



AETHER

**A STUDENT TABLOID VENTURE
VOLUME V - ISSUE I- 10 JULY MMXIX**

Aether

...is quintessence, is the material that fills the region of the universe above the terrestrial sphere

...the pure essence that the gods breathed, filling the space where they lived, analogous to the air breathed by mortals

*...also personified as a deity, Aether, the son of Erebus and Nyx
...is related to αἶψα "to incinerate"
... intransitive "to burn, to shine"*

This is what we believe in - in order to be the best in what we do, we need to unlearn, to relearn and thus develop skills that will allow us to shine.

Aether contains the work output of the students of the Writing for the Media course. Started three years ago, this is its fourth year and has a long way to go.



Chowgule College
AUTONOMOUS



chowgule mission clean goa

3

INSIDE!



socio fresher s...

5



Cafe Lovii...

free time? check this out!

10

parking lost

14





A New Year... Fresh Hopes

When a new year dawns, academically at least, teachers across the state of Goa join higher education with a hope in their heart that it's going to be a good year this year. But we are also ready to take on the hectic, and the surprises that come our way. It's the same this year...with my Writing for the Media course being turned from a 4 credit course in semester three to a two credit course through semesters three and four! Yipes! The course has also been opened up as an Skill Enhancement course! No pressure... right? Phew! [Too many exclamation points - deduct marks.]

I have twice as many students as before, and being responsible for their skill development is always scary and exhilarating. So here is a work product of the course - Aether 2019 - a student tabloid where they will explore different types of news writing as well desk-top publishing, along with a little bit of photography and maybe even videography as well - but you will find that in our youtube channel.[english tygers goa - do subscribe! mandatory plugging of social media - check!]

Here is to another year of making learning fun, enjoyable and relevant. Do read and send us your reviews about whatever you read and if you want to contribute - yes, you can do that too - drop in your stuff! Be gentle - remember these are students learning through doing!

Asst. Prof. Andrew Barreto

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Subject: Claustrophobic Classrooms

Sir,

Through the esteemed columns of your newsletter, I would like to put forth the pressing issue of the lack of ventilation in classrooms.

Chowgule College is a well-known prestigious college, known throughout the state of Goa. Yet there are many issues present within the college one has to deal with. One such issue is the stuffy classrooms. This college is famous for having good infrastructure, and being tech-savvy and using modern teaching methods for imparting education. Also, it is popularly known for having the presence of air conditioners in classrooms.

It is important to note that it is understandable that the facility of having an air conditioner in each classroom is an expensive affair. But, there should at least be a well-structured ventilation system in place. The classrooms, especially those of the B wing are very stuffy. The moment one enters the classroom, one is greeted with a blast of hot air, akin to hot air boxes. This is the monsoon season and the weather is cool and pleasant. But, upon entering the classroom, one thinks that it is the forever summer. It is troublesome to sit and concentrate in class especially during the summer season, when it is extremely humid. There are windows present, but not all can be opened with ease. They are often jammed and there is no way for fresh air to enter the classrooms. This is uncomfortable for the students and most wait for the bell to sound as soon as possible, rather than paying attention in class.

One of the simpler solutions to this menace is to ensure that all windows are in a working condition. Another possible solution would be to ensure that all the air conditioners that have been installed are in a working condition. Also, if possible, if some sort of ventilators could be installed in order to ensure that the classrooms remain fresh. So far, the classrooms in the A wing, seem to be the most ventilated classrooms of all.

Yours sincerely,



RACHEL DIAS



DOING OUR BIT: CLEAN GOA!



Our college in association with Kafmar Environmental Services, Benaulim, has joined Afroz Shah and his team of volunteers to start regular beach clean-up drives and awareness programme about circular economy at the beach. This started on 28th of May 2019 and will go on till this movement can motivate, and make all locals and communities in Goa act against plastic pollution to preserve water bodies. Colva beach has been decided as the clean-up venue for this initiative.

Afroz Shah is a lawyer from Mumbai, who started cleaning Versova beach in the year 2014 and since then, he has become internationally recognised for his work.

He was awarded 'Champions of the Earth' award by the United Nations in the year 2016. He has been associated with Kafmar Environmental Services since 2018 who also provided him with machinery to clean the Mithi river in Mumbai. "This initiative is not just a clean-up of the beach, but of our inner selves itself" Afroz said.

Mr Vasant Hede who is in charge of this initiative from the college, when asked about his views on this drive, said that there are millions of marine animals in water bodies that die everyday due to plastic pollution, and thus it is our responsibility to sensitize people towards

this and create awareness. They also talk to the restaurant owners and other vendors at the beach, and make them understand the importance of collective effort towards this aim. On being asked how the waste collected is handled,

he said that all the waste collected, is segregated in to different garbage bags and the panchayat sends a truck to take the garbage to the dumping site. "Being a part of this, gives me a great sense of satisfaction and makes me feel good about myself" he added.

This beach cleaning drive has it's facebook page, and is also promoted on other social media sites with all updates. Anyone interested to be a part of this, can directly join them. The next clean-up shall happen on 28th July 2019. The college encourages all students to be a part of this, and also gain extra credit hours.



Students participating in the clean up



Mr Vasant with others carrying the waste collected

RAMYA WARRIER





Amanda D'Costa

AMANDA & SRUSHTI: PORTUGAL BOUND!

came up to her and told her that they could apply together. After careful consideration, Amanda realised that she would get to learn a lot and explore new cultures. She also realised that it was a great opportunity since the fees are exempted; this was something that she just couldn't resist. When Amanda found out she got in, she was thrilled and told her mother and sent a message to their Portuguese WhatsApp group to find out if Srushti had gotten in.

Srushti has a great passion for singing, playing the piano and the guitar, Bharatnatyam, cooking, and reading. One day, when Srushti was walking home with her mother, they met a neighbour and struck up a casual conversation. When the neighbour told them that she had taken up Portuguese in school, Srushti found it interesting and decided to take it up herself.

When she learned the language, she really enjoyed it, this and her love for languages is what drove her to take up Portuguese in college as well. When Srushti heard about the Programme, she realised that this would give her great exposure to the language, especially since she sings the Fado and decided to sign up. When Srushti received Amanda's message, she was travelling back by train from a wedding in Chennai and could not check her email. She was anxious to know whether she had gotten in or not. When her email finally loaded, she was excited and celebrated with her cousins on the train. Srushti can't wait to get to Portugal. She hopes to take up a part-time job and travel a lot while she is there.

Srushti and Amanda are now busy with their preparations to go to Portugal and are getting more excited day

Our college has Cultural Exchange Programmes to Sweden, Japan, and, Portugal. These Exchange Programmes only last two weeks and the students don't get to explore as much as they would like to. However, our college also has Exchange Programmes with Waseda University, and Kansai University, Japan and the University of Porto, Portugal for upto two semesters. Through this programme, selected students get to study and complete their terms in a University abroad! The icing on the cake is - the tuition fee is what you pay here at Chowgule college! Amazing, isn't it?

