

# MAAK BOOK

Real Stories at your Fingertips

05

## A Grand Inauguration

*Unveiling the Travancore Chapter of MAAK*

37

## Annual General Body Meeting 2023

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**Aksha Ann Thomas**  
Chief Editor - MAAK  
BOOK

## Editorial

Dear Marianites, welcome to the 10th Edition of MAAK BOOK. This edition is a milestone for us, as we have crossed 40 pages of content that showcases the achievements and activities of our alumni and college.

As the year is coming to an end, we are proud to share that MAAK BOOK has grown exponentially since its first edition in February 2023. We have established ourselves as a credible publication that reflects the active engagement and growth of the alumni association. MAAK BOOK is a testament to the strong bond between Marian and its graduates.

The Travancore chapter was officially inaugurated in early November in the presence of Rev. Dr. Shaiju KS and Ajesh P Joseph, head of Social Work department. Nilasha S, Secretary of MAAK Travancore, has written a report along with the photographs

This edition is packed with exciting stories and events. Last month was filled with many activities in chapters. The Launch of cycling club by Cochin chapter, the UAE chapter came together for a halloween party, a camping in the desert as well as for Dubai run.

Do keep an eye out for the upcoming events, Thirike, the Silver Jubilee Reunion of BCom 1999 - 2002, The social service outreach initiative by MAAK Cochin. Alumni Career Talk by Juby Chandy, Invitation to MAAK Kottayam inauguration and more.

We also have two exclusive interviews with our alumni Aji Varghese and Arya Prakash, conducted by our editorial team member Celeste Francis. Aji Varghese is a successful entrepreneur who shares his journey and insights with us. Arya Prakash is a talented dubbing artist who recently voiced for "Praavu", a movie that completed 25 days in theaters. Arya tells us how Marian helped her pursue her passion and career in dubbing.

Like previous editions, we have our nostalgic section featuring the photos of the 5th Batch of Marian 1999 - 2002.

We have an inspiring story of Dafy, a group of young entrepreneurs from the Batch of 2016 BCom. They started a successful business venture together as classmates and friends. Meet Manikandan, Stephin and Jijo among the rest.

Campur corner section has report of KIFF, the International film festival of Kuttikanam is another highlight of this edition. Mr Sherin P Shaji, Assistant professor of MCMS department and an alumni of our college has written in details about the same. We have also included arts day photos as well.

We hope this edition brings you more and more closer to the association and its activities. Please reach out to us with your valuable suggestions and comments.

Real stories at your fingertips.



Adv. Nelson  
Joseph  
President -  
Marian Alumni  
Association  
Kuttikkanam

## President's message

Dear Family,

In November, MAAK gave birth to a new baby and named it as MAAK Travancore and another baby is due on December 27th which will be named as MAAK Kottayam. Consistently new Baby Chapters are coming up and it shows a highly organic growth for MAAK. Many seeds for Chapters in other places are also sown and awaiting the due date for the birth.

It is always a privilege and pleasure to be founding/charter members or promoters of any new organisation or platform. The organisation will grow for sure with changing leadership, but the founding members always remain there with a special place. There are a lot of places across the globe where we have more than 10 alumni who are there either permanently or temporarily. I urge all Marianites who are reading this message to check if you are part of any chapter of MAAK, if not check if there is a Chapter there in your place, and if not, START ONE, be the LEADER.

"Build a team so strong that they don't know who the leader is". One of the best quotes on leadership. Going through the consistent

happenings and activities in MAAK and in our chapters, we can very well say that we have embodied that quote in our functioning, thanks for our visionary founding leaders. In MAAK everyone is a leader.

Our calendar for December is filled with activities:

- Our big Career talk by Mr. Juby Chandy is coming up
- Kottayam Chapter is getting Inaugurated
- Cochin Chapter Christmas Celebrations and Charity Activities
- North America Chapter Election meeting
- Thirike: The Silver Jubilee Reunion of Majestic BCom 1999 - 2002

These are the few activities announced already and much more is coming up.

Above all, our Annual General Body is coming up on 22nd December 2023. Since our Grand Marian Diaries along with Annual General Body in Physical Format is coming up in August 2024, we are having AGB meeting this time in an online format to get the participation from all parts of the world. In this formal meeting, we are going to witness so many positive changes for the Association including change of Logo, incorporating tagline along with other formal AGB Agenda. I take this opportunity to invite every Marianite to participate actively in the Annual General Body Meeting.

Wishing all peace, love and joy this Christmas season.

With love, Nelson.





Nilasha S  
MSW 2011 - 2013  
Secretary - MAAK Travancore



## A Grand Inauguration: Unveiling the Travancore Chapter of MAAK

A momentous day unfolded on the 19th of November 2023, Sunday as the Travancore chapter of MAAK was inaugurated and its office bearers were officially installed. The event took place at Hotel Prasanth, Thiruvananthapuram, and was attended by distinguished guests and dignitaries, including Rev. Dr. Shaiju K S, Vice Principal at Marian College, Kuttikkanam, Adv. Nelson Joseph, the President of MAAK, Shwetha Pramod, the Vice President, and Ajesh P Joseph, Head of the Department, School of Social Work, along with the 14 members from the Travancore Chapter.

Vincy Chacko warmly welcomed the attendees, expressing gratitude for their presence and enthusiasm. MAAK President Nelson emphasised the strength of a team where the concept of a singular boss becomes irrelevant.

He quoted '*Build a Team so strong that you do not know who the boss is*'. The philosophy that resonated throughout the event as all 14 members took charge and executed their responsibilities effectively. He facilitated the activities of introduction of office bearers, the installation of the Executive Committee with the oath-taking and candle-lighting ceremony, and an insightful acceptance speech by the chairperson, Mr. Manoj.

The event also featured Leeba Thomas providing a comprehensive introduction about the chief guest, inviting him to inaugurate the event by lighting the lamp and delivering the keynote address. Rev. Dr. Shaiju K S then extended his dynamic speech.

*"In the past, college alumni used to approach the college seeking various forms of support". However, in contemporary times, the trend has shifted, with the college now actively reaching out to the alumni community to contribute to the enhancement of the institution and its stakeholders. The current scenario presents a significant opportunity for the alumni community to play a crucial role in this regard"* said Rev. Dr. Shaiju K S, Vice Principal, Marian College Kuttikkanam (Autonomous).

Ajesh P Joseph, as the guest of honour, delivered an enlightened speech emphasising inclusiveness and the crucial role of the alumni community.

*"In contemporary times, inclusiveness has become a key component of various developmental activities, and building an alumni community is no exception. This emphasis on inclusiveness distinguishes MAAK from other college alumni groups, highlighting its unique character"* said Ajesh P Joseph, Head of the Department, Master of Social Work.

MAAK Vice President Shwetha conveyed warm wishes and offered support to MAAK Travancore. The event was further enriched by the delightful song performed by little Julie, the daughter of Vincy Chacko. Her charming contribution added a heartwarming touch to the proceedings.

