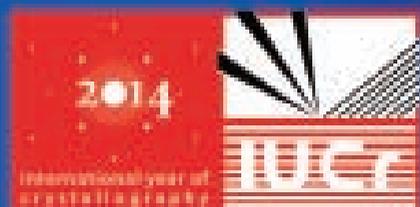




The Agnesian

Issue No. 18, 2014-2015



Alumnae Association Newsletter

From the Editor's Desk



Dear Agnesians,

The year 2014, has been chock-a-block full of changes, events and new beginnings, that one suddenly wakes up to the fact, that we are at the tail end of it. At home, there has been a change of guard with Dr. Sr. Marie Prem D'Souza retiring at the end of October. She will be charting new waters as she leaves for Kenya on a special assignment. We bid her farewell and success in all her endeavours. We shall certainly miss her effervescence, but look forward to hearing from her often. Sr. Supriya now holds the reins as Principal of St. Agnes College and the President of the Agnesian Alumni Association.

On the national front, there have been changes too. On a platform for change and clean governance, a new Government has been elected at the centre with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the helm. Our expectations run high as we wait for him to deliver. On the 2nd October 2014, P.M. Narendra Modi launched the 'Swachh Bharath Abhiyan'. This Programme envisages a 'Clean India' by October 2019, the 150th Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Although it has taken us more than sixty years to wake up to the pressing need for a clean environment, we do hope, that every Indian, across political lines, puts his shoulder to the wheel, to ensure that this initiative succeeds. Indians deserve a 'Swachh Bharath.'

It has always amazed me how a small city like Mangalore, with such a high literacy rate could live with so much dirt and squalor lying around. With time, I have realized, that although cleanliness is close to each of our hearts and our minds acknowledge the benefits of a clean environment yet our fists do not open wide enough to support programmes and initiatives to keep the city clean. It is difficult for us to grasp that nothing really comes free – not even Freedom. This brings me back to another important change at home. 'Home is MANGALURU. The name came into effect from the 1st November 2014. We hope the new name is a harbinger for better things to come and along with the Swachh Bharath movement, brings in some sweeping changes to the face of Mangaluru. We certainly have much to look forward to in the New Year 2015.

Let me wish all Agnesians the peace and joy of the season and may your homes overflow with rich blessings. Blessings come in many ways – the nicest come as friends.

Be thou blest with what heaven can send

Long life, much joy and friends.

Astrid Martis nee Colaco

Batch of '73

Editor



'Agnesian' Executive Committee 2014

The President Speaks ...



Dear Agnesians,

Greetings for the New Year 2015 to all of you my dear Agnesians! May the year 2015 bring abundant heavenly blessings of peace and joy to you and your families.

The year 2014 was a very significant and memorable one for all of us at St. Agnes. Our Dear Principal Dr. Sr. Prem D'Souza having reached superannuation, retired from her office on 31st October 2014. We remain grateful to her for her dynamic leadership and undaunted courage in taking the college to greater heights during her term of office as Principal of an autonomous college for the past 7 years.

The mantle of leadership has fallen on me. The prayers, good wishes and support of the management, staff, students, parents and you dear Agnesians will surely help me in this new responsibility.

A good number of our senior staff members have retired from their teaching during this year. A fond Adieu was given to Prof. Arun Pai Dept. of Commerce, Prof. Ronald Mascarenhas HOD of Chemistry, Sr. Maria Kripa HOD of Economics and Mr. Lawrence Noronha Lab Attendant of Chemistry, Dr. Bhoomi Gowda, Dept. of Kannada, Mrs. Ahalya HOD of Computer Science. We are grateful to them for their selfless service to the College.

Life is full of surprises and makes us look forward with hope and enthusiasm. We can always be sure that God is by our side and that he never abandons us. In this world of violence, fear and anxiety, we are called to be rays of hope. Let us strive to maintain a positive outlook on everything we do and say, so that we become the messengers of God, for God is our only hope and strength.

Dear Agnesians, I thank you for your whole-hearted cooperation. May your togetherness strengthen your bond with the Alma Mater and all the happy memories of the past be cherished with joy.

Think happy thoughts, inspire yourself, create, laugh, love, learn. May God be our Strength now and forever. God bless you Agnesian alumnae.

Sr. M. Supriya A.C.

