

THE RED VELVET



Quarterly Magazine of the Ladies' College Old Girls' Association

COVER STORY

FESTIVE HIGH TEA



EVENTS



125th Anniversary Ball

FEATURE



It's Time!

HIGHLIGHTS



Meet the OGA Committee 2025/2026



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YOUTUBE Ladies' College Old Girls' Association

DECEMBER 2025

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS *of the* *Newly Elected* OGA PRESIDENT

MRS ANJALI KARUNARATNE

“Our Patroness, Mrs. Deepika Dassenaik; Vice Patroness, Mrs. Ranmalee Balasooriya; Manager of our school, Mrs. Leonie Seneviratne; the OGA Representative on the Governing Body, Mrs. Anila Dias Bandaranaike; Immediate Past President, Mrs. Chantal De Saram; colleagues on the committee; and fellow members,
A very good morning to you all.

I thank God for granting me this opportunity to serve our association. It is truly an honour to stand before you today as I take on the role of President of the OGA of our esteemed school. I am deeply humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me, and I step into this position with gratitude, pride, and a profound sense of responsibility.

Our Association exists with clear and meaningful objectives, which are more relevant today than ever before. We are here to promote goodwill and fellowship, and to unite old girls across generations, across borders, and beyond any differences that may divide us. No matter where we live or what paths we pursue, Ladies’ College remains our common thread.

And we are here to lend a helping hand through trusts, foundations, and funds especially to those of our members who are in need or in vulnerable situations. We are blessed with an extraordinary alumni network, a powerhouse of talent, skill, wisdom, and experience. I see this as one of our greatest strengths. Together, we have the ability to make a real difference- to support one another not just in times of celebration, but also in times of struggle.

To our members, this is a journey we must take together. My committee and I most certainly will depend on your support, encouragement, your enthusiasm, and cooperation to complete the work we must do in this tenure. Your spirited participation in all OGA events will be the key to success, and it will be greatly appreciated.

Today, we also acknowledge two very special women who have served our school and this association with distinction. First, our Patron, Deepika, who retires after a year that will forever be etched in the memory of every LCite. The 125th anniversary celebrations were

nothing short of spectacular, a dazzling display of unity, tradition, and pride. It was a year that reminded us why Ladies' College continues to lead the way, setting trends and inspiring others to follow. Deepika, you taught us that celebrating our legacy is not just about looking back, but about carrying forward the spirit of LC into everything we do.

We also pay tribute to our Vice Patron, Ranmalee, who will be retiring after giving an incredible 28 years of teaching service to Ladies' College. She is not only one of the finest teachers of GRC and English in the country, but also a beloved mentor who has shaped generations of students with her wisdom, warmth, and unwavering dedication. Her quiet strength, deep commitment to her students, and passion for teaching have left an indelible mark on our school community. As she steps down, we celebrate her immense contribution to education and to the spirit of Ladies' College, a true embodiment of service, excellence, and grace.

My sincere thanks to our outgoing President, Chantal De Saram. Your dedication, your tireless commitment, and your unwavering love for Ladies' College have guided this association with strength and grace. You have steered us through challenges and triumphs, and you leave behind a legacy that inspires us to do even more. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your remarkable service, you have set the bar high, and I hope to build on all that you have achieved.

To the outgoing committee, I thank you sincerely, on behalf of myself and the association, for the countless hours of work, and for the passion and energy you all poured into every initiative.

I also want to take a moment to remember our Past Presidents of the OGA, since its inception in 1909. Each one of them gave their time, energy, and love to this association. Their commitment and hard work have shaped the OGA into what it is today, a vibrant and respected organisation that continues to grow with every passing year. We stand on the shoulders of these women, and it is because of their vision and perseverance that we are able to dream even bigger dreams for the future.

I am especially grateful to the wonderful group of women who will be joining me on my committee. I know that saying 'yes' to this role is no small thing. It is a commitment of time, energy, and heart. Over the next two years, we will work hard, side by side, but we will also work with joy.

We will work as one team, in true camaraderie, supporting one another through challenges and celebrating our successes together. Most of all, I hope we will enjoy ourselves, because this is not just work it is an opportunity to create memories, build friendships, and leave our own mark on the history of the OGA.

As I take on this new chapter, my vision is simple: to ensure that every old girl knows she belongs, that she is seen, and that she is supported. To deepen the bond we share as LCites. To make this association not just a name, but a living, breathing community that uplifts each one of us.

One line in our school hymn reminds us that we are One Family, Unbroken. Today, as I look at all of you, I feel the truth of those words. We may be separated by age, profession, geography, and circumstance but we are bound together by something powerful, something enduring: the spirit of Ladies' College.

Let us take that spirit forward with loyalty, with service, with dignity, and with love for our school, for each other, and for generations to come.

In closing, I would like to leave you with a quote that has inspired me and one that I believe encapsulates the essence of our association: *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."* Let us work together, support one another, and make a difference in the lives of our members and our community.

Thank you once again, and God bless you all."

– OGA President Mrs. Anjali Karunaratne–



**Anjali Karunaratne
Shaemali Sumanatilleke
Tamara Dharmakirathi-Herath
Nishi Ratwatte Abeysekera
Amaya Weerasinghe
Avanthi Colombage
Sonali Dissanayake
Nerooshika Joseph
Fathima Rizla Junaid
Anila Dias Bandaranayake
Vidushi Seneviratne
Manaal Sallih
Ranmaliee Jayawardena
Shevanthi Jayawardena
Shobiya Clinton
Ridmi Beneragama
Nilusha Soysa
Rushika Ratnayake
Vineshka Mendis
Roshan Wijemanne
Dilrukshi Modder
Enakshi Perera
Lahira Soysa
Sushani Wijayatilake
Anusha Munasinghe Gunasekera
Minoli Wijesinghe
Sujani Bogollagama
Dulanga Perera
Savindi Subasinghe
Danelle Toussaint**

[illegible]

THE LADIES' COLLEGE OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Ladies' College OGA Annual General Meeting was held on 25th October 2025, where we had the privilege of honouring and thanking the outgoing committee for their dedicated service, while warmly welcoming the newly appointed committee.



