

# SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WAIKATO INC.

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2019 – 2020



# CONTENT

About Us

Our Supporters

President's Report

Governance

Our Events – Reflections from 2019/2020

Youth and Social Growth Initiatives

Recent Developments and Support Services

Financial Report

Engage in the Community!

Acknowledgements

Contact Us



Painting by Shashini Ranabahu

## ABOUT US

Sri Lanka Friendship Society (SLFS) Waikato is a Hamilton based charitable community organisation. Our beginning dates back to 1971 when the early migrants from Sri Lanka had started casual meetings at each other's homes. Since then, this close-knitted community had grown in to a vibrant society of around 500 members from about 200 families spread across the Waikato region. Our mission is to promote and uphold the cultural heritage of Sri Lanka, and doing so to interact with and contribute to wider ethnic communities and the New Zealand culture as a whole.

We aim to achieve this through our numerous cultural events, skill development programmes, social engagement events and platforms, and community support programmes. These are conducted as part of our annual events calendar, on-going weekly programmes – run in parallel with the school terms, specialised workshops or social activities. Moreover, we are a platform for our members to stay connected and engaged with the community – especially during the times of Covid-19 restrictions. More on these are covered later on in the report.

SLFS is a registered non-profit charitable organisation. Governance of the institute and its services are provided mainly with the help of our wonderful volunteers. Our donors and sponsors play a crucial role in funding and providing necessary infrastructure to maintain our services. Additionally, our members contribute through their memberships, fund-raising events and other chargeable services.

We, the Sri Lankan friends in Waikato continue to strive to serve our community – in turn, extends out to the wider society of New Zealand where we have now come to call home.

## OUR SUPPORTERS



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Āyubōvan! ආයුබෝවන්

I am pleased to provide a report on the activities carried out during the year 2019/2020 serving as the committee of the Sri Lanka Friendship Society (SLFS) Waikato. We had a relatively normal beginning to our term in September last year; however, the latter part of our term had to bear the disruptions due to Covid-19.

One of our main intentions this year has been to further develop and streamline the operational activities of SLFS. We have approached it with four key focus areas: 1. Social activities and Events, 2. On-going weekly Programmes and Workshops, 3. Methods of Communication and Connectivity, and 4. Administration and Financial functions.

**Social Events:** Our annual events calendar had started with a novel concept, Katha Karana Gee (කතා කරන ගී) the debut of Thaprobana, our own musical band. Yellow Pages Directories delivery fundraising event saw once again a number of members from the community helping us with their time and effort. The year of 2019 ended with the Christmas function and the 31<sup>st</sup> eve BBQ. Particularly the Christmas function had an overwhelming 250+ attendees. This shows that we are an ever-growing community in Hamilton.

This year started with the annual Cricket match with Rotorua, the Arts exhibition and the Independence Day celebrations. The art exhibition was a showcase for many creative talents within our community and received with much praise and admiration from the Waikato Society of Arts. Over 200 visitors (both Sri Lankan and non-Sri Lankan) visited during the two-day public exhibition. It was during the preparations for the Sports Day and the annual cultural show, Avurudu Asiriya we had to cancel our activities due to Covid-19. Whilst it is disappointing that we couldn't host this year's Avurudu Asiriya cultural show, I am hopeful next year will provide a suitable climate for resuming our much-loved event. We are glad that we were able to carry out Poson Bakthi Geetha (පොසොන් බැති ගී) in late June 2020.

**Weekly Programmes:** Our weekly programmes are intended to provide opportunities for skill development and social connection. In addition to our regular Chess club, English and IELTS classes, and social Badminton sessions, we've managed to kick start the Traditional Dancing classes and the formulation of the SLFS Gavel club. These programmes are conducted with the help of our trainers, volunteers and various public sponsors such as Trust Waikato, COGS, Lions Foundation, Lotteries Grant, Wel Energy Trust, Hamilton City Council and Creative Waikato. This year we have brought the dates of these programmes to run parallel with the school term as this greatly helps all persons involved including the participants to pre-plan their commitments. We have also been working to formalise the course delivery by establishing course outlines and learning outcomes prior to the start of each term. Similarly, work is currently being done to streamline the course fee structures and the payment schemes for the trainers. Specialised workshop on career development support was welcomed by many members. Similar workshops would be a good focus area in the future.

