

# SRI LANKA SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

ESTABLISHED 1978 INCORPORATED 1978



## News Letter

Volume 38 No 1 May

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### SINHALA & TAMIL NEW YEAR CONCERT 2014

Sri Lanka Society of Queensland celebrated the Sinhala and Tamil New Year Festival on the 24 April at Clairvaux Mackillop College Hall. The function was well attended by invited guests, members and friends of the society and parents of performers. This year our guests were:

Honorable Mr Glen Elems Minister for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs and Minister assisting the Premier representing the Premier of Queensland,

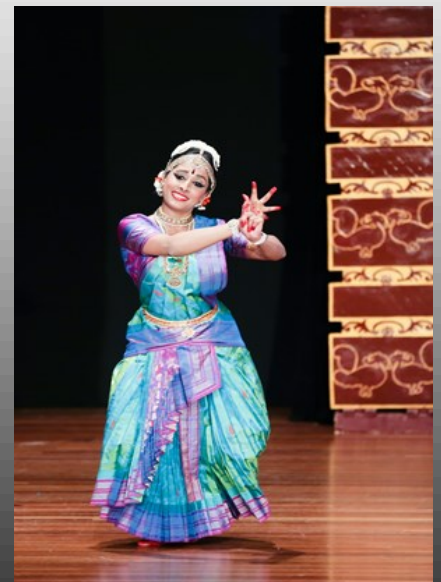
Councilor Ms Angela Owen-Taylor Councilor for Parkinson Deputy Chairman of Council representing the Lord Mayor of Brisbane and Mr Anton Swan Honorary Consul for Sri Lanka in Queensland.

In addition, we were honoured by the attendance of:

Mr Bill Deutrom, President Federation of Sri Lankan Organisations in Queensland and Deputy Chairman and Queensland Head of the CCC Foundation

Mr Davenal Flandekar, President of Silver Fawn and also President of Sri Lanka Sports Association and Dr Navaratnam of the President Tamil Association of Qld.

The guests were ceremonially welcomed by the President and the Cultural Secretary and led in procession with drummers and young girls and boys with Sesaths. They were then garlanded or presented with bouquets. The celebrations started with the traditional practices of lighting of the oil lamp to the beat of Magul Bera, boiling of milk, drumming of rabana and serving of rasakevili (kavun, kokis, bibikkan). Mrs Namalie Kottagodage was invited to boil the pot of milk, a tradition observed for thousands of years in Sri Lanka. The traditional oil lamp was lighted while the magul bera was playing. Mrs Hermin Goonetilleke welcomed the guests on behalf of Society and thanked parents of performers for their dedication and support for encouraging their children to participate. Mr Anton Swan read a New Year message from Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Australia. Hon Glen Elmes and Cr Angela Owen-Taylor made speeches too.





Once the Opening Ceremony was completed the Cultural Concert started. We are very fortunate to have many talented teachers in Brisbane. We had high quality performances throughout the evening. There were items from Kandyan Dancing, Folk Dancing, Modern and Fusion Dancing, Bharatha Dancing, Latin American Dancing and Baila Dance. The Drum Orchestra completed the Cultural Concert with a fitting finale performance.

Mrs Namal Wijeratne the Cultural Secretary in her vote of thanks mentioned the dedication of the teachers and thanked the teachers, performers and their parents. Details of the Opening Ceremony, Cultural Concert and names of teachers, performers and others who assisted are detailed below.

The comperes for the evening were Miss Dasuni Tennakoon and Mr Macky Markar. They did a wonderful job keeping the guests informed as well as entertained throughout the evening with stories how Sri Lanka cricket team won the ICC World T20 competition.

Guests were served with a buffet dinner supplied by La Kandy Restaurant. The dinner was a Sri Lankan rice and curry. All guests enjoyed the scrumptious dinner. A raffle was organized while the dinner was being served. This year's proceeds will be used for the freight of reconditioned beds and medical equipment from Australia to rural hospitals in Sri Lanka. This initiative is coordinated by Federation of Sri Lankan Organisations in Queensland (FSOQ). The DJ RnR started the night with dance music. Guests enjoyed Baila and Modern Dance music. All in all it was a fantastic night that everyone who attended enjoyed.