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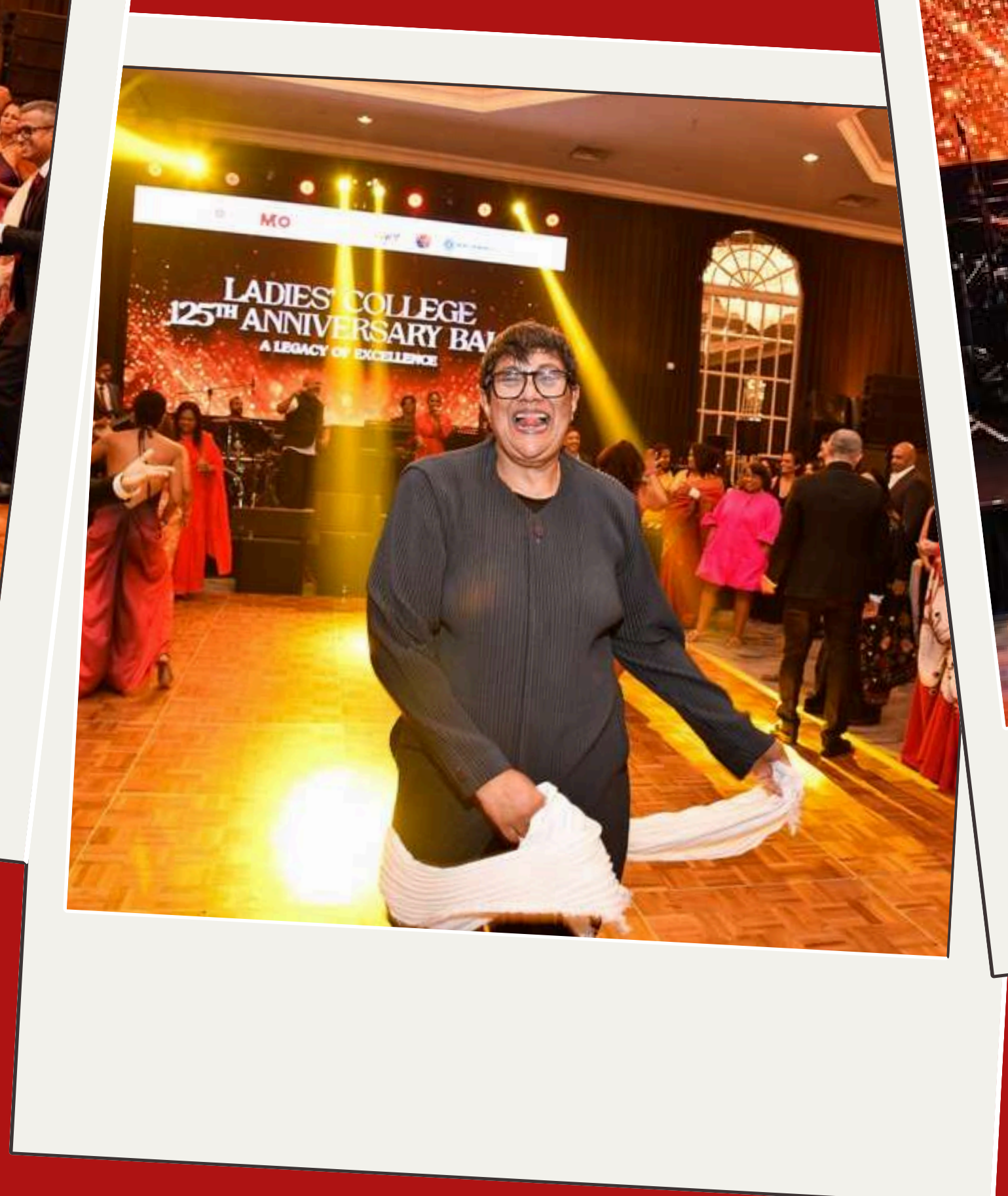
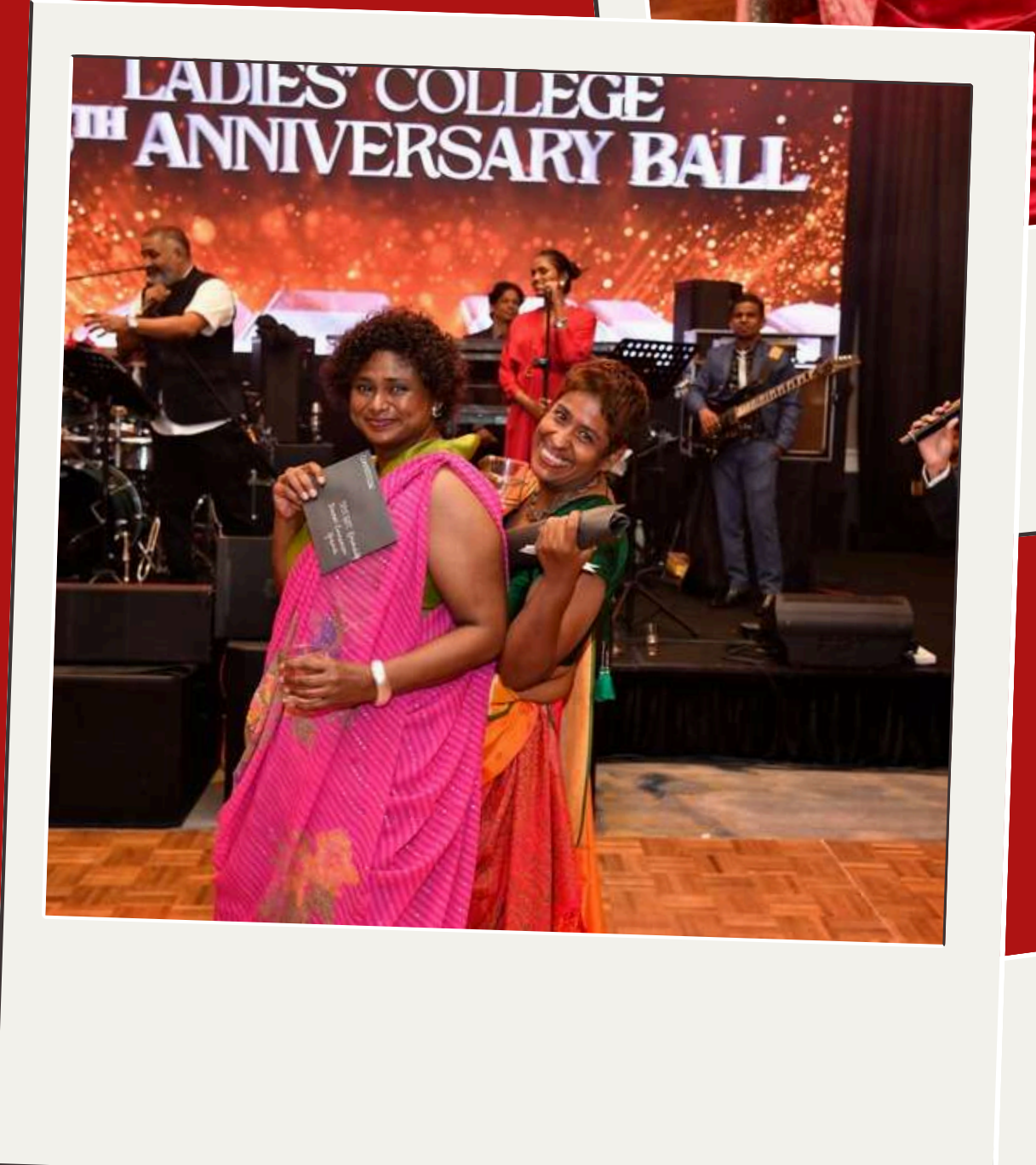
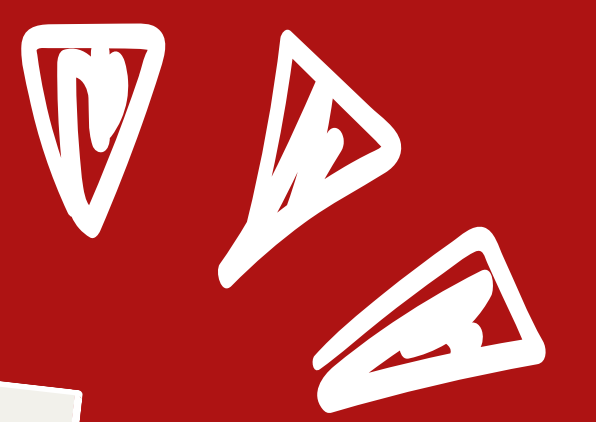
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125TH ANNIVERSARY BALL, A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE!







CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF LC : A NIGHT OF ELEGANCE AND UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

In honour of 125 remarkable years of Ladies' College, the Old Girls' Association hosted the much anticipated 125th Anniversary Ball, an evening that brought together old girls, their families, and well-wishers for a celebration steeped in elegance and tradition. From the moment guests stepped through the entrance, the atmosphere radiated sophistication, beautifully reflecting the legacy of the school.

The evening commenced with a welcoming round of drinks for all attendees, setting a warm and convivial tone. This was followed by the singing of the school hymn, a moment that took many by surprise with its emotional resonance, reminding everyone of the cherished memories and enduring spirit of LC. It was a true celebration of a legacy of excellence that has shaped generations.

OGA President Mrs. Anjali Karunaratne then addressed the gathering with a heartfelt message of gratitude, acknowledging those in attendance, the organising committee, and the event's generous sponsors. Her words perfectly set the stage for a night that was both celebratory and deeply meaningful.

The festivities took an exciting turn when the crowd was treated to a lively flash mob featuring beloved hits from the '80s and '90s, instantly lifting the energy in the room and bringing guests to their feet. The rest of the night unfolded to the flawless music of 'Black' and DJ Dhanushka, whose performances kept spirits high and the dance floor full.

A series of fun competitions added a playful touch to the evening, with winners taking home well deserved prizes. Even as dawn began to break, the dance floor remained buzzing, filled with guests enjoying the music, the camaraderie, and the vibrant atmosphere that defined the night. The 125th Anniversary Ball was undoubtedly a resounding success. Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who attended, to our sponsors for their invaluable support, and to the dedicated Ball Committee whose hard work made this memorable celebration possible.