The official meeting concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Nilasha S, expressing gratitude to the guests, attendees, and everyone involved in making the inauguration a resounding success. Participants engaged in a Round table, sharing expectations for MAAK, discussing their areas of expertise, and



Rev. Dr. Shaiju K S addressing the gathering



Adv. Nelson Joseph addressing the gathering

expressing eagerness to contribute to the diverse opportunities for the growth and development of the Travancore chapter and MAAK in general. Additionally, there were discussions about the potential to facilitate government-related tasks for Marian College and its alumni through the Travancore Chapter upon request, considering Thiruvananthapuram's status as a government hub. Participants explored opportunities and strategies to strengthen ties with government entities, recognizing the significant prospects of the benefit of such connections.

The event culminated with a delightful lunch, providing an opportunity for casual conversations and chit-chat, symbolising the unity and uniqueness celebrated throughout the day.

The Travancore chapter is now active, inviting all to join in and be a part of this vibrant community.





Lighting the Lamp to new beginnings; Chairperson Manoj P, Vice Chairperson Vincy Chacko, Secretary Nilasha S & Treasurer Leeba Thomas addressing the gathering; Executive Committee taking oath and assuming the office.







## Remarkable Victory in ACCA exam

*Thomas Antony (BCom 2018 - 2021)*

Heartfelt congratulations to Thomas Antony for achieving an outstanding accomplishment, securing the remarkable [29th rank Globally and an exceptional 3rd rank in India](#) in the ACCA exam. This remarkable achievement is a testament to his dedication, hard work, and exceptional proficiency in the field.

## Harihara Suthan: A Devotional Harmony

*Harish K P (BCA 1998 - 2001)*

Manorama Music released the video song from the new devotional album '[Hariharasuthan](#).' This melodious journey, led by the passionate and celestial singer Harish, transports listeners to the sacred Sannidhanam of Lord Ayyappa. The song beautifully captures an Ayyappa devotee's profound thoughts about Mandalakalam and the forest trek to the Sannidhanam, accompanied by rhythmic chants. This song stands out in glory with Harish's divine rendition, melodious voice, skillfully crafted composition, and lyrics, uplifting the soul of each devotee.







## Career Milestone

*Rakhy Vinayan (MMH 2011 - 13)*

We are thrilled to announce that Ms. Rakhy Vinayan has joined as the Sales Manager at Hampton Inn and Homewood Suites by Hilton, Halifax, Canada. Rakhy was a valuable member of the Sales team at Grand Hyatt Kochi and we are proud of her achievement. We hope she enjoys her new role and continues to excel in her career.

## Crowning Glory

*Rupna Joby (BCom 2001 - 04)*

Congratulations to Rupna for winning the prestigious Best Personality Title in the Rotary Cochin Smart City's Mr. & Ms. Rotary Contest. Rupna's dynamic and lively presence sets her apart, truly earning her this well-deserved recognition. Beyond her accomplishments, she is also a passionate dancer, enthusiastic explorer and a joyous homemaker, adding depth to her vibrant personality.







Celeste Francis  
MCMS 2017 - 19  
Editorial Board  
Member  
MAAK BOOK

## Meet Arya Prakash...

*An accomplished alumna of Marian College who graduated in 2020 with a degree in MCMS (Media and Communications). Arya has established herself as a dubbing artist, lending her voice to over 25 films. Her journey in the field of dubbing has been both fulfilling and enriching. Arya, a proud Marian College alumna, recently completed her work on the movie "Praavu," which has garnered significant acclaim, celebrating 25 days of successful screenings. Let's hear from Arya and her experiences, insights, in the dubbing world.*

**Can you tell us about your journey from being a media and communications student at our college to becoming a dubbing artist for the successful movie "Praavu"?**

I pursued my Master's in Communications and Media Studies from Marian College in the year 2018-2020. This course helped me acquire so much knowledge in various fields, especially Radio Marian, our own college radio was the first step for me as an RJ. The RJ works helped me gain confidence and eventually an internship with Red FM. During this internship I got a chance to dub for an advertisement, and this landed me an opportunity as a dubbing artist. It was a journey of beautiful learning I must say.



**What specific skills or knowledge gained during your time at the college do you think were instrumental in your success as a dubbing artist?**

Honestly, our college helped me way more than I could ever have imagined. Anyone, including me, when you first hear Media and Communications would naturally think of papers, News channels and alike. But the various fields that come under this forte are unimaginable. Being introduced to Radio Jockeying and training myself in college helped me curb my fear of the mic, this training helped me use my voice fearlessly in front of the mic anywhere. The faculty members have also certainly helped me with content and voice modulation, and I owe my experience with Radio Marian to what I have achieved in my career.



**"Praavu" completed 25 days of successful screenings. How do you feel about being part of a project that achieved such a milestone?**

In short, it is God's blessing! Praavu is my fourth work as a dubbing artist, this movie is the directorial debut of Navaz Ali which has

many new faces as cast. This story of the movie is based on one of Padma Rajan sir's stories and was released only in specific theatres in Kerala to receive very good appreciation from the viewers and I am very happy about that. In this movie, I am dubbing for the heroine Yami Sona. Praavu will soon be released on some OTT platforms as well.



**Can you share some insights into the role of a dubbing artist and the challenges you faced while working on "Praavu"?**

One of the challenges I faced was Malayalam slang. The artist is from Thrissur so getting used to the dialogues and their timings was a little challenging for me. Nonetheless, a bit of practice and support from everyone helped me through this one-day dubbing.

**How did you come across the opportunity to work as a dubbing artist for this movie?**

My various works with Red FM, Club FM and

the space I got to grow gave me this chance. I was not very familiar with the dubbing field but my work as an RJ and the advertisement for which I had lent my voice were the only references I gave to a few contacts. That is how I met a senior dubbing artist Vishalam ma'am, I went to one of the studios where I had my voice test done through which I got this opportunity.

**What motivated you to choose a career in dubbing, and how did you discover your passion for this aspect of the media industry?**

All my previous work in college, my internship with Red FM and Club FM made me realise how voice can be used best to make a career out of it. Through the years I realised how talented so many people are in Kerala, to be able to make films, short films, and advertisements as well as how important voice is in them. Dubbing as a career came to me, it



was just the timing that helped the people from the industry recognize the potential in my voice. Also, it is not a mere 9 - 5 job, you have the freedom to work at your convenience and that is the best of it all.

**Any future projects you are working on?**

I have dubbed about 25 films of which 7 are for lead artists and rest are supporting artist voices. There are a few in line for release - DNA directed by T.S. Suresh Babu, Kuruvipappa directed by Joshy John and Pathimoonam Rathri directed by Maneesh Babu.

**A message to all those who wish to follow your career path.**

Embrace every opportunity to learn and explore different aspects of media. Building a versatile skill set is crucial in this dynamic industry. Networking and fostering connections can open unexpected doors.. Cherish the journey, learn from experiences, and always be open to new challenges – they often lead to the most rewarding opportunities.





