



# alumNews

Newsletter for Salesian College Alumni Siliguri and Sonada



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# Principal's Message

**Dear Friends,**



Life is a search for understanding. The comfort of knowing that there is someone for each of us is a point of arrival in this search. It is this very same search, or something similar, that takes one to the doorstep of religious worship.

Religion offers consolation in very many ways. The assurance that there are others too in search and the Divine in the form of Deity/Guru, Sect/Church is just round the corner to welcome one who is on the road – in search - does provide the much needed support in times of need.

Friendship - across the board – be it in family, in workplaces or from among acquaintances, comes as a route-runway to land one in this comfort zone of knowing that there is someone ‘even for me’.

Understanding comes it is said whenever one is ready to “Stand/Under” that is, to submit to the veracity of the perceptions of the one who is being understood, the Other. Understanding also generates thereby a mutuality that leads to what is verily termed as ‘friendship’. In life, to come across persons who understand you is probably the biggest gift one could have.

In this search for happiness, well-being, nurturing of the family and friends we have, we are constantly on the lookout – for the one who understands. This desire is universal, and this issue of the newsletter is dedicated to such persons – who are on the lookout as well as who are the privileged recipients of the gift of understanding.

Two stories in this issue highlight the same. The college was able to distribute subsidized laptops to 100 girl students from the hills of Darjeeling this winter because somebody somewhere understood the need of struggling students in these stressful times of online teaching-learning. In our own case, it was continuous 10 months of online classes at a stretch, thus far. The second story is by Subham who continues his reflections – for the third consecutive issue - even as his friendship matures along the way.

I am sure these stories will inspire others to share and take some action to bring cheer to the lives of others.

**Yours truly in Don Bosco,  
Fr George Thadathil sdb  
Principal, Salesian College Sonada and Siliguri**

## Laptops Distributed to Salesian Girl Students



In a rare but challenging initiative, Salesian College Sonada floated a scheme to provide 100 girl students of the hills, a laptop each at affordable price. Distributions started on St John Bosco's feast held 30 January when 55 laptops were distributed.

Of the remaining 45 laptops 34 laptops were distributed on 9th February at Sonada and remaining 11 laptops were distributed to girls from the hills studying in Siliguri campus on 11 February 2021.

Speaking at the final distribution event, Rector and Principal Fr George Thadathil thanked all who collaborated in the project and congratulated the girls and briefed them about the donor agency.

The donor agency United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia based in New York-Hong Kong (established in 1922) came forward to help as part of its Covid-19 relief for member institutions who wanted assistance for online education.

The laptop distributed along with a laptop bag was ACER 14 brand (Pentium Gold-4415U / 4GB RAM / 1TB HDD / Windows 10 Home 64 Bit / 14 Inch with 3 Years Warranty).

# What it feels to have a Girl as Best Friend?



**Subham Agrawal**  
**Alumnus of Salesian**  
**College**

Friendship is the rainbow between two hearts sharing seven colors : feelings, love, sadness, happiness, truth, faith, secrets & respect. Guys have a lot of other guys they call 'bro'. But you know what's almost as cool as having bros? It is having a female best friend.

## FOR THOSE GUYS WHO DO NOT HAVE A GIRL BESTIE, YOU SHOULD GET ONE

However, men see a plethora of different judgmental opinions for being so close with a girl but not dating her. Life is way different when you are a guy and your best friend is a girl. Neither My 'Behen,' Nor Your 'Bhabhi,' A guy and a girl do not have the need to define their relationship if they are comfortable being best friends. That is their definition of the relationship they have. Other guys will always find it very strange if you have a female best friend. They will either try to make her your sister or they will tease you calling her 'bhabhi' all the time.

Your Girlfriend Gets Jealous, Definitely, your girlfriend will become jealous seeing how well you treat your best friend. If it is a guy, she will not bother much. If it's a girl, you're going to receive a stare after she has left, long texts at night, and no more holding hands for a few days. Your girlfriend will always be suspicious of you. Your text messages also may have to pass through security check. And, on top of that, if you're interested in a girl, your best friend will scrutinize the application first and only then you're allowed to proceed.

