during the performance analysis programme, to present and report the highlights from the event. The team also provided complete training and assistance to the media presenters and the staff of SLRC.



Union Assurance



Union Assurance PLC launched INVESTMENT+ on 15th July 2021 to provide a unique investment opportunity and an inbuilt life cover for policyholders and their loved ones. With a guaranteed total return at the end of the policy term, INVESTMENT+ is the ideal investment solution to realize short-term financial goals, whether it is for a child's education, starting a new business or as a retirement fund.

Union Assurance PLC launched Union Assurance Premier Club on 2nd July 2021, the industry's first rewards and recognition programme. The platform is designed to recognise the company's insurance advisors who have portrayed world class salesmanship and customer service.

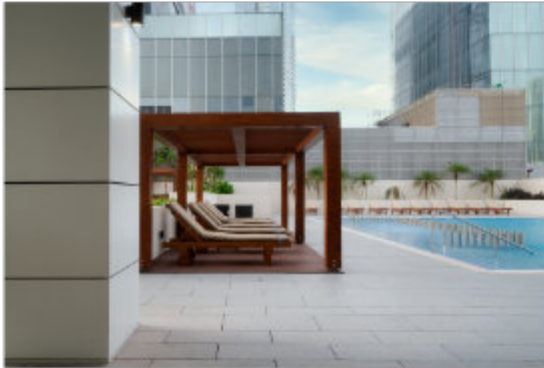


John Keells Properties



HCL Technologies entered into an agreement with John Keells Holdings PLC on 4th August 2021, to occupy 80% of the space in the 30-storey Grade-A office building at Cinnamon Life. Cinnamon Life is the first Grade-A office tower in Colombo to attract a leading multinational company to occupy a majority of the available office spaces within its premises.

John Keells Properties officially began the handover of keys to the 'The Suites' residential apartments at Cinnamon Life to its new residents on 29th July 2021. The completion and handover of the apartment tower, which consists of 196 units ranging from two to four-bedroom apartments, marks an important milestone as Colombo's premium waterfront mixed-development project begins to take shape.

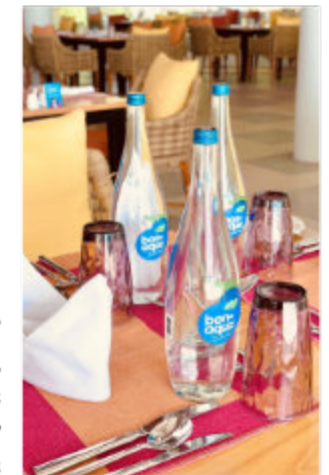


Cinnamon Bey Beruwala



A vaccination programme was organized by Cinnamon Bey Beruwala together with the Beruwala MOH/ PHI and Health Officials of the Kalutara District, for the employees of the hotel and to the employees of Cinnamon Bentota Beach, Cinnamon Citadel, Hikka Tranz by Cinnamon and Cinnamon Wild on 22nd June and 23rd July 2021. A total of 500 COVID-19 vaccinations were offered to employees of Cinnamon Hotels of Bentota and Beruwala area.

Cinnamon Dhonveli Maldives

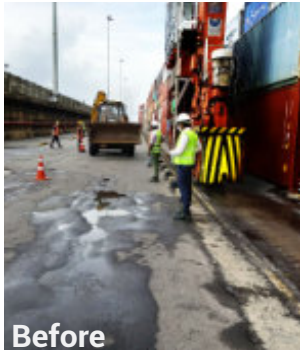


As a pledge to reduce, reuse and recycle in order to help preserve the natural environment, Cinnamon Dhonveli Maldives introduced glass water bottles through the resort on 22nd July 2021. This initiative is a part of Cinnamon Hotels and Resorts to reduce single use plastics across all its properties.

South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT)

SAGT signed an MoU with the Center for Sustainability, University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 02nd August 2021, entering into a 3-year partnership for the reforestation of the Yagirala Reserve. This collaboration with the University commenced with an inaugural reforestation project in 2019.

