



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2013-2014**

## SriMithuru Committee – 2013-2014

<b>President</b>	Jayantha Warnakula
<b>Vice President</b>	Bandara Nawarathna
<b>Secretary</b>	Bimsara Gunasekara
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Malin Rajapaksha
<b>Treasurer</b>	Udayasiri Senarath
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Jayantha Ekanayaka
<b>Event Secretary</b>	Dammika Senevirathna
<b>Sports Secretary</b>	Ajith Weerakoon
<b>Cultural Secretary</b>	Sevwandi Meegahakotuwa
<b>Grants Coordinator</b>	Chandana Herath
<b>Scholarship Coordinator</b>	Saman Seneweera
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Sujith Fernando
<b>Legal Advisor</b>	Jayantha Wijethilaka
<b>Auditor</b>	Danushka Jayalath
<b>Committee members</b>	Udugala Mayura Sarath Wijesinghe Kamal Dissanayaka Indrajith Priyadarshana Sanjeewa Rajapaksha Runivi Anupama Kaundi Hapuarachchi Thusitha Kotagama Chamila Sumudu Ranathunga Ramona Thamel Ananda Nanayakkara Suraj Perera Gajaba Silva Ravindra Sellahe

## Introduction

**SriMithuru** is a non for profit Incorporated Association of friends and their families living in Melbourne, who thrives at keeping friends together, improve awareness of our cultural background among the younger generation and contributing to the socioeconomic development of Sri Lanka. It was originated in year 2000 by a group of friends in Melbourne intending to keep a healthy relationship among the circle of family friends. SriMithuru has now grown to be an organisation connecting a large number of Sri Lankans living in Victoria. The Uniqueness of SriMithuru is its openness for any Sri Lankan, irrespective of their school, technical college or university studied in Sri Lanka and ability to contribute to its objectives.

**SriMithuru** provides an opportunity for kids to actively engage in regular events to educate and appreciate Sri Lankan traditional cultural values. These events allow young kids to interact with their friends while parents also enjoy some quality time together. Among the major activities that are organised annually by SriMithuru Sinhala and Tamil New Year festival, Cricket and Netball Tournament, Cultural and Entertainment Night, and Family Fun Day are noteworthy.

**SriMithuru Scholarship** program was initiated in 2011 as a welfare program for helping selected under privileged but talented children in Sri Lanka in continuing their school education. This program was first implemented with the financial contributions of a few families associated with SriMithuru. Today, SriMithuru awards about 25 scholarships to needy students.

## SriMithuru Family Day

SriMithuru Family day was held on the Saturday, 5th of October 2013 in Jells Park, Wheelers Hill. It was a great day for everyone who joined the SriMithuru Family Day. Weather was excellent and everyone enjoyed the day at the BBQ followed by Girls Netball game with a great participation of many younger members of the group.



## **SriMithuru Cricket Tournament**

We have successfully concluded the SriMithuru Cricket Tournament on 10th March 2014 at Mulgrave Reserve Grounds, Wheelers Hill. We had 12 teams competing to win the championship. After the preliminary round matches, four top teams of each groups; Cricket Sri Lanka, Kelani Super, Sri Lankan Fire and Kelani Fire went in to semi-finals. With stunning batting performances backed up with accurate bowling, Kelani Fire led by Ravi Hewawisse emerged as champions of SriMithuru Cricket 2014 by defeating Kelani Super in the finals. We would like to congratulate winning team and wish good luck for all the teams in forthcoming tournaments including next SriMithuru Cricket Tournament on March 9, 2015.



It was pleasing to see young teams, The Clan and Cricket Sri Lanka performing well in the tournament. We have no doubts that they will come with all guns blazing when we meet next. It was encouraging sight of over 300 attendees on the ground cheering their teams and enjoying the family environment.

Meanwhile, our special thanks should go to all the volunteers who turned up to help us by scoring, umpiring, organizing sausage sizzle, preparing the grounds and supporting us in numerous other ways.





## **SriMithuru New Year Games**

This event represents a major icon for Sri Lankans (Called Sinhala & Tamil New Year) who celebrate their traditional New Year at the same time with similar customs and traditions. The main theme to host this event by SriMithuru is to collect most of Sri Lankan families living in Melbourne to one place and get together with each other while celebrating traditional New Year games. The most important outcome of the event is to bond families, children and friends with our traditional culture and values.