Principal

AGNESIAN DAY AT HOME

If there is one point on which all Agnesians concur, it is that their stories as young women began within the portals of their Alma Mater, making of it therefore, their second home for ‘Home is where your story begins’. And it is to this spiritual, emotional and intellectual realm that they return in an annual homecoming. Happily, 2014 was no exception. ‘Agnesian Day at Home’ was celebrated on January 25, 2014 from 3pm to 7 pm with conviviality and zest. Ms. Rochelle Fernandes served as M.C. while the prayer song rendered by Ms. Rochelle D’Sa and her little choir raised the hearts and minds of all gathered to Divine Providence.

Mrs. Saramma Jayaraj read the minutes of the previous Annual General Body Meeting of the Ex-Agnesian Association and Ms. Mural Rodrigues presented the annual accounts. Technology came to the aid of memory with a lively Powerpoint presentation on the activities of the Association in the year gone by. In a meaningful and touching ceremony, the Chief of the programme, Rev. Sr. Maria Jyothi A.C. was honoured with a ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’

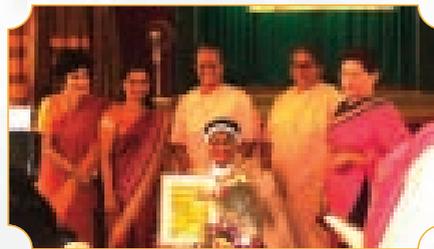
instituted by prominent ex-Agnesian and former Student President of St. Agnes College, Mrs. Marjorie Texeira. Dr. Geralyn Pinto, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English, was also honoured for her outstanding achievements in the field of creative writing.

With her characteristic warmth and affability, Dr. Sr. Prem D’Souza A.C. Principal of St. Agnes College and President of the Association, welcomed the ‘home-comers’ gathered in the College Auditorium.

The festivities began with three exuberant dances performed by troupes of staff, students and ex-Agnesians. Sanchia Nazareth livened up the celebrations with games. The gathering enjoyed a lovely tea and the pleasures of socializing with one another.

The evening was rounded off very nicely with a game of housie leaving ex-Agnesians wishing for more and quite convinced that “Home is not a place - it’s a feeling”. To them we say, “Cheer up, there are many more years ahead and many more ‘Days at Home’ to follow.”

Charlotte Mascarenhas,
Batch of '83



CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



International Womens Day is celebrated on March 8 every year to mark women's achievements throughout history and across Nations. The programme commenced at 11.30 AM in continuation of IWD celebration held by the college students. The Chief Guest Niveditha Mirajkar, Principal Dr, Sr. Prem D'Souza, Vice President Edil Gonsalves, and Secretary

Samma Jayaraj were on the dais. The Agnesian Alumni Association along with the College Management, staff and students honored the 4 top out going students of the academic year 2013 – 2014 in different fields. Following were the 4 star achievers.



Agnesian Outstanding Leader of the year 2013 – 14 was awarded to Anisha Fernandes. This award was sponsored by Carol Pais Coelho in memory of her parents. Anisha is the student president of St. Agnes College and excels in academics and extra-curricular activities.



Agnesian Academic Achiever of the Year 2013-14 was awarded to Nimitha J. This award was instituted by Dr. Meera Aranha. Nimitha passed with

distinction in all the semesters. She excels in basic computer typing skills. Hindi translator, NGO Management, extracurricular activities such as NSS and tailoring. A gifted learner.



Agnesian Most Talented Student of the Year 2013-2014 was bestowed on Nikitha Noronha. This award was sponsored by Mrs. Marjorie Texera. Nikitha besides

academics is a good public speaker, has conducted workshops and participated in various workshops. She is a member of Toast Masters club.

Agnesian Sports Women of the Year was received by Ankitha Shetty. This award was sponsored by Mrs, Daisy Coelho. Ankitha is a Volley



ball player and has represented St. Agnes School/College at State /National level since she was studying in 5th std. She is also a good Badminton player.

All the awardees were felicitated with sashes and trophies by the chief guest, Principal, Vice President, Secretary and the sponsors.

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

In the late afternoon of the 9th August, the Agnesian Alumni along with Sr.Prem and Sr. Supriya , visited the Stella Maris Home at Kotekar.

Stella Maris is a residential school for underprivileged children coming from different districts of Karnataka. For the 40 children between classes 1st to 7th, it is a veritable home away from home.

The evening commenced with a Prayer Song by the children. Many games were organized for the children who participated with gusto and distributed the prizes to the winners. The Alumni entertained the children with dances and Mando or medley of songs. The children not to be out done, entertained the visitors with song and dance.

Refreshments were served to the children and each child was given a special present. The warmth and exuberance of the children was so heart-warming that it made the Agnesians stay much beyond the intended hour.

