



# *Novi Survat Charitable Organisation*

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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## **Newsletter 088 December 2025.**

The change in the seasons, possibly due to climate change, has meant that Goa has still had heavy rain well into November, but thankfully it is now into its 'dry season'. Twenty years ago, they would have received little or no rain after the middle of September.

I find it hard to believe that here some shops were full of Christmas goodies before Halloween at the end of October and many of the food items have 'best before dates' that expire before Christmas!

### **Day Care Centre.**

During the month of October thirty-five patients attended for physiotherapy with twenty-nine attending for recreational therapy. A steady progress is being made by all of the patients with a young girl Zoya, who is now able to attend formal school, managing to progress from grade 1 to grade 4 in one year. This would normally take 4 years.

One of the staff Ghislaine, our recreational therapist, entered and won first prize in the International photographic competition in Palliative care, which was held in Portugal, with her photograph entitled "Where love meets healing and hope never fades".



The winning photo shows Megha, one of the physiotherapists, holding one of the patients.

Ghislaine was invited to attend the presentation of the prize in Slovenia but unfortunately was unable to accept due to cost and work commitments.

In November Dr Mina and Ghislaine attended the 4<sup>th</sup> ICPCN (International Children's Palliative Care Network) conference held in Manila, Philippines where Dr Mina was doing a presentation.

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

### **Educational sponsorship scheme.**

We still have forty-three students within the scheme, several of whom are in their final year at college. As the students complete their education and no longer need financial support, we advise their sponsors of the progress they have made and suggest they cancel their standing order contributions.

I am currently receiving the photos of those students who are still sponsored and they will be incorporated in a Christmas card to the sponsors sometime in December.

### **Starting Point School.**

The school now has forty-six regular children attending the morning sessions and between twenty-five and twenty-eight regularly attending the afternoon activity sessions.

Jane tells me the children are all getting excited about Christmas, looking forward to a party and each morning they are asking each other 'is today the day when Father Christmas comes'!

Despite Goa having a large proportion of Muslim and Hindu residents, they all seem to participate in Christmas with some shops playing carols from early November.

### **Outreach.**

Monthly visits continue to be made to the families living in the Saligao slum where they are given fresh fruits depending on which are available at the time.

In addition, the monthly rations are continuing to those who because of their physical disabilities are unable to work and fend for themselves.

Included in the December offerings will be toys for the children and something 'Christmassy' for the families to enjoy.

### **Sponsors & Supporters.**

Many thanks to Exmouth Rotary who, with their donation and one from their local District Branch, have made funds available for the Day Care Centre to purchase some valuable equipment that will help in the treatment of children who attend there.

We are also indebted to those of you who continue to give financial support, either by regular standing orders or who make ad-hoc donations and deposit packets of coins in our collecting boxes.

From all at Novi Survat I would like to extend to all of you our best wishes for Christmas and the hopes of a peaceful and prosperous 2026.

