



Global Vaddo Charity

Providing hope and inspiration for the children of Goa, India

Newsletter....

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www.gvc.org.au

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The last six months have been a very busy time for GVC as a number of activities gather momentum. We hope that you enjoy reading about the highlights and progress since our last newsletter.

GVC sponsorship for Malari

GVC commenced sponsorship of its first child in November. Malari is an underprivileged 12-year old boy who lives with his parents on a vacant block in a makeshift tent. He has been unable to attend school for the past four years and is desperate to learn. GVC's sponsorship includes free English tuition for Malari and covers his fees at a local boarding school in Mapsa, near Tivim in Goa.



Malari in front of his makeshift home in Goa

Building public toilets in Cantorlim, Tivim

A contract for the construction of two public toilets in the village of Cantorlim, Tivim has been awarded. A number of local residents that currently use nearby 'bushes' will soon have access to the new facilities following their completion. The construction of the toilets is part of GVC's health and hygiene initiative, which is aimed at improving community awareness and standards in the area of general hygiene.

Renovation of GVC residence

A contract to renovate an existing building into an administration centre has been awarded. The building is located close to the proposed site for the learning centre and will house volunteers who work for the charity. The founding members of the charity have made funding available towards the renovation of the house.

Learning centre progress

Three GVC Trustees travelled to Goa in late October to progress the preliminary stages of the construction of a learning centre. During the trip, it became clear that even small things take quite some time due to bureaucracy and some largely outdated systems in Goa! The Trustees, however, were able to meet with three contractors and obtained budget quotations to construct the building. Construction of the building is scheduled to be completed in late 2008.

Community support

During the trip to Goa, GVC Trustees held a public meeting in the local community of Tivim to give an update on GVC's plans and activities. Feedback received was positive and we have received written support from two of the major schools in the area, including St. Ann's and St. Clara's. Both schools are keen to work with us as soon as possible to help provide education to the poorer children in the community.

Fundraising

We would like to thank everybody who has helped to raise funds for the children of Goa last year through donations and chocolate drives. The results have been fantastic and we are well on our way to reaching our \$30 000 target to establish the learning centre in Tivim, Goa.

Upcoming events

The **GVC Quiz Night** is the first major fundraising event for GVC. The night has been organised by Ta-Daa Entertainment in Hobart and we express our gratitude to Jane and Gavin who have put in a ton of work to organise this event as their donation to GVC. The night promises to be fun-filled and exciting and we would like to thank the Hobart Function and Conference Centre for the venue and a number of local businesses for donating the various prizes for the night.

The **Inaugural GVC Fundraising Banquet** will be held on Saturday 25 March at the Cinnamon Club in Melbourne. This promises to be an exciting night with raffles, fantastic prizes, a silent auction of items from India and possibly even a fashion parade of clothing from trendy local boutiques! See our website for tickets.

From the frontline....

As anyone who has been to India is aware, it can best be described as "full on". The sights, the sounds, the smells - not for the faint hearted! The most influential and meaningful parts of this trip involved our interactions with local children.

We visited St Anne's school to meet with teachers and the school principal to discuss the needs of the underprivileged children and the logistics of how we could provide for these needs. We saw something we would never see at our Aussie schools, a public dressing down for all of the students who had not managed to pay school fees. Mind you, behind the walls of her office, the principal was in tears about the children's situation.

We also had the privilege of visiting the Lighthouse Charity, which is a UK based organisation, located about 400 meters away from the proposed site of the GVC learning centre. This facility provides 24-hour care for children whose parents have been unable to care for them due to illnesses such as AIDS or financial difficulties. We are currently liaising with the founder of the Goan facility about providing educational opportunities for these children who have been left by their parents.



Lighthouse Home, Tivim, Goa

Personally, it was incredibly valuable to meet so many children who despite having few material possessions and a poor prognosis for their future, manage to remain happy and hopeful, despite the odds.

It was most impressive to witness the resilience and

maturity of these children and I feel a sense of urgency about helping to change the lives of those who are indeed so very deserving.

Ginelle

Children are the future of the world but they are also a community's greatest resource in the present. Studies indicate that a community would benefit sevenfold for every dollar spent on the children in that community

About GVC

GVC was established in March 2007 with the aim of working together with the people of Goa to provide hope and inspiration for the underprivileged in local communities. With a focus on regional areas, GVC's vision is to ensure that children and their families are given the best opportunity of living a meaningful life free from poverty and despair.

GVC's key objective is to work together with local communities in Goa to provide opportunities for underprivileged children and families to develop to their full potential. GVC aims to achieve this by:

- providing free educational assistance for underprivileged children in key learning areas;
- promoting the importance of education by actively involving the broader community;
- providing prevocational training and support to achieve employment outcomes;
- providing access to financial support for low income families within the local community; and
- ensuring that basic health and hygiene standards are promoted within communities.

For further details on GVC's activities, please visit our website at www.gvc.org.au

How can you help?

The best way to change a child's life is to change the world in which they live. We believe establishing the learning centre is the first step in providing positive change for the underprivileged children in the Tivim area in Goa. We need your help to raise funds to build the facility. By supporting us in achieving this goal, you will help bring around long-term benefits that will transform the lives of the local children in Tivim and give them a chance for a better future.

Please help us by making a donation:

Direct deposit:

Account name	Global Vaddo Charitable Trust
Bank	National Australia Bank
BSB	087 007
Account number	873 087 205

Cheque:

or

Payable to 'Global Vaddo Charitable Trust'
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Tolmans Hill, Tasmania
Australia 7007

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