



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

31 Foxholes Hill, Exmouth. EX8 2DQ
Tel: 01395 276148. Email: admin@novisurvrat.org
Web-site www.novisurvrat.org

Newsletter 027 June 2010.

I hope that you are all enjoying the very hot sunny weather that we are experiencing in Devon and long may it last but with a few good showers at night for the sake of the gardeners and farmers. Pat and I have just returned from a very enjoyable break in Barcelona, a beautiful city with lots of architectural masterpieces and a lovely seafront. However it does tend to be on the expensive side!

Starting Point.

Teacher Rozina was married to Joaquim D'souza on 15th May 2010 and we wish them every happiness in the future. It is not known at present whether Rozie will be able to continue working at the school due to the long distance she now has to travel each day which takes nearly three hours each way!

Due to the difficulties experienced in finding educational sponsors we have only been able to allow five children to graduate this year, the remainder will stay at Starting Point for a further year.

Damedem.

At last we've moved into the new premises, the boys in April, the girls in May and the babies the first week of June. Both the children and staff are having to adjust to their new surroundings especially as there is still a lot of finishing off to do which, as the monsoon rains have started, will take time.

The nursery looks really nice with, thanks to Jim & Moe Brennan, new bright blue specially made cots and the older boys and girls love their new bunk beds kindly provided by Ian & Moira Michie. During the summer holidays the children enjoyed visits to the movies and picnics on the beach as well as art and music classes – no signs yet of budding musicians but some show great promise in art.

With the holidays now over it is back to school: Arbind, Ajay & Prema will attend 'open school' in Porvorim (this will enable them to get the leaving certificate required for obtaining a job in future), Thomas is to start a residential vocational training course in Panjim and for several week now Asha has started her training as a beautician which she enjoys.

We have three new children; two boys aged 8 & 10 yrs and a girl of 7 yrs.

Day Care Centre.

Dr Ashika, who spent two years with us, was married on 23rd May to Sachin – best wishes to you both for a long and happy marriage.

White ants (termites) invaded the Day Care Centre which meant that it had to be closed for a week in May whilst they were chemically treated by the pest control people.

The extension which we reported on in the last newsletter was completed over the Easter week allowing the bulky equipment to be moved into it leaving another room available for treatments. Repairs were also needed to the roof & veranda and were completed June just before the rains set in.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

Fundraising/sponsors.

Thank you to Joe Bailey who ran the Bristol 10K race on Saturday 9th May completing the course in 42 mins 28 secs putting him in the top 5% of participants and raising a very useful £150 for us. With the downturn in fundraising we are depending on the Indoor Market sales to keep us going so thanks to everyone who keep us topped up with second-hand books and quality bric-a-brac and to Caroline who kindly sent some beautiful fans from Tokyo. A big thank you to Jono who purchased some bags in Goa before he left for Japan and to Jane at Starting Point for buying kaftans for us and arranging for them and the bags to be shipped to the UK. And of course heartfelt thanks you to all of you who continue to support us financially, making it possible for us to continue our work in Goa. Unless you are one of those who are able to visit Goa you will not appreciate just what a big difference you make to the lives of these children.

Volunteers.

Catherine and Theresa returned to the UK at the end of March 2010 having completed six months in Goa working at each of the projects. Very many thanks to them for all their hard work which was much appreciated by everyone involved. They are both now working to save money to help fund their time at university and we wish them every success in the future.

Hazel returned to the UK on 5th June but has not been idle spending most of the days looking after our stalls in the Exmouth Indoor Market giving me time to do other things. Thank you Hazel for 'holding the fort' giving Pat & I chance to get away for a few days and for all the hours you are still putting in. I have no doubt you will be back in Goa within the next couple of weeks as I know you are missing the children as much as they are missing you.

Finance.

The reports from most charities are that their income from donations has been badly affected by the economic crisis and we are no exception. The recession has affected us in three ways:

1. Fundraising has become much harder and also finding educational sponsors. The Charity Smile has reported a 20% decrease in donations and we are suffering about the same.
2. Whereas we were receiving £100 per month interest on our bank account we now only receive £2.20
3. The rate of exchange between the Rupee & the Pound dropped with the hung parliament outcome of the General Election resulting in the monthly transfers we make of 45000/- costing £700 instead of £600. Fortunately there has been a gradual improvement since the General Election with the exchange rate rising from Rs 65 to Rs 68 to the pound but it does mean that so far this year we have lost over £800.

Printer Cartridges.

My local supplier is willing to pay the charity for empty Dell, HP, or Lexmark cartridges. These can be sent FREEPOST to Freepost RLYE-KUZG-TRXU, Cartridges Direct UK Ltd, 20 Trellivan Close, EXMOUTH EX8 5RJ. Please remember to put a note inside with the cartridges stating that they are to be credited to Novi Survat Charity. Thank you.

Caravan.

Jim & Moe are again offering their caravan near Penzance, Cornwall at £100 per week with all monies donated to this charity. There are only a few weeks vacant but for more information please telephone them on 01736 740804.