



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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Newsletter 037 December 2012.

Whilst most of England has been ‘enjoying’ floods and frosts Trustee Roger Worth and I have just returned from a very fruitful trip to Goa. The change in the climate meant that it was appreciably hotter this year with daytime temperatures in the 30’s and night time in the mid-twenties. Needless to say we had to keep cool by a regular intake of cold Kingfisher beer and iced coffee. We spent many sticky hours in the local markets purchasing goods to be returned to the UK for sale on our Exmouth Indoor Market Stall. I would normally make two trips to Goa each year but because of the high flight costs I will not be going back in February so we had to make additional purchases on this occasion. Thank you Roger for your support and hard work making for a successful trip and for sharing with me the frustrations of working in India!

Day Care Centre.

This project continues to flourish and here are a selection of the success stories of some of the 34 children in regular attendance.

Durgesh a 3 yrs old Downs Syndrome boy is now mobile after two years – he could not sit or do anything at first. I say mobile because he runs everywhere and is able to climb the steps of the small slide.

Aryan – who can now walk unaided and no longer attends the Day Care Centre but now goes to a normal school.

Gayatri – A little girl who was totally immobile but can now walk 7 / 8 steps independently after 3 months at the centre.

Suraj – he is from Mother Teresa’s and can now sit independently. He suffers from hydrocephalies/delayed milestones & has an enlarged head.

We still have a staff of four doctors but Lorraine is on a course in Hyderabad for two months – to advance her general knowledge of paediatrics.

Akash needed new boots which have to be specially made at a cost of 3600/- (£42) of which her parents paid half.

Two of the boys Regan & Menino have had hip dislocations.

Four children come from Mother Teresa’s in Panjim (Khristina a 1 yr old Dystonic – can now hold her head up & is making turning & sitting movements (she is a beautiful little darling).

Whilst we were there we were made aware of a problem involving snakes entering the building both through the roofing (they climb the trees that surround the building and via the main door which is left open to ensure that cool / fresh air can enter. As the children are disabled and spend most of their time on the floor this is unacceptable. More than likely we will have to have a false ceiling and ‘stable’ doors installed to counteract this.

Starting Point School.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

We were able to meet with 95% of the sponsored children and took up to date photos for their sponsors. The father of two sponsored brothers has now found regular work and is able to provide for their future schooling but regrettably the parents of two girls have decided that the girls must leave school and start work.

The school has had to buy an electrical induction cooker and a rice cooker as there are new rules relating to gas bottles which means that they can only have six cylinders per year which is no good if you are cooking every day for thirty children. We are also reviewing having the kitchen updated with a new work surface with cupboards under and renewed electrics. Jane is to obtain quotes for this work. Thank you Jane for your help in contacting the children and organising them to attend for the photo session and for accompanying us to Mapusa Market, and buying and posting goods back to the UK for us.

ASRO Damedem.

All the children with the exception of Pooja are reasonably well but at this time of the year (it is winter in Goa) they all tend to suffer colds which because of their virus status can develop into more serious ailments.

Sadly this has resulted in Pooja once again being admitted to hospital with pneumonia. She also has a suspected tuberculosis problem. Hopefully she will be able to return to the home soon as hospitals in Goa are not the best of places to be in.

Hazel is happy to be back in Goa with 'her children'.

The cover for the water harvester is in situ but there are still minor works to be completed. There is also a problem with the rats eating the lining which has resulted in most of the water collected during the monsoon leaking out!

Possible future project.

We have asked Jane to undertake a feasibility study with a view to opening a 'soup kitchen' in the Bastorda area to feed some of the very poor living in that area. This would be for women & children only who could not find work or find the means to feed themselves. It might include the elderly also but initially it would be operated for maybe two or three evenings per week dispensing Dall & rice or a similar easily prepared meal using local people for cooking and distribution. More on this at a later date if it is thought to be viable.

Sponsors / supporters.

A very big thank you to Pat & John who will be carrying back to the UK in February 50 kgs of the goods Roger & I bought during our stay in Goa.

To Dorothy & Ray & for giving Roger money to buy much appreciated fruit for the children of Starting Point School.

To Michelle for looking after our market stall in Exmouth during my absence.

Thank you to Karen & Rosemary for the lovely lot of books handed into the Indoor Market.

To Anne Varah for the huge box of soft toys which have nearly all sold.

To Carol Buckler for the creations she makes for sale on our market stall – the lot you took in during my stay in Goa have all gone so I did not see what you made this time!!

Grateful thanks to David Gingell for once again preparing our accounts for the Charity Commission free of charge saving us a bill of over £400!

To Mr & Mrs DeSouza for allowing us to use part of their home as the Day Care Centre – we hope Adolf you are recovering after your recent operation.

Christmas will soon be upon us, (I am sure you have all completed your Christmas shopping) so I would like to thank every one of you for your continued support over the past year and take this opportunity of wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas and send you our very best wishes for 2013.

PS. Apologies for the delay in sending this out but I have had a few computer problems.