

Association of Professional Sri Lankans in the UK

Annual Report for year 2025-2026

Year 2025-26 was a productive period for the Association of Professional Sri Lankans in the UK. This report provides a summary of the key activities carried out during the year.

Executive Committee Meetings

Three executive committee meetings were held during the past year via Microsoft Office Teams.

1. The first executive committee meeting was held on 18th of November 2025. A review of APSL current project portfolio took place with clear communications and appointments of sub committees to lead the objectives of APSL. The executive committee focused on developing a Strategic plan to promote APSL to youngsters as part of succession planning.

2. The second executive committee meeting was held on 23rd June 2026. Internal governance and developing best practices took centre stage amongst discussions. Review and updates from ongoing projects. finance automation, membership communications, website hosting migration, scholarships were other key priorities that were focused on.

3. The third executive committee meeting was held on Sunday 14th of July 2026. The progress of all existing projects reviewed, Office bearers for the year 2025-2026 was also discussed and agreed.

In addition to Executive Committee meetings, regular Sub-Committee meetings were held throughout the year. The Association carried out a range of key operational and fundraising initiatives, including emergency relief efforts in response to Cyclone Ditwah , as well as the other projects and activities outlined below.

Projects and Events

1. 21st Annual General Meeting

The 21st Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Saturday 21 June 2025 at the Windsor/ Heathrow Marriott Hotel

His Excellency Mr. Nimal Senadheera, the newly appointed High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to the United Kingdom, graced the occasion with his presence. The AGM was also attended

by the APSL Executive Committee, APSL members and representatives of other Sri Lankan associations.

At the AGM, a new Executive Committee was elected for the year 2025-2026. In the absence of any other nominations in response to the AGM notice circulated prior to the meeting, the list of office bearers nominated by the outgoing committee was elected unopposed and served effectively throughout the year.

2. APSL Florence De Silva Memorial Trust Fund for children

APSL launched the APSL Florence De Silva memorial trust for children in 2019 to help underprivileged children in Sri Lanka.

During the year 2025-26, in addition to supporting the APSL scholarship scheme and providing direct educational help to deserving children, the Trust fund also contributed over £2500 pounds to provide immediate aid to affected children in the aftermath of cyclone Ditwah.

APSL continued with the fixed deposit of £50,000 from the Late Florence De Silva's legacy, for a further year these funds will be utilised exclusively to benefit more children under scholarship Scheme.

During the past 6 years, funds were used to improve facilities and resources in schools, providing school essentials and providing medicine and equipment for paediatric units during medical emergency situations in various hospitals. At present a £2500 budget allocation per quarter is in place in line with the proposed long-term allocations plan.

Our appreciation goes to Mrs Aruni De Alwis, the executor of the will of the late Florence Cecilia De Silva for her kind and thoughtful consideration to enhance the well-being of the less fortunate children in Sri Lanka

3. APSL Scholarship Scheme

Launched in 2014, the APSL Scholarship Scheme provides financial assistance to gifted schoolchildren from poor and disadvantaged families in Sri Lanka - especially for those from rural areas to gain access to a good education.

The APSL scholarship scheme provides Sri Lankans around the world, with a simple and effective channel for 'giving something back' to their motherland. Also, for our non-Sri Lankan friends and well-wishers, it offers an efficient and reliable vehicle for helping Sri Lanka and be part of this life changing initiative.

Since it's inauguration, scholarship programme has continued as a beacon of hope for these families. The Scholarship Scheme has grown during last 12 years increasing the total number of beneficiaries (aged between 9 to 18). Over the years the scholarship scheme as funded a

total of 165 students, out of which 46 have completed and left the scheme so far. Therefore, currently we are funding 119 students. who are spread across the island, with funds donated sponsors - based in UK, Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Australia. We had some excellent GCE Advance level results in 2026,

4. APSL Cancer Relief Project

The APSL Cancer Relief Fund (CRF) was launched in September 2017. We formed our first partnership in 2019 with Kurunegala General Hospital, followed by Batticaloa Teaching Hospital and Anuradhapura Hospital in 2020, and with Kandy Hospital in 2025.

Over the past 8 years and 9 months, we have spent 12.10 million Sri Lankan rupees (as of the end of July 2026) through this scheme, supporting: Medication, Financial assistance, Facility renovations, and Awareness campaigns.

So far, we have provided:

- 1,815 financial aid payments of Rs. 3,000 each (Rs. 2,500 until December 2023),
- 168 payments of Rs. 20,000 each towards medications,
- Donations worth Rs. 330,000 for breakfasts and refreshments on clinic days,
- Rs. 2.6 million in various one-off donations, and
- Rs. 200,000 worth of building renovations.