– Astrid Martis



Photos of the Activities of Agnesian Alumni Kuwait



AGNESIAN ALUMNI MEET - BANGALORE

The Annual General Meeting was held on 12 January 2014. The day began at 11 am with all of us singing 'God is Our Strength'. Our host for the afternoon Mrs. Vibha Kamath invited our President Mrs. Hilma Roche and the committee members to the dais. Mrs. Hilma Roche then welcomed all the Agnesians gathered.

The report of the past year was read by the secretary, Mrs. Shoba Pinto. The treasurer Mrs. Fiona D'SOUZA presented the accounts. Our President and Mrs. Yvonne Rasquinha proceeded with the election of the office-bearers. Members who were nominated to form the executive committee for the year 2014- 2015. It was unanimously agreed that Mrs. Hilma Roach would continue at the helm of affairs, assisted by Mrs. Coreen Fareed as Vice President. Mrs. Judith D'Cunha was elected as the Treasurer. Asha Colaco, Sheela Blaze, Dr. Vibha Marla and Yvonne Rasquniha agreed to be on the Committee. In true Agnesian spirit, we donated Rs 17,000/- towards the education of a deserving student.

The fun began in full swing with games. These games were a means to interact with each other and relax. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Shoba Pinto. She thanked all those who had made it to the AGM and those who had toiled for the event after which everyone tucked into a sumptuous lunch. Agnesians recalled and narrated events in small groups. Everyone had something to share. It was a day to remember.

Report by - Hilma Roche



If you don't do anything stupid when you're young, you won't remember something funny when you're old...

-Old Student Meet Quote

The Agnesian Alumni Association, Mumbai

The Agnesian Alumni, Mumbai conducted their Annual Get together on the 2nd February 2014. It commenced with a Thanksgiving service and a Eucharistic Celebration. The theme for the occasion was 'LOVE HEALS U.' The homily was apt and thought provoking. Refreshments followed while the Agnesians caught up with school/college mates.



The Annual General Body Meeting commenced with a welcome address by Ms. Jane Harindran, President, followed by the minutes of the previous AGM presented by the

Secretary, Ms. Sridevi Rai. Treasurer-, Ms. Irene Fernandes presented the accounts and the Jt. Secretary, Ms. Celine D'Souza gave the details of the Social Service activities conducted during the year.

It was a fruitful year. Committee members visited Mother Theresa's Home for destitute women. Groceries, utility items and help was given to the home. A scholarship was given for a deserving student of Apostolic Carmel School, Bandra.

The Annual Event was a much anticipated and enjoyable affair with team games and spot prizes that had even the 70 plus in the group, joining in. Lunch too, was delicious.

A sense of pride and achievement was felt by the team, in bringing ex Agnesians together for the Annual Event, year after year.

Jane Harindran

Farewell to our President

On the 12th October 2014, a group of Agnesians congregated at a quaint beach house at Sasihitlu to bid adieu to Dr. Sr. Prem D'Souza. Sr. Prem being a lively, spontaneous person, it was felt that a picnic would provide the right ambience for informal interaction - and it truly did. We played Housie and Sr. Prem had a bag of games for us Agnesians. Lunch was served in individually packed containers which was easy to handle. The roaring surf, the sea breeze, the jokes, riddles and camaraderie made it an immensely enjoyable day for all. We returned in the evening laden with warm memories and bags of fresh fish.



Personality Development Workshop

“The most important function of education at any level is to develop the personality of the individual and the significance of his life to himself and the others.” Grayson Kirk

The Agnesian Alumni Association organized a Personality Development Workshop for sixty final year students of St. Agnes College (Autonomous).



The Workshop was conducted by the Catholic Association of South Kanara (CASK), in six sessions, between the 23rd August and the 13th September 2014. Ms. Patsy Lobo, conducted and co-ordinated the programme and was ably assisted by her team of experienced facilitators.



The topics covered were the Role of values in fighting corruption, Communication, Public Speaking, Motivation, Etiquette and Table manners, Self assertiveness



and Conquering exam stress. Certificates were awarded to each student by Capt. John Prasad. The participants found the sessions to be beneficial and a very enriching experience.



The best whiskeys mature in aged wooden casks but at this Workshop, a hundred year old 'CASK' helped develop the bottled personalities of sixty final year students of St. Agnes College.

Patra Saldanha – Batch of '91
Carol Pais Coelho – Batch of '93



Caring is Sharing – Visit to Mother Theresa’s Home



The Agnesian Association always does something for the under-privileged during the festive season. This year too, a group of members, alongwith young volunteer singers and musicians headed to Mother Theresa’s Home at Vas Lane.