**LADIES' COLLEGE 125TH
ANNIVERSARY BALL**

THE OGA THANKS

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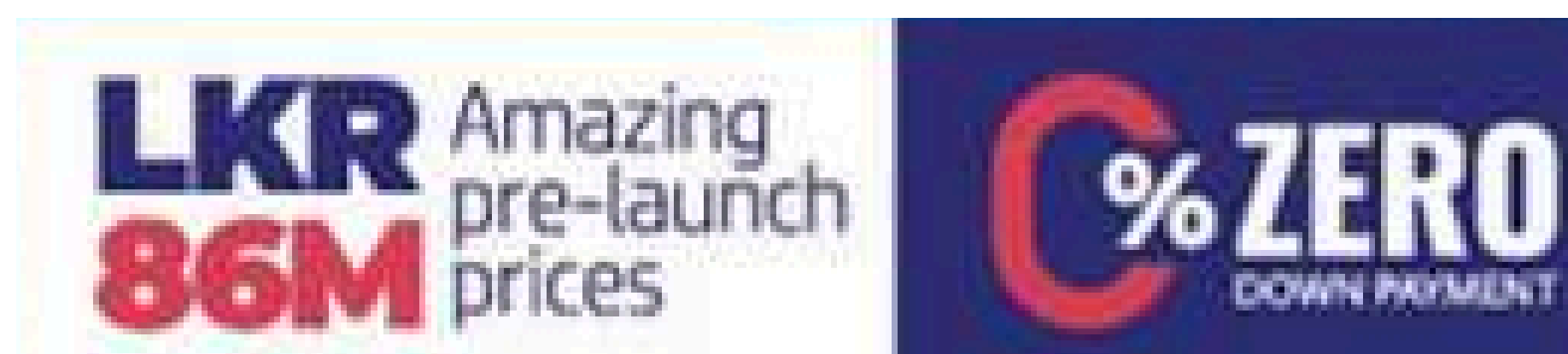
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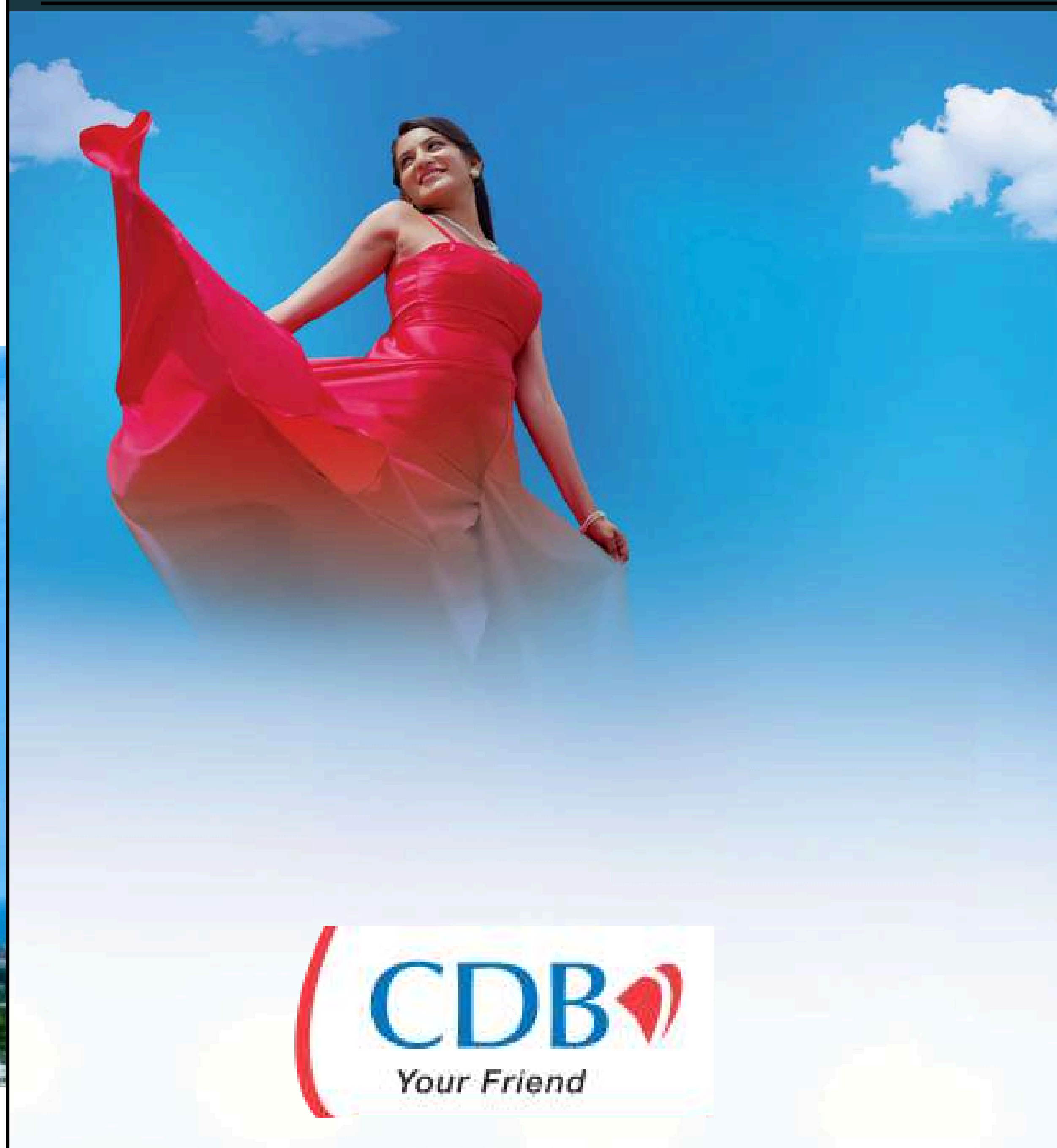
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OGA & LC CARES CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Ladies' College Old Girls' Association hosted a Christmas Lunch in collaboration with LC Cares. It was a special festive gathering dedicated to our over-70s old girls. Designed as a time of fellowship and celebration, the afternoon offered delicious food, lively carols, and playfully competitive games, providing our esteemed ladies with a joyful space to reconnect and enjoy each other's company.

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, warmth, and the true spirit of Christmas, as attendees cherished this well-deserved time to relax, have fun, and share in the festive cheer.

LC Cares, an initiative of the OGA, honours our elder community through such events held four times a year. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who contributed their time and resources to make the lunch as warm and memorable as intended.