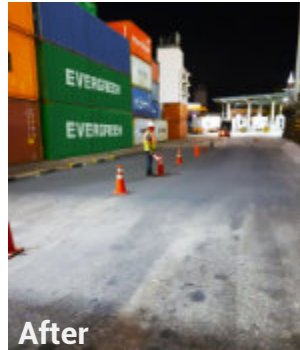
The MoU is a commitment to restore a further 4 acres of land in 2021 and to ensure the maintenance of the 5-acre land area until 2024. The project aims to plant more than 2,800 plants during the three-year period.



Before



During



After

SAGT, furthered its commitment to driving sustainable business practices throughout its operations in a recent road surfacing project carried out at the terminal on 26th and 27th August 2021.

The road surfacing project involved the usage of Plastic Modified Asphalt Concrete (PMAC), an innovative solution that converts Sri Lanka's single-use plastic waste into an industrial raw material for road construction. The asphalt mixture incorporates plastic waste as a substitute to a percentage of bitumen fossil fuel which allows for reduced greenhouse gases. The initiative underscores SAGT's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint.

John Keells PLC

John Keells PLC joins Plasticcycle to achieve the common goal of reducing the impact of plastic pollution in Sri Lanka. With the use of AGC Innovate' Plastic Modified Asphalt Concrete (PMAC), John Keells PLC completed facilitating the restructure of the road leading to its warehouse facility located in Muthurajawela on 02nd August 2021.



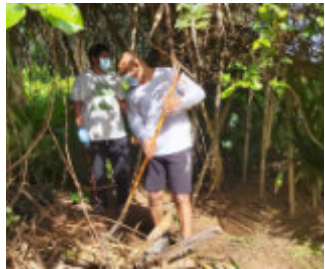
PMAC is when non-recyclable plastic waste is collected from dump sites and processed to produce a stronger asphalt mix, and is used in the laying of roads, car parks, driveways and estate roads!

Cinnamon Bentota Beach

To set the tone for the exciting journey of the newly refurbished hotel, a kick-off workshop was conducted for all executives on 10th July 2021.



A shramadana campaign was organized on 13th July 2021 as the first initiative taken by the executives on the new journey, under the theme of 'Its our duty to take care of our Home regardless of our roles'.



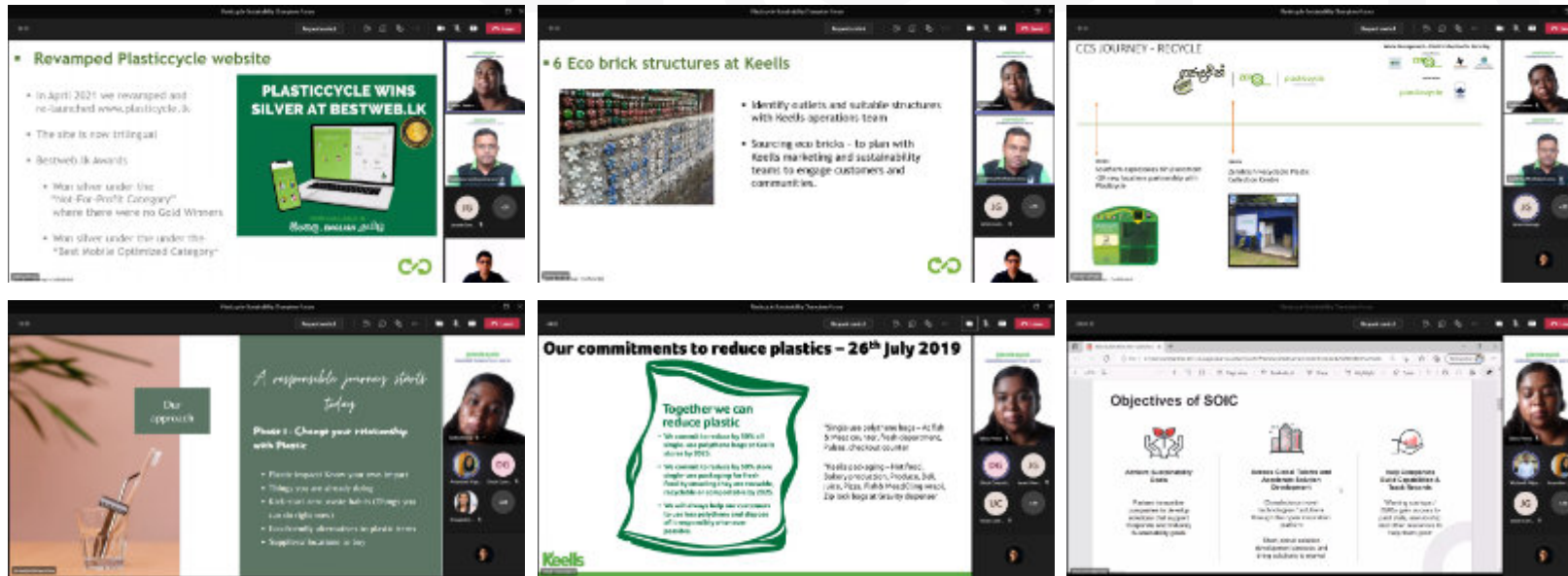
A vaccination programme was organized on 14th and 22nd July 2021. With the support of our teams, 92% of the staff including outsourced employees are now vaccinated against COVID-19.

