



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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Newsletter 058 March 2018.

I suppose I should feel guilty for the fact that whilst you were all shivering in minus degrees and battling through deep snow I was basking in 36 degrees in a very hot and sunny Goa! That is the reason this newsletter is late as I returned to the UK on Wednesday 7th after spending two weeks seeing the children and staff of the school and Day Care Centre and meeting most of the children who are at the formal schools enabling me to give you updates on our work there.

Day Care Centre

I continue to be amazed at the progress made by some of the children some of who just a few years ago were unable to sit up, hold their heads up or do anything but just lie on the floor



Nadia is one such girl who when I visited this time was able to walk with a frame, with crutches and with the aid of parallel bars. It is hard to imagine how different life must be for her and her parents now that she can do simple things for herself and the photo showing her wonderful smile says it all.

Nadia is just one of the children that have had their lives turned around by the wonderful work of our Physiotherapists and it is impossible to put a value on their successes.

Thanks to the students of Colchester College who donated money at the end of their stay in Goa enabling us to purchase 1000 plastic balls for the therapy pool and an inverter to ensure that at least the fans will work during the monsoon season power cuts.

It is great to have Dr Smisha back making up a team of very competent doctors.

I am very sad to tell those of you who knew Menina that he passed away a couple of months ago.

Starting Point School.

The forty children attending the school had 10 days where the students from Colchester College had been regular visitors. This is the eleventh successive year students from this college have visited and as usual did a fantastic job of painting murals in all of the rooms as well as taking the children on outings to the beach and spending quality time interacting with the children. We hope the students enjoyed their time with the children as much as the children did.

Educational Sponsorship Scheme.

We held a party for the sponsored children one Saturday afternoon at The Taste of India in Calangute where they were entertained by a magician, had party games, watched skits performed by staff and friends and plenty of food! Thank you Simon & Alexi for all your efforts.

There are a couple of girls who are struggling to pass their 10th standard school leaving certificates and we are hoping to help them engage in work based training to pursue the career of their choice.

This is Rupa's home which is typical of a lot of our children's homes. The only living space they have measures 6 ft x 6ft. The family consists of Mum, Dad, Rupa who is sixteen and her brother who is nineteen. There is just enough room for them to lie on the floor to sleep. They have no room for chairs or a table. They have no fridge, fans or cupboards and have a small gas burner which can be seen in the background. At night they have to put up with rats, scorpions & snakes. For the privilege of living here they have to pay rent of Rs 6000 which is equivalent to about £250 per month – but they will always greet you with a smile!



Sponsors and supporters.

It was my pleasure to meet up with Bjorn & Marianne from Sweden, Sue & Dave, Sue & Mick and Tim & Janet. Thank you for taking the time to visit our projects and see for yourselves what a wonderful job the staff is doing Also to Roger & Julia, Sara & Derek for their visits in January. A very big thank you for all the time and effort of the students and staff of Colchester College who I only managed to see once as they left the day I arrived. Yvonne you must be exhausted with all the preparations you have to make and the responsibility of ensuring the safety and welfare of the students and I hope you feel it is all worth the effort seeing the pleasure it brings both the students and our children.

Thank you to Hazel who has knitted a large number of beautiful baby clothes for us to sell.

Thank you to Andy & Nick for their kind donations following the passing of their much loved father. Thank you all of you who sponsor and support this charity – without your help and donations we could not function.

Many of you may have met Dee & Barry who have supported us over the past years and I am deeply sorry to tell you that Barry passed away on 4th March whilst in Goa. Our sympathy and condolences are extended to Dee and the family.

Outreach Programme.

Over the Christmas period Jane and her team were busy visiting some of the most deprived communities living in the slums where they organised a 'Christmas Party' handing out presents (second hand toys) and distributed groceries such as sugar, cooking oil and Dhal rice for families, milk for new-born babies, juices for nursing mothers and sweets for the children. In addition they distributed clothing and household wares such as cups, drinking glasses and storage containers (metal to stop food being contaminated / eaten by rats and cockroaches).

Just before I left Goa we were approached by a U.K. registered charities representative who have resources in Goa but no staff who have offered to pass on to us a large quantity of clothing and Jane will be giving up one Saturday per month to distribute it for them.

Regards to you all and many thanks for your continued support.

Clive

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)