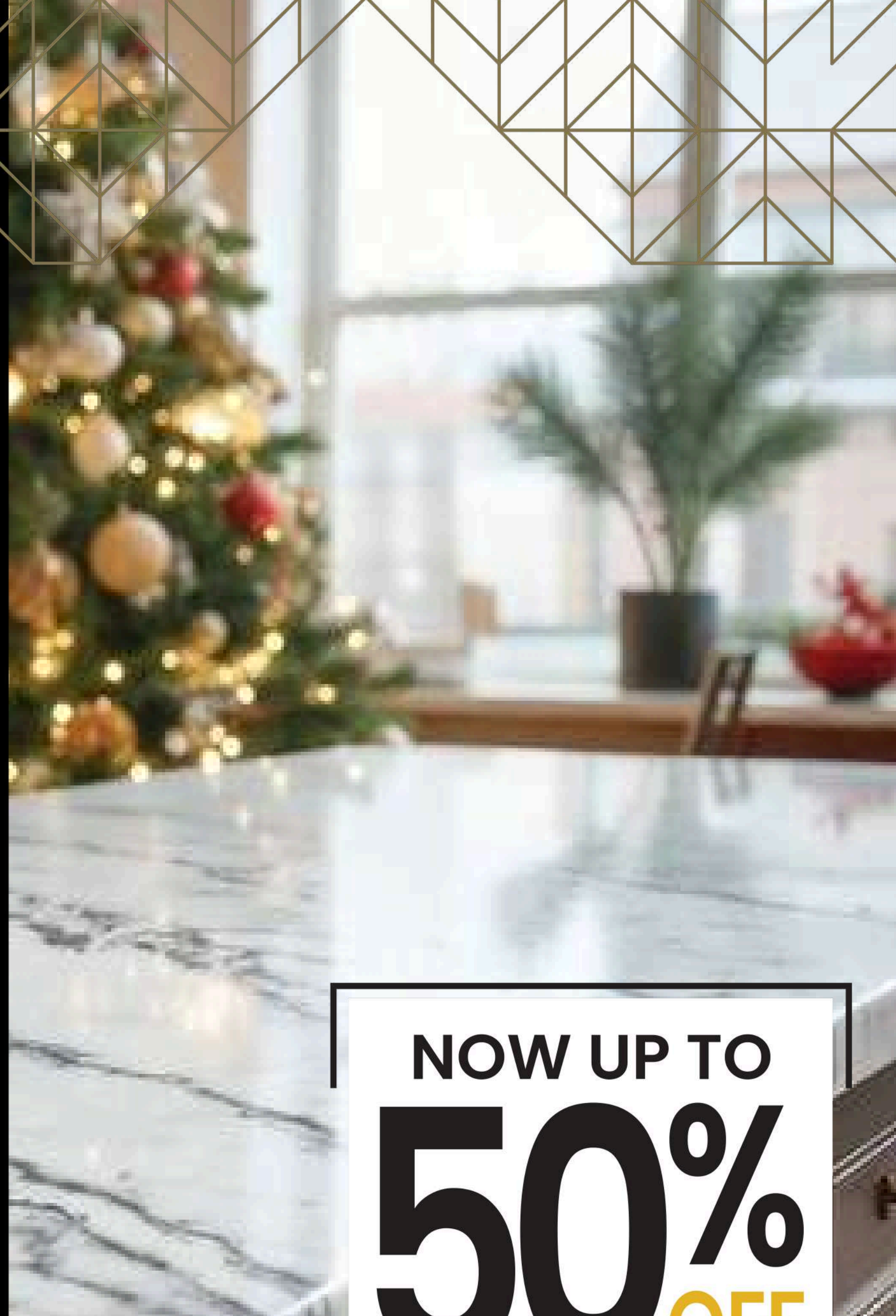




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AND
MRS. RANMALEE BALASOORIYA





The Old Girls' Association marked the festive season with its annual Christmas event, hosting a refined and elegant Festive High Tea at Cinnamon Life. After our guests were serenaded by the talented Anagi Gunsekara, the afternoon continued in a spirit of celebration, community, and gratitude. The event was highlighted by the felicitation of Principal Mrs. Deepika Dassenaik and Vice Principal Mrs. Ranmalee Balasooriya as they prepare to conclude their years of dedicated service to Ladies' College. Old girls from multiple generations gathered to reconnect and celebrate in true LC spirit. Guests enjoyed a beautifully curated high tea menu, while carols created a warm festive atmosphere. Music by DJ Vinod and light-hearted games added the familiar touch of friendly competition, enhancing the joyful and vibrant ambience. The OGA extends heartfelt thanks to all attendees and generous sponsors, and wishes the LC family a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.