**Connectivity:** Bringing our community together is one of the missions of SLFS. Doing so, communication and connectivity platforms play a massive role. This year we had a focus group within the committee to look after the communication. As a result, the monthly "updates" email was launched to inform the members of the current and up-coming programmes. Furthermore, SLFS Facebook page and Youtube channel have been revived to provide a more casual and convenient platform for our members to interact. Live streaming of the past Avurudu Asiriya recordings during the COVID lockdown period saw many members tuning in during those Sunday afternoons.

Further development work is currently being undertaken to integrate the member database in to the SLFS website. Doing so, we expect the members to be able to manage their profiles, subscribe to specific email groups such as Chess club, Gavel club, Badminton, etc., as well as to tell us of their interest/skill areas – including that of the family members. This will allow us in the future to provide more opportunity for adults and children to showcase their talents within our community programmes. The next stage development of this is to provide a platform within SLFS digital mediums for business owners and private services providers to share their service options with the wider community.

**Operations:** With a mindset to make the operations of SLFS more convenient, majority of the working documents and resources have been moved online in to the SLFS G-Suite cloud. This allows committee members and programme leaders to access information and works simultaneously.

Future looks bright for our growing community. We bring forth a vibrant culture, multitude of skills and talents. I would like to extend a warm invitation to you all to share, develop and reconnect with each other – we are all in this together. Most importantly my sincere thanks go out to all the wonderful individuals who had helped us during our term as well as throughout in the years in our 25 years history. The same appreciation goes out to the external sponsors and well-wishers who have been continuing to support us throughout our journey.

Stay well, be safe.

Thank You ස්තූතියි



Achini Perera

## GOVERNANCE

Sri Lankan Friendship Society is governed by its Executive Committee consisting of 12 elected members and the “Past-President” from the previous committee. Society’s on-going programmes and events are coordinated by either Committee members or members of the community appointed by the Executive Committee.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019-2020



Achini Perera  
(President)



Prasanthi Amerasinghe  
(Vice-President)



Keshawa Senaratne  
(Secretary)



Shiranthi Perera  
(Treasurer)



Nihal Nugegoda  
(Past President)



Nagarajah  
Manoharan



Shirmila De Costa



Dinesh  
Gunarathne



Janaki  
Rankothge



Sanjaya  
Diyadawa



Keerthi Kumara



Kapila  
Alahakoon



Thusitha  
Abeyrathna  
(until Jun.2020)

## OUR EVENTS (REFLECTIONS FROM 2019/2020)

### KATHA KARANA GEE (09 Nov.2019)

This is the debut show of our very own Thaprobana musical band. Katha Karana Gee (කතා කරන ගී) is a concept brought forward by the band, meaning “songs that speak”. This show revolved around a conversation with a prominent Sri Lankan song writer, Mr. Priyananda Wijesundara who currently resides in Auckland. Many of our singers from the community took to the stage some of the memorable classics written by Priyananda while Thaprobana serenaded the evening with their rhythm.



### ANNUAL FUNDRAISING – THE YELLOW PAGES DISTRIBUTION (16-24 Nov. 2019)

Yellow Pages Directories delivery is a fundraising event conducted by SLFS annually. This is the biggest fundraising event in the society’s calendar. Over 5,000 yellow pages were distributed to the households spanning from Ngaruawahia to Te Kauwhata - *some taking quite the scenic routes* over Te Akau and Waingarō. About 35 individuals offered their selfless support, taking turns on different days, morning and/or afternoon.