This way, they get to not only learn about the culture but also understand their education system and pick up great knowledge on the way. Two students from SYBA have been selected for the Portuguese Exchange Programme. Amanda D'Costa and Srushti Prabhudesai are Major-Minor students with English as their Major and Portuguese as their Minor. They will be attending classes at the University of Porto from 9th September 2019 to 31st July 2020. One of the great aspects of Programme is that their fees for the University are exempted. However, they have to carry the costs for their travel and stay.

Amanda loves to read, watch TV, write, and play the piano and hopes to get into scriptwriting when she's done with college. When she joined Chowgule College, she was hoping to take up the History and English combination but lucky for her; it was not available. Having taken it in school as a third language and knowing there is a lot of scope in a language degree, she took up Portuguese! When Amanda first heard of the Exchange Programme, she didn't consider applying, but Srushti



RUHA PRABHUDESAI



Srushti Prabhudesai



BACK TO THE ~~FUTURE~~... PAST!



On the 4th of July 2019, the Sociology department of Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, brought back the 90's fashion looks and music in the college premises with their 'back to 90's' themed welcome party for the freshmen of the department.

Dressed in baggy jeans and fancy retro skirts, the students gathered in the Auditorium of the college, after having received a ticket pass to aboard the journey to the Retro 90's. The room was well decorated with posters and thermocol cut outs inspired by 90's.

The party commenced with a beautiful welcome speech given by Assistant Professor Sachin Moraes, Head of the Sociology Department. He also sang the song 'Perfect' by Ed Sheeran for the students. The welcome speech was followed by some amazing dance performances

by Rucha Kare and Preeti Pap Shetty on 90's Bollywood songs like Banda yeh bindaas hai and Rukh jao dil diwane. The scrumptious food and beverages provided by the seniors kept the students going for more. The students also found themselves engaged in nostalgic old-school games like Antakshari and Damsharas. The first year students had a blast and were a lot more comfortable with their seniors by the end of the party. The new students also showcased their marvelous talents by performing along with their seniors. Amongst the new comers, there was a professional DJ, named Mazel Faleiro, who goes by her stage name DJ Drizzle. She played some mixed tracks of music from the 90's.

Overall, the Sociology Department's fresher's party seemed to have achieved its goal of breaking the ice between the first year students and their seniors with its grand 'back to 90's' theme.



MIZIA DIAS



... Get your NEC's

As students of this autonomous college, one must be aware of the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) which the college follows. A student requires to attain a minimum of 130 credits to complete one's graduation degree under the autonomous curriculum. Out of these 130 credits, four credits are to be earned by completing an Internship programme with a registered institution. The internship is compulsory for all students and is an integral part of the undergraduate programme. A student must participate in the internship programme for a minimum of four weeks and should complete one's internship preferably by the end of the fourth semester.

Students can take up internships in various organizations such as a NGO, school, commercial corporation or company, a laboratory etc. Students are advised to take up internships in fields related to their subjects as it will provide them with the hands-on experience that they will require in the future. Students can also take up internships in their respective departments in college and their department will keep record of the student's performance for the duration of his/her internship. The remaining six credits are to be earned by participating in extracurricular activities. These four credits one earns from the internship and the six credits one earns from extracurriculars are referred to as Non-Evaluative Credits or NEC's.

In order to earn these six Non-Evaluative Credits, one must have a total of 180 hours of practice or contact training in extracurriculars. The college offers 8 extracurricular activities through which a student can attain his/her extracurricular credits. These are Music and Dance programmes, the Sports programme, NCC and NSS, the Life-skills programme, the Student's Exchange Programme, the Outreach programme and the Fine Art programme. Students can choose between completing all six credits in one programme or through multiple programmes. If the student decides to do the latter, then the student requires a minimum of 60 hours of contact training to attain two credits in each subject or activity.

The college has various clubs through which a student can earn his/her Non-Evaluative Credits. Some of the more well-known clubs are the English Tyger's Club (etc.), Club Acoustica and the Tiger's Basketball Club. Students can also take up courses with recognized institutions outside college or with recognized trainers. Trinity College of Music, London and Kalangan, Margao are two of the institutes that are recognised by the college. The college also has many sports clubs such as the Tiger's Basketball Club, the Tiger's Football Club etc. Apart from joining various clubs, students can also join the National Cadet Corps (NCC) or the National Service Scheme (NSS). If a student wishes to complete all six credits with either the NCC or NSS, then the student must continue with the said program for all six semesters in order to earn all six credits. A lesser known extracurricular activity that the college

HOW TO...?

offers is the Life-skills programme. Activities offered under this program include training in activities such as public speaking, leadership training and other similar programs. The college's Student Support Services conducts life-skill courses which students can enrol for in order to complete one's NEC's.

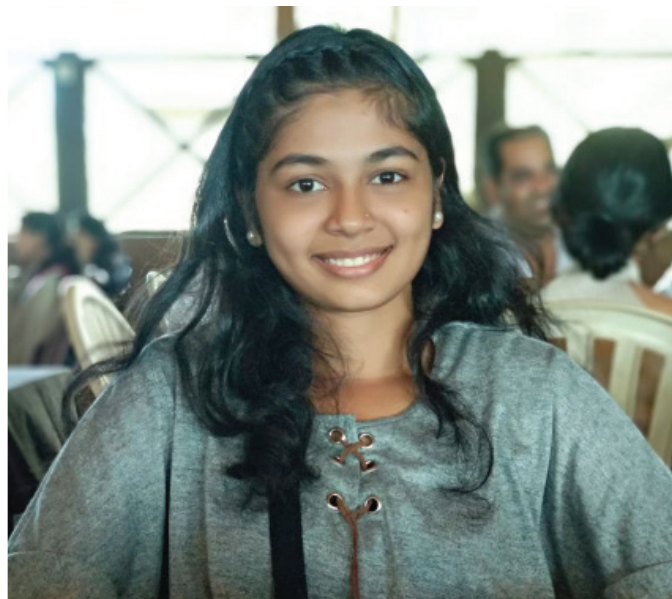
Another excellent way of earning one's credits and experiencing new cultures is by participating in the Student's International Exchange Programme as well as National Exchange Programme which takes place in the country. Students participating in these programs earn two credits. Students can participate for the Cultural as well as Academic Exchange Programmes. The college also conducts a Community Outreach programme. These programmes are conducted by the college or by respective departments. A recent example of this program is the Beach cleaning drive organized at Colva beach by the college on the 30th June.

The college also conducts a Fine Art Programme. The duration of this course is 60 hours and students earn two credits on completion of this course. Another excellent way of earning one's credits is to sign up for the Foreign Language Courses that the College Writing Centre offers. The College Writing Centre offers A1 and A2 Level courses in Portuguese in association with Instituto Camões, Panaji. These courses are conducted throughout the years with weekly classes.