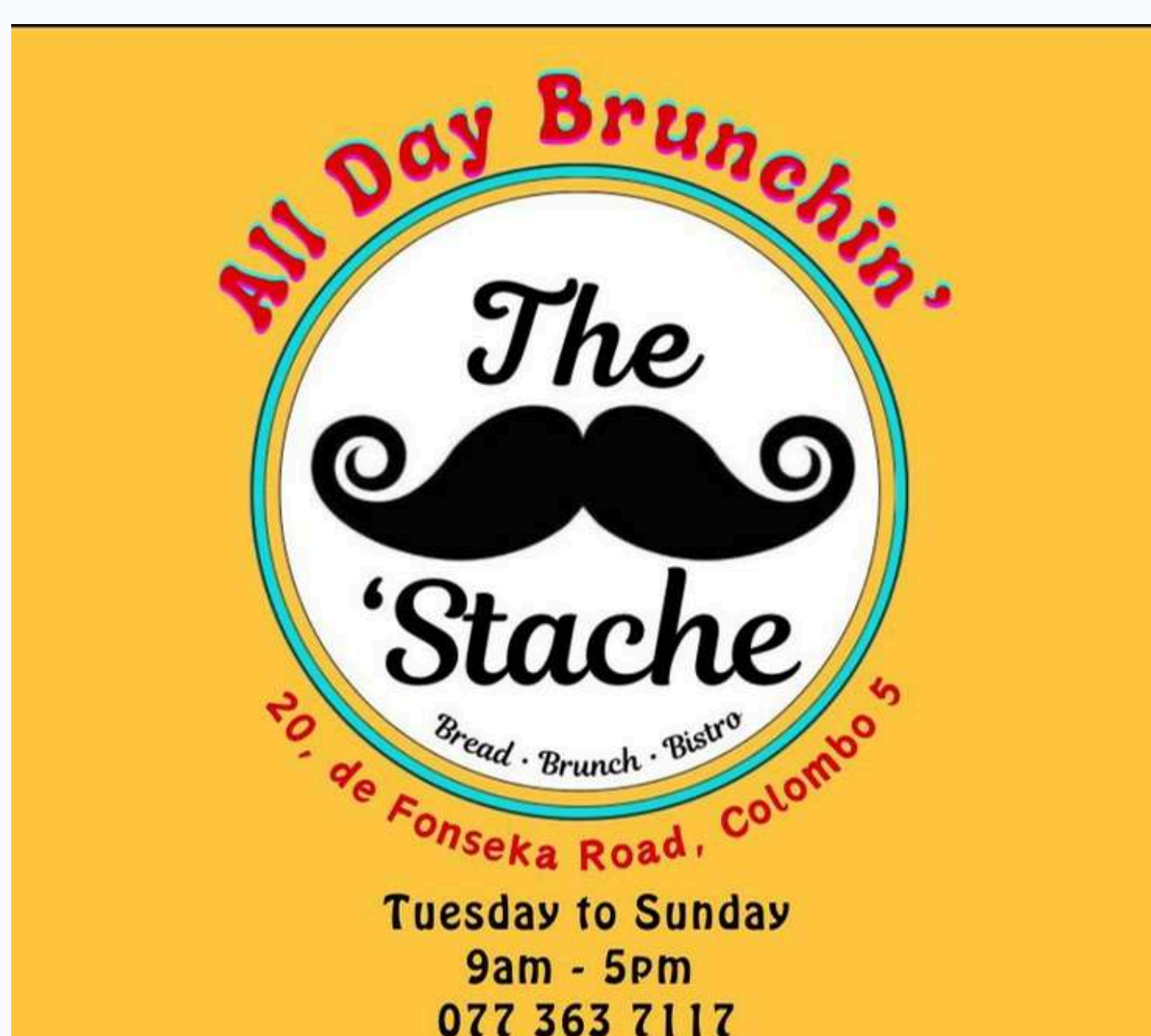


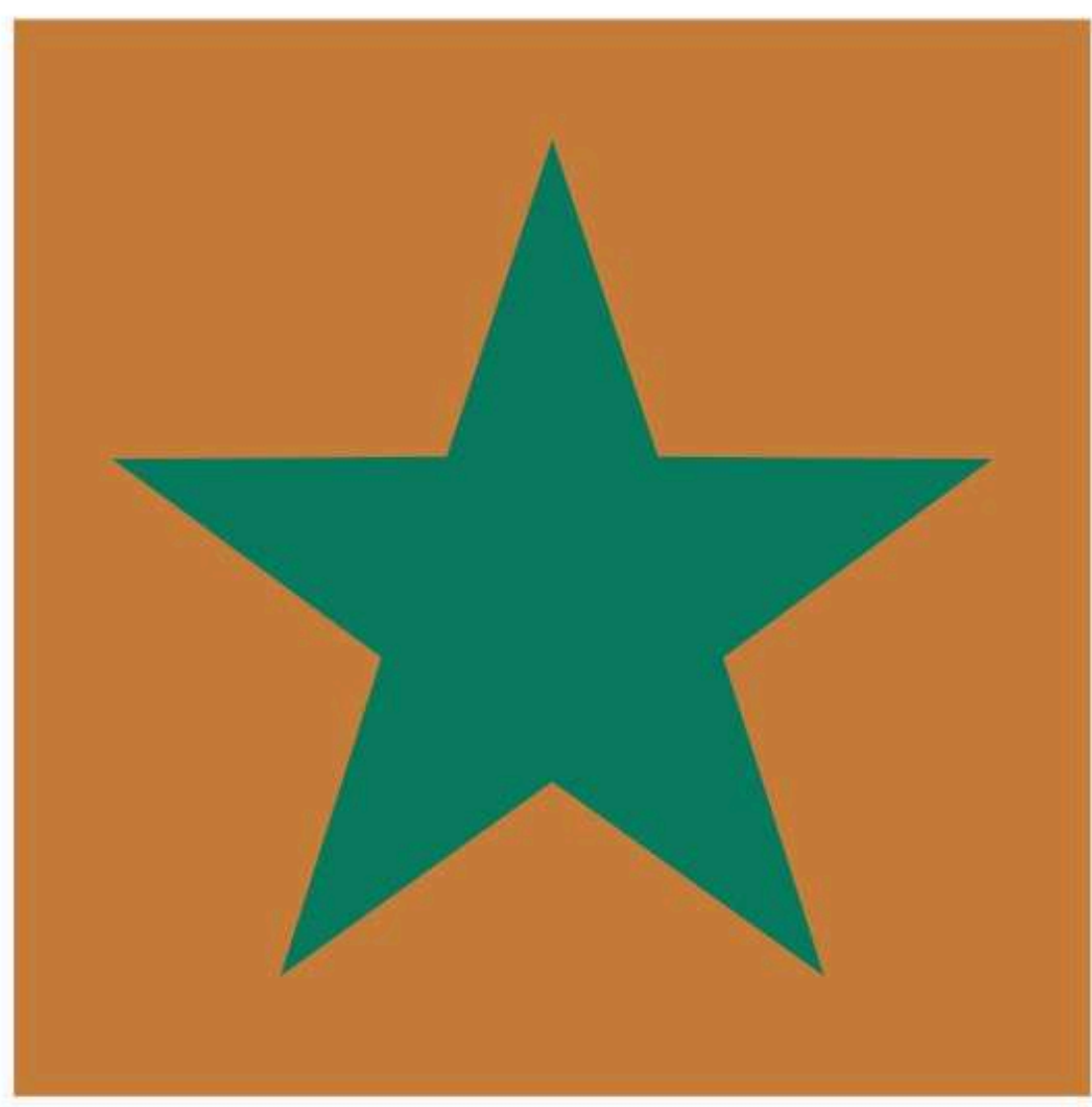








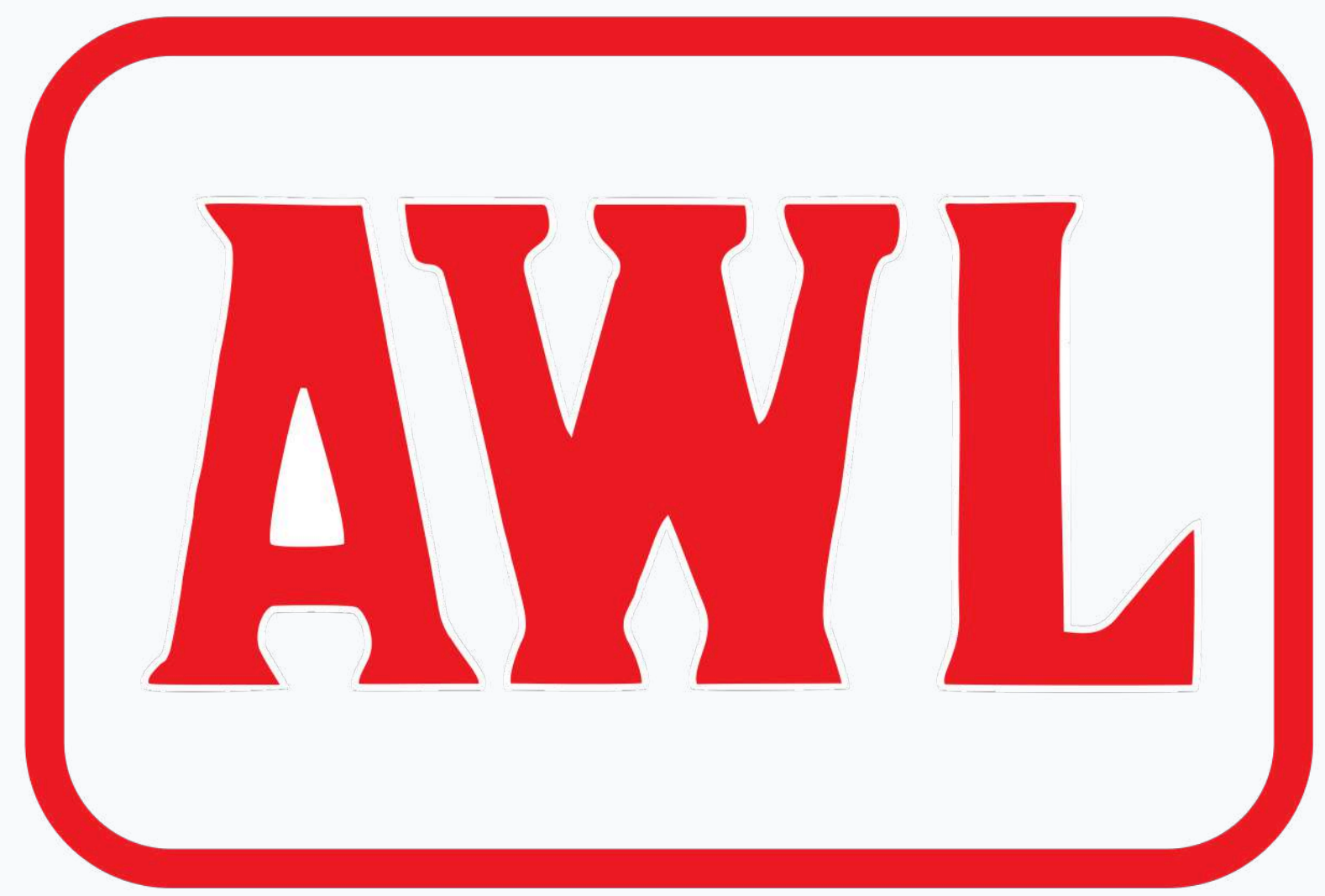




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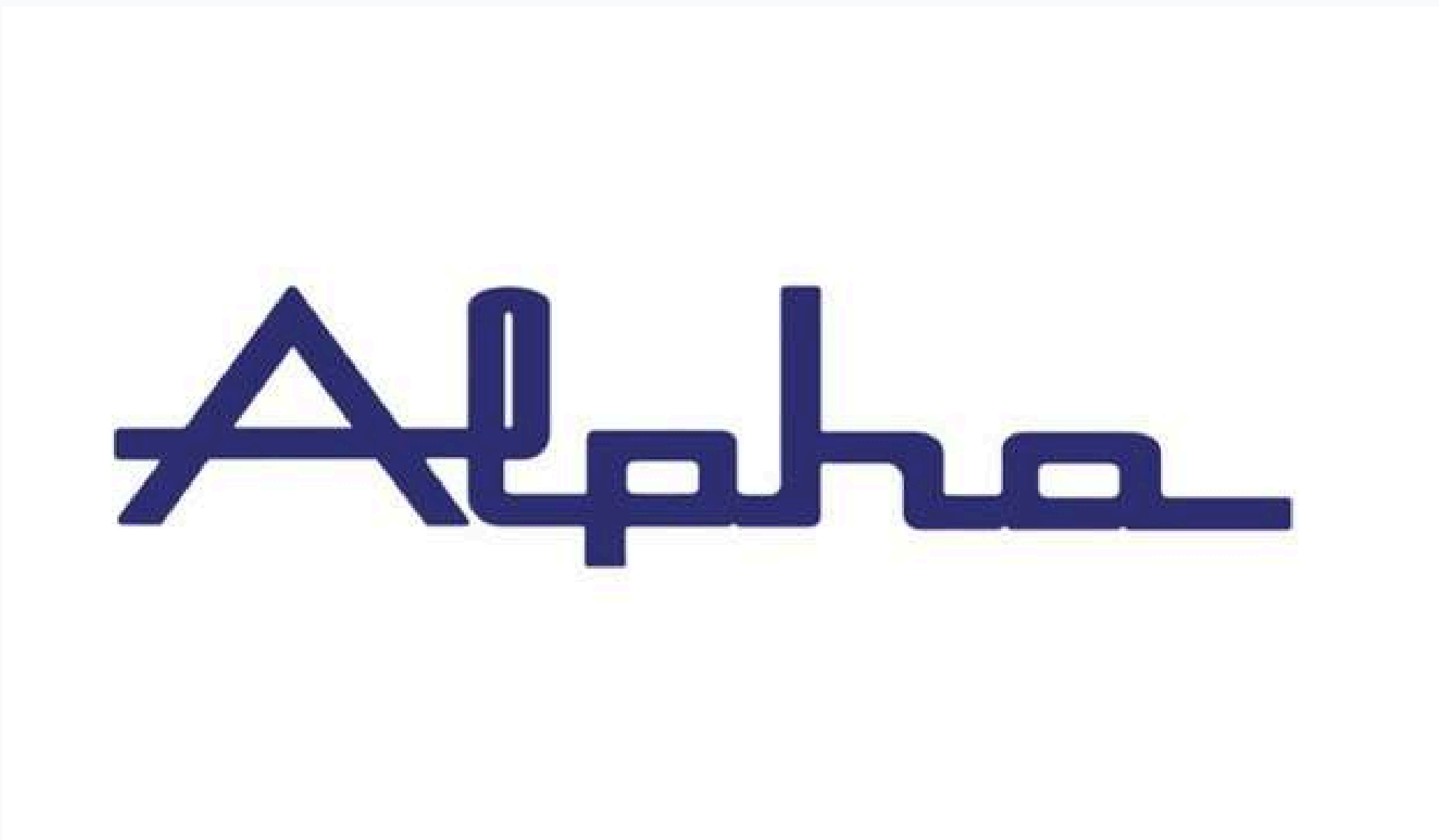
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AS MARIAH CAREY SAYS....

IT'S TIME !

The wait is over, Ladies! Christmas is upon us! But as the season kicks into gear, there is one question truly worth pondering:

“What is the true meaning of Christmas to us?”

Over the years, Christmas has become an immensely commercialised holiday (as most holidays have now become). From the *insane sale deals* to the *hot, new, seasonal collections* to the *flashy, fancy social events*, Christmas has grown into a season that is both highly anticipated and highly profitable. And not to say that engaging in these things is wrong – we should enjoy ourselves, celebrate, and indulge in the excitement of the season.

But what happens when we limit Christmas to just that?





What happens when we become too self-involved and forget about the less fortunate?

What happens when we get so caught up in material things that we forget to appreciate our loved ones, slow down, and celebrate the season together?