All the thoughtful volunteers were rewarded with Sri Lankan “short-eats” and drinks on each of the delivery days. This year, a Google Map and GPS (via mobile) system was introduced to help with the delivery process.

**We need more members to help with these deliveries. Hope you will keep your calendar free.**



### SLFS CHRISTMAS FUNCTION (07 DEC. 2019)

Christmas is celebrated in Sri Lanka regardless of the religious background. The same is true with the SLFS community in Hamilton. Whilst the members from the Sri Lankan Christian community led the way in orchestrating the evening, the wider Sri Lankan community had joined in the celebrations: singing Carols, Christmas presents and the preparation of the shared dinner.



### 31ST BBQ (31 DEC. 2019)

31<sup>st</sup> BBQ is a casual get-together opportunity for our community to meet with friends, reflect on the past year and make new connections. As always, the BBQ dinner is complemented by numerous fun activities.







## HAMILTON VS. ROTORUA CRICKET MATCH (26 JAN. 2020)

Hamilton Sri Lankan cricket team boasts a talented group of keen cricketers. The cricket match between Rotorua and Hamilton is an annual event and the hosting alternates between each community every year. This year it was hosted by the SLFS.

Yes, it was a competitive match! Yet, Rotorua cricketers managed to take home this year's trophy. Nevertheless, a very good effort by our home players indeed!

The day concluded with an awards ceremony and a dinner organised by the SLFS.



## ARTS EXHIBITION (08-09 FEB. 2020)

Youth and Adults alike take part in the Arts Exhibition which intends to promote the creativity amongst our community. This year the arts exhibition was held at the DV Bryant Trust (former Creative Waikato) premises over a weekend. Our Sri Lankan talents were admired by almost 200 visitors (both Sri Lankans and non-Sri Lankans) during the two-day exhibition.





## SRI LANKA INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS (15 FEB. 2020)

4<sup>th</sup> of February 1948 marks the Independence Day of Sri Lanka. This year's celebrations had incorporated several cultural items to offer more opportunities for the youth and adults alike to come on stage.



*MISSED ITEMS DUE TO COVID-19:*  
**SPORTS DAY (28 MAR.) AND AVURUDU ASIRIYA (18 APR.)**

These events are amongst the favourites in our annual calendar. Both events are associated with the Sri Lankan New Year in April. Avurudu Asiriya in particular has grown in to quite a vibrant cultural show over the years which typically attract crowds of over 400. This year we had the Clarence Theatre booked, and the training for the stage performances were underway when the event had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 outbreak.

**POSON BAKTHI GEETHA  
(06 JUN. 2020)**

“Poson” is a celebration of the arrival of Buddhism in Sri Lanka over 2300 years ago. Having to cancel this year’s Avurudu Asiriya, we were enthusiastic about being able to conduct the annual Poson Bakthi Geetha (පොසොන් බැති ගී). This event is an evening of singing that typically attracts not only Buddhists, but all Sri Lankans regardless of their religious background.



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE ELDERS (SEP. 2020)**

Sri Lankans have a strong cultural upbringing; and the “respect for elders” is in the root of our core values. Typically, this programme involves a social occasion for the elders within our community. However, in the face of Covid – our elders are our most vulnerable. Therefore, this year we have put together gift hampers consisting of some of their favourite home-essentials and delivered these to their homes.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (12 SEP. 2020)

We had big plans for our AGM this year which included a Dinner Dance evening with the performance of Thaprobana, the Sri Lankan band. Once again, the safety of our community had to come first; hence, the AGM this year has been limited to 100 at the venue with the option of joining in online via Zoom.

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\* For more event photographs, please visit [www.facebook.com/SLFSW/photos](http://www.facebook.com/SLFSW/photos)

## YOUTH AND SOCIAL GROWTH INITIATIVES

These are weekly programmes conducted during the school term. Most of the on-going operational tasks are coordinated by the SLFS committee members with the support of volunteers from the community. We use the support of paid professionals/trainers to conduct some of these programmes. Some of these programmes are conducted at a fee with a concessional rate provided for SLFS members.

