

Activities of the English Literature Association 2023-24

- **30 June 2023-** A guest lecture on ‘Understanding different fields in Linguistics’. Karola Schmidt, a research assistant at the Chair of English Linguistics at Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany, visited our college to conduct a survey related to her doctoral research on a short-term diachronic exploration of the possibility of a South Asian epicentre of English. St. Andrew’s College was one of the four colleges she had visited as a part of her effort to understand and appreciate the English used in the Indian Subcontinent. After a short lecture introducing our third-year students to various aspects of linguistics, she conducted a small-scale sociolinguistic survey with the participants. Faculty members and students from the neighbouring National College were also invited to this event.
- **19 August 2023-** The Department of English organized a national workshop on ‘Awareness about Tribal Language and Language’. Prof. Dr. Santosh Rathod from IDOL, University of Mumbai, was the invited expert who delivered a session on ‘Tribal Literature and its Challenges in India’. Prof. Sanajdar Valawake from the Department of English at Birla College - Kalyan was the resource person who delivered a talk on ‘Tribal languages and their position in India’. The workshop was attended by faculty members and students from various colleges in Mumbai.
- **27 August 2023:** Pre-event to Comic Crusade with an Art Competition called ‘Create Your Own Superhero’ which allowed creativity and talent to flow together well. Along With that, it helped to publicise and advertise the main event of ‘Comic Crusade’.
- **02 September 2023-** ‘COMIC CRUSADE’, an event that celebrated the love for comic books during Comic Book Month was indeed special. This was divided into three sections - Cosplay Competition, Debate Competition, and Movie Screening of the anime called ‘The Silent Voice’.
- **1st August 2023-26th February 2023** - The Department initiated a 30-hour skill development course on Creative Writing. It was led by Mr. Berges Santok (industry expert and visiting faculty at the BAMMC Department of our college) and Ms. Shruti Warriar (Assistant Professor, Department of English, St. Andrew’s College). Designed to enhance students' writing skills across various media, the course covered topics such as fiction, non-fiction,

video content for social media, copywriting for advertising, storytelling for gaming, and screenwriting for films and OTT. With 55 enthusiastic participants, the course aimed to nurture budding writers and content creators.

- **12 January 2024** - The department hosted a hybrid-mode conference on 'Food and Literature,' on 12 January, 2024 attracting scholars, writers, and food enthusiasts from across the country. Through keynote speeches, panel discussions, and paper presentations, participants explored the intricate relationship between food and literature, enriching their understanding of cultural symbolism and sensory experiences. Ms. Eleanor Pinto, our Keynote Speaker's lecture on "IN-DIGESTION: Literatures of Decoloniality, Philosophies of Difference," examined the subject of food from a feminist and philosophical perspective. Our invited speaker, Ms. Purna Jatav (Department of English, National College, Bandra West) delivered a talk on "Aromatic manipulations by Women through Food: Secret Ingredient towards Agency." Yet another invited speaker Ms. Pamela Nandi (Engineer at IBM and Independent food blogger) presented an intriguing paper on "The Evolution of Food Writing and its Impact on Culinary Traditions," tracing the historical development of food literature and its influence on gastronomic practices. Invited Speaker, Mr. Abhishek Varughese (Deputy Manager Marketing at Gujrat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (Amul), shared intriguing insights into the "Amul India Story," highlighting the brand's cultural significance and its impact on Indian society.
- **25 January 2024** - Ex-Andean Wynona Alwyn delivered a captivating guest lecture on "Creative Content as a Career," emphasizing the diverse opportunities in content creation across gaming, coding, and social media scripting. Her insights inspired students to pursue their passions and embrace innovation in the ever-evolving landscape of creative content.

The same day, the department organized thought-provoking play performances by SYBA students of the department on Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" and Eugene O'Neill's "The Hairy Ape." These performances brought alive the texts prescribed for study in the curriculum, gave the audience a feel of live theatre, and offered them profound reflections on some of the dominant themes highlighted in the two plays, such as existentialism, societal struggle, and human identity, leaving a lasting impact

on all those who watched the beautifully executed dramatisations of scenes from the selected plays.

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