MAJESTIC BCOM 1999 - 2002  
MARIAN COLLEGE  
KUTTIKANAM



SILVER JUBILEE  
REUNION DAY

തീരികൾ '23

DEC 23, 2023

9:00 AM



MARIAN COLLEGE  
KUTTIKANAM

Celebrating the journey of 25 years of friendship

REUNITE, REMEMBER & RELIVE

## തിരികെ '23

Harikumar P M (B Com 1999 - 2002)

Representative of BCom alumni

Governing Committee, MAAK

മധുരിക്കുന്ന ഓർമകളും നഷ്ടവസന്തങ്ങളും പേരി കാലചക്രം ഏതാണ്ട് 22 വർഷങ്ങളിലൂടെ കടന്നു പോയി. മജെസ്റ്റിക് ബി കോം ബാച്ചിന്റെ സുഹൃത് ബന്ധം മൊട്ടിട്ടു ഇത് 25ആം വർഷം. ഒരു കലാലയത്തിന്റെ തുടിപ്പുകൾ അതിന്റെ ഒരു മികവാനും ഭാവങ്ങൾ ഉൾക്കൊണ്ട മൂന്നു വർഷങ്ങളായിരിന്നു 1999 - 2002.

കുന്നിൻ മുകളിലെ ആ ഓർമ കൂടാരത്തിലേക്കു ഞങ്ങൾ ഒരു യാത്ര പോകുകയാണ്, 'തിരികെ', അതെ, തിരികേ ഒരു യാത്ര പോകുകയാണ്, ഞങ്ങളുടെ സ്നേഹബന്ധത്തിന്റെ 25ആം വർഷം ആഘോഷിക്കാൻ.

കോട മഞ്ഞും, ചാറ്റൽ മഴയും, സുഖ ശീതളമായ കാറ്റും എല്ലാം സാക്ഷിയാകുന്നു കൂട്ടിക്കാണത്തിന്റെ, മരിയന്റെ തിരുമുറ്റത്തേക്കു.....

കാലങ്ങൾക്കിപ്പുറം മറവികളിൽ മായാതെ ഞങ്ങളെ ചേർത്ത് നിർത്തിയ സുഹൃത്തുക്കൾ, ഗുരുനാഥർ... എല്ലാവരും ചേർന്ന് ഓർമകളുടെ താഴ്വരയിൽ നിറം മങ്ങാതെ.... പുതിയ കുറെ ഓർമപ്പുക്കൾക്കു വേണ്ടിയുള്ള ഒരു യാത്ര - തിരികെ '23

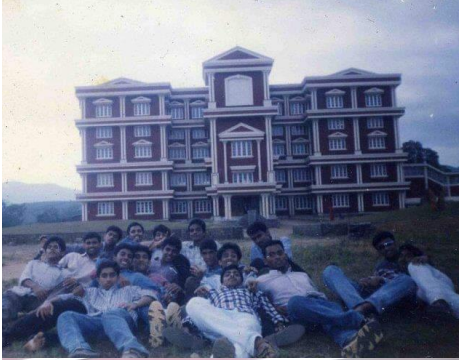


*Our dear teachers!*

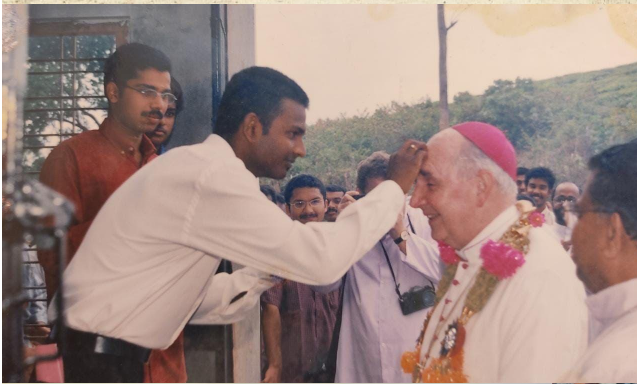


Given that these teachers haven't aged at all, it wouldn't be hard for current students or recent alumni to recognize their faces.

















Dubai Run, an annual fitness event organised by the Dubai Sports Council, brings people of all ages and fitness levels together against the stunning backdrop of the city's iconic landmarks. Fostering a sense of community and promoting an active lifestyle, it reflects Dubai's commitment to well-being and inclusivity. Notably, Marianites in UAE have enthusiastically participated, adding to the diverse and vibrant spirit of the event.

—  
Jijo Joseph  
MSW 2009 - 2011  
Secretary, MAAK UAE



# Launch of MAAK Cochin's Cycling Club

05 November 2023

"One of the most important days of my life was when I learned to ride a bicycle." For those familiar with the joy of cycling will find this statement true. Whereas for those who are yet to experience it, it's never too late to embrace the sheer joy it brings. On the 5th of November 2023, the Marianites at Cochin celebrated a momentous occasion with the launch of their new activity, the 'Cycling Club.' The inaugural ride commenced from JNI Stadium, Kaloor, Cochin, marking the beginning of an exciting venture for cycling enthusiasts within the community. Guided by experienced cyclists Jose Augustine and Joice Augustine, the maiden ride brought together the ever-enthusiastic alumni Alan Joseph, Bryno Baby, and Dennis Devadas.

The participants, guided by their experienced

leaders, explored the scenic routes of Cochin during the inaugural ride, creating a memorable and thrilling experience for all.

Their ride gained attention and recognition, being featured in Manorama Online under travel news. As the MAAK Cochin Cycling Club sets its wheels in motion, the club looks forward to more thrilling rides, growing companionship, promoting a healthy lifestyle, and inviting newcomers to share in the sheer joy of cycling.

Reflecting on their journey together, Joice Augustine, Jose Augustine, Alan Joseph, Bryno Baby, and Dennis Devadas shared their individual experiences, all of which echoed the universal joy that cycling brings.



### Joice Augustine (MCA 2009 - 12)

Technical Lead at Speridian Technologies

Hobbies: Travelling, driving, cycling and I am a foodie...

Cycling has become a regular part of my routine, although it wasn't a deliberate choice; it simply became a natural addition to my life during the pandemic. Thanks to my dear friend, a fellow marianite Jose Augustine who introduced me to the joy of cycling. During the pandemic, like everybody else we were stuck and that's when Jose initiated his usual research, stumbling upon the idea of cycle rides.

He bought a normal bicycle first, integrated a shifter and started riding. He kept me updated about the vibe and the feel he got through riding. I really got convinced when I heard that he bought a new mountain bike. Jose being the most practical and thoughtful person when it comes to spending money, I was so convinced that it is not a passing fancy for him which ended up me buying the same bicycle that he bought. That is how it all started. I cycled through my hometown, navigating hills and uneven roads, yet the experience was thoroughly enjoyable..

Later, I returned to Cochin with my bicycle and began cycling on flat roads. The experience was distinct from navigating hilly terrain – the exertion was reduced, and I could explore a greater expanse of roads. Subsequently, Jose also returned to Cochin, and now, cycling has become our favourite shared activity. I cannot express the feeling I experience while cycling in words. It is like an emotion - the freedom of movement, the rhythm of pedals, and the wind against my face... such a bliss!. Now we do participate in cycling events and most of the weekends we go for long rides to explore new places and to savour good food. We burn the calories in the same ride, so it is a win-win for us. The sense of accomplishment after a challenging ride or the simple pleasure of pedalling along a scenic route is something that gives us peace and happiness. For us, now it has become a source of joy, health and a way of life.

### The starting of MAAK Cycling Club

When I joined the MAAK Cochin Chapter, I met a lively group of people who genuinely enjoy each other's company and find joy in sharing even the simplest moments. Despite having various WhatsApp groups for family, friends, and work, this particular group stood out. Regardless of backgrounds or occupations, everyone is included, and I've observed people eagerly responding to messages. So, when Bryno invited me to head the Alumni Events group, I was more than happy to be a part of it.

