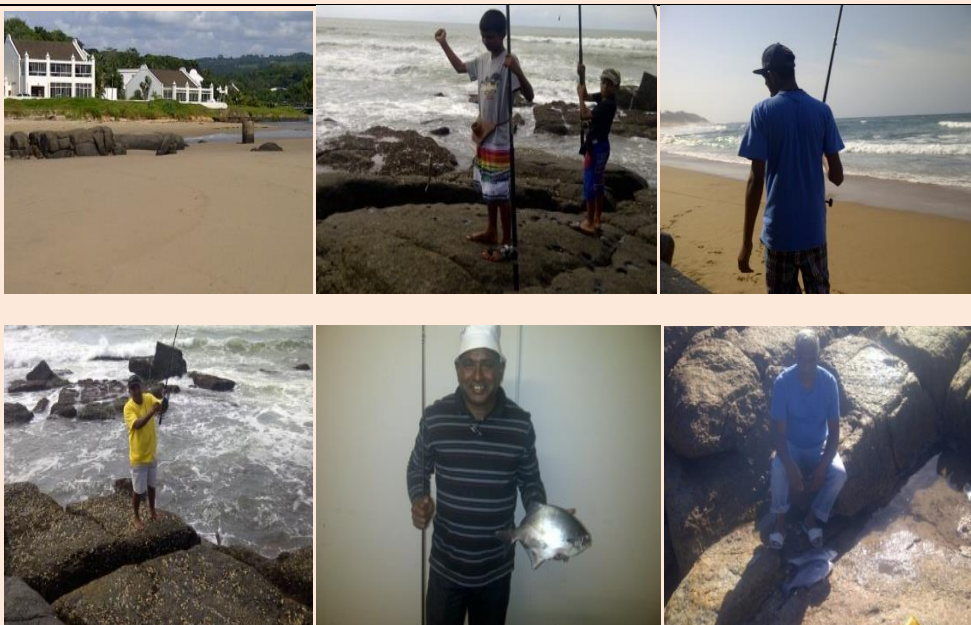


Vanakum , Namaste , Namaskaram Greetings to you devotees , it is indeed a pleasure in publishing a newsletter keeping you updated on the happenings that occur at the temple and the forthcoming events. Throughout the course of the year we host various prayer and events and for those of you that are unable to attend and not informed , we hope through this medium you will be informed of all the activities and happenings.

Our annual Thaipoosam Kavady is the highlight of the year and we receive high numbers of devotees attending our temple , During the our Chitraparavam Kavady the numbers are quite low and we would like to see many devotees attend this prayer.



Team Building



During the course of the year the members and their family ventured out on a team building outing and at the same time discussed visions and various projects for the upgrade of the temple , it was a weekend thoroughly enjoyed by all and the socialising was much needed

Fire Walking

On the 04th & 05th May 2013 , we hosted the Jacobs Road Allayum at our temple with an evening of Supper and Fireworks display and on the main day the devotees departed from our temple to receive the Divine Mothers blessing by showing their faith and dedication by walking the fire.



Natya Nritta School of Dance

The kids of the community and from surrounding areas participate in dance classes every Saturday mornings at the temple hall and are taught various styles of classical dance . These lessons are offered at no charge to the students by Mrs. Kimeshnee Naidoo. If your child would like to attend please send them along on a Saturday morning from 8.00 am to 10.00 am.



Winter Ball

Our winter ball is an annual event together with our diwali ball that we host during the course of the year , these fund raising events are an opportunity for us to raise money for the upkeep and the daily running of the temple , we solely rely on our dedicated and committed devotees who makes these functions a success , we thank you for support and generous sponsors and look forward to seeing you at our next fundraising event which is the diwali ball on the 25th October 2013.



Varalakshmi

Lakshmi is depicted as a beautiful woman of golden complexion, with four hands, sitting or standing on a full-bloomed lotus and holding a lotus bud, which stands for beauty, purity and fertility. Her four hands represent the four ends of human life: dharma or righteousness, "kama" or desires, "artha" or wealth, and "moksha" or liberation from the cycle of birth and death. Cascades of gold coins are seen flowing from her hands, suggesting that those who worship her gain wealth. She always wears gold embroidered red clothes. Red symbolizes activity and the golden lining indicates prosperity. Lakshmi is the active energy of Vishnu, and also appears as Lakshmi-Narayan - Lakshmi accompanying Vishnu. Two elephants are often shown standing next to the goddess and spraying water. This denotes that ceaseless effort, in accordance with one's dharma and governed by wisdom and purity, leads to both material and spiritual prosper.

Worship of a mother goddess has been a part of Indian tradition since its earliest times. Lakshmi is one of the mother goddesses and is addressed as "mata" (mother) instead of just "devi" (goddess).

As a female counterpart of Lord Vishnu, Mata Lakshmi is also called 'Shri', the female energy of the Supreme Being. She is the goddess of prosperity, wealth, purity, generosity, and the embodiment of beauty, grace and charm. The importance attached to the presence of Lakshmi in every household makes her an essentially domestic deity. Householders worship Lakshmi for the well being and prosperity of the family. Businessmen and women also regard her equally and offer her daily prayers. On the full moon night following Dusshera or Durga Puja, Hindus worship Lakshmi ceremonially at home, pray for her blessings, and invite neighbours to attend the puja. It is believed that on this full moon night the goddess herself visits the homes and replenishes the inhabitants with wealth. A special worship is also offered to Lakshmi on the auspicious Diwali night.

Varalakshmi Vrata is one of those rare festivals that are strictly feminine. At this time women celebrate and reaffirm their connection with Goddess Lakshmi, the Divine Mother and provider of abundance and wealth. It is both a celebration and a strict observance, practiced exclusively by married women. Wives take turns honouring each other as representatives of the Goddess, exchanging sweets, spices, new clothing and money. Women chant the prayers, prepare the offerings and conduct the entire ceremony themselves.

