



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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September is upon us, the children are returning to school, we have finished the last of our summer fundraising events and the nights are rapidly drawing in which means that autumn is fast approaching.

Sadly the terrible monsoon rains in southern India have caused a terrible loss of life and made many thousands homeless. Considering that most of these people will mainly be those who are very poor the future is very bleak and although the government is reportedly working hard to help the homeless they are likely to be homeless for a considerable length of time. Fortunately Goa did not have such terrible monsoon rains.

Roger & I will be going to Goa in late November due to the later than usual Diwali celebrations which means the school will be closed until November 26th.

Day Care Centre.

It was necessary to purchase an electrical inverter in June due to the fact that the electricity supply is so unreliable and with the temperature and humidity so high it was unbearable for the children to have their physiotherapy sessions without being able to have the fans on.

On July 6th we conducted the first of the dental awareness and examination camps when 20 patients came accompanied by their parent/s or siblings.

The session started at 9.30 am and finished at 12.30pm with three consultants and two interns from Goa Dental College attending. Overall it was a great experience. The paediatric dental surgeon who is the Head Of department of Pedodontia, Dr Steven, was present. So also Dr Ameeta HOD Community Dentistry. Both are senior staff and were assisted by Dr Akshata a junior consultant but extremely active and enthusiastic.

Overall a great team effort and a fulfilling event. Treatment for those that need it commenced on the first week of August at the Dental College, Bambolim. Some of the children have already visited for cleaning and fillings.

On Saturday 3rd August three of our patients attended a crafts workshop in Panjim organized by the Children's Palliative Care Unit of Goa others will be going at a future date.



Teeth inspection time for one child!



Children attending the Craft workshop.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

Starting Point.

There are currently 40 children registered at Starting Point with 37 in regular attendance. Most of them come from slum families living in the Sangolda area whose parents are daily wage earners, meaning that they go out each day seeking whatever work they can find that will bring them in some money with which to feed the family. Many of the children have fallen sick due to the monsoon rains so the school has been giving them hot milk with turmeric powder – a ‘home’ remedy to keep them bacteria free.

The school tries to maintain a varied nutritious lunchtime menu for the children which should include both fish and chicken. However, there has been a big scare concerning fish imported from neighbouring states that it has been preserved using formalin and or formaldehyde which is said to be injurious to health. Fish from other states has been banned putting up the price of locally caught fish beyond the schools budget and in turn has meant that Goans have been purchasing chicken as an alternative again raising the price out of reach of all but the wealthy. We hope that with the approaching end of the monsoons, locally caught fish will once again be available at a reasonable price and the cost of chicken will also fall and be affordable.

Outreach Work.

Jane and the team (Grace, Dawalbi, Valie & Xavier) have been out visiting the slums and providing some of the school children with books, pencils etc as well as umbrellas to help them keep relatively dry during the monsoons. They have also been distributing much needed basic ingredients for the families who have not been able to afford food due to the lack of work during the monsoon season.

Education Sponsorship Scheme.

Whilst Roger & I are in Goa we hope to be meeting with all the sponsored children, taking their photographs for their sponsors, collecting copies of their school reports and generally talking to them and finding out where they view their futures. This scheme has exceeded all our expectations and the students are to be congratulated on their successes which have been made possible by the generosity of their respective sponsors.

Sponsors & Supporters

Thank you to Marlene Mayne for all the wool she donated.

Thank you ‘Etta’ for your continued donations

Thank you to Andy & Nick for the two carrier bags of loose change which they found when clearing their late father Gordon Nanke’s home.

A very big thank you to Roger & Julia who have helped Pat & I during the summer months at fundraising events. Most events mean setting up early in the morning and packing up the stock, tables, clothes rails and gazebo late evening with this summer’s events have raising over £1900.

Once again I cannot adequately stress the importance of all of your support for which I thank you on behalf of the children and staff.

Best wishes,

Clive.