John Keells Logistics

As a part of the commitment to safeguard health and safety of the team, John Keells Logistics organised a series of awareness sessions on COVID-19 prevention methods for Distribution Centers on 6th - 13th August 2021 and on 31st August for the Head Office. The sessions were focused on aspects such as potential scenarios of spreading the virus, steps for mitigating the spread, and the importance of receiving the vaccination against COVID-19. JKLL organised this programme through Daash Consultancy & Training along with a reputed doctor conducting the respective sessions.



Plasticcycle



Plasticcycle organized the first of the two forums for 2021/22, for the Group's Sustainability Champions on 15th September 2021. These forums are not only a platform for Plasticcycle to update the BU's and sectors about the initiatives completed for the period, but it is also a space for Group companies to share their initiatives and updates towards reducing plastic pollution. Sustainability Leads from the associate companies South Asia Gateway Terminals and Nations Trust bank, along with the Group Sustainability team, joined the forum.

Further to the presentation by the Plasticcycle team, Champions Kaveesha Hettiarachchi - John Keells PLC, Amaya Rodrigo - Cinnamon Hotels and Resorts, Janani Gamage - Ceylon Cold Stores, Dinuk Gunasekera- Keells, Amandani Ariyaratna - Walkers Tours / Whittalls Travels made presentations on the work being carried out.

The session also included an introduction to the Sustainability Open Innovation Challenge 2021, organized by Enterprise Singapore and hosted by Wishanth Wijesingha - John Keells X, where companies across the globe can tap into global talent to solve issues regarding sustainability challenges.

John Keells IT

JKIT and Nations Trust Bank (NTB) signed a strategic contract on 27th July 2021, to collaboratively modernize the digital banking applications of FRIMI, Merchant, Internet Banking, Mobile Banking, and Admin Portal. NTB chose JKIT as the technology partner due to the technical acumen the company possesses, coupled with the domain knowledge from NTB, which makes it a perfect fit for this endeavor. These solutions are built using cutting-edge technology on a microservices architecture, utilizing DevOps and Agile Scrum methodologies.



Ceylon Cold Stores

Elephant House together with Zerotrash and the collaborative effort of the John Keells Group Social Entrepreneurship Project, Plasticcycle, opened the "Zerotrash Recyclable Plastic Collection Centre" on 11th August 2021 to further promote recycling and better plastic waste management practices, across the country.

Located in Boralessgamuwa, this newly launched recyclable Plastic Collection Centre is equipped with dedicated transport and service personnel to collect post-consumption recyclable plastic from collection points. The centre also operates an online platform through which the public can schedule a pick-up of any recyclable plastic. Alternatively, consumers are also given the option of dropping off any recyclable plastic waste at the collection point itself. Currently this facility is made available within the Colombo District and will be expanded to the Western Province, in due course.