During a casual conversation in our chapter's whatsapp group about cycling, I noticed quite a few were curious and shared an interest in cycling. The idea of forming a cycling club originated with the desire to share our joy with everyone. I discussed the idea of starting a cycling club with Jose and Bryno, who gave their green signal to the idea. At first, I was not sure about the execution of this idea as it requires physical effort and dedication, but after our first ride, I realised that we Marianites have the same vibe 😊





### Jose Augustine (MCA 2009 - 12)

Lead Software Engineer - UST Global, Infopark, Kochi

Hobbies: Cycling, Fitness enthusiast, Vlogger, Audio enthusiast

I am a fitness enthusiast, and during the lockdown, due to work-from-home schedules and restrictions, I gained some extra weight. To incorporate cardio into my routine workout, I initially bought an ordinary bicycle, uncertain if I would continue cycling. Adding 7 gears to the bike manually, I started pedalling through the roads in my hometown. I enjoyed the experience so much that I upgraded to a 24-gear bicycle later.

Cycling became a positive outlet for me, especially when I was able to help my young cousin cope with the grief of his mother's death. We started riding together around Kuttikkanam and Vagamon, covering around 4000 km in 1 year span. I'm thrilled that he also found cycling as a passion and stress reliever. Life's happiness can come from unexpected sources.

Post Covid season, Upon returning to the office, my friend and Marianite Joice joined me,

and we started cycling together in and around Cochin, covering about 2000 km so far. We've upgraded to road bikes, and between us, we have six bikes that we're happy to lend to those who join us for rides. We offer essential training and guidance to beginners, helping them stay on track. I'm also in charge of the Cycling Club at UST Global Kochi. I actively participate in cycling events, and it's my dream to explore and ride across India by bicycle.

*Note:*

*Please do visit Jose Augustine's Youtube Channel 'Cyclographer' to know about his exciting rides. Jose Augustine's fitness journey was [featured in Kerala's no.1 Fitness Channel - VIJO FITNESS & LIFESTYLE](#).*



### Dennis Devadas (MCom PGDBA 2003 - 05)

Asst. Vice President, IndusInd Bank, Cochin

My Motto: Simplicity Equates to greatness when you are true to yourself

**9 രൂപയ്ക്ക് ഒരു ദിവസത്തെ unlimited സൈക്കിൾ യാത്ര.**

സമയം രാവിലെ 6 മണി, ഫോണിൽ ബ്രയ്നോയുടെ ഒരു കോൾ. തലേന്ന് എല്ലാം



വിളിച്ചു സെറ്റ് ആക്കിയിരുന്നു. കുട്ടിക്കാനം Marian കോളേജ് കൊച്ചിൻ Alumni ചാപ്റ്ററിന്റെ ഒരു സെക്കിൾ യാത്ര അതായിരുന്നു പ്രോഗ്രാം. സ്വന്തമായി സെക്കിൾ ഇല്ലാത്ത ഞാൻ നേരെ വച്ചു പിടിക്കുന്നു കലൂർ മെട്രോ സ്റ്റേഷനിലേക്ക്.. എന്റെ വണ്ടി അവിടെ പാർക്ക് ചെയ്യുന്നു. My byke ആപ്പ് ഇൻസ്റ്റാൾ ചെയ്യുന്നു.. വരി വരിയായി വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു കുറേ സെക്കിൾസ്.. ഇഷ്ടപ്പെട്ട ഒരെണ്ണം സെലക്ട് ചെയ്യുന്നു, പേയ്മെന്റ് നടത്തുന്നു, സെക്കിൾ unlock ആവുന്നു.. എല്ലാം വളരെ പെട്ടെന്നായിരുന്നു.

വെറും 69 രൂപ അൺലിമിറ്റഡ് ride for a day.. പിന്നീട് നടന്നത് തികച്ചും ആസ്വദിച്ചു നടത്തിയ ഒരു സെക്കിൾ യാത്ര, a fun filled ride with an excellent breakfast.. വർഷങ്ങൾക്ക് ശേഷം നടത്തിയ ഒരു സെക്കിൾ യാത്ര..കുട്ടിന് Bryno, Alan, പിന്നെ സെക്സിന്റെ പുലികളായ ജോയിസും, ജോസും.. പറഞ്ഞു വരുന്നത് എന്താണെന്ന് വച്ചാൽ, നേരെ കാറും എടുത്തു വിടുക അടുത്ത മെട്രോ സ്റ്റേഷനിലേക്ക്. വണ്ടി അവിടെ പാർക്ക് ചെയ്യുക.. സെക്കിൾ അൺലോക്ക് ചെയ്യുക.. നിങ്ങളുടെ റൈഡ് എൻജോയ് ചെയ്യുക.. it was a moment of pure joy.. ഒരു സോഡാ നാരങ്ങാ വെള്ളവും കുടിച്ചു പാർക്ക് ചെയ്ത് കാറും എടുത്ത് തിരികെ നേരെ വീട്ടിലേക്ക്.. എല്ലാം ശുഭം.. a sunday well spent..!!



## Alan Joseph (BCom 2006 - 09)

Tax Consultant at Deloitte

I am a free spirit and Enjoy Outdoors, love to make friends and to keep myself engaged  
My Motto: Life is too short to be so serious

I set out to borrow Dario's bicycle on November 4th 2023. As I attempted to mount his bike, I was struck by the stark realisation of how much taller he was than me. I couldn't even touch the ground with my feet!

I set out with the intention of buying a new bicycle. After all, it's just a bicycle, right? But as I delved deeper into this world, I was surprised by different types of cycles designed for different purposes and fitting various price ranges. Finally, I found one that fits me, and needless to say, I was very excited!

However, I was doubtful whether the event would happen because it had been raining relentlessly on Saturday evening for around 4 to 5 hours. Nevertheless, Sunday morning was calm, and the sky appeared clear.



At 5:30 am, I set out on a solo warm-up ride from Kakkanad to the Stadium. The challenge was daunting for a novice like me, but what can I say; I am an ambitious guy! As always, I arrived at the meet up spot on time, and in a matter of minutes, Bryno joined me. Later, we

were joined by Joice, Jose, and Dennis, and together, we embarked on this journey.

I wasn't sure what to expect to be honest. What a view awaited us as we left the city outskirts! I learned that when you travel by car, you seldom appreciate the natural beauty that Kerala has to offer. For someone who has spent most of his life in Kuwait, where even buildings and sand share the same colour, it's a true pleasure to witness the natural beauty and greenery with which we are blessed. This beauty is all the more valuable in my eyes than others, perhaps because I was not much exposed to it. I have to say, with the guidance of Joice and Jose, I was completely in my zone, learning the gear system, trying to ride the cycle with one hand, zigzagging along the way, engaging in random conversations with

the guys, keeping an eye out for any angry dogs, and, of course, basking in the greenery as we rode together as a team.

We reached Puthu Vypin beach, where yesterday's rain had created a pond-like situation on the road to the beach. The old me might not have gone through it and would have just turned back, but for the ever-energetic duo, Joice and Jose, this was another way to experience cycling. With our pant legs rolled up, we eagerly plunged into the adventure. It was an unforgettable day!

