

## **The Redstockings Society**



The Redstockings Literary Society of the Department of English, Bharati College, has affirmed once again its objectives of providing its members opportunities for stimulating discussion and debate and promoting the spirit of intellectual enquiry through literary exposure, under the guidance of Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. Nandini C. Sen and faculty coordinator for the Society, Dr. Shivani Jha. The society conducted literary activities and seminars towards achieving its goals. Apart from discussions, debates, poetry reading sessions and other activities the members

published a monthly online magazine 'The Redstockings Chronicle' providing a platform for the expression of creativity and talent to its members. Lately, considering the number of requests received, the Society began accepting members from other courses sharing common interests. For the academic session 2016-17 the office bearers of the Society are Devanshi Dabas(President), Sanjukta Chauhan (Vice President), Srishti kumari(Treasurer) & Tanishka Mehtani (Editor-in -Chief).

## **Badge Designing Competition**



The first competition to be organized by the society in this academic session was to finalize a badge for the society. On 6<sup>th</sup> of September the Badge Designing Competition took place. The competition was open to all the courses. The submissions were judged by Dr, Rakhi Jain, Associate Professor, Department of English. The Best Badge selected and adopted by the Society was of the winner, from B.Com ( Hons.) Second Year, Tanya Sahu.

## **'Redstockings Heroes': Volunteers Support Program for Children of Nirmal Chhaya**



Under the 'Redstockings Heroes' initiative the society members engage in teaching and learning activities at Nirmal Chhaya. Redstockings Literary Society started its 'Hero's Initiative' on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and coordinated with Ms. Anuradha at Nirmal Chhaya. The initiative was open to students of all the courses hence first year students from B.com (Hons) such as Himani Mallik, Shewta Rajput and Hitika Kaushik were a part of the group of fifteen volunteers who visited Nirmal

Chhaya thrice every week.. Devanshi Dabas from English (Hons.), Third year, lead the group. Under the initiative, the students were divided into 3 groups. The first group of students

interacted with the children of and under the age of 5. They taught them nursery rhymes and also played various games with them in an effort to bridge the communication gap of these children from the deprived sections with the outer world. The second group interacted with girl children above five years of age. Both the groups interacted and got involved in various art activities. Since Diwali was around the corner, the students got along in painting diyas and making posters. The third group had 2 students Devanshi Dabas and Yogita Rewalia helped in organizing the trips and monitored the other two groups. By the end of the month i.e. on 26th October 2016, a stall was put up in Nirmal Chhaya to sell the hand painted Diyas. Later, on 28th October 2016, the stall was also put up in Bharati College.

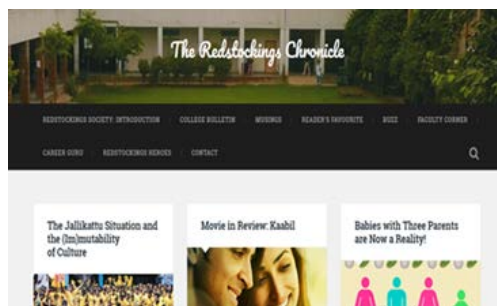
### **'Redstockings Heroes' : Literary Afternoons with Senior Citizens**



From this session the activities of the society has also extended to the good Samaritan domain. Students have taken initiative of holding 'Literary Afternoons' fortnightly at the Old Age home of Bindapur with a view to providing the neglected senior citizens the joy of celebrated stories and poetry, in a manner meant to make them feel happy and needed in their twilight years. The Society began its second 'Heroes Initiative' in the month of October. Under the initiative 10

students of English Department visited Old age home, Bindapur. All the activities were supervised by Mr. Charan Singh (Superintendent). The initiative was conducted for once a fortnight. The group of students was led by Devanshi Dabas, English (Hons.) 3rd Year. As the objective of the initiative was 'Literary Afternoons with Senior Citizens' the students were asked to prepare a prose or a poem that was to be read during the session. Poems written by various Indian writes such as Harivansh Rai Bachhan were particularly welcomed. The sessions helped in providing the senior citizens opportunity for interaction with young people offering literary discussions but took on a varied flavour as the senior citizens sang and shared their views on topics like religion and India Epics i.e. Mahabharata and Ramayana apart from their experiences, and about their families. The students always received a warm welcome. The sessions stretched for 2 hours.

### **Redstockings Chronicles: The Online Society Magazine**



This Academic Session also saw the inception of 'The Redstockings Chronicles' the online society magazine managed and run by the editorial group of the Department of English. Open for submissions from all courses the monthly magazine dwells on literary,

cultural issues contemporaneous in nature. It also gives an account of activities in the college, campus and the city that would interest students. The members aim to keep their readers updated about the on goings of Bharati College and of the rest of the university. They also share articles pertaining to career guidance & study material . The 'Musings' section is meant to bring to the fore the talent of our in-house creative writers. The Editorial Board comprises of Tanishka Mehtani who is the Editor-in-Chief. Other members of the board are Yogita Rewalia, Mamta Vashisht, Apoorva Dua, Apurvaa Bhattacharya, Aastha Sharma, Tanusree Basak and Mahima Ahuja.

