



# *Novi Survat Charitable Organisation*

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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## **Newsletter 072 September 2021**

We hope you have all enjoyed this summer despite not being able to travel to your favourite destinations. Here in the West Country Devon and Cornwall have been exceptionally busy with those people choosing to spend their holidays here. It is lovely to see so many happy holidaymakers but many locals will be pleased not to have crowded roads, full car parks and less crowded hospitality venues! Mind you it has been very good for the local economy for which we must all be very grateful.

Goa has been in lockdown since May and which is expected to continue until the end of August. As there are no international tourists most shops other than food outlets have been closed as have the wholesalers, so we have not been able to purchase goods to sell in our Indoor Market.

Those shops that were allowed to open had to with reduced hours but severe rains in July flooded most of the state leaving many shops under water. The roads over the Western Ghats were closed due to landslides the consequence being that no fresh produce could be delivered to Goa.

### Covid 19 Food Distribution.

Jane is continuing to carry out monthly distribution of food parcels to those most in need. During the months of June, July & August she distributed monthly rations to a total of 179 families at a cost of £4021.00. Fortunately, as domestic tourists are starting to visit the state again (only Indian passport holders can enter India) some of the eateries are opening and as a result some people are returning to work. This may mean that those that can return to work will not be dependent on our monthly handouts.

### Educational Sponsorship Scheme.

All of the older students either studying for their 'A' levels or university degrees have returned to their colleges with some only attending either morning or afternoon with the rest continuing to study via the internet. We hope that all schools will reopen in September.

### Day Care Centre.

The staff are continuing to provide vital treatment to those that have the most need albeit on a reduced number of hours due to the lockdown. Unfortunately, Dr Megha had an accident on her motor scooter resulting in soft tissue damage to one of her legs. She has had to remain at home for 15 days but hopes to return to the Day Care Centre next week.

**Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)**

## Starting Point.

The school is still closed but there are hopes that the government will give the green light for all schools to reopen in mid-September. In the meantime, Jane and her staff are continuing to provide weekly work sheets but in addition, as the photos show, they are visiting the slums and holding open air classes for the very young to initiate them into learning ready for when they can commence studies at Starting Point.



## Financial.

We are fortunately maintaining an adequate level of income from our regular sponsors and there is a hope that we should only have the added expense of the monthly Covid 19 Food Distributions for a few more months.

## Sponsors & Supporters.

We are very grateful for your continued support, without which we could not continue. The children from the slums send all of you the following message:

