



# *Novi Survat Charitable Organisation*

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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## **Newsletter 079 June 2023**

Whilst Goa is enduring unbearable heat and awaiting the onset of the monsoons, here in the UK we are enjoying lovely clear skies giving wall-to-wall sunshine and summer temperatures, which, coinciding with the school half-term and a Bank Holiday, has meant beaches in Devon packed with families having fun.

We are delighted to tell you that we have been awarded a substantial donation from the Dr Cyril D'Souza Charitable Fund. At the time of writing this newsletter we do not have information on the life of Dr D'Souza but hope to be able to include this in the next issue.

### **Day Care Centre.**

On May 1<sup>st</sup> the Day Care Centre organised a Spinal Muscular Atrophy Day (see photo below) with a view of setting up a community support centre to raise awareness of and support patients with SMA and network with other organisations. As well as patients and parents those attending included members of the state commission for protection of child rights; the President of the Disability rights association; the Access manager of Roche Pharmaceuticals and a member of the Goa state Advisory Board.



The number of children attending the Day Care Centre has increased and there are now 35 attending the Physiotherapy Unit and 28 attending the Recreational Unit.

One of Dr Mina's dreams is to open a centre for deaf, blind & dumb children where they could be taught sign language and braille and a pool for aqua therapy. Our present premises in Sangolda is

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overcrowded now and the landlord will not allow us to decorate let alone use the extensive grounds (which are unused) so we are looking for new premises somewhere in the Panjim, Mapusa, Saligao or Sangolda area which could be donated to the charity or offered under a long lease. If you know of anywhere, please let us know.

### **Educational Sponsorship.**

June 5<sup>th</sup> will see the return to school, college and university for those students involved with our educational sponsorship scheme.

In the meantime, Jane has had to travel the 400 miles to Mumbai (where prices are very much cheaper) to purchase all the items that the fifty-five students will need for the coming year, an exhausting task which also involves transporting all the goods back to Goa.

We still have three students who do not have sponsors so if you know of anyone who might be interested in sponsoring, please ask them to contact us for further details.

### **Starting Point.**

The summer holidays are coming to a close and the school will reopen on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Dr Cyril D'Souza Fund donation has allowed Starting Point to increase the number of children attending the pre-school to 40 which is the maximum number they can accommodate. It will also ensure that the children will receive a very good balanced meal every day.

The fridge which has served the school well for the last 20 years finally 'died' and a new one is being purchased at a cost of £280.00.

### **Outreach.**

At long last we have been able to reduce the number of families depending on monthly food supplies from fifty to twenty-five. These twenty-five are families whose breadwinner is unable to find employment due to ill health or disability. We will continue to support families in this category for the foreseeable future.

### **Sponsors & Supporters.**

We are indebted to all of you who each month sponsor either the educational sponsorship scheme, to the charity in general or by ad hoc donations. We are fully aware that in the present economic climate many of you are battling with increased mortgages, fuel bills and general expenses such as food which making it difficult to maintain donations to charities but without your sacrifices many small charities such as ours would find it impossible to continue.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for the summer.

Regards,

Clive.