### THE CHESS CLUB

SLFS Chess programme has now been in operation for almost two years. Over 25 school children have been engaged in this programme since the inception. Recently, the Club has managed to purchase a set of professional Chess Timers, establish its first club Committee and secure the services of a professional trainer within our community, Udayanthi Senanayake. Udayanthi was the former secretary of the Colombo Chess Club. Amongst many of her achievements are the Sri Lankan provincial colours and placed fifth in the inter-University World Chess Championships.

Currently, the club is looking at establishing learning plans and tools, player ranking system, inter-club tournaments and open days for adults.



Trainers: **Ruchira Silva** and **Udayanthi Senanayake**; Coordinator: **Keshawa Senaratne**

Club Captain: **Udula Bandara**, VC: **Lasen Silva**, Secretary: **Esandi Silva**, Treasurer: **Dinupa Yakupitiyage**, and Committee: **Kalhara Weeraman**, **Charuka Weeraman**, **Dinidu Bandara** and **Inuka Muthugalage**.



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND IELTS SUPPORT CLASSES



English language competency plays pivotal on easing the settlement and adaptability to the local culture, work and study, and improving the overall livelihood of all newcomers to New Zealand. Hence, we actively promote the development of the English language competency within our community.

We have now re-initiated two English language programmes that run throughout the year. The General English Programme, a 12-week programme which starts from the fundamentals and progress toward advance skills. This programme is an ideal foundation programme for progressing into our next programme, IELTS support classes. IELTS classes are typically 8-week programmes which run parallel to the school term on Sunday evenings. This programme focuses on supporting the participants through achieving their IELTS requirements.

Current Trainers: **Gandhya Senanayake** (IELTS) and **Ajith Narasinghe** (General English)

Coordinators: **Prasanthi Amerasinghe** and **Sanjaya Diyadawa**

## TRADITIONAL DANCING

Sri Lanka is home to a diverse and advanced traditional dancing styles. We are delighted to be able to bring this back to our youth in Hamilton. This year we were able to reinitiate the Traditional Dancing programme with the help of a number of highly skilled Sri Lankan traditional dancers within our community. This programme is also run in parallel with the school term on Wednesday evenings. The programme focuses on developing the techniques and progressing into advanced styles of Sri Lankan traditional dancing.

About our trainers: **Nissanka Weerekoon** has completed up to the highest level of training within Sri Lankan traditional schools of dancing, Wes-Benduma (වෙස් බැඳුම). He is currently leading the training programme. **Gayani Weralupitiya** brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in to the training panel. **Inakshie Amerasinghe** who is professionally trained in western styles of dancing brings in an infusion of the two styles to the team.

Supporters: **Harshitha Colonne** (Drums) and **Dinesha Kumarawansa**,

Coordinator: **Shirmila De Costa**



## GAVEL CLUB

Gavel Club is a youth communication and leadership development programme conducted in affiliation with the Toastmasters International. This club is an extension of the youth public speaking workshops conducted during 2018/2019. We are ecstatic to see the development of our Gaveliers and for being able to formalise the club with its official inauguration and the appointment of the office bearers in August this year.

Affiliating Club / Representative: **Annie Muggeridge** from **Ruakura Toastmasters Club**

Trainers: **Sandya Athukorala** and **Roshan Perera**; Coordinator: **Shiranthi Perera**

Club President: **Shermalka Perera**, Shadow President: **Udula Bandara**,  
VP Education: **Lasen Silva**, VP Public Relations: **Dulina Haegoda**,  
VP Memberships: **Pooja Mallawarachchi**, Secretary: **Esandi Silva**,  
Treasurer: **Kalhara Abhayawardena**, and Sergeant At Arms: **Himendrini Perera**.