We were accompanied by the College Principal, Dr. Sr. Prem D’Souza. The home is managed by Sr. Avila and Sr. Virgilia and houses a total of 51 inmates. We took with us staples for the kitchen which included 17 Kg Tur Dhal and 4 Kg Sugar. Sixty hand towels and cakes were distributed to the inmates. The young volunteers entertained the inmates. everyone joined in the merrymaking. It was an evening well spent.

Jane D’Souza, Batch of ‘72



Batch of 1964 – Re-Union 2014

On the 4th of February, St. Agnes College graduates of 1964, celebrated their ‘Golden Jubilee Reunion.’ Six retired faculty members and twenty-six students attended the function. They came from far and wide to reminiscence the past and re-live it for a day! The students said that it seemed like only yesterday that they sat in the same hall wide eyed and innocent dreaming about their future. The fifty years had flown too fast, they said, and they were back in the same hall to share their experiences and significant achievements and events in their lives.

“Ah! youth was beautiful’ they said, ‘but old age is comfortable.’ Time had helped each one to grow comfortable in their own skins and enjoy the freedom that comes with age. Though their bodies were weaker, their spirits were high. Everyone of them including the teachers, felt that St. Agnes College had provided them with the moral and spiritual foundation and nourishment that stood them good throughout their many trials in life and had helped them in the wholesome growth of their personalities. They said that they always remembered their college motto, “God is our strength.”

The energy in the auditorium was high. They joked and said that the best thing about reunions was that they never had to lie about their age. The memories of their Ooti trip was still fresh in their minds. Many of them had achieved great success in their respective fields, while some were content being housewives. However, each one of them remembered their years at St. Agnes with pride and nostalgia.

The event was a great success where friendships were renewed and memories were rekindled.



The Graduates of 1964

Agnesian Scholarships

The following Undergraduate and Postgraduate students received the Agnesian Scholarships which were instituted for the deserving St. Agnes College students by the Agnesians of Dubai and Kuwait Units. Dr. (Sr.) Marie Prem D'Souza A.C., Principal, and Sr. Marie Evelyn A.C., PG Co-ordinator, handed over these scholarships to the recipients of 2014-15.

Name of the UG Students

Elvita Pais, I B.A. Sanjana Shetty, I B.Com. Preeti Prabhu, I B.Com. Aksatha, II B.Com. Joslin Pinto, II B.Com. Jeen D'Souza, II B.Com.	Lolita D'Souza, II B.Com. Lynsha Correa, II B.Com. Fathimath Naseeba, III B.A. Aishwarya N., III B.Sc. Zabeena Begum, III B.Sc. Sonal D'Souza, III B.Sc.	Lathika, III B.Com. Reshma Crasta, III B.Com. Ranjini Kumari, III B.Com. Anushree, III B.Com. Swathi, III B.Com. Shruthi, III B.Com.
--	---	---

Name of the PG Students

Vidhya Shree S.V., I M.Sc. Anupama Ramesh, I M.Sc. Payal Raveena Lobo, I M.Sc. Kannada Vani Bendre, I M.Sc. Vijayalaxmi, I M.Sc. Natasha, I M.Com. Preethika Gomes, I M.Com.	Jalashree Moger, I M.Com. Janisha D'Souza, I M.Com. Jasmine D'Souza, I M.Com. Subramani K., I M.Com. Alisha Rose Pious, I M.Com. Ishwarya, I M.Com. Deepthi V., II M.A.	Sandhya D., II M.Com. Shruthi D., II M.Com. Harshitha, II M.Com. Delina Fernandes, II M.Com. Mohini M., II M.Sc.
--	---	--

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The "Agnesian Day at Home" will be held on **Sunday, February 8th 2015 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm** - a day that is eagerly awaited by most Agnesians. We look forward to seeing you. The Annual General Body Meeting of the Association will also be held on the same day.

Kindly register your names for the event by February 2nd 2015 at the College Office.

Dear Agnesians,

Send in your current e-mail address and contact phone number and also those of friends

from your batch. We need to make an inventory of Agnesians and get connected as a gesture of goodwill before the year 2020, the Centenary year.

E-mail addresses and postal addresses with correct phone numbers may be posted on the College Website "stagnescollege.org" or e-mail stagnes88@gmail.com which will reach me for further action.

-Principal



To, _____ Book-Post

.....

.....

.....

.....

If not delivered please return to:
The Agnesian Association
St Agnes College, P.B. No. 513, Bendore, Mangalore-575002, India