



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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Newsletter 011 – June 2006.

For the past two weeks we have enjoyed glorious sunshine in Devon but last night we endured over an hour of thunderstorms and rain similar to the monsoon season in Goa! The forecast for the next week at least looks very promising and I hope you will all have similar weather wherever you are.

I am sure lots of you are booking up to return to Goa so please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to take some clothes out for us so that I can book excess baggage for you. I understand that the airlines are reducing the allowance of free excess baggage this year so I am hoping for more travellers to help us get clothes out to Goa and 'Anjuna' goodies back as the latter provides a sizeable amount of our income.

Project Reports.

Starting Point.

The six children who graduated to St. Teresa's should have started there during the first week of June and I am sure you will join me in wishing them many happy and successful years of education which should provide them with the key to a brighter future.

Unfortunately there is no progress to report on the provision of the playground, as we have not yet received the details and quotation from the suppliers – nothing unusual for India!

There are now three full classes with, I understand, a total of 30 children.

New Horizons.

The three children who graduated from New Horizons have been enrolled and started at a school near to their settlement called Little Flower Convent School. This was chosen to reduce the travelling time and distance for the children who will be able to use the same transport that goes to New Horizons but we understand that the school standards are equal to St. Teresa's. Again we wish them well.

Damedem.

As reported in the last newsletter five of the babies had been found to be negative and would be leaving Damedem. Four of them have now gone to an adoption centre where hopefully they will find loving parents. The fifth Ankit we are delighted to hear is returning to his mother.

Two new children have arrived, a girl of 7 years and a boy of 8 years, both unfortunately are HIV positive.

Sister Jessie has returned from her visit to Switzerland, Rome & Assisi where she had an unforgettable time with the celebration of her Holy Orders 150th Anniversary.

Candolim Boys Home.

Hopefully the repairs to the plumbing and drains have been completed and the new sink unit installed. Apart from that there is little else to report.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768

Educational Sponsors.

We are pleased to report that as well as the twelve sponsors for the children attending St. Teresa's & Little Flower schools, we also have eight new sponsors waiting for children who will be passing the entrance examination later this year. I will be in touch with all new sponsors as soon as I have details of the successful children, but this will not be until late September or early October 2006.

Volunteers.

Hazel returned to the U.K. on 6th June so we do not have any volunteers in Goa at the present. Alex, Annie, Jo & Paul are I understand saving hard for their return visits in early November but I expect that Hazel will be back there before them!

Fundraising.

Very many thanks to all of you who have been doing your best to raise funds but I would like to make a special mention of Sheila & Phil Scott and friends who organised an Indian Evening at the Newton Abbot Spiritualist Church. It was a very enjoyable evening which resulted in a remarkable £2614 being raised.

I know many of you are holding various fundraising events during the summer months and would remind you that if you would like some photos or brochures please let me know.

Future Projects.

The Indian Government has over the past year been acknowledging the fact that HIV sufferers have been without support and are now addressing the problem. Although we will still continue to support Damedem the needs will lessen as the government initiative takes effect and they provide support and medical aid to those families affected by the virus and hospitalisation when necessary.

We have been in dialogue with Dr. Mina who is of the opinion that the most needy are now going to be the physically & mentally handicapped and we are looking into the possibility of opening a 'day care' centre / clinic to cater for these children which in turn will give the families some respite and allow the parents to seek work and therefore support their families. Two properties are currently being considered for their suitability and we would hope to base our office and storage at the same location.

We are also considering, in conjunction with Dr. Mina, establishing a mobile clinic which will travel to those who cannot, for whatever reason, get to the clinics situated in the towns. Dr Mina is confident that local doctors will be willing to donate their time to staff it.

Pat & I will be in Goa during the first two weeks of December when we hope to be able to make positive plans for both of these projects to be up and running by February 2007.

Best wishes.