On the way back, I couldn't complete the ride back to Kakkanad since I was too tired and had to hire an auto to return home. Nevertheless, I was happy that I had covered 30 km on my first ride. It's quite an achievement!

Reflecting on the entire experience, it was a journey of peace and tranquillity, savoured with a steaming and delicious breakfast, engaging conversations while cycling, picturesque beach scenery, and enriched by the presence of exceptional individuals to share the adventure with. What more could one ask for on a beautiful Sunday morning?

I found a new hobby. Be courageous and explore, guys, and you never know, you might end up enjoying cycling. I'm looking forward to seeing more people come forward to join us; Alan - Cycling Novice.



### **Bryno Baby (MCA 2009 - 12)**

Managing Partner at iROID Technologies,  
Managing Director at iROHUB Infotech  
Hobbies: Travelling, Programming  
My Motto: Think Unique, Think Smart

*(This write up was featured in  
[www.manoramaonline.com](http://www.manoramaonline.com) on 7/11/2023 under  
travel news: [കൊച്ചുവർത്തമാനങ്ങളുമായി  
പൂർവ്വിദുർത്ഥികളുടെ കൊച്ചി സവാരി](#))*

നവംബർ നാലാം തീയതി കൊച്ചിയിൽ മഴ കനത്തു പെയ്യുകയാണ്, നാളെയാണ് ചാപ്റ്ററിന്റെ സൈക്കിൾ ക്ലബിന്റെ ആദ്യത്തെ റൈഡ് തീരുമാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. എല്ലാവരുടെ മനസ്സിൽ ആശങ്കയാണ് പുതിയതായി വാങ്ങിച്ച സൈക്കിളിലിൽ റൈഡ് പോകുന്നത് സ്വപ്നം കണ്ടു ഇരുന്നത് മഴ കാരണം തടസ്സപ്പെടുന്നുമോ. രാത്രിയും മഴ കനത്തു പെയ്യുകയാണ് ഉറങ്ങാൻ കിടക്കുമ്പോഴും പുറത്തു മഴ ശബ്ദം കൂറയുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നായിരുന്നു ശ്രദ്ധ.

അങ്ങനെ സമയം 5:30 ആയി പുറത്തു മഴയുടെ ശബ്ദം കേൾക്കുന്നില്ല, വാതിൽ തുറന്നു ആകാശം നോക്കി കൊച്ചിൻ ചാപ്റ്ററിന്റെ സൈക്കിൾ റൈഡിനു വേണ്ടി മഴ മാറിനിൽക്കുന്ന പോലെ ആകാശം തെളിഞ്ഞു നിൽക്കുന്നു. മനസ്സിൽ സന്തോഷം നിറഞ്ഞു തുളുമ്പി.

അപ്പോഴേക്കും സമയം 6 മണി ആയി അലൻ കാക്കനാട് നിന്ന് പുറപ്പെടുന്നതിന്റെ ആദ്യ ഫോട്ടോ ഗ്രൂപ്പിൽ വന്നു പിന്നെ എല്ലാം പെട്ടന്ന് റൈഡി ആക്കി റൈഡ് സ്റ്റാർട്ടിങ് പോയിന്റ് ആയ സ്റ്റേഡിയം ലക്ഷ്യം ആക്കി യാത്ര തുടങ്ങി. അവിടെ ചെല്ലുമ്പോൾ അലൻ ബാക്കി ഉള്ളവരെ നോക്കി 8 കിലോമീറ്റർ സൈക്കിൾ ചവിട്ടി വന്ന ആവേശത്തിൽ നിലുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. താമസിയാതെ ഡെന്നിസ് ചേട്ടനും ജോയ്സും ജോസും എത്തി. പരസ്പരം കുശലം ഒക്കെ പറഞ്ഞു നിൽക്കുന്നതിനിടക്ക് ജോസ് അലന്റെ സൈക്കിളിന്റെ സീറ്റ് ഉയരം ഒക്കെ റൈഡി ആക്കി റൈഡിനു തയ്യാറായി. ഞങ്ങൾ മൂന്ന് പേർക്കും എന്താകും സൈക്കിൾ ചവിട്ടി അവിടെ എത്തുമോ തിരിച്ച ഓട്ടോക് പോരേണ്ടി വരുമോ എന്നുള്ള പേടി ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു അത് പക്ഷെ ജോസിന്റേം ജോയ്സിന്റെയും മോട്ടിവേഷനിൽ മുങ്ങി പോയി.

അങ്ങനെ കായൽ ഭംഗിയും തമാശകളും ആയി ഞങ്ങൾ പുതു വൈപ്പിൻ ബീച്ച് ലക്ഷ്യം ആക്കി യാത്ര തുടർന്നു. സൈക്കിൾ ചവിട്ടാൻ പേടി ആണ് എന്നു പറഞ്ഞ അലൻ അതിനിടയിൽ ഒറ്റക്കെ കൊണ്ട് സൈക്കിൾ ചവിട്ടാൻ ഉള്ള ട്രെയിനിങ്ങ് ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് നല്കാൻ തുടങ്ങി. അതിനിടയിൽ ജോസ് ക്യാമറയും ആയി ഞങ്ങൾക്കിടയിലൂടെ

അങ്ങോട്ടും ഇങ്ങോട്ടും പറന്നു നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതിനിടയിൽ ഇന്ത്യൻ ഓയിലിന്റെ റിഫൈനിയിൽ നിന്നും പെട്രോൾ കന്നാസിൽ കൊണ്ടുപോയി വിൽക്കുന്നതിനെ കുറിച്ചുള്ള ചർച്ചകൾ വരെ ഞങ്ങൾ നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇടയിൽ വിശപ്പിന്റെ വിളി കേൾക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയത് കൊണ്ട് വൈപ്പിൻ ഹാർബർ ജംഗ്ഷനിൽ ഉള്ള ഒരു ചെറിയ കടയിൽ കയറി മസാലദോശയും പൊറോട്ടയും ഒക്കെ ആയി വയറു നിറച്ചു.

ബീച്ചിന് അടുത്ത് എത്തിയപ്പോ മണൽ പരപ്പിൽ എത്തണം എങ്കിൽ വെള്ളക്കെട്ടിലൂടെ വേണം അപ്പുറത്തു എത്താൻ. പിന്നെ ഒന്നും നോക്കിയില്ല സൈക്കിളും തോളിൽ കയറ്റി വെള്ളക്കെട്ടിലൂടെ കടൽ തീരത്തേക്ക് വെള്ളക്കെട്ടിലൂടെ നടന്നു നീങ്ങി. അവിടെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നവർ ഇവന്മാർ സൈക്കിൾ ചവിട്ടാൻ ആണോ ചുമക്കാൻ ആണോ വന്നതെന്ന മട്ടിൽ നോക്കി നിലുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അങ്ങനെ അപ്പുറത്തെത്തി പൈൻ മരങ്ങൾക്കിടയിലൂടെയും കടൽതീരത്തുടേയും ഫോട്ടോയും വിഡിയോയും ഒക്കെ ആയി കുറച്ചുനേരം കറങ്ങി നടന്നു. അവിടെ നിന്നും ഓരോ തണുത്ത നാരങ്ങാ വെള്ളവും കുടിച്ചു തിരിച്ചുള്ള യാത്ര തുടങ്ങി. തിരിച്ചു പോരുമ്പോൾ എല്ലാവർക്കും അടുത്ത റൈഡ് എങ്ങോട്ടാണ് എന്നാണ് എന്നുള്ള ചർച്ചകൾ ആയിരുന്നു കൂടുതലും. ബീച്ചും കായലും ക്യാൻസ് വാക്യത്ത് എല്ലാം കണ്ടു തിരിച്ചെത്തുമ്പോൾ മനസ്സിൽ സന്തോഷവും അടുത്ത റൈഡിനുള്ള സ്വപ്നങ്ങളും ആയിരുന്നു മനസ്സുനിറയെ.







