



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

31 Foxholes Hill, Exmouth. EX8 2DQ
Tel: 01395 276148. Email: admin@novisurvat.org

Newsletter 005 – December 2004

We are once again into the holiday period for Goa and many of you will be making your annual pilgrimage to soak up the sun and the atmosphere of this beautiful part of India. For some of you it will be your first visit and we hope not the last.

In last months newsletter we experimented with photographs, which caused problems especially with emails so for the time being no photographs, but we will keep you informed on our projects:

1. Christobelle. Unfortunately we are not finding helping Christobelle and her family as easy as we anticipated. During the rainy season when we only had one volunteer in Goa Rosie & Peter declined to feed Christobelle with the Complan we had provided so consequently her weight has not improved. We will try and enlist the support of other local organisations that may be able to impress upon the parents the need to help Christobelle. In the meantime we will continue to monitor her progress and supply the family with groceries when necessary. Following an appeal in the Newton Abbot Herald we received two wheelchairs, one of which we hope to adapt, for use by the volunteers and Christobelle's parents, to take her out. The other will be donated to a local paediatric unit.
2. Starting Point. We have not only continued our sponsorship of this school but have progressed by encouraging some of you to sponsor the children who have qualified to go to the state schools but whose parents can not afford the fees, travelling costs etc. So far there are four children receiving educational sponsorships and we hope more of you will take this opportunity to help in this way. One of the greatest gifts we can give to a child from a third world country is education and with an all inclusive cost of just £5 per month we hope to be able to extend this form of aid.
3. Candolim Boys Home. Now Graham has returned to Goa he is busy obtaining quotations to improve the kitchen, showers and ablution facilities at the home. These quotes will be discussed during the volunteers meetings over the next few months and depending on the finances available decisions will be made as to what we will do.
4. Care Home / Hospice. We are happy to report that the building has been painted both inside and out and shows a great improvement. In addition a classroom has been fitted out courtesy of the local Rotary Club and a slide and seesaw installed. A baby aged four months has joined the other children who are all eagerly awaiting Hazel's return on December 16th.

We hope to make progress in the next few months into the procurement of land and detailed estimates for the building of a new Hospice. A number of the children were poorly over the rainy season but are greatly improved now the warm weather has arrived.

Volunteers. We were fortunate to have a young lady called Sheryl who arrived in Goa shortly after Hazel had left and spent most of her time at the Care Home. Sheryl had spent some time doing voluntary work in a HIV/Aids hospital in Bangalore before going on to Goa. Thank you Sheryl for your hard work, I am sure the children missed you when you returned to the UK, maybe you will consider volunteering for us again sometime in the future.

Trish has been very busy buying goods to be brought back to the UK, visiting each of our projects and escorting visitors who express a wish to visit these projects. This is very time consuming and finding new things to buy is not easy especially when Graham is helping her!! She did find time to take motorcycling lessons – so beware if you are out and about in the Candolim area!

The 16th December will see the return of Hazel and the arrival of Sally following her tour of parts of Africa and Mel will be going at the end of January following a month of exams – we wish you every success Mel.

Fundraising. Thank you to all of you who have put so much effort into fundraising. There is not room to mention all of you but here are a few examples:

Bob & Jean Morris who organised a Jumble Sale in Launceston and raised £320

£100 from the Managing Director of Complan who read of our efforts to help Christobelle in a local newspaper.

£50 collected as a leaving present by colleagues of Sally's at Exeter Airport when she left to tour Africa before going to Goa.

£250 from Otter Valley Rotary Club – members of the club are also helping in other ways.

A street collection in Exmouth raised £165. Thanks to Carol, Hazel, Pat, Tina & Yucel.

Sue & Wendy from Birmingham organised a coach trip to the potteries. They left Birmingham with 38 passengers and visited no less than seven factory shops. This only took place late November and when they have all the money in they expect to have raised in the region of £300.

Well done everyone. Remember if you would like some ideas, photographs or brochures to help you in your fundraising you only have to ask.

Visitors to Goa. We are indebted to all those holidaymakers who have and will be taking out to Goa childrens clothing and bringing back the Indian goods, which we sell at Fetes, Craft Fairs, Christmas Fairs etc. This is a major source of income and we would miss their help as well as the co-operation of the airlines that allow us free excess baggage.

If you have any comments you would like to express about our work, the newsletters or our web site please let us have them.

Our next newsletter is due in early March but in the meantime may we wish all of you a very **Happy Christmas and** a prosperous **New Year.**