As Jashmi from the Batch of 2016-19 puts it, "Completing NEC over the three years is quite simple and easy if you divide the hours well. Being in college, it is important for one to participate in various extra-curricular activities organised within and outside the institution. That is the 'fun' part of college life- to be able to take up initiatives, work together in clubs, come up with innovative ideas, participate in events, and learn in this whole process. There exist so many different clubs to be a part of- sports, music, dance, craft, NSS, NCC, ETC, etc. I feel, it's good that completing NEC hours is compulsory for all the students. In this way, the ones who are just into academics are forced to go beyond their limits and experience something new while for those who regularly participate, the credits will serve as a proof of their hard work and the skills acquired."



NATHAN COLACO





MARIA LIZA VAZ

TRAVELING TO COLLEGE IN THE MONSOONS

After the onset of the monsoons, many people face difficulties to commute to college either by bus, bike or car. I've pulled together a few tips on how to combat the heavy showers when travelling by bike or public transport.

For those who wish to travel to college by bike, it is not as comfortable as you think it would be. Here's a couple of tips which could help you if you travel to college by bike during the rains:

Avoid travelling if it's raining too heavily. If it begins to pour while you're riding, stop and wait for the rain to lessen.

Ride slowly on wet roads. It's better to go slow and be a few minutes late rather than ride fast and unnecessarily be in danger.

Wear a helmet which has a visor.

Wear proper rainwear. The best way to avoid rain and have the added benefit of having your hands free is to have a sturdy raincoat.

Make sure your backpack is safe from the rainwater, especially if you're carrying a laptop.

If you're coming to college with your raincoat, it is advisable to walk into the main corridor along with your raincoat, rather than taking it out in the parking lot and getting drenched up-slope.

Always carry an extra pair of clothes just in case.

I travel to college every day by bus. I'm not going to sugarcoat it for you - the reality isn't really a pretty picture. Travelling by bus in the rainy season has its own pros and cons. Here are a few tips which can help you have a more comfortable and safe journey.

1. Travelling in a bus in the rainy season is safe, that is, the chances of you getting drenched, are comparatively low.

2. Avoid getting into a bus during peak hours. The bus conductors tend to get in as many passengers as they can to increase profits.

3. Certain buses, thankfully not the ones that ply on the Chowgule college route, have leaky roofs. Wet seats, slippery floors, compact, stuffed spaces, it's all part of the experience.

4. Besides a sturdy umbrella, it's always best to invest in a good, lightweight raincoat that you can have in your backpack and whip out at a seconds' notice. You are also less likely to leave your raincoat on the floor of a train.

5. If you're travelling to the college by bus, try to take in as much as you can of the beautiful view. The heavy showers bring out the yellow ochres, the burnt reds and the colonial blue colours of the beautiful houses as the bus passes through the narrow, winding roads.

6. Most of these buses drop you directly at the front gate. The buses are almost always on time, that is, every 20 minutes or even less.

If you compare the two, travelling by bus does sound like the better option to go ahead with. Although there are a few glitches in the bus transport system, it is a far better means of transport during the rains. If you have no choice but to travel by bike, you should ensure that the necessary measures are taken.



Vasant and Vatsala at Café Lovii

Have you thought to yourself what makes you happy? Do you enjoy the subjects you have chosen? Is it really what you like doing? These questions do come to our mind, but do we do anything about them, or do we just sleep over it? Mr. Vasant Ashok Hede kept thinking about these questions, but what did he do?

Mr. Hede has completed engineering and also holds a Masters degree in Advertising and Marketing. He worked at a software company and was doing very well, but something was missing. He wasn't content with his job, he felt that this isn't really who he is. He says that engineering was not his decision but due to the peer pressure around him he had to indulge in it. He took time to think about what he loved doing and what made him the person he is today.

The only thing that he could think of was food. He said that food connects me to my roots. It connects me to my inner self and it makes me Me! That is how his moto "food connects us" began. He shared experiences where he spoke about the hospitable nature of his parents and the love for sharing, cooking and the delight of serving food to people. This is what made him happy. He loved cooking and making snacks for his guests. He loves to source his ingredients from the local farms. He believes in healthy yet hearty food that is prepared with love and care.

This attitude of his towards food was nourished when he found the love of his life. Mrs. Vatsala Vasant Hede who shared the same enthusiasm for feeding people and preparing good food. He tells us that she was the one who motivated him to follow his heart. They had the

idea of starting a food truck which was a big investment considering all the modifications. But along with his wife Mr. Hede took up the challenge and started the 'Café Lovii' food truck. On speaking to Mr. Hede we understand that the name 'Café Lovii' represented the love that they both have for serving good food to people.

Mr. Hede says "I want to spread love, I want to spread concern, I want to make everyone happy and food is something so basic that it can touch your mind, body, and soul."

After connecting himself with his food truck Mr. Hede believed that it was now his duty to help others find their inner passions and likings. He said, "if I can help a students discover what they love doing, I can prevent them from wasting their life on doing things that they don't enjoy doing." This is what drove him to Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science. He started helping students take up internships that would help them connect with who they are and what they want to attain in life.

But his passion for food didn't end. Mr. Hede recently quit his job and is perusing his love for food. He started Café Lovii on campus so that students could connect to the healthy and homemade food that he prepares. He said that "there were problems, but if you believe in yourself and love what you do then everything will be alright."



RAY GOMES

FOODS TO AVOID DURING THE MONSOON IN AND AROUND CAMPUS

We have a ton of variety of food in and around campus, and I'm pretty sure you're already acquainted with all the places on campus. If not, we have the main canteen which doesn't really use your ID cards to cash out, we have café coffee day and we have the latest addition to the college, Café Lovii, and your on campus junk food/books/stationary/nail polish/deodorant (you get the gist) go to, the coop. Around campus we have the infamous CJs (with they're crazy huge one person can't finish these alone – fries), and we have Sanjha Chulah, famous for its parathas, chaats etc. Now, I'm not to vouch for the food here, and most of it is good, but you should know that the monsoons come with a lot more than wet jeans and bus problems. During this season we are more prone to diseases due to the cold and the flies etc.

