



Our newest walking trail — Springhill Path — with “Gamini’s Bench”

## Halgolla Plantation Home

Accommodation of a different kind

– March 2016 –

Having just completed the shortest month of the year in a leap year, at that, we enter the month with the sinister association with the “Ides.” And, in the age of Google and other wonderful instant-wisdom internet applications, I will resist the temptation to delve into what the Ides of March are!

Instead, let me start with a bit of trivia.

We have added to our list of “no charge” beverages which include our home-grown, -roasted and -ground coffee, an array of fruit drinks, king coconut (when the monkeys & giant squirrels leave us any!), a cinnamon drink, preferably sweetened with bees’ honey. To state the redundant, it is grown and harvested within sight of our abode and processed on our own premises. Again, for those not already convinced of the huge health benefits of cinnamon, I’d refer them to the afore-mentioned Mr. Google.

We’ve just completed another walking trail — Springhill Path — which rises to a level significantly higher than our, now much-loved-by-visitors, Meditation Flat. That said, the fact that a nearly-78 year old can get to the top of it should be indicative of the difficulty of the climb up! The photos in this newsletter depict the trail including the huge boulder under which Gamini’s Bench will be. This is going to be a natural “bench” of granite not necessitating the movement of a flat surface of that material, simply the excavation of a limited amount of soil to make a piece of flat granite into a bench! Once the preparatory work on this is complete we’ll try to get a pic of it in to the next newsletter.

This newsletter is late (again!) because an important event is to occur on March 1: Arlene is to undergo major heart surgery in a Colombo area hospital and I trust the brevity of this month’s mailing to you will be forgiven in the circumstances. In fact Mallika and the rest of our HPH staff have risen admirably to the challenge of keeping our Homestay going in the absence of the primary architect of its reputation for warmth and hospitality, though they’ve sorely missed her presence as has, obviously, the writer.

To those who've visited HPH recently:

We depend on your feedback to make every guest's visit to HPH a memorable one. We appreciate the fact, also, that once you are "back in harness" after a stay at HPH, you are going to be very busy with your professional life. However, we would really appreciate your taking the time to send your comments to TripAdvisor at [www.tripadvisor.com/reviewit](http://www.tripadvisor.com/reviewit). Note that you need to be a member of Trip Advisor to submit a review but that process takes only a few minutes.

Warm wishes, Emil & Arlene

**For March we’ll continue our very popular  
“Sampler pack”  
of HPH-grown and -roasted coffee  
and  
the “Surprise Basket” of HPH “goodies,” both now  
famous trademarks of HPH hospitality**



Our newest walking trail, Springhill Path

Sri Lanka: rated as a top tourist destination by [The Lonely Planet](#); [Condé Nast Traveller](#); [The New York Times](#); [National Geographic](#); and [the \(London\) Times](#). And most recently by [Huffington Post UK](#). In addition, [Fox News](#) follows the lead of The Lonely Planet by recommending Sri Lanka as the #1 place to visit!



### Halgolla Plantation Home

- now ranked #8/241 B&Bs in Kandy on Trip Advisor
- Certificate of Excellence 2015 from Trip Advisor
  - rated as [Best Home Stay](#) in Sri Lanka 2013
- recommended by [Bradt Travel Guide for Sri Lanka](#) 5th edition, 2014

HPH is highly recommended on Trip Advisor.  
See what our previous [guests](#) have had to say!



TripAdvisor Mobile and Tablet Apps

You can now book directly with us from our website at: [www.halgollaplantationhome.com](http://www.halgollaplantationhome.com). Look for the booking widget:

Check In date:	Nights:	
<input type="text" value="01 Jul 2015"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>

Use the widget above\* to check for availability at HPH and to make your booking directly with us. Please note that there is a minimum stay of 2 nights for each booking.

If you don't see it, refresh your browser and make sure that your browser is set to "allow blocked content". Please note that there is a minimum stay of 2 nights for each booking. We are also on [Facebook](#). Bookings can be made on [Trip Advisor](#), [Airbnb](#), [Booking.com](#) and [Agoda](#) as well as by contacting us directly.

For information or to book your accommodation, check our website [www.halgollaplantationhome.com](http://www.halgollaplantationhome.com) or contact Emil van der Poorten: [emil@halgollaplantationhome.com](mailto:emil@halgollaplantationhome.com) or by phone: 94-77-347-0702 or 94-72-284-9770