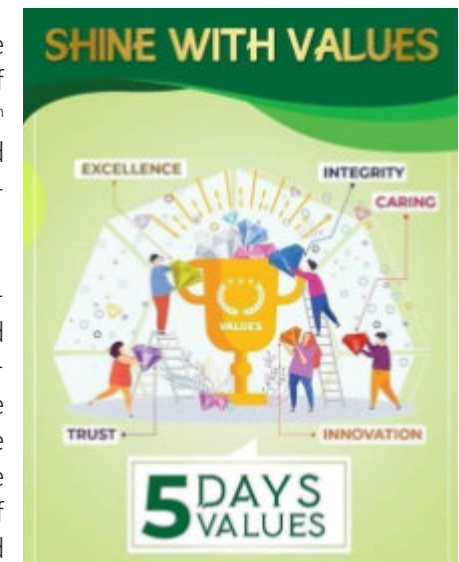


The Consumer Foods Sector reinforced the vision of ONE JKH, by launching a series of strategic, sector-specific DE&I activities and initiatives, with the formal launch event being held on 1st September 2021. The series of activities held prior to the launch included; a customized webinar on 12th August 2021, for the Senior Leadership Team by the Nadeesha Wijesinghe, Head of DE&I - Unilever Sri Lanka on how manufacturing and distribution dependent organizations have embraced DE&I initiatives and shared best practices, forming a 11 member subcommittee representing all key units in the Sector, and commencing 23rd August 2021, a 7 day DE&I teaser campaign was launched within the sector.



'SHINE WITH VALUES' week was facilitated to create quality time for employees in the Consumer Foods Sector. A series of interactive activities were delivered virtually from 16th - 20th August 2021, and each activity focused on providing an enriched learning experience that was based on the Group's values - Integrity, Trust, Caring, Excellence, and Innovation.

The commencement of the week was initiated by President – Consumer Foods and Head of Frozen Confectionery and the Head of Supply Chain Management, Factory Manager CICL, Head of Beverages, CEO – KFP, CFO – Consumer Foods shared their experiences and thoughts on living by the core values. The activities of the week included; a musical event by Indika Perera, a quiz competition based on the Group's values, Guest Speech by Chandana Gunawardane, experience sharing by leaders of the Sector and colleagues and recognition of employees who received the highest number of appreciations from 'Cheer the Peers' programme, added glamour to the week and created excitement and engagement among the employees.



Tea Smallholder Factories

On 25th August 2021 Tea Smallholder Factories completed vaccinating all 365 employees of the 7 Tea Factories. This was made possible with the assistance of the area MOH's and PHI's who took a special interest towards the prevention of the spread of the virus and ensured that the operations at the factories were not affected.



Center Functions

A competition to predict the winner of SL vs IND T20 Tournament was held at Center Functions from 16th July - 3rd August 2021. Sahan Munasinghe from John Keells Research was the winner and received the prize of a Sri Lankan Cricket jersey with his name printed on it.



Cinnamon Hakuraa Huraa Maldives

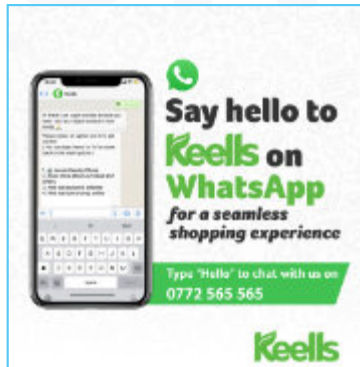


In line with the commemoration of World Tourism Day 2021, Cinnamon Hakuraa Huraa Maldives initiated a workshop hosted by our Management Team for Grade 10-12 students from Meemu Atoll Education Center. Allowing us to contribute to honing their future and the beauty of being in the industry.

While we aim to impart and share insights about the Hoteliers Life and Resort operations, the students actively participated in the workshop which comprised of a Resort Tour covering the Engineering Site, a Cooking Demonstration, Bed Making and lastly a certificate and a token distribution.

We aspire to establish a strong bond among the youth in the region and to create a positive impact while looking forward to attracting new talent in the future.

Keells



Keells innovatively partnered with 'Yellow.AI', a globally renowned AI-powered conversational engagement platform, to launch a verified chatbot in an effort to enter conversational commerce. This is the first WhatsApp verified chatbot in Sri Lanka for a retail supermarket chain and it was introduced to the public via social platforms on 27th August 2021.

Customers can now use WhatsApp to place orders, track orders, find their nearest available store, understand and explore information related to a variety

of products including the Keells exclusive range and special deals and offers. Customers can also learn how to shop online, download the Keells mobile app and even get connected to relevant areas if interested in applying for job vacancies.



Keells conducted engagement activities for both their Head Office and Outlet team members during this lock-down during 15th June - 15th July 2021. While most of the Head Office team members were working from home, we asked them to share pictures and videos of how they were adopting to working from home, and 3 selected lucky winners won attractive gifts.