You've heard the hygiene story tons of times "Don't have the ice cola... they use gutter water... or the pani puri... they use gutter water too... or dahi vada, or the ketchup in the bottle..." the list goes on and on; does the list of things to not eat ever end? Well, if you ask your hygiene conscious mothers, no. It most definitely doesn't. Why? Because you have the not so rare privileged of living in India. A beautiful country where the population of people is probably on par with if not less than diseased carrying flies. Sad? One would think... but you know the drill. You've been told about it every-time you went to the fair with your parents/ legal guardians/ the grandmother whose aim in life now is to make you fat. You know that you're not supposed to eat the food kept open, or the watery food or well, anything served by a guy with a cold, and even the packed stuff like ice creams which we hope is hygienic enough... so what do you eat?

hello, over priced coffee, but totally worth it lemon slushy



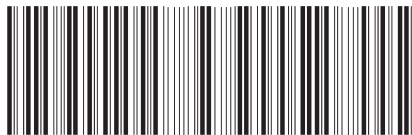
your go-to samosa destination

During the monsoons, well the weather being all cold and all, most of us usually prefer hot stuff... (most of us prefer hot stuff on a general basis, but hey! Food and beverages, we're talking about here) there's always onion pakoras and chai, there's soup, there's hot buttery Bombay pav bhaji... well all of this is fine, as long as there's no flies sitting on the food. You know this! You've read about flies being carriers of food back in the eighth grade, but if you didn't, and 'Reproduction' had all your attention, here's what you missed:(in short), flies sit on a lot of gross stuff, and they usually carry the harmful bacteria from the gross stuff. once they sit on your food, they leave the bacteria/germs on it, hence making your food super unhealthy, with bad bacteria/germs, which, to put it plainly is really bad for you.

So, in conclusion to answer the question, you eat anything that is healthy, prepared well, anything flies haven't sat on or seen rubbing their tiny string hands over and liquids that you are absolutely certain don't have any percentage of gutter water or even tap water for that matter, and I'm pretty sure you'll survive the Goan monsoons.

AMANDA D'COSTA





We all are a part of one of the most versatile colleges in the state, Chowgule College–Autonomous. This makes it very difficult to have a timetable that fits everyone's convenience to the T. So it leaves us with ample amount of free time between classes, which has to be used wisely if you want to be on top of your game. To begin with...

A) Walk around - This is specially for the First Year students, the college has a lot of blocks and a lot of floors and can get very confusing, you aren't alone in that. It just takes a little time to get used to. So walk

around, get to know the campus, know how to get to classes faster, long cuts and shortcuts. You will definitely find a spot you are most comfortable in just sitting and relaxing between classes.

B) Eat - With the lunch break being cut down, there's only the break between classes, to rely on to get your energy up. There's the canteen, Cafe Coffee Day, and Bites. As the year goes by some pop ups will come around as well, that will raise money for departmental events. But to be on the safer side, especially during the Monsoons, you could always carry a snack from home.

C) Catch up on homework/extra reading/notes/meet professors There is always so much to do, and when tests and assignments come up, you'll wish you started

sooner. So get some extra information into thy brain, it will help you understand the whys and whats way better.

Make extra notes of notes already given by the teacher, and do your homework! Once you've read extra, you may have questions, so you could always go to the professors and ask for some help, do check if they are free beforehand and don't just barge in.

D) Gym and sports - Our college has a really good gym, with a lot of facilities. It has new and modern equipment and also a fancy jacuzzi. The membership is cheaper for students, so take full advantage of it and get fitter and healthier. Exercising and being active, really gets you sharper and it kills a lot of time. For more in-depth information on this, do check the sports section in the college website.

E) Read for fun - One of the oldest time-tested methods of leisure. Read a book that doesn't involve your studies, to ease the pressure. Go to the 'spot' you found while walking around campus and read a book, our

library will start letting you issue books real soon, once the students list is officially out.

F) Use your phone - Or well, you could just do this. Check emails from Classroom, play games, surf the web, read news, check messages, go through your Instagram timeline, binge watch Youtube/ Netflix. Or you could go to the www.chowgules.ac.in and read the other newsletters, like this one.

The Third year and Second year students may know how to manage their time, with experience

from the previous years, more than the Freshmen, but everyone could use some pointers.



JESSELYN FERNANDES



MANAGE YOUR WASTE!

Cleanliness is a virtue. We always strive on keeping our environment as clean as possible wherever we go. However, most importantly we ought to keep the place where we spend most of our time in clean and beautiful. That includes our college campus too.

Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, Margao, can be said to have one of the most beautiful and clean campus in South Goa. However, it doesn't become clean and beautiful on its own. With a place full of teenage students, the place ought to be full of chaos and produce a lot of waste. In spite of that it can be agreed that the staff appointed, the teachers as well as the students studying there, all do their best to keep the place clean, sustainable and safe. As the academic year starts in the monsoon, waste management becomes highly necessary because of the fear of spread in diseases, there is no doubt that the college takes necessary measures on how to handle the waste.

There are several dustbins in every required place, also, more importantly there is the NSS club which takes care of it and works on it almost every week. According to sources, there are waste management tutorial videos by students on the college website which are made for the same purpose. The college canteen has labelled dustbins for the purpose of segregation of the waste.

While there are good things, there is not a lack of bad things too. When asked to staff appointed for cleaning the campus about the hindrances they may face in their jobs, they said that students tend to leave the waste like food packets, tetra packs, etc in the desks or lying on the floor instead of disposing it off properly.

Some students were asked on their opinions regarding waste management. "I think the college has put in a lot of efforts to keep the campus the way it looks. I would just say that each student must contribute and help in the waste management matter.", one of the student said. Some even gave suggestions. "Recycling is one of the best ways of waste management. The college should really take a special initiative on this method.", said another student. "Less use of plastic bags and encouraging paper bags is one of the obvious but most effective method in my opinion" stated another student. Some suggested that there should be cleanliness drives kept every two or three weeks rather than only on national important days.



STACY DIAS



The goal is to educate you on how to help take care of the animals on campus, and if not then at the least on how to treat them in a way that won't put the students or animals in harm's way. If by the end of this article you learn something new then I will have achieved my goal.

It is very important that the animals that are on campus be properly taken care of so as to assure the wellbeing of the students. Our college is generous enough to house the dogs that we currently have on campus but that alone isn't enough, the dogs need to be treated for fleas, this can be easily achieved by using flea repellent collars. If the college plans on letting these dogs stay in campus long term then they should provide the animals with their much needed vaccines and with groups like 'Mission Rabies' who provide free vaccines this shouldn't be much of an issue. Organizations like 'No More Puppies' offer free sterilization and neutering and it is a good way of controlling the over population of these animals.

A portion of the mass amounts of food that is wasted in the canteen daily should be used to feed these animals and food and water bowls should be set up in some areas so that the campus is not dirtied by students who leave food on the floor to feed the dogs, this creates more health risks. To address the issue of the animals cleanliness, clubs or groups of college students who show interest in animal welfare should step up and volunteer to bath or clean the dogs, especially during the monsoons. Students who display abusive behaviors should be confronted, abusing the animals will only make them hostile towards students. If we're going to consider these animals as a part of our campus we should also treat them as such.



VANNA DA COSTA



HOW TO USE OUR LIBRARY!



