

The Sri Lankan couple behind the freshest produce Burwood has to offer

It's the year 2000 and Samu Sovis is living in Boralessa, Sri Lanka ready to act on his big dreams in moving to Melbourne, Australia and making it as a singer/song-writer/DJ or living out his plan-B somewhere in the IT industry.

He didn't exactly know what path he would carve for himself but he knew he had to start somewhere, so he moved into the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne and secured a job at IKEA which he later changed for a position as manager of fresh produce at his local Coles supermarket.

What he never anticipated was that after working at Coles supermarket for 15 years he would see a need for a fresher supply of fruits and vegetables in the area and capitalise.

However this wasn't the only good thing Samu had to look forward to at the time, after several trips back to Boralessa to visit his family and friends he met his loving wife Pubuduni.

The two were married in 2015 then she quickly moved to Australia in 2016 so they could now strive for their dreams together as a team.

In 2015 Samu quit his job at Coles and started work with his wife to create a local green-grocer with the best presented, freshest and tastiest produce in the area as a proud owner of The Fruit Hut (in Burwood Heights Shopping Centre).

They would begin working over nine hours a day, six days a week to bring local shoppers only the best quality fresh produce at amazingly competitive prices. If anything their story shows us that such dedication and hard work will always pay off.

The shop began getting rave reviews on google from local shoppers that had stumbled across a treasure trove of above-supermarket standard fresh produce at incredibly low prices.



Jeremy Hunt

5 reviews

★★★★★ 3 years ago

Cheapest greengrocer in the eastern suburbs. Food is much much better than anything you would get from Coles or Woolies



Response from the owner a year ago

Thank you for the great review.

Reasonably priced for good quality fruits and vegetables! A regular visitor now !



Response from the owner a year ago

Thank You so much. Appreciate your good feedback.



Michael Jenkin

Local Guide · 139 reviews · 512 photos

★★★★★ a year ago

Great place. Cheap, quality fruit + veg. Recommended. All fresh produce.



Response from the owner a year ago

Thank you for your good feedback.



Courtney Boland

Local Guide · 54 reviews · 1 photo

★★★★★ 2 years ago -

A great place to come and get fresh fruit and veg. The staff are lovely and genuinely nice people. Definitely worth coming and supporting this business, my husband and I always come here. It's always really clean, often we see them sorting out the fruit and making sure it is all fresh and that there are none that are spoiled. Such good value too!!



Response from the owner a year ago

Thank you for the great review and support.



Kik Derrer

1 review

★★★★★ 6 months ago

So good, way cheaper than Woolies, lovely staff.



Response from the owner 4 months ago

Thank you so much for your great review



JL F

3 reviews · 4 photos

★★★★★ a month ago

A shop with a rich variety of fruits and vegetables and South Asian goods. It is a useful supplement to the shopping of surrounding residents.



Response from the owner a month ago

Thank you so much for your good feedback.

When asked how tasks are shared around the shop Samu replied, “Well I do the hard wo-,” he stopped mid-sentence and quickly looked over his shoulder at his wife stacking produce across the shop as though he had just made a big mistake and hoped she didn’t hear his slip-up.

After realising what poor choice of words he had selected he tried again, “I mean, I do more physical work and she does stock and registers which is still hard.”

Over the years their selection of international groceries has become the talk of the suburb more than once as they offer unique options the supermarket doesn’t offer including their own Sri Lankan, Indian and Italian favorites.

Realtor Dean Alexander of Gorman Commercial – Hawthorn East currently has shop 5, 2-8 Burwood Highway listed for lease on realcommercial.com.au and says having a “good green grocer” like The Fruit Hut, “is a great way to bring in clients”.

Coming up on 5 years working tirelessly Monday to Saturday, 9AM-6PM, Samu says he is now planning to improve the grocery section with bigger shelves and begin serious renovations.

“We’ve done a little bit of renovation over time but we want to modernize this place now and make it a bit better looking.”

Incredibly Samu still DJs for private events/house parties on top of starting his fresh produce empire! So if you need a party with the freshest fruits, vegetables and beats in town you know who to go to.