Who is Varalakshmi and what is the vow?

Varalakshmi is the giver of vara, meaning boons or wishes. In this form Lakshmi brings prosperity, well-being and fulfilment to the home. The vow, or vrata, is each woman's pledge to honour the female principle in the highest manner by observing this elaborate festival, the prayer hosted at the temple was well attended and spiritually uplifting and we look forward to seeing you again next year and the years ahead.



The RaamBhajan Prayer is a unique traditional observance, which was handed down through successive generations by our forefathers. The majority being Vaishnavites, i.e..Worshipping Lord Vishnu and his various incarnations such as Lord Narasimha Deva, Lord Rama and Lord Krishna. The main features of RaamBhajan is that for the entire evening the RaamBhajan Group dance around in a circular motion with various recitals and dance sequences in praise of Lord Vishnu and His Avatars. The dancing and singing is accompanied by members playing cymbals as well as percussion drum instruments. These members dance and sing around the BhajanChettu, which is a large brass lamp with smaller lamps attached, which is symbolic of a tree

Another important aspect of the RaamBhajan, is the carrying of the Kolas, that is two lamp torches. When the kola is lit, this marks the beginning of the RaamBhajan prayer and it remains burning the entire duration of the prayer symbolising the triumph of good over evil and dispelling darkness with light. The enchanting Bhajanas continue until the Arthi is sung to conclude the prayer

The group The VENKETESWARA BHAJAN SOCIETY of Karwastan Chatsworth renders their bhajans and services anually at the Clairwood Shree Siva Soobramoniar temple .

The group founded by the late RJ Deviah in 1968 , is also big in seva where they have assisted many organisations. They play bhajans throughout the year and around the country and have also played in thirupathi. Bhajans are at no charge.

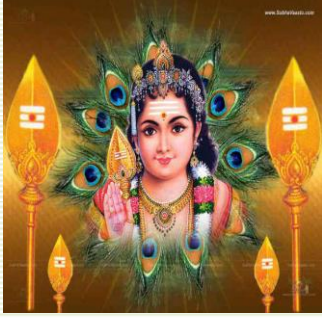
Please note of Flag hoisting on the 17th September 2013 for Purtassi.

Please join us together with your Family for an evening of RaamBhajan on the 12th October 2013 @ 18h00.



SkandaShastiKavacham composed by Śrī Deva Raya Swamigal helps one to obtain the grace of Lord Murugan. This is a rare and valuable treasure that helps one to be successful in day-to-day life.

In *SkandaShastiKavahcam* the author prays to Lord Muruga to shower His grace. It is certain that by regular chanting of this *kavahcam* all the predicaments of life are resolved. People without children will enjoy fertility. Prosperity and plenty will abound. Peace will prevail at home. The devotee will enjoy every good fortune under the sun. As a warrior going to battle puts on armour to protect himself, so *SkandaSastiKavacam* helps one to be safe in day-to-day life. It is said that regular chanting of this song causes all the predicaments of life to be resolved. also as come in this spiritual song a person who he chants the full song 36 times a day will be bestowed with all kinds of Wealth.



Shasti is the day the Lord Subramanya defeated the demon Soorapadman. When the devas couldn't tolerate the evil doings of this demon, they approached the younger son of Lord Shiva and Parvati for his assistance. He fought Soorapadman for six days, at the end of which the Lord vanquished the asura. He threw his weapon at him and Soorapadman was split into two halves. One half became a peacock, which he took as his vaahana. The other became a cock and was transformed into his flag.

The devas, who were tormented by Soorapadman, rejoiced—they praised the Lord and prayed to him for six days. Devotees usually narrate the Skandashastikavacham during this period. Whoever fasts for these six days of SkandaSashti and prays to Lord Muruga steadfastly, it is said that they would get the blessings of Lord Muruga. Those who are unable to fast for a whole day for a six-day duration, can eat just one meal during this period.

Please join us monthly for the observance of Skanda Shasti on the following days:

10th September 2013

10th October 2013

03rd November to 08th November 2013 (six days)

08th December 2013

Hall Hire

Our temple has a beautiful air conditioned hall that caters for weddings ,Nelengus , Funerals and ceremonies at various affordable packages as well as our newly extended Amman temple which services people that cannot afford a full package wedding and we offer very reasonable rates , please visit our website or call Sidney Govindsamy (0718596616) or Neslon Pillay (0837989898) to discuss further.



If you have any comments or would like to make any contributions , please contact us via email or you can subscribe to our Facebook page and receive updates – Facebook -Clairwood Shree Siva Subramaniam Temple , CSSST. Website – www.cssst-sa.com Email - Info@cssst-sa.com If you would like to join in the membership please log onto our website and complete the membership document and email to us.

Forthcoming Events:

Diwali Show

Our annual Diwali show will be on the 20th October at 3.00pm , entrance is free , it will be an evening of entertainment with dances and sketches as well as Supper , so please forward this on to your friends and family , we look forward in seeing you.

Diwali Ball

Please join us for our Fund raising Diwali ball which is on the 25th October at the Clairwood Race Course (The Enchanted Gardens) , it's a dinner and dance and the cost of tickets are R100 per person , The monies raised at this function will be utilised for the maintenance and the upkeep of our Allayam. if you need to purchase tickets please contact Daksha - Info@cssst-sa.com

Thai PoosamKavady 2014

The Thai PoosamKavady Festival starts early in 2014 and this is an early reminder , the Flag Hoisting is on the 07th January 2014 and we will be hosting two days of Kavady which is the 16th and 19th January , the bills will be posted to you shortly