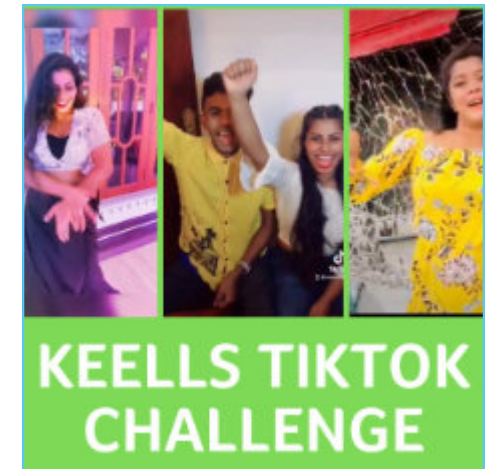


"Stay Fit and Healthy" – an activity aimed at ensuring that the team members of Keells stay healthy and fit was conducted from 9th - 30th July 2021. Four of our own team members got together and demonstrated how a person could do a small workout during their free time while working from home.

During the pandemic the health and safety of our team members remain our foremost priority. To make sure all our team members are protected as much as possible, a dedicated vaccination programme was organized for the Keells team from 8th - 10th September 2021 at the Forbes Road Community Center. A total of 528 employees were vaccinated during the 3 days which has increased the total number of staff being vaccinated to 78.6%.



A TikTok Competition was organized on 8th August 2021 for the store team members of Keells with a mini competition where 26 team members participated. The participants with the highest number of votes were selected for the second round of the TikTok challenge.



OCTAVE

The most recent two instalments of the webinar series 'OCTAVE INSIGHTS: Hear, Learn and Interact with Advanced Analytics Experts', organized by OCTAVE, were 'Data Science in Football: from Hoax to Game Changer' and 'Making Boats Fly with AI', held virtually on 6th August 2021 and 20th August 2021 respectively.

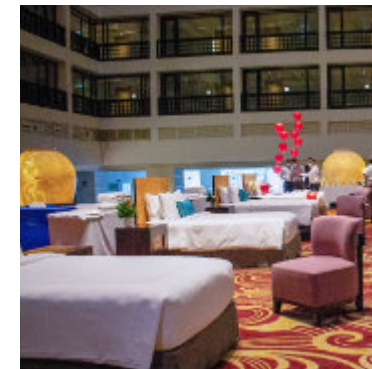
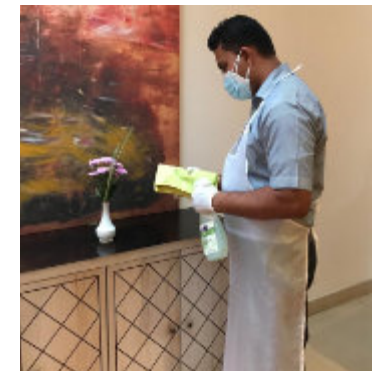
The speaker for 'Data Science in Football: from Hoax to Game Changer' was Dean Wang, the Director of Product Management, DataSpark. He is a Data Scientist based out of Singapore and obtained his PhD in Operation Research from the Nanyang Technological University and has been working in the field of Advanced Analytics, Data Science, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence. The key learnings from his webinar were: the history and current direction of Data Science in football, how Data Science and Machine Learning has been industrialized, and how Data Science is applied to take the lead in the game.

Nicolas Hohn, the speaker for 'Making Boats Fly with AI' is a Data Science Senior Expert in the Melbourne office of McKinsey and Company. He is the Chief Data Scientist for QuantumBlack Australia, the advanced analytics arm of McKinsey, and leads their Analytics Team. His presentation lead a discussion on using digital twins for decision-making, optimising complex dynamics control with Reinforcement Learning, building a scalable Cloud Compute Stack for RL and enabling faster iterations through end-to-end automation.