# The Ride continues

- ↑ Inspired by the ride on 05 Nov, Dennis decided to buy a cycle for his own, and to celebrate the new cycle, They set out for the 2nd instalment of their Cycling Series, to explore the Kadamakkudy Islands of Ernakulam on 19 Nov 2023.
- On 25 Nov 2023, Joice & Jose, participated in a Cyclathon organised by the Department of Women and Child Empowerment in connection with the International Day for Elimination of Violence against women, and they won medals for the same.



# The Success Ladder

*Dafy - 'The Vision of Young Mavericks'*  
Manikandan A K (BCom 2016 - 19)

'Do Anything for You' - That is Dafy - Dafy extends driver assistance services to a broad audience, with a primary mission of preventing instances of drunk driving. Our Dafy drivers go beyond traditional chauffeurs; they function as personal assistants, comprising well-trained professionals capable of offering more than just driving services. Among the key services Dafy presently provides are pickups from bars and clubs, hospital assistance, outstation

rides, and rides within the city.

The idea of DAFY first budded in my mind during my Bcom 4th semester. The business plan was generated by me and my best friends with the intention of presenting it at a startup event organised in our college. Unfortunately we couldn't participate in the event. After completing BCom, the onset of the COVID lockdown left us with idle time and our ideas stagnant. As the lockdown lifted and life returned to its old rhythm, this plan resurfaced in my thoughts. In 2021, four of my close friends joined with me to breathe life into this plan. Thus, the entrepreneurial vision we once dreamed of as students has become a reality.

The initial stage presented formidable challenges, as our business grappled with minimal revenue generation, making survival challenging in the absence of profits. As the primary contributor of capital, I found myself



financially drained at this stage. Despite these hurdles, this phase remains a highlight in my life, imparting valuable lessons on the significance of perseverance, optimism, and self-belief. Additionally, it offered the brotherhood of collaborating with college mates, adding enjoyment and excitement at our workplace. Nearly 50% of the boys from our class were, at one point, integral members of Dafy.

After a year and a half of relentless struggle, we gradually gained a foothold in the market, gaining a deeper understanding of its dynamics.

Acknowledging our shortcomings, we implemented substantial changes to our business, resulting in the present business model of Dafy.

Presently, Dafy has successfully accomplished 10,000 rides in Kochi and is gearing up for expansion into Kottayam.

Bookings can now be made via the IVR number 7592933933, and an enhanced app is set to launch by the first week of January 2024.

## Founders of



**Manikandan A K**  
CEO  
BCom 2016 - 19



**Stephin Jose**  
Finance & Accounts  
BCom 2016 - 19



**Jijo Louis**  
HR  
BCom 2016 - 19



# Spooky Reunion – Halloween Meetup

The Halloween themed music night on 29th October 2023, was more than just a blast; it was a portal to the past, where we got to relive the best moments of our college days with our old pals. The catchy tunes and lively atmosphere took us back to those days of freedom and fun. We were surrounded by familiar faces, and the night was filled with laughter and stories. The expertly blended songs matched the mood of our college years, sparking impromptu dance battles and nostalgic chats. The music and the energy created a space where we could reconnect, and where the past and present merged. It was a night of music and magic, where we felt the bond and the joy of those unforgettable college adventures.

Remya Rachel Abraham  
BBA 2008 - 2011  
Director - Events & Alumni Engagement  
MAAK UAE



*It's always heartwarming to see alumni coming together and keeping the bonds alive. The UAE chapter is leading the way in connecting alumni and setting an example for others to follow. Let's celebrate and cherish these memories that we create together.*

# Talent, Passion, and Enduring Friendship

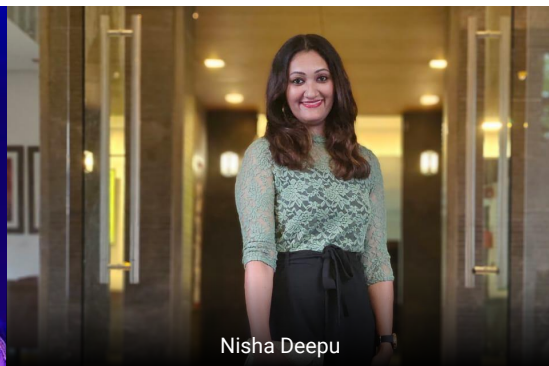
*Nisha Deepu (BCA 2001 - 2004)*

*Rupna Joby (BCom 2001 - 2004)*

Nisha & Rupna mesmerised the audience with a captivating performance at the annual gala of Kshetra Dance Academy in Cochin. Despite their hectic work-life schedules, these graceful ladies have dedicated time to pursue their passion. Witnessing these former college friends grace the stage together is not only a visual delight for us but also a testament to the enduring beauty of their shared passion & friendship.

Nisha Deepu is the Senior Content Specialist at Fingert Global Solutions Pvt Ltd, who believes in throwing happiness around like confetti and her poise and charm makes her an ideal fit for modelling too.

Rupna Joby is a happy homemaker and an avid explorer, who uplifts every occasion with her irresistible energy and vibrant charisma.



Nisha Deepu



Rupna Joby





Lia M Kurian  
BCA 2009 - 2012



## Reconnecting Under the stars

Wow, wow, wow! What an amazing time I had at the camping event organised by the Marian alumni at UAE! I had been dreaming of joining one of their awesome activities and when I saw the invitation for camping, I didn't hesitate for a second. I was so excited to meet new friends and have a blast in the great outdoors.

The day of the event was full of anticipation and butterflies. I only knew one senior from my batch, but there were many others from different years and they brought their families along. I wondered if I would get along with them. But as soon as we got there, we felt the friendliness and generosity of the group. They greeted us with hugs and cheers.

The location was breathtaking and ideal for

camping. Expo Lake is an exceptionally beautiful artificial lake that sparkles in the sun. It is a perfect place to spend some peaceful time with your near and dear ones or even solo as it is surrounded by greenery and tranquillity. The place was lively with activity as more members came and we pitched our tents. It was a fun way to connect with each other. We had a great time playing games and giggling under the stars. Games and Karoke were arranged as well, which made the night even more enjoyable and memorable.

We also had a tearful moment when we said goodbye to Juby, Richard, and Sanda.

Then we gathered for dinner and enjoyed a mouthwatering feast.

We bought half cooked products and cooked together for dinner, which added to the fun and bonding. It felt like a huge family gathering with tons of food and humour. It was such a fantastic experience. We exchanged some amazing stories that will stay in our minds forever. It was a wonderful night.

