

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2014 – 2015
(Released on Prize Day, Friday, 8 May, 2015 in the presence of the Chief Guest,
The Honourable Ram Naik,
Governor of Uttar Pradesh and Visitor of the College**

It is my privilege to present the 168th annual report of La Martiniere College, for the session 2014 – 2015.

The Academic Session began on Wednesday, 9 April, 2014 and concluded on 31 March, 2015.

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS

Mr Javed Usmani, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, was replaced by Mr Alok Ranjan as the senior Trustee. Mr Alok Ranjan has the distinction of being an alumnus of the College. Mr Shashikant Pandey, Legal Remembrancer was replaced temporarily by Mr Abdul Shahid. Thereafter Mr Aniruddha Singh was appointed as Legal Remembrancer and Principal Secretary (Judicial) Government of U. P.. He serves in that capacity as the other Trustee of the Lucknow Martin Charities.

Among the members of the Local Committee of Governors, the following changes took place:

The Senior Judge, Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court and Chairman, Mr (Justice) Uma Nath Singh was replaced by Mr (Justice) Imtiaz Murtaza. Justice Murtaza was in turn replaced by Mr (Justice) Dinesh Maheshwari. While thanking the previous Chairmen for their sagacity in decision-making related to the College, we welcome Mr (Justice) Dinesh Maheshwari to direct the Local Committee of Governors.

Maj. Gen. Suresh Gupta, Sub-Area Commander, Lucknow was replaced by Maj. Gen. R. S. Malave. Both Generals have contributed readily and greatly to the College.

Mr Sanjeev Dubey, as Commissioner, Lucknow Division was replaced by Mr Sanjeev Saran. When Mr Saran demitted office, he was replaced by Mr Kumar Kamlesh and thereafter by Mr Mahesh Gupta who continues to serve on the Committee.

The other members of the Committee include Mr Peter Fanthome, Member of Legislative Assembly, Uttar Pradesh, Justice (Retd) Alok Kumar Singh and Mr Raj Shekhar, District Magistrate.

Thanks are extended to each member of the Local Committee of Governors.

BEREAVEMENT

The College Flag was lowered to half mast on 17 March, 2015 on receiving the news of the death of Mrs Beatrice (Betty) Dignum, who, along with her husband served the College for decades. She passed away at the age of 92 in South Africa where she had made home with her daughter. Generations of boys had been taught by her and the condolence messages that flowed in were affectionate and genuine.

Mr Suraj Pal, former peon of the College passed away a brief illness as did Mr and Mrs Serrao formerly Steward and Housekeeper of the College.

Within the College community, the demise of parents of pupils and close relatives of members of Staff was announced and prayers were offered in Chapel. Old Martinians including Mr Vinod Mehta, Journalist, Capt. S. K. Singh, former College Captain, Mr Sangeet Dua, Mr Bhuvnesh Chawla, Mr Saurabh Rastogi and Mr Aditya Sharma died during the year. These gentlemen are specially remembered as prayers in the Chapel were specially requested by either members of their families or by well-wishers.

STAFF

RETIREMENTS

Mr Derrick Crawford Clarke born on 13 June, 1954, joined the Staff of La Martiniere College in 1980. While in College, he took an active part in games, including Hockey, Boxing, Swimming and Football. His interests extended to English Drama, choral singing and the NCC. He almost always resided on the campus from the time of his appointment.

In 2011 Mr Clarke was appointed as Housemaster, Martin House. In view of his long, distinguished and loyal contribution to the College, the Local Committee of Governors was pleased to elevate Mr Clarke to the post of 2nd Assistant in May, 2013. He was the senior-most member of Staff in the College. His sagacity was always relied upon in decision making.

Mrs Neelum Singh was born on 18 June, 1953. Having completed her schooling in Bareilly, she graduated from Loreto Degree College. She then earned three Masters' Degrees in Political Science, History and English, besides a Bachelor of Education degree. She joined the Staff of La Martiniere College after having gained nearly thirteen years of teaching experience.

As a student, Mrs Singh was deeply interested in Basketball, Badminton, Swimming, rifle-shooting and Softball. Her interest in co-curricular activities, including debating led to her being appointed Secretary of the College Debating Team. Under her guidance, the Debating Team of the College flourished. Firm, but caring, she endeared herself to the senior-most boys of the College to whom she taught English and Political Science.

COLLEGE STAFF

Appointments

The following appointments were made during the year:

Regular Appointments

Mr Anshuman Agnihotri	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Hitesh Keswani	from	07 April, 2014
Mrs Faye McFarland	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Jitendra Kumar Mishra	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Navneet	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Pankaj Rawat	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Dushyant Kumar Shukla	from	07 April, 2014
Mr Alok Misra	from	05 July, 2014
Mrs Gail Naher	from	01 August, 2014
Mr Deepak Nigam	from	01 August, 2014
Mr Warren Richard Hopkins	from	03 September, 2014
Mr Desmond Michael	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Austin Masih	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Nigel Hopley	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Walter Joseph	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Leonard John	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Ram Awadh Ram	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Christopher Gordon	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Atul Kumar Srivastava	from	01 November, 2014
Mr Ajay Kumar Singh	from	01 November, 2014

Each member of Staff is wished a long and happy tenure in the College.

Resignation

Mrs Saba Baig resigned on 31 July, 2014 to take up a new assignment in Mexico
Mrs Ranjana Chakravarti on 10 May, 2014 on Medical grounds
Mr Avi Scott resigned on 29 December, 2014 for better prospects
Ms Monica Koorichh on 23 November, 2014.
Mrs Debra Johannes resigned on 22 February, 2015 and has resettled in Australia
Mr Hitesh Keswani resigned on 31 March, 2015 to continue higher studies.

Temporary Appointments

For minimum disruption to studies in the College, there has been need throughout the year to invite teachers in a temporary capacity to tide over absence due to ill health and other contingencies. The College gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the following persons who assisted during the year in temporary capacities:

Guest Lectures

Mr Anurag Sinha

Temporary Staff

Mr Amarnath
Mrs Shail Agnihotri
Diya Badgel
Mr Darryl Bennett
Mr Ashit Oscar Bosman
Mr Christopher Gordon
Mr Nigel Hopley
Mr Rohin John
Mr Walter Joseph
Mrs N. Madhyan
Mr Prosenjit Mandal
Mr Austin Masih
Mr Milan Mathews
Mr Errol McGrath
Mr Desmond Michael
Ms Anumeha Nigam
Mr Deep Kumar Nigam
Mr Ram Awadh Ram
Ms Kirtika Santram
Mr Ajay Kumar Singh
Mr Raghbir Singh
Mr Atul Kumar Srivastava

Extension of Service

Mr Austin Morris, was granted an extension of service as Co-ordinator, Council Matters.

Awards for Long and Meritorious Service

This year marks the completion of 25 years of dedicated service to the College by Mrs Rita Mullick. While thanking her for her contribution to the College, the College shall be recommending to the Local Committee of Governors, two advance increments to her monthly salary as a token of esteem.

This year also marks the completion of 20 years of dedicated service to the College by Mrs Rachna Tandon.

Both ladies shall be presented awards for long and meritorious service at Prize Day, 2015. They are well-loved and respected by the boys who have been in their care.

New Arrivals

The Martiniere family was happy to welcome babies born to members of Staff during the year:

Mr Parag Wesley and his wife were blessed with a baby boy, Azel, on 2 June, 2014.

Mrs Lynette Gupta and her husband were blessed with her second son Reyaan on 18 November, 2014.

Mr Ashok, Superintending Electrician and his wife were blessed with a baby boy Ansh, born on 10 March, 2015.

These infants are wished good health as La Martiniere welcomes them into the family.

ACADEMIC

ENROLMENT

As on 31 March, 2015 there were 4239 pupils on the roll of the College. This includes, 456 boys in the Preparatory Department. The day-scholar strength was marked at 3794. There were 295 Resident Scholars of whom there were 26 Foundationers and 02 Demi-Foundationers. Children of Staff of both Lucknow La Martiniere Colleges totalled 122.

SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATIONS

Indian School Certificate (ISC) Year 12

In March 2014, 177 candidates were registered for the ISC (Year 12) Examination conducted by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations. 174 candidates wrote the examination and 173 were awarded Pass Certificates.

Utsav Garg of the Science stream stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 98.25% in the four best subjects. He has also been awarded the Mr Justice Jagdish Sahai Memorial Medal for the pupil with the highest marks in both La Martiniere institutions in Lucknow.

Abhinav Agarwal and Ayush Mehrotra placed First in the Commerce stream, each with an aggregate of 97%. Faraz Haider achieved the First position in the Humanities stream with an aggregate of 96.5%.

Perfect scores of 100 marks each were achieved in Computer Science by Utsav Garg. This was replicated in History and Political Science by Faraz Haider and in Biotechnology by Brandon Godin.

Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) Year 10

For the ICSE examination conducted by the Council for the India School Certificate Examinations in March 2014. 285 candidates were registered of which 282 candidates were awarded Pass Certificates.

Vikramaditya Vir Singh stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 97% in the five best subjects. He has the honour of carrying the College Flag to lead the Academic Procession on Prize Day. He has also been awarded the Mr Justice Jagdish Sahai Memorial Medal for the pupil with the highest marks in both La Martiniere institutions in Lucknow.

Harsh Karamchandani stood Second with an aggregate of 96.6%, while Tushar Jape placed Third with 96.2%.

HEALTH & CATERING

Apart from seasonal illnesses, coughs, colds, cuts and bruises, the health of the students, particularly that of the resident-scholars was good. During epidemic season, special precautions were taken especially for Dengue, Conjunctivitis and H1N1 Influenza, known as Swine Flu. Maintenance of hygiene, protection against mosquitoes and purity of drinking water have gone a long way in ensuring the good health of the boys.

We are grateful to the visiting physician, Dr Mukesh Handa, and to the Hospital Matron, Mrs Shiny Oommen and Mr K. C. Dwivedi, the nursing orderly for supervising the health of the boys. Mrs Oommen takes particular care of the resident scholars and also advises on community health issues related to the ancillary Staff quartered on the estate.

The College is deeply grateful for the excellent service provided by the kitchen and dining hall staff, ably supervised by Mr Trevor Medley, Steward and Mr Collin Aitkins, Housekeeper. Senior boys Aashwin Chaudhary and Raghav Gupta who served on the Food Committee provided a daily appraisal of meals and participated in the planning of menus along with members of Staff including Mrs Anupama Srivastava and Mrs A.M. Gomes.

ANNUAL COLLEGE EVENTS

Prize Day

The Annual Prize Day was held on Saturday, 24 April, 2014. The College was privileged to have, as Chief Guest, Mr (Justice) Dhananjay Chandrachud, Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court of Judicature and Mrs Kalpana Chandrachud as Chief Guests. Mrs Chandrachud distributed the prizes to the boys of the Junior School. Justice Chandrachud delivered an inspiring message to the boys and their parents. The College presented a compact disc with his entire message to each pupil of Class 6 and above.

Prize Day was used as an occasion to release a coffee table book on the College, titled: *Constantia: A Living Monument*. Conceived and executed by *The Times of India*, this book elegantly showcases the history of the College and captures the spirit of the institution through outstanding photographs and artwork.

Live coverage of the event was beamed on YouTube by the photography Club of the College. Giant digital screens ensured that every guest was able to glimpse significant moments in the ceremony.

NCC cadets paraded before the Chief Guest. The Middle School Choir sang *The Prayer* by Celine Dion and Andrea Botticelli followed by the Football Anthem *You'll Never Walk Alone*.

Later, the prize Winners and Staff shared dinner with the Chief Guest on the Principal's lawn.

Brian Silas Concert

Renowned pianist, Brian Silas was the Chief Artiste at a programme organised by La Martiniere Alumni – *An Evening at Constantia* on 27 April, 2014. The piano was set up on East Terrace and the select audience enjoyed the music in a tastefully decorated environment. Catering by the Taj Vivanta added to the pleasure of the evening. The programme was organised as a fund-raiser for the conservation of *Constantia*.

Junior School Investiture

Pupil-authorities for the Junior School were selected for the year and a ceremony to mark this was held in the Junior School on 3 May, 2014. Shaun Morrison was appointed as School Captain, while Ronit Singh assisted him as School Vice-Captain. Harjot Singh Lamba, Abheesht Shukla, Manit Kapoor and Shabih Jafar were elected Captains of the Houses – Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyon, Martin, respectively.

Evening Bazaar

The Evening Bazaar was held on Thursday, 8 May, 2014 on *Fairydale*. With the large grounds and ample parking space, it was a very pleasant evening. The proceeds of the raffle and the profit from the stalls were contributed towards the conservation of *Constantia*. The net contribution from the proceeds of the Evening Bazaar was Rs 9,36,894/-.

Summer Camps

Camps for swimming, football, cricket, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, personality development, dancing, taekwondo, writing and theatre were held in the months of May and June. Besides qualified professionals, special thanks are extended to the teaching Staff, each of whom spent a few days supervising the conduct of these programmes.

Inter- Martiniere Debate

The Lucknow Inter-Martiniere Debate for the Martin Memorial Trophy was held in Spence Hall on 2 August, 2014. Mr Anand Sagar, Alumnus and renowned journalist was the Chairman. The topic for the debate was 'Damage to the environment is inevitable when standards of living improve'. The Motion was proposed by the boys. The Motion was carried. Prachi Tripathi was adjudged the Best Speaker.

Independence Day Celebrations

On the 15th of August, a special Assembly was held in the Junior School campus.

The entire Staff of the College and the pupils of *Constantia* campus were present at the Independence Day parade at East Terrace. Mr Vijay Shankar Mathur, IPS an alumnus of the College, and his wife were the Chief Guests. Mr Mathur took the salute and spoke to the boys of his own days in the College.

In the evening, the Annual Entertainment Programme in Hindi was held. *Bhola Ram Ka Jeev* a play highlighting corruption, was staged under the direction of Mr Nagesh Shukla. The satire was well-received. Bratish Poddar and Badrul Amin Siddiqui were jointly awarded the Prize for Histrionics in Hindi. The Junior School items included *Meethi Vani* for which Neelansh Agarwal was awarded a special prize for Histrionics for the role of Rajjo. A variety of dances and songs from different sections of the school completed the evening.

Inter-Martiniere Meet

The Inter-Martiniere Meet was held in Lucknow from 25 to 29 August, 2014. The contingent was warmly welcomed by the boys. The visiting teams stayed with the boys in their dormitories according to age. It is heartening to note that the boys bonded immediately. It is in this spirit that the fixtures have been conceived. The Kolkata teams won the fixtures.

Teachers' Day

Teachers' Day was celebrated with enthusiasm. A special Assembly in both campuses was held. The much awaited section on mimicry was well-received when the boys reproduced on stage, the idiosyncrasies of their teachers. This light-hearted effort was taken in good spirit by the teachers so represented.

Founder's Day Celebrations

Preceding the celebrations on Founder's Day, the Past vs Present Football match was played on Polo Ground on 12 September, 2014. A large turnout of former pupils, dressed in special football kit, added to the excitement of the event. The Present won the match by 1-0.

On 13 September, 2013, the Founder's Commemoration Service was addressed by Rev Sammy Mathai, an alumnus of the College. Rev. Mathai made an immediate connect with the boys, relating to them, some of his experiences as a pupil in the College and then linking it with the Word of God.

Wreaths were laid on the Founder's tomb by representatives of all sections of the College and La Martiniere Girls' College. The joint choir of La Martiniere girls and boys sang in the Chapel. Select bagpipers from the College band played *Abide With Me* and buglers from the Gorkha Regiment sounded the *Last Post*. The replica of the College standard or 'Battle Honours' was ceremonially paraded.

