



# *Novi Survat Charitable Organisation*

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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## **Newsletter 065 December 2019.**

Roger & I visited Goa in the middle of October. The monsoons were still active and we spent a number of hours watching the torrential rains and the amazing thunderstorms. Fortunately most of these occurred in the late afternoon or overnight so we were able to do all we needed to do. Sadly parts of the UK have also had a lot of rain causing major flooding in the midlands and the north. I feel sorry for those who have had their homes flooded and who will not be able to return to them for many months.

We have also had more rain than usual causing local flooding and in mid-November Devon had its first snows of the year!

Still, we have an election and possibly Brexit (or not) to look forward to in the coming weeks as well as Christmas! Which is more exciting?

### **Day Care Centre.**

It is really amazing to see the difference in some of the children who have benefitted by the work of the physiotherapists. We met children who could not sit or walk a year ago and who are now walking and able to do simple tasks making a huge difference to the lives of them and their families. One boy Jeet is a budding artist producing amazing work. He is also learning to play drums. Sadly there are occasionally cases where it is not possible to improve a child's condition but the physio's still work their magic to ease the child's pains.

The staff, children & their parents celebrated Ganesh Day and we understand a great day was had by all. They also celebrated 'Children's Day' which involved all the parents and children enjoying various activities and a buffet.

The staff also arranged a party to celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at a local restaurant.

### **Educational Sponsorship Scheme.**

Whilst in Goa Roger & I had a very enjoyable meeting with the graduates who have passed their 10<sup>th</sup> Std exams and are now studying for their B.A.'s, B.Ed.'s or other advanced qualifications. We were able to discuss with them their ambitions for the future and any hobbies or sports they take part in. On the day we arranged to take the graduates photographs (which will be on their way to the respective sponsors shortly) Jane had also organised a special birthday party for me attended by 80 children – one for each of my years!

### **Starting Point.**

Following one of the many storms the School had to be closed for one day because power supply failure meaning no lighting, cooking or water which is pumped via an electric motor.

The children were taken on an outing for a day to the Mall de Goa (a new shopping centre) where they enjoyed a McDonald's meal, time in the soft play area, a ride on the indoor train and riding up and down the escalators!! This was sponsored by Braintree College who visit Goa each year.

## Outreach Project

Jane and her team continue to visit the slum families and to celebrate my birthday they went to a nearby slum and handed out milk, cornflakes sweets & bananas! Roger and I managed to take with us to Goa two suitcases of second hand clothes which Jane will distribute to those living in the slums. Thank you to everyone who has donated these clothes the children and families are very grateful to receive these.

## Sponsors & Supporters.

Big 'THANK YOUs' to

Rose Upot who Roger & I met on the flight from Mumbai to Goa and who visited the school and day care centre and made a very welcome and generous donation.

Mike from Exmouth for the £75 worth of 20p, 10p, & 5p coins he had collected.

Bob & Trish for the bottle of 20p pieces.

To Gabby for organising a Mind, Body & Spirit charity event at the Ocean Exmouth raising over £1000. Gabby has also organised an Indian Banquet night for 3<sup>rd</sup> December when a local Indian restaurant 'Tandoori Nights' are supplying all the food free of charge for 48 people. She has also organised a Clairvoyant evening for 18<sup>th</sup> December – a very busy lady!

To Etta for her very generous donation.

A special thank you to all of you who are regular donors to the charity and those who sponsor the children who attend the main stream schools. Without your regular monthly donations we could not carry out our work in Goa.



The children who attended my birthday party at Starting Point School holding a massive hand made birthday card.



Sia is 2yr old girl suffering from Cerebral Palsy who until recently could not walk but is now negotiating stairs at our Day Care Centre.

It only remains for me to thank you all very much for your continued support – I wish you could all visit Goa and see just what a difference your help and donations make. To see the youngsters most of who would not have received an education grow up and excel at school and in some cases attend college is very rewarding as is seeing the progress made by the disabled children.

May we, the children, staff and trustees of Novi Survat wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2020.