The Library of Chowgule College is available for the students to refer to almost anything they need to work on their academics and this article will help you to figure out how. To begin with, the Library isn't difficult to locate. It is a separate building in itself, which one could easily find on the left side of the road after walking uphill for only a few minutes on the main road of the campus. Quite big in size, the library building has ethnic art painted on its entrance wall and you wouldn't miss it while walking past it.

Going into the inside details, the library prides itself in having over 45,000 books from all fields of knowledge. It also has VCRs which the students can borrow anytime they want. For the students of Portuguese and those interested in the language, VCRs in the language are also available. 1000+ dissertations of the final year students are also found in the library.

The one thing this library does differently is the process of lending and borrowing of books. If a student wishes to borrow any book, he or she only has to log into his/her college account and reserve the book for themselves. This method saves a lot of time for the students because now, they only have to pick the book up from the counter at the library. Of course, if one wishes to search for a book, then the student would be allowed to enter the

Book Stack room with prior permission, which is not so bad. Needless to say, one has to pay some amount of fine if he/she fails to return the book in time. Sometimes, the staff at the library does not allow you to carry a book home but the situation is not so problematic because they do permit to keep the book with you for a few hours and you could easily read the book in the reading rooms present over there. This reading room could accommodate almost 100 people!

There is also a cyber library which has more than enough computers to work and all these come with free internet access too. Other than these facilities, the library also provides photocopy services at a minimal price.

The library is open to outsiders too but students automatically become members of the library. In spite of the vast facilities available at the library, sometimes students do find it difficult to borrow books. The staff could be strict occasionally but fortunately, this is not a regular occurrence.

To conclude, the library possesses ample resources for the students and professors. One could always visit the place to fill up his notes, work on his assignment or even just a read!



K. RUCHIRA

HUMOUR IN OUR VEINS...

SRUSHTI PRABHUDESAI



WHOOPS-A-DAISY... OUCH!

Well it's that time of the year again when everything is green. Sitting in a corner with a good book and a hot cup of coffee.....Aah! Now that's what I call Heaven on Earth. But beware folks! Not everything about the cooling showers is divine! Watch every step you take, for you never know when the unassuming ground might decide to toss you like an olive in a bowl of Salad Nicoise. Well, olives don't have bones, but you do, and you very much need them. So here are a few pointers for those of you who are new to our institute and for those of you who have been here for a while but have frequent bouts of amnesia.

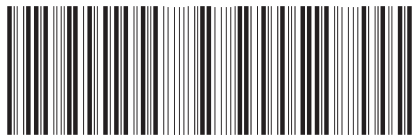
First things first. Our college has a pretty decent campus and it gets nice and green during the rains, but the green never seems to fail in encroaching over the footpaths and other cemented surfaces. So if you want to avoid any slippery mishaps, you ought to use comfortable footwear with sufficient grip on the soles. Secondly, walking on the roads is much safer as opposed to using the footpaths (as long as you watch out for vehicles) since the moss doesn't really grow there. For all those of you who are into sports and other outdoor physical activities, be prepared to have numerous falls, because let's face it, it's pretty much inevitable. Walking with football shoes or other such shoes with studs on cemented surfaces will most definitely ensure a breathtaking experience (literally). Last but not the least, we have the green mats that have been most considerably placed all over the campus for our safety, but remember that the sense of security that these provide may not always materialise for your benefit. There were incidents last year where people had falls in spite of these mats. One such incident took place when one of the college professors who happened to be pregnant at the time was leaving the main corridor through the exit that leads to the writing centre/computer science block. She was walking down the steps when she had a terrible fall. According to the professor, "The carpet was full of leaves and moss and it was super slippery".

It is now time to announce the 'Most Slippery Areas in College' awards. The first place goes to the path starting from the end of the main corridor to the canteen. The second place goes to the entire pathway leading from the corridor to the computer science block

and from the canteen to the same and the third place goes to the area to the right of the entrance to Block D.

Having a fall isn't a pleasant feeling and I'm not even talking about the embarrassment which should be the least of your worries. Missing out on lectures and activities due to broken bones or strained muscles is very annoying. So keep in mind the advice (or don't if you want to feature into Chowgule's funniest college videos) and brace yourselves for the unexpected! I really hope all of you have a safe, secure, and un-eventful rainy season!!!





We are one of the most prestigious college in the state with good facilities - But it is not picture perfect. Many challenges are faced by the faculty and students. One of the most frustrating problem is the parking of vehicles. There is no adequate parking management due to an increment in students and number of vehicles that has resulted in congestion and parking woes.

Students and faculty members often say- "There's hardly any space to park our vehicles". Parking of vehicles has become inconvenient. Rules are not being followed. The parking lot is not maintained, with leaves scattered and garbage dumped around. "The garbage in the parking area is disgusting" is another complaint, as it looks and smells repulsive especially in the rains. It gives a bad impression to visitors in the college. During the rains, flooding also occurs. Due to soil erosion, granules of stones accumulate on the way thus making vehicles to slip.

Many end up parking illegally. "It becomes inconvenient for us to take out our bikes"- students say. Vehicles can't be taken out easily once parked as others don't park their bikes properly, blocking the others. Damages to vehicles are also frequently seen as students try to adjust their way out hence damaging someone else's bikes.

To combat the problems, the college need to conduct comprehensive analysis of their parking management system. Full maintenance like crack repairs and regular cleaning have be done. Drains must be constructed so that water can flow, preventing flooding. Officers should be authorized to supervise the parking system. Line painting must be done. Garbage must be cleared. There should be separate parking for students and visitors. There should be separate lane for entry and exit. Small parking areas in large number is more useful. All vehicle on campus must be registered as it helps identify vehicle owner in cases of parking violations. Investments must be done to increase the area of the parking lot. An effective parking management will not only bring viable solutions to parking dilemma but also help create a safer, more liveable campus.

**ASHWINI SEQUEIRA**

In-House Critique

WI-FI? OR WHERE-FI?

Wi-Fi in the college campus is a must for each and every student. If no network connections, then it's understood the student has been lost as they won't have knowledge about anything what is going on the college campus. The same applies to the lecturers' but they won't be lost but they would have a hard time to conduct test and examinations for the students. They would go through a lot of trouble if they want to convey any important notices to the students.

According to the students, the availability of Wi-Fi network is very low but at some places its quite strong. This results the student to use their own internet network from their sim cards but some don't use it. They do register to avail the it. The advantageous thing about the Wi-Fi is that it is available in and around the entire college campus the whole day long. Unfortunately, even after being everywhere around the college campus, it's not strong. When it is low, the information which needs to be downloaded is quite slow and sometimes distressing when it doesn't get downloaded which delays work which is allotted to them at times.