### **Namal Wijeratne (Cultural Secretary)**



## PROGRAM OF THE SHOW

### OPENING CEREMONY

**Participating:** Rushika Tennakoon, Migara Ellawala, Tara Prasad, Priyangika Hapuarachi, Sharini Kariwasam and Senuri Wickramasinghe.

**Conch Shell:** Sangeeta Cabral

**Magul Bera:** Kanchana Meregngnage

**Rabana:** Ashani Jayawardene, Anila Gunasena and Jayanthi Tennakoon

**Lighting of oil lamp:** Hon Glen Elmes MP, Mr Anton Swan, Councillor Angela Owen-Taylor, Mr Bill Deutrom

### CULTURAL CONCERT

#### 1. Pooja Dance

**Choreographed by:** Jayanthi Tennakoon

**Performed by:** Nishani Algama, Yashani Algama, Sachini Naranpanawa, Pumudi Widana Pathirana, Dewmi Basnayake, Semini Hettigoda, Vinuki Rowel, Chanuli Jayawardana

#### 2. Bharatha Natyam - Enodu Vilaiyada Vaa

**Ragam:** Mohanakalyani      **Thalam:** Adi

**Dance Composition:** Smt Chitra Yogi Srikhanta

**Performed by:** Asara Wijeratne

#### 3. Anna Balan Bera Hadin Udamvi

**Choreographed by:** Jayanthi Tennakoon

**Performed by:** Tiran Mahaarachchi, Punula Jayalath, Janiru Jayawardana, Shakya Fernando, Sathnidu Hettigoda, Nadula Tennakoon, Shemal Perera, Kausika Basnayake, Amindu Nanayakkara, Sanuth Weerasinghe, Oshith Bandaranayake, Rusith Bandaranayake, Thevan Ranaweera, Irusha Leelaratne, Akira Rowel, Manul Jayawardana

#### 4. Obage Ruwa Magemai

**Choreographed by:** Dinesh Epasinghe

**Performed by:** Naduni Wijesekera, Piumi Herath, Minoli Lakshman, Nipuni Gomes, Tashmi Lakshman, Mihika Samaratunga, Natalie Liyanage, Shariya Nananyakara, Jayali Gamage

#### 5. Latin American Dance

**Choreographed by:** RnR Dance Studio

**Performed by:** Ruwan Fernando, Rasika Fernando

**Song:** Kimada Naawe

**Music:** Pulith Widana Pathirana, Deepal Methiwala, Sampath Weerappuli

**Vocal:** Thisara Rajeeva Gomes, Udeshi Indrachapa Udawela



**CULTURAL CONCERT CTD****6. Pem Rasa Wahena (original by Victor Ratnayake and Indrani Perera)****Presented by:** Ashani Jayawardane**Vocal:** Jayamini Methiwala, Thisara Rajeewa Gomes**Music:** Pulith Widana Pathirana, Pumudi Widana Pathirana, Deepal Methiwala, Sampath Weerappuli**7. Modern Dance****Choreographed by:** Amara Ratnayake**Performed by:** Samadhi Muhandiram, Anuki De Silva, Anu Premasuriya, Hiruni Hettige, Anushka Wickramasuriya, Madusha Karunanayaka**8. Bollywood Dance****Choreographed by:** Nisha Bhaga of Nadananjali School of Dance**Performed by:** Nipuni Gomes, Sindhu Jayaram, Hansa Sharma**9. Gajaga Wannama****Choreographed by:** Namalie Kottagodage**Performed by:** Nishadi Amarasinghe, Saduni Kossina, Pamudi Geekiyanage, Chathuri Rajasekera, Arvindi Gunawardena, Mevuni Sooriyaarachchi**10. Hip Hop and Free Style Fusion****Choreographed by:** Ruwan & Rasika Fernando - RnR Dance Studio**Performed by:** Dinelli Gurullawela, Nipuni Gomes, Nethini Gomes, Ruvini De Silva, Kasuni De Silva, Nathale Gamage, Nadine Gamage, Talia Devendra, Sujin Gomes, Anuki De Silva, Kusum Basnayake, Maleesha Jayasekara, Charmi Jayasekara, Rasika Fernando, Nikki Fernando, Arunoda Premasuriya, Patalika Premasuriya, Nichola Hettige**11. Baila Dance****Choreographed by:** Asara Wijeratne**Performed by:** Samadhi Muhandiram, Asara Wijeratne, Vinura Wijeratne, Jayan De Silva, Diluka De Silva, Ravini Gunawardana, Nethmi Ranaweera, Chathra Pasdunkorale, Minuri Mihindukulasuriya**12. Drumming Orchestra****Choreographed by:** Namalie Kottegodage**Performed by:** Nishadi Amarasinghe, Pamudi Geekiyanage, Kusalvin Geekiyanage, Ruchith Meregnage, Chanuka Kariyawasam, Aravindi Gunawardena**Australian National Anthem:** Dominica Gilbert**Sri Lankan National Anthem:** Sithy Jayasekera**Stage Decorations:** Sumana Hettiarachchi**Graphic Design:** Sarath Hapugoda      **Floral Decorations:** Dr Palitha Wickramasinghe