The Inter-House and Individual Swimming Championships concluded with Aashwin Chaudhary, Nilansh Gupta and Adnan Ahmad being declared the Senior, Junior and Colt Champions respectively.

Interesting innovation included the introduction of Water Polo, plate diving, swimming in a ring, an underwater relay and relays between the Past, Present and Staff teams.

In the afternoon, in keeping with the Will of the Founder for a feast to be provided to the boys on the day commemorating his death, the Founder's Feast was laid out in Sykes Hall.

In the evening, the Annual Entertainment programme in English was held. Mrs Genevieve Lobo directed the all time favourite *The Dear Departed*. Bryan David Rafi was awarded the Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Award for Histrionics for assaying the role of Amelia Slater. This was a particular honour as he has won this award twice, consecutively.

The Junior School presented *The Wizard of Oz* and an assortment of dances and songs ensured the participation of the different sections of the College.

Vishwakarma Puja

The College Workers make every effort to celebrate Vishwakarma Puja with dignity. On 17 September, 2014, the rituals were conducted in the College workshops followed by a community meal. The workers challenged each other to matches of *Kabbadi*. The Bursar's Team defeated the Maintenance Team. The boys were caught up in the spirit of the game and also played against the Workers' Team.

Constantia Day

Constantia Day, on 1 October, commemorates the establishment of the school on this day in 1845. Pupils and teachers spoke on the history of the College and the building. An extract from the College records in which this fact of history is recorded was photographed and displayed.

The annual College magazine *Constantia* was released on this day. The attractive covers were designed by Yusuf Ahmad and Tauheed Raza, both of 11C. Mrs Sandra Godin put in considerable effort for the English Section assisted by Student Editors Shashwat Srivastava and Anant Rastogi. Dr Amit Awasthi edited the Hindi Section with special assistance by Student Editor Sauhard Srivastava.

Mr Alexander Clarke and Dr Amit Awasthi also supervise the on-line publication of *The Martiniere Post*, in English and Hindi, respectively.

The annual *Year Book* compiling the profiles of the School-leaving Class is put together by Mrs Sandra Godin. This is a treasured possession for boys when they leave the College.

Gandhi Jayanti

The resident Staff and boys and some day-scholar pupils joined together in the College Chapel for a brief Prayer Service and to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the anniversary of his birth. The portrait of the Mahatma was garlanded by different sections of the school. Prayers for peace from the Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Sikh and Jain traditions were recited by the boys who represent these faiths in the College.

SPIC-MACAY Programmes

La Martiniere College in association with SPIC-MACAY, organized a series of Lecture-Demonstrations and Recitals from 13th to 16th October, 2014.

Pt Vishwa Mohan Bhatt introduced the Mohan Veena with a recital or the Resident Scholars on 13 October, 2014 and then played for the entire College the next morning in Spence Hall.

Pt Ronu Majumdar played the Flute and explained the intricacies of the instrument and the melody to the boys on 15 October, 2014.

Calligraphy workshops were conducted over two days in Spence Hall by well-known calligrapher Mr Anis Siddiqui.

The weeklong programme culminated in a night of Sufi Music at the recently restored tomb of Boulone Lise on the estate. The boys presented a Sufi dance and a traditional song before the world-renowned troupe of Sufi Singers of Ustad Mohammad Ahmed Khan Warsi of the Rampur *Gharana* on the evening of 16 October, 2014.

Hodson Memorial Day

On 10 November, 2014, Lt. Gen. Anil Bhalla, Col. Commandant of 4 Horse (Hodson's Horse regiment) visited the College and the tomb of Major Hodson on the estate. This has become an annual feature, which is attended by all the boys of Hodson House.

Children's Day

Children's Day in both campuses was marked by the Staff preparing special entertainment for the boys. In the Junior School campus, the teachers presented a Raj Kapoor Special *Eechak Dana* from the movie *Shree 420* much to the delight of the children and the dance sequence from the title song from the movie *Bang! Bang!* The teachers were requested to perform the items for the pupils of *Constantia* Campus later that morning.

In *Constantia* Campus, the Pupil Authorities took over the Chapel Service an Assembly in the manner of the Principal, Heads of Sections and Housemasters imitating the idiosyncrasies of each. After a special treat prepared by the College kitchens, the teachers presented typical classroom situations and mimicked particular pupils, to the enjoyment of all. A special shadow show for the boys to guess their teachers by identifying their shadows was a popular segment. Later, many members of staff walked the ramp in different costumes, to the merriment of the boys.

Hodson's Run

Hodson's Run, with the traditional marathon distances was run on 15 November, 2014. Staff and students alike participated. The winners were Adrian Aitkins in the senior category and Mohammad Shadman among the Juniors.

Sports Day

The 132nd Annual Inter-House Athletics Meet and P.T. Display were held on 29 November, 2014. This was preceded by a month long series of Athletics events, commencing with an oath taking ceremony and tug-of-war.

Mrs Arzoo Baker, Principal, Al Huda Model College, was the Chief Guest for the Junior Campus events. The boys presented well-coordinated drill, appreciated by all the parents present. The presentation of different *aasans* in Yoga was most commendable. The Gymnastics team put up an excellent display.

The Middle and Senior School programme was held in the afternoon. Dr Syed Khurshid Hasan, Chief Medical Superintendent of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Hospital and Mrs Hasan were the Chief Guests. An alumnus of the College, he continues to hold the record for the Junior Pole Vault. His presence and his words was an inspiration to the boys. For the first time, the horses in the College were a part of the display. Riders on horseback escorted the Chief Guest and a salute at canter was presented. The high standard displayed in all the events led to the Chief Guest announcing a holiday for the boys.

The College bagpiper band presented an exceptional display on Sports Day. Not only was the March Past of athletes accompanied by martial music, but the Band displayed traditional marching formations, which were announced as these formations were executed.

Lyons House was judged the best squad in turnout and marching and was presented a large chocolate cake. Adrian Aitkins, Sarthak Kumar and Ankit Kumar were declared the Senior, Junior and Colt Champions respectively. Raghuvendra Singh was judged the Best Gymnast (Apparatus) while Siddhartha Ghosh received the same honour for mat-work. Albert Phillips was judged the best all-round gymnast. Hodson House won the Central Command Trophy for Athletics.

Special thanks are extended to the Vice Principal, Mr Peter Collins for the overall co-ordination of the entire event. The Physical Education Teachers, Mr Deepak Sahae, Mr K. N. Singh and Mr Nafees Ahmad and Mrs Sangeeta Sahae trained the boys for the well-coordinated P. T. Display. None of this would be possible without the efficient and meticulous attention to detail of the Athletics Secretary, Mr Allan Morrison and the Games' Secretary, Mr Alfred Gomes.

Events Organized by the Pupils of La Martiniere College

It is a great joy to announce and recognize the autonomous organization of events exclusively by the boys of the College. What began as a tentative experiment has now become an established practice for some the most popular and highly acclaimed events of the College. The boys, guided by their teachers and with the resources of the College in place plan every element of the programmes. The level of involvement is high and the overall result in planning and training is obvious. Among the events conducted exclusively by the boys were:

- **The Indian International Model United Nations Society** organised the Lucknow Chapter from 18-20 July, 2014 at La Martiniere College. The General Secretary for the assembly was Raghav Kohli of La Martiniere College who also presided over 170 delegates representing different schools of Lucknow. The Chief Guest at the Opening Ceremony was Mr. Dinesh Sharma, Mayor of Lucknow.

Mr. Anand Sagar, renowned journalist was the keynote speaker. La Martiniere College was adjudged the best delegation with Seth M R Jaipuria School being the runners up. Prizes were distributed at the closing ceremony by Director General of Police, Mr Anand Lal Banerjee.