### **Workshop at Kamala Nehru College attended by Faculty and Redstockings members**



On the 28th & 29th of September 2016 the authors of 'Bhimayana' (a graphic novel) conducted a workshop at Kamla Nehru College. The workshop was attended by the faculty and Redstockings members. It consisted of a painting workshop & exhibition cum sale on the first day inviting participants to carry their colors, brushes and color palette. Durgabai Vyam and Subhash Vyam along with their daughter Roshni Vyam discussed and taught the participants the patterns of Gond painting during the workshop on the first day. On the second day, an elaborate talk on Gond art and the making of Bhimayana took place followed by a panel discussion moderated by Prof. Nandini Chandra. Towards the end the participants were awarded with a certificate of participation from the college.

### **'In Jest': Satire Writing Competition**

On 27th September 2016 the Society once again came up with a competition for the students of



Bharati College to brush up their writing skills with the 'Satire Writing' competition, 'In Jest'. The topic was given on the spot so the talented students could be judged fairly on basis of their knowledge and skills. There was a lot of enthusiasm among the participants. The competition was judged by Dr. Mukti Sanyal. Sanjukta Chauhan of Second year (English Honours) won the competition.

### **Spell-Bee Organized by English Department's Freshers**



On the 25th of October 2016, Redstockings Literary Society organized a 'Spell-Bee' Competition. The activity was conducted on behalf of all the first year students for the second & third year students. There were four rounds and

in each round, each participant was asked to spell a word. Each correct answer awarded 10 points to the participant. However, for every incorrect one, the word was passed to the next participant with 5 points at stake. Tanishka Mehtani, currently in her final year of pursuing B.A. Honours (English) from the college, aced the competition.

### **ASLE SEMINAR**



On 6th February, 2017 a seminar in collaboration with the Association for the Study of Environment and Literature, commonly known as ASLE-Delhi was held. The seminar was divided into two sessions and was organized with the aim of promoting the values of ethics in relation with environmental conservation and environmental justice. The first session began with an introduction to ASLE-Delhi delivered by the President of the Organization, Rishikesh Kumar Singh who spoke on the need for LEGH Movement, a celebration of the assimilation Literature with relevant issues of Environment, Gender and Human Rights. The second session comprised of Dr. Nandini Sen's introduction to the National Seminar on

Migration and Diaspora: Theory, Cultures and Literatures to be held at Bharati College on 24-25 March 2017. Dr. Sen discussed migration and Diaspora in the context of Amitav Ghosh's celebrated novel 'The Hungry Tide'. The Seminar ended with a talk and poetry reading session of Dr. by Yuyutsu RD Sharma, a widely travelled Nepalese poet of Indian origin whose poems stress the need for environmental conservation.

### **Student's Seminar and Prize Distribution Ceremony**



The Society organized an interdisciplinary and intercollege 'Student's Seminar and Prize Distribution Ceremony' on 27th February 2017. The seminar titled 'Discerning Interconnections: Subjectivity, Conflict and the Natural World in Romantic writings' began with a welcome note from the President of the Society, Devanshi Dabas. The Officiating Principal of the college Dr. Mukti Sanyal felicitated the invitee Professor (Retd.) Rupendra Guha Majumdar, Central Department of English, University of

Delhi, with a sapling. Prof. Guha gave the Key Note on 'Ekphrasis in Romanticism: Equations of Art and Literature in the Age of Revolt'. The papers were judged by Dr. Rakhi Jain, Associate Prof., Department of English, Bharati College and Dr. Vinay Bhardwaj, Associate Prof. (Retd.) Department of History, Bharati College. The two winning papers were presented by Nidhi

Verma from Jesus and Mary College and Jasleen Kaur from PGDAV College. After the presentation of various papers on Romanticism the seminar was followed by a talk from Dr. Swati Pal, Officiating Principal of Janaki Devi Memorial College. The seminar came to its end with distribution of certificates and trophies awarded to the volunteers and the team of the Redstockings Literary Society for their various accomplishments.

### **Annual literary fest "Melange"**



On 3rd march, Bharati College organized its annual literary fest "Melange". The theme was popular culture. There were stalls for food, craft, tattoo, bookmarks.. The garden of the college was brilliantly set up according to the theme. There were various exciting competitions like poetry slam, quiz, treasure hunt, spin-a-yarn and also the 'Body Mechanics Challenge' hosted by 'Body Mechanics' group. The highlight of the show was the 'author talk' given by Sami Ahmad Khan on his book 'Red Jihad'.

Faculty Coordinator : Dr. Shivani Jha