Cinnamon Grand

Cinnamon Grand Colombo celebrated "International Housekeepers Appreciation Week 2021" on 14th September 2021. The event commenced with Mr. Kamal Munasinghe – General Manager for Cinnamon Grand & Cinnamon Lakeside addressing and appreciating the entire housekeeping and laundry teams for their hard work, efforts and contribution. A bed making competition was also organized on 17th September, where 16 participants across Housekeeping, Front Office and Security went toe-to-toe to be crowned the 2021 champion. The competition was centered around making the perfect bed, to not only highlight the comfort Cinnamon Grand offers but also to show the exceptional care in health and safety and offering the guest the best sleep experience.



Then and Now - Rajith's note of appreciation



Established in 1991, the John Keells University Scholarship Scheme provides financial support to the children of non-executive employees of the Group who are selected into local universities for their undergraduate studies. In 1996 Rajith Udugampola, son of Mr. G.R. Udugampola who was then employed at Whittal Boustead Ltd., was one of the recipients of the John Keells University Scholarship Scheme.

Having recently come across a previous issue of JK Times which featured the presentation of scholarships that year, Rajith who is now the General Manager - Finance and Business at Adelaide Plains Council in South Australia, reached out to Chairman with a note of appreciation. He highlighted that financial assistance provided by JKH was instrumental in successfully completing his Bachelor of Business Administration from University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Diploma in Marketing from the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing and Chartered Accountancy (ICASL) exams. In 2004 his academic accolades paved him the way to complete a Master of Accounting programme and thereafter to settle in Australia.

At present, he is primarily responsible for the management of the Council's Financial Services department and oversees the Council's Strategic Finances, Grants and Subsidy Administration as well as Rating and Property Database Maintenance.



Responding to Rajith personally, Chairman emphasized that over the years the John Keells University Scholarship programme has been one of the many ways in which the Group commits to supporting our valued employees and families in their time of need and that Rajith's success story truly reinforces the Group's desired outcome from the JKH University Scholarship Programme.



The JKH Speakers' Club Celebrates its First Anniversary

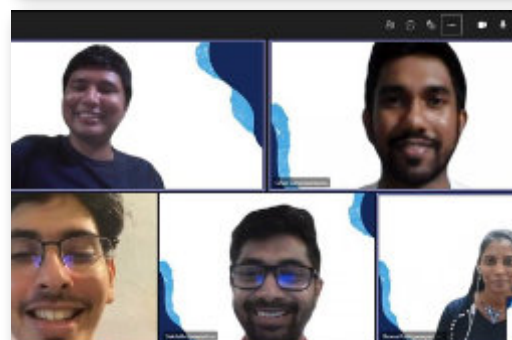
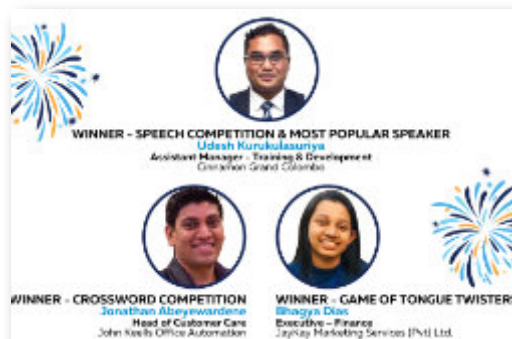
In lieu of the First Anniversary of the JKH Speakers' Club falling on the last week of September 2021, we hosted several events and releases under the theme of 'One Year and Counting'. The first issue of the Annual Newsletter was released on 27th September 2021, cataloguing our past meetings and events, an overview of the club, and the curated learning pathway we offer. On 28th September 2021, we released a video compilation of testimonials from our members about their experience over the past year.

The main event of the week was the Speech Competition Finale held virtually on 30th September 2021 from 5.00 PM onwards. The competition was open to all employees of the John Keells Group and the top three speakers delivered a prepared speech in front of an audience. The finalists were Piushiya Samanmalee, Executive - MIS at Keells Food Products PLC; Thimasha Ranjan, Executive - Brand Quality Assurance at Cinnamon Hotels Management Limited; and Udesh Kurukulasuriya, Assistant Manager - Training & Development, Cinnamon Grand Colombo.

The panel of judges comprised of Kumudu Munasinghe, Head of Corporate Communications and Group Lead on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at John Keells Group; Pramukshi Kariyawasam, Director – Content Strategy, Public Relations & Communications at Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts; and Russel Valentine, Brand Manager at Keells Food Products PLC. Isuru Gunasekera, Chief People Officer, delivered a speech on the importance of effective communication and encouraged everyone to make use of the exposure and guidance offered by the Club.