- The **1st Information Technology Quiz** and the **1st Business Quiz (S.W.O.T)** was held on 2 August, 2014. The events were organized under the banner OXARO that is formed by a group of pupils of the college. 22 reputed schools from the city participated. Prizes were awarded to Lucknow Public School, Sector D for achieving the First position in the Information Technology Quiz. The S.W.O.T. Business Quiz was won by La Martiniere College, Lucknow.
- **The 1st Claude Martin Debates** and **The 1st Boulone-Lise Memorial Quiz** Competition were held from 15 to 18 August 2014. Teams from nine schools from different parts of the country were hosted in the College premises. The series of debates spread over three days culminated in La Martiniere Girls' College, Lucknow being declared the Champions. La Martiniere for Girls, Kolkata won the keenly contested Quiz.
- The members of La Martiniere Extra-curricular Organization (LEO) organized **CONSTANTIA-2014**, a day-long programme of co-curricular activities, which included Cultural, Technical and Business-oriented events 21 October, 2014. 24 reputed schools from the city participated in the event. There were as many as 19 events that constituted the entire programme in venues spread over the entire campus.
- On 23 November, 2015, the members of OXARO organized the **1st La Martiniere College Invitational Athletics Meet, 2014** at Polo Ground. The event saw the participation of nearly 70 athletes from 7 prestigious institutions. The Meet was declared open by former international cyclists, brothers Ravinder and Hardeep Nanda, Alumni. Also present was Mr S. Chatterji, Alumnus and College cycle race record holder. La Martiniere College won the overall Championship.
- The Pupils of La Martiniere College organized, with great sophistication the **1st La Martiniere Model United Nations (LMUN)** on 8 & 9 November, 2014. The Executive Council was made up of Secretary General, Raghav Kohli, Deputy Secretary General, Ahmed Izhan Abbas, Under Secretary General for Delegate Affairs, Devansh Jolly, Under Secretary General for Administration, Dhruv Sinha and Under Secretary General for Marketing and Communications, Tarun Asthana.

The Committees simulated were The General Assembly Third Committee discussing *Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Immigrants*; The Security Council, discussing *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*; The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, discussing *Illicit Organ Trafficking*; The NATO-Russia Council, discussing *The Situation in Ukraine*; The Organization of Islamic Cooperation discussing *Sectarian Conflicts within the Islamic World*.

Among the keynote speakers at the programme were Mr Wajahat Habibullah, a prominent Civil Servant who also served as India's first Chief Information Commissioner and Chairman, National Commission for Minorities. Mr Debashish Chakravarti, Alumnus and former Indian Ambassador to Ireland, and Mrs Tulika Srivastava, presently the Executive Director of South Asia Women's Fund and a well-known women's human rights lawyer, were the other speakers.

Abhinav Mathur (Israel) and Hanumant Singh (Russia) of La Martiniere College was declared the Best Delegates. Other awards to the boys of the College included Special Mention for Varenvir Singh (Russian Federation); High Commendations for : Maaz Ahmad (Russian Federation) and Karan David (Russia). Special Mention was received by Aditya Jalan (Iraq).

- The boys of the Middle School organized **INNOGEN - 14** on 5 November, 2014. This innovative Science exhibition of working models was open to all the pupils and their parents to view.

La Martiniere Football Cup

The Third Invitational Inter-School *La Martiniere Football Cup* tournament was held from 2 to 12 December, 2014. The League-cum-Knockout pattern is followed for this tournament. The opening ceremony was attended by Mr Rameshwar Singh, veteran Coach of the Sports College.

The Tournament was made possible due to generous sponsorship for which the College is grateful.

The Tournament was won by Sacred Heart School of 5-4 in the tie breaker. They received a cash award of Rs 25,000/- The runners up were La Martiniere College and Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College. They received cash prizes of Rs 15,000/- and Rs 5,000/- respectively.

Special thanks are due to Mr K. N. Singh for overall supervision of the tournament.

Cock House Celebrations

Hodson House was declared Cock House for the second year in succession.

The pupils of Hodson House in the Junior School campus enjoyed a treat and a day out at *Fairydale*, where special rides and swings had been set up for their entertainment. The boys of the Middle School chose to watch a movie at FUN cinemas, followed by a treat in the College.

On 5 December, 2014, the Cock House Party was held for the boys of the Senior School, in Spence Hall. The Hall was tastefully decorated. The prefects and monitors led the dancing as the music began. Former Prefects who had contributed to the winning of Cock House were also present. Each Pupil Authority of the House was presented a souvenir mug recording their contribution to the House. Later, the boys and girls enjoyed their dinner, for which they had made contributions, on the Principal's lawn.

Career Counselling Cell

A Career Counselling Cell has been established in collaboration with *Team Satyam*, with professional inputs by Dr Itishree Misra, renowned career counsellor from New Delhi. Pupils of Class 8 were provided the opportunity to write an aptitude test for which detailed analysis and one-on-one meetings with the parents and the Counsellor were arranged. This is in addition to the personal counselling facility that is also available.

College Fete

The Annual College Fete was held on 6 December, 2014 at *Fairydale*. The well attended fete aroused much enthusiasm throughout the College. The overall prize for the best decorated stall was awarded to *Ring the King*, supervised by Mrs Uzma Khan and Mrs Namrata Singh. The enclosure for swings and rides made the maximum individual contribution, supervised by Mrs N. Hasnain and Dr Z. Siddiqi.

As before, prizes for a Bumper Raffle were presented by La Martiniere Alumni. The proceeds from the College fete including the Bumper Raffle provided a net contribution of Rs 26,66,6340/-, which was donated towards the conservation of *Constantia*.

Annual Christmas/End of Term Programmes

Christmas Programmes were organized in the Junior School on 9 December, 2014, for the pupils of the Junior School campus. This included the traditional retelling of the Christmas story in a pageant, accompanied by popular Christmas carols.

The Resident Scholars participated in a production by the Lucknow Christian Chorus called *The Miracle of Christmas*. This was directed by Col. J.E.S. Singh. The boys of the Junior School and children of the campus Staff acted in the tableau scenes. They also helped choreograph the visual backdrops projected on the rear screen.

The College choir presented *Repeat the Sounding Joy* a cantata based on popular carols, arranged by Dave Clark and Wayne Haun on 11 December, 2014. With professional recorded accompaniment, the boys sang in four-part harmony, trained by the Music Department of the College. Mr Vincent Clifford directed the final production.

The Chapel Choir and the Resident Scholars presented a combination of scripture readings, commentary, songs by a unique shadow theatre production which was well-received. The Resident Scholars presented a skit on the significance of Christ in the Christmas story called *Away With The Manger*. Aman Singh and Badrul Amin Siddiqui were in the lead roles of newspaper reporters covering the birth of Jesus.

The beautiful Christmas decorations and tasteful illumination in Spence Hall was set up by the Staff of the Preparatory Department. The programme was followed by cake and coffee on the Principal's lawn.

The end of term dinner with the Staff and resident scholars was held on 12 December, 2014. The Resident Scholars helped decorate Sykes Hall and the platform was used as a stage where exceptional talent was displayed by the boys, which included dances, songs, and much group singing. The Staff of the College presented a fancy dress based on the symbols of Christmas. This was carried out with attention to detail and perfection. The evening was used an opportunity to thank the catering Staff for their service throughout the year. The celebrations continued around the bonfire on Sykes Hall lawn after dinner.

The traditional end of term Chapel Service was held on 13 December, 2014. The chapel was decorated by the Staff of the Preparatory Department, along with a tradition crèche in a niche in the Chapel. *Auld Lang Syne*, sung at the conclusion of the service, reduced both boys and Staff to tears as affectionate memories were excited.

At the concluding Staff lunch on 14 December, calendars for 2015 were distributed to each family. The bas relief images on the ceiling of *The Muses' Bower* in Constantia was the theme for the calendar. Well researched and executed, the calendar is a prized possession by all Martinians.