New Year games celebration event of this year was held on 18th April 2014 at the Sussex Heights School Ground, Mount Waverley with the participation of 40-50 families. As usual most of the morning games including marathon, Aliyata Ehe Thebima, Kotta Pora and Kana Muttiya which was more popular to kids were concluded before noon.



Showing our cultural bond among us, all the families who came to event brought a plate of food to share among us and those plates decorated the traditional New Year table with oil lamp lighted by our most senior family members.



At evening session all the children under primary school age participated to 50m running event and Goni race. Meanwhile three legged race was popular among the secondary school children. Water filling competition was for the kids at kindergarten ages.



Dehi Gediya Hende gena yema was for two aged groups of secondary school girls and post school girls. Other popular games for couples were Kanata Kiri Keweema which was like face painting and indikattata nula demima. Final funniest game for couples was Egg throw and it showed the holding capacity among the couples in difficult situations though the most of eggs were not strength enough.



Final stage for event was tug of war for kids, ladies and gents who used their maximum strength and team work to win the event. All the winners were prized by SriMithuru and almost all the prizes were sponsored by our generous donors. In addition to the winners all the kids were given a small prize for their attendance to the event. Although it was a bad day in terms of weather we were able to successfully conclude all the scheduled events by 6.00pm with the help of volunteers and organizers.











## SriMithuru Cultural Night

SriMithuru Bak Maha Sedawa (Cultural and Entertainment Night) was held at Clayton Hall on Sunday 20th April 2014. The function started with traditional oil lamp lighting by the senior participants' and some, long-time members of the SriMithuru organisation.

Following this was a fancy dress parade. This event allows young children to wear a costume and come up on stage. The host, in this case Bimsara, then asked the children about the character that they have recreated, before choosing to even perform a skit.



This event provides laughter and joy to the children as well as their parents and spectators, and all the participants are rewarded with a small prize for their efforts.

Colourful cultural performances start at 7 pm. These feature dance and acting works, choreographed by the dancers and Sevbandi that portray somewhat a story or show our culture as Sri Lankans. The dancers could be anyone that wanted to get involved, age and experience didn't matter and there was so thin for everybody.

Dinner table was opened at 8 pm, which consisted of a great feast cooked by some of our very own members, and cultural performances were continued till 9:15 pm. Then the band Mystry entertained the participants of the entertainment night till mid night. It was a fun filled evening for all the participants and we received a lot of positive feedbacks. Thank you everyone for contribution in numerous ways to the success of the function.





## **SriMithuru Scholarship Programme**

Many families in Sri Lanka struggle to provide a good education for their children. Even though every child receives basic educational necessities from the Sri Lankan education system, many talented children fail to achieve their real potential because of the lack of financial support from their parents. Having realized this fact, SriMithuru initiated a scholarship scheme in 2012 as a welfare program for helping under privileged but talented children in Sri Lanka in continuing their school education. The whole purpose of this program is to support these children to achieve their educational and carrier goals during their early stages at school.



*Eranga Supun Lakshan  
Year 9, Bibile  
(Scholarship recipient - 2014)*

Under this scholarship scheme, a selected student receive a monthly allowance of Rs. 2,500 for their academic related expenses such as buying study materials or paying tuition fees. One scholarship will only run for one full year under normal conditions. It may be renewed with the collective decision of the SriMithuru scholarship committee depending on the progress of the scholar at the end of the year.

The funds required to award scholarships are donated by members of SriMithuru or their friends. It is only a one year minimum commitment of monthly AU\$20 from a sponsor. It initially goes to the SriMithuru Scholarship account in Australia and then transfer to common fund that we have set up in Sampath Bank in Sri Lankan to provide scholarships. Sponsors can contribute a monthly AU\$20 to the SriMithuru account or pay AU\$240 as a lump sum at the start of the year.