## CONGRADULATIONS SRI LANKA T20



## Other Cricket News

Following excellent performance by Sri Lanka cricket team in Asia Cup to win the championship they keep dominating the cricketing world.

Became world T20 world champions by beating India in the finals comprehensively.

Then they travelled to England and won the T20 game.

With lots of confidence and form they continued the winning form and won 50 over series 3-2. Then came the mostly awaited two test match series and successfully managed to draw the game 1 in Lords which England continuously dominated and were on winning mode until last ball on the last day taking 9 Sri Lankan wickets. Last batsman Nuwan Pradeep faced barrages of fast bouncers and yorkers from pace-man Stuart Broad successfully to be not out in the last over to draw the game in a nail biting finish.

## TRIP TO MARIAN VALLEY - CANUNGRA IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF MADHU

The shrine of our lady of good health at Madhu, Sri Lanka, is better known as our Lady of Madhu. The shrine has been in existence in Sri Lanka since 1670. The site is considered as the holiest catholic shrine in Sri Lanka. It has been a symbol of unity not only amongst the Sinhalese and Tamils but also between peoples of the different religions. Attendance for the august 15th festivals, has touched close to one million people, prior to the outbreak of civil war. Every spiritual effort was made by Catholics in Sri Lanka and Australia in their devotion to our lady, Mary the mother of Jesus, to pray for peace and an end to the civil war. The Sri Lankan Catholic Community in Australia united to build a chapel to honour Our Lady of Madhu at the shrine of our lady, help of Christians, at Marian Valley, Canungra. There are many international chapels at this site, built by many ethnic communities around Brisbane, that represents their particular devotion. Yearly celebrations are often observed by these communities, where fellowship and community events take place. One of the most beautiful and inspiring aspects of Marian Valley are the outdoor life-size figures depicting the Stations of the Cross that move you to humility, devotion and prayer. Marian Valley is situated in the beautiful surroundings of Witheren, South of Brisbane in the Gold Coast hinterland. It's a place for the whole family, where spiritual services are available daily. The general tranquil atmosphere together With picnic grounds makes it an appealing location.