Bath regularly, wear neat clothes, maintain hygiene to a whole new level, and not burp around her. If you can handle all this, then you are qualified to have a girl best friend. If you don't follow all this, she will find ways to make you do it anyway. If you are into sports, she will definitely be the biggest fan and cheer for you all throughout the game, but after it, you're not supposed to touch her and be around her because you stink and dripped in sweat.

But Why Should You Have A Girl Best Friend? It is absolutely true that life with a girl bestie comes with a conditions apply asterisk, but there are reasons. That one person will be your shoulder to cry on when you are weak, one person who will support you no matter what and will bear your drama through your breakups. Her advise is the best advise. If someone understands you unlike anyone else, it will be her for sure. You both might fight a lot but she is the one who will fight with others for you.

So no matter how people around presume about the relation, you should still probably have one girl as best friend. . And I am lucky to have one .

## From the Alumni desk



Entrepreneurs don't work in their Business; rather they work on their Business”

Conoscenza is an Intra college business fest organized by Salesian College Commerce Association. The event aims at testing the skills of the students through various tasks and enabling them to “Acquire, Inspire and Transpire” in becoming better entrepreneurs and managers in their near future.

The Business Fest was held from 11th February 2021 – 13th February 2021 in Salesian College, Siliguri Campus. On 13th February, 2021 Two Members namely:- Vaibhav Agarwal and Punit

Garodia were invited to JUDGE their Final Event “BOARD MEETING” from Salesian College Alumni Association along with two other members as ‘Press Members’ namely Chetaniya Bansal Chetash Goyal.

Board Meeting is a kind of event where a team of 7-8 participants conduct a board meeting and come up with an executable plan and a solution to the problems/case in the meeting itself. The event helps the participants to understand the corporate world better and learn how to deal with immediate problems in a company along with dealing Media and the Public in general.

It was an honour for me to be a part of the event and share my knowledge and experience with all the participants. The college management did an excellent job in organising the event irrespective of the Covid situation where they faced many challenges yet managed to put up a commendable event. Kudos to the Event Organisers who did an incredible job and greatly contributed in the smooth proceedings towards the success of the event. Eleven participants seemed very invested and engaged in the event which really added to its quality. The event served as a great platform for them to hone their skills and learn how to work as a team. They truly justified the statement - “Individuals play the game, but teams beat the odds.”

On behalf of Salesian College Alumni Association I would like to congratulate all of them for the success of the Fest and extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation for inviting us and having us as a part of the event. Wishing them good luck and success for all their future endeavours.

**PUNIT GARODIA**  
**Member of Salesian College**  
**Alumni Association**



It's been almost five years since the inception of CALIBRE by us as students; and now it was an overwhelming to experience CALIBRE 21' as judge. There was definitely an evolved level of competition and a great scope of learning from the students and fellow judges.

Despite the unavoidable situation of the pandemic, Calibre 21' was a success. Though the number of audience was few but the performance, hard work and spirit of each faculty and student was outstanding. Participation in any form is the key to success because this is the initial step where we gain an understanding of our strengths and weaknesses at different levels and what true managers and leaders are all about.

As per Brian Tracy - "The true measure of the value of any business leader and manager is Performance."

There is definitely a scope for creative changes to foster a greater competitive environment, opportunities and self-analysis.

Congratulations and Good luck!

**Shreya Saraogi**

**Member of Salesian College Alumni Association**

It's always a joyful experience to be at Business event and see I was amazed by the performance of the student, the organising team, well planned time management and the level of competition created by them to boost each and every participants in the calibre. I cannot express how fortunate to judge a event of the college where few years ago I was a student. It's a great experience listening to the students and getting a chance to encourage and hopefully helping them. " One should not miss the chance to take part in judging ".



Congratulations on having such well run program.

**Praveen Teterwal**

**Member of Salesian College Alumni Association**

# FROM THE CAMPUS



Salesian College Sonada has now a unit of the NCC in the campus. College has permission to start a girls unit now and hopefully in the near future a boys unit will also be set up.

Radio Salesian 90.8 FM & Mass Comm Department celebrated 10th World Radio Day at Salesian College Sonada on Saturday 13 February 2021



Salesian College Sonada in collaboration with Tea promoters India is organising the Women Empowerment in Tea Community Workshop since 21 February 2021 on different topics. This will continue till 21 March 2021



# **Salesian College Alumni Association Office Bearers**



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