Annual NCC Competitions

The Annual N.C.C. Competitions were held on 14 December, 2014. The Air Wing won the Hashman Memorial Shield for the Best N.C.C. Troop in the Junior Division. The Air Wing was further awarded The Boardman Trophy for the Best N.C.C. Wing in the College. Platoon No. 1 made up of cadets of Class 12 was awarded the Intermediate Trophy for the Best N.C.C. Troop in the Senior Division. Utkarsh Singh of the Air Wing and Anurag Shah, SUO were adjudged the Best N.C.C. Cadets in the Junior and Senior Division respectively. Sameer Gupta was adjudged the Best Scout.

Teacher Training and Parents' Conferences

Select members of Staff attended workshops and programmes related to their professional development. The Staff of the Junior Campus attended a workshop on the implementation of multiple intelligence stimulated and learner oriented education from 19 to 21 January, 2015. This was to follow-up the division of sections in the Junior School on the basis of learning styles of pupils. Similarly, teachers in the Middle-School attended a workshop conducted by the College to initiate the establishment of a career counselling cell that the College feels should cater to helping make choices by Class 8.

Paucity of time to reach out to individual parents has promoted Parental Conferences from time to time. Besides the *Open House* sessions, an Orientation programme was conducted for the parents of pupils admitted to the Nursery. Parents of children in each Class in the Junior were invited for special sessions at select times to meet the Principal and teachers. Parents of pupils in Class 8 were invited to a seminar addressed by Dr Itishree Misra on choices of career and subjects based on the abilities of the child on 15 February, 2015. Parents of pupils in Class 11 were invited to a programme where common concerns regarding academics and discipline were discussed.

Republic Day

Flag hoisting and the NCC parade were held on Republic Day, 26 January, 2013. Mr (Justice) Alok Singh, Member of the Local Committee of Governors was the Chief Guest and took the salute. Justice Singh spoke of the significance of the adoption of the Constitution, providing interesting details on how this was carried out.

Past vs Present Cricket Match

The Old Martinians played a cricket match against the College XI at the *Microlit Cricket Stadium*, Kursi Road on 27 January, 2015. It was a unique experience for the boys as they played under floodlights at night for the first time. The Past Team won the match by 38 runs. The Jain family who were the hosts made excellent arrangements for the teams and all the boys present.

MUN USA

La Martiniere College, Lucknow was the only school in the world to qualify and to be invited for the 41st Session of the Model United Nations Competition conducted by Yale University, USA from 22 to 25 January, 2015. The College team made its first competitive foray abroad. Dr Zeba Siddiqui led the team of boys – Izhan Abbas, Devansh Jolly, and Raghav Kohli. The boys presented a commendable performance. Raghav Kohli was awarded the Best Delegate representing Honduras and Izhan Abbas was awarded as the Most Improved Delegate representing Honduras in Human Rights Council. Later they travelled to Philadelphia for the 31st Session of the Ivy League Model United Nations at the University of Pennsylvania from 29 January to 1 February 2015, stopping off for some fun in New York and *selfies* in Times Square. Raghav Kohli received an Honourable Mention representing the Director of Foreign Intelligence Relationships in the CIA and Izhan Abbas received a Verbal Mention, representing Kent Walker .

The visit was made possible by a number of Old Martinians who chipped in to provide financial assistance. Old Martinians also gathered to greet the team in the United States and helped them through one of the worst storms in North America in recent history. It is hoped that the rewarding experience shall be replicated in the future.

Art & Craft Exhibition

The Junior School Art and Craft Exhibition was organised on 31 January, 2015. Each class prepared items according to the level of ability and skill appropriate to the age. No items were duplicated. The skills included crushing, pasting, mashing, stitching, binding, painting, among others. Decoration, suitable to the item crafted was presented. Every item, without exception was constructed in the classroom itself.

Farewell to Class 12 & Investiture of Pupil Authorities (2015)

The investiture ceremony for the pupil authorities was held on the morning of 7 February, 2015. A Chapel Service, where those demitting office were present with those to be appointed, was held, during which prayers were said for both teams of boys. In a solemn ceremony, the oaths of office were administered in the presence of the entire Middle and Senior School.

Mohammad Kamran was elected to the post of College Captain, while Raghav Kohli was appointed College Vice Captain. Srijan Pathak, Arqam Shah, Saurabh Chaturvedi and Mohammed Saqlain were appointed House Captains of Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyons and Martin House, respectively.

Later that evening, the pupils of Class 11 organised a Farewell Function. This included a group photograph on the steps leading to East Terrace, followed by a Farewell Chapel Service. At the celebration that followed, Anurag Shah was adjudged *Mr La Martiniere* and was voted *Mr Popular*. The First Runner Up for the Mr La Martiniere title was Yash Joshi and the Second Runner Up was Karan Tripathi. Harsh Srivastava was selected as the *Most Inspiring Student* by means of a vote that was conducted earlier. Similarly, Raza Abbas Mehdi was elected as the *Best Student*, while Raghav Gupta won the title – *Gentleman of the Year*. A brilliant fireworks display and a tug-of-war brought an end to the evening.

Class Picnics

In the first fortnight of February, every class enjoyed a picnic on separate days at *Lake View Forest*. With catering by the College kitchens ensured good food, the public utilities available at the site made it comfortable, convenient and safe for all. Music and trampolines provided additional entertainment.

Staff Retreat

The entire College Staff spent a day out at *Lake View Forest* around the *Laat* on 23 February, 2015. It was a new experience as many members of Staff had never visited the area on the eastern side of the embankment. The College kitchens provided an excellent meal and traditional snacks for the picnic.

Scouts Activities

The College has established camping facilities close to *Fairydale*. Two Scouts' camps were conducted this year at *Fairydale* and in *Lake View Forest*. The Scouts camps are now exclusively conducted by the Staff of the College. All camping equipment is now available in the College. The College kitchens provide the food required while facilities for a reasonably comfortable stay in a camp environment is provided.

Junior School Sports

In the Junior School, Sports competitions were held in February, 2015 on Polo Ground. These competitions are eagerly awaited and fiercely contested in the Junior School.

Vintage Car Rally

The Annual Vintage Car Rally organized by INTACH culminated at East Terrace on 1 February, 2015. Mrs Dimple Yadav, Member of Parliament from Kannauj graced the occasion. The boys were delighted to be able to go for joy rides in the models on display

Art Exhibition

The annual Art Exhibition was held on 21 February, 2015. The Senior and Middle School boys exhibited their creations and went further to auction their paintings to the highest bidder. Mr Hitesh Keswani undertook the role of the auctioneer. From the amount collected, Rs 50,000/- was presented for the conservation of *Constantia*.

The Art Department of the College makes innovative contributions to the College each year. This year, *Three Corners*, a popular hangout for the boys was covered with graffiti that was recognised as contribution to art by the city.

Uttar Pradesh Travel Mart

A unique opportunity was presented on 22 February, 2015 when the Department of Tourism, which has begun to contribute to conservation of the heritage buildings of the College, requested the use of East Terrace as the venue for the inauguration of the first *UP Travel Mart*. This was inaugurated by the Chief Minister, Mr Akhilesh Yadav, who was welcomed to the brilliantly illuminated College, by the Pupil Authorities. The boys had the pleasure of watching the cultural performances that were staged for the guests from around the world.

Poetry Symposium

The College was pleased to host a number of guests in the Chapel for a recitation of the poetry of the Sufi mystic and poet, Rumi. Mr Murad Ali and others recited excerpts and provided translations of the same. Organized by veteran film-maker, Mr Muzaffar Ali, Alumnus. The brief programme was attended by the senior boys of the College with a flair for poetry. The Rumi Foundation sponsored the event.

Camps

Camping grounds are now available on the estate at *Fairydale* and Lake View Forest. The two Scouts Camps were held there with all equipment provided by the College. The cadets enrolled with the NCC attended state sponsored camps in and around Lucknow. Despite the limited facilities available there, the boys conducted themselves with dignity and were awarded for their contribution.

Classroom Competitions

The Molly Daniell Trophy for the the Best Classroom in the Preparatory Department was awarded to Nursery E. The Class Teacher of which is Mrs Mohsina Mirza.

