



Mr. Thilak Selviah, Mrs. Selviah  
Mr. Trevin Gomaz, Mrs. Gomaz, Mrs. Fernando, Mr. Sarath Fernando

Mr. Thusith Samaraweera, Mr. Harsha Jayasinghe, Mr. Roshan Perera, H:E: Ms. Sophia McIntyre, Mr. Kirithi Wickramasinghe, Dr. Uditha Liyanage, Ms. Renuka Jayamanne

# Black-Tie Dinner 2009

Mr. Eraj Abeywardene, Mr. Harsha Jayasinghe, Mr. Kirithi Wickramasinghe, Mrs. Hema Jayasinghe, Dr. Jayasinghe, Mrs. Geethani Wickramasinghe, Mrs. Janani Jayasinghe

Mrs. Silva, Mr. Harsha Jayasinghe, Mr. Mohan De Silva, Mr. Kirithi Wickramasinghe

Mr. Neory Marso & friends

Mr. Sudath Jayasundara, Mrs. Jayasundara, Mr. Mohan Perera



Mr. Senaka Samarasinghe, Mrs. Samarasinghe

Mr. Paddy Withana, Mrs. Withana

Mr. Kirithi Wickramasinghe, Mrs. Perera, Mrs. Janani Jayasinghe, Ms. Isha Wickramasinghe

H:E: Ms. Sophia McIntyre, Mr. Harsha Jayasinghe, Mr. Kirithi Wickramasinghe, Ms. Renuka Jayamanne, Mrs. Geethani Wickramasinghe.

Ms. Isha Wickramasinghe, Mrs. Janani Jayasinghe, Mr. Harsha Jayasinghe, Mr. Dammika Jayawardene, Mr. Anil Koswatte, Mr. Hudson Samarasinghe, Mr. Mohan Perera.

# Mallika De Mel

**M**allika, wife of Ronnie de Mel, was a very good, close friend of mine. I attended her wedding at Galle Face Hotel on January 12, 1952. Actually, Ronnie was a good friend of mine when I was still a school-girl - he was a family friend, too, that's how I attended their wedding with my parents. What a picture-book bride she made and what a spectacular wedding it was! The hall was packed. I still vividly remember this, although it was



by Yvonne F. Keerthisingha

58 years ago. However, our friendship continued and we've attended each others parties all the time and I have even entertained their guests by "tickling the ivories" for sing-alongs at their home. Mallika's death came to me as a great shock when I got a call from a cousin of mine as late as 10.30 p.m. on the night of Oct. 10. I went to pay my last respects to Mallika and Ronnie told me she had a slight stroke from which she never recovered. He mournfully



Mallika de Mel

said, "it was a nice way to go." I guess so too, but it was sad. Mallika was a truly great person - and she used her own vast fortune to build hundreds of houses for the homeless, to provide scholarships to a large number of fatherless children at school and university level. She did find employment for thousands and did everything possible to uplift and ameliorate the condition of the poor in the South. By popular request, she went on the National list to Parliament. She was the daughter of Sir Leo Fernando MP and one of Sri Lankas' richest men in the last century. She was a very religious worker, helping all temples and places of religious worship in her area. I am consoled that dear Mallika did not suffer at all. Ronnie and the rest of the family members should take consolation that their dear one is resting in peace. Goodbye, dearest Mallika. You will always be remembered by me as a Very Good Friend.



Ronnie de Mel in Yvonne's home



At home Ronnie's wife Mallika 29th Sept. 1995.



SIN CITY IS IN Fergie brings the drama to the red carpet at the after party for the Black Eyed Peas' Las Vegas concert at The Bank nightclub inside the Bellagio hotel on Friday.

HELLO, PARIS Paris Hilton steps out in Culver City, Calif., Thursday night - with a larger-than-life bejeweled bag in tow! - to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Hello Kitty.



MUSIC MAN Country superstar Tim McGraw hits all the right notes during a soulful performance for the Today show in New York's Rockefeller Center on Friday. The singer performed two new songs off his latest album, Southern Voice.