The next morning, we made breakfast together which gave us more time to chat and laugh. Then, we explored the area, snapped photos, and created memories.

When my husband and I left, we had made some incredible memories that we will treasure forever.

The Marian UAE folks made this camping adventure way more awesome than we expected. Kind faces, good vibes, and a friendship, we didn't see coming.







Celeste Francis  
MCMS 2017 - 19  
Editorial Board  
Member  
MAAK BOOK

## Aji Varghese; Social Entrepreneur

*He is not only a successful entrepreneur, but also a generous alum and a skilled networker. He always strives to create meaningful relationships and to contribute to the society with his innovative ideas and solutions. His passion and motivation are evident in his work and his achievements.*

**Hello Aji, your journey from being the first batch of Marian College in the early 2000s to being a successful serial entrepreneur is truly inspiring. Can you tell us briefly about your background and your businesses?**

Thank you !

I belong to the first batch of Marian College (1995 - 1998) and studied BCA.

Later I took my MCA and worked in the IT Industry for 15 years and the last 6 years I am into business. I have founded and run Indus Optics® (Optical Retail Chain), Malgudi Arts™ (Art & craft retail / Gift Shop) and operate a Bata Franchisee.

**Can you share some interesting insights into your Marian days and what is the one thing you consider unique about Marian?**



It was the most interesting part of my student life and I am in touch with almost all of my Marian friends and teachers. They were supportive at that time as well as these days too.

The unique thing about Marian is its ability to transform normal people to extraordinary professionals.

**What motivated you to become an entrepreneur and what made you select physical Retail business rather than IT (Your 15 years expertise was in fact in IT)?**

Good question. Job creation and adding value to society motivated me. Yes, Initially I did think about starting a Software Product Company but I found almost every student who is coming out from technical courses is getting a job easily. So even if I start it, since I am not making much impact in society, I didn't proceed.

At the same time, I found India lacking quality work culture and jobs in the physical retail sector (which I have seen abroad) so I have decided on this sector and work towards improving it in whatever little ways I can.

**Do you think your corporate career helped you in your entrepreneurial journey?**

Not much. Business is entirely different from Corporate Career. If I got a chance to start all over again, I would have started business immediately after my college days.

**Who has been a key inspiration in your journey? And why?**

My father. He was a hardworking good human being and his values were non-negotiable.

**Could you elaborate on your hiring philosophy? What is your priority? Is it intelligence, skills or educational qualifications when building your team?**

The philosophy is to hire people with a good value system, normal intelligence who share my vision.

Educational credentials is the last thing I look into. Majority of my team members are school dropouts.

**What role does networking play in your life / business endeavours?**

Networking is very important for a human being and especially for business people. I am

an active member of Marian Alumni Network and I found it a great platform for Networking.



**Are there any specific lessons you've learned along the path that you'd like to share with aspiring entrepreneurs?**

Since my path was different from theirs, my lessons might not help them much. In general I can say, being honest with all stakeholders and customer focus can be a good asset to all aspiring entrepreneurs.

**What are the current initiatives you are working on and what are your future aspirations?**

Right now I am working on two projects.

1. Creating Cost effective Remote Optometry equipment . This can help Optometrists to test the eyes remotely from anywhere in the world.
2. Working with the Government of India to establish standards for brass idols / artefacts. (like BIS Hallmarking for Gold)

My future aspiration is to expand my businesses.

Thank you





## Adding value to Campus visits

*Sajith Zacharia Cherian (BCA 2012 - 2015)*

Sajith Zacharia was on campus early November for interaction with the students of BCA. Mr Sajith is a Business Architect Specialist at Accenture.

It is a delight to interact with the students of Marian and we thank our Alma Mater for facilitating such interactions even during a casual visit to the campus.

## Shaping a better future for Students

*Asish Philip (BBA 2002 - 2005)*

Our college hosted MG University Curriculum Development Workshop for a four year BBA program from November 14 - 18th, under the auspices of Board of Studies Management (UG). MG University Syndicate member Dr Biju Pushpan, Board of studies Chairperson Dr Bindhu Gopinath, MG University Academic Council Member Dr Joshy John headed the session. Mr Asish Philip (Divisional Manager, SBI Life Insurance) was the resource person from the Insurance industry.



## Cricket World Cup Fever

MAAK Cochin, Events & Alumni engagement team organised an exciting online ICC World Cup '23 winners prediction contest for its members in October & November 2023. The contest was spearheaded by Dennis Devadas. The prediction polls were consistently posted throughout the match days. The winners were identified and selected on the basis of their active participation and accuracy in predictions. The contest provided members with a jovial feel of watching matches together, as they shared hilarious comments supporting their favourite teams. The announcement of the contest winner will take place during the Birthday Celebration scheduled on 17th Dec 2023.

## Spreading Hope this Christmas

MAAK Cochin has dedicated their Christmas Celebration to the children at Valsalyam Sisubhavan. Due to limited space and facilities, a small group of 15 to 20 person are visiting the Sisubhavan on **17 Dec** to spend some time with the kids from 4pm to 5pm. If you are in Cochin and wish to be a part of this initiative, do reach out. If you are unable to attend, please consider supporting by contributing whatever little you can to make a meaningful impact on their lives.

—  
Vijoy Varghese (+91 99471 92646)  
Coordinator - Alumni Welfare & Social Service  
MAAK Cochin



## Academic Milestone

*Rev Dr Robin Pendanathu (MSW 2012 - 2014)*

*We are thrilled to announce that Rev Dr Robin Pendanathu, Assistant Professor at NEISSR, has successfully defended his PH.D in Social Entrepreneurship As an Ameliorating factor for rural women empowerment in Kerala, from Assam Don Bosco University. This is a remarkable achievement that reflects his dedication and passion for social change. We are proud to have him as part of our alumni and we wish him all the best for his future endeavors.*





## Marian Alumni Association Kuttikkanam

MAAK/GenAdmin/AGBM/2023/01

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

### ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

Dear Marian Alumni,

Greetings from MAAK Governing Committee!

We are extremely delighted to inform you that the **Annual General Body Meeting** of 2023 will be held on **2023 December 22 (Friday)** on **online mode**. In this Meeting, we expect the active participation and cooperation of each alum, teaching and non-teaching staff of Marian College Kuttikkanam, since its inception. The Meeting will be held from **7.30 pm to 9.00 pm**.

Through this Meeting, we intend to reach out to more alumni, review the activities of MAAK since the installation of office bearers in January 2023.

The Annual General Body Meeting will be a precursor to Marian Diaries scheduled for August 2024.

The agenda of the Meeting will be shared with you soon.

We cordially invite the alumni community, teaching and non-teaching community of Marian College Kuttikkanam and look forward to your support, participation and cooperation throughout the AGBM 2023.