## SOCIAL BADMINTON

Our social badminton programme runs in collaboration with the Waikato Badminton Association. This is currently a casual programme which focuses on the social and physical wellbeing of our families. These programmes are run on most Saturday afternoons during which pre-booked courts and badminton equipment are made available to use for our community members. These are open for anyone from the community to take part in without needing on-going commitment or pre-booking.

Coordinator/s: **Kapila Alahakoon** and **Thusitha Abeyrathna** (past)



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

As we continue to grow, it is essential for our support services to keep up. Hence, a solid operational system is necessary. This year, we have focused heavily on establishing a number of operational systems to help manage the organisation for now and for the future.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

**Operations Management System:** The operations of the SLFS has been moved on to G-Suite (Google based) cloud system. This allows our committee members, programme tutors, and other stakeholders to share and access information simultaneously and remotely. Moreover, this has helped us with maintaining an annual events calendar and a “school-term based” weekly programmes schedule.

**Database consolidation and Website Integration:** Member databases has now been consolidated in to a single “master” database (on MySQL) and integrated with the SLFS website. This allows our members to now login to their individual profile pages and manage their data on their own. This information includes family details, their interests and skills. This allows us to identify specific interest / skill groups to offer more opportunities during community events and workshops.

**Membership Dashboard**

- My Account
- Personal Details and Email Subscriptions
- My Memberships
- Payment History
- Membership Payments

SLFS Web Administrator / Developer: **Harshana Weerasinghe**

**Communication Plan:** We have explored different options for staying connected with our members. As a result, we have worked heavily to popularise our Facebook page and YouTube channel. This provided us with a “casual” medium for communication and engagement, allowing the group “emails” to be focused more on formal communication.

Furthermore, the new membership profiles on SLFS website allows members to subscribe to “programme specific” emails such as Chess club, badminton, etc.

Social Media: **Sanjaya Diyadawa**



Date	Post Content	Engagement	Organic	Paid
04/08/2020 21:49	Term 3 programmes have started. Still possible to join this week. Chess	829	280	35
02/07/2020 21:05	Aurudu Asiriya 2015	354	49	14
30/06/2020 19:51	Poson Bakthi Gee 2020	540	247	91
28/06/2020 16:01	Aurudu Asiriya 2017	272	187	136
27/06/2020 22:01	@2020 Children songs	1.7K	1,746	0
27/06/2020 21:59	@2020 Adult songs	1.4K	345	145

**Public Services Directory:** Work is currently in progress to establish a public services listings page for members who are offering professional services. This will allow members to publish their offerings such as accountancy, automotive, building work, construction services and professional health/medical services in the SLFS website.

SLFS Web Administrator / Developer: **Harshana Weerasinghe**

Personal Details Relations Email Subscriptions **Public Services**

**Public Services**  
Please note these information will be display on the **Public Services Database** page of the web site.

Type of Service  
Services Heading  
Contact Details  
Website

Accounting  
Airlines/Aviation  
Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Alternative Medicine  
Animation  
Apparel/Fashion  
Architecture/Planning  
Arts/Crafts  
Automotive  
Aviation/Aerospace  
Banking/Mortgage

\* To access these services, please Login or Sign-up to our website: [www.slfs.org.nz](http://www.slfs.org.nz)

## OUR ASSOCIATED SERVICES AND GROUPS

**Workshop: on “Addressing Communication Barriers for Career Development”:** This was a specialised workshop conducted by Chrystal and Sarfraz Hapuku from STUDYFIT to address communication needs when looking for employment.

Concept brought forward by **Anushan Herath**.

**“SL CLASSICS FM” (@83.3FM) RADIO STATION:** This is a radio station run by **Kamal Arunashantha** offering the ability for our members to tune in from their homes. Especially during Covid-19 lockdown, this has proven to be a great relief for our community.

**THAPROBANA (BAND):** Thaprobana group consisting of musical enthusiasts within our community continues to bring our community together with their musical talents.