Christmas is, and has always been, a time of joy, love, peace, and giving. One of the most beautiful aspects of this season is the care and attention so many people give to helping others. There are countless charity events, outreach projects, and community initiatives during this time, all aimed at ensuring that the less fortunate are cared for, supported, and loved.

If we are fortunate enough to have everything we need, and more, then why not extend that same warmth to others?

Beyond the festivities, the true reason for the season is the birth of Jesus Christ, given to this world by God, selflessly, to save all mankind. Whether one is Christian or not, the message remains universal: we can all spread love, joy, peace, and togetherness. We can all strive to be more selfless, and we can all come together in gratitude for one another.

**So this Christmas, let us be mindful.
Be kind. Be generous. And always, always choose love.**



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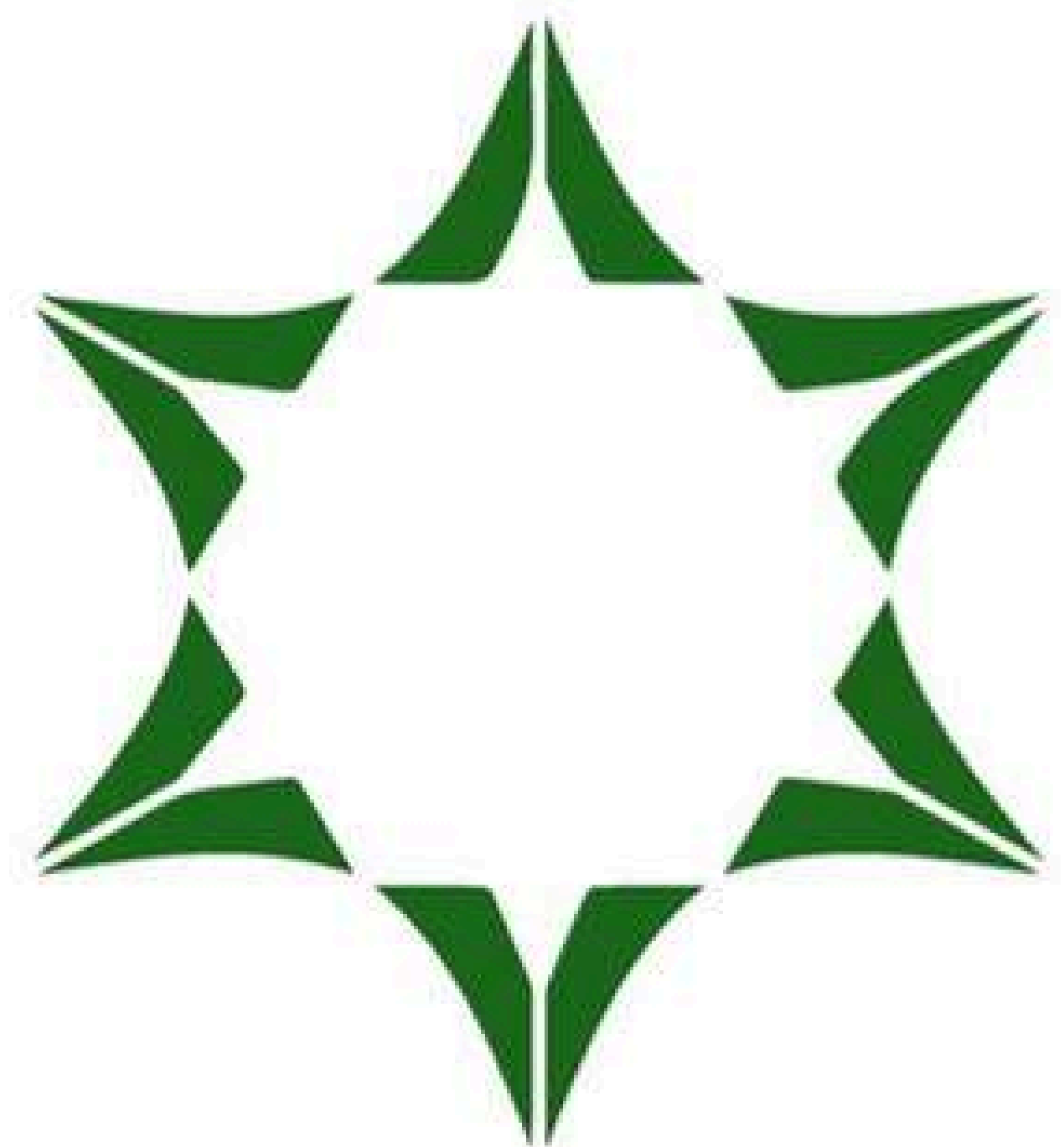
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MINCE PIES, ANYONE ?