Adv. Nelson Joseph

President

Shwetha Pramod

Vice President-General Administration

Ammu Sara Abraham

Secretary

Marian College Kuttikkanam (Autonomous)  
Kuttikkanam P.O, Peermade, Idukki District,  
Kerala, India - 685531

Liaison Officer: +91 6235924806  
President: +91 9446926669  
Secretary: +91 8289940963



## Alumni Career Talk ft. Juby Chandy

The Career & Professional Development Wing of MAAK presents the 1st Episode of Alumni Career Talk Series featuring our esteemed alum:

Juby Chandy (BBA 1995 - 1998)

Whole-time Director & CFO

GlaxoSmithkline India

Saturday • 09 Dec 2023 • 6 PM (IST)

*Stay tuned for Zoom meeting details*

## Cultivating Success!

Our alumni network is a valuable resource for our students who aspire to join the industry. This year, they have shown their support by facilitating the placement of our students in prestigious firms like EY, Deloitte and Accenture. Mock interviews, seminars and workshops were conducted to prepare the students to face the interviews.

We are proud of our students and their achievements and we hope they will have a bright future.





Few glimpses from SAPTAK 2023, മരിയൻ കളോത്തവം





Sherin P Shaji

BACE 2013 - 2016

Asst. Prof. MCMS Department, Marian College Kuttikkanam Autonomous



## KIFF 2023 – Kalinga Cinematic ecstasy at Kuttikkanam

### *6th Kuttikkanam International Film Festival in November*

In a grand celebration of cinematic artistry and cultural richness, 6th Kuttikkanam International Film Festival (KIFF) unfurled its grand celebration from the 8th to the 11th of November 2023. The festival, hosted by Kuttikkanam Marian College in collaboration with Medios Talkies Film Society, Kerala State Film Academy, and the Federation of Film Societies in India, proved to be a captivating journey into the world of meaningful cinema.

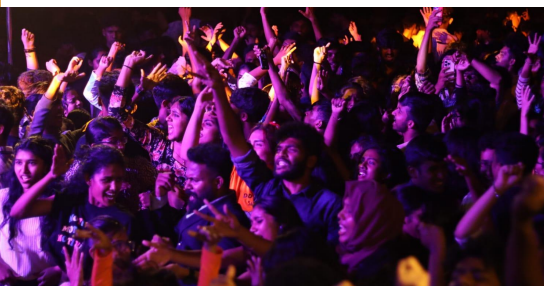
The inaugural ceremony of KIFF 2023 was graced by the esteemed presence of Director and actor Johnny Antony, along with the virtual participation of Kerala's Water Resources Minister, Roshy Augustine. Notable speakers

included Peerumedu MLA Vazhoor Soman, College Principal Prof. Dr. Ajimon George, Sri. Shaji Ambattu from the Kerala State Film Academy, Fr. Joseph Pogathanam, Administrator - Marian College, Prof. M Vijayakumar, Director of MCMS department, Fr. Sobi Thomas, HoD MCMS department, Anson Thomas, faculty coordinator KIFF, and student coordinators Sreedevi Sreenivasan, Harikrishnan CR, and Leo J Johnson. The Festival Book was ceremoniously released by Shri. Vazhoor Soman, handed over to Principal Prof. Dr. Ajimon George.

The cinematic journey commenced with an inaugural address featuring the immortal words of legendary actor Charlie Chaplin, drawn from his iconic speech in the movie



As the festival unfolded, the second and third nights witnessed an influx of students drawn to a diverse array of art programs hosted by Band DJ Zetris and Marian Students. This fusion of artistic expressions added another layer of vibrancy to the KIFF experience.



"The Great Dictator." The opening movie, "The President" by Mohsen Makhmalbaf, set the tone for the festival's exploration of this year's theme, "KIFF - Kalinga," which delves into the aftermath of wars.

KIFF 2023 hosted a short film competition, with the top honor going to "Vyadhi," directed by Anjitha V. The winning film received Rs 10,000 and a citation. The festival further enriched its program with master classes led by director and screenwriter Jio Baby and director-cinematographer Sunny Joseph. An open forum on gender and cinema, skillfully moderated by Anson Thomas, featured a panel comprising Parvathi Chandran (Activist and Media Professor), Assanu Augustine (Lyricist and Poet), and Augustine Mangalathin (Film Society Activist).

Established in 2018, KIFF has consistently aimed to provide a screening platform for artistically valuable films on various social issues in the serene setting of Kuttikanam. The festival has attracted notable figures like Director Dr. Biju, Editor Ranjan Abraham, Poet Vayalar Sarath Chandra Varma, and Screenwriter Shahi Kabir, who have engaged with festival attendees in the past.

The valedictory address and NOVITA - newspaper release were presented by Very Rev. Fr. Bobby Alex Mannamplackal, Vicar General of the diocese of Kanjirappally and Manager of Marian College Kuttikkanam Autonomous.



Novita newspaper handover by Very Rev. Fr. Bobby Alex Mannamplackal to Assistant Prof. Sherin P Shaji.

KIFF 2023 officially drew its curtains with a vote of thanks by Fr. Sobi Thomas, HoD MCMS department, extending gratitude to all contributors and participants who contributed to the symphony of cinematic brilliance and intellectual discourse. The festival showcasing 17 poignant war-themed films with the audience, comprising more than 450 students and delegates, was a testament to the transformative power of cinema, bid adieu, leaving indelible imprints on the artistic consciousness of Kuttikkanam.

Watch more on YouTube live:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/IZBYtnv4dnc>

[https://www.youtube.com/live/iGM14\\_2FV1Y](https://www.youtube.com/live/iGM14_2FV1Y)

<https://www.youtube.com/live/LAamTKDnGyg>



## Social Work Conference at Marian

The 8th Kerala Social Work Students Congress by the Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers Students Forum took place in our college on 24th and 25th of November. With a total of 570 participants including students from 30 social work colleges across Kerala, the conference was wholly coordinated by our students. Along with the paper presentation it included cultural programs and input sessions as well.



MARIAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION KUTTIKKANAM  
**KOTTAYAM CHAPTER**

Cordially invites all alumni and teachers to join us

**27  
DEC  
2023**  
5 PM ONWARDS

Inauguration of Kottayam Chapter

Installation of Office Bearers

Christmas & New Year Celebrations

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REGISTER NOW  
STAY TUNED FOR MORE UPDATES

Lets celebrate this Christmas with MAAK Kottayam

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

BALU M KRISHNA  
CHAIRPERSON (ELECT)  
95623 89755

ANITA SEBASH  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON (ELECT)  
99619 09006

ABIN M ABRAHAM  
SECRETARY (ELECT)  
94471 72508



*Captured by Dan George Idiculla  
(BCom 2014 - 2017)*

The photo shows the college ground, where people gather to play and watch the sport, despite the cold weather. Muniyari is a small village in Uttarakhand that is far away from any major city or railway station. The nearest one is 360 kms away. But that does not stop them from enjoying the game they love. They have a football ground near their village, where they practice and compete with each other. The ground is surrounded by beautiful mountains and greenery, creating a scenic backdrop for the sport.

# Thank you!



We love to hear from our alumni and share their stories in MAAK BOOK. This newsletter is just a glimpse of the amazing things you are doing around the world. Whether you have achieved something remarkable, met up with old friends, found some nostalgic photos, or have some insights to share, we want to know. Please contact us if you want to contribute to our future editions and make this newsletter more valuable.

[alumni@mcka.in](mailto:alumni@mcka.in)

*For private circulation among the Alumni, Students and Faculty of Marian College Kuttikkanam (Autonomous).*