Thaprobana Members: Band leader **Suranga Peiris** on guitar/percussion and vocals, **Neranjana Maldeniya** lead guitar and vocals, **Vinod Rodrigo** rhythm guitar, **Ushan Alahakone** on keyboards, vocals and the sound engineer, **Dilan Bandarathilake** on percussion and event coordination, **Shehan Perera** on keyboards and vocals, **Madhawa Amarathunga** on drums, **Nissanka Weerekoon** on tech support and the ex-drummer, **Shermalka Perera** on base guitar, and **Devinda Mahavithana** the programme director, compere and lyricist.

**HAMILTON LIONS CRICKET TEAM:** Our keen cricketers have come together to form the Hamilton Lions. The cricket season which begins in Spring typically ends with the annual cricket match with Rotorua Sri Lankan cricket team in late Summer.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Statement of Financial Performance

"How was it funded?" and "What did it cost?"

For the year ended

30 June 2020

	Note	Actual This Year \$	Actual Last Year \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Grants and other similar revenue	01	8,833	14,100
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members	01	3,378	12,809
Revenue from providing goods or services	01	3,864	3,736
Interest Income	01	9	8
Fundraising income	01	4,820	9,739
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>20,904</b>	<b>40,392</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Expenses related to public fundraising	02	13,868	38,362
Costs related to providing goods or services	02	455	375
Other expenses	02	4,119	5,066
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>18,443</b>	<b>43,803</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>2,461</b>	<b>(3,411)</b>

## Statement of Cash Flows

"How the entity has received and used cash"

For the year ended

30 June 2020

	Actual This Year \$	Actual Last Year \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Cash was received from:</b>		
Donations, fundraising and other similar receipts	21,530	14,100
Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members	3,377	12,809
Receipts from providing goods or services	8,684	13,475
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	9	8
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>		
Payments to service providers	18,854	41,959
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>14,746</b>	<b>(1,567)</b>
<b>Cash flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>		
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	1,476	160
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>	<b>(1,476)</b>	<b>(160)</b>
<b>Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>13,270</b>	<b>(1,727)</b>
Opening Cash	9,438	11,165
Closing Cash	22,708	9,438
<b>This is represented by:</b>		
Bank Accounts and Cash	22,708	9,438

## Sri Lanka Friendship Society Waikato Inc

### Statement of Financial Position "What the entity owns?" and "What the entity owes?" As at 30 June 2020

	Note	Actual This Year \$	Actual Last Year \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	03	22,708	9,438
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>22,708</b>	<b>9,438</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	04	783	160
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>783</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>23,491</b>	<b>9,598</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	03	417	1,682
Other current liabilities	03	12,697	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>13,115</b>	<b>1,682</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Loans		-	-
<b>Total Non-Current liabilities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>13,115</b>	<b>1,682</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)</b>		<b>10,377</b>	<b>7,916</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	05	(950)	(3,411)
Reserves	05	11,327	11,327
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>10,377</b>	<b>7,916</b>

For and on behalf of the Trust:



Trust Committee Chairperson

28/08/2020  
Date



Trust Committee Member (Treasurer)

28/08/2020  
Date

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**AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WAIKATO INC**

**Report on the Performance Report**

**Opinion**

I have audited the performance report of Sri Lanka Friendship Society Waikato INC ("the SLFS") on pages 2 to 13, which comprises the entity information, the statement of service performance, the statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2020, the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, and the statement of accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion, the financial position of the SLFS as at 30 June 2020, statement of service performance, financial performance, cash flows and accounting policies and notes for the year then ended present fairly, in all material respects in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

**Basis for Qualified Opinion**

SLFS prepares their first ever financial position as at 30 June 2020 with comparatives. I was unable to satisfy by alternative means concerning opening assets, liabilities and equities held as at 1 July 2019 in order to determine whether adjustments might have been necessary in respect of the opening balances.

I conducted audit of the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) ("ISAs (NZ)"), and the audit of the entity information and statement of service performance in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* ("ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised)"). My responsibilities under those standards is further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report* section of my report. I'm independent of the SLFS in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) *Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other than in my capacity, I do not have relationship with, or interests in, the SLFS.