According to the faculty, who is in charge of the deliverance of Wi-Fi network for the entire college campus has a lot of problems which they need to face. Some of the problems include when a lot of students use the network at a specific time that leads to a huge usage of internet which lead to hanging of the computer. They also claimed that the network connection is secured and protected but the updating of the software should have been done regularly, which is not done earlier leading to usage of the outdated software. Another problem they face is that there is a lot of students which leads to a lot of work most of the time and the worst thing they claimed that the work has to be done manual and is not by an easy process which most assume is done with a click of a button on the computer. To avail the network connections each student or faculty from different departments has to register to avail a medium flow of network connection in the college campus.

If everything can be done properly by cooperating well with each other than may be then there can be change in the availability of network in the college campus. Students shouldn't only rely on the college network and try to use their own. As far as I know everyone has their own internet network. If the updating of software could be done, then the work could be easier and faster for the faculty to work.

**MARIA ADALIN COLACO**



The Court is..out of order! The basketball court is currently in a dilapidated state. To find out more about the court and the reason behind its disrepair, interviews were conducted of Mr. Dion Rodrigues the coach of the Basketball Club, Dr. Devashish Bagchi H.O.D of the Department of Physical Education and Mr. Sanjay Swain the General Manager of the Chowgule Sports and Fitness Centre.

The basketball court, built in the year 2006, was in a very good condition for a long time but due to weathering and non-attention to its wear and tear factors the court is in a sorry state. The paint and lining have worn off. The smooth surface has become rough. The metal hoops have corroded due to rains. The wheels have melted onto the court due to its constant exposure to heat, making it impossible to move the basketball stands and limiting play to one half the court. The rims of the hoops are not aligned which has become a hindrance to shoot the ball. In 2018, the basketball court had four hoops but due to rust and corrosion two of the hoops broke. Unfortunately, the basketball players are left with only two dilapidated hoops. During the rains the court becomes slippery which limits play, thus remaining unused for half a year. The income received from training sessions is insufficient which limits the renovation of the basketball court. The only infrastructure which is currently useful are the bleachers, dustbins and the nets around the rims. To quote Mr. Dion Rodrigues, *"The current infrastructure limits basketball in Chowgule's. An indoor court would be beneficial but a lot of financial aid is needed."*

According to Dr. Bagchi the court is in a decrepit state. It is not maintained and the boards on the court are not up to the mark. The college, he said, does not look into the maintenance of the sports infrastructure, but the Chowgule Sports and Fitness Centre which manages it. The basketball court needs a facelift, but more importantly what it needs is daily maintenance. Speaking about the history of the court and the game. He spoke nostalgically about Basketball being one of the most popular sports in college for decades when the court was located in the front of the college. It had a cement surface and aging wooden boards. The basketball craze declined as the court shifted

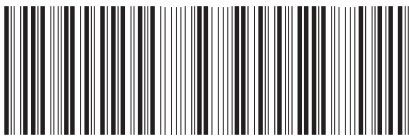
from the front to the rear of the college. The new court was innovative and was designed and constructed under Dr. Bagchi's supervision. The finances were handled by the Chowgule Education Society. The support boards cost around one lakh rupees. They were first of a kind in the country, having an Indian hydraulic system of torque and resistance. Such infrastructure needed daily and serious maintenance. The court needs a surface which is matte in nature due to the monsoons and any glossy surface is dangerous for the players. Since 2011 the maintenance and procurement of new equipment responsibility has been shifted to the Sports and Fitness Centre of the College, he concluded.

Mr. Sanjay Swain's reason for the dereliction of the basketball court is due to financial challenges and its inadequate use. He says that the college has booked the courts on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Mr. Swain says that club members do not use the court and it does not generate any revenue. The only income which the Chowgule Sports and Fitness Centre receives are the fees of the students of the basketball coaching classes. The revenue is 6,750 rupees per month. From the monthly revenue a chunk of it is spent on basketballs, nets and staff salaries. In 2016 the re-surfacing of the court was commissioned, but the work was not up to the mark so the contract was broken. The cost for re-modelling the whole court is 9 lakhs.

To restore the Basketball Court to its former glory it is essential that the Management of the Chowgule Sports and Fitness Centre takes up the responsibility of its renovation. One wonders if Basketball would reach the craze it once had before the infrastructure upgrade.

JEFF D'CRUZ





Aether is the work product of students who are learning the ropes of commercial media writing through their course - Writing for the Media. The students are eclectic and unique. Here is the team that will work their magic all through this year!



Ramya Warriar: "I'm a deep sea coral. It takes time, and the deeper you go, the more you find." Well that quote quite describes me, (that's an original btw xP) in a nutshell. My name is Ramya Warriar, but no I don't fight wars (atleast not those involving horses, and swords and bloodshed). I hail from Kerala, but I've spent the past 19 years of my life in Goa. Binge reading all sorts of books, and public speaking is something I do best. I naturally find subtle poetry in the tiniest of things in life, which makes me a decent poet and a part time writer, constantly working to improve my skills. The best among my skills that I'm exceptionally proud of, is being passionately and profusely curious. I love learning, about anything, from wherever, in whichever way possible. I am a great listener, and trying to understand people around is something I never get tired of doing. Which explains why I'm currently pursuing my BA in Psychology. I wish to work in the field of brain sciences in the future. I also have immense love for animals, and work for their welfare in my own capacities. I absolutely love travel and exploration, and I've got my bucket list for that ready already :P. I am compassionate, very vocal about my thoughts, and a dreamer who never gives up :)

Srushti Prabhudesai: I am currently studying English literature and Portuguese in the Second year here. I was born on 04 December 1999 in Dubai - U.A.E to my parents, Abhijit Prabhudesai and Anupama Prabhudesai. I have lived most of my life in Curtorim, a small village in South Goa. I did my primary education at Les Angeles Academy and Little Fingers Primary School. I completed my S.S.C.E at St. Rita's High School. For my higher secondary schooling, I studied at Loyola Higher Secondary School where I studied science for two years. I started learning Ballet at the age of four and I continued learning for three more years. I began taking Bharatnatyam lessons at the age of seven. I also started learning to play Western Classical music on the Piano. I also had the opportunity to learn 'Fado', which is a semi classical style of Portuguese music under the guidance of world renowned fadista, Sonia Shirsat.



Nathan Wayne Colaco: I am a student here currently pursuing my B.A. Degree in History and Psychology (Double Major). I plan on doing my Masters in Archaeology and becoming an Archaeologist. You could say that I watched a bit too much Indiana Jones? My hobbies include Stamp and Coin collecting, reading, watching movies and TV shows. I love shooting people and things, framing and hanging them is another I enjoy doing. I also am an Ex-NCC Cadet and I enjoy travelling and coffee. I also love Hoodies and am rarely seen without wearing one or having one on my person, i.e. unless I have to suit up.