Udesh Kurukulasuriya was named the winner of the Speech Competition and received a pair of Samsung Galaxy Buds. He also won the title of 'Most Popular Speaker' by public vote. The newsletter featured a Crossword Competition and its winner Jonathan Abeyewardene, Head of Customer Care at John Keells Office Automation was revealed at the finale too. The attendees were not forgotten, as they got the chance to take part in a fun game of tongue twisters and Bhagya Dias, Executive – Finance at JayKay Marketing Services (Pvt) Ltd. emerged the champion. All three of them received gift hampers from Keells.

The JKH Speakers' Club Committee hopes that events like this would encourage our staff to improve their speaking skills by becoming a member! Those interested may join [here](#).



JKH Speaker's Club

The JKH Speakers' Club is ecstatic to introduce 'Behind the Mic' featuring Gehan Blok and Dino Corera in the first-ever installment in the series, held on 1st July 2021 via Microsoft Teams exclusively for John Keells Group employees. The two stand-up comedians reminisced over their journey from school days to where they are now, and imparted advice on how to deliver a speech or presentation with humour, create an engaged audience, and even how to start a career as a YouTube content creator.



Quiz & Competitions

Winner of JK TIMES
2Q Quiz

Maheshi Wimalagoonaratne

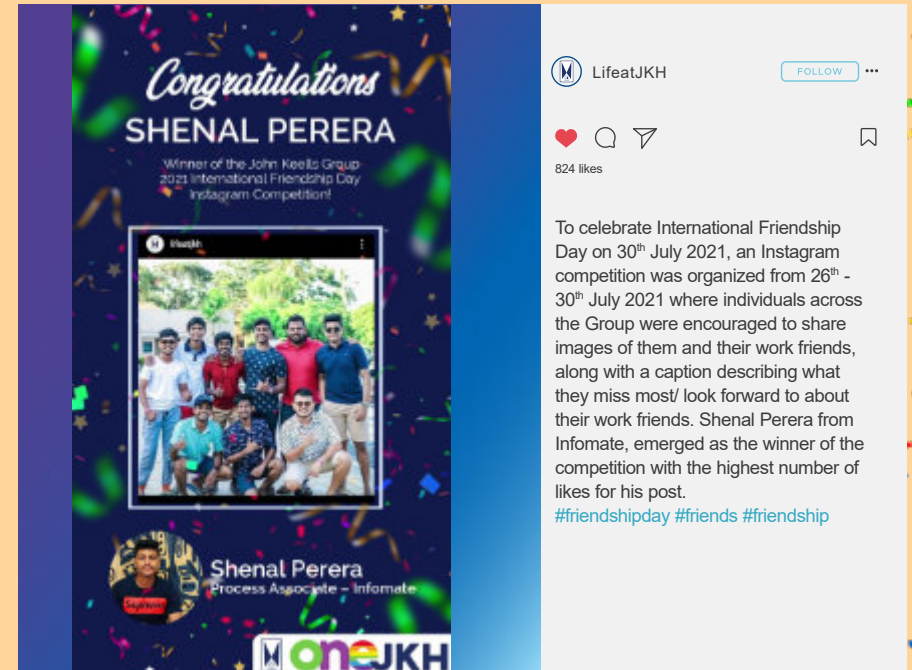
Answer all 6 questions correctly and win fabulous prizes!

All you got to do is answer 6 simple questions based on the latest issue of JK Times! Send in your answers along with your name, BU and contact number to isuri.jkh@keells.com on or before **19th of November, 2021**

QUIZ

1. In the recently concluded online speech competition of English language scholars, what was the topic at the finals?
2. An Associate Company of the Group recently committed to restoring a forest reserve, where is this located?
3. Who was the Guest Speaker at the inaugural WOICE session?
4. What is the name of John Keells Group Parents' Network?
5. Which organization entered into an agreement with John Keells Holdings PLC to occupy 80% of the space in the 30-storey Grade-A office building at Cinnamon Life?
6. Which two Group companies completed projects, using Plastic Modified Asphalt Concrete (PMAC)?

International Friendship Day – Instagram Competition



This newsletter is published by John Keells Holdings PLC for internal circulation only.

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