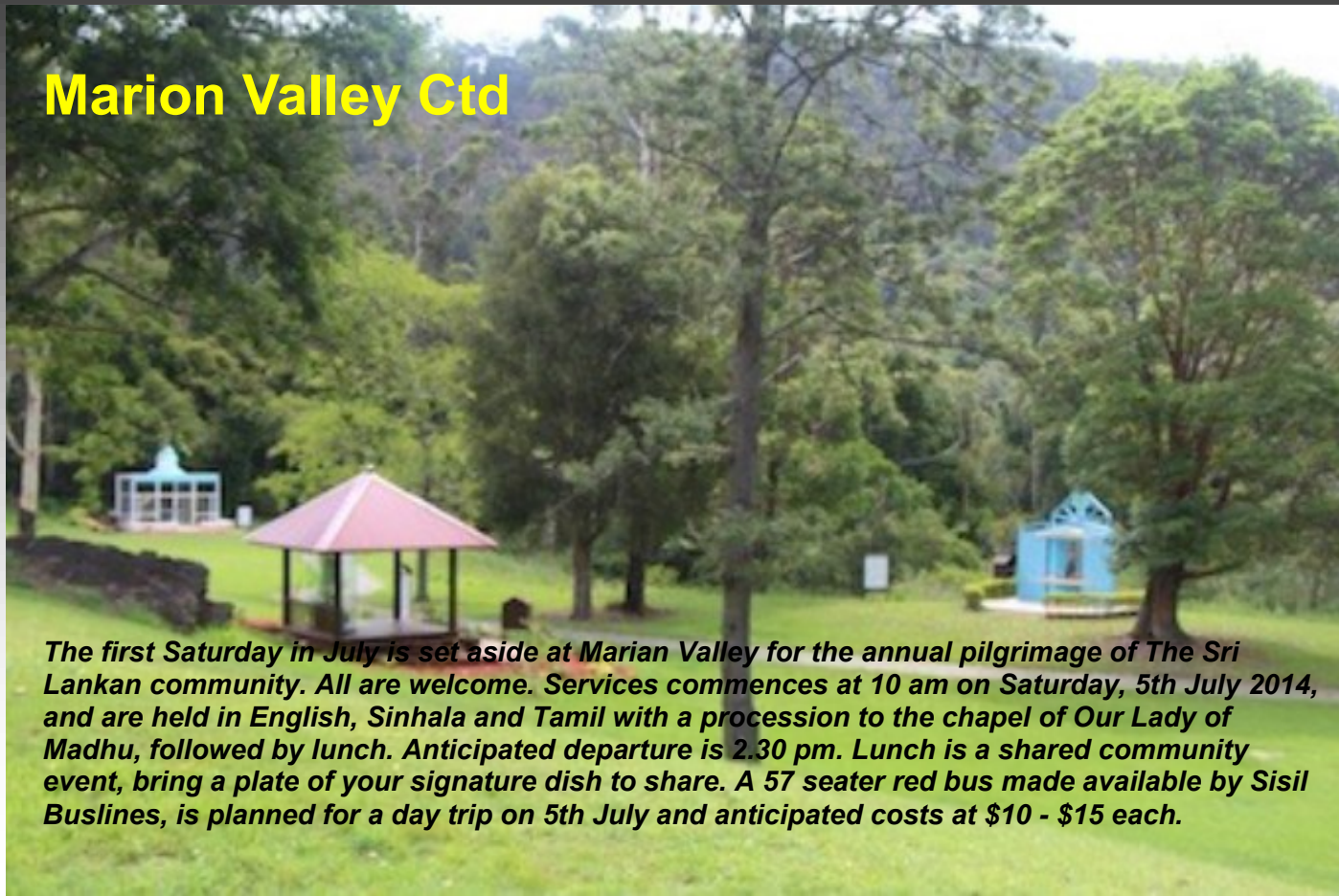
**Address:** Beechmont Road, 2501,  
Witheren Qld 4275 (Canungra).

**Phone :** (07) 5533 3617.

**Website:** [www.marianvalley.org](http://www.marianvalley.org)



## Marion Valley Ctd



*The first Saturday in July is set aside at Marian Valley for the annual pilgrimage of The Sri Lankan community. All are welcome. Services commences at 10 am on Saturday, 5th July 2014, and are held in English, Sinhala and Tamil with a procession to the chapel of Our Lady of Madhu, followed by lunch. Anticipated departure is 2.30 pm. Lunch is a shared community event, bring a plate of your signature dish to share. A 57 seater red bus made available by Sisil Buslines, is planned for a day trip on 5th July and anticipated costs at \$10 - \$15 each.*

## Community News

The annual Rain – Retreat Religious Ceremony ( Was Aradhana-wa) is scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and will take place at the monastery premises at 114 Con-cidine Street, Ellen Grove. The ceremony will commence at 6.00 pm with a Buddha Pooja followed by a Dhamma Sermon. All are cordially invited to join this meritorious function. For further information