A special thank you goes to our main sponsors of the programme: Luminii Consulting**,** Mrs Lushani Kodithuwakku, Managing Director of Luminii Consulting, and Mr Lloyd Abeywickrama, Director of LA & EA Consultants Ltd, along with their team, for their continued and generous support towards the programme.

We also extend our gratitude to Mrs Aruni De Alwis, Executor of the APSL Florence De Silva Trust, for supporting our work with paediatric cancer patients in Sri Lanka.

We would like to thank all the medical and administrative staff involved in the programme in Sri Lanka, including the Wayamba Cancer Society**,** Cancer Society Anuradhapura, and the Palliative Care Unit in Kandy, for their continued dedication and support.

We sincerely thank all our donors in the UK and overseas for their regular and one-off contributions, which make it possible for us to support these deserving patients across Sri Lanka.

5. APSL Emergency Response Fund (APSL ERF)

APSL launched the Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) in March 2020 to support vulnerable individuals and deserving families across Sri Lanka.

Over the past six years and four months, we have spent more than LKR 23 million through the fund. Our support has included:

- Providing dry-ration packs to 1,650 families across all nine provinces in 2020.
- Donating medical equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) to hospitals on 16 occasions in 2021.
- Providing medical aid worth LKR 8.2 million on 37 occasions to 33 hospitals across the island in 2022.
- Raising nearly £30,000 to support emergency relief efforts following Cyclone Dithwah in 2025.

Particularly during the Cyclone Dithwah relief efforts in 2025, APSL partnered with several organisations and individuals. We would like to convey our sincere appreciation to:

- Roshan Vitharana, Srithi Warnakula and the team at BVS Group
- Lloyd Abeywickrama and the LA & EA Consultants Ltd team
- Carolyn Dixey, Derek Mansfield and the team at the De La Rue Charitable Trust
- The Sri Lankan Quantity Surveyors Association (UK & Ireland)
- Visakha Old Girls' Association (UK)
- Upul Liyanage and the team at ULC World
- The team at Baila Blast Limited
- The members of the PPA UK of Maliyadeva Balika Vidyalaya
- Rosemary Alwis and the team
- Naela Sumithraarachchi and the team
- Sathyajith Fernando, Thushari Rosa and the Ideal Island YouTube team

Special thanks also go to Dr Vinya Ariyaratha, Mrs Manu Thisera and the team at Sarvodaya organisation in Sri Lanka, the emergency services, the Tri-Forces, police and medical personnel, government authorities, religious leaders, local community groups, and APSL representatives in Sri Lanka including, Mrs Inoka Rodrigo and Mrs Sheryl Yamomoto for their invaluable support in delivering Cyclone Dithwah relief efforts across the island.

APSL would also like to extend its sincere appreciation to all donors in the UK and around the world for generously supporting the APSL Emergency Relief Fund, including those who

donated through our partner organisations. Your generosity has been instrumental in enabling us to support vulnerable communities across Sri Lanka.

6. APSL Research Symposium 2026

APSL has organised research symposiums over the years, and the APSL Research Symposium 2026 was the second symposium delivered in collaboration with the Sri Lanka High Commission in London. The event was successfully held on 3 July 2026 at the High Commission, under its patronage.

The symposium brought together more than 50 academics, researchers, professionals and students representing 27 institutions and organisations across the UK, Sri Lanka and Europe. The programme featured more than 30 oral and poster presentations, providing researchers with a valuable platform to showcase their work, receive feedback from expert judges, build professional networks and explore opportunities for future collaboration.

The full-day event consisted of two main sections. The first focused on academic oral and poster presentations. This was followed by an evening networking session featuring a panel discussion, a special address by the Sri Lankan High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and a recorded message from the British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.

The success of the symposium was made possible by the commitment of the APSL organising team and the excellent participation and engagement of the presenters, judges, panellists and delegates.

APSL would particularly like to express its sincere appreciation to the Sri Lanka High Commission in London; the High Commissioner; the Deputy High Commissioner; Ms Janani Siva Bakthan, Minister for Education; and the entire High Commission team for working closely with APSL to deliver this successful event.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to all the volunteers who worked closely with APSL before, during and after the symposium, supporting various aspects of its planning, delivery and follow-up activities. APSL intends to continue the Research Symposium as an annual event, providing a dedicated platform to promote research, innovation, knowledge exchange and stronger academic and professional collaboration between the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka.

7. Living in the UK Series

Under the Living in the UK Series for the financial year 2025/26 the following events took place online

In April 2025 we had a discussion titled 'Journey of a young British Sri Lankan' was presented by membership secretary Sayuri Serasinghe and moderated by Project lead Thushara Madurasinghe. Sayuri spoke about her journey having lived in Sri Lanka, Japan and then in the UK. Her experiences served as an inspiration to all attendees and younger generation who may have faced similar challenges.