Afreen Ali: Hi! I'm currently major-

ing in English and Sociology. I'm an avid reader and a die-hard fan of the Marvel Universe. I haven't achieved anything of importance till date so I don't have anything to boast about but I do have a lot of knowledge about Historical Romance novels so if you want to know anything about that genre, hit me up. I also have a thing for indie music and k-pop culture. I have an impressive collection of sea shells (impressive to me anyway) and I like climbing trees. I am a people-person but I'm also bad at networking skills. Go figure. A highly organised person and a terrible cook. A great advisor though. I used to play sports (cricket, athletics) but now I don't. When I said I didn't have anything to boast about I really wasn't joking. An average student, a complex dreamer, and all in all, a good person. Also, I'll have what you're having, Thank you.





Amanda D'Costa: I belong to the 'female' gender category. Ten years ago, I'd probably say 'duh' but now since apparently there exist around twenty seven genders, I suppose a specification is in order. I am eighteen years old, and currently doing my BA, in English and Portuguese. When it comes to hobbies, I thoroughly enjoy watching movies, TV Series, standup comedy, lame dog videos, lame cat videos, lame pet hamster videos, lame videos of people doing lame things broadcasted on America's funniest home videos; yes, in that order, based on the availability, as sometimes the Wi-Fi is bad, and movies and TV series aren't on the menu anymore, and I find myself scrolling through the channels and well... it's almost tragic however, before you classify me as a couch potato, a title I won't be renouncing unless the electricity is shut off, and in the sorrowful hours during its absence, I also enjoy playing piano, playing chess, reading and painting. I also thoroughly enjoy writing, and I identify myself as an environmentalist.

Vanna Calista Da'costa: I'm 19, born and brought up in Goa, India. My Hobbies would include sleeping, overeating, procrastinating and generally making things harder for myself. I've been told I come off as rude and unapproachable at first but I'm really nice once you get to know me. I do have a rather dark sense of humor so I easily offend people but I have no ill intent, most of the time anyway. My interests would include sports as I'm a rugby player, Anime because I watch it all the time, and I have an unwavering love for animals, especially dogs. I could go on for days about why dogs are the best and why we don't deserve them but you probably don't want to hear about that so let's move on. I am non-judgmental and accepting of other people's beliefs, (unless they're absolute idiots, for example: The Flat Earth Society and Anti-Vaxxers). Other than that I'm pretty chill.



Ruchira Kagita: Hi, I'm Ruchira. I am nineteen years old. I belong to the state of Andhra Pradesh but was born in Pune in India. I'm not well versed with the Telugu language but am very fluent in English and Hindi. I love learning new languages and currently, I am trying to improve my Korean and Portuguese language skills. English, History and Political Science have been my favorite subjects at school. I enjoy reading and writing fiction immensely. 'The Kite Runner' by Khaled Hosseini, 'Kane and Abel' by Jeffery Archer, 'Train to Pakistan' by Kushwant Singh and 'Black Beauty' by Anna Sewell are some of my favorite books. I also greatly appreciate fantasy novels. Among poetry, I enjoy the works of Alfred Tennyson, William Wordsworth and John Keats. Sometimes, to pass the time, I like to watch movies or television sitcoms. Other than these things, I am also very fond of travelling. In life, I aim to become either an editor or a journalist. I enjoy good food and so would love to pursue a career as a food critic too.



Stacy Dias: I prefer to be addressed by my first name. I'm the 21 year old eldest daughter of my parents and the only sister to my younger brother. I live in the tiny but famous village of Palolem in the taluka of Canacona, Goa, with my large, but not so large family. I'm a second year student majoring in English and Philosophy. I'm a very quiet person to people who don't know me. Also, I can talk nineteen to dozens to a very few people whom I'm most comfortable with. Mostly, I like to keep to myself and therefore, I love reading and writing. I absolutely hate it when I'm disturbed while reading. As they say books are a man's best friend, I think no one can understand me better than books. I find comfort in reading. There are a lot of things I can say about myself but it will take my whole life if I sit down to write about my own life. Lastly, my friends say that I'm a very good friend.





Ray Cyrus Gomes:



Hi! I'm Ray, but my friends call me Snow. As they believe that I look very much like Kit Harington the from the H.B.O series "Game of Thrones" and I also have some similar characteristics. I love socialising with others, meeting new people from different countries, speaking different languages. I can fluently speak English, Konkani, Hindi, French and Portuguese. I enjoy listening to music, singing and even composing my own beats and songs. I play the guitar, bongos, jambe, mouth organ and other percussion instruments. My other hobbies include going on long drives, travelling, deep sea fishing, boating and watching films. I was also the 'Times Magazine's', "Person of the Year 2006". I love to tackle problems related to sales, marketing, finance and numbers. I have worked with various companies and helped them increase their sales by analysing their problems and giving vital and valid suggestions. I also enjoy handling teams and leading them. I am very energetic and enjoy working under pressure. I am also a very fluent speaker and also a part time Master of Ceremonies, and have hosted many events and shows. I also work with Life Insurance Corporation of India as an agent.

Maria Adalin Colaco:

I live in a small village known as Mungul situated in Margao. I was born on the 29th November 2000; belong to the Indian nationality; and also belong to the roman catholic community. The languages I have known till date are: English, Konkani, Hindi. I have done 12th in the arts streams and now pursuing under graduation in the arts streams, specializing in 'English literature'. I had pursued my education at 'St. Anthony kinder garden school, Margao, goa'; 'St. Anne's Primary school, Borda, Margao, goa'; 'Holy Spirit Institute, Margao, Goa'; 'Holy Trinity Higher Secondary School, Benaulim, Goa'; pursuing at 'Parvatibai Chowgules College of Arts and Science, Autonomous, Borda, Margao, Goa. I have been always being a regular student during my school days. I had taken participation in most of the activities being held in school and college. My hobbies include acquiring knowledge and information about various things through the internet or other sources, singing, dancing and traveling. My goal is to get a job and pursue higher education where I can utilize my skills and improve my career for the future. My strength is my confidence. My weakness is not find weakness in myself. I am adjustable with any environment!



Ashwini Sequeira:

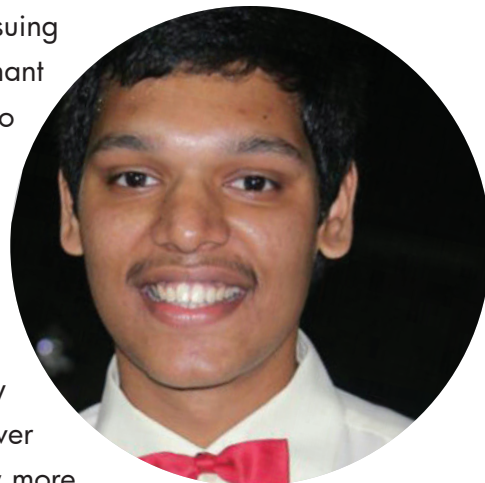


I was born in Fatorda Goa on 10 June 2000. I am the first child to my parents. I am a shy individual. Languages known to me are English, Konkani and Hindi. I am currently doing my second year in English Literature and Philosophy at Parvatibai Chowgule College of Science and Arts. I was always passionate about English language and this love of learning has persuaded me work for a degree in English. I like to do my work on a daily basis. My parents encourage me a lot and they are always supportive. I spend most of my time at home with my family and they are the people who play a major part in my life. I give the credit of installing moral values in me to my parents. I have learnt the value of hard work from them. I do not like to give my opinion on a particular topic but I do like to listen to the opinions of others so that I can compare my thoughts to others around me. My hobbies are reading books, dancing

and singing. I am not a fan of movies. My childhood hobby of reading has shaped my personality a lot. I like eating a lot. I am a fan of sea food. It never hurts me to travel and discover places. I am very open to different religions, cultures and practices. My role model is Nelson Mandela as he has always worked for equality. My main belief in life is that equality and proper education is the birth right of every child. I always dreamt of being a writer. My goal is to get a job and learn a lot more and improve my skills in it.

