



NEWSLETTER

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Incorporated 1984

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March 2025

Message from the President

I am truly humbled by the opportunity to continue serving as the President of the Sri Lanka Society of Queensland (SLSQ) for 2025. It is an honour to represent all Sri Lankans as one united community, regardless of religion, language, or ethnic background.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the past presidents and committee members whose unwavering support and encouragement have been instrumental in my acceptance of this role.

I fully understand the challenges that come with this responsibility, but I am optimistic that, with the collective efforts of the committee and the active participation of our members, we will guide SLSQ towards realising its full potential in the years to come.

We are fortunate to have many passionate and dedicated members and volunteers who are deeply committed to our cause, especially in a dynamic and multicultural environment. Our focus remains on serving all members—whether they are newcomers or longstanding members—and creating meaningful opportunities that contribute to the growth and development of our community.

We look forward to engaging more closely with you as we plan and organise future events, and we are excited for what lies ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,
Chamitha Weerasinghe
President, Sri Lanka Society of Queensland

Editor's Message

After a break of three years, I have rejoined the SLSQ Management Committee and hope to connect with you through the quarterly newsletters. It is a pleasure to work with old friends again and also with the younger members who bring new ideas and enable us to move forward.

We hope you will engage with the new committee and bring your ideas and suggestions to us as well. We also hope to see you at our events and help us with new projects. Your participation will be our strength.

Gothami Meepe
Publications Secretary, Sri Lanka Society of Queensland

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on the 23rd of March at the Toowong Community Meeting Place. The Management Committee report and the audited financial statement were tabled and accepted. All the management committee positions were

declared vacant and Mr. Anton Swan was invited to chair the meeting. The AGM was well attended and ended with an evening tea organised by the 2024 committee which created a wonderful opportunity for socialising among the members.

Management Committee for 2025

President	Chamitha Weerasinghe
Secretary	Chamila Ellawela
Asst Secretary:	Sandhya Abeysekera
Treasurer	Malkanthi Bowatta
Social Secretary	Thilini Pathiranage
Publication Secretary:	Gothami Meepe
Cultural Secretary:	Ravindu Hapuarachchi
Committee Members	Prashanthi Selvarathnam Nuwan Karunathilaka Praba Harvie

<i>Honorary Auditor</i>	<i>David Adams</i>
<i>Honorary Solicitor</i>	<i>Mathew Jones</i>
<i>Honorary SLSQ Historian</i>	<i>Asoka Kuruppu</i>

Please remember to renew your membership for this year.



Donation of Spectacles to Seniors with Mahila Samithi

In 2020 SLSQ sent a box containing eyeglasses and sports t-shirts & caps to the Mahila Samithi in Sri Lanka. However, Covid came at the same time and these could not be distributed as gatherings were banned. These are now being distributed and the first batch was donated to Seniors around the Malabe area where the Mahila Samithi Headquarters are situated.

The glasses were donated by Warren Loos from the Lions Club of Mooroka and the sports clothing by Chamitha Weerasinghe. The Mahila Samithi organised an optometrist to examine each of the people who came and the volunteers matched the glasses which had been tagged by the Lions' optometrist. It was followed by morning tea with delicious Rasa Kavili for all participants.

The joy of the people who managed to find the correct pair of glasses was such an uplifting experience. A trishaw driver explained how much it will mean for him to be able to see clearly!

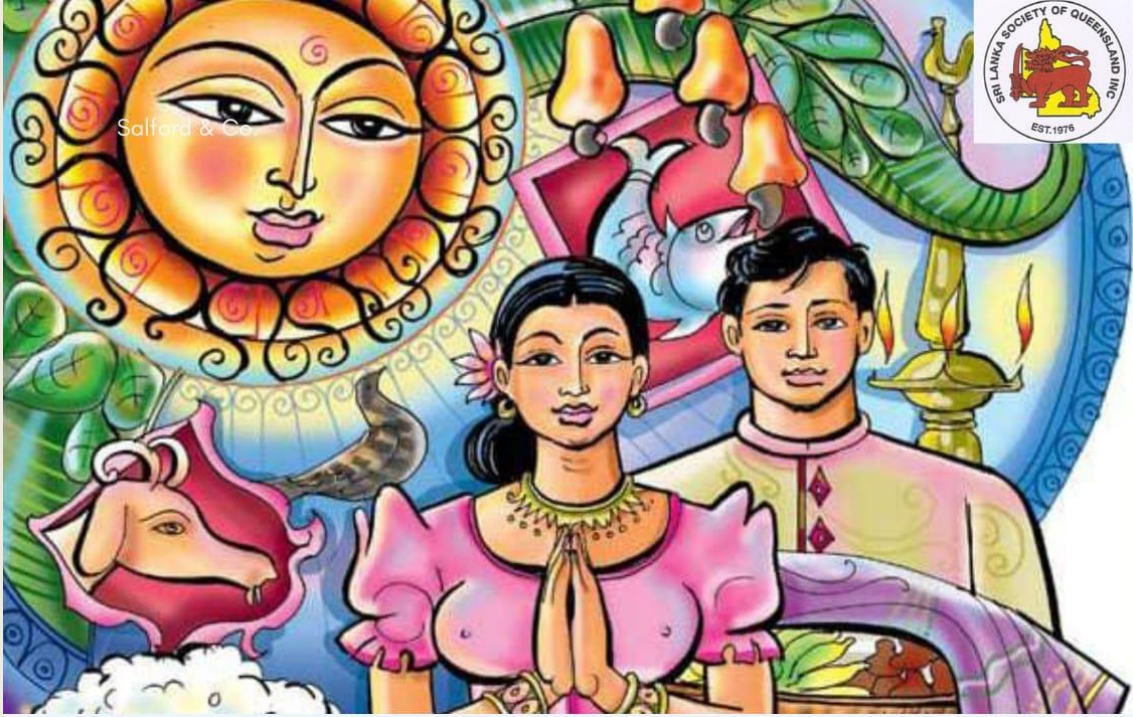
The recipients thanked everyone involved and hoped there would be more contributions from SLSQ as not everyone could be matched.

The president of the Mahila Samithi, Mrs. Thilaka Perera also conveyed their gratitude and pledged to keep taking these glasses out to more rural areas of the country in the hope that more people could be helped. I was privileged to be there to help with this worthy project.



New Year Celebration 2025

Join us to celebrate the Sri Lankan New Year! Please contact a committee member to reserve your tickets.



NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 2025

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Sri Lanka Society of Queensland

26th April

From 3.30pm to 8.30pm

📍 **Venue:** Belmont Services Bowls Club
20 Narracott St Carina

Join us for a vibrant Sinhala and Tamil New Year celebration with Kiribath, traditional sweets, Avrudu games, delicious dinner, and desserts. Don your traditional attire and celebrate in style!

Ticket Prices:

Member: \$45	Non Member: \$55
Concession: \$40	Children Under 12: \$25

Chamitha-0430 047 664 Gothami-0421 635 353 Sandhya-0422 932 366

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)

Name of Spouse (for family membership)

Postal Address:

.....

Telephone:

Email (s).....

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

Concession single (\$5) ☐

I apply for the 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

I need a printed copy of the newsletter ☐

(This option is for those members who have no access to email)

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