On the 25th of February 2026 held an online event was moderated by Project Lead Thushara Madurasinghe and presented by ex co member David Gunawardena. During this session, David explored the idea of cultural dissonance through philosophical, post-colonial, and political lenses, reflecting on what it means to grow up between Sri Lankan heritage and British identity. He spoke about identity and the "authentic self", the experience of code-switching, and the tension many second-generation Sri Lankans feel when navigating home and public life. Drawing on ideas such as double consciousness and the concept of a "Third Space", the discussion examined how hybrid identities are formed and how belonging is negotiated in modern Britain.

The session was highly interactive, with participants openly sharing personal stories about being asked "Where are you really from?", feeling caught between cultural expectations, and finding spaces where both sides of their identity could coexist.

8. APSL We Sri Lanka 2025-26,

APSL WE SRI LANKA was launched to foster reconciliation and strengthen bonds between different communities within the Sri Lankan diaspora in the UK, as well as to support re-building and relief work in Sri Lanka during the immediate post-conflict period between 2010-2012.

A key outcome of this work was establishing the **WE SRI LANKA Solar Village** in Puthiya Nagar, Mullaitivu in 2020 whereby a 5kW solar roof was installed at the village Community Centre to provide illumination as well as to create an alternative source of income for villagers re-settled in the area after the conflict. During the past year, savings from this income (generated from selling residual solar energy back to the National Grid) were utilised to build a kitchen for the Community Centre so nutritious meals can be served to children in the pre-school conducted within its premises.

More recently, the **WE SRI LANKA TALKS Series** was launched to promote awareness about Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) related topics of relevance to Sri Lanka. Plans are now being put in place to conduct the WE SRI LANKA 2026 event at King's College London this October together with Sri Lankan Societies in leading universities in London on the topic of *Growing Sri Lanka Sustainably* considering perspectives from Nature, Culture, Travel, Resource Circularity and Renewable Energy sectors.

9. Other Activities

On behalf of APSL, I would like to thank our Patron His Excellency, the High Commissioner for Sri Lanka, together with the Deputy High Commissioner and the High Commission staff for the support given to the association in numerous ways.

My sincere thanks go to the representative of other Sri Lankan associations in the UK, to name few, Hela Sarana, SLMDA, COSMOS and in Sri Lanka, Wayamba Cancer Society, Sri Lanka cancer Society, Batticaloa branch, and Red Cross for working hand in hand with APSL delivering collaborative projects.

My thanks also extended to our media outlets for providing publicity to our events. & , to various organisations and individuals who provided sponsorships for our events throughout the year.

My sincere thanks goes the President Dr. Leshan Uggalla and the Executive Committee for their commitment and professionalism shown in fulfilling the objectives of the Association during the past two year. It was a pleasure to work with such a committed Team, which in turn made my task much easier and enjoyable.

I would also like to thank our family members for the enormous support that they have given us throughout the years.

Finally, I would like to extend my best wishes to the incoming new Executive Committee. I look forward to working with you all during the coming year.

Thank you.

Mr. Sanjaya C. Kodituwakku
General Secretary
Association of Professional Sri Lankans in the UK (APSL)
2025 -2026

Profit and Loss Report
up to 31 March 2026

		£
Sales		
Cancer Relief fund income		7,301.33
Interest Received		81.78
Advertising Income		100.00
Scholarship fund income		19,724.65
Dinner dance income		225.00
FDS income		2,560.12
Solar Income		15.53
Emergency Relief Fund Income		21,989.77
ERF Interest Income		9.66
Membership Fee Income		330.00
	Total Sales	52,337.84
Direct Costs		
Scholarship admin fee		2,070.52
We Sri Lanka Expenses		200.00
Scholarship fund expenditure		17,588.90
Cancer Relief Fund Expenses		4,198.80
Emergency Relief Fund Expenses		21,992.33
	Total Direct Costs	46,050.55
	Gross Profit	6,287.29
Expenses		
Card machine exp		78.13
Mailchimp		141.46
Zoom charges		172.68
AGM expenditure		525.00
Rewards and recognition		76.00
interest charges		4.35
Bank charges		100.69
Shoe donation		212.98
PayPal fees		142.85
Technology expenses		252.98
Subscriptions		94.00
Website & Software Costs		142.79
	Total Expenses	1,943.91

Net Profit	4,343.38

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SRI LANKANS IN THE UK (APSL)		
On accounts for the year ended	31st March 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	1145786
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2026

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Financial Accountants(IFA).

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:	R · D · B	**Date:**	14/09/2026
Name:	Roshan Abeyawickrama		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Fellow Financial Accountant Institute of Financial Accountants (IFA)		
Address:	35 Roe Green Lane Hatfield Hertfordshire AL10 0SH		