



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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

Newsletter 038 March 2013.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year is being kind to you. Despite saying I would not be going to India this February I am pleased to say that Roger & I managed to get flights to Goa at £464 compared to the normal £567 and will be returning to the UK on March 6th. I am compiling this in Goa suffering temperatures of around 95 degrees whilst you are, I understand, enjoying sub-zero temperatures, still you can turn the central heating up where as we have to consume cold beer to make life bearable!!

Day Care Centre.

We are very sad to say that Saisha who had been attending for the last three years died recently after a short illness. Durgesh who we gave an update on last newsletter has now been found to need prescription glasses costing 1000/- (£12) which we have sponsored. The builder started work on the problem of snakes entering the building on Monday 4th March and hopefully this has been completed. However we found that the coconuts and breadfruit that have been falling on the asbestos corrugated roof has caused cracks which will let the water in during the monsoons so this needs to be sealed.

Starting Point.

At Christmas the children enjoyed a party at school and each child was given a 'goody bag' for themselves and a food parcel to take home to their parents made up from goods taken out to Goa and monies given by well-wishers. Thank you to all who contributed. The school kitchen has been renovated and there is now room for all the children to sit down to lunch together. In addition the veranda pillars required renewing to avoid the roof collapsing!! The children were treated to a day out at the beach – thank you John & Pat for helping to organise this and for supervising the work on the kitchen and veranda. An indication of the esteem that the school has was highlighted by a family deliberately moving near to the school so that their children could attend. Now that their children are capable of attending formal school the family will be moving once again to an area where the father has a much better chance of finding work. There will be five children graduating to formal schools this coming June.

Educational Sponsorships.

Roger & I decided to give the children covered by the educational sponsorship scheme a treat and it was decided that they would go to the cinema – a first for most of them. In total forty persons went but as the film was in Hindi Roger & I decided to give it a miss and spent time in Panjim until the film has ended and then met up with the children for the journey home by bus. Thanks to Jane, Valley, Gracie & Divalbi for organising this and looking after the children to ensure we did not 'lose' any.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

ASRO Damedem.

Sadly Pooja lost her fight for life on Monday 7th January aged 10 yrs having spent the last few weeks in and out of hospital. Naturally the children and staff are very sad but it does remind us that these children, although looking the picture of health, are very fragile.

We were pleased to meet all the children but time did not allow us to organise a day out with them. However they will get a day out during the next two weeks sponsored by the Braintree College students. The children have a small garden where they grow flowers and some vegetables, the problem is that as soon as the vegetables appear the monkeys come and steal them – including the chillies! The banana tree has some beautiful fruit on but the chances are that the monkeys will have these as well.

Sponsors & supporters.

Thanks to Tim & Jo for donating of a Digital Photo frame which we use to promote the Charity. To Roger & Julia who have raised over £2000 doing car boot sales, swimathon, knitting Easter chicks & many other fundraising activities which has been allocated to the school refurbishment. Thank you to Paul & Jean for their gifts to Starting Point and their continued support.

To Paul (from Australia) who I first met four years ago for very generously offering to pay the wages for a cleaner at ASRO Damedem. Since the move to the new and much larger premises cleaning has been a problem and Caritas have stated that they were not able to provide for a cleaner. This has meant that Str Jessie, Hazel and the children have had to carry out this work in addition to normal duties, school etc.

The students from Braintree College arrive in Goa on 6th March and will be repainting the kitchen, veranda and other areas as well as taking the children from Starting Point and ASRO Damedem on outings to the beach and play parks.

Once again I have to thank Michelle very much for looking after our stalls in the Exmouth Indoor Market for the past two weeks.

Not forgetting Pat & John who returned to the UK with in excess of 50 kgs of goodies which we will sell to raise much needed funds. I don't know how you manage to carry all that as well as your own luggage!

To all those who sent money or goods for us to take to Goa for the children or to purchase fruit for them – it is very much appreciated.

Needs list.

There are always numerous items needed such as vehicle servicing, replacement tyres, repairs to premises and equipment, surgical boots, prescription glasses etc that need sponsoring. As these requirements change on a daily basis the current list of items needed can be obtained by phoning or emailing me.

Volunteers.

We continue to receive numerous requests from people wishing to do voluntary work with us. As we are looking after young children who take time to adjust to new 'white' people and as volunteers need to be super-numary to the permanent staff we do not have the need for more than one or two at any given time. Hazel who I am sure you all realise is a 'full-time' volunteer and has been for more than ten years spending at least ten months each year at the HIV home.

Grateful thanks to all of you for your continued support.

Clive.