**Other Information**

The committee members are responsible for other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information contained in the annual report but does not include the performance report and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the performance report does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the performance report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the performance report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

Based on the work I have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, I conclude that there is no material misstatement of this other information. Therefore I have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the Committee Members for the Performance Report**

The committee members are responsible for:

- a) Identifying outcomes and outputs, and quantifying the outputs to the extent practicable, that are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable, to report in the statement of service performance;
- b) the preparation and fair presentation of the performance report on behalf of the SLFS which comprises:
  - the entity information;
  - the statement of service performance; and
  - the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board; and
- c) for such internal control as the SLFS committee members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the SLFS committee members are responsible on behalf of the SLFS for assessing the SLFS' ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the SLFS committee members either intend to liquidate the SLFS or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report**

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised), I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the SLFS committee members and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the SLFS's ability to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance report, including the disclosures, and whether the performance report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Perform procedures to obtain evidence about and evaluate whether the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable.

### **Who I Report to**

This report is made solely to the SLFS' committee members, as a body. My audit work has been undertaken so that I might state those matters which I'm required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the SLFS and the SLFS's committee members, as a body, for my audit work, for this report or for the opinions I have formed.



**Junead Wasana**  
**Auditor**  
**(CA, MAF, CIA, ACMA, B. Com)**  
**Hamilton**  
**New Zealand**  
**28 August 2020**

NOTE: The full report of the Audited Accounts can be found on SLFS Website,  
<https://slfs.org.nz/documents/>

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to take this opportunity to convey our heartiest thanks and appreciation to all those who had supported us during the year.

**Funding organisations:** It is with sincere thanks and gratitude that we acknowledge our regular funding organisations, the Lotteries Commission, Trust Waikato, Well Energy Trust, Hamilton City Council, COGS, Creative Waikato, and the Lion Foundation.

### Volunteers and resource persons:

- **Honorary Auditor** – Our thanks go to Junead Wasana for performing the audit.
- **Gavel Club** – Sincere thanks to Sandya Rajapaksha and Roshan Perera for their commitment for the success of the Gavel Club. We specially appreciate and are grateful to Annie Muggeridge for the guidance and help offered. Yamuna Palihawadana for being the parent coordinator and Shiranthi Perera for coordinating the Gavel Club operations.
- **Chess Club** – We would like to acknowledge the dedicated efforts of Ruchira Silva and Udayanthi Senanayake for sharing their expertise and professionalism on chess for the benefit of the children. Keshawa Senaratne for the committed coordination.
- **Badminton** – The coordination and commitment received from Kapila Alahakoon, Thusie Abeyratne and Shermalka Perera for the successful continuation of the Badminton programme is greatly appreciated.
- **Traditional Dancing** – Nissanka Weerakoon, Dinesha Kumarawansa, Gayani Weralupitiya, Inakshie Amerasinghe and Harshitha Colonne for sharing their valuable knowledge on traditional dancing with our young generation, and Shirmila De Costa for the great coordination.
- **IELTS/English Programmes** – Our thanks go out to Gandhya Senanayake, Savin Thushara and Ajith Narasinghe for conducting these programmes successfully. Our gratitude for the commitment of Prasanthi Amerasinghe and Sanjaya Diyadawa for the coordination of the programme.
- **Yellow Pages Distribution** – Our sincere thanks to Sanjaya Diyadawa, Sudesh Herath and Keerthi Kumara for coordinating the yellow pages fundraising event.
- **Website and Social Media** – Our sincere appreciation and thanks go out to Harshana Weerasinghe for his professionalism in developing the range of web-based functionality and continued administration. Dinesh Gunarathne, Sanjaya Diyadawa and Keshawa Senaratne for their the professional input given by them for the development and management of our website and social media.
- **Photography** – Thilanga Ariyaratna, Sanjaya Diyadawa, Harshana Weerasinghe, Janaka Ellepola, Roshan Perera and Ranga Kulasooriya had extended their unstinted support during the year for some very professional photography, capturing significant moments during the year which without a doubt requires our appreciation and gratitude.
- **Audio / Visual Operations** – Our Society is greatly privileged and fortunate to have the valuable support and assistance of Thilanka Priyankara, Denuwan Prasanna, Ushan Alahakoon, Kamal Arunashantha, Sanjaya Diyadawa and Keshawa Senaratne in making our events come alive. Our sincere gratitude and appreciation go out to all of them.
- **Food** – No event is complete without the refreshments and we recognise the magnanimous efforts of Janaki Rankothge, Darshana and Nilupa Hewage from Bakers Delight, Premadasa & Lilian Singakuttiarachchi, Rosi Liyanage, Shiroza Afzer and Janaka Ellepola from New World Te Rapa for their valuable contribution when it came to organising and supplying the food and beverage requirements during the Society events throughout the year.
- **Music** – All of our members will definitely acknowledge the fabulous rhythmic chimes of the band Thaprobana. Our acknowledgement and appreciation go out to the fabulous talents displayed by the members of Thaprobana.
- **Performers, Trainers and Coordinators** – Needless to say without our talented performers and trainers, our events would have not been as vibrant as what we have come to experience. It is with much appreciation that we mention all of our performers, trainers and dedicated coordinators of all of our items and events.

