



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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India has been hit by very heavy monsoons with many states experiencing severe flooding and the loss of many lives. Goa has also been very badly affected with many towns and villages under water. The roads over the Western Ghats have been blocked by landslides with the result that fresh vegetables, milk, chicken and beef have not been delivered. The markets which are usually very busy have been closed and the people of Goa have had to learn to live without these commodities. Even the hotels are only able to serve black tea and coffee with no milk available. Panjim the capital city of Goa was without potable water for seven days following a landslide that shattered the water supply pipes.

In East Devon June & July was wall to wall sunshine with very little rainfall but early August was wet & windy followed by hot sunny weather. This has meant that we have been able to attend many events selling the goods we bring back from Goa raising much needed funds.

Our web site has undergone a facelift after sixteen years thanks to Richard Francis a member of the Exmouth Raleigh Rotary. We have been indebted to Mark who set up the web site initially when he was with the Royal Air Force and has continued to maintain it even though he transferred to the Royal Australian Air Force some eight years ago. Thank you, Mark: good old English Fish & Chips & a pint of real ale awaits you on your next visit to the UK.

Day Care Centre.

At long last we have been able to register the charity in India and the staff of the Day Care Centre are among the eight 'directors' required. This has given them a greater interest and say in the working of the Centre and hopefully taking some of the work load from Dr Mina.

Many of the children who attended the dental workshop are now attending the GMC Hospital for follow up dental work and regular checks.

There has also been a Nutritional workshop when the Children's parents were invited (and nearly all attended) where they were advised on healthy eating that should help improve the child's wellbeing. Thankfully the heavy monsoons did not adversely affect the running of the Centre and all seems to be running smoothly.

Starting Point School.

Following the new intake of children there are now 35 pupils attending some of which are siblings and come from a slum very close to the school.

Valley who has been teaching at Starting Point for a few years has announced that she is expecting a baby in March 2020. She hopes to return to work after the birth but in the meantime, we have a trainee called Savia.

During the monsoon the government ordered the closing of all schools for two days as it was too dangerous for children to travel to schools. The heavy rain that caused extensive flooding also

prevented fresh supplies being delivered to Goa but fortunately the school had plenty of rice and dal so were able to feed the children basic meals.

Educational Sponsorship Scheme.

This year has been very successful with all but one student passing the exams they took and that student will be retaking the exam at a later date.

There are now nine students who are studying either their 'A' level equivalent exams or are at university.

Naturally we are very proud of them but it just goes to show that they might come from very poor families but they have the potential to succeed given the chance.

A big thank you to all of you who sponsor these students – we are very grateful that you have given these children the chance of a good education which will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives.

Outreach.

Early in June (before the monsoons set in) Jane, Grace & Pooja visited one of the slums and distributed clothing, toys, kitchen goods, besan (flour), oil, rice, peas & jaggery (cane sugar). Sadly, the monsoons have made life extremely difficult for those living in such primitive slum conditions and dengue fever became rife putting many in hospital. Under these conditions it is unwise for Jane and her team to visit the slums as the virus can spread and can be fatal. Hopefully the torrential rains will cease in early September so that Jane and her team can recommence visits.

Sponsors / Supporters

We are saddened to report the passing of Noreen Hart, mother to Sue & Dave Williams who passed away in early June just six days short of her 94th birthday. Noreen has been a supporter and regular donor for many years and we offer our condolences to her family.

A big thank you to Roger & Julia for helping Pat & I with the many sales over the past few weeks. Putting up the Gazebo, tables, clothing rails etc is made much easier with four people and means we can all enjoy the events.

Many thanks to Sue & Michelle for looking after our stall in the Exmouth Indoor Market and to the market management for allowing us to use the stall free of charge.

Thank you, Gabby, for your continued support and good luck for your ambitious fundraising event in October.

Thank you to Chris for her donation following her annual coffee morning – her fifth such event.

Thank you to Val and everyone who has given me second-hand children's clothes to take out to Goa for distribution to the children in the slums. As well as suitcases full of clothing and shoes Roger & I will be taking out to Goa crutches and a walker when we visit in October.

I have been asked why we do not publish the full names of sponsors and supporters – the reason being we do not want to fall foul of the Data Protection Act.

The Ashes test cricket series is evenly balanced and the Rugby World Cup starts later this week in Japan – good luck to the English teams (sorry Wales & Scotland). The U.K schools reopen this week and I am sure there are many parents heaving a sigh of relief. Autumn is upon us and soon it will be Christmas!!!!

Happy Days.

Clive