The Molly Daniell Trophy for the the Best Classroom in the Junior School was awarded to Class 4G. The Class Teacher of which is Mrs Uzma Khan.

In *Constantia* campus, monthly judging of classrooms are held, where children and their Class Teacher work on defined themes. Monthly results are announced and the cumulative score for consistent excellence in maintenance of the classroom was jointly won by 6B, 8A and 10F. The Class Teachers of the respective classes - Mrs S. Srivastava, Mr V. Egbert and Mrs A. Relan shall jointly receive the award for this.

Excursions and Educational Trips

In April 2014, a group of students toured Gangtok and Darjeeling. A contingent of Staff visited Bhutan in July. For the first time, students went on an excursion abroad, when their teachers accompanied them to Singapore in October. Another group toured Himachal Pradesh. More recently, boys have returned from different trips to Amritsar and the Wagah Border, while the senior boys have had the thrill of visiting Goa.

Celebration of Festivals

Throughout the year, festivals and holidays are celebrated with traditional gaiety, especially in the Boarding House. Every holiday is preceded by a brief talk at Assembly regarding the significance of the observance. Within the Boarding House, Holi, Rakshabandhan, Diwali, Christmas, Shivratri are some of the days that are specially set aside for celebration if the College is in session.

Guests

Among the many guests that the College welcomes every year were:

A delegation of pupils accompanied by their teachers from La Martiniere, Lyon who visited the College on 5 February, 2015. As part of an educational tour, they visited the home of the Founder and immediately bonded with the boys. A Chapel Service to commemorate the Founder was held followed by fellowship and dinner. The choir presented a song in French to welcome the guests. The delegation had the unique privilege of sleeping in the home of the Founder.

Mr Walter T. Douglas, Counsellor for Public Affairs, American Embassy, New Delhi visited the College on 25 February, 2015 and shared with the boys, the educational opportunities for Indians in United States.

A team of Art students from the Virginia Commonwealth University visited the College on 12 March, 2015. They attended morning Chapel Service and Assembly and addressed the boys. Later, they made a brief Power Point Presentation before the boys of Photography and Art Club.

Mr Phillippe Toussaint and Mrs Barbara Toussaint on 3 March, 2015. As President of Les Vieilles Maisons Françaises (VMF), the VMF Monde is engaged in making an inventory of the French architectural heritage around the globe and to work with authorities to preserve that heritage. He also addressed the students and shared a multimedia presentation with the students of Junior Historians Club.

In addition to special guests, The Indian Army launched its outreach programme for senior students to encourage enlisting in the Armed Forces. Brigadiers A. Rehman and V. Chaturvedi, Alumnus, along with other officers conducted the session.

Representatives of the Reserve Bank of India presented a briefing on the work of the bank followed by visit to the offices of the RBI for a first-hand experience of its functioning. Talks were presented at Assembly on precautions against H1N1 Influenza, also known as Swine Flu and the risks of Cancer. Boys of the Middle School contributed a total of Rs 1,07,186/- towards the cause to the Cancer Aid Society. Class 7 D, made the highest contribution.

Press Coverage

In an age of information, it is heartening to note that events in the College, its development and mission is well-recorded by the Press. On occasion, coverage has not been adulatory, but the view of the College is generally well-presented.

Among the other annual events conducted in the College were:

The Dr. B. K. Das Environmental Awareness Awards Essay Competition for the Senior and Middle School and the Kamla Kapoor Memorial Essay competition. The English and Hindi Annual Elocution, Declamation Contests and Spell Bee were held during the year in the different sections of the school. The All India Albert Barrow Creative Writing competition was also held in the College.

Soft Board competitions were among the other continuous competitive events that were keenly contested during the year in the Junior School campus.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

The vast co-curricular programme of the College was co-ordinated by Mrs Rachna Tandon and Mrs Sheba Siddiqui. Thursday mornings are eagerly awaited for the number of events that the clubs organize for this. This forms an integral part of the boys' education. Their ability is invariably rewarded when they are felicitated for their ability in contests and programmes around the country.

The overall record of special achievement in co-curricular activities in which pupils of the College participated in events in the city and around the country is summarized in **Appendix I**

SPORTS

The College was represented at a number of fixtures outside the College where the boys proved their ability. This is summarized in **Appendix II**

Within the College, inter-House competitions and activities were keenly contested. The Scoreboard at the conclusion of the session reads as follows.

Overall Champions in Cricket	Lyons House
Overall Champions in Hockey	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Swimming	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Football	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Basketball	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Athletics	Hodson House
Overall Champions in English Debating	Lyons House
Overall Champions in Quizzing	Lyons House
Overall Achievement in Academics	Lyons House

The most coveted award of the College, i.e. Cock House for the year 2014 – 2015 was awarded to Hodson House. The Lord Chelmsford Cup is presented for this.

ALUMNI CONTRIBUTION

La Martiniere Alumni are generally members of the eponymous Association of Old Boys. Through the activity of the LMA the College is greatly benefitted, as also by individual Old Martinians who often prefer to remain anonymous.

Select batches of alumni have made meaningful collective contribution to the College. The Batch of 1989, celebrating their silver jubilee reunion presented the College with a purse of Rs 7.35 lakh for an irrigation system to service the newly recovered ground at *Lands End* which has been put to cultivation.

The Batch of 1991 donated Rs 20,000/- towards the Laundry Project.

The Batch of 1994, celebrating 20 years of reunion, presented a utility vehicle, *Mahindra Maximo Load Plus*, which was a long felt need due to expansion of the College.

The Batch of 1998 generated funds to restore the railings in front of *Constantia* that have been missing for more than a century. They also dedicated the same to their classmate Saurabh Rastogi who was brutally murdered in Bangalore.

Frequent informal meets have become most popular. The chosen location is the College canteen, especially on the last Sunday of every month dubbed *Sunday-Bunday*. The ever popular bun-kebab served in the canteen is a great attraction. These meetings and others specific to particular Batches have generated great interest and renewed purpose. The College and the boys of the present are greatly benefitted by this.

The joint reunion of the members of La Martiniere Alumni (LMA) and La Martiniere Girls' Alumni Association (LMGAA) was held in December, 2014. Ms Mauveen Shaw was felicitated for service of more than 40 years to the College in a special event that evening.

The LMA contributed Rs 2,70,000/ towards the Conservation of Constantia, besides sponsoring gifts for the raffles held during the Evening Bazaar and College Fete.

DEVELOPMENT

Development at La Martiniere College must take into account the preservation of the heritage represented by *Constantia* and its complementary buildings. This is a continuous process, time consuming and costly. It is nevertheless imperative to preserve.

On the other hand, the College cannot keep up with the times or be a pioneer unless modern systems and structures are not developed. The balance between the two and getting priorities correct is always a challenge.

Constantia continued to receive the attention it deserves as the lasting legacy of the College. The entire facade of the arcs and wings have now been resurfaced. Within the central monument, the upper rooms have been restored and are being used as study rooms and to accommodate a permanent exhibition on the history of the Founder and the growth of the College. Recognising the iconic value of the building and the memorial pillar or *laat*, the Department of Tourism has included this structure as part of its promotion of the State. Consequently, permission was sought and granted to illuminate the structure by night. The College, through its own resources had to carry out emergency repairs to ensure that the base of the structure was strengthened. The College flag was hoisted on the *laat* and water refilled in the lake. Lake View Forest is now once again in the possession of the College. It has been secured and its maintenance is now a delight to view. It is largely used for camps, picnics and retreats, with the blessing of modern amenities attached.

The East Courtyard of *Constantia* has now been paved. This area has always been used for the most formal and prestigious events of the College. Other value additions to the complex include the restoration of the railings of *Constantia*, missing for more than a century, which was made possible by contribution by the Batch of 1998.

The College Pipe Organ, silent for many years, is pealing again. *Hurry Brothers*, Kolkata were commissioned to repair this century and a half old legacy. The organ is now used every morning for Chapel Services. The cannons on East Terrace of *Constantia* were buffed, revealing a burnished brass for the central gun, *The Lord Cornwallis*, cast by the Founder.