- **Event support** – Numerous members of our community extends a helping hand during the setting up and stopping on their way to support the close out tasks after events. We most appreciate all these selfless deeds.

**Venue providers:** All our events were possible due to the patronage afforded to us during the year by Trust Waikato, Hillcrest Normal school, Hillcrest chapel, Hamilton Contract Bridge Club, Elim Church, Waikato Diocesan School for Girls, Hamilton New Life Church, Peachgrove Intermediate School, Wintec, and Creative Waikato. The SLFS acknowledges with deep gratitude all these organisations for continuing to support us during the year.

**The Waikato Compassionate Meditation Centre (WCMC)** and the residing monks, Ven. Metteya thero, Ven. Dhammasiri thero and all other associated dhamma community have always been willing to extend a supporting hand, provide their resources, connections and guidance for the betterment of our community and the wider society. Their altruistic actions are appreciated with gratitude, and we extend our warmest thanks.

**Our Members:** Without your contributions and support we won't be able to sustain our services. It is with great appreciation we mention the members who have contributed through donations, membership fees, support and engagement throughout the year.

## ENGAGE IN THE COMMUNITY

Sri Lanka Friendship Society offers a great opportunity for any of our members to get engaged in the community activities, to make new or renew your friendships, share your talents and gain new skills. Our committee is run by volunteers with the support of members of our community. Being a non-profit organisation, we rely on your donations, membership subscriptions, fundraising events and public grants to finance our cause.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP!

**Become a Member:** By becoming a member you will gain numerous benefits such as concessional rates for weekly programmes, free or discounted tickets for annual events / dinners, and access to SLFS Public Services Directory. Membership is an annual subscription of \$25 per year, payable via SLFS website or Bank Transfer. Visit [www.slfs.org.nz/membership-information/](http://www.slfs.org.nz/membership-information/) for details.

**Volunteer:** We know your time is valuable and we would appreciate every bit of your time and talents you would share with us. We understand sometimes you need to be flexible with your time and the support you extend for us, and this can be discussed with any of our committee members.

**Sponsorships:** Sponsorships is a way you can promote your businesses and services through our events, Facebook page, Website and other printed material.

**Fundraisers:** We have a number of fundraisers throughout the year, and the most labour intensive is the Yellow Books delivery. We eagerly request your support during these events to help generate the funds necessary to maintain our services.

**Ideas and Connections:** Our society continues to grow from your ideas, bonds we share and the connections we make. Hence, we warmly welcome your suggestions, contributions and connections you would have for us.

## CONTACT US

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**SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WAIKATO INCOPORATED**

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