## MATALE SCIENCE COLLEGE (SRI LANKA) QUEENSLAND ALUMNI



A casual event is currently being planned by Matala Science College alumni and their families. If you are a Matala Science College old boy or girl and live in or near Brisbane, please send your contact details to [ScienceCollgeQueensland@gmail.com](mailto:ScienceCollgeQueensland@gmail.com) For further information, please contact:

Sanath (0468 630 436), Piya (0438 129 382) or Upul (0424 514 572)



## Ampara General Hospital wins 'best hospital in the world' award (THURSDAY, 03 APRIL 2014 - 13:38 | DOWNLOAD HIRUNews)

**Ampara General Hospital received the international award for Best Hospital in the World for 2014 by the Institute for Health and Productivity Management, US.**

**Ministry of Health stated that, the treatment services and top quality management of Ampara Hospital has been internationally recognized.**

**Ampara General Hospital has won several international accolades before.**

**The Ministry further stated that, Ampara General Hospital Director Dr. Lanka Jayasinghe represented Sri Lanka at the award ceremony held recently in Arizona State.**



# Spring is in the air!



### For tickets contact:

Hermin	3396 9061	Members	\$35.00
Namal	3279 6517	Guests	\$40.00
Gothami	3341 0102	Students	\$30.00
Jayampathi	3201 4886	Children 6 – 12 yrs	\$15.00

## SRI LANKA

### Society of Queensland Inc

Members & friends get together

Entertainment by

-Malith Perera

Sirasa Super Star Season 1

-Thisara & Indrachapa

-Shiran & the Silver Rings

**When: Saturday 13th September 2014**

**7:00pm – 12.00 midnight**

**Where: Mansfield Tavern Conference & Function Centre, 181 Wecker Road, Mansfield, QLD 4122. (Entry to car park thru Luprena Street). UBD Ref : Map 181 K19**

**Dress: Smart Casual**

-Baila Competition!

-Delicious Sri Lankan cuisine by Thilani

- No BYO. Bar facilities available



## Sri Lanka Society of Queensland Inc

## Membership Application Form

## Objectives of the Society

1. To promote harmonious co-operation and friendship amongst immigrants from Sri Lanka and Australians irrespective of racial, religious, political and other differences.
2. To preserve, promote and project the culture of Sri Lanka.
3. To render assistance to students and immigrants from Sri Lanka.
4. To encourage and foster recreational, sporting and social activities.
5. To publish and circulate news of Sri Lanka and local events.
6. To render assistance to the people of Sri Lanka in times of need, at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Name (with preferred title) .....

Postal Address: .....

Telephone: .....Email.....

Category (please tick) Family (\$20) Single (\$10) Concession Family (\$10) Concession single (\$5)

I apply for / wish to renew (delete as appropriate) membership of Sri Lanka Society of Queensland Inc under the category marked above. I agree with the objectives and the rules of the society.

The relevant fee is enclosed, herewith.

.....

Signature

Date

Payments can be made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Account Name: Sri Lanka Society of Queensland Inc BSB : 06 4000 Acc: Number: 10725278

Bank : Commonwealth Bank, Queen Street, Brisbane.

Please include your name in reference field and email completed membership form.

## Sri Lanka Society of Queensland

PO Box 15099, CITY EAST, BRISBANE , QLD 4002 Email: [secretary@srilankansqld.org](mailto:secretary@srilankansqld.org)

## 2014 Committee Members

**President** Hermin Goonetilleke**Auditors** David Adams **Solicitor:** Matthew Jones**Vice President** Ronnie Anandappa**Committee Members** Viraj Ubeysiri Chamila Ellawala**Secretary** Gothami Meepe

Ruwan Fernando Thilani Gomes

**Treasurer** Jayamini Soysa**Web Administrators** Mithila Fox & Christopher Brown-Watts**Cultural Secretary** Namal Wijeratne**Publication Secretary** Jayampathy Tennakoon