Jeff D'cruz:

I am a student of Chowgule College currently pursuing my B.A Degree in English. I have a penchant for acting. I have taken up many roles such as Bruce Banner and his alter ego Hulk, The Joker, Shakespeare and Thanos. I'm a big movie enthusiast. I'm a huge fan of Clint Eastwood, Audrey Hepburn, Billy Wilder, Christopher Nolan, Martin Scorsese, J. Lee Thompson and many more. My favourite T.V shows are F.R.I.E.N.D.S, Narcos, Two and a Half Men, Big Bang Theory and Grey's Anatomy. I have many hobbies such as reading, playing the guitar and the drums and coin-collecting. I'm a big fan of Dan Brown, Sidney Sheldon and Jeffrey Archer. I have read all of Dan Brown's books. I love travelling. I have toured all over India. I've been to Jabalpur, Manali, Kolkata, Gangtok, Kanyakumari and many more places. Whenever I visit a place, I always make it a point to eat the local delicacies. My other hobbies include Badminton, Cycling and Basketball. Another hobby of mine is fishing. Every week when I go to Aldona I indulge in fishing. Sometimes I'm lucky sometimes I'm not. But that's another story all together.



Rucha Prabhudessai:



Since I was a child, I have always enjoyed writing. My love for writing has increased day by day. I have written a variety of things; poetry, stories, scripts, interviews, reports, and articles. The poetry and stories I have written have mainly been for my blog, but besides that, Konkani Bhasha Mandal has published three of my children's stories, two for a series called 'Nanu Series' and one for a compilation of stories on Goan Freedom Fighters. Script Writing is something I really enjoy and hope to do for a long time. I started with scriptwriting in school when we had to put up a play for our Theatre Arts class. Since then, I wrote two screenplays for short films that I directed, one of which has won a State level award. Right now, I am assisting a writer, Sandeep Patil in writing stories and scripts for Children's cartoon series. Additionally, I have developed a liking for film making and translation. Even though I have written material for adults and kids, I enjoy Children's Literature immensely and aspire to make a career out of it, may it be for TV or storybooks.

Jesselyn Muriel Fernandes:

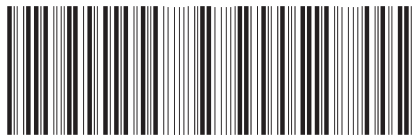
I am a 19 year old Ex-Science student, currently pursuing an Arts Major in English. My spare time activities include reading, writing, singing, cloud gazing and photography. I find it far easier to write a short-story, than a poem. A part-time hoarder of things to be DIYed. My dream job is to be a travelogue writer and vlogger. I believe that anything is possible if you really want it and work hard enough.



Rukma Kanolkar:



Hello! I am from Ponda and I live in Bandora - a peaceful and scenic village. I am student and currently I am pursuing my degree of B.A here. I did my schooling in Ponda at A.J.de Almeida High school and later at G.V.Ms higher secondary school. I consider myself as an introvert and quirky person. I have a great passion for Fine Arts. I love to paint in different styles from simple watercolours to complex abstracts. Through my Instagram account (@_creativecreature), I showcase my art work and it really makes me happy to get such a positive response from my audiences. Last year i.e. 2018 I did my internship at Prudent media Goa. I had a great fun learning experience during this time right from interviewing people to editing programs and doing field work. Besides painting, Reading books is something I never get bored of. My favourite authors are Preeti Shenoy, John Greene, and Ruskin Bond. With so many things always happening around me I like to muse and do poems and write ups. I also love to travel and to do wacky adventures.



Liza Vaz: Hi! Even after being told I can write this in third person, the thought of describing myself in a bio gives me an anxiety that's rivaled by anything else. So instead, here's a quick list of things you need to know about me that'll probably be more effective than some overly chatty and adjective heavy paragraph.

I am Maria Liza Vaz # I was born on 18

December 1999 # I'm currently living in Goa.

I love painting, writing poems, reading books and I occasionally cooking up fancy desserts.

I get high on stationery. I am known to have a huge stock of unused scrapbooks and anything else stationery related.

I am the most disorganized organized person you can meet.

If you have any more questions, thoughts and feedback or just want to say "hi" hit me up at liza.vaz18@gmail.com.



Mizia Emily Dias:

I'm currently a 19 year old sophomore student at Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, majoring in English. I was born and raised in a village known as Chandor, situated in South Goa. My educational aspiration is to acquire a Master's degree in English language. As for my career visions, I hope to work as a teacher or take up journalism. I have done my schooling in Fatima Convent High School and complete secondary education at Rosary Higher Secondary School. Throughout my school life, I participated in various drawing and dance competitions. I love to paint, dance and write. My hobbies mostly consists of watching T.V shows, listening to music and working out. I also find comfort in reading; it helps me escape from reality when things get tough. I consider myself to be an extrovert, but sometimes I can be a very shy person too.

Rachel Dias: I am a second year student of the department of English. I was born and brought up in Goa, and studied in Manovikas English Medium High School, till class six. For the next four years, I studied in Hutchings High School, Pune. I completed my higher secondary education at Carmel Higher Secondary School, Goa. I passed both, my 10th as well as 12th board examinations with a 90+ percentage. I've also been winning various awards throughout my academic career. While in Pune, I won the prestigious 'Student of the Year' award, an initiative by the Times of India Group, students edition newspaper, among all the schools in Pune; a gold medal (3rd rank all India) in NETSE exam; a gold medal in the English National Olympiad; and silver in the Computer National Olympiad. I was a member of the Student Council and appointed as the 'Discipline In-Charge' of the school. I like painting, craft, reading, and music. I have completed Grade 5 in Electronic Keyboard, under the Trinity College of Music, London, and lead the Church Youth Choir whilst in Pune. I also play the violin. My English teachers in Hutchings were very encouraging. They would give us opportunities to participate in debates, extemporary, and elocution competitions. We also had an opportunity to meet with editors of the NIE TOI newspaper edition. One of my articles was chosen to be published in the newspaper.



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