La Martiniere College can now record that the entire estate is now in the physical possession of the College. The Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court ruled in favour of the College, bringing an end to a dispute of nearly forty years that secured a large tract of land that the College shall now use as a horse-riding school. The estate has been demarcated and in most areas, fencing has been erected. The North periphery of the estate is being bounded by a walled drain that shall physically mark the extent of the property by that boundary. As always, scenic landscaping is encouraged to make the estate more attractive. The College gardens are always a delight during different seasons. The College gardeners were greatly encouraged on being awarded at two city level competitions for Institutional Gardens, for which they and the College are very proud.

Every part of the grounds has now come into use, with plans for further development in a phased manner over the coming years. The land has been primarily used to provide greater sports facilities and to use areas not in immediate need for farming. This is being formalised with Staff, equipment, planning and management of this project underway.

The recovery of land and its use has given a boost to the attempt for self-sufficiency for the Boarding House, for which a dramatic increase in numbers is envisaged. During the last year, a poultry project has been set up, providing eggs a table birds for the College kitchens. It has been successful enough for the excess to be sold within the College. The Pisces project for supply of farm fed fish shall supply the College kitchens later

this year. The Dairy project is underway with cattle presented by alumni and a flock of goats, rapidly multiplying. An attempt to supply sunflower oil met with limited success, but the parrots were happy!

The first experimental crop of paddy in a limited area yielded 22 quintals of rice. The first crop of potatoes to be sent to the cold storage weighed in at 40 quintals. The first crop of wheat is also estimated to be 40 quintals. Fresh vegetables are supplied to the College kitchens daily, but the boys do complain as a plentiful harvest leads to a boring repetition of meals! Surplus material is sold within the College. This has yielded close to Rs 1,00,000/- this year.

To cater to the increase in admission of Resident Scholars, A dormitory on the First floor of The Mews is reaching completion. This shall accommodate the junior-most boys among the Resident Scholars and shall be self-contained.

To cater to the needs of the Resident Scholars, an industrial laundry system has been installed in a section of the old Dairy that has been included in the heritage buildings of the College. Parents can be sure that garments are hygienically processed. Additional lavatory and bathing facilities have been added to Dormitory 3 and a renovated night lavatory to Dormitory 2

The quarters for teaching and ancillary Staff have been increased and renovated. This has ensured that the property of the College is kept in a state of good repair.

A major addition for the Junior School was the commissioning of a leisure room for the boys. This bright, colourful and tastefully decorated room was designed, executed and overall gifted by Mr Shavez Arif, Alumnus, who recognised this long-felt need.

In the Middle School, a modern library and Information Centre has been set up with books and other multi-media available for the boys.

The Teacher Centre has been refurbished and is used for a number of programmes, both academic and cultural.

The EDP Department of the College has moved to new offices with an attached Computer workshop.

Bus Garages have been moved to the north boundary of the academic campus and the College workshops have been centralised for efficiency. Ten gates are now manned by security personnel round the clock and the use of the campus as a thoroughfare is now being limited.

Sports facilities have always characterised La Martiniere College. Within the last year, a series of new facilities have been added:

Horse riding has been introduced with excellent horseflesh, stables, veterinary facilities, diet and training areas.

That part of the river Gomti that flows through the estate is now used by the College scullers. They now await the arrival of vessels for competitive sport for which facilities are being provided.

The shooting gallery has uncovered fine talent as the boys have found much recognition in the sport around the country.

The skating rink is now used by the boys as a morning and evening sport, under lights.

The private roads of La Martiniere estate have been augmented with a cycle track, built by the State in public interest, to encourage this healthy activity.

Cricket facilities have rapidly improved with fifteen net pitches with different surfaces being built. Two junior cricket pitches have also been added. The College received unexpected assistance in developing a standard cricket pitch on *Fairydale* when the well-known *Indian Gramin Cricket League* offered assistance to build it. This has now been completed. It is envisaged that the rural-urban divide may be reduced by a sharing of sports facilities in this manner.

A Battle Obstacle Course is nearing completion to test reflexes and physical fitness of the boys.

A Pool Table has been set up to equip the senior-most boys with knowledge of a sport that is internationally popular.

A major development was the building of viewing stands attached to the senior Swimming Baths. This was a challenge as the facade of the 1870 building had to be left intact. The colonnade that was uncovered as the renovation began was incorporated into the added structure.

Polo Ground and its stands continue to be well-maintained. Facilities have been added for sportsmen and spectators.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are extended to the Trustees of the Lucknow Martin Charities and the members of the Local Committee of Governors, La Martiniere College for their guidance in all issues related to La Martiniere.

I am fortunate to have an excellent working relationship with the Mrs Farida Abraham, Principal of La Martiniere Girls' College for her co-operation in all matters that concern us jointly. The pupils of both Colleges interact in an open and healthy manner in joint programmes that are conducted.

Special thanks are extended to the alumni of the College. Their material gifts, advice and assistance in the many areas of College life in which they now have expert knowledge is a store of goodwill which the College uses from time to time. Significantly, many prefer to function in complete anonymity, giving back to the College to the extent that they feel they have received. Their discretion in this matter is respected.

Individual contributors towards the development and progress of La Martiniere College and the estate have been plentiful.

The Equestrian activities of the College were initiated when Mr Amar Habibullah and his family gifted two horses *She* and *Unstoppable* to the College stables. Later in the year another thoroughbred *Black Beauty* also joined our stables through his generosity. Mr Jaideep Mathur, Alumnus, gifted *D'Rock* to the stables while Mr Monish Bhandari, Alumnus, presented *Bring It On*. Society Dream and Star Perfection are two other mares who were presented through the good offices of Brigadier Kashyap from Usha Stud Farms, Haryana.

The beauty of the College Memorial hall was enhanced when Col Anil Srivastava, Alumnus, presented a 36 branch chandelier to illuminate the Hall from above the bust of the Founder. This is now a central feature in *Constantia*.

Commander T. M. J. Champion, VSM (Retd) visited the College in October to examine the Chapel Pipe Organ and suggest a process of restoration. The College is grateful for his honorary services. The Pipe Organ pealing again is a testament to his contribution.

Mr Shiv Shankar Lal Srivastava presented an inverter for the College Infirmary, adding to the comfort of the boys who are unwell, while Mr Syed Altaf Husain donated medicines for the Infirmary for the use of the boys.

Stephanie Ellis collected and sent cartons of books for the middle School Library, while the Mr Faseeh Elahi and Mrs Sharad Misra made personal presentations of books for the Middle School Library that were gratefully received. Mr Sumeet Malik presented every pupil of the Political Science and History Classes for the ISC examination with copies of the Constitution of India, printed by Eastern Book Company.

Dr Saurabh Sinha, Alumnus, Dr Chetan Chandra, Alumnus and Mr Rahul Harjani organized a free Dental camp for Staff and pupils in August, 2014. Dr Ravish Kumar Singh, Alumnus, from TC Eye Centre, Lucknow similarly conducted an Eye Camp for the Staff and boys of the College.

Films were shot using the College as a location for which a total of 2,50,000/- was generated for the conservation of *Constantia*. From *Pehle Aap Motion Pictures* and *True Media Indian Communication Limited*.

Mr Harshpreet Sarna presented a number of Air Rifles and Air Pistols which are used for practice in the College, Indoor Shooting Range.

Mr Vikram Grover, Alumnus is gratefully acknowledged for helping to bring the SPIC-MACAY programmes to the College as also Mrs Kanak Rekha Chauhan for coordinating these programmes.

Dr I. B. Sharma of the Rowing Federation of India provided valuable inputs related to establishing rowing facilities in the College.

Mr Saudul Hasan, Alumnus, presented an elegant service trolley to the College that is used for special guests.

Mohd Rizwan, Alumnus, designed and executed the manufacture of wall clocks that are now a part of the collection of souvenirs available for sale in the College.