By
Niloo Walpola
Deli Box
11/1b, Barnes Avenue,
Mount Lavinia
0775041670





A quick, easy, and festive treat to bring Christmas cheer to your goodies table! ✨

Ingredients

Pastry

(12 cases + 12 stars)

150g flour
75g Astra margarine
20g icing sugar
1/4 tsp mixed spice

Filling

600g Christmas cake (80% baked –
when baking your Christmas cake,
remove a portion just before it's fully
done)

Brandy Butter 50g butter
50g icing sugar
5 tbsp brandy

Method

Combine flour, icing sugar, mixed spice, and Astra.
Rub with fingertips until it forms a crumbly texture.

Add a little water at a time—just enough to bring the
dough together.

Lightly dust your board, roll out the pastry (not too
thin), cut with a 3" cutter, and line a cupcake tray. Cut
stars with the remaining pastry.

Blind bake the pastry cases with cupcake liners and
rice to keep the shape. Place the stars on the tray too.
Bake for 15 minutes.

Remove the liners, rice, and stars. Fill the pastry cups
evenly with the Christmas cake and bake for another 10
minutes.

Cool, top each pie with a pastry star, and dust lightly
with icing sugar.

For extra festive cheer, serve warm with a dollop of
brandy butter! 🌲 ✨



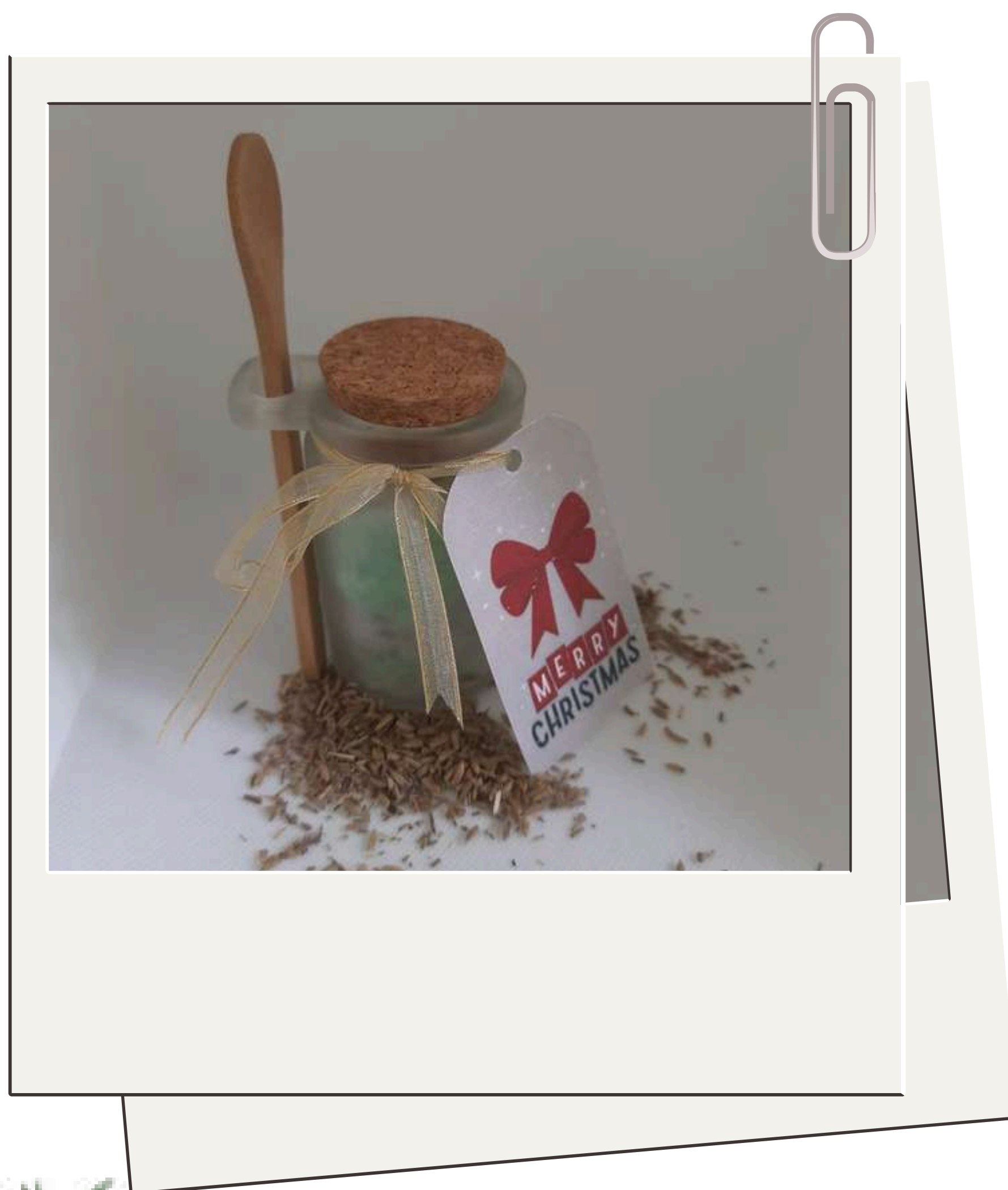


Feels a lot like Christmas - Bath Salts Recipe



By
Samantha Helm

Ceylon Soap Co -
www.ceylonsoapcompany.lk
0777908981





Yield : 250g of final product

Ingredients

- Epsom salt – 200g
- Plain Rock Salt – 50g
- Lavender Buds – 2g
- Green Food Colouring – 1 tiny drop (a little goes a long way)
- Eucalyptus Essential Oil – 2g – 5 drops
- Peppermint/Spearmint Essential Oil – 2g – 5 drops
- Pine Needle Essential Oil – 1g – 3 drops

For storage -

Glass jars or bottles (must be airtight)



Method

Step 1

Weigh out your salts, and mix well. Add all your essential oils and mix again.

Step 2

Split the salt into 2 parts, add Lavender buds to one lot and a tiny drop of green food colouring to the other half.

Step 3

Take the jar or container you are using to store the salts and layer one plain (with buds) layer and then on top a green layer and alternate the layers until jar is almost full.

Step 4

Add a wooden spoon (optional), one can use a wooden or stainless steel spoon to scoop out the salts. Try not to use wet fingers, as salts get moist and spoil.

Step 5

Add a Christmas sticker or ribbon and a tag if gifting the item.

The whole process will take less than 10 minutes and is safe enough for kids to join in with adult supervision.

It's a fun project and these salts can just as easily be used as a foot soak for those that have no time for long baths.

You can purchase any ingredients that you do not have at home from www.cavemanredux.com,
(I am in no way connected to this store, however I do get ingredients there myself for R & D projects and they have a good selection and the quality is good for the price.)





Did Someone say... “Christmas Candle Arrangement?”

By
Fathima Rizla
Junaid
Stems.inc.cmb
0777889289



Materials needed

1. Vases/tealight holder
- 2 .Candles- taper/pillar/votive
- 3 .Wet (green)or dry foam
- 4 .Scissors
- 5 .Toothpicks
- 6 .Rubber bands
7. Decorative christmas decor - faux or fresh
(Pine, eucalyptus, fern, baubles, berries, pinecone, silver/gold trimmings)



Method

Step 1

Lets start prepping-
Prep the candles- use the rubber bands to secure the
toothpicks as shown



Step 2

Place the foam as seen. I've used the wet foam-dry
(without wetting it)



Step 3

The decorating begins 🌲



1. Better to begin with the foliage, that too easier if
you start with the four sides & slowly build it in.
2. Start adding the berries, baubles etc. Keep turning
the arrangement ever so often whilst adding the sun-
dries to make sure its a balanced arrangement.

Aaaaannndddd DONE !