*Sandhya Namal Kumari  
Year 7, Monaragala  
(Scholarship recipient - 2014)*

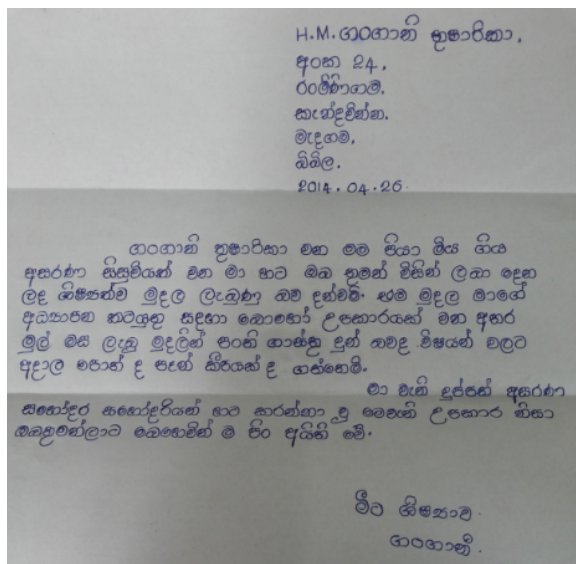
Sponsors have the opportunity to nominate candidates from their own home town or school to the pool of scholarship candidates. Selection of students for awarding scholarships is decided by the scholarship committee based on the selection criteria.

The program was first implemented with the financial contributions of a few families associated with SriMithuru and provided scholarships for 6 students in 2012. This scholarship program was more popular among the Sri Lankan community within a short period of time and now lots of people have expressed their interest to donate funds for the program. In the year 2013-14, we have awarded 22 scholarships for students in various districts in Sri Lanka with the help of our generous donors.

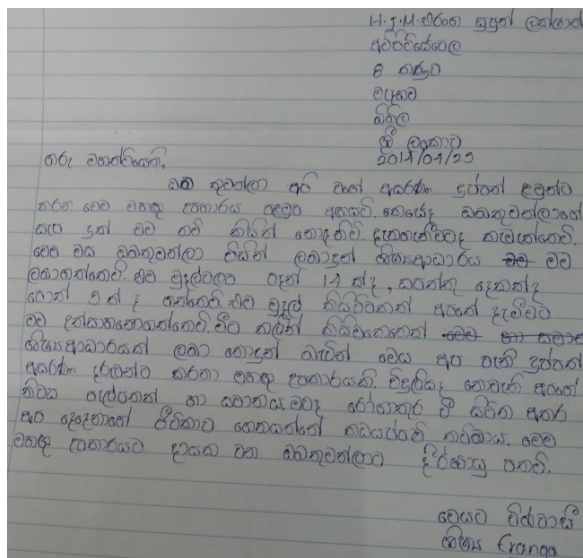


The above chart shows the number of scholarships provided by year from 2012 to 2014. The total amount paid to the students as scholarships in 2012, 2013, and 2014 (up to 30<sup>th</sup> October) are Rs. 180,000.00, Rs. 450,000.00, Rs. 440,000.00 respectively. No of sponsors were 13, 18, and 26 in 2012, 2013, and 2014 respectively.

Letters sent by scholarship recipients.



A letter of Gangani Thusarika, Bibile



A letter of Eranga Supun Lakshan, Bibile



## SriMithuru Financial Report 2013-2014

### 01. Sri Mithuru Events

Income			Expenses		
Date	Description	Amount (\$)	Date	Description	Amount (\$)
01-Jul-13	B/F	569.43			
10-Mar-14	Cricket Tournament	1,545.42	10-Mar-14	Cricket Tournament	1,081.33
18-Apr-14	New Year Games 2014	1,866.00	18-Apr-14	New Year Games 2014	1,302.55
20-Apr-14	Cultural Night 2014	4,221.30	20-Apr-14	Cultural Night 2014	3,086.43
	Interest earned	5.12			
	Total Income	8,207.27		Total Expenses	5,470.31
			Loss / Profit Amount		
			2,736.96		

### 02. Scholarship Program

Income			Expenses		
Date	Description	Amount (\$)	Date	Description	Amount (\$)
01-Jul-13	B/F	9,458.88			
2013-14	Receiving from donors	4,360.00	02-Jul-13	Deposit to Sch. Account	2,000.00
18-Oct-13	Fernando Travel	60.00	06-Sep-13	Deposit to Sch. Account	4,000.00
	Interest earned	86.69	13-May-14	Deposit to Sch. Account	3,000.00
	Total Income	13,965.57		Total Expenses	9,000.00
			Loss / Profit Amount		
			4,965.57		

### 03. Profit by event (2012 – 2014)