Mr Rajat Agarwal made it possible for trees that had not survived the inclement weather to be replaced by fresh stock to be planted.

Akshay Jethanandani, Alumnus, has invariably shared festival goodies with the Resident Scholars of the College, which is accepted gratefully.

The Dairy Project has received a fillip by the gifting of livestock for the newly built dairy. Mr Ansar Uddin presented a flock of goats, while Mr Ankit Agarwal, Alumnus, has provided for a cow to be gifted to the College.

Sincere thanks are extended to Mr Manish Sharma, Alumnus, for conceiving, designing and making operational, the official website of the College. Through the website more and more work of the College is being done, including the payment of fees and public communication.

The College is greatly assisted by a team of legal experts who are consulted from time to time. Mr Jaideep Mathur, Alumnus and Mr Altaf Mansoor are actively engaged in dealing with different legal matters that arise. From time to time other legal experts are consulted to whom the College is indebted.

Select Batches of alumni have made meaningful collective contribution to the College. The Batch of 1989, celebrating their silver jubilee reunion presented the College with a purse of Rs 7.35 lakh for an irrigation system to service the newly recovered ground at *Lands End* which has been put to cultivation.

The Batch of 1991 made a donation of Rs 20,000/- towards the Laundry project.

The Batch of 1994, celebrating 20 years of reunion, presented a utility vehicle, *Mahindra Maximo Load Plus*, which was a long felt need due to expansion of the College.

The Batch of 1998 used *WhatsApp* to generate funds to restore the railings in front of *Constantia* that have been missing for more than a century. They also dedicated the same to their classmate Saurabh Rastogi who was brutally murdered in Bangalore.

The LMA contributed Rs 2,70,000/ towards the Conservation of *Constantia*, besides sponsoring gifts for the raffles held during the Evening Bazaar and College Fete.

Mr Ujjwal Raman Singh and Mr Sachin Gupta presented seeds for different crops. These were sown as part of the agriculture project of the College and have yielded excellent results.

Mr Ravi Kapoor very thoughtfully presented the College with an antique gilt frame, which fits in with the age and decor of the College.

Mr S. S. Hasan gifted a water cooler for the use in the Junior School Campus.

A major addition for the Junior School was the commissioning of a leisure room for the boys. This bright, colourful and tastefully decorated room was designed, executed and overall gifted by Mr Shavez Arif, Alumnus, who recognised this long-felt need.

Mr Pankaj Bajaj, Alumnus, generously contributed articles for the leisure room, adding to the thrill of the boys.

Faseeh Elahi, Alumnus, provided several electronic key boards, violins and guitars for the College Music Department. This shall be put to use in the Music room being developed in the junior School Campus.

The major development of fields for agriculture in different parts of the estate would not have been possible without the services of earth-moving equipment. The College is grateful to Alumni and well-wishers of the College for sustained periods of such machinery being made available to the College. They include Mr Khalid Masood and Mr Abdullah Masood, Mr Ambrish Tandon, Mr Rahul Agarwal, Alumnus and Mr Rohit Agarwal, Alumnus.

Mr Mohit Mehrotra presented a submersible pump to irrigate the dairy area, after sinking a tube well for this.

Considering the radius of the estate and the need for swift communication, Mr Rajnish Chopra, Alumnus and President La Martiniere Alumni, presented wireless radio communication sets for the use of select maintenance Staff. His generosity also extended to underwriting a major part of the expenses towards the College team visiting the United States of America for the international Model United Nations.

Mr Ankit Tulsi, Alumnus, presented a Pool Table for the exclusive use of the senior-most boys of the College. He was also instrumental in helping design and executing rich banners with the College crest for display on all formal occasions.

Mr Abhay Prasad presented a Table Tennis Table and equipment for use in the Junior Campus.

Mr Anurag Singh Bhadauria, Chairman of the Indian Gramin Cricket League (IGCL) kindly offered to assist in the building of a standard cricket pitch on *Fairydale*. This has now been completed by his organization.

Mr Sanjay Sinha was generous to present a supply of pesticides to control the menace of mosquitoes, especially in the residential areas occupied by the boys. M/s Faiz and Mohsin Akhtar, Alumni, have presented faucets, manufactured from their own industry for use around the College.

The garden received gifts of special gladioli bulbs from Mr Naseer Ahmad and a special variety of Sweet Peas from Mr Kanchan Aron.

Over the year, well-wishers and alumni have made cash contributions for different purposes, which have largely included payments of fees for needy students, sponsoring of specific events and College development. These include:

M/s Ankit Agarwal, Divyansh Agarwal, Manish Agarwal, Rajat Agarwal, Vachaspati Agarwal, Vishwas Agarwal, Arvind Anand, Sumit Arora, Harmanpreet Singh Bagga, Rishi Bhandari, Gautam Bharadwaj, Siddhartha Bhargava, Rahul Bhasin, Davis Chaplin, Sanjay Chatterjee, Arjun Chowdhry, Capt. R. Cooke, M/s Anurag Dixit, Yasar Farooq, Ahmad Ajaz Farooqui, Samar Raj Garg, Kunal Goel, Mrs Vandana Grover, M/s Vishal Gupta, Gagan Gurnani, Prateek Hira, Mukesh Jaiswal, Ashish Kapoor, Ashish Kumar, Sushil Kumar, Trevor Lee, Dr Bryan Macdonald, M/s Nelson Maclure, Adil Mahmood, Sudeep Malik, Tarun Malik, Abdullah Masood, Khalid Masood, Deveshwar Dayal Mathur, Dr Lovee Mehrotra, Mrs Surabhi Sahai Modi, Mr Wasim Mohsin, Mrs Rosemary Morris, Mr Zain Naqi, Dr Karan Punn, Mrs Hilary Rebeiro, M/s Trevor Rosemeyer, Navneet Sehgal, Amit Sharma, JPS Sial, Amit Singh, Mrs Rashmi Singh, M/s Raghav Sinha, Anil Srivastava, Subodh Tandon, Rudolf Woodman, Anurag Yadav, Balram Yadav and Junaid Yusuf, among others.

Shalimar Corporation Limited sponsored a night of Sufi Music. Ambalika Institute of Management and Technology and Creative Art Education Society, New Delhi, sponsored a part of Constantia 2014. Sports Development Society contributed towards the Children's Day sports programme. Bansal Institute of Engineering helped sponsor a part of the activities of OXARO. Tornos Destinations Pvt Ltd contributed towards La Martiniere Football Cup. M/s Safety Controls and Devices & Jolly Sky Brothers contributed towards the expenses of the MUN Team visiting the United States. M/s Fillers helped sponsor the Invitational Athletics Meet, 2014

Invitations for the boys were received from City Montessori School for an A Capella Performance by a Choir from Oxford University as also for the International Children's Film Festival arranged by that School. The District Magistrate, Lucknow made it possible for the Resident Scholars to visit the Lucknow Mahotsav. Mr Ambika Misra invited the boys to view the Robotics Laboratory and apparatus at Ambalika Institute of Technology. Mr Gaurav Prakash arranged for complimentary tickets for the film *Happy New Year*.

Contributions towards the production of the College calendar for 2015 were gratefully received from *M/s Ram Prakash and Brothers, M/s Shyamsons, M/s Zaheer Timbers and N. A. Timbers and The Pushpa Group* and a contribution equally all other contributors from *M/s Cargill* for their brand of food products. This, along with sale proceeds has been set aside for the restoration and maintenance of Constantia.

I am especially grateful to the team of Staff that runs La Martiniere College, Lucknow for their dedication and commitment to the areas of work which are defined for them. Invariably, most members of Staff go much beyond the call of duty. Often areas of work overlap. They carry out every task with autonomy, accountability and efficiency.

The boys of La Martiniere provide each person working here the impetus to put in their best. The natural gratitude, goodwill and affection that is received from the boys makes the job that is done far worthier than a professional responsibility. It is a great privilege to have these boys in our care.

Vive La Martiniere!