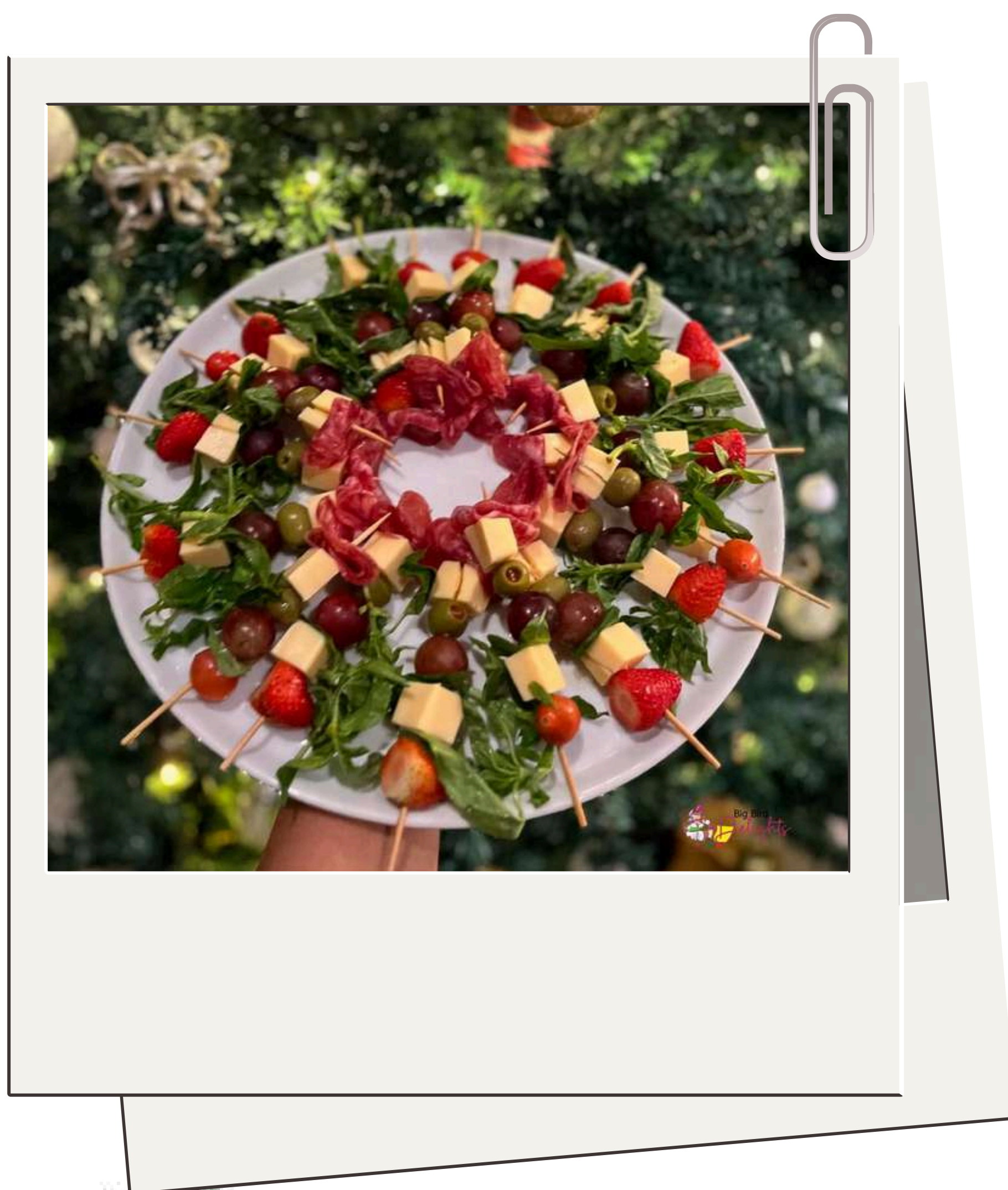




CHARCUTE- WREATH!

By
Jovanka Jayaweera

Big Bird Delights
0772991162





Here's an easy + cute holiday recipe that's quick and table-ready!

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Serving size: 10-12

Ingredients

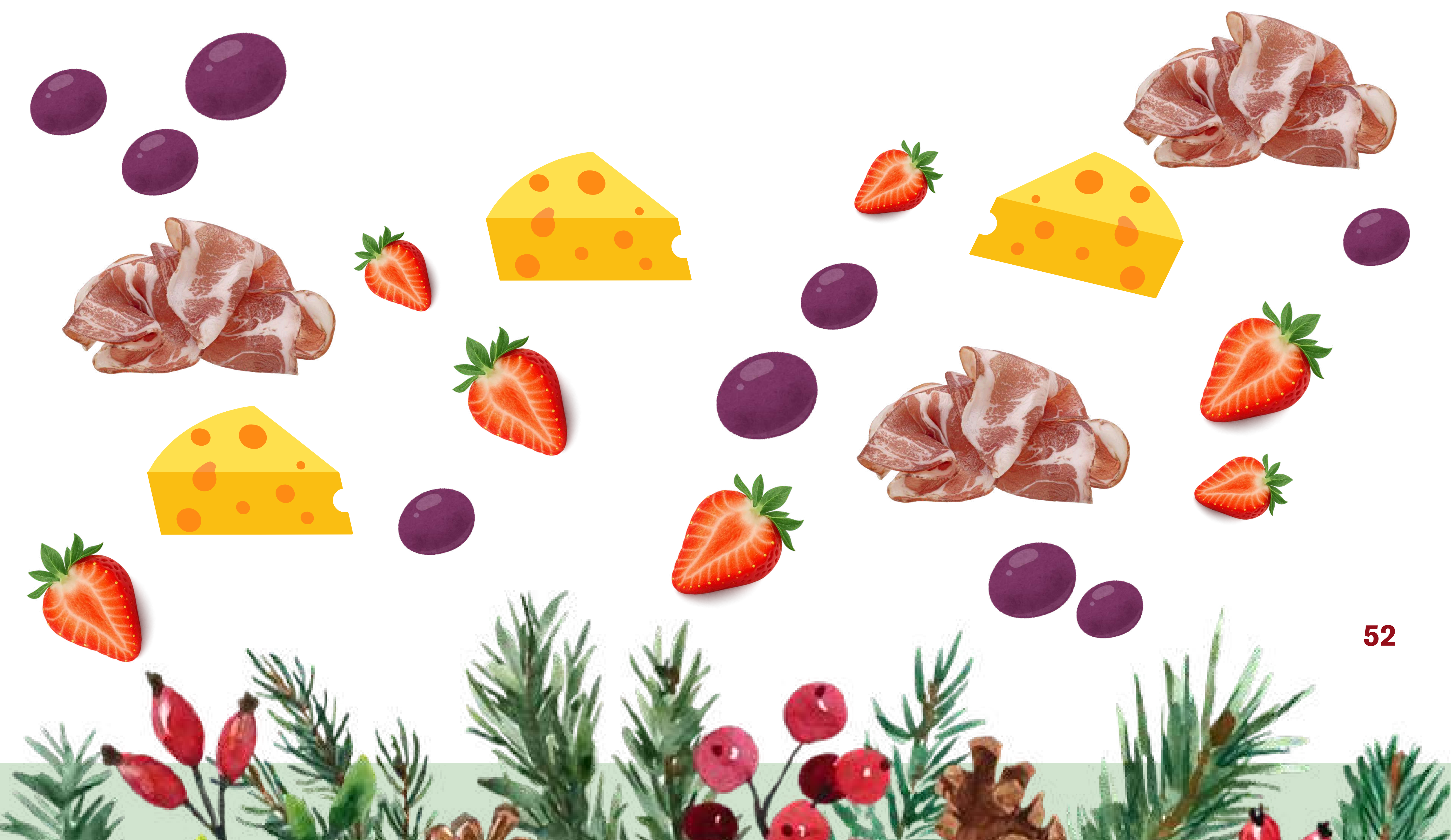
12 strawberries
12 cherry tomatoes
24 cubes of cheese of
your choice
(12 cases + 12 stars)
12 grapes
12 olives
12 slices of salami
Fresh basil leaves
Cocktail sticks

Method

Skewer each ingredient
onto the stick, starting
with the strawberries
and finishing with the
salami.

Use a round platter and
arrange the basil leaves
all the way around.

Place the finished
charcuterie sticks and
serve!



A MESSAGE
FROM...



Skylie Curves began with two mothers who set out to give curvy women the stylish, well-fitting fashion they deserved but could never find. What started as a small collection that quickly sold out has since grown into a confident, body-positive brand loved by women across Sri Lanka. Today, Skylie Curves continues to celebrate real bodies through modern designs, comfortable fits, and a heartfelt promise to always "Highlight Your Curves."

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